



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Raised Bill No. 1134**

LCO No. 4900



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECRUITMENT OF LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR APPRENTICE PROSECUTOR POSITIONS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 51-278 of the  
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (b) (1) (A) The Criminal Justice Commission shall appoint (i) two  
5 deputy chief state's attorneys as assistant administrative heads of the  
6 Division of Criminal Justice, one of whom shall be deputy chief state's  
7 attorney for operations and one of whom shall be deputy chief state's  
8 attorney for personnel, finance and administration, who shall assist the  
9 Chief State's Attorney in his duties, and (ii) one deputy chief state's  
10 attorney who shall be appointed by the commission, as provided in  
11 subdivision (8) of this subsection, to serve as Inspector General in  
12 accordance with section 51-277e, who shall receive his or her  
13 prosecutorial powers as a designee of the Chief State's Attorney. The  
14 term of office of a deputy chief state's attorney shall be four years from  
15 July first in the year of appointment and until the appointment and  
16 qualification of a successor unless sooner removed by the Criminal

17 Justice Commission. The Criminal Justice Commission shall designate  
18 one deputy chief state's attorney appointed under subparagraph (A)(i)  
19 of this subsection who shall, in the absence or disqualification of the  
20 Chief State's Attorney, exercise the powers and duties of the Chief  
21 State's Attorney until such Chief State's Attorney resumes his duties.  
22 For the purposes of this subparagraph, the Criminal Justice  
23 Commission means the members of the commission other than the  
24 Chief State's Attorney. (B) The Criminal Justice Commission shall  
25 appoint a state's attorney for each judicial district, who shall act therein  
26 as attorney on behalf of the state. The Criminal Justice Commission  
27 shall also appoint, from candidates recommended by the appropriate  
28 state's attorney and deemed qualified by the commission, as many  
29 assistant state's attorneys and deputy assistant state's attorneys on a  
30 full-time or part-time basis for each judicial district as the criminal  
31 business of the court, in the opinion of the Chief State's Attorney, may  
32 require, and the commission shall also appoint, from candidates  
33 recommended by the Chief State's Attorney and deemed qualified by  
34 the commission, as many assistant state's attorneys and deputy  
35 assistant state's attorneys as are necessary, in the opinion of the Chief  
36 State's Attorney, to assist the Chief State's Attorney. Notwithstanding  
37 the provisions of subsection (a) of section 51-278a, the commission may  
38 interview and appoint to the position of apprentice prosecutor any  
39 student of an accredited law school who is in the second semester of  
40 such student's third year of studies and who is a certified legal intern  
41 pursuant to the rules of the Superior Court. Any person so appointed  
42 shall advance to the position of deputy assistant state's attorney upon  
43 such person gaining admission to the Connecticut bar within one year  
44 of the date of such person's graduation from such law school. Assistant  
45 state's attorneys and deputy assistant state's attorneys, respectively,  
46 shall assist the state's attorneys for the judicial districts and the Chief  
47 State's Attorney in all criminal matters and, in the absence from the  
48 district or disability of the state's attorney or at his request, shall have  
49 and exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of state's  
50 attorney. At least three such assistant state's attorneys or deputy  
51 assistant state's attorneys shall be designated by the Chief State's

52 Attorney to handle all prosecutions in the state of housing matters  
53 deemed to be criminal. Any assistant or deputy assistant state's  
54 attorney so designated should have a commitment to the maintenance  
55 of decent, safe and sanitary housing and, to the extent practicable, shall  
56 handle housing matters on a full-time basis. At least one assistant  
57 state's attorney shall be designated by the Chief State's Attorney to  
58 handle all prosecutions in the state of environmental matters deemed  
59 to be criminal. Any assistant state's attorney so designated should have  
60 a commitment to protecting the environment and, to the extent  
61 practicable, shall handle environmental matters on a full-time basis.  
62 (C) The Chief State's Attorney may promote any assistant state's  
63 attorney, or deputy assistant state's attorney who assists him, and the  
64 appropriate state's attorney may promote any assistant state's attorney  
65 or deputy assistant state's attorney who assists such state's attorney in  
66 the judicial district. The Chief State's Attorney shall notify the Criminal  
67 Justice Commission of any such promotion.

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                     |              |
| Section 1                                                                     | <i>from passage</i> | 51-278(b)(1) |

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*