

Senate, April 6, 1998. The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. LEBEAU, 3rd DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWERS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Subsection (a) of section 32-1c of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is
3 substituted in lieu thereof:

4 (a) In addition to any other powers, duties
5 and responsibilities provided for in this chapter,
6 chapter 131, chapter 579 and section 4-8 and
7 subsection (a) of section 10-321, the commissioner
8 shall have the following powers, duties and
9 responsibilities: (1) To administer and direct the
10 operations of the Department of Economic and
11 Community Development; (2) to report annually to
12 the Governor, as provided in section 4-60; (3) to
13 conduct and administer the research and planning
14 functions necessary to carry out the purposes of
15 said chapters and sections; (4) to encourage and
16 promote the development of industry and business
17 in the state and to investigate, study and
18 undertake ways and means of promoting and
19 encouraging the prosperous development and
20 protection of the legitimate interest and welfare
21 of Connecticut business, industry and commerce,
22 within and outside the state; (5) to serve, ex

23 officio as a director on the board of Connecticut
24 Innovations, Incorporated; (6) to serve as a
25 member of the Committee of Concern for Connecticut
26 Jobs; (7) to promote and encourage the location
27 and development of new business in the state as
28 well as the maintenance and expansion of existing
29 business and for that purpose to cooperate with
30 state and local agencies and individuals both
31 within and outside the state; (8) to plan and
32 conduct a program of information and publicity
33 designed to attract tourists, visitors and other
34 interested persons from outside the state to this
35 state and also to encourage and coordinate the
36 efforts of other public and private organizations
37 or groups of citizens to publicize the facilities
38 and attractions of the state for the same
39 purposes; (9) to advise and cooperate with
40 municipalities, persons and local planning
41 agencies within the state for the purpose of
42 promoting coordination between the state and such
43 municipalities as to plans and development; (10)
44 to provide all necessary staff, services,
45 accounting and office space and equipment required
46 by the Connecticut Development Authority subject
47 to the provisions of section 4b-23, where real
48 estate acquisitions are involved; (11) to aid
49 minority businesses in their development; (12) to
50 appoint such assistants, experts, technicians and
51 clerical staff, subject to the provisions of
52 chapter 67, as are necessary to carry out the
53 purposes of said chapters and sections; (13) to
54 employ other consultants and assistants on a
55 contract or other basis for rendering financial,
56 technical or other assistance and advice, provided
57 in implementing the Connecticut economic
58 information system the commissioner shall to the
59 maximum extent feasible contract with private
60 vendors for software, certain data sets and data
61 updating services; (14) to acquire or lease
62 facilities located outside the state subject to
63 the provisions of section 4b-23; (15) to advise
64 and inform municipal officials concerning economic
65 development and collect and disseminate
66 information pertaining thereto, including
67 information about federal, state and private
68 assistance programs and services pertaining
69 thereto; (16) to inquire into the utilization of
70 state government resources and coordinate federal

71 and state activities for assistance in and
72 solution of problems of economic development and
73 to inform and advise the Governor about and
74 propose legislation concerning such problems; (17)
75 to conduct, encourage and maintain research and
76 studies relating to industrial and commercial
77 development; (18) to prepare and review model
78 ordinances and charters relating to these areas;
79 (19) to maintain an inventory of data and
80 information and act as a clearinghouse and
81 referral agency for information on state and
82 federal programs and services relative to the
83 purpose set forth herein. The inventory shall
84 include information on all federal programs of
85 financial assistance for defense conversion
86 projects and other projects consistent with a
87 defense conversion strategy and shall identify
88 businesses which would be eligible for such
89 assistance and provide notification to such
90 business of such programs; (20) to conduct,
91 encourage and maintain research and studies and
92 advise municipal officials about forms of
93 cooperation between public and private agencies
94 designed to advance economic development; (21) to
95 promote and assist the formation of municipal and
96 other agencies appropriate to the purposes of this
97 chapter; (22) to require notice of the submission
98 of all applications by municipalities and any
99 agency thereof for federal and state financial
100 assistance for economic development programs as
101 relate to the purposes of this chapter; (23) with
102 the approval of the Commissioner of Administrative
103 Services, to reimburse any employee of the
104 department, including the commissioner, for
105 reasonable business expenses, including but not
106 limited to, mileage, travel, lodging, and
107 entertainment of business prospects and other
108 persons to the extent necessary or advisable to
109 carry out the purposes of subdivisions (4), (7),
110 (8) and (11) of this subsection and other
111 provisions of this chapter; (24) to assist in
112 resolving solid waste management issues; [and]
113 (25) to develop and implement the Connecticut
114 economic information system, in consultation with
115 the Connecticut Economic Information System
116 Steering Committee established under section
117 32-6i; AND (26) TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO
118 PURCHASE, ASSIGN, RELEASE OR SELL A MORTGAGE OR

119 OTHER LIEN IN CONNECTION WITH A PROJECT
120 ADMINISTERED BY HIM IN WHICH THE STATE HAS
121 PROVIDED OR WILL PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
122 PROVIDED THE COMMISSIONER DETERMINES THE PURCHASE,
123 ASSIGNMENT, RELEASE OR SALE TO BE IN THE BEST
124 INTEREST OF THE STATE AND IS CONSISTENT WITH THE
125 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICIES OF THE STATE.

126 CE COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 26 NAY 0 JF C/R GAE
127 GAE COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 17 NAY 0 JF

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER SB 225

STATE IMPACT	See Explanation Below
MUNICIPAL IMPACT	None
STATE AGENCY(S)	Department of Economic and Community Development

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE IMPACT: To the extent that additional funds would be expended from the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) bond fund accounts, mainly the Manufacturing Assistance Act (MAA), due to the ability of DECD to enter into contracts to purchase, assign, release or sell a mortgage or other lien in connection with a DECD project, there could be a need for additional future bond authorizations. SHB 5038 authorizes \$9 million for MAA in FY 1999. To the extent that the sale of a mortgage or lien resulted in a financial benefit to the state, there could be a decreased need for future bond proceeds. The exact impact of this legislation is indeterminate.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

SB 225

AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWERS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY: This bill authorizes the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) commissioner

to acquire and transfer mortgages and other liens in connection with existing or planned DECD-funded economic development projects as long as he determines his action is in the state's best interest and consistent with state economic development policy.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1998

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 26 Nay 0

Government Elections and Administration Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 17 Nay 0