



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

**Committee Bill No. 647**

LCO No. 5141



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:  
(ET)

***AN ACT CONCERNING PROTECTIONS FOR CONSUMER ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE ELECTRICITY.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 16-245l of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (a) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall establish [and each  
4 electric distribution company shall collect] a systems benefits charge,  
5 which shall be paid on an annual basis by the Treasurer from the  
6 General Fund. [to be imposed against all end use customers of each  
7 electric distribution company beginning January 1, 2000.] The authority  
8 shall hold a hearing that shall be conducted as a contested case in  
9 accordance with chapter 54 to establish the amount of the systems  
10 benefits charge. The authority may revise the systems benefits charge or  
11 any element of said charge as the need arises.

12 (b) Commencing on July 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the sum of  
13 two million one hundred thousand dollars shall be transferred from the  
14 systems benefits charge to Operation Fuel, Incorporated, for energy  
15 assistance, provided two hundred thousand dollars of such sum may be

16 used for administrative purposes. The systems benefits charge shall also  
17 be used to fund (1) the expenses of the public education outreach  
18 program developed under section 16-244d other than expenses for  
19 authority staff, (2) the cost of hardship protection measures under  
20 sections 16-262c and 16-262d and other hardship protections, including,  
21 but not limited to, electric service bill payment programs, funding and  
22 technical support for energy assistance, fuel bank and weatherization  
23 programs and weatherization services, (3) the payment program to  
24 offset tax losses described in section 12-94d, (4) any sums paid to a  
25 resource recovery authority pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-  
26 243e, (5) low income conservation programs approved by the Public  
27 Utilities Regulatory Authority, (6) displaced worker protection costs, (7)  
28 unfunded storage and disposal costs for spent nuclear fuel generated  
29 before January 1, 2000, approved by the appropriate regulatory  
30 agencies, (8) postretirement safe shutdown and site protection costs that  
31 are incurred in preparation for decommissioning, (9) decommissioning  
32 fund contributions, (10) costs associated with the Connecticut electric  
33 efficiency partner program established pursuant to section 16-243v, as  
34 amended by this act, (11) reinvestments and investments in energy  
35 efficiency programs and technologies pursuant to section 16a-38l, costs  
36 associated with the electricity conservation incentive program  
37 established pursuant to section 119 of public act 07-242, (12) legal,  
38 appraisal and purchase costs of a conservation or land use restriction  
39 and other related costs as the authority in its discretion deems  
40 appropriate, incurred by a municipality on or before January 1, 2000, to  
41 ensure the environmental, recreational and scenic preservation of any  
42 reservoir located within this state created by a pump storage  
43 hydroelectric generating facility, and (13) the residential furnace and  
44 boiler replacement program pursuant to subsection (k) of section 16-  
45 243v, as amended by this act.

46 (c) As used in this subsection, "displaced worker protection costs"  
47 means the reasonable costs incurred, prior to January 1, 2008, [(A)] (1)  
48 by an electric supplier, exempt wholesale generator, electric company,  
49 an operator of a nuclear power generating facility in this state or a

50 generation entity or affiliate arising from the dislocation of any  
51 employee other than an officer, provided such dislocation is a result of  
52 [(i)] (A) restructuring of the electric generation market and such  
53 dislocation occurs on or after July 1, 1998, or [(ii)] (B) the closing of a  
54 Title IV source or an exempt wholesale generator, as defined in 15 USC  
55 79z-5a, on or after January 1, 2004, as a result of such source's failure to  
56 meet requirements imposed as a result of sections 22a-197 and 22a-198  
57 and this section or those Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies  
58 adopted by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, as  
59 amended from time to time, in accordance with Executive Order  
60 Number 19, issued on May 17, 2000, and provided further such costs  
61 result from either the execution of agreements reached through  
62 collective bargaining for union employees or from the company's or  
63 entity's or affiliate's programs and policies for nonunion employees, and  
64 [(B)] (2) by an electric distribution company or an exempt wholesale  
65 generator arising from the retraining of a former employee of an  
66 unaffiliated exempt wholesale generator, which employee was  
67 involuntarily dislocated on or after January 1, 2004, from such wholesale  
68 generator, except for cause. "Displaced worker protection costs"  
69 includes costs incurred or projected for severance, retraining, early  
70 retirement, outplacement, coverage for surviving spouse insurance  
71 benefits and related expenses.

72 [(b)] The amount of the systems benefits charge shall be determined  
73 by the authority in a general and equitable manner and shall be imposed  
74 on all end use customers of each electric distribution company at a rate  
75 that is applied equally to all customers of the same class in accordance  
76 with methods of allocation in effect on July 1, 1998, provided the system  
77 benefits charge shall not be imposed on customers receiving services  
78 under a special contract which is in effect on July 1, 1998, until such  
79 special contracts expire. The system benefits charge shall be imposed  
80 beginning on January 1, 2000, on all customers receiving services under  
81 a special contract which are entered into or renewed after July 1, 1998.  
82 The systems benefits charge shall have a generally applicable manner of  
83 determination that may be measured on the basis of percentages of total

84 costs of retail sales of generation services. The systems benefits charge  
85 shall be payable on an equal basis on the same payment terms and shall  
86 be eligible or subject to prepayment on an equal basis. Any exemption  
87 of the systems benefits charge by customers under a special contract  
88 shall not result in an increase in rates to any customer.]

89 Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of section 16a-3m of the  
90 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
91 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

92 (3) Any agreement entered into pursuant to subdivision (2) of this  
93 subsection shall be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities  
94 Regulatory Authority. The electric distribution company shall file an  
95 application for the approval of any such agreement with the authority.  
96 The authority's review shall commence upon the filing of the signed  
97 power purchase agreement with the authority. The authority shall  
98 approve agreements that it determines (A) provide for the delivery of  
99 adequate and reliable products and services, for which there is a clear  
100 public need, at a just and reasonable price, (B) are prudent and cost  
101 effective, and (C) that the respondent to the solicitation has the technical,  
102 financial and managerial capabilities to perform pursuant to such  
103 agreement. For any eligible nuclear power generating facility selected in  
104 any solicitation described in subsection (g) of this section, the authority  
105 shall require any such agreement to be conditioned upon the approval  
106 of such a power purchase agreement or other agreement for energy,  
107 capacity and any environmental attributes, or any combination thereof,  
108 with such eligible nuclear power generating facility, in at least two other  
109 states, by the applicable officials of such states or by electric utilities or  
110 other entities designated by the applicable officials of such states. The  
111 authority shall issue a decision not later than one hundred eighty days  
112 after such filing. If the authority does not issue a decision within one  
113 hundred eighty days after such filing, the agreement shall be deemed  
114 approved. The net costs of any such agreement, including costs incurred  
115 by the electric distribution company under the agreement and  
116 reasonable costs incurred by the electric distribution company in

