



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 3903



Offered by:

SEN. HARTLEY, 15th Dist.
REP. MESKERS, 150th Dist.
SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.

REP. ANISKOVICH, 35th Dist.
SEN. GADKAR-WILCOX, 22nd Dist.
SEN. MARONEY, 14th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 132

File No. 70

Cal. No. 70

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT-GERMANY TRADE COMMISSION."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
4 Connecticut-Germany Trade Commission, which shall be part of the
5 Legislative Department.

6 (b) The commission shall consist of the following members:

7 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

8 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

9 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of
10 Representatives;

- 11 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
- 12 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
13 Representatives;
- 14 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
- 15 (7) Two members of the joint standing committee of the General
16 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, one of
17 whom shall be appointed by the Senate chairperson of such committee
18 and one of whom shall be appointed by the House chairperson of such
19 committee;
- 20 (8) The ranking members of the joint standing committee of the
21 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce,
22 or their designees;
- 23 (9) Three persons appointed by the Governor;
- 24 (10) A representative of a public institution of higher education in the
25 state, who shall be appointed by the Governor;
- 26 (11) A representative of a chamber of commerce in the state, who shall
27 be appointed by the Governor;
- 28 (12) Two representatives of German or German-American
29 communities in the state, who shall be appointed by the Governor and
30 shall not be members of the same political party;
- 31 (13) A diplomatic representative of Germany in an honorary consular
32 capacity if such diplomatic representative is willing to fulfill the duties
33 of the trade commission, who shall be appointed by the Governor; and
- 34 (14) Any additional members, as deemed necessary by the
35 chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
36 having cognizance of matters relating to commerce.
- 37 (c) The members of the commission shall each have current or past

38 involvement in organizations that promote German affairs or are
39 interested in the well-being of trade relations between the state and
40 Germany.

41 (d) Any member of the commission appointed under subdivisions (1)
42 to (6), inclusive, and subdivision (14) of subsection (b) of this section
43 may be a member of the General Assembly.

44 (e) (1) All initial appointments to the commission shall be made not
45 later than October 1, 2026. Initial appointments made by the Governor,
46 the majority leader of the House of Representatives and the minority
47 leader of the House of Representatives shall terminate on September 30,
48 2029. Initial appointments made by the speaker of the House of
49 Representatives, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the majority
50 leader of the Senate and the minority leader of the Senate shall terminate
51 on September 30, 2030. The initial and subsequent terms of members
52 appointed by the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the
53 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce
54 shall be coterminous with the terms of the appointing authority for each
55 such member in accordance with the provisions of section 4-1a of the
56 general statutes.

57 (2) Appointed members of the commission shall serve for four-year
58 terms which shall commence on the date of appointment, except as
59 provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection. Members shall continue
60 to serve until their successors are appointed.

61 (f) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
62 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the commission
63 from among the members of the commission. Such chairpersons shall
64 schedule the first meeting of the commission, which shall be held not
65 later than November 1, 2026.

66 (g) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
67 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer
68 protection shall serve as administrative staff of the commission.

69 (h) Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any
70 vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the
71 balance of the unexpired term.

72 (i) A majority of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the
73 transaction of any business.

74 (j) The members of the commission shall serve without
75 compensation, but shall, within the limits of available funds, be
76 reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of
77 their duties.

78 (k) The commission shall have the following powers and duties: (1)
79 To advance bilateral trade and investment between the state and
80 Germany; (2) to initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest
81 to the state and Germany; (3) to promote business and academic
82 exchanges between the state and Germany; (4) to encourage mutual
83 economic support between the state and Germany; (5) to encourage
84 mutual investment in the infrastructure of the state and Germany; (6) to
85 address such other issues as determined by the commission; (7) to obtain
86 from any executive department, board, commission or other agency of
87 the state such assistance and data as are necessary and available to carry
88 out the purposes of this section; (8) to accept any gift, donation or
89 bequest for the purpose of performing the duties described in this
90 section; and (9) to perform such other acts as may be necessary and
91 appropriate to carry out the duties described in this section.

92 (l) The commission shall meet quarterly, or as often as deemed
93 necessary by the chairpersons or a majority of the commission. Any
94 appointed member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or
95 who fails to attend fifty per cent of all meetings held during any
96 calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from the commission.

97 (m) Not later than February 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, the
98 commission shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
99 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor, the Commissioner

100 of Economic and Community Development and the joint standing
101 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
102 relating to commerce on the activities of the commission during the
103 preceding year, which shall include, but need not be limited to, any
104 recommendations for policy changes and amendments to the general
105 statutes necessary to effectuate the purposes of the commission.

106 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
107 Connecticut-India Trade Commission, which shall be part of the
108 Legislative Department.

