

General Assembly

February Session, 2024

## Substitute Bill No. 5299

## AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISIONS TO THE JOBSCT PROGRAM AND THE COMMERCE STATUTES.

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 32-7t of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
- is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 4 (a) As used in this section:
- 5 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Economic and 6 Community Development;
- 7 (2) "Discretionary FTE" means an FTE that is paid qualified wages 8 and does not meet the threshold wage requirements to be a qualified 9 FTE but is approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of 10 subsection (c) of this section;
- (3) "Distressed municipality" has the same meaning as provided insection 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 insection 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;

32 (9) "New FTEs" means the number of FTEs that (A) did not exist in 33 this state at the time of a qualified business's application to the 34 commissioner for a rebate allocation notice for a job creation rebate 35 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, (B) are not the result of FTEs 36 acquired due to a merger or acquisition, (C) are filled by a new 37 employee, (D) are qualified FTEs, and (E) are not FTEs hired to replace 38 FTEs that existed in the state [after January 1, 2020] within the two-year 39 period occurring immediately prior to the date a qualified business 40 submits an application to the commissioner for a rebate pursuant to 41 subsection (c) of this section. The commissioner may issue guidance on 42 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;

46 (11) "New FTEs maintained" means the total number of new FTEs

47 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;

60 (15) "Qualified FTE" means an FTE who is paid qualified wages of (A) 61 at least eighty-five per cent of the median household income for the 62 location where the FTE position is primarily located, scaled in 63 proportion to the FTE fraction, or [thirty-seven thousand five hundred 64 dollars] the product of one hundred twenty per cent of the minimum 65 fair wage, as defined in section 31-58, on the date a qualified business 66 submits an application to the commissioner for a rebate pursuant to 67 subsection (c) of this section multiplied by two thousand hours, scaled 68 in proportion to the FTE fraction, whichever is greater, or (B) at least one 69 hundred per cent of the median household income for the municipality 70 with the lowest median household income of all municipalities that are 71 contiguous to the municipality where the FTE position is primarily 72 located, scaled in proportion to the FTE fraction, or one hundred per 73 cent of the state-wide median household income, scaled in proportion 74 to the FTE fraction, whichever is greater;

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

77 (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 allocationnotice issued pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and

80 (18) "Related person" means (A) a corporation, limited liability 81 company, partnership, association or trust controlled by the qualified 82 business, (B) an individual, corporation, limited liability company, 83 partnership, association or trust that is in control of the qualified business, (C) a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, 84 85 association or trust controlled by an individual, corporation, limited 86 liability company, partnership, association or trust that is in control of the qualified business, or (D) a member of the same controlled group as 87 88 the qualified business. For the purposes of this subdivision, "control" 89 means (i) ownership, directly or indirectly, of stock possessing fifty per 90 cent or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of the 91 stock of a corporation entitled to vote, (ii) ownership, directly or 92 indirectly, of fifty per cent or more of the capital or profits interest in a 93 partnership, limited liability company or association, or (iii) ownership, 94 directly or indirectly, of fifty per cent or more of the beneficial interest 95 in the principal or income of a trust. The ownership of stock in a 96 corporation, of a capital or profits interest in a partnership, of a limited 97 liability company or association or of a beneficial interest in a trust shall 98 be determined in accordance with the rules for constructive ownership 99 of stock provided in Section 267(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 100 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United 101 States, as amended from time to time, other than paragraph (3) of said 102 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

111 prescribed by the commissioner and may require information, 112 including, but not limited to, the number of new FTEs to be created by 113 the qualified business, the number of current FTEs employed by the 114 qualified business, feasibility studies or business plans for the increased 115 number of FTEs, projected state and local revenue that may reasonably 116 derive as a result of the increased number of FTEs and any other 117 information necessary to determine whether there will be net benefits to 118 the economy of the municipality or municipalities in which the qualified 119 business is primarily located and the state.