117 connection with the agreement, shall be [recovered on a timely basis  
118 through a nonbypassable fully reconciling component of electric rates  
119 for all customers of the electric distribution company] paid by the  
120 Treasurer on an annual basis from the General Fund. Any net revenues  
121 from the sale of products purchased in accordance with long-term  
122 contracts entered into pursuant to this subsection shall be [credited to  
123 customers through the same nonbypassable fully reconciling rate  
124 component for all customers of the contracting electric distribution  
125 company] paid to the Treasurer for deposit in the General Fund.

126 Sec. 3. Subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 16-245m of the  
127 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
128 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

129 (d) (1) Not later than November 1, 2012, and every three years  
130 thereafter, electric distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1, as  
131 amended by this act, in coordination with the gas companies, as defined  
132 in section 16-1, as amended by this act, shall submit to the Energy  
133 Conservation Management Board a combined electric and gas  
134 Conservation and Load Management Plan, in accordance with the  
135 provisions of this section, to implement cost-effective energy  
136 conservation programs, demand management and market  
137 transformation initiatives. All supply and conservation and load  
138 management options shall be evaluated and selected within an  
139 integrated supply and demand planning framework. Services provided  
140 under the plan shall be available to all customers of electric distribution  
141 companies and gas companies, provided a customer of an electric  
142 distribution company may not be denied such services based on the fuel  
143 such customer uses to heat such customer's home. The Energy  
144 Conservation Management Board shall advise and assist the electric  
145 distribution companies and gas companies in the development of such  
146 plan. The Energy Conservation Management Board shall approve the  
147 plan before transmitting it to the Commissioner of Energy and  
148 Environmental Protection for approval. The commissioner shall, in an  
149 uncontested proceeding during which the commissioner may hold a

150 public meeting, approve, modify or reject said plan prepared pursuant  
151 to this subsection. Following approval by the commissioner, the board  
152 shall assist the companies in implementing the plan and collaborate  
153 with the Connecticut Green Bank to further the goals of the plan. Said  
154 plan shall include a detailed budget sufficient to fund all energy  
155 efficiency that is cost-effective or lower cost than acquisition of  
156 equivalent supply, and shall be reviewed and approved by the  
157 commissioner. [The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, not later  
158 than sixty days after the plan is approved by the commissioner, ensure  
159 that the balance of revenues required to fund such plan is provided  
160 through fully reconciling conservation adjustment mechanisms. Electric  
161 distribution companies shall collect a conservation adjustment  
162 mechanism that ensures the plan is fully funded by collecting an  
163 amount that is not more than the sum of six mills per kilowatt hour of  
164 electricity sold to each end use customer of an electric distribution  
165 company during the three years of any Conservation and Load  
166 Management Plan. The authority shall ensure that the revenues  
167 required to fund such plan with regard to gas companies are provided  
168 through a fully reconciling conservation adjustment mechanism for  
169 each gas company of not more than the equivalent of four and six-tenth  
170 cents per hundred cubic feet during the three years of any Conservation  
171 and Load Management Plan.] Said plan shall include steps that would  
172 be needed to achieve the goal of weatherization of eighty per cent of the  
173 state's residential units by 2030 and to reduce energy consumption by  
174 1.6 million MMBtu, or the equivalent megawatts of electricity, as  
175 defined in subdivision (4) of section 22a-197, annually each year for  
176 calendar years commencing on and after January 1, 2020, up to and  
177 including calendar year 2025. Each program contained in the plan shall  
178 be reviewed by such companies and accepted, modified or rejected by  
179 the Energy Conservation Management Board prior to submission to the  
180 commissioner for approval. The Energy Conservation Management  
181 Board shall, as part of its review, examine opportunities to offer joint  
182 programs providing similar efficiency measures that save more than  
183 one fuel resource or otherwise to coordinate programs targeted at

184 saving more than one fuel resource. Any costs for joint programs shall  
185 be allocated equitably among the conservation programs. The Energy  
186 Conservation Management Board shall give preference to projects that  
187 maximize the reduction of federally mandated congestion charges.

188 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 16-245n of the general statutes is  
189 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
190 *2025*):

191 (b) On and after July 1, 2004, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority  
192 shall assess or cause to be assessed a charge of not less than one mill per  
193 kilowatt hour charged to each end use customer of electric services in  
194 this state which shall be deposited into the Clean Energy Fund  
195 established under subsection (c) of this section, provided no such charge  
196 may be assessed on and after July 1, 2025.

197 Sec. 5. Subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 16a-3m of the  
198 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
199 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

200 (e) (1) Any solicitation issued pursuant to subsection (d) of this  
201 section for zero-carbon electricity generating resources, including, but  
202 not limited to, eligible nuclear power generating facilities, hydropower,  
203 Class I renewable energy sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended  
204 by this act, and energy storage systems, shall be for resources delivered  
205 into the control area of the regional independent system operator, as  
206 defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, and any agreement  
207 entered into pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be in the  
208 best interest of ratepayers. If the commissioner finds proposals received  
209 pursuant to such solicitations to be in the best interest of ratepayers, the  
210 commissioner may select any such proposal or proposals, provided (A)  
211 the total annual energy output of any proposals selected, in the  
212 aggregate, shall be not more than twelve million megawatt hours of  
213 electricity, (B) any agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision  
214 with an eligible nuclear power generating facility or hydropower shall  
215 be for a period of not less than three years and not more than ten years,

216 [and] (C) any agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision with  
217 Class I renewable energy sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended  
218 by this act, and energy storage systems shall be for a period of not more  
219 than twenty years, and (D) no agreement may be entered into pursuant  
220 to this subdivision if such agreement would require the purchase of  
221 electricity at a rate exceeding one hundred fifty per cent above the  
222 wholesale price of electricity at the time of such agreement.

