



# House of Representatives

**File No. 669**

General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**(Reprint of File No. 127)**

Substitute House Bill No. 6354  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
May 1, 2023

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREEN JOBS CORPS PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 31-3rr of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

3 (a) As used in this section and section 10a-55g:

4 (1) "Green jobs" has the same meaning as provided in section 10a-55d;

5 (2) "Green technology" has the same meaning as provided in section  
6 10a-55d; and

7 (3) "Career ladder" means a description of the progression from an  
8 entry level position to higher levels of pay, skill, responsibility or  
9 authority.

10 (b) Not later than January 1, 2020, the [Office of Workforce Strategy]  
11 Connecticut Clean Economy Council, in consultation with the Office of

12 Higher Education, Department of Education, Labor Department,  
13 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, regional  
14 workforce development boards and employers, shall, within available  
15 appropriations, identify a career ladder for jobs in the green technology  
16 industry, including, but not limited to, a listing of (1) careers at each  
17 level of the green technology industry and the requisite level of  
18 education and the salary offered for such career, (2) all course, certificate  
19 and degree programs in green jobs offered by technical education and  
20 career schools within the Technical Education and Career System and  
21 institutions of higher education in the state, and (3) jobs available in the  
22 green technology industry in the state. The [Office of Workforce  
23 Strategy] Connecticut Clean Economy Council shall update the green  
24 jobs career ladder established pursuant to this section on an as needed  
25 basis.

26 (c) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Connecticut Clean Economy  
27 Council shall develop a plan for green jobs workforce training to  
28 accomplish the greenhouse gas emissions goals set forth in subsection  
29 (a) of section 22a-200a. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited  
30 to, (1) development of work-based learning programs for green jobs  
31 with workforce shortages; (2) development of certificate and degree  
32 programs related to the green technology industry at technical  
33 education and career schools and institutions of higher education in the  
34 state; (3) identification of available funding, whether from a public or  
35 private source, to fund the development of such work-based learning  
36 and certificate and degree programs and provide grants to apprentices  
37 and students; and (4) a strategy to market and recruit individuals,  
38 especially from underrepresented populations, to existing and newly  
39 developed green jobs work-based learning programs and certificate and  
40 degree programs related to the green technology industry at job centers,  
41 technical education and career schools and institutions of higher  
42 education. Not later than January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, said  
43 council shall update such plan as necessary.

44 (d) Not later than February 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the  
45 Connecticut Clean Economy Council shall submit, in accordance with

46 the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the  
47 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher  
48 education and employment advancement the plan developed or  
49 updated pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	31-3rr

*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 by requiring the Connecticut Clean Energy Council to jointly develop with other specified state agencies a workforce training plan for green jobs.

The Connecticut Clean Energy Council, through its partnership with the Office of Workforce Strategy, and the Labor Department's Office of Apprenticeship Training, are currently managing and developing workforce training initiatives that are similar in nature to plan's requirements outlined in the bill.

House "A" has no fiscal impact by requiring the Connecticut Clean Energy Council rather than the Office of Workforce Strategy to be the lead entity on developing the green jobs workforce training plan.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 6354 (as amended by House "A")\******AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREEN JOBS CORPS PROGRAM.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Connecticut Clean Economy Council (CCEC) to develop a workforce training plan for green jobs (i.e., jobs that employ green technology) to accomplish the state's greenhouse gas emissions goals (see BACKGROUND). The plan must include:

1. development of work-based learning programs for green jobs with workforce shortages;
2. development of certificate and degree programs related to the green technology industry at technical education and career schools and in-state higher education institutions;
3. identification of available public or private funding to develop these programs and award grants to apprentices and students; and
4. a strategy to market and recruit individuals, especially from underrepresented populations, to existing and newly developed green jobs work-based learning programs and certificate and degree programs related to the green technology industry at job centers, technical education and career schools, and higher education institutions.

The council must develop the plan by January 1, 2024, and submit it to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee by February 1, 2024. Beginning by January 1, 2025, the council must update

the plan as necessary, with plan updates submitted to the committee by each February 1.

Current law requires the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS), in consultation with the Office of Higher Education, State Department of Education, Department of Labor, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, regional workforce development boards, and employers, to establish a career ladder for jobs in the green technology industry by January 1, 2020, and then update it as needed. The bill shifts responsibility for establishing and updating the green jobs career ladder from OWS to the CCEC.

\*House Amendment "A" shifts responsibility for (1) establishing and updating the green jobs career ladder from OWS to the CCEC and (2) developing a green jobs workforce training plan from the chief workforce officer and other specified officials to the CCEC.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Connecticut Clean Economy Council***

The governor established the CCEC through Executive Order 21-3. The council must advise on strategies and policies to strengthen climate mitigation, clean energy, resilience, and sustainability programs with the goal of lowering emissions and advancing the state of economic and environmental justice for Connecticut residents.

Among other things, the CCEC must ensure the state's workforce is trained to deliver climate and sustainability solutions and support equitable and diverse participation in climate and sustainability economic development opportunities from both diverse employers and diverse job seekers. The CCEC is expected to meet quarterly at a minimum and report annually on its work.

### ***Global Warming Solutions Act***

The Global Warming Solutions Act requires the state to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all sources to a level at least (1) 10%

below 1990 emission levels by January 1, 2020; (2) 45% below 2001 emission levels by January 1, 2030; and (3) 80% below 2001 emission levels by January 1, 2050. The state must also reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electricity supplied to electric customers in the state to zero percent by January 1, 2040 (CGS § 22a-200a).

**Green Technology**

By law, green technology is technology that (1) promotes clean energy, renewable energy, or energy efficiency; (2) reduces greenhouse gases or carbon emissions; or (3) involves the invention, design, and application of chemical products and processes to eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances (CGS § 10a-55d).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/07/2023)