



Legislation 2021

Public Acts affecting the
Connecticut Department of Labor

October 2021

These legislative summaries are meant for informational purposes only and do not contain the exact language of the legislation.

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Commissioner's Note

While the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the Connecticut Department of Labor will take years to subside, like many state agencies and safety-net providers, it is with pride and determination that we approached our role of delivering financial stability to workers who lost their jobs during the pandemic. It was not easy for anyone to navigate the array of state and federal programs available during the pandemic; most of which were newly created and required extensive technical design and development to administer.

One year into the global health crisis, the Connecticut Department of Labor had received more than 1.5 million applications for unemployment; disbursed more than \$9 billion across new and existing benefits programs; and handled more than a million calls and cases through our newly established Consumer Contact Center. For the agency, these numbers represent decades of work done in just one year. For the agency's dedicated staff, these numbers represent our friends, neighbors, and community members all struggling with an unprecedented public health crisis; an economy that collapsed overnight; and a multitude of complex federal unemployment programs.

Despite these challenges, under Governor Ned Lamont's leadership, our agency has strengthened its capacity and continues to work toward recovery. This guide highlights legislative accomplishments over the year—progress that was made thanks to the Governor and our many supporters in the General Assembly. Our partners worked hand-in-hand with us to stabilize the state's Unemployment Trust Fund; protect workers across all industry sectors; improve equity and justice in employment; and expand workforce development initiatives. All of these are important steps in protecting and building our workforce, our business community, and our economy.

It has been a difficult year for all. We are hopeful that the public health situation will continue to improve; it is key to economic recovery. In the meantime, the Connecticut Department of Labor will continue to serve as a bridge to stabilization while we work to provide unemployment insurance, employment services, job training, and assistance to those who need it.



Danté Bartolomeo
Interim Labor Commissioner

Unemployment Insurance



Unemployment Insurance

[Public Act 21-5 \(House Bill 5377\): An Act Concerning the Removal of COVID-19 Related Layoffs from the Unemployment Compensation Experience Account](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

If a layoff was a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Public Act 21-5 exempts an employer's benefit charges and taxable wages between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2021 when calculating the employer's unemployment tax experience rate for taxable years starting on or after January 1, 2022. In effect, this means that the unemployment benefits paid to an employer's former employees during that period will not be charged to the employer and will not affect the employer's experience rate.

[Public Act 21-98 \(Senate Bill 904\): An Act Concerning the Executive Director of the Labor Department's Employment Security Division and Increasing the Compensation for State Board of Mediation and Arbitration Members](#)

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

This Public Act makes the Executive Director of CTDOL's Employment Security Division a member of the state employee classified service (i.e., subject to various civil service procedures and requirements) and requires the Executive Director to devote themselves full-time to the office's duties. In addition, the Act increases certain compensation amounts that State Board of Mediation and Arbitration (SBMA) members receive for each extra day of presiding over a proceeding that lasts for more than one day and serving on an executive panel session.

[Public Act 21-200 \(House Bill 6633\): An Act Restructuring Unemployment Insurance Benefits and Improving Fund Solvency](#)

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Impact to Claimants

Beginning in January 2024, this Public Act increases the minimum weekly UI benefit from \$15 to \$40, except when the federal government provides a fully federally funded supplement to individual benefit amounts. The increase in minimum weekly benefits in turn increases the minimum earnings needed to qualify for the minimum benefit from \$600 to \$1,600. This Public Act also eliminates the current exception which allows claimants to collect unemployment while receiving severance pay if they were required to forfeit a right or claim against an employer, and it prohibits claimants from receiving benefits during any week for which they received vacation pay related to identifiable weeks designated as vacation or the customary vacation period in the employer's industry. This provision does not apply to payments of accrued vacation pay that the claimant receives upon separation from employment. The definition of "separate instance" when determining "willful misconduct" in cases of employee absence is changed from one or two days to one day. As of January 1, 2025, the total unemployment benefit rate for the individual's benefit year shall not be less than the prior year. Beginning the first Sunday in October 2024, this Public Act freezes the maximum benefit allowed through October 2028.

Impact to Employers

This Public Act increases employers' taxable wage base from \$15,000 to \$25,000 per employee and requires it to be annually adjusted for inflation. It changes the definition of "experience period" to one experience year for tax year 2026 and two experience years for tax year 2027. Also, beginning in January 2024, the range of UI experience tax rates is expanded from 0.5% - 5.4% to 0.1% - 10%.

This Public Act allows that, beginning in January 2024, base period employer accounts will not be charged for shared work claims if the claim is filed in a week where the average total unemployment in the state, according to the latest three months of data published by CTDOL, equals or exceeds 6.5%. If the unemployment rate exceeds 8% in the past one month, the Labor Commissioner may determine that base period employer accounts will not be charged for shared work claims at that time as well. Starting on January 1, 2022, if the average benefit ratio of all employers within an industry sector (based on the North American Industry Classification System) increases over the prior calendar year's average by 0.01 or greater (which would increase experience rates by at least one percentage point), this Public Act requires CTDOL to adjust the benefit ratio for each employer in that sector downward by 50% of the average increase for the sector. Also, this Public Act reduces the maximum fund balance rate to 1% beginning January 1, 2024, except that during a recession the maximum fund balance rate shall be no greater than 0.5% unless doing so would jeopardize the state's access to interest-free federal advances.

[Public Act 21-2, June Special Session \(Senate Bill 1202\): An Act Concerning Provisions Related to Revenue and Other Items to Implement the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2023](#)

Section [32](#) — Establishment of the Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate

Effective Date: Upon passage

Requires the Labor Commissioner, within available appropriations, to establish the Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate within CTDOL to assist unemployed people. By October 1, 2021, it requires the Commissioner to designate an "Unemployed Workers' Advocate" to manage the office's daily activities and duties. The Advocate must have the qualifications to perform the office's duties, including expertise and experience in unemployment benefits and advocacy for unemployed people's rights.

