



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2024 Session
Document Name: AAC DECD

Document Name	AAC DECD
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Naming Format: AGENCY ACRONYM PROPOSAL NUMBER - TOPIC

Please insert a copy of the fully drafted bill at the end of this document (required for review)

Legislative Liaison	Katie Stargardter
Division Requesting This Proposal	Office of the Arts, Office of Business Development, Office of Community Development, Legal
Drafter	Katie Stargardter, Matt Pugliese, Chris Kurker-Stewart

Title of Proposal	An Act Concerning the Department of Economic and Community Development
Statutory Reference, if any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1-4: Enacting legislation: PA 14-98 Sec. 9 and 15, Continuing funding: PA 17-2, JSS, Sec. 408 (c) (1), PA-21-111 Sec. 32 (c) (5) • Section 5: 32-7t • Section 6: 32-285a; • Section 7: CGS 4-66c;
Brief Summary and Statement of Purpose	Technical Changes

SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

Summarize sections in groups where appropriate



Technical Changes

- Sections 1-4: Allows museums owned by the tribal nations to qualify for the Good to Great program by incorporating them into the Public Acts that fund the Good to Great program.
- Section 5: Update JobsCT program in 4 ways:
 - Changes the look-back comparison date for the definition of “new FTEs” from jobs that existed prior the fixed date of January 1, 2020, to a rolling 2-year lookback. The intent of this component was to exclude jobs that were rehired after being cut during the pandemic. However, having a fixed date is beginning to cause implementation problems as we get further from the date, which is why we are requesting this change.
 - Changes the definition of a “qualified FTE” by changing the minimum qualifying wage from a fixed number (\$37,500) to 120% of the minimum wage (which is how the number \$37,500 was calculated at time of drafting of legislation). This will allow eligibility to increase with the minimum wage over time, ensuring program fairness. Additionally, this bill adds an eligibility criteria for businesses creating jobs in towns adjacent to towns with lower median household incomes, by accepting businesses who offer income of 100% median household income of an adjacent municipality or 100% of statewide median income, whichever is higher. This will provide needed flexibility for businesses locating in regions/areas with lower household incomes.
 - Adds commissioner discretion when the business commits to fulfilling an additional requirement equivalent in some way to the requirement that the business did not meet, as determined by the commissioner. This provision will provide limited flexibility for businesses who may be close to qualifying for the program if not for one requirement, by allowing them to make up for it by going above and beyond on another requirement.
 - Changes to JobsCT to administer program to individuals with an intellectual disability.
- Section 6: The bill updates Community Investment Fund (CIF) language to align with current operating practices by removing reference to the revolving loan portion of program. This portion is duplicative of the [Connecticut Small Business Boost Fund](#), which is being administered by experts in supporting small businesses.
- Section 7: Modifies section (d) of the Urban Act statutes to conform with current practice.



BACKGROUND

Origin of Proposal New Proposal Resubmission

If this is a resubmission, please share the prior bill number, the reason the bill did not move forward, and any changes made or conversations had since it was last proposed:

Please consider the following, if applicable:

How does this proposal connect to the 10-year vision for the agency’s mission?	Section 5: JobsCT is a key business incentive tool used by the state to incentivize businesses to add more jobs in Connecticut, consistent with the agency’s mission.
How will we measure if the proposal successfully accomplishes its goals?	Section 5: An increase in the number of jobs in the state.
Have there been changes in federal/state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?	Section 5: PA 23-137 sec. 61.
Has this proposal or a similar proposal been	N/A



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implemented in other states? If yes, to what result?	
Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?	Sections 1-4: Tribal Museums have requested this change

INTERAGENCY IMPACT

List each affected agency. Copy the table as needed.