223 Sec. 6. Subdivision (20) of section 16-1 of the general statutes is  
224 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
225 *1, 2025*):

226 (20) "Class I renewable energy source" means (A) electricity derived  
227 from (i) solar power, (ii) wind power, (iii) a fuel cell, (iv) geothermal, (v)  
228 landfill methane gas, anaerobic digestion or other biogas derived from  
229 biological sources, (vi) thermal electric direct energy conversion from a  
230 certified Class I renewable energy source, (vii) ocean thermal power,  
231 (viii) wave or tidal power, (ix) low emission advanced renewable energy  
232 conversion technologies, including, but not limited to, zero emission  
233 low grade heat power generation systems based on organic oil free  
234 rankine, kalina or other similar nonsteam cycles that use waste heat  
235 from an industrial or commercial process that does not generate  
236 electricity, (x) [(I)] a [run-of-the-river] hydropower facility, [that began  
237 operation after July 1, 2003, has a generating capacity of not more than  
238 sixty megawatts, is not based on a new dam or a dam identified by the  
239 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection as a candidate  
240 for removal, and meets applicable state and federal requirements,  
241 including state dam safety requirements and applicable site-specific  
242 standards for water quality and fish passage, or (II) a run-of-the-river  
243 hydropower facility that received a new license after January 1, 2018,  
244 under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rules pursuant to 18  
245 CFR 16, as amended from time to time, is not based on a new dam or a  
246 dam identified by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
247 Protection as a candidate for removal, and meets applicable state and  
248 federal requirements, including state dam safety requirements and



249 applicable site-specific standards for water quality and fish passage,]  
250 (xi) a biomass facility that uses sustainable biomass fuel and has an  
251 average emission rate of equal to or less than .075 pounds of nitrogen  
252 oxides per million BTU of heat input for the previous calendar quarter,  
253 except that energy derived from a biomass facility with a capacity of less  
254 than five hundred kilowatts that began construction before July 1, 2003,  
255 may be considered a Class I renewable energy source, or (xii) a nuclear  
256 power generating facility, [constructed on or after October 1, 2023,] or  
257 (B) any electrical generation, including distributed generation,  
258 generated from a Class I renewable energy source, provided, on and  
259 after January 1, 2014, any megawatt hours of electricity from a  
260 renewable energy source described under this subparagraph that are  
261 claimed or counted by a load-serving entity, province or state toward  
262 compliance with renewable portfolio standards or renewable energy  
263 policy goals in another province or state, other than the state of  
264 Connecticut, shall not be eligible for compliance with the renewable  
265 portfolio standards established pursuant to section 16-245a;

266 Sec. 7. Subparagraph (D) of subdivision (57) of section 12-81 of the  
267 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
268 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

269 (D) For assessment years commencing on and after October 1, 2014,  
270 any (i) Class I renewable energy source, as defined in section 16-1, as  
271 amended by this act, other than a nuclear power generating facility, [(ii)  
272 hydropower facility described in subdivision (21) of subsection (a) of  
273 section 16-1, or (iii)] or (ii) solar thermal or geothermal renewable energy  
274 source, installed for generation or displacement of energy, provided (I)  
275 such installation occurs on or after January 1, 2014, (II) is for commercial  
276 or industrial purposes, (III) the nameplate capacity of such source or  
277 facility does not exceed the load for the location where such generation  
278 or displacement is located or the aggregated load of the beneficial  
279 accounts for any Class I renewable energy source participating in virtual  
280 net metering pursuant to section 16-244u, and (IV) in the case of clause  
281 [(iii)] (ii) of this subparagraph, such exemption shall apply only to the

282 amount by which the assessed valuation of the real property equipped  
283 with such source exceeds the assessed valuation of such real property  
284 equipped with the conventional portion of the source;

285 Sec. 8. Section 16-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
286 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

287 (a) There shall continue to be a Public Utilities Regulatory Authority,  
288 [within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection,  
289 which] The authority shall have the following functions, duties and  
290 powers:

291 (1) The authority shall be responsible for all matters of rate regulation  
292 for public utilities and regulated entities under title 16 and shall  
293 promote policies that will lead to just and reasonable utility rates.

294 (2) The authority shall employ and assign such personnel as the  
295 chairperson of the authority deems necessary for the performance of the  
296 authority's functions and duties.

297 (3) The authority shall perform such management functions as the  
298 chairperson of the authority deems necessary, including, but not limited  
299 to, purchasing, accounting and payroll functions.

300 (b) The authority shall be under the direction of the utility  
301 commissioners, who shall consist of five electors of this state, appointed  
302 by the Governor with the advice and consent of both houses of the  
303 General Assembly. Not more than three [members of said authority]  
304 utility commissioners in office at any one time shall be members of any  
305 one political party. The Governor shall appoint five members to the  
306 authority. The procedure prescribed in section 4-7 shall apply to such  
307 appointments, except that the Governor shall submit each nomination  
308 on or before May first, and both houses shall confirm or reject it before  
309 adjournment sine die. Any utility commissioner appointed by the  
310 Governor and confirmed by both chambers of the General Assembly  
311 between February 1, 2019, and June 1, 2019, shall serve a term expiring

312 on March 1, 2024. Any utility commissioner appointed by the Governor  
313 and confirmed by both houses of the General Assembly between  
314 February 1, 2018, and June 1, 2018, shall serve a term expiring on March  
315 1, 2022. Between July 1, 2019, and May 1, 2020, the Governor shall  
316 appoint three utility commissioners, provided one such commissioner  
317 shall serve a term expiring on March 1, 2021, and two such  
318 commissioners shall serve terms expiring on March 1, 2023. Any utility  
319 commissioner appointed on or after May 1, 2020, shall serve a term of  
320 four years. The utility commissioners shall be sworn to the faithful  
321 performance of their duties.

322 [(b)] (c) Not later than June 30, 2023, and between June first and June  
323 thirtieth in each odd-numbered year thereafter, the Governor shall  
324 select the chairperson of the authority from among the utility  
325 commissioners. The chairperson shall serve a two-year term starting on  
326 July first of the same year. Each June, the utility commissioners shall  
327 choose, from among said commissioners, a vice-chairperson, who shall  
328 serve for a one-year term starting on July first of the same year. The vice-  
329 chairperson shall perform the duties of the chairperson in his or her  
330 absence.

