

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 23-117—sHB 6549

Labor and Public Employees Committee

**AN ACT CONCERNING MODIFICATION OF AND REPEALING
OBSOLETE PROVISIONS AND STATUTES RELEVANT TO THE
LABOR DEPARTMENT**

SUMMARY: This act repeals various laws related to the State Department of Labor (DOL).

It repeals a requirement that the labor commissioner annually, by November 15, submit to the Education, Higher Education and Workforce Advancement, and Labor and Public Employees committees information about economic trends, occupational information, and emerging workforce trends for the next 10 years. Relatedly, the act modifies the information that the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) executive director must annually submit to these committees by the same date. Under the act, the executive director must submit, among other things, information ensuring that the CTECS curriculum incorporates the workforce skills needed for future workforce development as opposed to specifically addressing the needed workforce skills identified by the labor commissioner in her submission as required under prior law (§ 1).

Additionally, the act repeals the law establishing the Individual Development Account (IDA) Program within DOL and requiring the department to provide matching funds for the participants. Under prior law, the program allowed people from low-income households to establish an account to save funds for specific reasons stated in law, including (1) buying a home, (2) paying for education or job training, or (3) starting a business (§ 10). The act also makes several conforming changes, including repealing provisions that (1) required the housing commissioner to provide matching grants to fund purchases of primary residences, (2) made contributions to the IDA Reserve Fund eligible for certain corporation business tax credits, and (3) allowed a personal income tax deduction for interest earned on funds deposited in an IDA (§§ 5-9).

It repeals several laws relating to DOL's enforcement authority that generally are obsolete or covered by other laws. For example, it repeals a law setting a minimum standard for worker bathroom accommodations at certain tobacco farms and another that addresses reporting serious accidents in workplaces, which are covered under CONN-OSHA (Connecticut Occupational Health and Safety Act, CGS § 31-367 et seq.) or federal OSHA (§§ 4 & 10).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage