



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

***Raised Bill No. 160***

LCO No. 1328



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:  
(CE)

***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 Section 32-4i of the general statutes is repealed and the  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 from passage*):

3 (a) [The] On or before October 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Economic  
4 and Community Development, in consultation with the Commissioner  
5 of Revenue Services and the president of the Connecticut State Colleges  
6 and Universities, [may] shall establish the Learn Here, Live Here  
7 program. Such program [may] shall provide an incentive for graduates  
8 of a public or private high school, public institution of higher education,  
9 private university or college, or health care training school in this state,  
10 or graduates from a technical education and career school, to buy a first  
11 home in the state. Persons (1) who graduate on or after January 1, [2014]  
12 2025, from such high schools, institutions, universities, colleges or  
13 schools, and (2) whose annual federal adjusted gross income is not more  
14 than seventy-five thousand dollars, may have their income tax liability,  
15 up to a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars annually,  
16 segregated into the Connecticut first-time homebuyers account

17 established pursuant to section 32-4j, provided not more than [one] five  
18 million dollars from all program participants may be so segregated in  
19 any calendar year. After a period not exceeding ten years after  
20 graduation, any amounts so segregated may be withdrawn by a  
21 participant for the purchase of a first home in the state. The  
22 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development may make  
23 payments in accordance with this section from said fund to the  
24 participants. For the purposes of this section, "health care training  
25 school" means a medical or dental school, chiropractic college, school or  
26 college of optometry, school or college of chiropody or podiatry, school  
27 of occupational therapy, hospital-based occupational school, school or  
28 college of naturopathy, school of dental hygiene, school of physical  
29 therapy or any other school or institution giving instruction in the  
30 healing arts.

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

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

51 cent of the amount paid out. If a participant ceases to live in the state at  
52 any time up to five years after such date, such participant shall repay  
53 twenty per cent of the amount paid out. After five years, there is no  
54 repayment obligation. Any amounts repaid under this subdivision shall  
55 be deposited in the General Fund.

56 (c) On or before December 1, [2012] 2024, the Commissioner of  
57 Economic and Community Development [may] shall develop, within  
58 available appropriations, a comprehensive public education program to  
59 educate recent graduates of a public or private high school, public  
60 institution of higher education, private university or college, or health  
61 care training school in the state, or of a technical education and career  
62 school, about the program established under this section for first-time  
63 home buyers. The public education program shall include, but not be  
64 limited to, information concerning life-time savings plans and  
65 information on the purchase of a home. [If the commissioner develops  
66 such public education program, the department] The commissioner  
67 shall begin to implement such program not later than January 1, [2014]  
68 2025.

69 Sec. 2. Section 32-4k of the general statutes is repealed and the  
70 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

71 As part of the Learn Here, Live Here program established pursuant  
72 to section 32-4i, as amended by this act, for taxable years commencing  
73 on or after January 1, [2014] 2025, the Commissioner of Revenue Services  
74 shall segregate the income taxes paid by a participant in said program  
75 during a period not exceeding ten taxable years following the year of  
76 graduation. Upon the request of such participant, the commissioner  
77 shall segregate an annual amount of such tax liability, up to a maximum  
78 of two thousand five hundred dollars per year. The total amount  
79 segregated for all program participants shall not exceed [one] five  
80 million dollars in any calendar year. The commissioner shall deposit  
81 such segregated amounts into the Connecticut first-time homebuyers  
82 account established pursuant to section 32-4j.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	32-4i
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	32-4k

**Statement of Purpose:**

To: (1) Require the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to establish the Learn Here, Live Here program; (2) increase the annual expenditure on such program to not more than five million dollars; and (3) make such program available to individuals whose annual federal adjusted gross income is not more than seventy-five thousand dollars.

*[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.]*