[X] Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Section 8

1. Agency Name	OPM
Agency Contact (name, title)	Danielle Palladino, Policy Development Coordinator
Date Contacted	2023-09-26
Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Talks Ongoing
Open Issues, if any	

FISCAL IMPACT

Include the section number(s) responsible for the fiscal impact and the anticipated impact

[] Check here if this proposal does NOT have a fiscal impact

State	Section 5: These changes could result in additional tax credits issued by allowing more business to qualify for the program, but the rebates issued will be more than offset by the net new jobs created (and corresponding tax revenue generated) as a result of this program.
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Municipal (Include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation)	
Federal	
Additional notes	

MONITORING & EVALUATION PLAN

If applicable, please describe the anticipated measurable outcomes and the data that will be used to track those outcomes. Include the section number(s) responsible for those outcomes

[] Check here if this proposal does NOT lead to any measurable outcomes

Section 5: No changes to measuring outcomes; the program will continue to collect data and report outcomes as currently prescribed in the law.

ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD KNOW?

Section 5: allows for administration of legislative intent of changes made in [PA 23-137](#) sec. 61. These changes will also prevent a company from receiving an excessive amount for hiring on individual with an intellectual disability. In addition, JobsCT is a 7-year program and it may be challenging for a company to project how many, if any, individuals with an intellectual disability they may hire in year 1, and DECD needs to project and allocate the rebate amount for each year. Consistent with the legislative intent, this change would allow for an alternative structure for companies hiring individuals with an intellectual disability to be measured each year. For each individual, the company would receive an additional rebate of 25% of the individual’s yearly salary. Companies would be eligible for this additional rebate if they hire and maintain at least 15 FTE, as long as one of those FTEs is an individual with an intellectual disability.

Section 7: DECD selects the start date for Urban Act projects to match the date the Bond Commission approved funding. This date, however, can be long before a proposal is actually approved and signed off on by the commissioner. Up until recently, this has not been an issue, and we’ve cited the corresponding start date in our budgets and assistance



agreements. As a result, we regularly allow applicants to seek reimbursement of up-front costs (ie architectural drawings or renderings) that were incurred prior to the proposal being signed off on, but were part of the initial project development. Often, significant time can elapse from the Bond Commission approval date to proposal being approved. OAG recently highlighted this after looking at an assistance agreement sent in for approval by outside counsel. OAG is of the opinion that the statute does not allow us to approve or reimburse expenses prior to a signed proposal. We have explored this issue internally at DECD and with OPM. Our position is that we do not have much latitude on Urban Act files referred to us by OPM, as they are specifically vetted and prescribed prior to reaching DECD – we aren’t always able to say what costs are or aren’t eligible.

This is ultimately problematic because Urban Act recipients have long operated with the understanding that pre-proposal costs are not prohibited from projects as long as they are reflected appropriately. A review of the statutory history seems to indicate this was just a mismatched edit, as it used to be tied to the Department of Economic Development prior to becoming lowercase “economic development.” Looking ahead, we are wary of encountering a recipient who thought certain early costs would be covered and we have to tell them otherwise. This fix allows the commissioner to set parameters in line with current and historical practice and reflects the way Urban Act grants have long been administered.

INSERT FULLY DRAFTED BILL HERE

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 9 of public act 14-98 is amended to read as follows
(*Effective from passage*):

(e) For the Department of Economic and Community Development:

(3) Grants-in-aid to nonprofit organizations and federally-recognized or state-recognized tribes sponsoring cultural and historic sites, not exceeding \$ 10,000,000;



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Section 2. Section 15 of public act 14-98 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

In the case of any grant-in-aid made pursuant to section 9 of this act that is made to any entity which is not a political subdivision of the state, the contract entered into pursuant to section 14 of this act shall provide that if the premises for which such grant-in-aid was made cease, within ten years of the date of such grant, to be used as a facility for which such grant was made, an amount equal to the amount of such grant, minus ten per cent per year for each full year which has elapsed since the date of such grant, shall be repaid to the state and that a lien shall be placed on such land in favor of the state to ensure that such amount shall be repaid in the event of such change in use, provided if the premises for which such grant-in-aid was made are owned by the state, [a federally-recognized or state-recognized tribe](#), a municipality or a housing authority, no lien need be placed.

