



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Youth Employment and Training Funds

Document Name	DOL – Youth Employment and Training Funds
----------------------	--

Legislative Liaison	Billy Taylor Marisa Morello
Division Requesting This Proposal	Workplace Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Unit
Drafter	Jennifer Devine

Title of Proposal	AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING FUNDS
Statutory Reference, if any	31-3mm
Brief Summary and Statement of Purpose	To update the percentages of youth employment and training funds allocated to each workforce development area to reflect the disadvantaged youth population more accurately.
How does this proposal relate to the agency's mission?	The mission of the Connecticut Department of Labor (CTDOL) is to protect Connecticut's workers from labor law violations and promote global economic competitiveness through strengthening the state's workforce. This proposal is a continued pursuit of data driven decision making that prioritizes serving disadvantaged youth and approaches the solution with a way that seeks to minimize harm to local workforce area budgets and planning. It also corrects prior areas that have been impacted by underfunding within the Connecticut Youth Employment Program based on the historic data sources used in the current statutory allocation and allocates fund based on a recent and regularly maintained source to determine where need exists.



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Youth Employment and Training Funds

SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

Summarize sections in groups where appropriate

Section 1 – amends 31-3mm to update the allocation methodology governing the distribution of Connecticut Youth Employment Program (CYEP) funds to workforce development areas described within CT Gen Stat § 31-3mm. This change would move from fixed percentages to a Census dataset on Disadvantaged Youth that would be updated every 5 years. This also includes a provision where regions that might be disproportionately affected by new Census data are given a buffer period (aka “hold harmless”), promoting a more equitable distribution of resources over time.

BACKGROUND

Origin of Proposal

☒ New Proposal

☐ Resubmission

*CTDOL considered submitting this bill for the 2024 session but decided that it would be more appropriate to further socialize the concept so that it would be ready for consideration for the upcoming 2025 session.

Please consider the following, if applicable:

Have there been changes in federal/state laws or regulations that make this	No, but the statewide prioritization of serving disadvantaged youth and making data-driven decisions would likely support ensuring our state allocations for youth programs follow a methodology that seeks to distribute funds where disadvantaged youth exist.
--	--



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Youth Employment and Training Funds

legislation necessary?																					
Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states? If yes, to what result?	<p>WIOA Youth Formula Funds are defined in WIOA legislation (683.120) where the statutory formula for WIOA Youth places 33 1/3 percentage weight on the relative number of disadvantaged youths in each local area. There have been recent discussions via a NASWA E&T Policy Subcommittee where the Senate HELP Committee recently asked about WIOA Youth Formula Funds allocation methodology. There is criticism for the weights tied to unemployment factors that make up the remaining 2/3 of the Youth formula as they are not tied to Youth age ranges specifically. No changes have occurred on that front to date, but the discussion validated that no states, related to NASWA facilitated discussions with Senate HELP, question the validity of using the Disadvantaged Youth data set. Concern existed in using it as the only source of data, as this could create large swings in budgeting for some states, but our use of it as a factor, or the sole factor, for State Youth Allocations appears as though it would be sound comparing it in this context.</p>																				
Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?	<p>Through the discussions over the last 12 months, 4 of the 5 Workforce Development Boards that receive the CYEP funds named in § 31-3mm currently support this change. The hold harmless data for comparison is copied below as these numbers could come into play for how the scenarios could impact each local as written.</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>31-3mm %s</td><td><i>Actual Numbers of Dis. Youth 2016-2020</i></td><td>% if using dis. youth 2016-2020</td></tr><tr><td>EWIB</td><td>0.1</td><td>12,457</td><td>0.23</td></tr><tr><td>CWP</td><td>0.325</td><td>11,088</td><td>0.20</td></tr><tr><td>NRWIB</td><td>0.225</td><td>6,624</td><td>0.12</td></tr><tr><td>Workforce Alliance</td><td>0.225</td><td>14,234</td><td>0.26</td></tr></table>		31-3mm %s	<i>Actual Numbers of Dis. Youth 2016-2020</i>	% if using dis. youth 2016-2020	EWIB	0.1	12,457	0.23	CWP	0.325	11,088	0.20	NRWIB	0.225	6,624	0.12	Workforce Alliance	0.225	14,234	0.26
	31-3mm %s	<i>Actual Numbers of Dis. Youth 2016-2020</i>	% if using dis. youth 2016-2020																		
EWIB	0.1	12,457	0.23																		
CWP	0.325	11,088	0.20																		
NRWIB	0.225	6,624	0.12																		
Workforce Alliance	0.225	14,234	0.26																		



