



General Assembly

Amendment

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LCO No. 3123

HB0513103123HDO

Offered by:

REP. BUTLER, 72nd Dist.
SEN. BARTOLOMEO, 13th Dist.
REP. PERONE, 137th Dist.
SEN. LEBEAU, 3rd Dist.
REP. BERGER, 73rd Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5131

File No. 41

Cal. No. 38

**"AN ACT TRANSFERRING CERTAIN POWERS AND FUNCTIONS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 32-1c of the 2014 supplement to the general
4 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
5 (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

6 (a) In addition to any other powers, duties and responsibilities
7 provided for in this chapter, chapter 131, chapter 579 and section 4-8
8 and subsection (a) of section 10-409, the commissioner shall have the
9 following powers, duties and responsibilities: (1) To administer and
10 direct the operations of the Department of Economic and Community
11 Development; (2) to report annually to the Governor, as provided in

12 section 4-60; (3) to conduct and administer the research and planning
13 functions necessary to carry out the purposes of said chapters and
14 sections; (4) to encourage and promote the development of industry
15 and business in the state and to investigate, study and undertake ways
16 and means of promoting and encouraging the prosperous
17 development and protection of the legitimate interest and welfare of
18 Connecticut business, industry and commerce, within and outside the
19 state; (5) to serve, ex officio as a director on the board of Connecticut
20 Innovations, Incorporated; (6) to serve as a member of the Committee
21 of Concern for Connecticut Jobs; (7) to promote and encourage the
22 location and development of new business in the state as well as the
23 maintenance and expansion of existing business and for that purpose
24 to cooperate with state and local agencies and individuals both within
25 and outside the state; (8) to plan and conduct a program of information
26 and publicity designed to attract tourists, visitors and other interested
27 persons from outside the state to this state and also to encourage and
28 coordinate the efforts of other public and private organizations or
29 groups of citizens to publicize the facilities and attractions of the state
30 for the same purposes; (9) to advise and cooperate with municipalities,
31 persons and local planning agencies within the state for the purpose of
32 promoting coordination between the state and such municipalities as
33 to plans and development; (10) by reallocating funding from other
34 agency accounts or programs, to assign adequate and available staff to
35 provide technical assistance to businesses in the state in exporting,
36 manufacturing and cluster-based initiatives and to provide guidance
37 and advice on regulatory matters; (11) to aid minority businesses in
38 their development; (12) to appoint such assistants, experts, technicians
39 and clerical staff, subject to the provisions of chapter 67, as are
40 necessary to carry out the purposes of said chapters and sections; (13)
41 to employ other consultants and assistants on a contract or other basis
42 for rendering financial, technical or other assistance and advice; (14) to
43 acquire or lease facilities located outside the state subject to the
44 provisions of section 4b-23; (15) to advise and inform municipal
45 officials concerning economic development and collect and
46 disseminate information pertaining thereto, including information

47 about federal, state and private assistance programs and services
48 pertaining thereto; (16) to inquire into the utilization of state
49 government resources and coordinate federal and state activities for
50 assistance in and solution of problems of economic development and
51 to inform and advise the Governor about and propose legislation
52 concerning such problems; (17) to conduct, encourage and maintain
53 research and studies relating to industrial and commercial
54 development; (18) to prepare and review model ordinances and
55 charters relating to these areas; (19) to maintain an inventory of data
56 and information and act as a clearinghouse and referral agency for
57 information on state and federal programs and services relative to the
58 purpose set forth herein. The inventory shall include information on all
59 federal programs of financial assistance for defense conversion projects
60 and other projects consistent with a defense conversion strategy and
61 shall identify businesses which would be eligible for such assistance
62 and provide notification to such business of such programs; (20) to
63 conduct, encourage and maintain research and studies and advise
64 municipal officials about forms of cooperation between public and
65 private agencies designed to advance economic development; (21) to
66 promote and assist the formation of municipal and other agencies
67 appropriate to the purposes of this chapter; (22) to require notice of the
68 submission of all applications by municipalities and any agency
69 thereof for federal and state financial assistance for economic
70 development programs as relate to the purposes of this chapter; (23)
71 with the approval of the Commissioner of Administrative Services, to
72 reimburse any employee of the department, including the
73 commissioner, for reasonable business expenses, including but not
74 limited to, mileage, travel, lodging, and entertainment of business
75 prospects and other persons to the extent necessary or advisable to
76 carry out the purposes of subdivisions (4), (7), (8) and (11) of this
77 subsection and other provisions of this chapter; (24) to assist in
78 resolving solid waste management issues; (25) (A) to serve as an
79 information clearinghouse for various public and private programs
80 available to assist businesses, (B) to identify specific micro businesses,
81 as defined in section 32-344, whose growth and success could benefit

82 from state or private assistance and contact such small businesses in
83 order to (i) identify their needs, (ii) provide information about public
84 and private programs for meeting such needs, including, but not
85 limited to, technical assistance, job training and financial assistance,
86 and (iii) arrange for the provision of such assistance to such businesses;
87 (26) to enhance and promote the digital media and motion picture
88 industries in the state; (27) by reallocating funding from other agency
89 accounts or programs, to develop a marketing campaign that promotes
90 Connecticut as a place of innovation; and (28) by reallocating funding
91 from other agency accounts or programs, to execute the steps
92 necessary to implement the knowledge corridor agreement with
93 Massachusetts to promote the biomedical device industry.

94 (b) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
95 may make available technical and financial assistance and advisory
96 services to any appropriate agency, authority or commission for
97 planning and other functions pertinent to economic development
98 provided any financial assistance to a regional planning agency or a
99 regional council of elected officials shall have the prior approval of the
100 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management or his designee.
101 Financial assistance shall be rendered upon such contractual
102 arrangements as may be agreed upon by the commissioner and any
103 such agency, authority or commission in accordance with their
104 respective needs, and the commissioner may determine the
105 qualifications of personnel or consultants to be engaged for such
106 assistance.

107 (c) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
108 shall do all things necessary to apply for, qualify for and accept any
109 federal funds made available or allotted under any federal act for
110 planning or any other projects, programs or activities which may be
111 established by federal law, for any of the purposes, or activities related
112 thereto, of the Department of Economic and Community Development
113 and said Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
114 shall administer any such funds allotted to the department in

115 accordance with federal law. The commissioner may enter into
 116 contracts with the federal government concerning the use and
 117 repayment of such funds under any such federal act, the prosecution
 118 of the work under any such contract and the establishment of any
 119 disbursement from a separate account in which federal and state funds
 120 estimated to be required for plan preparation or other eligible activities
 121 under such federal act shall be kept. Said account shall not be a part of
 122 the General Fund of the state or any subdivision of the state. The
 123 commissioner shall report on activities to apply for, qualify for and
 124 accept funds under this subsection in its annual report submitted
 125 pursuant to section 32-1m.

126 (d) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
 127 may designate any deputy commissioner or employee of the
 128 department to exercise the authority of the commissioner for the
 129 purpose of administering any statutory or regulatory responsibility.

130 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) The powers and duties enumerated in this section shall be
 131 in addition to and shall not limit any other powers or duties of the
 132 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development contained
 133 in any other law."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	October 1, 2014	32-1c