Section 3. Subsection (c)(1) of section 408 of public act 14-98 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

- (1) Grants-in-aid to nonprofit organizations [and federally-recognized or state-recognized tribes](#) sponsoring cultural and historic sites, not exceeding \$ 2,500,000;

Section 4. Subsection (c)(5) of section 32 of public act 21-111 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

- (5) Grants-in-aid to nonprofit organizations [and federally-recognized or state-recognized tribes](#) operating cultural and historic sites, not exceeding \$ 5,000,000;

Section 5. Section 32-7t of the Connecticut General Statutes is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

- (a) As used in this section:

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



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(2) "Discretionary FTE" means an FTE that is paid qualified wages and does not meet the threshold wage requirements to be a qualified FTE but is approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section;

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

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

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

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

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

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

(9) "New FTEs" means the number of FTEs that (A) did not exist in this state at the time of a qualified business's application to the commissioner for a rebate allocation notice for a job creation rebate pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, (B) are not the result of FTEs acquired due to a merger or acquisition, (C) are filled by a new employee, (D) are qualified FTEs, and (E) are not FTEs hired to replace FTEs that existed in the state **[after January 1, 2020]** two years prior to the date a qualified business' application to the commissioner for a rebate allocation notice for a job creation rebate pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. The commissioner may issue guidance on the implementation of this definition;

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



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

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

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

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

(15) "Qualified FTE" means an FTE who is paid qualified wages of (A) at least eighty-five per cent of the median household income for the location where the FTE position is primarily located, scaled in proportion to the FTE fraction, or **[thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars]** the product of one hundred twenty percent of the hourly minimum wage at the date a qualified business' application multiplied by two thousand hours, scaled in proportion to the FTE fraction, whichever is greater, or (B) at least one hundred percent of median household income for a municipality contiguous to the municipality where the FTE position is primarily located, scaled in proportion to the FTE fraction, or one hundred percent of statewide median household income, scaled in proportion to the FTE fraction, whichever is greater;

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

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

(18) "Related person" means (A) a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, association or trust controlled by the qualified business, (B) an individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, association or trust that is in control of the qualified business, (C) a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, association or trust controlled by an individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership,



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association or trust that is in control of the qualified business, or (D) a member of the same controlled group as the qualified business. For the purposes of this subdivision, "control" means (i) ownership, directly or indirectly, of stock possessing fifty per cent or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of the stock of a corporation entitled to vote, (ii) ownership, directly or indirectly, of fifty per cent or more of the capital or profits interest in a partnership, limited liability company or association, or (iii) ownership, directly or indirectly, of fifty per cent or more of the beneficial interest in the principal or income of a trust. The ownership of stock in a corporation, of a capital or profits interest in a partnership, of a limited liability company or association or of a beneficial interest in a trust shall be determined in accordance with the rules for constructive ownership of stock provided in Section 267(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, other than paragraph (3) of said section.

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

(c) (1) To be eligible to claim a rebate under this section, a qualified business shall apply to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of this subsection. The application shall be on a form prescribed by the commissioner and may require information, including, but not limited to, the number of new FTEs to be created by the qualified business, the number of current FTEs employed by the qualified business, feasibility studies or business plans for the increased number of FTEs, projected state and local revenue that may reasonably derive as a result of the increased number of FTEs and any other information necessary to determine whether there will be net benefits to the economy of the municipality or municipalities in which the qualified business is primarily located and the state.

(c) (2) Upon receipt of an application, the commissioner shall determine (A) whether the qualified business making the application will be reasonably able to meet the FTE hiring targets and other metrics as presented in such application^[.]. In situations where a qualified business making the application does not meet one of the metrics, the commissioner may substitute an additional requirement similar in intent to the requirement the qualified business making the application did not meet. (B) whether such



qualified business' proposed job growth would provide a net benefit to economic development and employment opportunities in the state, and (C) whether such qualified business' proposed job growth will exceed the number of jobs at the business that existed **[prior to January 1, 2020]** two years prior to the date a qualified business making the application to the commissioner submits the application. The commissioner may require the applicant to submit additional information to evaluate an application. Each qualified business making an application shall satisfy the requirements of this subdivision, as determined by the commissioner, to be eligible for the JobsCT tax rebate program.

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

(4) The commissioner may approve an application in whole or in part by a qualified business that creates new discretionary FTEs or may approve such an application with amendments if a majority of such new discretionary FTEs are individuals who (A) because of a disability, are receiving or have received services from the Department of Aging and Disability Services; (B) are receiving employment services from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services or participating in employment opportunities and day services, as defined in section 17a-226, operated or funded by the Department of Developmental Services; (C) have been unemployed for at least six of the preceding twelve months; (D) have been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony; (E) are veterans, as defined in section 27-103; (F) have not earned any postsecondary credential and are not currently enrolled in a postsecondary institution or program; or (G) are currently enrolled in a workforce training program fully or substantially paid for by the employer that results in such individual earning a postsecondary credential.

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

(6) By submitting an application, a qualified business consents to the Department of Economic and Community Development's access of data compiled by other state



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agencies, including, but not limited to, the Labor Department, for the purposes of audit and enforcement.

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

(d) For the purposes of this section, the FTE of a full-time job or part-time job is based on the hours worked or expected to be worked by an employee in a calendar year. A job in which an employee worked or is expected to work one thousand seven hundred fifty hours or more in a calendar year equals one FTE. A job in which an employee worked or is expected to work less than one thousand seven hundred fifty hours equals a fraction of one FTE, where the fraction is the number of hours worked in a calendar year divided by one thousand seven hundred fifty. The commissioner shall have the discretion to adjust the calculation of FTE.

(e) (1) In each calendar year of the rebate period, a qualified business approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section that employs at least twenty-five new FTEs in this state or, if at least one of the new FTEs is an individual with intellectual disability, fifteen new FTEs in this state by December thirty-first of the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed shall be allowed a rebate equal to the greater of the following amounts:

(A) The sum of:

(i) The lesser of (I) the new FTEs created in an opportunity zone or distressed municipality on December thirty-first of the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed, or (II) the new FTEs maintained in an opportunity zone or distressed municipality in the previous calendar year, **[(III) the new FTEs created by a qualified business employing at least one new FTE who is an individual with intellectual disability, or (IV) the new FTEs maintained by a qualified business employing at least one new FTE who is an individual with intellectual disability,]** multiplied by fifty per cent of the income tax that would be paid on the



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average wage of the new FTEs, as determined by the applicable marginal rate set forth in chapter 229 for an unmarried individual based solely on such wages; and

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

(B) The greater of:

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

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

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

(3) In no event shall an approved qualified business receive a rebate under this subsection in any calendar year of the rebate period if such business has not maintained, in the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed, at least (A) twenty-five new FTEs, or (B) fifteen new FTEs, if at least one of the new FTEs is an individual with intellectual disability.

(4) An approved qualified business which, by December thirty-first of the calendar year prior to the calendar in which the rebate is being claimed, employs at least fifteen



new FTEs where at least one of the new FTEs is an individual with intellectual disability shall be allowed a rebate equal to twenty-five percent of the wages being paid to each individual with an intellectual disability. The rebate earned shall be added to the rebate received under this subsection exclusive of limitations stipulated in subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (c) of this section.

(f) (1) In each calendar year of the rebate period, a qualified business approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section that employs at least twenty-five new discretionary FTEs in this state by December thirty-first of the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed shall be allowed a rebate equal to the sum of the amount calculated pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of this section and the greater of the following:

(A) The sum of:

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

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

(B) The greater of:

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



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calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being claimed;
or

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

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

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

(g) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (3) and (4) of subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner may not approve an application in whole or in part if the full amount of rebates that such applicant may be paid pursuant to subsection (e) or (f) of this section would result in the aggregate amount of rebates issued to all approved qualified businesses under this section exceeding forty million dollars in any fiscal year.

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

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

(2) An approved qualified business that has fewer than twenty-five new FTEs or, if at



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least one of the new FTEs is an individual with intellectual disability, fewer than fifteen new FTEs, created in each of two consecutive calendar years or, if such business is approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, fewer than twenty-five new discretionary FTEs in each of two consecutive calendar years shall forfeit all remaining rebate allocations, unless the commissioner recognizes mitigating circumstances of a regional or national nature, including, but not limited to, a recession.

(i) Not later than January thirty-first of each year during the rebate period, each approved qualified business shall provide information to the commissioner regarding the number of new FTEs or new discretionary FTEs created or maintained during the prior calendar year and the qualified wages of such new employees. Any information provided under this subsection shall be subject to audit by the Department of Economic and Community Development.

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

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

(l) Not later than January 1, [\[2024\]](#) [2025](#), the commissioner shall post, on the Department of Economic and Community Development's Internet web site, information on the JobsCT tax rebate program established under this section, including, but not limited to, information concerning tax rebates available for qualified businesses that, in accordance with the provisions of this section, employ individuals with intellectual disability in this state.



Section 6. Section 32-285a of the Connecticut General Statutes is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(a) As used in this section:

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

(2) “Administrator” means the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's designee;

(3) “Eligible project” means:

(A) (i) A project proposed by a municipality, community development corporation or nonprofit organization, for the purpose of promoting economic or community development in the municipality or a municipality served by such corporation or organization, such as brownfield remediation, affordable housing, establishment of or improvements to water and sewer infrastructure to support smaller scale economic development, pedestrian safety and traffic calming improvements, establishment of or improvements to energy resiliency or clean energy projects and land acquisition, capital projects to construct, rehabilitate or renovate public facilities such as libraries and senior centers, and to facilitate or enhance home rehabilitation programs [and capital projects to construct, rehabilitate or renovate buildings and structures to facilitate or improve home rehabilitation programs and facilities such as libraries and senior centers; or (ii) A grant-in-aid proposed by a municipality, community development corporation or nonprofit organization for the purpose of providing (I) a revolving loan program, microloans or gap financing, to small businesses located within such municipality or a municipality served by such corporation or organization, or (II) start-up funds to establish a small business in any such municipality]; and

(B) Such project or grant-in-aid furthers consistent and systematic fair, just and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved and marginalized communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black,



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Latino and indigenous and Native American persons; Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons and other persons comprising the LGBTQ+ community; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

(E) Two appointed by the Governor; and

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

(2) All initial appointments shall be made not later than sixty days after June 30, 2021. The terms of the members appointed by the Governor shall be coterminous with the term



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of the Governor or until their successors are appointed, whichever is later. Any vacancy in appointments shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term.

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, it shall not constitute a conflict of interest for a trustee, director, partner, officer, stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee of any person to serve as a member of the board, provided such trustee, director, partner, officer, stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee abstains and absents himself or herself from any deliberation, action and vote by the board in specific respect to such person. The members appointed by the Governor shall be deemed public officials and shall adhere to the code of ethics for public officials set forth in chapter 10.

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

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

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

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

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

(c) (1) The Community Investment Fund 2030 Board shall establish an application and review process with guidelines and terms for funds provided from the bond proceeds



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under subsection (d) of this section for eligible projects. Such funds shall be used for costs related to an eligible project recommended by the board and approved by the Governor pursuant to this subsection and to pay or to reimburse the administrator for administrative costs under this section.

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

(3) (A) The board shall give priority to eligible projects (i) that are proposed by a municipality that (I) has implemented local hiring preferences pursuant to section 7-112, or (II) has or will leverage municipal, private, philanthropic or federal funds for such project, and (ii) that have a project labor agreement or employ or will employ ex-offenders or individuals with physical, intellectual or developmental disabilities. The board shall give additional priority to an application submitted by a municipality that includes a letter of support for the proposed eligible project from a member or members of the General Assembly in whose district the eligible project is or will be located.