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Youth Employment and Training Funds

Workplace	0.125	10,155	0.19
CT	1	54,558	1

The transition year has already been mapped and can be provided but the ease in amounts would be as follows *if we sustain \$10M in program funding.*

WDB	CURRENT 31-3mm	Census %	Census Allocation	Comparison from Current 31-3mm in \$
CWP	\$3,270,513.00	20%	\$2,012,624.00	\$(1,257,889.20)
WA	\$2,264,202.00	26%	\$2,616,411.00	\$352,208.94
TWP	\$1,257,890.00	19%	\$1,911,993.00	\$654,102.61
NRWIB	\$2,264,202.00	12%	\$1,207,574.00	\$(1,056,627.72)
EWIB	\$1,006,312.00	23%	\$2,314,517.00	\$1,308,205.37
	\$10,063,119.00		\$10,063,119.00	

In the above, Hold Harmless would apply, in order to raise NRWIB and CWP to a cut no greater than 15% across the remaining three WDBs, resulting in the following shares for year 1 and percentages in year 2:

WDB	Year 1 - Hold Harmless \$	Year 1- Hold Harmless %	Census % for Year 2
CWP	\$ 2,817,673.00	28%	20%
WA	\$ 2,213,886.00	22%	26%
TWP	\$ 1,308,206.00	13%	19%
NRWIB	\$1,911,993.00	19%	12%
EWIB	\$1,811,361.00	18%	23%
	\$10,063,119.00	100%	100%



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Youth Employment and Training Funds

INTERAGENCY IMPACT

List each affected agency. Copy the table as needed.

☒ Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

1. Agency Name	
Agency Contact (name, title)	
Date Contacted	
Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input 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	
Municipal (Include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation)	
Federal	



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Youth Employment and Training Funds

Additional notes	The only fiscal impact would be the reallocation of funding for the boards themselves. There is no impact to the state or municipalities.
-------------------------	---

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

As the CYEP program has goals and ongoing work with the Workforce Development Boards to move to CTHires as the system of record, CTDOL will be able to continue longitudinal studies on disadvantaged youth, a portion of which is funded by CYEP. This funding allocation may also be a factor if the same information utilized in the Dalio Education Report is used again, and the agency would hope this funding continues to decrease the number of disadvantaged youths identified in that report. This proposed change would be part of many broader initiatives that support youth in the state.

ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD KNOW?

This proposal would only apply to CYEP and would not change YETC.



INSERT FULLY DRAFTED BILL HERE

Sec. 1. Section 31-3mm of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2025):

(a) The Labor Department, within available appropriations, shall establish a program to distribute youth employment and training funds to regional workforce development boards.

(b) Funds provided for in this section shall be allocated **[as follows: (1) Thirty-two and five-tenths per cent to Capitol Workforce Partners; (2) twenty-two and five-tenths per cent to The Workforce Alliance; (3) twelve and five-tenths per cent to The Workplace, Inc.; (4) twenty-two and five-tenths per cent to the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Inc.; and (5) ten per cent to the Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board]** by the Labor Commissioner based on the number of “disadvantaged youth,” as defined in 29 USC sec. 3162(b)(2)(C), aged 16 to 21 in each workforce development area based on the most recently published “Data for Persons Defined as Disadvantaged Youth and Adults” or successor data as provided by the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and any fiscal year thereafter during which new census data is released and used to calculate each regions proportionate share of funds, if any region faces a budget reduction exceeding 15% of the funds received in the prior year, funding for the other regions shall be proportionately reduced in order to increase funding for any affected such that the reduction does not exceed 15%.