Section [270](#) — Quarterly Reporting Requirements for Employers

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Beginning the third quarter of 2024, employers subject to the state's unemployment law are required to report certain data about each employee in their quarterly wage reports to CTDOL. Specifically, the following data for each employee must be reported: 1) gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, veteran status, disability status, and highest education completed; 2) home address and address of primary work site; 3) occupational code under the Bureau of Labor Statistics standard occupational classification system; 4) hours and days worked and salary or hourly wage; and 5) employment start date in the current job title and, if applicable, employment end date. The information is not considered a public record and is exempt from disclosure under FOIA. As under existing law, employers, or their agents, may submit a written request for a waiver at least 30 days before the report is due. The requirements do not apply to employers with 49 or fewer employees that have an electronic payroll system.

Wage & Workplace
Standards



Wage & Workplace Standards

[Public Act 21-1, June Special Session \(Senate Bill 1201\): An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult Use Cannabis](#)

Effective Date: Various

Section [22](#) & [39](#) — Social Equity Council/Workforce Development (NEW SECTION)

Effective Date: upon passage

Section 22 establishes a 15-person Social Equity Council to promote and encourage full participation in the cannabis industry by people from communities disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition and enforcement. CTDOL is not a member of the Council. However, as the Act gives the Council authority to request information and assistance from state agencies, CTDOL will likely be called upon to provide information. In addition, in consultation with CTDOL, the Council is required to recruit individuals from disproportionately harmed communities to the workforce training program established under section 39.

Section 39 provides that the Council shall, in coordination with CTDOL, develop a workforce training program to further equity goals, ensure cannabis establishments have access to a well-trained employee applicant pool, and support individuals who live in disproportionately impacted areas to find employment in the cannabis industry. Specifically, this requires: 1) consulting with establishments on an ongoing basis to assess their business' hiring needs; 2) developing a universal application for prospective workforce training program enrollees; 3) partnering with the regional Workforce Development Boards and higher education institutions to develop workforce training programs; 4) developing a series of cannabis career pathways so that workers may vertically advance their careers within the cannabis industry; 5) partnering with associated training providers to track and report performance outcomes (e.g., enrollment, completion, and placement) of participants entering a cannabis workforce training program; and 6) exploring the creation of a series of apprenticeship programs for cannabis workers across Connecticut.

Sections [86](#) - [88](#) — Clean Indoor Act/Workplace Smoking

Effective date: October 1, 2021

Section 86 makes various changes affecting the prohibition of smoking and e-cigarette use (i.e., electronic nicotine delivery systems and vapor products) in certain establishments and public areas. It generally expands the prohibition to include smoking cannabis and hemp and using electronic cannabis delivery systems (ECDS), including in restaurants, health care institutions, and state or municipal buildings. For purposes of the ban on smoking and using e-cigarettes or ECDS, "any area" of a facility, building, or establishment includes outside areas that are within 25 feet of a doorway, operable window, or air intake vent, in addition to the premise's interior. In addition, this Act eliminates existing exemptions to the smoking ban, thereby prohibiting smoking and using e-cigarettes and ECDS in smoking rooms provided by employers for employees, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) 31-40q, among other locations. The Act also provides that an area for smoking or e-cigarette use outside or within the entryway of any building, in addition to inside any building, is not required.

Section 88 amends CGS 31-40q to mirror the changes made in section 86 and affirms that the workplace smoking ban applies to smoking tobacco, cannabis, or hemp and e-cigarette use/ECDS (including cannabis). This Act does not prohibit an employer from designating the entire property on which the business facility is located, in addition to the facility itself, as a non-smoking area.

Section [97](#)

Effective Date: July 1, 2022

This section defines various terms that are used throughout sections 98 to 101. Significantly, independent contractors are included within the definition of the term “employee” in subsection (1). In addition, a listing of exempt employers (as defined by North American Classification System code numbers) is provided in subsection (3), which includes mining, some utilities, some manufacturers, some construction, educational services, transportation services, justice and safety-related activities. Subsection (4) defines “exempted positions,” which include firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), Correction Department employees who have direct contact with inmates, motor vehicle operators whose licenses are subject to federal law, supervisors or employees who care for children, and any positions subject to federal law or funded by a federal grant. Subsection (8) defines a “workplace” as the employer’s premises including the parking area under the control of the employer.

Section [98](#)

Effective Date: July 1, 2022

Subsection (a) relieves an employer of the requirement to make reasonable accommodations for an employee who uses cannabis. In addition, this subsection permits an employer to disallow any employee from being under the influence of, possessing or consuming cannabis while on the employer’s premises.

Subsection (b)(1) allows an employer to implement a policy prohibiting the possession, use or consumption of cannabis by an employee provided that the employer has an established policy that is in writing and made available to employees prior to the enactment of such a policy. Such a policy also may apply to prospective employees to whom the employer has made a conditional offer of employment.

Subsection (b)(2) prohibits an employer from taking an adverse employment action against an employee for cannabis use outside of the workplace unless the action is made pursuant to an established policy under subsection (b)(1). Moreover, adverse employment actions can be taken against prospective employees and existing employees for cannabis use outside of the workplace if failing to take such actions would place the employer in violation of a federal contract or cause it to lose federal funding.

Subsection (c) reiterates an employer’s rights to: 1) maintain a drug and alcohol-free workplace; and 2) take an adverse employment action upon establishing that the employee was subjected to reasonable suspicion testing or upon the employee manifesting articulable symptoms of drug impairment.

Subsection (d) reiterates that subsection (b) of this section does not apply to exempted employers, exempted employees or employees applying for exempted positions. It also restates that an employer can take an adverse action against an employee or rescind a conditional offer extended to a prospective employee pursuant to an established policy made available to such employees.

Section 99

Effective Date: July 1, 2022

This section prohibits an employer from taking an adverse employment action against an existing employee or a prospective employee *solely* on the basis of a positive cannabis drug test *unless*: 1) failing to do so would place the employer in violation of a federal contract or cause it to lose federal funding; 2) the employer has reasonable suspicion of an employee's usage during the performance of job duties; 3) the employee manifests specific, articulable symptoms of drug impairment while working; or 4) the employee tested positive pursuant to a random drug test in accordance with the employer's established policy which was made available to the employee pursuant to section 98(b)(1).

Section 100

Effective Date: July 1, 2022

Subsection (a) of this section provides a remedy for a violation of the cannabis statute by permitting an aggrieved person to file a civil action in Superior Court within ninety (90) days of such alleged violation.