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

(4) (A) Whenever the board deems it necessary or desirable, the chairpersons of the board shall submit to the Governor a list of the board's recommendations of eligible projects to be funded from bond proceeds under subsection (d) of this section. The board may recommend state funding for eligible projects, provided the total cost of such



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recommendations shall not exceed one hundred seventy-five million dollars in any fiscal year. Such list shall include, at a minimum:

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

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

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

(5) Funds for an eligible project approved under this section may be administered on behalf of the board by a state agency, as determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, provided a memorandum of understanding between the administrator of the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board and the state, acting by and through the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, has been entered into with respect to such funds and project.

(6) Not later than August 31, 2023, the board shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the General Assembly, the Black and Puerto Rican caucus of the General Assembly, the Auditors of Public Accounts and the Governor, for the preceding fiscal year, that includes (A) a list of the eligible projects recommended by



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the board and approved by the Governor pursuant to this section, (B) the total amount of funds provided for such eligible projects, (C) for each such eligible project, a description of the project and the amounts and terms of the funds provided, (D) the status of the project and any balance remaining of the allocated funds, and (E) any other information the board deems relevant or necessary. The board shall submit such report annually for each fiscal year in which the funds specified in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection are disbursed for eligible projects.

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

(d) (1) The State Bond Commission may authorize the issuance of bonds of the state, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20, in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate eight hundred seventy-five million dollars. The amount authorized for the issuance and sale of such bonds in each of the following fiscal years shall not exceed the following corresponding amount for each such fiscal year, except that, to the extent the State Bond Commission does not provide for the use of all or a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year, such amount not provided for shall be carried forward and added to the authorized amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided further, the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year indicated as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	Amount
2023	\$175,000,000
2024	175,000,000
2025	175,000,000
2026	175,000,000
2027	175,000,000



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Total \$875,000,000

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

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

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	Amount
2028	\$250,000,000
2029	250,000,000
2030	250,000,000
2031	250,000,000
2032	250,000,000
Total	\$1,250,000,000

(2) The proceeds of the sale of bonds set forth in this subsection shall be used for the



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purpose of funding eligible projects for which the Governor has determined under subsection (c) of this section that bond funding is appropriate and that no other bond authorization is available.

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

Section 7. Section 4-66c of the Connecticut General Statutes is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For the purposes of subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have power, from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate two billion three hundred forty-four million four hundred eighty-seven thousand five hundred forty-four dollars. All provisions of section 3-20, or the exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section, are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that there has been filed with it a request for such authorization, which is signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission in its discretion may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the



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state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and accordingly as part of the contract of the state with the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become due.

(b) (1) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent hereinafter stated, shall be used, subject to the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of this section, for the purpose of redirecting, improving and expanding state activities which promote community conservation and development and improve the quality of life for urban residents of the state as hereinafter stated: (A) For the Department of Economic and Community Development: Economic and community development projects, including administrative costs incurred by the Department of Economic and Community Development, not exceeding sixty-seven million five hundred ninety-one thousand six hundred forty-two dollars, one million dollars of which shall be used for a grant to the development center program and the nonprofit business consortium deployment center approved pursuant to section 32-411; (B) for the Department of Transportation: Urban mass transit, not exceeding two million dollars; (C) for the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection: Recreation development and solid waste disposal projects, not exceeding one million nine hundred ninety-five thousand nine hundred two dollars; (D) for the Department of Social Services: Child day care projects, elderly centers, shelter facilities for victims of domestic violence, emergency shelters and related facilities for the homeless, multipurpose human resource centers and food distribution facilities, not exceeding thirty-nine million one hundred thousand dollars, provided four million dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 1994; (E) for the Department of Economic and Community Development: Housing projects, not exceeding three million dollars; (F) for the Department of Housing: Homeownership initiative in collaboration with one or more local community development financial institutions in qualified census tracts for the purpose of construction or redevelopment, performed by developers or nonprofit organizations residing in that municipality, which leads to new homeownership opportunities for residents of such qualified census tracts, not exceeding twenty million dollars; (G) for the Office of Policy and Management: (i) Grants-in-aid to municipalities for a pilot demonstration program to leverage private contributions for redevelopment of designated historic preservation areas, not exceeding one million dollars; (ii) grants-in-aid for urban development projects including economic and