331 [(c)] (d) Any matter coming before the authority may be assigned by  
332 the chairperson to a panel of three or more utility commissioners. Except  
333 as otherwise provided by statute or regulation, the panel shall  
334 determine whether a public hearing shall be held on the matter, and  
335 may designate one or more of [its members] the utility commissioners  
336 to conduct such hearing or may assign a hearing officer to ascertain the  
337 facts and report thereon to the panel. The decision of the panel, if  
338 unanimous, shall be the decision of the authority. If the decision of the  
339 panel is not unanimous, the matter shall be approved by a majority vote  
340 of the utility commissioners.

341 [(d)] (e) The utility commissioners of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
342 Authority shall serve full time and shall file a statement of financial  
343 interests with the Office of State Ethics in accordance with section 1-83.

344 Each utility commissioner shall receive annually a salary equal to that  
345 established for management pay plan salary group seventy-five by the  
346 Commissioner of Administrative Services, except that the chairperson  
347 shall receive annually a salary equal to that established for management  
348 pay plan salary group seventy-seven.

349 [(e)] (f) To insure the highest standard of public utility regulation, on  
350 and after October 1, 2007, any newly appointed utility commissioner of  
351 the authority shall have education or training and three or more years  
352 of experience in one or more of the following fields: Economics,  
353 engineering, law, accounting, finance, utility regulation, public or  
354 government administration, consumer advocacy, business  
355 management, and environmental management. On and after July 1,  
356 1997, at least three of these fields shall be represented on the authority  
357 by individual utility commissioners at all times. Any time a utility  
358 commissioner is newly appointed, at least one of the utility  
359 commissioners shall have experience in utility customer advocacy.

360 [(f)] (g) (1) The chairperson of the authority [, with the approval of  
361 the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,] shall  
362 prescribe the duties of the staff [assigned to] of the authority [in order  
363 to (A) conduct comprehensive planning with respect to the functions of  
364 the authority; (B) cause the administrative organization of the authority  
365 to be examined with a view to promoting economy and efficiency; and  
366 (C)] and organize the authority into such divisions, bureaus or other  
367 units as necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the  
368 authority. [and may from time to time make recommendations to the  
369 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection regarding staff  
370 and resources.]

371 (2) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority [, in  
372 order to implement the comprehensive planning and organizational  
373 structure established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection,]  
374 shall: (A) [coordinate] Coordinate the activities of the authority; [and  
375 prescribe the duties of the staff assigned to the authority;] (B) for any

376 proceeding on a proposed rate amendment in which staff of the  
377 authority are to be made a party pursuant to section 16-19j, determine  
378 which staff shall appear and participate in the proceedings and which  
379 shall serve the [members of the authority] utility commissioners; (C)  
380 enter into such contractual agreements, in accordance with established  
381 procedures, as may be necessary for the discharge of the authority's  
382 duties; (D) subject to the provisions of section 4-32, and unless otherwise  
383 provided by law, receive any money, revenue or services from the  
384 federal government, corporations, associations or individuals,  
385 including payments from the sale of printed matter or any other  
386 material or services; (E) prepare the budget of the authority; and ~~[(E)]~~  
387 (F) require the staff of the authority to have expertise in public utility  
388 engineering and accounting, finance, economics, computers and rate  
389 design.

390 (3) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall  
391 have all powers necessary and convenient to faithfully discharge the  
392 authority's responsibilities specified in subdivision (1) of subsection (a)  
393 of this section.

394 ~~[(g)]~~ (h) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
395 Authority] or employee of the [Department of Energy and  
396 Environmental Protection assigned to work with the] authority shall  
397 have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in  
398 any business, employment, transaction or professional activity, or incur  
399 any obligation of any nature, which is in substantial conflict with the  
400 proper discharge of his or her duties or employment in the public  
401 interest and of his or her responsibilities as prescribed in the laws of this  
402 state, as defined in section 1-85, concerning any matter within the  
403 jurisdiction of the authority; provided, no such substantial conflict shall  
404 be deemed to exist solely by virtue of the fact that a utility commissioner  
405 of the authority or employee of the department assigned to work with  
406 the authority, or any business in which such a person has an interest,  
407 receives utility service from one or more Connecticut utilities under the  
408 normal rates and conditions of service.

409 [(h)] (i) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
410 Authority] or employee of the [Department of Energy and  
411 Environmental Protection assigned to work with the authority, during  
412 such assignment,] authority shall accept other employment which will  
413 either impair his or her independence of judgment as to his or her  
414 official duties or employment or require him or her, or induce him or  
415 her, to disclose confidential information acquired by him or her in the  
416 course of and by reason of his or her official duties.

417 [(i)] (j) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
418 Authority] or employee of the [Department of Energy and  
419 Environmental Protection assigned to work with the authority, during  
420 such assignment,] authority shall wilfully and knowingly disclose, for  
421 pecuniary gain, to any other person, confidential information acquired  
422 by him or her in the course of and by reason of his or her official duties  
423 or employment or use any such information for the purpose of  
424 pecuniary gain.

425 [(j)] (k) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
426 Authority] or employee of the [Department of Energy and  
427 Environmental Protection assigned to work with the authority, during  
428 such assignment,] authority shall agree to accept, or be in partnership  
429 or association with any person, or a member of a professional  
430 corporation or in membership with any union or professional  
431 association which partnership, association, professional corporation,  
432 union or professional association agrees to accept any employment, fee  
433 or other thing of value, or portion thereof, in consideration of his or her  
434 appearing, agreeing to appear, or taking any other action on behalf of  
435 another person before the authority, the Connecticut Siting Council, the  
436 Office of Policy and Management or the Commissioner of Energy and  
437 Environmental Protection.

438 [(k)] (l) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory  
439 Authority] shall, for a period of one year following the termination of  
440 his or her service as a utility commissioner, accept employment: (1) By

441 a public service company or by any person, firm or corporation engaged  
442 in lobbying activities with regard to governmental regulation of public  
443 service companies; (2) by a certified telecommunications provider or by  
444 any person, firm or corporation engaged in lobbying activities with  
445 regard to governmental regulation of persons, firms or corporations so  
446 certified; or (3) by an electric supplier or by any person, firm or  
447 corporation engaged in lobbying activities with regard to governmental  
448 regulation of electric suppliers. No such utility commissioner who is  
449 also an attorney shall in any capacity, appear or participate in any  
450 matter, or accept any compensation regarding a matter, before the  
451 authority, for a period of one year following the termination of his or  
452 her service as a utility commissioner.