Subsection (b) states that no cause of action may lie for: 1) an employer's actions taken based on the employer's good faith belief that an employee used or possessed cannabis during work hours on the employer's premises; 2) an employer's actions taken based on the employer's good faith belief that an employee was unfit for duty or impaired as a result of cannabis use during work hours; 3) an injury, loss or liability to a third party if the employer had no reason to know that the employee was impaired by cannabis; 4) subjecting an employee to drug testing (including fitness for duty testing) pursuant to an employer's established policy which was made available to the employee pursuant to section 98(b)(1); or 5) subjecting a prospective employee to drug testing or taking an adverse employment action (including rescission of a conditional offer of hire) against such prospective employee pursuant to an employer's established policy which was made available to the employee pursuant to section 98(b)(1).

Subsection (c) of this section provides that no employer or person who violates any provisions of sections 98 to 101 of this Act shall be liable to CTDOL for a civil penalty. In addition, CTDOL is not permitted to undertake an investigation of an employer/person based solely on an allegation that such employer/person violated the provisions of this Act.

Section 101

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

This section reiterates that sections 98 to 100 of the Act do not apply to drug testing, conditions of continued employment, or conditions for hiring pursuant to: 1) any regulation of the federal Department of Transportation requiring testing of a prospective employee pursuant to 49 CFR 40; 2) any contract entered into between the federal government and an employer or grant of assistance from the federal government that requires the drug testing of prospective employees as a condition of receiving the contract or grant; 3) any federal law, state statute or regulation that requires the drug testing of prospective employees for safety or security purposes; or 4) any applicant whose prospective employer is party to a collective bargaining agreement that specifically addresses drug testing, conditions of hiring or conditions of continued employment of such applicant.

Section [102](#) — Labor Peace Agreement (NEW SECTION)

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Section 102 requires each cannabis establishment licensee, as a condition of its final license approval, license conversion, or approval for expanded authorization, to enter into a labor peace agreement with a bona fide labor organization (i.e., a union). Under this section, a "labor peace agreement" is an agreement between a cannabis establishment and a bona fide labor organization in which the owners and management of the cannabis establishment agree not to lock out employees and the bona fide labor organization agrees to refrain from picketing, work stoppages or boycotts. Any labor peace agreement must include that final and binding arbitration by a neutral arbitrator is the exclusive remedy for any violation of the agreement. If an arbitrator then finds that a licensee failed to comply with an order issued by the arbitrator to correct a failure to abide by the agreement, then Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) must suspend the licensee's license upon receipt of a written copy of this finding without further administrative proceedings or a formal hearing.

Section [103](#) — Project Labor Agreement (NEW SECTION)

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Section 103 requires that the construction or renovation of any cannabis establishment facility of \$5 million or more have a project labor agreement (PLA) between the project contractors and subcontractors and the establishment. A PLA is an agreement between a subcontractor or contractor and a cannabis establishment that 1) binds all contractors and subcontractors on the covered project to the PLA through the inclusion of specifications in all relevant solicitation provisions and contract documents; 2) allows all contractors and subcontractors to compete for contracts and subcontracts on the project regardless of whether they are otherwise parties to collective bargaining agreements; 3) establishes uniform terms and conditions of employment for all construction labor employed on the project; 4) guarantees against strikes, lockouts, and similar job disruptions; 5) sets mutually binding procedures for resolving labor disputes arising during the PLA; and 6) includes any other provisions as negotiated by the parties to promote successful delivery of the covered project.

[Public Act 21-27 \(House Bill 5158\): An Act Concerning Breastfeeding in the Workplace](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

Existing law requires employers to make reasonable efforts to provide a room or other location near the employee's work area, other than a toilet stall, where an employee can express her milk in private during a meal or break period. Essentially, this Public Act specifies that the criteria for the employer-provided areas used by employees to express breast milk (as long as there is no undue hardship to the employer), must 1) be free from intrusion and shielded from the public while the employee expresses milk; 2) include or be near a refrigerator or employee-provided portable cold storage device in which the employee can store her breast milk; and 3) have access to an electrical outlet.

[Public Act 21-43 \(Senate Bill 999\): An Act Concerning a Just Transition to Climate Protective Energy Production and Community Investment](#)

Effective Date: Upon passage

Among other things, this Public Act requires renewable energy project developers who build a certain type of renewable energy and efficiency construction project (covered project), to now meet Connecticut's prevailing wage and standard wage laws. Construction workers on these covered projects will be paid wages and benefits at least equal to those required under the state's prevailing wage law. In addition, operations, maintenance, and security employees in any building or facility created in the project will be paid wages and benefits that are at least equal to those required under Connecticut's standard wage law. However, the prevailing wage requirement does not apply if the project is covered by a project labor agreement that meets certain requirements. Public Act 21-43 also requires the renewable energy project developers to obtain a sworn statement from any contractors and subcontractors that they have met very specific requirements. Under the Act, the developer must submit the sworn certifications to the Labor Commissioner at least 30 days before project construction begins. Some of the items in the sworn statement include a verification that they 1) have obtained all applicable trade licenses and certifications, 2) participate in registered apprenticeship training through a CTDOL or federally recognized registered apprenticeship program, 3) will follow Connecticut's prevailing wage and standard wage laws; and 4) have not misclassified and will not misclassify employees as independent contractors. If they do not meet these requirements or if the sworn statement contains false, misleading, or materially inaccurate information, the contractor or subcontractor that prepared it will face debarment.

Finally, these covered project developers must also establish a "workforce development program," such as a CTDOL or federally recognized registered apprenticeship program or, a CTDOL approved Registered Pre-Apprenticeship program, which gives employees the opportunity to develop skills that will enable them to qualify for a registered apprenticeship opportunity.

[Public Act 21-69 \(Senate Bill 56\): An Act Deterring Age Discrimination in Employment Applications](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

Under current law, individuals may file a complaint alleging discrimination with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities if they believe that they have been injured by a discriminatory practice. PA 21-69 makes it a discriminatory employment practice for employers, with at least three employees, to request or require a prospective employee's age, birth date, or school attendance or graduation dates on an initial employment application unless it is 1) for a bona fide occupational qualification or need or 2) required by state or federal law.

