



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 5213



Offered by:
SEN. FONFARA, 1st Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 456

File No. 587

Cal. No. 356

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TEN-YEAR PLANS TO ERADICATE CONCENTRATED POVERTY IN THE STATE."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) It is hereby declared that
4 there exists a concentrated poverty crisis in the state that exacts a critical
5 toll on poor and nonpoor residents of communities that house areas of
6 concentrated poverty, which create lifelong and persistent
7 disadvantages across generations by lowering the quality of educational
8 and employment opportunities, limiting health care access and
9 diminishing health outcomes, increasing exposure to crime, reducing
10 available choices for affordable and properly maintained housing and
11 imposing obstacles to wealth-building and economic mobility. It is
12 further declared that the development and implementation of the ten-
13 year plans under this section to eradicate concentrated poverty in the
14 state are necessary and for the public benefit, as a matter of legislative
15 determination.

16 (b) There is established an Office of Neighborhood Investment and
17 Community Engagement within the Department of Economic and
18 Community Development. Said office shall have a staff dedicated
19 exclusively to carrying out the provisions of this section, overseeing the
20 implementation of the ten-year plans developed pursuant to this
21 subsection, monitoring the state's progress in reducing concentrated
22 poverty in the state and serving as the facilitator to coordinate
23 communication between the various parties and disseminate
24 information in a timely and efficient manner.

25 (c) (1) There is established a pilot program to implement the
26 provisions of the ten-year plans developed pursuant to this section for
27 participating concentrated poverty census tracts. Any concentrated
28 poverty census tract or group of tracts (A) that is located in any of the
29 four municipalities with the greatest number of concentrated poverty
30 census tracts, and (B) for which community members have established
31 a community development corporation pursuant to the provisions of
32 section 32-7s of the general statutes, as amended by this act, to assist the
33 municipality in which such census tract or group of tracts is located in
34 carrying out the municipality's responsibilities under this section and
35 the ten-year plan developed for such census tract or group of tracts, shall
36 be eligible to participate in the program. Notwithstanding the
37 provisions of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, any municipality in
38 which a concentrated poverty census tract or group of tracts is located
39 and for which a community development corporation has been
40 established as described under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, or
41 any such community development corporation, may request to
42 participate in the program. As used in this section, "concentrated
43 poverty census tract" means a census tract identified as a high poverty-
44 low opportunity census tract, as of January 1, 2024, by the Office of
45 Policy and Management pursuant to section 32-7x of the 2024
46 supplement to the general statutes.

47 (2) (A) The Office of Neighborhood Investment and Community
48 Engagement shall develop a plan for each participating concentrated
49 poverty census tract or group of tracts, as applicable, to eradicate, over

50 ten years, the levels of concentrated poverty in the state, evidenced by a
51 reduction, to twenty per cent or lower, in the percentage of households
52 who reside in a concentrated poverty census tract and have incomes
53 below the federal poverty level, as well as sustained improvements in
54 community infrastructure and other underlying conditions that serve to
55 prolong concentrated poverty and economic inertia in such census
56 tracts. In developing such plan, said office shall consult with the Office
57 of Community Economic Development Assistance established under
58 section 32-7s of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the Office
59 of Workforce Strategy established under section 4-124w of the general
60 statutes, the Office of Early Childhood, the Department of Education,
61 the Office of Policy and Management, the applicable community
62 development corporations serving the participating concentrated
63 poverty census tract or group of tracts and the applicable municipal
64 chief elected officials and any other public or private entity the
65 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development deems
66 relevant or necessary to achieving the purposes of this subsection.

67 (B) Each ten-year plan shall include, but need not be limited to, (i)
68 measurable steps to be taken for its implementation, the target date by
69 which each such step is to be completed and the state or municipal
70 official or state or municipal agency, department or division responsible
71 for each such step, (ii) minimum state-wide averages for educational
72 metrics, including, but not limited to, kindergarten-readiness, grade
73 level reading and mathematics and college-readiness or career-
74 readiness, to be used as benchmarks for improvements in each
75 concentrated poverty census tract or group of tracts, as applicable, and
76 (iii) the list of possible projects determined pursuant to subdivision (3)
77 of this subsection.

78 (C) On or before June 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Economic and
79 Community Development shall inform the joint standing committee of
80 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance,
81 revenue and bonding, in writing, of the progress made to date in the
82 development of each ten-year plan. Not later than January 1, 2026, said
83 commissioner shall submit all such plans to the General Assembly, in

84 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
85 and the Office of Neighborhood Investment and Community
86 Engagement shall immediately commence overseeing the
87 implementation of such plans.

88 (3) The Office of Neighborhood Investment and Community
89 Engagement shall, jointly with the chief elected official of each
90 applicable municipality and the community development corporation
91 established to assist such municipality, develop a list of possible projects
92 that will be included in the ten-year plan for each participating
93 concentrated poverty census tract or group of tracts, as applicable,
94 located in such municipality. Said office, official and corporation shall
95 (A) determine the types of projects they deem to be the most appropriate
96 and effective for such census tract or group of tracts to eradicate
97 concentrated poverty within such census tract or group of tracts,
98 including, but not limited to, capital projects, workforce development
99 programs, housing development, community and neighborhood
100 improvements and education initiatives to assist and support residents
101 in meeting and surpassing the educational metrics described in
102 subparagraph (B)(ii) of subdivision (2) of this subsection, and (B) take
103 into account the criteria for projects eligible for grants under sections 32-
104 7s of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 32-7x of the general
105 statutes, as amended by this act, and 32-285a of the general statutes, as
106 amended by this act.

107 (4) Not later than February 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the
108 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall submit
109 a report to the General Assembly, the Office of Workforce Strategy, the
110 Office of Early Childhood and the Office of Policy and Management, in
111 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
112 that summarizes the progress being made by the Office of
113 Neighborhood Investment and Community Engagement in
114 implementing each of the ten-year plans, the status of any projects
115 pending or undertaken for each participating concentrated poverty
116 census tract or group of tracts and any other information the
117 commissioner or the Office of Neighborhood Investment and

118 Community Engagement deems relevant or necessary.

119 (5) (A) Commencing with the calendar year 2027, not later than
120 March first of said year and annually thereafter for the next two years,
121 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
122 cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding shall
123 hold an informational forum for the Commissioner of Economic and
124 Community Development to present the contents of the submitted
125 report and for other state officials, municipal officials, representatives of
126 community development corporations serving participating
127 concentrated poverty census tracts or groups of tracts and other
128 interested parties to provide oral and written comments on the
129 submitted report and the pilot program.

130 (B) Commencing with the calendar year 2030, said committee shall
131 hold such informational forum every two years.

132 (d) On and after the date the ten-year plans are submitted to the
133 General Assembly pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (2) of
134 subsection (c) of this section, each state agency shall give priority to
135 projects included in such ten-year plans with respect to any grants or
136 funding programs such agency awards or administers and for which
137 such projects may be eligible.