120 (2) Upon receipt of an application, the commissioner shall determine 121 (A) whether the qualified business making the application will be 122 reasonably able to meet the FTE hiring targets and other metrics as 123 presented in such application, (B) whether such qualified business's 124 proposed job growth would provide a net benefit to economic 125 development and employment opportunities in the state, and (C) 126 whether such qualified business's proposed job growth will exceed the 127 number of jobs at the business that existed prior to [January 1, 2020] the 128 two-year period occurring immediately prior to the date a qualified 129 business submits an application to the commissioner for a rebate 130 pursuant to this subsection. The commissioner may require the 131 applicant to submit additional information to evaluate an application. 132 Each qualified business making an application shall satisfy the 133 requirements of this subdivision, as determined by the commissioner, 134 to be eligible for the JobsCT tax rebate program, except that if the 135 commissioner determines that the applicant is not reasonably able to 136 satisfy the targets and metrics under subparagraph (A) of this 137 subdivision, the commissioner may substitute another requirement or 138 metric similar in intent to the requirement or metric such applicant was 139 determined to not be able to reasonably satisfy.

(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.

145 The commissioner shall render a decision on an application not later146 than ninety days after the date of its receipt by the commissioner.

147 (4) The commissioner may approve an application in whole or in part 148 by a qualified business that creates new discretionary FTEs or may 149 approve such an application with amendments if a majority of such new 150 discretionary FTEs are individuals who (A) because of a disability, are 151 receiving or have received services from the Department of Aging and 152 Disability Services; (B) are receiving employment services from the 153 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services or participating in employment opportunities and day services, as defined in section 17a-154 155 226, operated or funded by the Department of Developmental Services; 156 (C) have been unemployed for at least six of the preceding twelve 157 months; (D) have been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony; (E) are 158 veterans, as defined in section 27-103; (F) have not earned any 159 postsecondary credential and are not currently enrolled in a 160 postsecondary institution or program; or (G) are currently enrolled in a 161 workforce training program fully or substantially paid for by the 162 employer that results in such individual earning a postsecondary 163 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 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.

180 (d) For the purposes of this section, the FTE of a full-time job or part-181 time job is based on the hours worked or expected to be worked by an 182 employee in a calendar year. A job in which an employee worked or is 183 expected to work one thousand seven hundred fifty hours or more in a 184 calendar year equals one FTE. A job in which an employee worked or is 185 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 186 187 worked in a calendar year divided by one thousand seven hundred fifty. 188 The commissioner shall have the discretion to adjust the calculation of 189 FTE.

190 (e) (1) In each calendar year of the rebate period, a qualified business 191 approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection 192 (c) of this section that employs at least twenty-five new FTEs in this state 193 or, if at least one of the new FTEs is an individual with intellectual 194 disability, fifteen new FTEs in this state by December thirty-first of the 195 calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in 196 which the rebate is being claimed shall be allowed a rebate equal to the 197 greater of the following amounts:

198 (A) The sum of:

199 (i) The lesser of (I) the new FTEs created in an opportunity zone or 200 distressed municipality on December thirty-first of the calendar year 201 that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate 202 is being claimed, or (II) the new FTEs maintained in an opportunity zone 203 or distressed municipality in the previous calendar year, [(III) the new 204 FTEs created by a qualified business employing at least one new FTE 205 who is an individual with intellectual disability, or (IV) the new FTEs 206 maintained by a qualified business employing at least one new FTE who 207 is an individual with intellectual disability,] multiplied by fifty per cent 208 of the income tax that would be paid on the average wage of the new

209 FTEs, as determined by the applicable marginal rate set forth in chapter

210 229 for an unmarried individual based solely on such wages; and

211 (ii) The lesser of (I) the new FTEs created on December thirty-first of 212 the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in 213 which the rebate is being claimed, or (II) the new FTEs maintained in a 214 location other than an opportunity zone or distressed municipality in 215 the previous calendar year, multiplied by twenty-five per cent of the 216 income tax that would be paid on the average wage of the new FTEs, as 217 determined by the applicable marginal rate set forth in chapter 229 for 218 an unmarried individual based solely on such wages; or

219 (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.

230 (2) [In] Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, in no 231 event shall the rebate under this subsection exceed in any calendar year 232 of the rebate period five thousand dollars multiplied by the lesser of (A) 233 the new FTEs created by December thirty-first of the calendar year that 234 is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is 235 being claimed, or (B) the new FTEs maintained in the calendar year 236 immediately prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being 237 claimed.