[Public Act 21-136 \(Senate Bill 831\): An Act Concerning Commercial Mortgage Loan Originators](#)

Effective Date: Upon passage

The Public Act excludes commercial mortgage loan originators from the state's overtime pay requirements, as they are considered to be highly compensated employees under federal regulations.

[Public Act 21-154 \(House Bill 6378\): An Act Codifying Prevailing Wage Contract Rates](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

This Public Act removes the stipulation that the Labor Commissioner hold a hearing to determine the prevailing rate of wages. Rather, the Labor Commissioner shall adopt the rate based on the stipulations of the collective bargaining agreement for the applicable trade in the town where the project will be conducted. If there is no applicable collective bargaining agreement in place, the Labor Commissioner shall adopt prevailing rates in accordance with those set by the US Secretary of Labor. Member benefits such as health care and pensions are added to the payments and contributions to the employee welfare funds, the amount of which shall be adopted by the Labor Commissioner, following the aforementioned stipulations.

[Public Act 21-189 \(Senate Bill 658\): An Act Requiring Employers to Recall Certain Laid-Off Workers in Order of Seniority](#)

Effective Date: Upon Passage

The Public Act requires certain employers to recall certain laid-off workers in order of seniority. As part of this law, employers are required to submit to CTDOL an affidavit stating the reasons for laying off an employee. CTDOL will maintain these affidavits but does not otherwise have any enforcement authority.

[Public Act 21-2, June Special Session \(Senate Bill 1202\): An Act Concerning Provisions Related to Revenue and Other Items to Implement the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2023](#)

[Sections 3-5 — Domestic Workers' Protections](#)

Effective Date: Various

Broadens the categories of written information that employers must provide to certain domestic workers when they are hired about 1) their job duties and responsibilities; 2) the availability of sick leave, rest days, vacation, personal days, and holidays, whether paid or unpaid, and the accrual rate of those days; 3) whether the employer may charge fees or costs for board and lodging and, if so, their amount; and 4) how to file a complaint about a violation of the worker's rights. The Act also requires the Labor Commissioner to establish a domestic workers' education and training grant program to provide grants to qualified organizations to, among other things, educate domestic workers about various labor laws.

[Section 6 — Call Center Notice Requirements](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

Establishes a notice requirement for call centers that relocate from Connecticut to another country to notify the Labor Commissioner at least 100 days before doing so. Violators of the notice requirement will be subjected to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per day for each violation but allows the Labor Commissioner to reduce the penalty for just cause. The Labor Commissioner must compile an annual list of each call center whose relocation was subject to the notice requirement and then make the list

publicly available and prominently display a link to it on the Department of Labor website. Among other things, the call center will be ineligible for direct or indirect state grants, state guaranteed loans, state tax benefits, or other state financial support for five years. “Call centers” are facilities or operations through which employees receive phone calls or electronic communications to provide customer assistance or service.

[Sections 275-276](#) — **Paid Family and Medical Leave Appeals**

Effective Date: Upon passage

Appeals of the denial of paid family and medical leave benefits or the imposition of certain anti-fraud penalties must be filed within 21 days after issuance of the denial or penalty decision. Upon the filing of an appeal, the Labor Commissioner or her/his designee is no longer required to hold a hearing. It is within the Labor Commissioner’s discretion to make a decision on the record or hold a hearing.

[Sections 277-278](#) — **The State as an Employer Under CT FMLA**

Effective Date: Upon passage

Removes a provision in current law that excludes the State of Connecticut from being an employer covered by the state’s Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

[Sections 279-281](#) — **CT FMLA Hearings**

Effective Date: Upon passage

The Labor Commissioner, or her/his designee, is no longer required to hold a hearing for all complaints filed with the Labor Commissioner alleging violation of the state’s FMLA law. Rather, the Labor Commissioner will first investigate and make a finding about jurisdiction and whether a violation occurred before proceeding. If the Labor Commissioner finds that the agency has no jurisdiction or no violation occurred, the Labor Commissioner will dismiss the complaint and issue a release of jurisdiction that allows the complainant to bring a civil action in Superior Court. If the Labor Commissioner finds that the agency has jurisdiction and a violation has occurred, a mandatory settlement conference with the parties will be held and, if no settlement is reached, a hearing officer will be designated to hold a hearing and render a final decision. In addition, complainants can go directly to court and are no longer required to first exhaust administrative remedies.

Workforce Development



Workforce Development

[Public Act 21-45 \(Senate Bill 998\): An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Office of Higher Education Regarding Private Occupational Schools and Closure Plans of Institutions of Higher Education](#)

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Public Act 21-45 requires out-of-state private occupational schools, such as the National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement (NIMAA), seeking to operate distance learning programs in Connecticut to follow an application process and standards established by the Office of Higher Education (OHE). This greatly expands the number of training providers that are available to provide new educational and workforce opportunities for Connecticut's residents as we emerge from the pandemic.

[Public Act No. 21-79 \(House Bill 5592\): An Act Redefining "Veteran" and Establishing a Qualifying Review Board](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

This Public Act expands the definition of "veteran" to include those released with an other-than-honorable (OTH) discharge based on specified qualifying conditions and applies this new definition across veterans benefit programs. Other-than-honorable discharges now incorporated into the general definition of veteran are those with a qualifying condition (i.e., a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury or a disclosed military sexual trauma) or a determination that sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression was more likely than not the primary reason for the OTH discharge. The law establishes a Qualifying Review Board to determine whether the veteran's discharge meets the new criteria.

[Public Act 21-141 \(Senate Bill 903\): An Act Concerning the Labor Department's Recommended Changes to Statutes Concerning Apprenticeships and Other Labor Statutes](#)

Effective Date: Sections 1-8 and 12, Upon Passage; Sections 9-11, October 1, 2021

This Public Act is CTDOL's technical bill for this legislative session. It amends several statutes to set forth appropriate time frames for economic forecasting from 30 years to 10 years; replaces references to the repealed federal Job Training Partnership Act and replaces with current law the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and programmatic changes that have been made under WIOA. It further repeals requirements for one-time programs and reports that are now moot.

