



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

**Raised Bill No. 5111**

LCO No. 1160



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:  
(HED)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY WORK-BASED  
LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN INDUSTRIES WITH A HIRING NEED  
IN THE STATE.**

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

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force  
2 to study the feasibility of developing a public-private partnership that  
3 provides work-based learning opportunities for high school and college  
4 students in industries with a hiring need in the state. The task force shall  
5 (1) identify industries with a hiring need in the state; (2) identify the  
6 education and skill level requirements for jobs in such industries; (3)  
7 analyze whether educational achievement and attainment trends of  
8 students in the state sufficiently satisfy the requirements of such jobs;  
9 (4) identify state-wide demographic trends in the workforce; (5) identify  
10 and review (A) any work-based learning programs in the state, whether  
11 established pursuant to statute, regulation or policy, and (B) national  
12 best practices in work-based learning programs administered in the  
13 state and in other states for the purpose of determining if such programs  
14 can be replicated; (6) make recommendations regarding work-based

15 learning programs in the state that are not utilized or that are deemed  
16 to be ineffective; (7) analyze the feasibility of creating public-private  
17 partnerships in the state that provide work-based learning  
18 opportunities for jobs in industries with a hiring need in the state; (8)  
19 examine whether the program of apprentice training maintained by the  
20 Labor Department pursuant to section 31-22q of the general statutes can  
21 be utilized or expanded to develop such public-private partnerships;  
22 and (9) identify any potential institutional or legal obstacles associated  
23 with the creation and implementation of such public-private  
24 partnerships and work-based learning opportunities.

25 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

26 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
27 who shall be a representative of a trade organization;

28 (2) Two executive officers from the top ten largest employers in the  
29 state, as determined by the total number of employees in the state, or  
30 the executive officers' designees, one of whom shall be appointed by the  
31 president pro tempore of the Senate and one of whom shall be  
32 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

33 (3) Two representatives from community foundations in the state,  
34 one of whom shall be appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
35 Representatives and one of whom shall be appointed by the minority  
36 leader of the House of Representatives;

37 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate who shall be a  
38 representative from an education advocacy organization;

39 (5) The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities,  
40 or the president's designee;

41 (6) The president of The University of Connecticut, or the president's  
42 designee;

43 (7) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

44 (8) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,  
45 or the commissioner's designee;

46 (9) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

47 (10) The superintendent of the technical high school system, or the  
48 superintendent's designee;

49 (11) The president of the board of directors of the Connecticut  
50 Association of Public School Superintendents, or the president's  
51 designee;

52 (12) The executive director of the Connecticut Association of Boards  
53 of Education, or the executive director's designee;

54 (13) The executive director of the Connecticut Association for  
55 Community Action, or the executive director's designee;

56 (14) Two representatives from multinational corporations with a  
57 physical presence in the state, appointed by the Governor; and

58 (15) Two representatives from an employee labor organization, one  
59 of whom shall be a member of the Connecticut State Building Trades  
60 Council, appointed by the Governor.

61 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subsection (b) of  
62 this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

63 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than  
64 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
65 filled by the appointing authority. Any vacancy remaining after the first  
66 scheduled meeting of the task force shall be appointed by the  
67 chairpersons of the task force.

68 (e) The chairpersons of the task force shall be elected from among the  
69 members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first  
70 meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days  
71 after the effective date of this section.

72 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
73 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher  
74 education and employment advancement shall serve as administrative  
75 staff of the task force.

76 (g) Not later than January 1, 2021, and annually thereafter until  
77 January 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and  
78 recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General  
79 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, higher  
80 education and employment advancement, and labor and public  
81 employees, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
82 general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it  
83 submits its fourth annual report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a task force to identify high-growth, high-demand jobs and analyze the implementation and creation of partnerships that provide apprenticeship opportunities for such jobs.

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