



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5444

LCO No. 2659



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:
(ET)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TEST BED TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) (1) There is established a
2 test bed technologies advisory board, which shall, within available
3 appropriations, meet not less than twice a year to undertake the
4 advisory board's powers and duties pursuant to this section. The
5 advisory board shall be an independent body within the Office of Policy
6 and Management for administrative purposes only. The advisory board
7 shall consist of the following members, who shall have experience
8 working in private sector businesses or in state agencies: (A) One
9 appointed by the Governor; (B) one appointed by the Secretary of the
10 Office of Policy and Management; (C) one appointed by the Treasurer;
11 and (D) one appointed by the Comptroller.

12 (2) If, in the exercise of the advisory board's powers and duties
13 pursuant to this section, the advisory board finds that (A) the use of a
14 certain technology, product or process would promote operational cost
15 reduction, and (B) the use of such technology, product or process would
16 be feasible in the operations of a state agency and would not have any

17 detrimental effect on such operations, the advisory board shall
18 recommend that such agency undertake a pilot test program during
19 which such agency shall use such technology, product or process in the
20 operations of such agency on a temporary basis. The purpose of such
21 pilot test program shall be to validate the effectiveness of such
22 technology, product or process in reducing operational costs.

23 (3) The advisory board shall not recommend a pilot test program by
24 a state agency for any such technology, product or process unless the
25 business that manufactures or markets the technology, product or
26 process demonstrates that (1) the use of such technology, product or
27 process by such agency will not adversely affect safety, (2) the
28 technology, product or process is presently available for commercial
29 sale and distribution or has potential for commercialization not later
30 than two years following the completion of such pilot test program by
31 such agency pursuant to this section, and (3) such technology, product
32 or process was not developed by a business that is eligible to participate
33 in the test program established pursuant to section 32-39e of the general
34 statutes.

35 (b) (1) The commissioner of each state agency shall administer pilot
36 test programs at state agencies for the use of technologies, products or
37 processes that promote operational cost reduction. The purpose of such
38 pilot test programs shall be to validate the effectiveness of such
39 technologies, products or processes in reducing operational costs.

40 (2) (A) An applicant interested in participating in such a program
41 shall submit an application to the commissioner of the state agency that
42 administers such program.

43 (B) Each applicant shall pay to the Office of Policy and Management
44 a fee of five thousand dollars for each application, at the time of making
45 such application.

46 (C) Such application shall include an assessment of the potential
47 viability of a pilot test program of such technology, product or process
48 at such agency conducted by an independent consulting firm or a

49 market research firm that specializes in market research for similar
50 technologies, products or processes.

51 (D) Such commissioner shall review such application for
52 completeness not later than thirty days after receipt of such application.

53 (E) Not later than ninety days after receipt of such application, such
54 commissioner shall determine whether to file a request to the advisory
55 board for a recommendation to test any such technology, product or
56 process that is the subject of such application. Any such request shall
57 include the assessment that such applicant submitted pursuant to
58 subparagraph (C) of this subdivision.

59 (c) Not later than thirty days after receipt of any request filed by the
60 commissioner of a state agency pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection
61 (b) of this section, the advisory board shall evaluate any technology,
62 product or process that is the subject of such request and make a
63 recommendation pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this
64 section.

65 (d) If the advisory board recommends that a state agency undertake
66 a pilot test program, such agency, notwithstanding the requirements of
67 chapter 58 of the general statutes, shall accept delivery of such
68 technology, product or process and undertake such a pilot test program
69 during which such agency shall use such technology, product or process
70 in the operations of such agency on a temporary basis. The duration of
71 such pilot test program shall be not less than thirty days and not more
72 than sixty days.

73 (e) Any costs associated with the acquisition and use of such
74 technology, product or process by a state agency for a pilot test program
75 pursuant to this section shall be borne by the applicant. The acquisition
76 of any technology, product or process for a pilot test program pursuant
77 to this section shall not be deemed to be a purchase under the provisions
78 of state procurement law. The applicant shall maintain records related
79 to any such pilot test program, as required by the advisory board. All
80 proprietary information derived from such test program shall be

81 exempt from the provisions of subsection (a) of section 1-210 of the
82 general statutes.

83 (f) If the commissioner of the state agency that tested such
84 technology, product or process determines that the pilot test program
85 sufficiently demonstrates that the technology, product or process
86 promotes operational cost reduction, such testing agency may request
87 that the Commissioner of Administrative Services (1) procure such
88 technology for use by such state agency, and (2) make such procurement
89 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 4a-58 of the general statutes. If the
90 Commissioner of Administrative Services grants a request to procure
91 such technology for any state agency, the Commissioner of
92 Administrative Services shall make information regarding such
93 procurement available to all state agencies on the Internet web site of
94 the Department of Administrative Services.

95 (g) The commissioner of a state agency may identify a technology,
96 product or process that is procured, installed and tested by a
97 municipality that promotes operational cost reduction. Such
98 commissioner may file a request to the advisory board for a
99 recommendation to test such technology, product or process. Not later
100 than thirty days after receipt of such request, the advisory board shall
101 evaluate the technology, product or process and make a
102 recommendation pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this
103 section. If the advisory board recommends such technology, product or
104 process, such agency shall undertake a pilot test program in accordance
105 with the provisions of subsections (d) to (f), inclusive, of this section.

106 (h) Any fees collected by the Office of Policy and Management under
107 this section shall be paid to the State Treasurer and credited to the
108 General Fund.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2024	New section

ET *Joint Favorable*