453 [(l)] (m) The chairperson of the authority shall assign authority staff  
454 to fulfill the duties of procurement manager where required pursuant  
455 to this title and title 16a.

456 [(m)] (n) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the  
457 decisions of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, including, but not  
458 limited to, decisions relating to rate amendments arising from the  
459 Comprehensive Energy Strategy, the Integrated Resources Plan, the  
460 Conservation and Load Management Plan and policies established by  
461 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, shall be  
462 guided by said strategy and plans and such policies.

463 [(n)] (o) Two or more utility commissioners serving on a panel  
464 established pursuant to subsection [(c)] (d) of this section may confer or  
465 communicate regarding the matter before such panel. Any such  
466 conference or communication that does not occur before the public at a  
467 hearing or proceeding shall not constitute a meeting as defined in  
468 section 1-200.

469 Sec. 9. Section 4-5 of the general statutes is repealed and the following  
470 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

471 As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head"

472 means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,  
473 Commissioner of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue  
474 Services, Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and  
475 Families, Commissioner of Consumer Protection, Commissioner of  
476 Correction, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,  
477 State Board of Education, Commissioner of Emergency Services and  
478 Public Protection, Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
479 Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public  
480 Health, Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Commissioner  
481 of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Commissioner of Social  
482 Services, Commissioner of Developmental Services, Commissioner of  
483 Motor Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of  
484 Veterans Affairs, Commissioner of Housing, Commissioner of Aging  
485 and Disability Services, Commissioner of Early Childhood,  
486 Commissioner of Health Strategy, executive director of the Office of  
487 Military Affairs, executive director of the Technical Education and  
488 Career System, Chief Workforce Officer, [and] Commissioner of Higher  
489 Education and Chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority.  
490 As used in sections 4-6 and 4-7, "department head" also means the  
491 Commissioner of Education.

492 Sec. 10. Section 4-67e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
493 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

494 The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall  
495 coordinate the activity of the Commissioner of Public Health, [and] the  
496 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection and the  
497 chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority in the  
498 following: (1) The review of the authority of each agency for consistency  
499 with the policies established by section 22a-380, (2) the preparation of a  
500 memorandum of understanding, not more than six months after  
501 October 1, 1991, intended to avoid inconsistency, overlap and  
502 redundancy in requirements and authority of each agency in water  
503 conservation issues, emergency contingency plans and regulatory  
504 authority under chapters 283, 446i, 446j and 474, (3) the review of



505 exercise of regulatory authority over water companies, as defined in  
506 section 25-32a, to determine whether inconsistency, overlap or  
507 redundancy exist in the statutory requirements or regulatory authority  
508 of such agencies under chapters 283, 446i, 446j, and 474, (4) the  
509 assessment of the necessity of a memorandum of understanding to  
510 avoid such inconsistency, overlap or redundancy, and, if determined to  
511 be necessary, the preparation of such a memorandum by July 1, 1995,  
512 and (5) the development of recommendations for legislation and  
513 amendments to regulations to implement the provisions of a  
514 memorandum of understanding prepared pursuant to this section, or  
515 for consistency with the policies established by section 22a-380. There  
516 shall be a period of public review and comment on a memorandum of  
517 understanding prior to final agreement. On or before January 1, 1995,  
518 the secretary shall submit to the joint standing committees of the  
519 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public  
520 health, energy and public utilities and the environment, written  
521 findings, and any recommendations, concerning the review and  
522 assessment conducted pursuant to subdivisions (3) and (4) of this  
523 section.

524 Sec. 11. Section 16-6b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
525 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

526 The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may, in accordance with  
527 chapter 54, adopt such regulations with respect to: (1) Rates and charges,  
528 services, accounting practices, safety and the conduct of operations  
529 generally of public service companies subject to its jurisdiction as it  
530 deems reasonable and necessary; (2) services, accounting practices,  
531 safety and the conduct of operations generally of electric suppliers  
532 subject to its jurisdiction as it deems reasonable and necessary; and (3)  
533 standards for systems utilizing cogeneration technology and renewable  
534 fuel resources. [, in accordance with the Department of Energy and  
535 Environmental Protection's policies.]

536 Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 22a-2d of the general statutes is

537 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
538 *1, 2025*):

539 (a) There is established a Department of Energy and Environmental  
540 Protection, which shall have jurisdiction relating to the preservation and  
541 protection of the air, water and other natural resources of the state,  
542 energy and policy planning and regulation and advancement of  
543 telecommunications and related technology. For the purposes of energy  
544 policy and regulation, the department shall have the following goals: (1)  
545 Reducing rates and decreasing costs for Connecticut's ratepayers, (2)  
546 ensuring the reliability and safety of our state's energy supply, (3)  
547 increasing the use of clean energy and technologies that support clean  
548 energy, and (4) developing the state's energy-related economy. For the  
549 purpose of environmental protection and regulation, the department  
550 shall have the following goals: (A) Conserving, improving and  
551 protecting the natural resources and environment of the state, and (B)  
552 preserving the natural environment while fostering sustainable  
553 development. [The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority within the  
554 department shall be responsible for all matters of rate regulation for  
555 public utilities and regulated entities under title 16 and shall promote  
556 policies that will lead to just and reasonable utility rates.] The  
557 department head shall be the Commissioner of Energy and  
558 Environmental Protection who shall be appointed by the Governor in  
559 accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, as  
560 amended by this act, with the powers and duties therein prescribed. The  
561 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall establish  
562 bureaus, one of which shall be designated an energy bureau.

563 Sec. 13. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Energy and  
564 Environmental Protection shall study natural gas capacity in the state.  
565 Such study shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) An evaluation  
566 of natural gas capacity in the state; and (2) an examination of ways to  
567 expand natural gas capacity, including importing natural gas into the  
568 state and any necessary regulatory or legislative changes. Not later than  
569 January 1, 2026, the commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance

570 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the  
571 commissioner's findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
572 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
573 relating to energy and technology.