109 (b) The commission shall consist of the following members:

110 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
111 one of whom shall have expertise in domestic nonprofit affairs or
112 matters relating to the governance of international nonprofit
113 organizations or nongovernmental organizations that may have
114 information concerning opportunities for social and economic
115 collaboration between Connecticut and India;

116 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
117 whom shall have expertise in domestic legal affairs or international law
118 that may impact legal agreements, trade partnerships or opportunities
119 for institutional collaboration between Connecticut and India;

120 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of
121 Representatives, one of whom shall have expertise in matters of
122 domestic or global public health, and an ability to explore opportunities
123 for collaboration between Connecticut and India;

124 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of whom
125 shall have expertise in local, domestic or global economic development
126 and investment opportunities intended to strengthen the partnership
127 between Connecticut and India;

128 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
129 Representatives, one of whom shall have expertise in opportunities in

130 the arts intended to foster and enhance cultural exchange between
131 Connecticut and India;

132 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
133 shall have expertise in domestic or global advanced manufacturing
134 intended to establish opportunities for investment, partnership and
135 collaboration between Connecticut and India;

136 (7) Two members of the joint standing committee of the General
137 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, one of
138 whom shall be appointed by the Senate chairperson of such committee
139 and one of whom shall be appointed by the House chairperson of such
140 committee;

141 (8) The ranking members of the joint standing committee of the
142 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce,
143 or their designees;

144 (9) Two members of the bipartisan Asian-American and Pacific
145 Islander Issues Caucus of the General Assembly, both of whom shall
146 have expertise in Asian-American and Pacific Islander cultural and
147 social engagement;

148 (10) One member of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors,
149 Equity and Opportunity, who is a member of the subcommission
150 concerning matters relating to the Asian Pacific-American population;

151 (11) Three persons appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall
152 have expertise in matters relating to aerospace, information technology,
153 cybersecurity, renewable energy or clean energy;

154 (12) Two representatives of a public institution of higher education in
155 the state, who shall be appointed by the Governor;

156 (13) A representative of a chamber of commerce in the state, who shall
157 be appointed by the Governor;

158 (14) Two representatives of Indian or Indian-American communities

159 in the state, who shall be appointed by the Governor and shall not be
160 members of the same political party; and

161 (15) Any additional members, as deemed necessary by the
162 chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
163 having cognizance of matters relating to commerce.

164 (c) The members of the commission shall each have current or past
165 involvement in organizations that promote Indian affairs or are
166 interested in the well-being of trade relations between the state and
167 India.

168 (d) Any member of the commission appointed under subdivisions (1)
169 to (6), inclusive, and subdivision (15) of subsection (b) of this section
170 may be a member of the General Assembly.

171 (e) (1) All initial appointments to the commission shall be made not
172 later than October 1, 2026. Initial appointments made by the Governor,
173 the majority leader of the House of Representatives and the minority
174 leader of the House of Representatives shall terminate on September 30,
175 2029. Initial appointments made by the speaker of the House of
176 Representatives, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the majority
177 leader of the Senate and the minority leader of the Senate shall terminate
178 on September 30, 2030. The initial and subsequent terms of members
179 appointed by the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the
180 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce
181 shall be coterminous with the terms of the appointing authority for each
182 such member in accordance with the provisions of section 4-1a of the
183 general statutes.

184 (2) Appointed members of the commission shall serve for four-year
185 terms which shall commence on the date of appointment, except as
186 provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection. Members shall continue
187 to serve until their successors are appointed.

188 (f) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
189 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the commission

190 from among the members of the commission. Such chairpersons shall
191 schedule the first meeting of the commission, which shall be held not
192 later than November 1, 2026.

193 (g) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
194 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government
195 oversight shall serve as administrative staff of the commission.

196 (h) Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any
197 vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the
198 balance of the unexpired term.

199 (i) A majority of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the
200 transaction of any business.

201 (j) The members of the commission shall serve without
202 compensation, but shall, within the limits of available funds, be
203 reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of
204 their duties.

205 (k) The commission shall have the following powers and duties: (1)
206 To advance bilateral trade and investment between the state and India;
207 (2) to initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to the state
208 and India; (3) to promote business and academic exchanges between the
209 state and India; (4) to encourage mutual economic support between the
210 state and India; (5) to encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure
211 of the state and India; (6) to explore new opportunities for collaboration
212 in the arts and technology between the state and India; (7) to address
213 such other issues as determined by the commission; (8) to obtain from
214 any executive department, board, commission or other agency of the
215 state such assistance and data as are necessary and available to carry out
216 the purposes of this section; (9) to accept any gift, donation or bequest
217 for the purpose of performing the duties described in this section; and
218 (10) to perform such other acts as may be necessary and appropriate to
219 carry out the duties described in this section.

220 (l) The commission shall meet quarterly, or as often as deemed

221 necessary by the chairpersons or a majority of the commission. Any
222 appointed member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or
223 who fails to attend fifty per cent of all meetings held during any
224 calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from the commission.

225 (m) Not later than February 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, the
226 commission shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
227 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor, the Commissioner
228 of Economic and Community Development and the joint standing
229 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
230 relating to commerce on the activities of the commission during the
231 preceding year, which shall include, but need not be limited to, any
232 recommendations for policy changes and amendments to the general
233 statutes necessary to effectuate the purposes of the commission."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section