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Minor Revisions

Document Name	DOL – Minor Revisions
----------------------	------------------------------

Legislative Liaison	Billy Taylor Marisa Morello
Division Requesting This Proposal	Merit Rating Unit (MRU), Unemployed Workers' Advocate (UWA), Legal
Drafter	Jennifer Devine

Title of Proposal	AN ACT CONCERNING THE LABOR DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MINOR REVISIONS TO LABOR STATUTES.
Statutory Reference, if any	Section 1: 31-225a(3)(h) Section 2: 31-2e Sections 3&4: 31-40a; 31-53a
Brief Summary and Statement of Purpose	<p>Section 1: amends Section 31-225a(3)(h) of the General Statutes to shorten the timeline from sixty days to forty days for an employer to protest if they contend that UI benefits have been improperly charged to their experience record due to fraud or error when they receive their employer UI quarterly statements from the CT Department of Labor's (CTDOL) Merit Rating Unit (MRU). The primary purpose of the MRU is to charge or non-charge employer accounts for UI benefits paid, produce employer quarterly charge notices, and to annually produce employer UI tax rate notices for each taxable employer.</p> <p>Section 2: updates the statutory language to change the Unemployed Workers' Advocate position from an appointed position to a permanent position in statutes. This would bring UWA in line with similar unit heads, who are not appointed.</p>



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Minor Revisions

	<p>Sections 3&4: These sections represent technical changes. Section 3 amends 31-40a to reinstate a previously repealed statute per the request of the Department of Public Health as it is required for the collection and retention of data necessary for DPH's Occupational Illness Surveillance program. Section 4 amends 31-53a to correct a mistake referencing an incorrect statute that does not exist.</p>
<p>How does this proposal relate to the agency's mission?</p>	<p>The mission of the Connecticut Department of Labor (CTDOL) is to protect and promote the interests of Connecticut's workers and assist workers and employers to be competitive in the global economy.</p> <p>Section 1: This section would connect to the agency's mission because it would improve the internal processing and avoid duplication of employer quarterly statement UI tax protests. Additionally, the proposal would reduce the possible negative impact on employer UI Tax Rates.</p> <p>Section 2: This section would ensure that the Unemployed Workers Advocate is an individual who has significant experience in the unemployment insurance compensation laws and provides continuity for consumers in need of this assistance.</p> <p>Sections 3&4: 31-40a—This section would require the submission of the necessary for DPH to reinstate a previously repealed statute that allows the Department of Health to Correct a statutory reference, enabling proper administration of the law.</p>



SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

Summarize sections in groups where appropriate

Section 1: Section 31-225a(3)(h) of the General Statutes shortens the timeline from sixty days to forty days for an employer to protest a charge when they receive their employer UI tax quarterly statements from the CT Department of Labor’s (CTDOL) Merit Rating Unit (MRU).

Section 2: This section amends 31-2e to change the Unemployed Workers Advocate position from an appointed position to a permanent position.

Sections 3&4: This section amends 31-40a to reinstate a previously repealed statute per the request of the Department of Public Health as it is required for the collection and retention of data necessary for DPH’s Occupational Illness Surveillance program. Additionally, Section 31-53a(a) contains a scrivener’s error, referring to a statute, section 21-53d, that does not exist and is an incorrect reference regardless. The statute that should be referenced is 31-53d(d).

BACKGROUND

Origin of Proposal

☒ New Proposal

☒ (Sec. MRU) 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:

Section 1: [2024 HB 5266](#) – This bill passed the House unanimously but died in the Senate on the last day due to an [unrelated amendment](#) being attached to the bill prior to passage in the House, which the Senate did not agree to. The amendment was unrelated to the CTDOL agency bill, and as a result we thought it better to include this bill from last year as a section of this year’s “minor changes” proposal.

Section 2: CTDOL would like to make this change to bring the UWA Director in line with similar unit directors and ensure continuity in the event of a leadership change in the agency.

Sections 3&4: Correcting an incorrect statutory cite.



