



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 102

LCO No. 1165



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:
(HED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. Section 32-4i of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,
4 in consultation with the Commissioner of Revenue Services and the
5 president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, [may] shall
6 establish the Learn Here, Live Here program. Such program [may] shall
7 provide an incentive for graduates of a public or independent institution
8 of higher education [, private university or college,] or health care
9 training school in this state, or graduates from a technical education and
10 career school, to buy a first home in the state. Persons who graduate on
11 or after January 1, 2014, from such institutions [, universities, colleges]
12 or schools may have their income tax liability, up to a maximum of two
13 thousand five hundred dollars annually, segregated into the
14 Connecticut first-time homebuyers account established pursuant to
15 section 32-4j, provided not more than one million dollars from all

16 program participants may be so segregated in any calendar year. After
17 a period not exceeding ten years after graduation, any amounts so
18 segregated may be withdrawn by a participant for the purchase of a first
19 home in the state. The Commissioner of Economic and Community
20 Development [may] shall make payments in accordance with this
21 section from said fund to the participants. For the purposes of this
22 section, "health care training school" means a medical or dental school,
23 chiropractic college, school or college of optometry, school or college of
24 chiropody or podiatry, school of occupational therapy, hospital-based
25 occupational school, school or college of naturopathy, school of dental
26 hygiene, school of physical therapy or any other school or institution
27 giving instruction in the healing arts.

28 (b) (1) After a period not exceeding ten years after the date of
29 graduation, a participant in the program established pursuant to
30 subsection (a) of this section may apply to the Commissioner of
31 Economic and Community Development for a payment to be issued, on
32 behalf of such participant, and used as the down payment on a house,
33 which [must] shall be the first house such participant has bought, either
34 singly or jointly. Such payment may be in an amount equal to the
35 amount of segregated funds deposited on behalf of such participant. If
36 the payment is less than such amount, any excess amount shall be
37 deposited in the General Fund.

38 (2) If a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to one year
39 after [such date] the date on which the Commissioner of Economic and
40 Community Development issued the payment to the participant, such
41 participant shall repay one hundred per cent of the amount paid out. If
42 a participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to two years after
43 [such] the date of such payment, such participant shall repay eighty per
44 cent of the amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at
45 any time up to three years after [such] the date of such payment, such
46 participant shall repay sixty per cent of the amount paid out. If a
47 participant ceases to live in the state at any time up to four years after
48 [such] the date of such payment, such participant shall repay forty per
49 cent of the amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at

50 any time up to five years after [such] the date of such payment, such
51 participant shall repay twenty per cent of the amount paid out. After
52 five years, there is no repayment obligation. Any amounts repaid under
53 this subdivision shall be deposited in the General Fund.

54 (c) On or before December 1, [2012] 2020, the Commissioner of
55 Economic and Community Development [may] shall develop, within
56 available appropriations, a comprehensive public education program to
57 educate recent graduates of a public or independent institution of higher
58 education [, private university or college,] or health care training school
59 in the state, or of a technical education and career school, about the
60 program established under this section for first-time home buyers. The
61 public education program shall include, but not be limited to,
62 information concerning life-time savings plans and information on the
63 purchase of a home. [If the commissioner develops such public
64 education program, the] The department shall begin to implement such
65 program not later than January 1, [2014] 2021.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	32-4i

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Department of Economic and Community Development to implement the Learn Here, Live Here Program.

[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.]