574 Sec. 14. Section 16-11 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
575 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

576 (a) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, so far as is  
577 practicable, keep fully informed as to the condition of the plant,  
578 equipment and manner of operation of all public service companies and  
579 persons involved in the transportation of gas, as such terms are defined  
580 in section 16-280a, in respect to their adequacy and suitability to  
581 accomplish the duties imposed upon such companies by law and in  
582 respect to their relation to the safety of the public and of the employees  
583 of such companies or persons. The authority may order such reasonable  
584 improvements, repairs or alterations in such plant or equipment, or such  
585 changes in the manner of operation, as may be reasonably necessary in  
586 the public interest.

587 (b) The general purposes of this section and sections 16-19, 16-25, 16-  
588 43 and 16-47 are to assure to the state of Connecticut its full powers to  
589 regulate its public service companies, to increase the powers of the  
590 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and to promote local control of the  
591 public service companies of this state, and said sections shall be so  
592 construed as to effectuate these purposes.

593 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section or section 16-244i,  
594 the authority shall not establish any program that requires, or provides  
595 incentives for, the installation of any electric vehicle charging station.

596 Sec. 15. Subsection (b) of section 10-291 of the general statutes is  
597 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
598 *1, 2025*):

599 (b) The Department of Administrative Services shall not approve a

600 school building project plan or site, as applicable, if:

601 (1) The site is in an area of moderate or high radon potential, as  
602 indicated in the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's  
603 Radon Potential Map, or similar subsequent publications, except where  
604 the school building project plan incorporates construction techniques to  
605 mitigate radon levels in the air of the facility;

606 (2) The plans incorporate new roof construction or total replacement  
607 of an existing roof and do not provide for the following: (A) A minimum  
608 roof pitch that conforms with the requirements of the State Building  
609 Code, (B) a minimum twenty-year unlimited manufacturer's guarantee  
610 for water tightness covering material and workmanship on the entire  
611 roofing system, (C) the inclusion of vapor retarders, insulation, bitumen,  
612 felts, membranes, flashings, metals, decks and any other feature  
613 required by the roof design, and (D) that all manufacturer's materials to  
614 be used in the roofing system are specified to meet the latest standards  
615 for individual components of the roofing systems of the American  
616 Society for Testing and Materials;

617 (3) In the case of a major alteration, renovation or extension of a  
618 building to be used for public school purposes, the plans do not  
619 incorporate the guidelines set forth in the Sheet Metal and Air  
620 Conditioning Contractors National Association's publication entitled  
621 "Indoor Air Quality Guidelines for Occupied Buildings Under  
622 Construction" or similar subsequent publications;

623 (4) In the case of a new construction, extension, renovation or  
624 replacement, the plans do not provide that the building maintenance  
625 staff responsible for such facility are trained in or are receiving training  
626 in, or that the applicant plans to provide training in, the appropriate  
627 areas of plant operations including, but not limited to, heating,  
628 ventilation and air conditioning systems pursuant to section 10-231e,  
629 with specific training relative to indoor air quality;

630 (5) In the case of a project for new construction, extension, major

631 alteration, renovation or replacement involving a school entrance for  
632 inclusion on any listing submitted to the General Assembly in  
633 accordance with section 10-283 on or after July 1, 2008, the plans do not  
634 provide for a security infrastructure for such entrance;

635 (6) In the case of a project for new construction, extension, major  
636 alteration, renovation or replacement on any listing submitted to the  
637 General Assembly in accordance with section 10-283 on or after July 1,  
638 2022, the plans do not provide for the installation of at least one water  
639 bottle filling station (A) per one hundred students of the projected  
640 enrollment for the school building, (B) on each new floor or wing of the  
641 school building, and (C) in any food service area of the school building;  
642 or

643 [(7) In the case of a project for new construction of a school building  
644 on any listing submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with  
645 section 10-283 on or after July 1, 2023, the plans do not provide for the  
646 installation of level two electric vehicle charging stations, as defined in  
647 section 4b-77, in at least twenty per cent of the designated parking  
648 spaces for cars or light duty trucks at the school building; or]

649 [(8)] (7) In the case of a project for new construction of a school  
650 building on any listing submitted to the General Assembly in  
651 accordance with section 10-283, on or after July 1, 2025, the plans do not  
652 provide for single-user toilet and bathing rooms that are identified as  
653 being available for use by all students and school personnel.

654 Sec. 16. Subdivision (80) of section 12-81 of the general statutes is  
655 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
656 *1, 2025, and applicable to assessment years commencing on and after October*  
657 *1, 2025*):

658 (80) [Level two electric vehicle charging stations, as defined in section  
659 4b-77, that are located on commercial or industrial properties, electric  
660 vehicle charging stations, as defined in section 16-19f, that are located  
661 on residential properties, and any refueling] Refueling equipment for

662 fuel cell electric vehicles, as defined in section 16-19eee;

663 Sec. 17. Subdivision (3) of subsection (k) of section 16-243v of the  
664 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
665 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

666 (3) The third-party administrator shall be responsible for extending  
667 loans and administering the residential furnace or boiler replacement  
668 and propane fuel tank purchase program to assist residential retail end  
669 use customers in funding heating furnace or boiler equipment  
670 replacements and propane fuel tank purchases that meet all of the  
671 program requirements. (A) For heating furnace or boiler equipment  
672 replacements, the program requirements shall include, but not be  
673 limited to, (i) the total projected direct cost savings to the eligible  
674 residential retail end use customer resulting from the heating furnace or  
675 boiler replacement, calculated on an annual basis commencing from the  
676 month that the replacement furnace or boiler is projected to be in  
677 service, shall be greater than the total cost of the replacement funds over  
678 the term of the program in order to qualify for the program, (ii) the  
679 eligible customer shall pay a contribution of not less than ten per cent of  
680 the total cost of the replacement or conversion of the heating furnace or  
681 boiler and any additional amounts that are required in order to meet the  
682 program requirements, (iii) eligible customers shall have six consecutive  
683 months of timely utility payments and shall not have any past due  
684 balance owed to any electric distribution company or gas company, (iv)  
685 the term of the repayment of the replacement funds shall be the lesser  
686 of (I) the simple payback period of the replacement funds plus two  
687 years, or (II) ten years, and (v) the replacement furnace or boiler shall  
688 meet or exceed federal Energy Star standards, provided such  
689 replacement is not a heat pump. (B) For propane fuel tank purchases,  
690 the program requirements shall include, but not be limited to, (i) eligible  
691 customers shall have six consecutive months of timely utility payments  
692 and shall not have any past due balance owed to any electric  
693 distribution company, propane seller or gas company, (ii) the term of  
694 the repayment of the replacement funds shall be not longer than ten