(3) In no event shall an approved qualified business receive a rebateunder 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.

244 (4) An approved qualified business that, by December thirty-first of 245 the calendar year immediately prior to the calendar year in which the 246 rebate is being claimed, employs at least fifteen new FTEs where at least 247 one of the new FTEs is an individual with intellectual disability shall be 248 allowed an additional rebate equal to twenty-five per cent of the wages 249 paid to each such individual during the calendar year in which the 250 rebate is being claimed. The rebate allowed under this subdivision shall 251 be added to any other rebate allowed under this subsection.

252 (f) (1) In each calendar year of the rebate period, a qualified business 253 approved by the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection 254 (c) of this section that employs at least twenty-five new discretionary 255 FTEs in this state by December thirty-first of the calendar year that is 256 two calendar years prior to the calendar year in which the rebate is being 257 claimed shall be allowed a rebate equal to the sum of the amount 258 calculated pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of this section 259 and the greater of the following:

260 (A) The sum of:

261 (i) The lesser of the new discretionary FTEs (I) created in an opportunity zone or distressed municipality on December thirty-first of 262 263 the calendar year that is two calendar years prior to the calendar year in 264 which the rebate is being claimed, or (II) maintained in an opportunity 265 zone or distressed municipality in the previous calendar year, 266 multiplied by fifty per cent of the income tax that would be paid on the 267 average wage of the new discretionary FTEs, as determined by the 268 applicable marginal rate set forth in chapter 229 for an unmarried 269 individual based solely on such wages; and

(ii) The lesser of the new discretionary FTEs (I) created on Decemberthirty-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

279 (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 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] <u>subsection</u> 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.

320 (2) An approved qualified business that has fewer than twenty-five 321 new FTEs or, if at least one of the new FTEs is an individual with 322 intellectual disability, fewer than fifteen new FTEs, created in each of 323 two consecutive calendar years or, if such business is approved by the 324 commissioner pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this 325 section, fewer than twenty-five new discretionary FTEs in each of two 326 consecutive calendar years shall forfeit all remaining rebate allocations, 327 unless the commissioner recognizes mitigating circumstances of a 328 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

335 Department of Economic and Community Development.

336 (j) Not later than March fifteenth of each year during the rebate 337 period, the Department of Economic and Community Development 338 shall issue the approved qualified business a rebate voucher that sets 339 forth the amount of the rebate, as calculated pursuant to subsections (e) 340 and (f) of this section, and the taxable year against which such rebate 341 may be claimed. The approved qualified business shall claim such 342 rebate as a credit against the taxes due under chapter 208 or 228z or as 343 an offset of the tax imposed under chapter 207. The commissioner shall 344 annually provide to the Commissioner of Revenue Services a report 345 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.

(1) Not later than January 1, [2024] <u>2025</u>, 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.

Sec. 2. Section 32-285a of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

362 (a) As used in this section:

363 (1) "Administrative costs" means the costs paid or incurred by the
364 administrator of the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board
365 established under subsection (b) of this section, including, but not

limited to, allocated staff costs and other out-of-pocket costs attributableto the administration and operation of the board;

368 (2) "Administrator" means the Commissioner of Economic and369 Community Development, or the commissioner's designee;

370 (3) "Eligible project" means:

371 (A) [(i)] A project proposed by a municipality, community development corporation or nonprofit organization, for the purpose of 372 373 promoting economic or community development in the municipality or 374 a municipality served by such corporation or organization, such as 375 brownfield remediation, affordable housing, establishment of or 376 improvements to water and sewer infrastructure to support smaller 377 scale economic development, pedestrian safety and traffic calming 378 improvements, establishment of or improvements to energy resiliency 379 or clean energy projects and land acquisition, [and] capital projects to 380 construct, rehabilitate or renovate [buildings and structures] public 381 facilities such as libraries and senior centers and to facilitate or 382 [improve] enhance home rehabilitation programs; and [facilities such as 383 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]

390 (B) Such project [or grant-in-aid] furthers consistent and systematic 391 fair, just and impartial treatment of all individuals, including 392 individuals who belong to underserved and marginalized communities 393 that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino and 394 indigenous and Native American persons; Asian Americans and Pacific 395 Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; 396 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons and other persons 397 comprising the LGBTQ+ community; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty orinequality; 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:

407 (A) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president408 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;

412 (C) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives
413 and one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, each of
414 whom shall be a member of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the
415 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;

419 (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 daysafter June 30, 2021. The terms of the members appointed by the

427 Governor shall be coterminous with the term of the Governor or until 428 their successors are appointed, whichever is later. Any vacancy in 429 appointments shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any vacancy 430 occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance 431 of the unexpired term.

