



**Substitute Senate Bill No. 279**

**Public Act No. 22-126**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE REGARDING MINOR AND TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT STATUTES.**

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

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 4-124jj of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) Not later than October 1, 2022, and annually thereafter until October 1, 2025, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit to the Governor and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, higher education and employment advancement, education, commerce, and labor and public employees a report regarding the workforce training programs funded through the Office of Workforce Strategy account. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, information on the number of individuals served, demographic information about such individuals and outcomes of such individuals after completion of a workforce training program.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10a-1a of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

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thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) There shall be a Board of Regents for Higher Education that shall serve as the governing body for the regional community-technical college system, the Connecticut State University System and Charter Oak State College. The board shall consist of [twenty-one] twenty-two members who shall be distinguished leaders of the community in Connecticut. The board shall reflect the state's geographic, racial and ethnic diversity. The voting members shall not be employed by or be a member of a board of trustees for any independent institution of higher education in this state or the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut nor shall they be public officials or state employees, as such terms are defined in section 1-79, during their term of membership on the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The Governor shall appoint nine members to the board as follows: Three members for a term of two years; three members for a term of four years; and three members for a term of six years. Thereafter, the Governor shall appoint members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of six years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment. Four members of the board shall be appointed as follows: One appointment by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall be an alumnus of the regional community-technical college system, for a term of four years; one appointment by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a specialist in the education of children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, for a term of three years; one appointment by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall be an alumnus of the Connecticut State University System, for a term of four years; and one appointment by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be an alumnus of Charter Oak State College, for a term of three years. Thereafter, such members of the General Assembly shall appoint members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of

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four years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the student advisory committee created under section 10a-3 shall serve as members of the board. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the faculty advisory committee created under section 10a-3a shall serve as ex-officio, nonvoting members of the board for a term of two years and, in their respective roles as chairperson and vice-chairperson, may be invited to any executive session, as defined in section 1-200, of the board by the chairperson of the board. The Commissioners of Education, Economic and Community Development and Public Health, the Labor Commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer shall serve as ex-officio, nonvoting members of the board.

Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 10-14aa of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(d) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the office shall (1) review, and request updates of as necessary, the webinar modules and trainings developed or endorsed by the Department of Education for the purpose of aligning such webinar modules with the compliance measures developed by the office pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-14z; and (2) submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly [have] having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and education status reports on the compliance of such webinar modules and trainings.

Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10a-22f of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) A certificate of authorization issued to a private occupational school pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, and sections

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10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, may be revoked by the executive director if such school (1) ceases to meet the conditions of its authorization; (2) commits a material or substantial violation of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, or sections 10a-22u to 10a-22w, inclusive, or the regulations prescribed thereunder; (3) makes a false statement about a material fact in application for authorization or renewal; (4) fails to make a required payment to the private occupational school student protection account pursuant to section 10a-22u; or (5) fails to submit a complete application for a [renewed] renewal of a certificate of authorization pursuant to section 10a-22d.

Sec. 5. Subdivision (18) of section 10a-223 of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 273 of public act 21-2 of the June special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

(18) "Education assistance program" means a program to assist in financing the costs of education through education loans, [or] education grants [, or both] or any other form of financial assistance;

Sec. 6. Section 31-3j of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

As used in [sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive] this section and sections 31-3k to 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended by this act:

(1) "Board" means a regional workforce development board established under section 31-3k, as amended by this act;

(2) "Commissioner" means the Labor Commissioner;

(3) "Municipality" means a town, city, borough, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough;

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(4) "Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act" means the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time; and

(5) "Workforce development region" or "region" means an area designated as a service delivery area in accordance with the provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 31-3k of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) Each board shall make use of grants or contracts with appropriate service providers to furnish all program services under sections 31-3j to [31-3r] 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended by this act, unless the Governor's Workforce Council concurs with the board that direct provision of a service by the board is necessary to assure adequate availability of the service or that a service of comparable quality can be provided more economically by the board. Any board seeking to provide services directly shall submit to the commissioner, the Chief Workforce Officer and the Governor's Workforce Council a plan of service and appropriate justification for the need to provide services directly. Such plan of service shall be subject to review and approval by the Governor's Workforce Council.

Sec. 8. Section 31-3m of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Not later than July 1, 1992, the Governor shall designate appropriate state agencies as agencies involved in employment and training. The department heads of each agency involved in employment and training shall: Not later than August 15, 1992, and annually thereafter, identify to the commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer the employment

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and training programs administered by the agency that are subject to oversight by one or more boards under the provisions of sections 31-3j to ~~[31-3r] 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended by this act.~~ The Chief Workforce Officer, jointly with the commissioner and the Governor's Workforce Council, shall facilitate communication and the exchange of information between the boards and the state agencies involved in employment and training.

Sec. 9. Section 31-3n of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The commissioner, in consultation with the Chief Workforce Officer and the Governor's Workforce Council, may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to carry out the provisions of sections 31-3j to ~~[31-3r] 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended by this act.~~

(b) The Chief Workforce Officer shall distribute all information received under the provisions of sections 31-3j to ~~[31-3r] 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended by this act,~~ to the Governor's Workforce Council in order to ensure that the review and coordination duties of the council are effectively carried out.

(c) The Governor may approve, upon the recommendation of the Governor's Workforce Council, each board established pursuant to section 31-3k, ~~as amended by this act,~~ which meets the requirements of sections 31-3j to ~~[31-3r] 31-3o, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 31-3r, as amended by this act.~~

Sec. 10. Section 31-3r of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Nothing in this section or sections 31-3j to ~~[31-3r] 31-3o, inclusive, as~~

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amended by this act, shall be construed or administered in any manner that would conflict with the requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act or supersede any statutory duties, responsibilities or obligations of any agency or board, including, but not limited to, any local board of education.

Approved May 27, 2022