

Commerce Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6597

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND

Title: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT.

Vote Date: 3/14/2023

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/10/2023

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Commerce Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

Increased downtown revitalization and the encouragement of brownfield projects have been identified as two vital components to future economic growth and infrastructure improvement in the state. HB-6597 aims to properly inform the Connecticut General Assembly's members deciding on matters of commerce about current infrastructure issues in the state in hopes of inspiring legislation to address these issues.

Substitute Language (LCO No. 5899)

Added the State Bond Commission shall have the power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state 4 in one or more series and in principal amounts, and that the sale of those bonds shall be used by the DECD for the purpose of the Brownfield Remediation and Revitalization program.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Jim Perras, CEO, HBRA of CT

The HBRA **supports** this bill. The HBRA believes this bill would help address the state's housing affordability and accessibility crisis. The HBRA-CT requests that HB-6597 be amended to require that DECD, OPM and DOH conduct the study jointly, require that the study specifically reference the need to address issues relating to infrastructure as it pertains

to residential construction, look to other states for policies and best practices to fund and encourage residential infrastructure needs, and change the reporting requirements to include submissions to the report to the joint standing committees on Commerce, Housing and Planning & Development.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Colin DeCure

Date: 3/24/2023