



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 157**

February Session, 2022

Substitute Senate Bill No. 190

*Senate, March 29, 2022*

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. MARONEY of the 14th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENT, TAX COLLECTION AND FINANCE PERSONNEL.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 12-2b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall: (1) In  
4 consultation with the Commissioner of Agriculture, develop schedules  
5 of unit prices for property classified under sections 12-107a to 12-107e,  
6 inclusive, update such schedules by October 1, 1990, and every five  
7 years thereafter, and make such data, studies and schedules available to  
8 municipalities and the public; (2) develop regulations setting forth  
9 standards and tests for: Certifying revaluation companies and their  
10 employees, which regulations shall ensure that a revaluation company  
11 is competent in appraising and valuing property, certifying revaluation  
12 companies and their employees, requiring that a certified employee  
13 supervise all valuations performed by a revaluation company for  
14 municipalities, maintaining lists of certified revaluation companies and  
15 upon request, advising municipalities in drafting contracts with  
16 revaluation companies, and conducting investigations and

17 withdrawing the certification of any revaluation company or employee  
18 found not to be conforming to such regulations. The regulations shall  
19 provide for the imposition of a fee payable to a testing service  
20 designated by the secretary to administer certification examinations;  
21 and (3) by [himself] the secretary, or by an agent whom [he] the  
22 secretary may appoint, inquire if all property taxes which are due and  
23 collectible by each town or city not consolidated with a town, are in fact  
24 collected and paid to the treasurer thereof in the manner prescribed by  
25 law, and if accounts and records of the tax collectors and treasurers of  
26 such entities are adequate and properly kept. The secretary may hold  
27 meetings, conferences or schools for assessors, tax collectors or  
28 municipal finance officers and make recommendations concerning  
29 assessor, tax collector or municipal finance officer training, including,  
30 but not limited to, online or in-person training programs to be offered  
31 by public institutions of higher education for the purpose of supporting  
32 a career pathway for assessors, tax collectors and municipal finance  
33 officers.

34 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12-40a of the general statutes is  
35 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
36 *passage*):

37 (a) There shall be a committee for the purpose of establishing a  
38 program and procedures for the training, examination and certification  
39 of assessment personnel, appointed by the Secretary of the Office of  
40 Policy and Management and consisting of seven members, six of whom  
41 shall serve without pay and shall be appointed initially as follows: Two  
42 members for two-year terms; two members for four-year terms; and two  
43 members for six-year terms. No less than one member shall be from a  
44 municipality with a population over fifty thousand, and no less than one  
45 member shall be from a municipality with a population under five  
46 thousand. The seventh member shall be an employee of the Office of  
47 Policy and Management, who shall have demonstrated competence in  
48 Connecticut assessment practices. The Secretary of the Office of Policy  
49 and Management shall thereafter appoint two members every two years  
50 for six-year terms. Each member of the committee, other than the

51 representative from the Office of Policy and Management, shall, on and  
52 after July 1, 1984, be a person certified pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
53 section and shall have demonstrated competence in Connecticut  
54 assessment practices. Each member of the committee, other than the  
55 representative from the Office of Policy and Management, appointed on  
56 or after July 1, 1984, shall be employed by a municipality in the state in  
57 a position relating to the assessment of property for the purposes of the  
58 property tax. Any member of the committee who ceases to be an  
59 employee of the Office of Policy and Management, or to be certified  
60 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, as the case may be, shall cease  
61 to be a member of the committee and the secretary shall appoint a  
62 replacement to fill the remainder of the term. Said committee shall (1)  
63 elect its own chairman, [and] (2) adopt regulations, in accordance with  
64 the provisions of chapter 54, for the training, fees and examination of  
65 assessment personnel, including, but not limited to, standards for the  
66 certification and recertification of assessors, and (3) on or after the  
67 effective date of this section, amend such regulations to ensure that such  
68 training and examination is readily available online or at various  
69 locations throughout this state. Such regulations may include  
70 requirements for any type of training or experience, or combination  
71 thereof, the committee deems appropriate.

72 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 12-130a of the general statutes is  
73 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
74 *passage*):

75 (a) There shall be established a committee for the purpose of  
76 developing and maintaining a program and procedures for the training,  
77 examination and certification of tax collection personnel, appointed by  
78 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and consisting of  
79 seven members, six of whom shall be voting members who shall serve  
80 without pay and shall be appointed initially as follows: Two members  
81 for two-year terms; two members for four-year terms; and two members  
82 for six-year terms. At least one member shall be from a municipality  
83 with a population of more than fifty thousand, and at least one member  
84 shall be from a municipality with a population under ten thousand. The

85 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall thereafter  
 86 appoint two members every two years for six-year terms. The seventh  
 87 member shall be an employee of the Office of Policy and Management,  
 88 who shall serve as a [nonvoting] voting member of the committee. The  
 89 [six] seven voting members of the committee shall have demonstrated  
 90 competence in tax collection practices in Connecticut. Said committee  
 91 shall (1) elect its own chairman, [and recommend standards to said  
 92 secretary for the training, fees and examination of tax collection  
 93 personnel, including standards for the certification and recertification of  
 94 tax collectors. Such recommended standards may include requirements  
 95 for any type of training or experience, or combination thereof, the  
 96 committee deems appropriate. The secretary shall review the  
 97 recommended standards and shall adopt regulations, in accordance  
 98 with chapter 54, implementing any of such standards the secretary  
 99 approves] (2) adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of  
 100 chapter 54, for the training, fees and examination of tax collection  
 101 personnel, including, but not limited to, standards for the certification  
 102 and recertification of tax collectors, and (3) on or after the effective date  
 103 of this section, amend such regulations to ensure that such training and  
 104 examination is readily available online or at various locations  
 105 throughout the state. Such regulations may include requirements for  
 106 any type of training or experience, or combination thereof, the  
 107 committee deems appropriate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	12-2b
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	12-40a(a)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	12-130a(a)

**GL**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the 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 chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill has no fiscal impact. It authorizes the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to make recommendations concerning assessor, tax collector and municipal finance officer training programs and to ensure that those programs are available online, or in various locations around the state. It is anticipated that OPM can meet these responsibilities with existing resources.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis****SUMMARY**

This bill broadly authorizes the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) secretary to make recommendations about assessor, tax collector, and municipal finance officer training programs to support these career pathways. The recommendations may include online or in-person training programs at public higher education institutions (§ 1). Under existing law, the OPM secretary may hold meetings, conferences, or schools for these professions.

The bill also requires the OPM-appointed assessment personnel training, examination, and certification committee to amend its regulations to ensure that assessor exams and training are readily available online or at various locations statewide (§ 2).

Additionally, the bill transfers responsibility for adopting regulations for tax collectors from the OPM secretary to existing law's tax collection personnel training, examination, and certification committee. It also requires the committee to amend the regulations to ensure that tax collector exams and training are readily available online or at various locations statewide. Under existing law, one member of the seven-member OPM-appointed committee is an OPM employee. The bill makes this member a voting member (§ 3).

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18    Nay 0    (03/15/2022)