The Act also amends statutes to clarify the definition of "apprentice" and adds a definition of "pre-apprentice" that mirrors statutory changes made to CGS sec. 31-23 in the 2018 legislative session. In addition, it corrects the provision that apprentices are registered with the Connecticut State Apprenticeship Council as this is not accurate. Instead, the new language accurately reflects that apprentices are registered with the Labor Department and that the Connecticut State Apprenticeship Council recommends rather than adopts standards for apprenticeship and related instruction, as well as policies for effective administration of the apprenticeship statutes.

The Act further amends the unemployment insurance statute regarding the earnings period to use for claimants who have been absent from work due to workers' compensation injury or approved medical leave. This change ensures alignment with the agency's unemployment insurance information technology modernization project. Finally, the Act repeals the Connecticut Low Wage Employer Advisory Board as it issued its final report and is now obsolete.

[Public Act 21-152 \(House Bill 6449\): An Act Expanding Economic Opportunity in Occupations Licensed by the Departments of Public Health and Consumer Protection and Requiring a Report from Certain Executive Branch Agencies Regarding Background Checks and the Feasibility of Establishing Preclearance Assessments of Criminal History](#)

Effective Date: Sections 1, 4-6, October 1, 2021

The Public Act generally makes it easier for health care professionals as well as various tradespeople and other professionals licensed in other states to obtain a Connecticut credential if they reside here. These licenses issued by the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) include licenses for spouses of an active-duty service member permanently stationed here, if that person meets specified experience and background requirements (e.g., has no disciplinary history). This authority applies to electricians; plumbers; solar, heating, piping, and cooling contractors and journeymen; elevator and fire protection sprinkler craftsmen; irrigation contractors and journeymen; gas hearth installer contractors and journeymen; and residential stair lift technicians. The Act also allows DPH or DCP, as applicable, to deny a credential if the Commissioner finds it to be in the state's best interest.

[Public Act 21-197 \(Senate Bill 266\): An Act Concerning Requirements for Home Construction Contractors and Home Improvement Contractors and Salespersons, Exempting Certain Persons from Locksmith Registration Requirements and Expanding the Applicability of the Small Claims Procedure](#)

Effective Date: Upon Passage

The Public Act ([section 11](#)) allows limited license holders to continue to carry that license while being registered as an apprentice in another licensed category. For purposes of the hiring ratio for certain apprenticeable trades, limited license holders count as journeypersons or contractors if they are working as such when enrolled in an unlimited license apprenticeship program. In addition, the limited license of unlimited category registered apprentices cannot be used to calculate the number of apprentices that the unlimited contractor may hire under the hiring ratio.

[Public Act 21-2, June Special Session \(Senate Bill 1202\): An Act Concerning Provisions Related to Revenue and Other Items to Implement the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2023](#)

Sections [203](#) & [251-252](#) — Office of Workforce Strategy

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Eliminates the Office of Workforce Competitiveness (OWC) within CTDOL and replaces it with the new Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS), which is within the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes only. Establishes the position of Chief Workforce Officer as a department head for OWS who must have knowledge of publicly funded workforce training programs and must possess the necessary training and experience to perform newly assigned statutory duties. Under current law, the Labor Commissioner, with OWC's assistance, serves as the Governor's principal workforce development policy advisor and the liaison with local, state, and federal workforce development agencies. As such, the Labor Commissioner coordinated 1) the state's implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) and 2) the workforce development activities of state agencies. This Act transfers those functions and duties to the Chief Workforce Officer, designating him or her as the 1) lead state official for developing employment and training strategies and initiatives and (2) Governor's principal advisor for workforce development policy, strategy, and coordination. Specifically, the Chief Workforce Officer must coordinate the state's role in the implementation of WIOA on behalf of the Governor and the Governor's Workforce Council (previously the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (CETC)), and in consultation with the Labor Commissioner, who must offer any resources she/he can make available for this purpose. OWS must provide staff support to the Governor's Workforce Council. Among other things, the Chief Workforce Officer must develop a state workforce strategy and update it as necessary. The Chief Workforce Officer must: 1) issue guidance to state agencies, the Governor's Workforce Council, and regional Workforce Development Boards to further the state workforce strategy and the Council's workforce development plan, which must be approved by the OPM secretary. The current requirement that CTDOL annually report to the legislature on its two- and five-year forecast of workforce shortages by occupation is repealed.

Section [204](#) — State Workforce Strategy Updates

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires the Chief Workforce Officer, by January 1, 2022, to submit to the Governor recommendations for updates to the state workforce strategy relating to certain individuals' needs, including those who are disabled; those who have a criminal background or were recently incarcerated; veterans; and the long-term unemployed.

Section [205](#) — Office of Workforce Strategy Account

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Establishes a new OWS account in the General Fund to fund workforce training programs and the office's administrative expenses and requires the Chief Workforce Officer to report to the legislature and governor on these programs and the individuals they served. The Chief Workforce Officer must consult with the Labor Commissioner and regional Workforce Development Boards to 1) ensure that participants in any workforce training program funded through the OWS account also enroll in

additional workforce development programs to minimize duplication and 2) establish funding eligibility criteria for workforce training programs to meet workforce needs.

Section [206](#) — Credentials of Value

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires OWS to establish standards for “credentials of value” in consultation with the Chief Data Officer, UConn Board of Trustees, Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR), CTDOLE and Education Commissioners, Office of Higher Education (OHE) Executive Director, or any other stakeholder identified by the Chief Workforce Officer. These standards may include: 1) meeting the workforce needs of Connecticut’s employers; 2) completion rates; 3) net cost; 4) whether the credential transfers to or stacks onto another credential of value; 5) average time to completion, and 6) types of employment opportunities and earnings available upon completion.

Section [207](#) — Credentials and Skills Report

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires the Chief Workforce Officer to submit a biennial report on certain credentials, skills, and associate degree programs to the Governor, BOR, and the Legislature, starting September 1, 2022.

Section [208](#) — Connecticut Apprenticeship and Education Committee

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Makes the committee’s annual reporting requirement under current law optional and adds an OWS representative to the committee’s membership. This report addresses whether current apprenticeship training programs for Connecticut residents are meeting workforce needs.