138 (e) Not later than January 1, 2029, the Commissioner of Economic and
139 Community Development shall submit a recommendation to the joint
140 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
141 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding of (1) whether the pilot
142 program should be expanded to all concentrated poverty census tracts
143 or groups of tracts in the state for which a community development
144 corporation has been established as described under subparagraph (B)
145 of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, and (2) any additional
146 or alternative criteria to be considered for expansion of the pilot
147 program to other economically disadvantaged census tracts that do not
148 fall within the definition of a concentrated poverty census tract. If the
149 commissioner recommends expansion under subdivision (1) of this

150 subsection, the commissioner and the Office of Neighborhood
151 Investment and Community Engagement shall immediately undertake
152 such expansion.

153 (f) If any state or municipal official responsible for carrying out a
154 requirement or responsibility under the provisions of this section or a
155 ten-year plan fails to do so in a timely manner, any community
156 development corporation established as described under subparagraph
157 (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section that is aggrieved
158 by such failure may bring an action against such official in the superior
159 court for the judicial district in which such census tract or group of tracts
160 is located for a writ of mandamus to compel such official to carry out
161 such requirement or responsibility.

162 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) (1) There is established a working
163 group to develop a guidance document that establishes for the following
164 areas a framework for (A) best practices and any specified initiatives or
165 actions the working group believes will help mitigate the effects of
166 concentrated poverty, and (B) any specific metrics to be incorporated
167 into the ten-year plans developed pursuant to section 1 of this act to
168 measure improvements in concentrated poverty census tracts, as
169 defined in section 32-7x of the general statutes, as amended by this act:
170 (i) Education, including early childhood care and education; (ii) adult
171 work skills development to reduce unemployment rates of residents
172 within such concentrated poverty census tracts; (iii) infrastructure,
173 including, but not limited to, housing development and blight
174 remediation; (iv) crime within such concentrated poverty census tracts,
175 including, but not limited to, gun violence; and (v) any other areas the
176 working group deems necessary or desirable to include to further the
177 goals of section 1 of this act.

178 (2) The working group shall consult with any individual or entity to
179 inform the development of the guidance document, including, but not
180 limited to, state and national experts in the areas described in this
181 subsection, representatives of academia with expertise in the areas
182 described in this subsection, advocacy organizations, law enforcement

183 representatives, state agencies and quasi-public agencies.

184 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members: (1)
185 One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives and one
186 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, each of whom is
187 a member of the General Assembly; (2) one appointed by the majority
188 leader of the House of Representatives and one appointed by the
189 majority leader of the Senate, each of whom shall be a member of the
190 General Assembly; (3) one appointed by the minority leader of the
191 House of Representatives and one appointed by the minority leader of
192 the Senate, each of whom shall be a member of the General Assembly;
193 and (4) one appointed by the chairperson of the Black and Puerto Rican
194 Caucus of the General Assembly, who shall be a member of said caucus.

195 (c) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
196 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
197 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

198 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
199 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the working
200 group from among the members of the working group. Such
201 chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the working group,
202 which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of
203 this section. A majority of the working group shall constitute a quorum
204 for the transaction of any business.

205 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
206 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance,
207 revenue and bonding shall serve as administrative staff of the working
208 group.

209 (f) (1) Not later than April 1, 2025, the working group shall submit the
210 guidance document developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
211 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
212 cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding, in
213 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.
214 Not later than thirty days after such submission, said committee shall

215 vote to approve or modify such guidance document, provided any
216 modification to such guidance document shall be provided to the
217 members of said committee prior to such vote. If said committee fails to
218 vote within the thirty-day period set forth in this subdivision, the
219 guidance document shall be deemed approved. The working group
220 shall terminate on the date the guidance document or modified
221 guidance document, as applicable, is approved or deemed approved.

222 (2) Upon the approval of the guidance document or a modified
223 guidance document, the Office of Neighborhood Investment and
224 Community Engagement shall incorporate such document in the ten-
225 year plans developed by said office pursuant to subdivision (2) of
226 subsection (c) of section 1 of this act.

227 Sec. 3. Section 32-7s of the general statutes is repealed and the
228 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

229 (a) As used in this section:

230 (1) "Certified community development corporation" means an
231 organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the
232 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
233 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to
234 time, that (A) focuses a substantial majority of the community
235 development corporation's efforts on serving one or more target areas,
236 (B) has as its purpose to engage local residents and businesses to work
237 together to undertake community development programs, projects and
238 activities that develop and improve urban communities in sustainable
239 ways that create and expand economic opportunities for low and
240 moderate-income people, (C) demonstrates to the Office of Community
241 Economic Development Assistance established under subsection (b) of
242 this section that the community development corporation's
243 constituency is meaningfully represented on the board of directors of
244 such community development corporation, through (i) the percentage
245 of the board members who are residents of a target area or a community
246 that such community development corporation serves or seeks to serve,

247 (ii) the percentage of board members who are low or moderate-income,
248 (iii) the racial and ethnic composition of the board in comparison to the
249 racial and ethnic composition of the community such community
250 development corporation serves or seeks to serve, or (iv) the use of
251 mechanisms such as committees or membership meetings that the
252 community development corporation uses to ensure that its
253 constituency has a meaningful role in the governance and direction of
254 the community development corporation, and (D) is certified by the
255 Office of Community Economic Development Assistance pursuant to
256 this section;

257 (2) "Department" means the Department of Economic and
258 Community Development; and

259 (3) "Target area" means a contiguous geographic area in which the
260 current unemployment rate exceeds the state unemployment rate by at
261 least twenty-five per cent or in which the mean household income is at
262 or below eighty per cent of the state mean household income, as
263 determined by the most recent decennial census.

264 (b) (1) There is established an Office of Community Economic
265 Development Assistance within the Department of Economic and
266 Community Development. The office shall, within available
267 appropriations, (A) provide assistance to organizations seeking to
268 establish themselves or be certified as a community development
269 corporation in the state, (B) provide grants to certified community
270 development corporations for projects to be undertaken in a target area,
271 (C) serve as the liaison between community development corporations
272 and investors seeking to invest funds in such community development
273 corporations and provide assistance in soliciting investment funds for
274 such community development corporations, and (D) seek to ensure
275 coordinated, efficient and timely responses to such organizations,
276 community development corporations and investors.

277 (2) The office shall identify eligible target areas in the state and post
278 such target areas on the department's Internet web site.

279 (c) (1) Any organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3)
280 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
281 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to
282 time, may apply to the Office of Community Economic Development
283 Assistance to establish itself as or be certified as a community
284 development corporation in the state. The office shall prescribe the form
285 and manner of such application.

286 (2) (A) Any existing community development corporation that
287 operates or seeks to operate in the state may apply to the office to be
288 certified. The office shall certify any community development
289 corporation that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of said
290 Internal Revenue Code and meets the requirements set forth in
291 subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of subsection (a)
292 of this section. Each community development corporation that is
293 established pursuant to this subsection shall be deemed to be certified.

294 (B) The office shall maintain a current list of certified community
295 development corporations and shall post such list on the Internet web
296 site of the department.