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Minor Revisions

Please consider the following, if applicable:

Have there been changes in federal/state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?	Section 1: No. Section 2: No. Sections 3&4: No
Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states? If yes, to what result?	Section 1: Unknown. Section 2: N/A Sections 3&4: N/A
Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?	Section 1: No. Section 2: No. Sections 3&4: No

INTERAGENCY IMPACT

List each affected agency. Copy the table as needed.

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

1. Agency Name	
Agency Contact (name, title)	



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Minor Revisions

Date Contacted	
Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input 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	
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 1: The measurable outcome of Section MRU is that it benefits employers and CTDOL alike because the protests are completed in a timely manner. Additionally, the proposal prevents the employer from having to protest a duplicate issue. Specifically, if MRU doesn't resolve the employer's charge before a quarter ends, then the next quarterly statement may have charges for a particular individual that they already protested the previous quarter. The employer will then not have to refute the same protest twice due to the reduced time frame.

Also, this proposal ensures that the UI benefit charge information in CTDOL's ReEmployCT technology for the UI Tax rates is as accurate as possible by resolving the UI tax charges prior to the end of the quarter. This will reduce questions and calls from employers to the CTDOL's UI Tax Division about their UI tax rate.

Finally, under CTDOL's ReEmployCT technology, employers now immediately receive electronic quarterly statements on the date of issue vs. under the previous UI Legacy system where employers had to wait for the United States Postal Service to deliver those statements. One of the many employer benefits under CTDOL's ReEmployCT technology, employers can elect to have email notification for all their correspondence rather than regular postal mail. This includes all UI documents including the quarterly statement. Employers will default to email communication but will have to opt out if they wish to receive by regular mail instead.

Section 2: N/A

Sections 3&4: N/A



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session
Document Name: DOL – Minor Revisions

ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD KNOW?

--



INSERT FULLY DRAFTED BILL HERE

Sec. 1. Section 31-225a(3)(h) of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(1) With respect to each benefit year commencing on or after July 1, 1978, notice of determination of the claimant's benefit entitlement for such benefit year shall include notice of the allocation of benefit charges of the claimant's base period employers and each such employer shall be provided a copy of such notice of determination and shall be an interested party thereto. Such determination shall be final unless the claimant or any of such employers files an appeal from such decision in accordance with the provisions of section 31-241.

(2) The administrator shall, not less frequently than once each calendar quarter, provide a statement of charges to each employer to whose experience record any charges have been made since the last previous such statement. Such statement shall show, with respect to each week for which benefits have been paid and charged, the name and Social Security account number of the claimant who was paid the benefit, the amount of the benefits charged for such week and the total amount charged in the quarter.

(3) The statement of charges provided for in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall constitute notice to the employer that it has been determined that the benefits reported in such statement were properly payable under this chapter to the claimants for the weeks and in the amounts shown in such statements. If the employer contends that benefits have been improperly charged due to fraud or error, a written protest setting forth reasons therefor shall be filed with the administrator within ~~sixty~~ forty days of the date the quarterly statement was provided. An eligibility issue shall not be reopened on the basis of such quarterly statement if notification of such eligibility issue had previously been given to the employer under the provisions of section 31-241, and he or she failed to file a timely appeal therefrom or had the issue finally resolved against him or her.

(4) The provisions of subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection shall not apply to combined wage claims paid under subsection (b) of section 31-255. For such combined wage claims paid under the unemployment law of other states, the administrator shall, each calendar quarter,



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Minor Revisions

provide a statement of charges to each employer whose experience record has been charged since the previous such statement. Such statement shall show the name and Social Security number of the claimant who was paid the benefits and the total amount of the benefits charged in the quarter.

Sec. 2. Section 31-2e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) The Labor Commissioner shall, within available appropriations, establish the Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate within the Labor Department to provide assistance to individuals who are unemployed.