Section [209](#) — Technical Education and Career System Board

Effective Date: July 1, 2022

Adds the OWS Chief Workforce Officer to the eleven-member board that advises the state’s Technical Education and Career System, the state’s public high schools for vocational-technical education.

Section [210](#) — Employment Services for TANF Recipients

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Removes Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (CETC) as an optional administration and services provider for contracts for the delivery of employment services for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients.

Sections [211](#), [214-215](#) & [224](#) — Creation of Governor’s Workforce Council

Effective Date: July 1, 2021, with the provisions establishing the Council’s membership taking effect on October 1, 2021

Codifies the Governor’s Workforce Council as the successor to the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (CETC), which aligns the statutes to Governor Lamont’s Executive Order No. 4, signed on October 29, 2019. This executive order required CETC to also be known as the Governor’s Workforce Council and, among other things, designated the Council as the Governor’s principal advisor

on workforce development issues. The Council is located within the Office of Workforce Strategy for administrative purposes only, rather than within CTDOL, and specifies that the Council must carry out the duties and responsibilities of a state workforce board pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act along with related responsibilities the Governor may direct. Establishes that the Governor's Workforce Council's membership must meet at least quarterly each year.

Sections [212 & 213](#) — Labor Commissioner's Powers and Duties

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Removes certain employment-related statistical reporting requirements from the Labor Commissioner's report to the Governor and removes certain powers and duties related to employment training programs. Specifically, it removes the requirements that the Labor Commissioner do the following: 1) administer the coordination of all employment training programs in the state; 2) implement the CETC plan; 3) develop and maintain a comprehensive inventory of all Connecticut employment and training programs; 4) provide staff and other resources to CETC as she/he can make available; 5) appoint a job training coordinator to develop and implement programs to provide job training, an incentive to establish apprentice programs in selected occupations, and work training and placement for the chronically unemployed; and 6) establish an interagency program coordinating committee to coordinate the application of all available resources for the job training coordinator's initiatives.

Sections [216-222 & 283](#) — REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Makes several changes to laws on regional Workforce Development Boards, such as requiring regional Workforce Development Boards when undertaking various responsibilities to act in accordance with 1) the Governor's Workforce Council's workforce development plan; 2) the Chief Workforce Officer's state workforce strategy; and 3) any guidance issued by the Chief Workforce Officer or the Labor Commissioner. Additionally, requires a regional Workforce Development Board to be the lead agency for any local workforce development initiative. Requires boards to submit to the Labor Commissioner, Chief Workforce Officer, or Governor's Workforce Council information that the Commissioner, Officer, or Council deems essential for effective state planning. Requires the Chief Workforce Officer, jointly with the Labor Commissioner and Governor's Workforce Council, to facilitate communication and information exchange between the boards and state agencies involved in employment and training; current law requires the Labor Commissioner to do this. Allows, rather than requires, the Labor Commissioner to adopt regulations to carry out the laws on regional Workforce Development Boards; if the Labor Commissioner adopts these regulations, they must consult with the Chief Workforce Officer and the Governor's Workforce Council when doing so.

Section [223](#) — Statewide Network of Job Centers

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires CTDOL, within available resources, to 1) participate in, rather than maintain, a statewide network of job centers and 2) consult and collaborate with the Chief Workforce Officer when undertaking related responsibilities.

Section [225](#) — Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Funds

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Limits the amount of the state’s Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) allotment that the Governor may reserve for statewide investment activities and eliminates some provisions in current law specifying how WIOA funds must be used. Requires the Chief Workforce Officer to annually report to the Connecticut General Assembly’s Appropriations Committee on how the reserved funds will be used and whether any changes are made in how they will be used.

Section [226](#) — Statewide Workforce Development Board

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Recognizes the Governor's Workforce Council, rather than CETC, as the statewide Workforce Development Board for WIOA purposes.

Section [227](#) — State Workforce Development Plan

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires the Governor’s Workforce Development Council to develop a four-year state workforce development plan that meets WIOA requirements. The Council must do so with the Labor Commissioner’s assistance and in consultation with the regional Workforce Development Boards.

Section [228](#) — Adult Workforce Development Activity Funds

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires the Governor’s Workforce Council, rather than CETC, to annually recommend WIOA fund appropriations for adult workforce development activities to the Governor. Moves the annual reporting date to October 1 and eliminates 1) the requirement that recommendations also be made to the legislature and 2) specified subjects that the recommendation must address (e.g., underemployed, and at-risk workers).

Section [229](#) — TECS and CTC Alignment with Business and Industry

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires the Technical and Career Education System (TECS) board, in consultation with the Chief Workforce Officer; the Commissioners of Education, Economic and Community Development, Labor, and Social Services; OPM Secretary; Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) President; and one member of industry from each Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) identified economic cluster to review, evaluate, and recommend improvements for certificate and degree programs at the TECS schools and regional community-technical colleges (CTCs) to, among other things, make sure they meet business and industry’s employment needs.

Section [230](#) — Council of Advisors on Strategies for the Knowledge Economy

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Adds the Chief Workforce Officer to the Council of Advisors on Strategies for the Knowledge Economy. The Council must promote the formation of university-industry partnerships and identify benchmarks for technology-based workforce innovation and competitiveness.

Section [231](#) — Integrated System of Statewide Industry Advisory Committees

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires the TECS board, in consultation with the Labor Commissioner, to create an integrated system of statewide industry advisory committees for each career cluster offered as part of TECS and the CTC system. Under current law, the Labor Commissioner had to do this, in consultation with the TECS superintendent and with assistance from OWC by October 1, 2012.

Sections [232-233](#) & [235-237](#) — OWS Duties Transfer

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Among other things, this Act transfers from the Labor Commissioner and OWC to the OWS Chief Workforce Officer the duty to identify state workforce shortage areas to inform academic offerings to students and makes OWS, rather than OWC, responsible for establishing and updating the career ladder for jobs in the green technology industry.

Section [234](#) — Early Childhood Preservice and Minimum Training Requirements

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires OWS and the Office of Early Childhood, along with CTDOL, and other entities and individuals under current law, to consult with the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities president to define early childhood preservice and minimum training requirements.