297 (3) The Office of Community Economic Development Assistance
298 shall establish a grant program for projects to be undertaken by a
299 certified community development corporation in a target area,
300 provided, on and after the date the ten-year plans developed under
301 section 1 of this act are submitted to the General Assembly, the office
302 shall give priority to projects included in such plans. Such projects shall
303 include, but not be limited to, infrastructure improvements, housing
304 rehabilitation, streetscape improvements and facade improvements for
305 businesses. The office shall establish the application form and process
306 for such grant program, the criteria for eligible projects and for
307 awarding grants and any caps or limits on the amount or number of
308 grants awarded. The office shall post information concerning the grant
309 program on the department's Internet web site.

310 (d) (1) For the purposes described in subdivision (2) of this

311 subsection, the State Bond Commission shall have the power from time
312 to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more
313 series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate fifty
314 million dollars.

315 (2) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount
316 stated in subdivision (1) of this subsection, shall be used by the
317 Department of Economic and Community Development for the
318 purposes of carrying out the duties of the Office of Community
319 Economic Development Assistance under subsection (b) of this section
320 and the grant program under subsection (c) of this section.

321 (3) All provisions of section 3-20, or the exercise of any right or power
322 granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this
323 section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by
324 the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section. Temporary notes
325 in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such
326 bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with section 3-20 and
327 from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or
328 times not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be
329 provided in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State
330 Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be
331 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
332 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed
333 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
334 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its
335 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall
336 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state
337 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and
338 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as
339 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds,
340 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such
341 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay
342 such principal and interest as the same become due.

343 (e) Not later than July 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the Office of

344 Community Economic Development Assistance shall submit a report,
345 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
346 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
347 relating to commerce, planning and development and finance, revenue
348 and bonding. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, a
349 description of the activities undertaken by the office in the preceding
350 fiscal year, the number of community development corporations
351 established and certified in the preceding fiscal year, the number and
352 amounts of grants awarded to certified community development
353 corporations in the preceding fiscal year and a description and the
354 locations of the projects undertaken by certified community
355 development corporations in the preceding fiscal year.

356 Sec. 4. Section 32-7x of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is
357 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
358 *passage*):

359 (a) As used in this section, ["high poverty-low opportunity census
360 tract"] "concentrated poverty census tract" means a United States census
361 tract in which thirty per cent or more of the [residents] households
362 within such census tract have incomes below the federal poverty level,
363 according to the most recent five-year United States Census Bureau
364 American Community Survey.

365 (b) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall
366 compile a list of [high poverty-low opportunity] concentrated poverty
367 census tracts in the state and the municipalities in which such census
368 tracts are located and shall, not later than July 31, 2023, submit such list
369 to the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of section
370 11-4a. The secretary shall post such list to the Internet web site of the
371 Office of Policy and Management and shall review and update such list
372 as necessary. Whenever the secretary updates such list, the secretary
373 shall submit such updated list to the General Assembly in accordance
374 with the provisions of section 11-4a.

375 (c) (1) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development

376 shall establish a grant program to fund eligible projects within [high
377 poverty-low opportunity] concentrated poverty census tracts. An
378 eligible project shall seek to reduce concentrated poverty within such
379 tracts and the effects of such poverty, including, but not limited to, the
380 lower lifetime income of residents within such tracts, the lower lifetime
381 income expectations of future generations within such tracts, increased
382 crime and risk of incarceration for residents within such tracts and
383 educational deficiencies within such tracts. An eligible project includes:

384 (A) Construction, renovation or rehabilitation of mixed-income rental
385 housing and owner-occupied housing, in order to retain individuals and
386 families of different income levels and to increase the percentage of
387 owner-occupied housing within such census tract or tracts;

388 (B) The establishment or improvement of workforce development
389 programs, including, but not limited to, programs that partner with
390 organizations to identify unemployed or underemployed individuals
391 and at-risk youth residing in such census tracts, identify workforce
392 training opportunities and other resources for such individuals and link
393 such individuals with the appropriate training and resources that will
394 increase the skills and earning potential of such individuals; and

395 (C) Construction, renovation or rehabilitation of public
396 infrastructure, in order to support and improve the private investment
397 opportunities, quality of life and public safety within such census tract
398 or tracts.

399 (2) Beginning on January 1, 2024, and not later than January 1, 2030,
400 each municipality in which a [high poverty-low opportunity]
401 concentrated poverty census tract is located may apply to the
402 commissioner, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner,
403 to receive a grant for an eligible project or any combination of eligible
404 projects. An application may target one [high poverty-low opportunity]
405 concentrated poverty census tract or more than one such census tract if
406 such census tracts are geographically contiguous or within reasonable
407 proximity of each other. An applicant shall not be prohibited from filing

408 more than one application for different [high poverty-low opportunity]
409 concentrated poverty census tracts or groups of such census tracts.

410 (d) (1) Not later than January 1, 2024, the commissioner shall establish
411 criteria for the awarding of grants as described in subdivision (2) of this
412 subsection, requirements for documents and information as described
413 in subdivision [(3)] (4) of this subsection and deadlines for submitting
414 applications and revised and modified applications under subsection (e)
415 of this section. The commissioner shall post such criteria, requirements
416 and deadlines on the Internet web site of the Department of Economic
417 and Community Development, notify each municipality in which a
418 [high poverty-low opportunity] concentrated poverty census tract is
419 located of such posting and promote the availability of the grant
420 program established by this section in each [high poverty-low
421 opportunity] such census tract.

422 (2) Criteria for the awarding of grants pursuant to this section shall
423 include, but need not be limited to:

424 (A) The likelihood that a proposal will reduce adult or child poverty
425 within a [high poverty-low opportunity] concentrated poverty census
426 tract;

427 (B) The likelihood that a proposal will reduce the likelihood that
428 children currently residing within a [high poverty-low opportunity]
429 concentrated poverty census tract will live in poverty after reaching
430 adulthood;

431 (C) The likelihood that a proposal will produce persistent and
432 meaningful improvements in residents' wealth, financial security,
433 employability or quality of life beyond the duration of the proposal;

434 (D) The feasibility of the initiatives in a proposal and the
435 demonstrated or perceived capacity to execute upon the scope of work
436 in a proposal, including, but not limited to, adequate staffing levels of
437 entities involved with the proposal; and

438 (E) The interconnectivity and mutual reinforcement among all
439 proposed initiatives in the same [high poverty-low opportunity]
440 concentrated poverty census tract area or areas, such as providing
441 workforce training programs to parents of children enrolled in a
442 supported early childhood program.

443 (3) On and after the date the ten-year plans developed under section
444 1 of this act are submitted to the General Assembly, priority shall be
445 given to projects included in such plans.