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community development, transportation, environmental protection, public safety, children and families and social services projects and programs, including, in the case of economic and community development projects administered on behalf of the Office of Policy and Management by the Department of Economic and Community Development, administrative costs incurred by the Department of Economic and Community Development, not exceeding two billion two hundred twenty-nine million eight hundred thousand dollars. For purposes of this subdivision, “local community development financial institution” means an entity that meets the requirements of 12 CFR 1805.201, and “qualified census tract” means a census tract designated as a qualified census tract by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in accordance with 26 USC 42(d)(5)(B)(ii), as amended from time to time.

(2) (A) Five million dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection may be made available to private nonprofit organizations for the purposes described in said subparagraph (G)(ii). (B) Twelve million dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection may be made available for necessary renovations and improvements of libraries. (C) Five million dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be made available for small business gap financing. (D) Ten million dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection may be made available for regional economic development revolving loan funds. (E) One million four hundred thousand dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be made available for rehabilitation and renovation of the Black Rock Library in Bridgeport. (F) Two million five hundred thousand dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be made available for site acquisition, renovation and rehabilitation for the Institute for the Hispanic Family in Hartford. (G) Three million dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be made available for the acquisition of land and the development of commercial or retail property in New Haven. (H) Seven hundred fifty thousand dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be made available for repairs and replacement of the fishing pier at Cummings Park in Stamford. (I) Ten million dollars of the grants-in-aid authorized in subparagraph (G)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be made available for development of an intermodal transportation



facility in northeastern Connecticut.

(c) Any proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section or of temporary notes issued in anticipation of the moneys to be derived from the sale of such bonds may be used to fund grants-in-aid to municipalities or the grant-in-aid programs of said departments, including, but not limited to, financial assistance and expenses authorized under chapters 128, 129, 130, 133, 136 and 298, and section 16a-40a, provided any such program shall be implemented in an eligible municipality or is for projects in other municipalities which the State Bond Commission determines will help to meet the goals set forth in section 4-66b. For the purposes of this section, “eligible municipality” means a municipality which is economically distressed within the meaning of subsection (b) of section 32-9p, which is classified as an urban center in any plan adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to section 16a-30, which is classified as a public investment community within the meaning of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of section 7-545, or in which the State Bond Commission determines that the project in question will help meet the goals set forth in section 4-66b. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, proceeds from the sale of bonds pursuant to this section may, with the approval of the State Bond Commission, be used for transit-oriented development projects, as defined in section 13b-79o, in any municipality.

(d) Any economic development project eligible for assistance under this section may include but not be limited to: (1) The construction or rehabilitation of commercial, industrial and mixed use structures; and (2) the construction, reconstruction or repair of roads, accessways and other site improvements. The state, acting by and in the discretion of the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, may enter into a contract for state financial assistance for any eligible economic or community development project in the form of a grant-in-aid. Any grant-in-aid shall be in an amount not in excess of the cost of the project for which the grant is made as determined and approved by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development. Before entering into a grant-in-aid contract the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall have approved an application submitted on forms provided by the commissioner and with such information the commissioner deems necessary. The Commissioner shall establish the terms and conditions of financial assistance for any economic development project under this section and may make any stipulation in connection with such financial assistance. [No project shall be undertaken until the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development approves the plans,



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specifications and estimated costs. The commissioner may adopt such regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as are necessary for the implementation of this section.]

(e) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes to the contrary, whenever the Department of Economic and Community Development or the Office of Policy and Management is authorized by the general statutes to assess, collect or fund administrative expenses or service charges or otherwise recover costs or expenses incurred by the state in carrying out the provisions of any economic or community development project or program administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development, except in the case of administrative oversight charges described in section 8-37tt amounts so assessed, collected or funded by the state may be used to pay any administrative expenses of the Department of Economic and Community Development and shall not be required to be used to pay expenses related to a particular project or program.