Sections [238-243](#) — Chief Workforce Officer Placement on Boards

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Adds the state Chief Workforce Officer to six existing state boards or commissions including: (1) State Apprenticeship Council; (2) State Board of Education (SBE); (3) Education Commission of the States; (4) Board of Regents (BOR); (5) New England Board of Higher Education; and (6) Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (CHESLA).

Section [244-246](#) — OWS Membership on Committees and Boards

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Adds OWS to the membership of various economic development committees and boards including (1) DECD's Technology Talent Advisory Committee; (2) the Manufacturing Innovation Advisory Board; and (3) the CTNext board of directors as an ex-officio member.

Section 247 — Municipal Redevelopment Authority Assistance

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires businesses that receive assistance from the Municipal Redevelopment Authority (MRDA) to enter into an agreement with OWS, rather than the repealed Workforce Training Authority, for assistance with the training and recruitment of local employees.

Section 248 — Military to Machinists Program Funding

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Removes Workforce Training Authority Fund expenditures as a program funding source.

Section 249 — Apprenticeship Connecticut Initiative

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Makes changes to CTDOL's administration of the Apprenticeship Connecticut Initiative (ACI), including the Request for Proposals (RFP) timing, proposal requirements, and selection and funding requirements. The ACI develops workforce pipeline initiatives to train qualified entry-level workers for job placement with manufacturers and other industry sectors experiencing workforce shortages. The Labor Commissioner must review all qualifying responses to the RFP using the Governor's approved state workforce strategy and any guidance from OWS's Chief Workforce Officer.

Section 250 — Connecticut Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Makes several changes to the Connecticut Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network (CP20 WIN) data sharing agreement for participating agencies. Among other things it, (1) adds OWS's Chief Workforce Officer or his/her designee to CP20 WIN's executive board and (2) requires OWS's Chief Workforce Officer, in consultation with the Chief Data Officer and Labor Commissioner, to annually submit to CP20 WIN's administrator beginning by January 1, 2022, request for data and analysis to assess performance and outcomes of the state's workforce system.

Section 252 — DECD (Department of Economic and Community Development) Bonding Funds

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Removes the \$5.25 million cap on the amount of bond money that DECD may allocate to the Labor Commissioner to assist employers with job training or retraining current employees or prospective employees in newly created jobs, including meeting ISO 9000 quality standards.

Section 255 — FY 22-23 Appropriation For OWS

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Rescinds appropriations to DECD for OWS and replaces them with appropriations to the Governor's Office for OWS. The biennial budget bill appropriates \$250,000 to DECD in both Fiscal Years (FYs) 22 and 23 for OWS.

Section [256](#) — OWS Expenditure of ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Allows OWS to expend ARPA funds to support workforce development initiatives.

Section [259](#) — CTPASS Program

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) Commissioner to establish the CTpass program to allow certain individuals of eligible organizations to use specified public transit services for free or at a reduced cost by January 1, 2022. These eligible organizations include: (1) a training program listed on the Department of Labor’s Eligible Training Provider List; (2) an apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship program sponsor; (3) a State Board of Education (SBE)-approved alternate route to certification (ARC) program provider; (4) a higher education institution; (5) a private occupational school; (6) an employer; (7) a state or municipal agency; and (8) a public or nonprofit social service provider.

Section [260](#) — Education Assistance Programs Notification

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Requires certain Connecticut employers with 100 or more employees to notify their employees who live in the state about education assistance programs they may offer by December 1, 2021, and annually for the next three years. The DECD Commissioner is required to make information and resources about these programs available to employers. Employees are prohibited from having a cause of action against an employer for not offering this type of program or for failing to notify employees about the program.



Opportunity and Fairness

Opportunity & Fairness

[Public Act 21-25 \(Senate Bill 908\): An Act Concerning Access to Certain Public Employees by the Exclusive Bargaining Representative of a Public Employer Bargaining Unit](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

This Public Act provides guidelines for public employers (i.e., the state, municipalities, and local or regional boards of education) regarding the rights of their employees to join or remain members of a union. In addition, it establishes requirements for public employers to provide public employee unions with (1) certain information about new and current employees; (2) access to new employee orientations; and (3) access to (a) the employees that they represent and (b) government buildings and facilities to conduct meetings with bargaining unit members. This Public Act also specifies that an arbitration over new employee orientations must follow the applicable arbitration procedure already in statute, rather than any procedure prescribed in law.

[Public Act 21-30 \(House Bill 6380\): An Act Concerning the Disclosure of Salary Range for a Vacant Position](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

This Public Act defines “wage range” and requires employers to provide job applicants and employees with the wage range for their positions at the time of hire, promotion or upon request. This Public Act additionally updates the statutory language regarding gender wage discrimination by requiring employers to provide equal pay for “comparable,” rather than “equal” work.

[Public Act 21-32 \(Senate Bill 1019\): An Act Concerning the Board of Pardons and Paroles, Erasure of Criminal Records for Certain Misdemeanor and Felony Offenses, Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Erased Criminal History Record Information and Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission with Respect to Misdemeanor Sentences](#)

Effective Date: Various

This Public Act establishes a process to erase records of certain criminal convictions after a specified period following the person’s most recent conviction. The Act prohibits discrimination based on someone’s erased criminal history in housing, employment, public accommodations, credit, and state agency services. The Act also allows individuals to file housing and employment discrimination complaints with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO), effective January 1, 2023.

Existing law already prevents employers from taking various actions in relation to job applicants’ or employees’ criminal history or erased criminal records. Under current law, an applicant or employee allegedly aggrieved by a violation of these laws may file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner. This Act specifies that some violations can be discriminatory employment practices under CHRO’s jurisdiction. It allows allegedly aggrieved individuals to file a (1) CHRO complaint or (2) lawsuit for declaratory or injunctive relief, damages, or any other remedy allowed by law. The Act also prohibits employers with at least one employee, including the state or municipal employers, from discriminating

against someone in pay or employment terms/conditions, based on the person's erased criminal history record information.