446 [(3)] (4) Requirements for documents and information to be
447 submitted by municipalities to evaluate applications shall include, but
448 need not be limited to:

449 (A) A description of how the proposal intends to address each type
450 of eligible project described in subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of
451 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, and whether there are
452 existing projects or programs to address such eligible projects;

453 (B) A description of each initiative within the proposal, which may
454 include multiple simultaneous initiatives, and how each initiative will
455 meet one of the criteria established pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
456 subsection;

457 (C) A description of sufficient efforts, as determined by the
458 commissioner, to engage residents of the [high poverty-low
459 opportunity] concentrated poverty census tract in formulating a
460 proposal;

461 (D) For an initiative that is an eligible project described in
462 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, a
463 description of the municipality's consultations with the regional
464 workforce development board that serves the municipality regarding
465 the development of such project and efforts to coordinate such project
466 with the board's activities;

467 (E) A description of each organization that will participate in an

468 eligible project described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of
469 subsection (c) of this section, and information on each organization's
470 commitment to provide continuous, sustained engagement with
471 residents of such tract throughout the project;

472 (F) A description of the entity or organization responsible for
473 coordinating the implementation of each component of the application
474 and overseeing the various projects and programs outlined in such
475 application;

476 (G) A description of plans for ongoing engagement with residents of
477 such census tracts and solicitation of feedback on the progress of a
478 proposal during its implementation; and

479 (H) A description of plans to provide residents of such census tract
480 with opportunities to become involved in implementation of a proposal.

481 (e) (1) The department shall review and evaluate each application
482 submitted and shall work with the applicant municipality to revise the
483 application if the department believes such revisions will improve or
484 strengthen the application. The department shall assist an applicant in
485 identifying and applying for funding under other programs in order to
486 maximize the amount of funding available for an applicant, including
487 seeking funding under section 4-66c. For a proposal for an eligible
488 project described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection
489 (c) of this section, the commissioner shall evaluate such project in
490 consultation with the Commissioner of Housing and the Commissioner
491 of Housing shall assist the applicant with obtaining funding for such
492 project through programs operated by the Department of Housing.

493 (2) The commissioner shall submit to the Governor all applications
494 that are deemed to satisfy the requirements of subsection (d) of this
495 section. The Governor shall review such applications and may approve
496 or disapprove an application or return an application to the
497 commissioner for modifications. If an application is returned to the
498 commissioner, the commissioner shall work with the applicant to
499 modify the application and shall resubmit such application with

500 modifications to the Governor. If the Governor approves an application,
501 the Governor shall make a grant award from bond proceeds under
502 section 32-7y, provided the Governor may use funds from other bond
503 proceeds authorized for the general purposes described in
504 subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of subsection (c)
505 of this section for such grants. Grants awarded under this section shall
506 be for a period of three years, and in an amount sufficient to carry out
507 the objectives of the application, but not less than five hundred
508 thousand dollars. Each application that the Governor approves shall be
509 considered at a State Bond Commission meeting not later than two
510 months after the date the application was approved by the Governor.

511 (f) At the conclusion of the initial grant period, the commissioner
512 shall evaluate the municipality's progress toward reducing the number
513 of [residents] households within the applicable [high poverty-low
514 opportunity] concentrated poverty census tract who have incomes
515 below the federal poverty level to less than thirty per cent of the
516 [residents] households of such census tract. Such evaluation shall
517 consider, among other factors, any change in the percentage of
518 [residents] households within such census tract who have incomes
519 below the federal poverty level, and whether the actions taken pursuant
520 to such grant during the initial grant period: (1) May reasonably result
521 in a future reduction in the percentage of [residents] households within
522 such census tract who have incomes below the federal poverty level, (2)
523 have resulted in a reduction in child poverty within such census tract,
524 (3) may reasonably result in a future reduction in child poverty within
525 such census tract, or (4) may reasonably decrease the likelihood that
526 children who are currently living within such census tract will have
527 incomes below the federal poverty level after they reach adulthood.
528 Upon a determination by the commissioner that reasonable progress has
529 been made, the municipality shall be eligible for subsequent grants
530 under this section, provided, at the conclusion of each subsequent grant
531 period of three years, each applicant municipality shall be subject to an
532 evaluation and determination under this subsection prior to being
533 eligible to apply for a subsequent grant. An application for a subsequent

534 grant and the awarding of a subsequent grant shall be in accordance
535 with the provisions of subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of this section.

536 (g) Not later than August 1, 2024, and annually thereafter until and
537 including August 1, 2029, the commissioner shall submit a report, in
538 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the General
539 Assembly, that includes the municipalities that submitted applications
540 and that were awarded grants under this section in the prior fiscal year,
541 a description of each purpose and eligible project a municipality
542 awarded a grant under this section is seeking to accomplish or
543 undertaking, a progress report, if applicable, for each such purpose or
544 eligible project and any other information the commissioner deems
545 relevant.

546 Sec. 5. Section 32-285a of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
547 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
548 *passage*):

549 (a) As used in this section:

550 (1) "Administrative costs" means the costs paid or incurred by the
551 administrator of the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board
552 established under subsection (b) of this section, including, but not
553 limited to, allocated staff costs and other out-of-pocket costs attributable
554 to the administration and operation of the board;

555 (2) "Administrator" means the Commissioner of Economic and
556 Community Development, or the commissioner's designee;

557 (3) "Eligible project" means:

558 (A) (i) A project proposed by a municipality, community
559 development corporation or nonprofit organization, for the purpose of
560 promoting economic or community development in the municipality or
561 a municipality served by such corporation or organization, such as
562 brownfield remediation, affordable housing, establishment of or
563 improvements to water and sewer infrastructure to support smaller

564 scale economic development, pedestrian safety and traffic calming
565 improvements, establishment of or improvements to energy resiliency
566 or clean energy projects and land acquisition and capital projects to
567 construct, rehabilitate or renovate buildings and structures to facilitate
568 or improve home rehabilitation programs and facilities such as libraries
569 and senior centers; or

570 (ii) A grant-in-aid proposed by a municipality, community
571 development corporation or nonprofit organization for the purpose of
572 providing (I) a revolving loan program, microloans or gap financing, to
573 small businesses located within such municipality or a municipality
574 served by such corporation or organization, or (II) start-up funds to
575 establish a small business in any such municipality; and

576 (B) Such project or grant-in-aid furthers consistent and systematic
577 fair, just and impartial treatment of all individuals, including
578 individuals who belong to underserved and marginalized communities
579 that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino and
580 indigenous and Native American persons; Asian Americans and Pacific
581 Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities;
582 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons and other persons
583 comprising the LGBTQ+ community; persons who live in rural areas;
584 and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or
585 inequality; and

586 (4) "Municipality" means a municipality designated as a public
587 investment community pursuant to section 7-545 or as an alliance
588 district pursuant to section 10-262u.

589 (b) (1) There is established a Community Investment Fund 2030
590 Board, which shall be within the Department of Economic and
591 Community Development. The board shall consist of the following
592 members:

593 (A) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
594 pro tempore of the Senate;

595 (B) The majority leader of the House of Representatives, the majority
596 leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of Representatives
597 and the minority leader of the Senate;

598 (C) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives
599 and one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, each of
600 whom shall be a member of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the
601 General Assembly;

602 (D) The two chairpersons of the general bonding subcommittee of the
603 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
604 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding;

605 (E) Two appointed by the Governor; and

606 (F) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the
607 Attorney General, the Treasurer, the Comptroller, the Secretary of the
608 State and the Commissioners of Economic and Community
609 Development, Administrative Services, Social Services and Housing, or
610 their designees.

