



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Committee Bill No. 45

LCO No. 1688



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. Section 32-4i of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

3 (a) [The] On or before October 1, 2022, Commissioner of Economic
4 and Community Development, in consultation with the Commissioner
5 of Revenue Services and the president of the Connecticut State Colleges
6 and Universities, [may] shall establish the Learn Here, Live Here
7 program. Such program [may] shall provide an incentive for graduates
8 of a public institution of higher education, private university or college,
9 or health care training school in this state, or graduates from a technical
10 education and career school, to buy a first home in the state. Persons (1)
11 who graduate on or after January 1, [2014] 2023, from such institutions,
12 universities, colleges or schools, and (2) whose annual income is less
13 than or equal to fifty-five thousand dollars may have their income tax
14 liability, up to a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars
15 annually, segregated into the Connecticut first-time homebuyers
16 account established pursuant to section 32-4j, provided not more than
17 [one] five million dollars from all program participants may be so

18 segregated in any calendar year. After a period not exceeding ten years
19 after graduation, any amounts so segregated may be withdrawn by a
20 participant for the purchase of a first home in the state. The
21 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development may make
22 payments in accordance with this section from said fund to the
23 participants. For the purposes of this section, "health care training
24 school" means a medical or dental school, chiropractic college, school or
25 college of optometry, school or college of chiropody or podiatry, school
26 of occupational therapy, hospital-based occupational school, school or
27 college of naturopathy, school of dental hygiene, school of physical
28 therapy or any other school or institution giving instruction in the
29 healing arts.

30 (b) (1) After a period not exceeding ten years after the date of
31 graduation, a participant in the program established pursuant to
32 subsection (a) of this section may apply to the Commissioner of
33 Economic and Community Development for a payment to be issued, on
34 behalf of such participant, and used as the down payment on a house,
35 which must be the first house such participant has bought, either singly
36 or jointly. Such payment may be in an amount equal to the amount of
37 segregated funds deposited on behalf of such participant. If the payment
38 is less than such amount, any excess amount shall be deposited in the
39 General Fund.

40 (2) If a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to one year
41 after [such date] the date on which the Commissioner of Economic and
42 Community Development issued the payment to the participant, such
43 participant shall repay one hundred per cent of the amount paid out. If
44 a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to two years after
45 such date, such participant shall repay eighty per cent of the amount
46 paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to three
47 years after such date, such participant shall repay sixty per cent of the
48 amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at any time
49 up to four years after such date, such participant shall repay forty per
50 cent of the amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at

51 any time up to five years after such date, such participant shall repay
52 twenty per cent of the amount paid out. After five years, there is no
53 repayment obligation. Any amounts repaid under this subdivision shall
54 be deposited in the General Fund.

55 (c) On or before December 1, [2012] 2022, the Commissioner of
56 Economic and Community Development [may] shall develop, within
57 available appropriations, a comprehensive public education program to
58 educate recent graduates of a public institution of higher education,
59 private university or college, or health care training school in the state,
60 or of a technical education and career school, about the program
61 established under this section for first-time home buyers. The public
62 education program shall include, but not be limited to, information
63 concerning life-time savings plans and information on the purchase of a
64 home. [If the commissioner develops such public education program,
65 the] The department shall begin to implement such program not later
66 than January 1, [2014] 2023.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	32-4i

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the annual expenditure on the Learn Here, Live Here program to not more than five million dollars and to make such program available only to individuals whose income is fifty-five thousand dollars or less.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HWANG, 28th Dist.

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