Finally, starting October 1, 2021, this Act prohibits several types of discrimination by state agencies regarding erased criminal history record information. Among other things, the Act: (1) requires state officials to recruit, appoint, assign, train, evaluate, and promote state personnel based on merit and qualifications, without taking an applicant's erased criminal history record information into account; (2) prohibits state departments, boards, or agencies (with some exceptions) from granting, denying, or revoking a person's license because of erased criminal history record information; and (3) requires all educational, vocational guidance programs and all apprenticeship and on-the-job training programs of state agencies, or in which they participate, to be open to all qualified people, without taking erased criminal history record information into account.

[Public Act 21-49 \(Senate Bill 883\): An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Governor's Council on Women and Girls](#)

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

This Public Act requires appointing authorities for state boards, commissions, committee, and councils with members appointed by the Governor or legislators, to, among other things, ensure that the membership is qualified and diverse and closely reflects the state's gender and racial diversity, consistent with applicable law, by January 1, 2026.

[Public Act 21-171 \(House Bill 6558\): An Act Concerning Issue Relating to the Provision of Early Childhood Education and Services in Connecticut](#)

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

This Public Act expands eligibility for the Care 4 Kids childcare subsidies program to include people enrolled or participating in apprenticeships and workforce training programs and requires the Office of Early Childhood to include those individuals in their priority intake policy. Expanded eligibility is only applicable provided federal COVID related funding is available to fund the subsidies.

[Public Act 21-188 \(Senate Bill 3\): An Act Concerning Diverse Economic Opportunity, Worker Protections and Small Business Revitalization](#)

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

This Public Act ([section 2](#)) requires the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to prioritize applicants for economic development financial assistance that demonstrate a willingness to make jobs available to certain individuals. These individuals include the unemployed, low-income individuals, dislocated workers, individuals training for nontraditional employment, veterans, minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities, to the extent consistent with any state or regional economic development strategy.

A black and white photograph of two industrial workers in a factory. The workers are wearing hard hats and safety vests. One worker is holding a large metal chain hook, and the other is adjusting it. They are standing on a metal platform. The background shows the complex structure of the factory with pipes and lights.

Other Public Acts

Other Public Acts

[Public Act 21-2, June Special Session \(Senate Bill 1202\): An Act Concerning Provisions Related to Revenue and Other Items to Implement the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2023](#)

Sections [147](#) & [149](#) — Public Agency Meetings Using Electronic Equipment

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Authorizes public agencies to conduct meetings using electronic equipment until April 30, 2022 and establishes requirements and procedures for doing so under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The Act further establishes conditions under which a public agency may resume an interrupted meeting being held by electronic equipment.

Sections [148](#), [150](#) & [151](#) — Electronic Meeting Notices and Postings

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Allows public agencies to provide meeting notice by electronic transmission. Under current law, agencies must provide the notice by mail. Also requires agencies to post certain notices of adjournment on their websites. Existing law requires public agencies, when a meeting is adjourned because all members are absent, to post a notice of adjournment on or near the door of the meeting's location. The Act requires agencies to also post this notice on their websites, if applicable.

Sections [152](#) & [153](#) — Orderly Conduct at Meetings

Effective Date: Upon passage for town meetings and July 1, 2021, for the FOIA provisions

Allows public agencies and town meetings to deny disorderly individuals access to meetings by electronic equipment. Under current law, FOIA allows a public agency's members, when order cannot be restored by removing disorderly individuals, to order the room cleared before continuing with the meeting.

Section [190](#) — State Agency Purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Effective Date: Upon passage

Requires state agencies, when purchasing PPE, to make reasonable efforts to purchase at least 25% of it from the list of Connecticut companies compiled by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Commissioner who changed their business model to produce PPE to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Section [271](#) — Data Sharing Agreements

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Allows any office, department, board, commission, or public higher education institution to enter into a data sharing agreement with one or more individuals or organizations regarding sharing data from (1) tax return information for research or CP20 WIN data requests; (2) employers' quarterly filings with

CTDOL; or (3) student and trainee data from private occupational schools and certain postsecondary training providers. The agreement must be considered a public record, and it must not release any information that may endanger data security or safety.

Section 493 — Repealer Section

Effective Date: Upon passage

Repeals law that requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) and CTDOL Commissioners to implement a pilot program for people receiving temporary family assistance program benefits and participating in the Jobs First program.

Section 494 — Additional Repealer Sections

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Repeals the following laws relating to the Workforce Training Authority; workforce programs; and the duties of CTDOL, the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, and the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission:

- **CGS § 4-124tt** - permitting the Office of Workforce Competitiveness to establish a pilot program providing access to employment training to certain people with dependent minors;
- **CGS § 4-124vv** - requiring the Department of Labor to fund Connecticut Career Choices;
- **CGS § 31- 2d** - establishing the force and effect of any Office of Workforce Competitiveness orders or regulations as CTDOL orders or regulations;
- **CGS § 31-3a** - establishing CTDOL manpower development and planning studies and programs;
- **CGS § 31-3c** - requiring the Labor Commissioner to establish a customized job training program for preemployment and postemployment job training to meet manufacturing or economic base businesses' labor requirements;
- **CGS § 31-3g** - requiring the Labor Commissioner to assist displaced homemakers and give them access to programs specific to their job training and placement needs;
- **CGS § 31-3p** - establishing procedures for instances where a grant proposal to a state agency involved in employment and training is inconsistent with a regional Workforce Development Board's annual regional plan;
- **CGS § 31-3q** - requiring all state employment and training programs to be consistent with any guidelines issued by the Labor Commissioner and the annual state employment and training coordination plan developed by the CETC, which the bill eliminates;
- **CGS § 31-3u** - permitting the DECD Commissioner to allocate funds for the Labor Commissioner to provide to employers for job training or retraining assistance for current or prospective employees in meeting ISO 9000 quality standards;
- **CGS § 31-3dd, CGS § 31-3ii, CGS § 31-3oo, CGS § 31-3yy, CGS § 31-11q, CGS § 31-11r, CGS § 31-11t & CGS § 31-11ff** - establishing CETC duties and responsibilities;

- **CGS § 31-3ff** - making obsolete technical changes to FY 00 payments from the Job Training Partnership Act;
- **CGS § 31-11gg** - making technical changes to federal workforce laws referenced in state statute; and,
- **CGS § 31-11hh, CGS § 31-11ii & CGS § 31-11jj** - establishing definitions and duties related to the Workforce Training Authority and its fund.