611 (2) All initial appointments shall be made not later than sixty days
612 after June 30, 2021. The terms of the members appointed by the
613 Governor shall be coterminous with the term of the Governor or until
614 their successors are appointed, whichever is later. Any vacancy in
615 appointments shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any vacancy
616 occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance
617 of the unexpired term.

618 (3) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, it shall not
619 constitute a conflict of interest for a trustee, director, partner, officer,
620 stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee of any person to serve as
621 a member of the board, provided such trustee, director, partner, officer,
622 stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee abstains and absents
623 himself or herself from any deliberation, action and vote by the board in
624 specific respect to such person. The members appointed by the
625 Governor shall be deemed public officials and shall adhere to the code

626 of ethics for public officials set forth in chapter 10.

627 (4) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
628 tempore of the Senate shall serve as the chairpersons of the board and
629 shall schedule the first meeting of the board, which shall be held not
630 later than January 1, 2022. The board shall meet at least quarterly.

631 (5) Eleven members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the
632 transaction of any business.

633 (6) The members of the board shall serve without compensation, but
634 shall, within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses
635 necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

636 (7) The board shall have the following powers and duties: (A) Review
637 eligible projects to be recommended to the Governor under subsection
638 (c) of this section for approval; (B) establish bylaws to govern its
639 procedures; (C) review and provide comments to the Department of
640 Economic and Community Development on projects funded through
641 the state's Economic Action Plan as provided under section 32-4p; and
642 (D) perform such other acts as may be necessary and appropriate to
643 carry out its duties described in this section.

644 (8) The administrator shall hire such employee or employees as may
645 be necessary to assist the board to carry out its duties described in this
646 section.

647 (c) (1) The Community Investment Fund 2030 Board shall establish
648 an application and review process with guidelines and terms for funds
649 provided from the bond proceeds under subsection (d) of this section
650 for eligible projects. Such funds shall be used for costs related to an
651 eligible project recommended by the board and approved by the
652 Governor pursuant to this subsection but shall not be used to pay or to
653 reimburse the administrator for administrative costs under this section.
654 The Department of Economic and Community Development shall pay
655 for administrative costs within available appropriations.

656 (2) The chairpersons of the board shall notify the chief elected official
657 of each municipality when the application and review process has been
658 established and shall publicize the availability of any funds available
659 under this section. Each such official or any community development
660 corporation or nonprofit organization may submit an application to the
661 board requesting funds for an eligible project. The board shall meet to
662 consider applications submitted and determine which, if any, the board
663 will recommend to the Governor for approval.

664 (3) (A) The board shall give priority to eligible projects (i) that are
665 proposed by a municipality that (I) has implemented local hiring
666 preferences pursuant to section 7-112, or (II) has or will leverage
667 municipal, private, philanthropic or federal funds for such project, [and]
668 (ii) that have a project labor agreement or employ or will employ ex-
669 offenders or individuals with physical, intellectual or developmental
670 disabilities, and (iii) on and after the date the ten-year plans developed
671 under section 1 of this act are submitted to the General Assembly, that
672 are included in such plans. The board shall give additional priority to
673 an application submitted by a municipality that includes a letter of
674 support for the proposed eligible project from a member or members of
675 the General Assembly in whose district the eligible project is or will be
676 located.

677 (B) In evaluating applications for an eligible project described in
678 subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section,
679 the board shall (i) evaluate the risk of default on the repayment of a
680 proposed loan or financing, (ii) consider the impact of the eligible
681 project on job creation or retention in the municipality, (iii) consider the
682 impact of the eligible project on blighted properties in the municipality,
683 and (iv) consider the overall impact of the eligible project on the
684 community. The board shall not recommend any proposed loan or
685 financing under subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a)
686 of this section for which the interest rate varies from the prevailing
687 market rate.

688 (4) (A) Whenever the board deems it necessary or desirable, the

689 chairpersons of the board shall submit to the Governor a list of the
690 board's recommendations of eligible projects to be funded from bond
691 proceeds under subsection (d) of this section. The board may
692 recommend state funding for eligible projects, provided the total cost of
693 such recommendations shall not exceed one hundred seventy-five
694 million dollars in any fiscal year. Such list shall include, at a minimum:

695 (i) For each eligible project described in subparagraph (A)(i) of
696 subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, a description of such
697 project, the municipality in which such project is located, the amount of
698 funds sought for such project, any cost estimates for such project, any
699 schematics or plans for such project, the total estimated project costs and
700 the applicable fiscal year to which such disbursement will be attributed;
701 and

702 (ii) For each eligible project described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of
703 subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, a description of and
704 specific terms for any proposed loans, financing or start-up funds to be
705 provided from such grant-in-aid, the types of small businesses located
706 or to be located in the municipality that may be eligible for such loan,
707 financing or start-up funds, the amount of the grant-in-aid sought and
708 the applicable fiscal year to which such disbursement will be attributed.

709 (B) The Governor shall review the eligible projects on the list and may
710 recommend changes to any eligible project on the list. The Governor
711 shall determine the most appropriate method of funding for each
712 eligible project and shall provide to the members of the board, in
713 writing, such determination for each eligible project on the list and the
714 reasons therefor. The board may reconsider at a future meeting any
715 eligible project for which the Governor recommends a change. Each
716 eligible project for which the Governor recommends the allocation of
717 bond funds shall be considered at a State Bond Commission meeting not
718 later than two months after the date such eligible project was submitted
719 to the Governor pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

720 (5) Funds for an eligible project approved under this section may be

721 administered on behalf of the board by a state agency, as determined by
722 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, provided a
723 memorandum of understanding between the administrator of the
724 Community Investment Fund 2030 Board and the state, acting by and
725 through the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, has been
726 entered into with respect to such funds and project.

727 (6) Not later than August 31, 2023, the board shall submit a report, in
728 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the General
729 Assembly, the Black and Puerto Rican caucus of the General Assembly,
730 the Auditors of Public Accounts and the Governor, for the preceding
731 fiscal year, that includes (A) a list of the eligible projects recommended
732 by the board and approved by the Governor pursuant to this section, (B)
733 the total amount of funds provided for such eligible projects, (C) for
734 each such eligible project, a description of the project and the amounts
735 and terms of the funds provided, (D) the status of the project and any
736 balance remaining of the allocated funds, and (E) any other information
737 the board deems relevant or necessary. The board shall submit such
738 report annually for each fiscal year in which the funds specified in
739 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection are disbursed for
740 eligible projects.

741 (7) The Auditors of Public Accounts shall audit, on a biennial basis,
742 all eligible projects funded under this section and shall report their
743 findings to the Governor, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
744 Management and the General Assembly.

