

# Labor and Public Employees Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** HB-5491 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING CENTRALIZATION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
**Title:** INFORMATION.

**Vote Date:** 3/19/2026

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 3/10/2026

**File No.:**

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Labor & Public Employees Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

The reason for this bill is to compile workforce development information within a single website, to make it more understandable and accessible to residents of the state seeking employment.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**Dante Bartolomeo, Commissioner, CT Department of Labor:** Submitted testimony in opposition stating CTDOL already has their official website and CT hires that assists job seekers. The sites already provide links to services and programs that help with job searchers. They believe those two sites already accomplish what the bill asks for and if CTDOL must make another site due to the bill it will have a fiscal impact.

### NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

**CHA, Connecticut Hospital Association:** Submitted testimony in support stating that the bill would require CTDOL to create a web page that would contain job training, career counseling and workforce development programs. They explain the legislation is aligned with a recommendation from 2024 and 2025 from the Comptroller Healthcare Cabinet reports. Those reports call for a centralized clearing house for stat programs.

### NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

**Anonymous 12 and Anonymous 13:** Submitted testimony in opposition to the bill for reasons largely unrelated to the substance of the bill.

**Reported by: Lawrence Sanchez**

**Date: 3/30/2026**