695 years, and (iii) the loan recipient shall have such propane tank inspected  
696 on an annual basis and forward a certificate of inspection to the third-  
697 party administrator. In the event that such propane tank is found to  
698 need repair as a result of such inspection, any person performing such  
699 inspection shall inform the homeowner and the applicable local fire  
700 marshal. If the requisite repair is not made in a timely fashion or as  
701 otherwise recommended or ordered by the local fire marshal, said fire  
702 marshal shall render such propane tank inoperable. Eligible residential  
703 retail end use customers may apply to the third-party administrator for  
704 participation in the program. The third-party administrator shall screen  
705 each applicant to ensure that the applicant meets the eligibility  
706 requirements and such program requirements prior to accepting the  
707 customer into the program. The third-party administrator shall create  
708 awareness of the propane fuel tank purchase provisions of the program  
709 by the general public and, in particular, by residential propane  
710 purchasers.

711 Sec. 18. Section 16-244dd of the general statutes is repealed and the  
712 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

713 Notwithstanding the provisions of this title and title 16a, the Public  
714 Utilities Regulatory Authority may select the Connecticut Green Bank,  
715 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the electric  
716 distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this  
717 act, a third party that the authority deems appropriate or any  
718 combination thereof to implement the non-residential renewable energy  
719 program established pursuant to section 16-244z, the residential  
720 renewable energy program established pursuant to said section [,] or the  
721 shared clean energy facility program established pursuant to said  
722 section. [, the light-duty electric vehicle charging program established  
723 by the authority in a proceeding or a medium-duty to heavy-duty  
724 electric vehicle charging program established by the authority in a  
725 proceeding.]

726 Sec. 19. Subsection (a) of section 16a-46m of the general statutes is

727 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
728 *1, 2025*):

729 (a) Not later than September 1, 2021, the Department of Energy and  
730 Environmental Protection shall, using available federal or other funds,  
731 establish an energy efficiency retrofit grant program. The Commissioner  
732 of Energy and Environmental Protection may receive funds from the  
733 federal government, corporations, associations or individuals to fund  
734 the grant program. Such program shall award grants to fund the  
735 installation of energy efficient upgrades to (1) affordable housing, as  
736 defined in section 8-39a, including, but not limited to, property of a  
737 housing authority, as defined in section 8-39, or (2) other dwelling units  
738 owned by a landlord, as defined in section 47a-1, at the discretion of the  
739 commissioner. Such upgrades shall include energy efficiency and  
740 weatherization measures and may include, but need not be limited to,  
741 the installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic panels, energy storage  
742 systems located on the customer's premises [, electric vehicle charging  
743 infrastructure, heat pumps] and balanced ventilation, and the  
744 mitigation of health and safety hazards including, but not limited to, gas  
745 leaks, mold, vermiculite and asbestos, lead and radon, to the extent such  
746 hazards impede the installation of energy efficiency upgrades and  
747 weatherization measures.

748 Sec. 20. Subsection (c) of section 22a-20a of the general statutes is  
749 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
750 *1, 2025*):

751 (c) Any municipality, owner or developer may enter into a  
752 community environmental benefit agreement in connection with an  
753 affecting facility. For any application filed on or after November 1, 2020,  
754 for such an affecting facility that: (1) Requires a certificate under chapter  
755 277a, or (2) constitutes a new or expanded permit, except for a minor  
756 modification or improvement of an existing permit for such facility, or  
757 siting approval from the Department of Energy and Environmental  
758 Protection or the Connecticut Siting Council involving an affecting



759 facility, and that is proposed to be located in an environmental justice  
760 community or the proposed expansion of an affecting facility to be  
761 located in such a community, the applicant shall enter into such an  
762 agreement with the municipality if there are five or more affecting  
763 facilities in such municipality at the time such application is filed. The  
764 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall not issue  
765 a notice of tentative determination regarding a new or modified permit  
766 unless the applicant has submitted a copy of the executed agreement  
767 with the municipality. Mitigation may include both on-site and off-site  
768 improvements, activities and programs, including, but not limited to:  
769 Funding for activities such as environmental education, diesel pollution  
770 reduction, [electric vehicle charging infrastructure construction,]  
771 establishment of a wellness clinic, ongoing asthma screening, provision  
772 of air monitoring performed by a credentialed environmental  
773 professional, performance of an ongoing traffic study, watercourse  
774 monitoring, construction of biking facilities and multi-use trails, staffing  
775 for parks, urban forestry, support for community gardens or any other  
776 negotiated benefit to the environment in the environmental justice  
777 community. Prior to negotiating the terms of a community  
778 environmental benefit agreement, the municipality shall provide a  
779 reasonable and public opportunity for residents of the potentially  
780 affected environmental justice community to be heard concerning the  
781 requirements of or need for, and terms of, such agreement. Any  
782 mitigation contained in such an agreement shall have a nexus to the  
783 impacts caused by the proposed facility and shall be proportional to  
784 such impacts.

785 Sec. 21. Subsection (d) of section 22a-201d of the general statutes is  
786 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
787 *1, 2025*):

788 (d) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall  
789 establish and administer a grant program for the purpose of providing  
790 matching funds necessary for municipalities, school districts and school  
791 bus operators to submit federal grant applications in order to maximize

792 federal funding for the purchase or lease of zero-emission school buses,  
793 [and electric vehicle charging or fueling infrastructure.] Applications for  
794 such grants shall be filed with the commissioner at such time and in such  
795 manner as the commissioner prescribes. The commissioner shall give  
796 preference to applications concerning the purchase or lease of a zero-  
797 emission school bus that will be operated primarily in an environmental  
798 justice community. The commissioner shall determine the amount a  
799 municipality, school district or school bus operator shall be required to  
800 provide to match such grant.