745 (d) (1) The State Bond Commission may authorize the issuance of
746 bonds of the state, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20, in
747 principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate eight hundred
748 seventy-five million dollars. The amount authorized for the issuance
749 and sale of such bonds in each of the following fiscal years shall not
750 exceed the following corresponding amount for each such fiscal year,
751 except that, to the extent the State Bond Commission does not provide
752 for the use of all or a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year,
753 such amount not provided for shall be carried forward and added to the

754 authorized amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided
 755 further, the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be
 756 added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the
 757 authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year
 758 indicated as follows:

T1	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Amount
T2	2023	\$175,000,000
T3	2024	175,000,000
T4	2025	175,000,000
T5	2026	175,000,000
T6	2027	175,000,000
T7	Total	\$875,000,000

759 (2) The proceeds of the sale of bonds set forth in this subsection shall
 760 be used for the purpose of funding eligible projects for which the
 761 Governor has determined under subsection (c) of this section that bond
 762 funding is appropriate and that no other bond authorization is available.

763 (e) (1) Upon the agreement of the Governor and the Community
 764 Investment Fund 2030 Board, and subsequent to the adoption of a
 765 resolution by the General Assembly affirming the reauthorization of the
 766 board and the program provided for under this section, the State Bond
 767 Commission may authorize the issuance of bonds of the state, in
 768 accordance with the provisions of section 3-20, in principal amounts not
 769 exceeding in the aggregate one billion two hundred fifty million dollars.
 770 The amount authorized for the issuance and sale of such bonds in each
 771 of the following fiscal years shall not exceed the following
 772 corresponding amount for each such fiscal year, except that, to the
 773 extent the State Bond Commission does not provide for the use of all or
 774 a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year, such amount not
 775 provided for shall be carried forward and added to the authorized
 776 amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided further, the
 777 costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be added to the
 778 capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the authorized amounts
 779 shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year indicated as follows:

T8	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Amount
T9	2028	\$250,000,000
T10	2029	250,000,000
T11	2030	250,000,000
T12	2031	250,000,000
T13	2032	250,000,000
T14	Total	\$1,250,000,000

780 (2) The proceeds of the sale of bonds set forth in this subsection shall
 781 be used for the purpose of funding eligible projects for which the
 782 Governor has determined under subsection (c) of this section that bond
 783 funding is appropriate and that no other bond authorization is available.

784 (f) All provisions of section 3-20, or the exercise of any right or power
 785 granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this
 786 section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by
 787 the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section. Temporary notes
 788 in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such
 789 bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with said section, and
 790 from time to time renewed. All bonds issued pursuant to this section
 791 shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of
 792 the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of
 793 and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and accordingly
 794 and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of said bonds,
 795 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such
 796 principal and interest is hereby made, and the Treasurer shall pay such
 797 principal and interest as the same become due.

798 Sec. 6. Section 32-7t of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is
 799 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
 800 *passage*):

801 (a) As used in this section:

802 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Economic and
 803 Community Development;

804 (2) "Discretionary FTE" means an FTE that is paid qualified wages

805 and does not meet the threshold wage requirements to be a qualified
806 FTE but is approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of
807 subsection (c) of this section;

808 (3) "Distressed municipality" has the same meaning as provided in
809 section 32-9p;

810 (4) "Full-time equivalent" or "FTE" means the number of employees
811 employed at a qualified business, calculated in accordance with
812 subsection (d) of this section;

813 (5) "Full-time job" means a job in which an employee is required to
814 work at least thirty-five or more hours per week. "Full-time job" does
815 not include a temporary or seasonal job;

816 (6) "Intellectual disability" has the same meaning as provided in
817 section 1-1g;

818 (7) "Median household income" means the median annual household
819 income for residents in a municipality as calculated from the U.S.
820 Census Bureau's five-year American Community Survey or another
821 data source, at the sole discretion of the commissioner;

822 (8) "New employee" means a person or persons hired by the qualified
823 business to fill a full-time equivalent position. A new employee does not
824 include a person who was employed in this state by a related person
825 with respect to the qualified business within twelve months prior to a
826 qualified business's application to the commissioner for a rebate
827 allocation notice for a job creation rebate pursuant to subsection (c) of
828 this section;

829 (9) "New FTEs" means the number of FTEs that (A) did not exist in
830 this state at the time of a qualified business's application to the
831 commissioner for a rebate allocation notice for a job creation rebate
832 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, (B) are not the result of FTEs
833 acquired due to a merger or acquisition, (C) are filled by a new
834 employee, (D) are qualified FTEs, and (E) are not FTEs hired to replace

835 FTEs that existed in the state after January 1, 2020. The commissioner
836 may issue guidance on the implementation of this definition;

837 (10) "New FTEs created" means the number of new FTEs that the
838 qualified business is employing at a point-in-time at the end of the
839 relevant time period;

840 (11) "New FTEs maintained" means the total number of new FTEs
841 employed throughout a relevant time period;

842 (12) "Opportunity zone" means a population census tract that is a
843 low-income community that is designated as a "qualified opportunity
844 zone" pursuant to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, P.L. 115-97, as
845 amended from time to time;

846 (13) "Part-time job" means a job in which an employee is required to
847 work less than thirty-five hours per week. "Part-time job" does not
848 include a temporary or seasonal job;

849 (14) "Qualified business" means a person that is (A) engaged in
850 business in an industry related to finance, insurance, manufacturing,
851 clean energy, bioscience, technology, digital media or any similar
852 industry, as determined by the sole discretion of the commissioner, and
853 (B) subject to taxation under chapter 207, 208 or 228z;

854 (15) "Qualified FTE" means an FTE who is paid qualified wages of at
855 least eighty-five per cent of the median household income for the
856 location where the FTE position is primarily located, scaled in
857 proportion to the FTE fraction, or thirty-seven thousand five hundred
858 dollars, scaled in proportion to the FTE fraction, whichever is greater;

859 (16) "Qualified wages" means wages sourced to this state pursuant to
860 section 12-705;

861 (17) "Rebate period" means the calendar years in which a tax rebate
862 provided for in this section is to be paid pursuant to a rebate allocation
863 notice issued pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and

864 (18) "Related person" means (A) a corporation, limited liability
865 company, partnership, association or trust controlled by the qualified
866 business, (B) an individual, corporation, limited liability company,
867 partnership, association or trust that is in control of the qualified
868 business, (C) a corporation, limited liability company, partnership,
869 association or trust controlled by an individual, corporation, limited
870 liability company, partnership, association or trust that is in control of
871 the qualified business, or (D) a member of the same controlled group as
872 the qualified business. For the purposes of this subdivision, "control"
873 means (i) ownership, directly or indirectly, of stock possessing fifty per
874 cent or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of the
875 stock of a corporation entitled to vote, (ii) ownership, directly or
876 indirectly, of fifty per cent or more of the capital or profits interest in a
877 partnership, limited liability company or association, or (iii) ownership,
878 directly or indirectly, of fifty per cent or more of the beneficial interest
879 in the principal or income of a trust. The ownership of stock in a
880 corporation, of a capital or profits interest in a partnership, of a limited
881 liability company or association or of a beneficial interest in a trust shall
882 be determined in accordance with the rules for constructive ownership
883 of stock provided in Section 267(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,
884 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United
885 States, as amended from time to time, other than paragraph (3) of said
886 section.

