



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 213

January Session, 2023

Substitute House Bill No. 6585

House of Representatives, March 27, 2023

The Committee on Commerce reported through REP. MESKERS of the 150th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY TO PROMOTE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT USING THE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEUR IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM AS A MODEL.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working
2 group to conduct a study and make recommendations regarding the
3 feasibility of state universities leveraging the H1-B visa cap exemption
4 process to fill high-value job openings and promote workforce
5 development, using the Global Entrepreneur In Residence program as a
6 model. The study shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The
7 development of recommendations for creating an international pipeline
8 that would expand the size of the eligible workforce population; (2) an
9 examination of any barriers to establishing such a pipeline; (3) an
10 examination of any barriers faced by the business community when
11 hiring international students; (4) an evaluation of international
12 workforce pipeline programs used in other states; (5) the creation of a
13 best practices document regarding current international workforce
14 pipelines; (6) an examination of how to promote such a pipeline for in-

15 demand jobs outlined by the Office of Workforce Strategy; and (7) an
16 examination of how the state can be more competitive in recruiting an
17 international workforce.

18 (b) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
19 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall
20 appoint cochairpersons from among the members of the working group,
21 which shall consist of, but need not be limited to, the following
22 members:

23 (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
24 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
25 relating to commerce and higher education;

26 (2) The president of The University of Connecticut, or the president's
27 designee;

28 (3) The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities,
29 or the president's designee;

30 (4) The Chief Workforce Officer, or the officer's designee;

31 (5) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

32 (6) Two immigration attorneys representing different immigration
33 populations, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working
34 group;

35 (7) Five representatives from businesses with experience in hiring
36 and sponsoring international students, who shall be appointed by the
37 chairpersons of the working group; and

38 (8) A representative from an association representing businesses and
39 industries in this state, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of
40 the working group.

41 (c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision
42 (6), (7) or (8) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the
43 General Assembly.

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

47 (e) The chairpersons of the working group shall schedule the first
48 meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than sixty
49 days after the effective date of this section.

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

53 (g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the working group shall submit a
54 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
55 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
56 relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
57 of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date
58 that it submits such report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec. (b), "cochairs" was changed to "cochairpersons" for consistency with standard drafting conventions. In Subsecs. (d), (e) and (f), "task force" was changed to "working group" for accuracy and internal consistency.

CE *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

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.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a working group to study state universities leveraging the H1-B visa cap exemption to fill job openings resulting in no fiscal impact because the working group has the expertise to meet the requirements of the bill.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6585

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SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 24 Nay 0 (03/09/2023)