



House Bill No. 6496

Public Act No. 23-64

AN ACT CONCERNING TEST BED TECHNOLOGIES.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) (1) There is established a test bed technologies advisory board, which shall, within available appropriations, meet not less than twice a year to undertake the advisory board's powers and duties pursuant to this section. The advisory board shall be an independent body within the Office of Policy and Management for administrative purposes only. The advisory board shall consist of the following members, who shall have experience working in private sector businesses or in state agencies: (A) One appointed by the Governor; (B) one appointed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; (C) one appointed by the Treasurer; and (D) one appointed by the Comptroller.

(2) If, in the exercise of the advisory board's powers and duties pursuant to this section, the advisory board finds that (A) the use of a certain technology, product or process would promote operational cost reduction, and (B) the use of such technology, product or process would be feasible in the operations of a state agency and would not have any detrimental effect on such operations, the advisory board shall recommend such technology, product or process to be tested by a state agency by using it in the operations of such agency on a trial basis. The

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purpose of such test program shall be to validate the effectiveness of such technology, product or process in reducing operational costs.

(b) (1) The commissioner of each state agency shall administer pilot test programs at state agencies for the use of technologies, products or processes that promote operational cost reduction. The purpose of such test programs shall be to validate the effectiveness of such technologies, products or processes in reducing operational costs.

(2) Applicants interested in participating in such a program shall submit an application to the commissioner of the state agency that administers such program. Such commissioner shall review such application for completeness not later than thirty days after receipt of such application. Not later than ninety days after receipt of such application, such commissioner shall determine whether to file a request to the advisory board for a recommendation to test any such technology, product or process that is the subject of such application.

(c) Not later than thirty days after receipt of any request filed by the commissioner of a state agency pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, the advisory board shall evaluate any technology, product or process that is the subject of such request and make a recommendation pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section.

(d) If the advisory board recommends a technology, product or process to be tested by a state agency by using it in the operations of such agency on a trial basis, such agency, notwithstanding the requirements of chapter 58 of the general statutes, shall accept delivery of such technology, product or process and undertake such a test program. A state agency that is directed to test, or receives approval to test, any such technology, product or process shall use it in the operations of such agency on a trial basis for not less than thirty days and not more than sixty days.

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(e) Any costs associated with the acquisition and use of such technology, product or process by the testing agency for the test period shall be borne by the manufacturer, the marketer or any investor or participant in such business. The acquisition of any technology, product or process for purposes of the test program established pursuant to this section shall not be deemed to be a purchase under the provisions of state procurement law. The manufacturer, the marketer or any investor or participant in such business shall maintain records related to such test program, as required by the advisory board. All proprietary information derived from such test program shall be exempt from the provisions of subsection (a) of section 1-210 of the general statutes.

(f) No agency shall undertake such testing of any technology, product or process unless the business manufacturing or marketing the technology, product or process demonstrates that (1) the use of such technology, product or process by the state agency will not adversely affect safety, (2) the technology, product or process is presently available for commercial sale and distribution or has potential for commercialization not later than two years following the completion of any test program by a state agency pursuant to this section, and (3) such technology, product or process was not developed by a business that is eligible to participate in the test program established pursuant to section 32-39e of the general statutes.

(g) If the commissioner of the state agency testing such technology, product or process determines that the test program sufficiently demonstrates that the technology, product or process promotes operational cost reduction, such testing agency may request that the Commissioner of Administrative Services (1) procure such technology for use by any or all state agencies, and (2) make such procurement pursuant to subsection (b) of section 4a-58 of the general statutes. If the Commissioner of Administrative Services grants a request to procure such technology for any state agency, the Commissioner of

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Administrative Services shall make information regarding such procurement available to all state agencies on the Internet web site of the Department of Administrative Services.

(h) The commissioner of a state agency may identify a technology, product or process that is procured, installed and tested by a municipality that promotes operational cost reduction. Such commissioner may file a request to the advisory board for a recommendation to test such technology, product or process. Not later than thirty days after receipt of such request, the advisory board shall evaluate the technology, product or process and make a recommendation pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section. If the advisory board recommends such technology, product or process, such agency shall undertake a test program in accordance with the provisions of subsections (d) to (g), inclusive, of this section.