887 (b) There is established a JobsCT tax rebate program under which
888 qualified businesses that create jobs in this state, in accordance with the
889 provisions of this section, may be allowed a tax rebate, which shall be
890 treated as a credit against the tax imposed under chapter 208 or 228z or
891 as an offset of the tax imposed under chapter 207.

892 (c) (1) To be eligible to claim a rebate under this section, a qualified
893 business shall apply to the commissioner in accordance with the
894 provisions of this subsection. The application shall be on a form
895 prescribed by the commissioner and may require information,
896 including, but not limited to, the number of new FTEs to be created by
897 the qualified business, the number of current FTEs employed by the

898 qualified business, feasibility studies or business plans for the increased
899 number of FTEs, projected state and local revenue that may reasonably
900 derive as a result of the increased number of FTEs and any other
901 information necessary to determine whether there will be net benefits to
902 the economy of the municipality or municipalities in which the qualified
903 business is primarily located and the state.

904 (2) Upon receipt of an application, the commissioner shall determine
905 (A) whether the qualified business making the application will be
906 reasonably able to meet the FTE hiring targets and other metrics as
907 presented in such application, (B) whether such qualified business's
908 proposed job growth would provide a net benefit to economic
909 development and employment opportunities in the state, and (C)
910 whether such qualified business's proposed job growth will exceed the
911 number of jobs at the business that existed prior to January 1, 2020. The
912 commissioner may require the applicant to submit additional
913 information to evaluate an application. Each qualified business making
914 an application shall satisfy the requirements of this subdivision, as
915 determined by the commissioner, to be eligible for the JobsCT tax rebate
916 program.

917 (3) The commissioner, upon consideration of an application and any
918 additional information, may approve an application in whole or in part
919 or may approve an application with amendments. If the commissioner
920 disapproves an application, the commissioner shall identify the defects
921 in such application and explain the specific reasons for the disapproval.
922 The commissioner shall render a decision on an application not later
923 than ninety days after the date of its receipt by the commissioner.

924 (4) The commissioner may approve an application in whole or in part
925 by a qualified business that creates new discretionary FTEs or may
926 approve such an application with amendments if a majority of such new
927 discretionary FTEs are individuals who (A) because of a disability, are
928 receiving or have received services from the Department of Aging and
929 Disability Services; (B) are receiving employment services from the
930 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services or participating in

931 employment opportunities and day services, as defined in section 17a-
932 226, operated or funded by the Department of Developmental Services;
933 (C) have been unemployed for at least six of the preceding twelve
934 months; (D) have been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony; (E) are
935 veterans, as defined in section 27-103; (F) have not earned any
936 postsecondary credential and are not currently enrolled in a
937 postsecondary institution or program; or (G) are currently enrolled in a
938 workforce training program fully or substantially paid for by the
939 employer that results in such individual earning a postsecondary
940 credential.

941 (5) The commissioner may combine approval of an application with
942 the exercise of any of the commissioner's other powers, including, but
943 not limited to, the provision of other financial assistance.

944 (6) By submitting an application, a qualified business consents to the
945 Department of Economic and Community Development's access of data
946 compiled by other state agencies, including, but not limited to, the Labor
947 Department, for the purposes of audit and enforcement.

948 (7) The commissioner shall issue a rebate allocation notice stating the
949 maximum amount of each rebate available to an approved qualified
950 business for the rebate period and the specific terms that such business
951 shall meet to qualify for each rebate. Such notice shall certify to the
952 approved qualified business that the rebates may be claimed by such
953 business if it meets the specific terms set forth in the notice. Such terms
954 shall include the required wage, as determined by the commissioner,
955 such business shall pay new discretionary FTEs to qualify for the tax
956 rebates provided in subsection (f) of this section.

957 (d) For the purposes of this section, the FTE of a full-time job or part-
958 time job is based on the hours worked or expected to be worked by an
959 employee in a calendar year. A job in which an employee worked or is
960 expected to work one thousand seven hundred fifty hours or more in a
961 calendar year equals one FTE. A job in which an employee worked or is
962 expected to work less than one thousand seven hundred fifty hours

963 equals a fraction of one FTE, where the fraction is the number of hours
964 worked in a calendar year divided by one thousand seven hundred fifty.
965 The commissioner shall have the discretion to adjust the calculation of
966 FTE.

967 (e) (1) In each calendar year of the rebate period, a qualified business
968 approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection
969 (c) of this section that employs at least twenty-five new FTEs in this state
970 or, if at least one of the new FTEs is an individual with intellectual
971 disability or at least three of the new FTEs are individuals who reside in
972 a concentrated poverty census tract, as defined in section 32-7x, as
973 amended by this act, fifteen new FTEs in this state by December thirty-
974 first of the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar
975 year in which the rebate is being claimed shall be allowed a rebate equal
976 to the greater of the following amounts:

977 (A) The sum of:

978 (i) The lesser of (I) the new FTEs created in an opportunity zone or
979 distressed municipality on December thirty-first of the calendar year
980 that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate
981 is being claimed, (II) the new FTEs maintained in an opportunity zone
982 or distressed municipality in the previous calendar year, (III) the new
983 FTEs created by a qualified business employing at least one new FTE
984 who is an individual with intellectual disability, or (IV) the new FTEs
985 maintained by a qualified business employing at least one new FTE who
986 is an individual with intellectual disability, multiplied by fifty per cent
987 of the income tax that would be paid on the average wage of the new
988 FTEs, as determined by the applicable marginal rate set forth in chapter
989 229 for an unmarried individual based solely on such wages; and

990 (ii) The lesser of (I) the new FTEs created on December thirty-first of
991 the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in
992 which the rebate is being claimed, or (II) the new FTEs maintained in a
993 location other than an opportunity zone or distressed municipality in
994 the previous calendar year, multiplied by twenty-five per cent of the

995 income tax that would be paid on the average wage of the new FTEs, as
996 determined by the applicable marginal rate set forth in chapter 229 for
997 an unmarried individual based solely on such wages; or

998 (B) The greater of:

999 (i) One thousand dollars multiplied by the lesser of (I) the new FTEs
1000 created by December thirty-first of the calendar year that is two calendar
1001 years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed, or
1002 (II) the new FTEs maintained in the calendar year immediately prior to
1003 the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed; or

1004 (ii) For tax credits earned, claimed or payable prior to January 1, 2024,
1005 two thousand dollars multiplied by the lesser of (I) the new FTEs created
1006 by December 31, 2022, or (II) the new FTEs maintained in the calendar
1007 year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being
1008 claimed.

1009 (2) In no event shall the rebate under this subsection exceed in any
1010 calendar year of the rebate period five thousand dollars multiplied by
1011 the lesser of (A) the new FTEs created by December thirty-first of the
1012 calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in
1013 which the rebate is being claimed, or (B) the new FTEs maintained in the
1014 calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the rebate
1015 is being claimed.