432 (3) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, it shall not 433 constitute a conflict of interest for a trustee, director, partner, officer, 434 stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee of any person to serve as 435 a member of the board, provided such trustee, director, partner, officer, 436 stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee abstains and absents 437 himself or herself from any deliberation, action and vote by the board in 438 specific respect to such person. The members appointed by the 439 Governor shall be deemed public officials and shall adhere to the code 440 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 thetransaction of any business.

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

450 (7) The board shall have the following powers and duties: (A) 451 [Review] To review eligible projects to be recommended to the 452 Governor under subsection (c) of this section for approval; (B) to 453 establish bylaws to govern its procedures; (C) to review and provide 454 comments to the Department of Economic and Community 455 Development on projects funded through the state's Economic Action 456 Plan as provided under section 32-4p; and (D) to perform such other acts 457 as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out its duties described in 458 this section.

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

462 (c) (1) The Community Investment Fund 2030 Board shall establish 463 an application and review process with guidelines and terms for funds 464 provided from the bond proceeds under subsection (d) of this section 465 for eligible projects. Such funds shall be used for costs related to an 466 eligible project recommended by the board and approved by the 467 Governor pursuant to this subsection but shall not be used to pay or to 468 reimburse the administrator for administrative costs under this section. 469 The Department of Economic and Community Development shall pay 470 for administrative costs within available appropriations.

471 (2) The chairpersons of the board shall notify the chief elected official 472 of each municipality when the application and review process has been 473 established and shall publicize the availability of any funds available 474 under this section. Each such official or any community development 475 corporation or nonprofit organization may submit an application to the 476 board requesting funds for an eligible project. The board shall meet to 477 consider applications submitted and determine which, if any, the board 478 will recommend to the Governor for approval.

479 (3) (A) The board shall give priority to eligible projects (i) that are 480 proposed by a municipality that (I) has implemented local hiring 481 preferences pursuant to section 7-112, or (II) has or will leverage 482 municipal, private, philanthropic or federal funds for such project, and 483 (ii) that have a project labor agreement or employ or will employ ex-484 offenders or individuals with physical, intellectual or developmental 485 disabilities. The board shall give additional priority to an application 486 submitted by a municipality that includes a letter of support for the 487 proposed eligible project from a member or members of the General 488 Assembly in whose district the eligible project is or will be located.

(B) In evaluating applications for an eligible project described insubparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section,

491 the board shall (i) [evaluate the risk of default on the repayment of a 492 proposed loan or financing, (ii)] consider the impact of the eligible 493 project on job creation or retention in the municipality, [(iii)] (ii) consider 494 the impact of the eligible project on blighted properties in the 495 municipality, and [(iv)] (iii) consider the overall impact of the eligible 496 project on the community. [The board shall not recommend any 497 proposed loan or financing under subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision 498 (3) of subsection (a) of this section for which the interest rate varies from 499 the prevailing market rate.]

500 (4) (A) Whenever the board deems it necessary or desirable, the 501 chairpersons of the board shall submit to the Governor a list of the 502 board's recommendations of eligible projects to be funded from bond 503 proceeds under subsection (d) of this section. The board may 504 recommend state funding for eligible projects, provided the total cost of 505 such recommendations shall not exceed one hundred seventy-five 506 million dollars in any fiscal year. Such list shall include, at a minimum 507 [:

(i) For] <u>for</u> each eligible project described in subparagraph [(A)(i)] (A)
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.
j; 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.]

