



**House Bill No. 6547**

**Special Act No. 21-13**

***AN ACT CONCERNING A WORKING GROUP REGARDING THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES.***

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) (1) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's designee, shall convene and chair a working group to develop a plan for supporting and facilitating efforts by municipalities, historical societies and other nonprofit entities whose purposes include historic preservation to preserve buildings, structures, objects, sites and landmarks listed on the National Register of Historic Places or designated by a municipality as historically significant.

(2) The plan described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall provide for a method of administering any revolving fund that may be established as a resource in supporting efforts by municipalities, historical societies and other nonprofit entities whose purposes include historic preservation to facilitate the acquisition of preservation easements and other means to preserve the buildings, structures, objects, sites and landmarks described in said subdivision, including purchasing, or acquiring options to purchase, such buildings, structures, objects, sites or landmarks with the intent to resell such buildings, structures, objects, sites or landmarks to qualified buyers that

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will preserve, restore and adaptively reuse such buildings, structures, objects, sites or landmarks.

(b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

(1) Four representatives of local historical societies appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be from Litchfield County, one of whom shall be from Hartford County, one of whom shall be from Tolland County and one of whom shall be from Windham County;

(2) Four representatives of local historical societies appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be from Fairfield County, one of whom shall be from New Haven County, one of whom shall be from Middlesex County and one of whom shall be from New London County;

(3) One representative of the Connecticut Economic Resource Center appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;

(4) One representative of the State Historic Preservation Office appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(5) One representative of Preservation Connecticut appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(6) One representative of the Connecticut League of History Organizations appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

(7) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's designee.

(c) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

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(d) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than September 1, 2021.

(e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

(f) Not later than February 1, 2022, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or February 1, 2022, whichever is later.

Approved June 28, 2021