801 Sec. 22. Subsection (c) of section 8-240a of the general statutes is  
802 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
803 *1, 2025*):

804 (c) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in  
805 collaboration with the Commissioner of Housing, shall establish a pilot  
806 program or programs to provide financing or grants from the fund  
807 established in subsection (b) of this section for retrofitting projects for  
808 multifamily residences located in environmental justice communities or  
809 alliance districts that (1) improve the energy efficiency of such  
810 residences, which may include, but need not be limited to, the  
811 installation of [heat pumps,] solar power generating systems, improved  
812 roofing, exterior doors and windows, improved insulation, air sealing,  
813 improved ventilation, appliance upgrades and any electric system or  
814 wiring upgrades necessary for such retrofit, (2) remediate health and  
815 safety concerns that are barriers to any such retrofit, including, but not  
816 limited to, mold, vermiculite, asbestos, lead and radon, or (3) provide  
817 services to assist residents and building owners to access and implement  
818 the programs established pursuant to this section or other available state  
819 or federal programs that enable the implementation of energy efficiency  
820 retrofitting.

821 Sec. 23. Subsection (a) of section 16a-40l of the general statutes is  
822 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
823 *1, 2025*):

824 (a) On or before October 1, 2011, the Department of Energy and  
825 Environmental Protection shall establish a residential heating  
826 equipment financing program. Such program shall allow residential  
827 customers to finance, through on-bill financing or other mechanism, the  
828 installation of energy efficient natural gas or heating oil burners, boilers  
829 and furnaces [or ductless heat pumps] to replace (1) burners, boilers and  
830 furnaces that are not less than seven years old with an efficiency rating  
831 of not more than seventy-five per cent, or (2) electric heating systems.  
832 Eligible fuel oil furnaces shall have an efficiency rating of not less than  
833 eighty-six per cent. An eligible fuel oil burner shall have an efficiency  
834 rating of not less than eighty-six per cent with temperature reset  
835 controls. An eligible natural gas boiler shall have an annual fuel  
836 utilization efficiency rating of not less than ninety per cent and an  
837 eligible natural gas furnace shall have an annual fuel utilization  
838 efficiency rating of not less than ninety-five per cent. To participate in  
839 the program established pursuant to this subsection, a customer shall  
840 first have a home energy audit, the cost of which may be financed  
841 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

842 Sec. 24. Subsection (e) of section 22a-200c of the general statutes is  
843 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
844 *1, 2025*):

845 (e) Beginning with the first auction occurring on or after January 1,  
846 2023, and notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this  
847 section and subdivision (6) of subsection (f) of section 22a-174-31 of the  
848 regulations of Connecticut state agencies, auction proceeds annually  
849 calculated and allocated in accordance with subdivision (6) of  
850 subsection (f) of section 22a-174-31 of the regulations of Connecticut  
851 state agencies to the Connecticut Green Bank may be utilized by the  
852 Connecticut Green Bank, in consultation with the Department of Energy  
853 and Environmental Protection, for clean energy resources that do not  
854 emit greenhouse gas emissions, provided that any proceeds calculated  
855 and allocated to the Connecticut Green Bank in excess of five million  
856 two hundred thousand dollars in any fiscal year shall be diverted for the

857 fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, to the  
858 department to provide funding for [the Connecticut Hydrogen and  
859 Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate program established pursuant to  
860 section 22a-202 and other] programs established to support the  
861 department's engagement with environmental justice communities. For  
862 the purposes of this subsection, "clean energy" has the same meaning as  
863 provided in section 16-245n, as amended by this act, and "environmental  
864 justice community" has the same meaning as provided in section 22a-  
865 20a, as amended by this act.

866 Sec. 25. Section 22a-201e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
867 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

868 On and after January 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Energy and  
869 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners of  
870 Motor Vehicles, Transportation and Education, may establish, within  
871 available funding, a voucher program to support the [(1)] deployment  
872 of any vehicle that is equipped with zero-emission technology,  
873 including, but not limited to, battery electric and fuel cell systems, and  
874 classified as a Class 2b vehicle or Class 3 through Class 8 vehicles, as  
875 such terms are defined in 49 CFR 523.2, as amended from time to time,  
876 or a medium duty passenger vehicle, as defined in 49 CFR 523.2, as  
877 amended from time to time, when sold for use by a commercial or  
878 institutional fleet. [, and (2) installation of electric vehicle charging  
879 infrastructure.] Applications for the voucher program shall be filed with  
880 the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection at such time  
881 and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes. In awarding any  
882 such voucher, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
883 Protection shall consider the amount of funding available and set aside  
884 forty per cent of such funding to be used toward maximizing air  
885 pollution reductions in environmental justice communities, as defined  
886 in subsection (a) of section 22a-20a. Such vouchers shall not be awarded  
887 for vehicle classes where there is no commercially available zero-  
888 emission technology. [or for vehicles that are eligible for a rebate or  
889 voucher under the Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile

890 Purchase Rebate program established pursuant to section 22a-202.]

891 Sec. 26. Sections 4b-77 and 22a-201c of the general statutes are  
892 repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245l
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16a-3m(e)(3)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245m(d)(1)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245n(b)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3m(e)(1)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-1(20)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	12-81(57)(D)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-2
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	4-5
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	4-67e
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-6b
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	22a-2d(a)
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-11
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	10-291(b)
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2025, and applicable to assessment years commencing on and after October 1, 2025</i>	12-81(80)
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-243v(k)(3)
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-244dd
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-46m(a)
Sec. 20	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	22a-20a(c)
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	22a-201d(d)
Sec. 22	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	8-240a(c)
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-40l(a)
Sec. 24	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	22a-200c(e)
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	22a-201e
Sec. 26	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To reduce energy costs and increase energy supply.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.; SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.  
SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.; SEN. CICARELLA, 34th Dist.  
SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.; SEN. HWANG, 28th Dist.  
SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd Dist.; SEN. FAZIO, 36th Dist.  
SEN. GORDON, 35th Dist.; SEN. KISSEL, 7th Dist.  
REP. CANDELORA V., 86th Dist.; REP. O'DEA, 125th Dist.  
REP. MARRA T., 141st Dist.; REP. CARNEY, 23rd Dist.  
REP. DELNICKI, 14th Dist.; REP. ANDERSON, 62nd Dist.  
REP. BOLINSKY, 106th Dist.; REP. RUTIGLIANO, 123rd Dist.  
REP. NUCCIO, 53rd Dist.; REP. CARPINO, 32nd Dist.

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