(b) The Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate may:

(1) Assist unemployed individuals seeking benefits administered by the Labor Department under chapter 567;

(2) Assist unemployed individuals to understand their rights and responsibilities with respect to benefits administered by the department under chapter 567;

(3) Provide information to the public, state agencies, legislators and others regarding the problems and concerns of unemployed individuals and make recommendations for resolving such problems and concerns;

(4) Assist unemployed individuals with the filing of appeals in connection with the benefits administered by the department under chapter 567;

(5) Analyze and monitor the development and implementation of federal, state and local laws, regulations and policies relating to unemployed individuals and recommend changes the office deems necessary to the appropriate federal, state or local governmental entity;

(6) Receive and review complaints of unemployed individuals and make recommendations to the commissioner for resolving such complaints;

(7) Access prior employment records of an unemployed individual to the extent permitted under state and federal law;



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Minor Revisions

(8) Establish and maintain an Internet web site and a toll-free number, or any other free calling option, to allow unemployed individuals access to the services and information provided by the Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate; and

(9) Take any other actions necessary to fulfill the purposes of this section.

(c) Not later than October 1, 2021, the Labor Commissioner shall designate an Unemployed Workers' Advocate. **[, who shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner, to manage the daily activities and duties of the Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate.]** Such Unemployed Workers' Advocate shall be in the classified service and shall devote full-time to the duties of his or her office.

The Unemployed Workers' Advocate shall have the necessary qualifications to perform the duties of said office, including, but not limited to, having expertise and experience in the fields of unemployment compensation benefits and advocacy for the rights of unemployed individuals. Within available appropriations, the Unemployed Workers' Advocate shall appoint and employ such assistants, employees and personnel as deemed necessary for the efficient and effective administration of the activities of the office.

Sec. 3. NEW (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

Sec. 31-40a. Reports of occupational diseases and investigations concerning them.

Each physician or advanced practice registered nurse having knowledge of any person whom he or she believes to be suffering from poisoning from lead, phosphorus, arsenic, brass, wood alcohol or mercury or their compounds, or from anthrax or from compressed-air illness or any other disease, contracted as a result of the nature of the employment of such person, shall, within forty-eight hours, mail to the Labor Department, as provided in section 31-9, a report stating the name, address and occupation of such patient, the name, address and business of his or her employer, the nature of the disease and such other information as may reasonably be required by said department. The department shall prepare and furnish to the physicians and advanced practice registered nurses of this state suitable blanks for the reports herein required. No report made pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be admissible as evidence of the facts therein stated in any action at law or in any action under the Workers' Compensation Act against any employer of such diseased person. Any physician or advanced practice registered nurse



Agency Legislative Proposal – 2025 Session

Document Name: DOL – Minor Revisions

who fails to send any report herein required or who fails to send the same within the time specified herein shall be liable to the state for a penalty of not more than ten dollars, recoverable by civil action in the name of the state by said department. The Labor Department, as provided in section 31-9, is authorized to investigate and make recommendations for the elimination or prevention of occupational diseases reported to it in accordance with the provisions of this section. Said department is also authorized to study and provide advice in regard to conditions suspected of causing occupational diseases, provided information obtained upon investigations made in accordance with the provisions of this section shall not be admissible as evidence in any action at law to recover damages for personal injury or in any action under the Workers' Compensation Act.

Sec. 4. Section 31-53a(a) of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective upon passage*):

(a) The State Comptroller or the contracting authority acting pursuant to section 31-53 is hereby authorized and directed to pay to mechanics, laborers and workers from any accrued payments withheld under the terms of a contract terminated pursuant to subsection (b) of section 31-53 any wages found to be due such mechanics, laborers and workers pursuant to section 31-53. The Labor Commissioner is further authorized and directed to distribute a list to all departments of the state and political subdivisions of the state giving the names of persons or firms whom the Labor Commissioner has found to have (1) disregarded their obligations under section 31-53 and section 31-76c to employees and subcontractors on public works projects, (2) been barred from federal government contracts in accordance with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act, 49 Stat. 1011 (1931), 40 USC 276a-2, or (3) submitted false, misleading or materially inaccurate information under subsection (d) of section ~~[21-53d]~~ 31-53d.