1016 (3) In no event shall an approved qualified business receive a rebate
1017 under this subsection in any calendar year of the rebate period if such
1018 business has not maintained, in the calendar year immediately prior to
1019 the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed, at least (A)
1020 twenty-five new FTEs, or (B) fifteen new FTEs, if at least one of the new
1021 FTEs is an individual with intellectual disability or at least three of the
1022 new FTEs are individuals who reside in a concentrated poverty census
1023 tract, as defined in section 32-7x, as amended by this act.

1024 (f) (1) In each calendar year of the rebate period, a qualified business
1025 approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection

1026 (c) of this section that employs at least twenty-five new discretionary
1027 FTEs in this state by December thirty-first of the calendar year that is
1028 two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being
1029 claimed shall be allowed a rebate equal to the sum of the amount
1030 calculated pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of this section
1031 and the greater of the following:

1032 (A) The sum of:

1033 (i) The lesser of the new discretionary FTEs (I) created in an
1034 opportunity zone or distressed municipality on December thirty-first of
1035 the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in
1036 which the rebate is being claimed, or (II) maintained in an opportunity
1037 zone or distressed municipality in the previous calendar year,
1038 multiplied by fifty per cent of the income tax that would be paid on the
1039 average wage of the new discretionary FTEs, as determined by the
1040 applicable marginal rate set forth in chapter 229 for an unmarried
1041 individual based solely on such wages; and

1042 (ii) The lesser of the new discretionary FTEs (I) created on December
1043 thirty-first of the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the
1044 calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed, or (II) maintained in
1045 a location other than an opportunity zone or distressed municipality in
1046 the previous calendar year, multiplied by twenty-five per cent of the
1047 income tax that would be paid on the average wage of the new
1048 discretionary FTEs, as determined by the applicable marginal rate set
1049 forth in chapter 229 for an unmarried individual based solely on such
1050 wages; or

1051 (B) The greater of:

1052 (i) Seven hundred fifty dollars multiplied by the lesser of the new
1053 discretionary FTEs (I) created by December thirty-first of the calendar
1054 year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the
1055 rebate is being claimed, or (II) maintained in the calendar year
1056 immediately prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being
1057 claimed; or

1058 (ii) For tax credits earned, claimed or payable prior to January 1, 2024,
1059 one thousand five hundred dollars multiplied by the lesser of (I) the new
1060 FTEs created by December 31, 2022, or (II) the new FTEs maintained in
1061 the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the
1062 rebate is being claimed.

1063 (2) In no event shall the rebate under this [section] subsection exceed
1064 in any calendar year of the rebate period five thousand dollars
1065 multiplied by the lesser of the new discretionary FTEs (A) created by
1066 December thirty-first of the calendar year that is two calendar years
1067 prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed, or (B)
1068 maintained in the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year
1069 in which the rebate is being claimed.

1070 (3) In no event shall an approved qualified business receive a rebate
1071 under this subsection in any calendar year of the rebate period if such
1072 business has not maintained at least twenty-five new discretionary FTEs
1073 in the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the
1074 rebate is being claimed.

1075 (g) In addition to the rebates allowed under subsections (e) and (f) of
1076 this section, on and after January 1, 2025, an approved qualified business
1077 that employs at least one new FTE that is an individual who resides in a
1078 concentrated poverty census tract, as defined in section 32-7x, as
1079 amended by this act, shall be allowed an additional rebate equal to fifty
1080 per cent of the income tax that would be paid on the wages paid to such
1081 individual during the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar
1082 year in which the rebate is being claimed, as determined by the
1083 applicable marginal rate set forth in chapter 229 for an unmarried
1084 individual based solely on such wages, provided such individual was a
1085 resident of such census tract for at least six months of the calendar year
1086 immediately prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being
1087 claimed.

1088 [(g)] (h) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (3) and
1089 (4) of subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner may not approve

1090 an application in whole or in part if the full amount of rebates that such
1091 applicant may be paid pursuant to subsection (e), [or] (f) or (g) of this
1092 section would result in the aggregate amount of rebates issued to all
1093 approved qualified businesses under this section exceeding forty
1094 million dollars in any fiscal year.

1095 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (4) of subsection
1096 (c) of this section, the commissioner may not approve an application in
1097 whole or in part if the full amount of rebates that such applicant may be
1098 paid pursuant to subsection (f) of this section would result in the
1099 aggregate amount of rebates issued pursuant to subsection (f) of this
1100 section exceeding fifteen million dollars in any fiscal year.

1101 [(h)] (i) (1) A rebate under this section may be granted to an approved
1102 qualified business for not more than seven successive calendar years. A
1103 rebate shall not be granted until at least twenty-four months after the
1104 commissioner's approval of a qualified business's application.

1105 (2) An approved qualified business that has fewer than twenty-five
1106 new FTEs or, if at least one of the new FTEs is an individual with
1107 intellectual disability or at least three of the new FTEs are individuals
1108 who reside in a concentrated poverty census tract, as defined in section
1109 32-7x, as amended by this act, fewer than fifteen new FTEs, created in
1110 each of two consecutive calendar years or, if such business is approved
1111 by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this
1112 section, fewer than twenty-five new discretionary FTEs in each of two
1113 consecutive calendar years shall forfeit all remaining rebate allocations,
1114 unless the commissioner recognizes mitigating circumstances of a
1115 regional or national nature, including, but not limited to, a recession.

1116 [(i)] (j) Not later than January thirty-first of each year during the
1117 rebate period, each approved qualified business shall provide
1118 information to the commissioner regarding the number of new FTEs or
1119 new discretionary FTEs created or maintained during the prior calendar
1120 year and the qualified wages of such new employees. Any information
1121 provided under this subsection shall be subject to audit by the

1122 Department of Economic and Community Development.

1123 [(j)] (k) Not later than March fifteenth of each year during the rebate
1124 period, the Department of Economic and Community Development
1125 shall issue the approved qualified business a rebate voucher that sets
1126 forth the amount of the rebate, as calculated pursuant to subsections (e),
1127 [and] (f) and (g) of this section, and the taxable year against which such
1128 rebate may be claimed. The approved qualified business shall claim
1129 such rebate as a credit against the taxes due under chapter 208 or 228z
1130 or as an offset of the tax imposed under chapter 207. The commissioner
1131 shall annually provide to the Commissioner of Revenue Services a
1132 report detailing all rebate vouchers that have been issued under this
1133 section.

1134 [(k)] (l) Beginning on January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the
1135 commissioner, in consultation with the office of the State Comptroller
1136 and the Auditors of Public Accounts, shall submit a report to the Office
1137 of Policy and Management on the expenses of the JobsCT tax rebate
1138 program and the number of FTEs and discretionary FTEs created and
1139 maintained.

1140 [(l)] (m) Not later than January 1, 2024, the commissioner shall post,
1141 on the Department of Economic and Community Development's
1142 Internet web site, information on the JobsCT tax rebate program
1143 established under this section, including, but not limited to, information
1144 concerning tax rebates available for qualified businesses that, in
1145 accordance with the provisions of this section, employ individuals with
1146 intellectual disability in this state."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	32-7s
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	32-7x
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	32-285a

Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	32-7t
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