522 (B) The Governor shall review the eligible projects on the list and may

523 recommend changes to any eligible project on the list. The Governor 524 shall determine the most appropriate method of funding for each 525 eligible project and shall provide to the members of the board, in 526 writing, such determination for each eligible project on the list and the 527 reasons therefor. The board may reconsider at a future meeting any 528 eligible project for which the Governor recommends a change. Each 529 eligible project for which the Governor recommends the allocation of 530 bond funds shall be considered at a State Bond Commission meeting not 531 later than two months after the date such eligible project was submitted 532 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.

540 (6) Not later than August 31, 2023, the board shall submit a report, in 541 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the General 542 Assembly, the Black and Puerto Rican caucus of the General Assembly, 543 the Auditors of Public Accounts and the Governor, for the preceding 544 fiscal year, that includes (A) a list of the eligible projects recommended 545 by the board and approved by the Governor pursuant to this section, (B) 546 the total amount of funds provided for such eligible projects, (C) for each such eligible project, a description of the project and the amounts 547 548 and terms of the funds provided, (D) the status of the project and any 549 balance remaining of the allocated funds, and (E) any other information 550 the board deems relevant or necessary. The board shall submit such 551 report annually for each fiscal year in which the funds specified in 552 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection are disbursed for 553 eligible projects.

554 (7) The Auditors of Public Accounts shall audit, on a biennial basis, 555 all eligible projects funded under this section and shall report their findings to the Governor, the Secretary of the Office of Policy andManagement and the General Assembly.

558 (d) (1) The State Bond Commission may authorize the issuance of 559 bonds of the state, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20, in 560 principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate eight hundred 561 seventy-five million dollars. The amount authorized for the issuance 562 and sale of such bonds in each of the following fiscal years shall not 563 exceed the following corresponding amount for each such fiscal year, 564 except that, to the extent the State Bond Commission does not provide 565 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 566 567 authorized amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided 568 further, the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be 569 added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the 570 authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year 571 indicated as follows:

T1	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Amount
T2	2023	\$175,000,000
T3	2024	175,000,000
T4	2025	175,000,000
T5	2026	175,000,000
T6	2027	175,000,000
Τ7	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

580 Commission may authorize the issuance of bonds of the state, in 581 accordance with the provisions of section 3-20, in principal amounts not 582 exceeding in the aggregate one billion two hundred fifty million dollars. 583 The amount authorized for the issuance and sale of such bonds in each 584 of the following fiscal years shall not exceed the following 585 corresponding amount for each such fiscal year, except that, to the 586 extent the State Bond Commission does not provide for the use of all or 587 a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year, such amount not 588 provided for shall be carried forward and added to the authorized 589 amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided further, the 590 costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be added to the 591 capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the authorized amounts 592 shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year indicated as follows:

T8	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Amount
T9	2028	\$250,000,000
T10	2029	250,000,000
T11	2030	250,000,000
T12	2031	250,000,000
T13	2032	250,000,000
T14	Total	\$1,250,000,000

(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.

(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.

611 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 4-66c of the 2024 supplement to the 612 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu 613 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

614 (d) Any economic development project eligible for assistance under 615 this section may include but not be limited to: (1) The construction or 616 rehabilitation of commercial, industrial and mixed use structures; and 617 (2) the construction, reconstruction or repair of roads, accessways and other site improvements. The state, acting by and in the discretion of the 618 619 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, may enter 620 into a contract for state financial assistance for any eligible economic or 621 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 622 623 for which the grant is made as determined and approved by the 624 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development. Before 625 entering into a grant-in-aid contract the Commissioner of Economic and 626 Community Development shall have approved an application 627 submitted on forms provided by the commissioner [. No project shall be 628 undertaken until the Commissioner of Economic and Community 629 Development approves the plans, specifications and estimated costs. 630 The commissioner may adopt such regulations, in accordance with 631 chapter 54, as are necessary for the implementation of this section] and 632 with such information the commissioner deems necessary to evaluate 633 such application. The commissioner shall establish the terms and conditions of any grant-in-aid contract for any economic development 634 635 project under this section and may make any stipulation in connection 636 with such contract.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:			
Section 1	from passage	32-7t	
Sec. 2	from passage	32-285a	
Sec. 3	from passage	4-66c(d)	

## Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(c)(2), "meet" was changed to "satisfy" for internal consistency.

CE Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO