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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sHB 5241**

#### ***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE JUSTICE DEMONSTRATION PILOT PROGRAM.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner, in collaboration with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner, to establish, by January 1, 2027, a Triple Bottom Line Justice (TBLJ) demonstration pilot program.

Specifically, the DPH commissioner must (1) create the TBLJ pilot program in a city with a population over 148,000 according to the most recent decennial U.S. census (Bridgeport) and (2) contract with an existing community-led redevelopment organization in the city to run the program. Under the bill, “TBLJ” is the integration of evidence-based practice, rule of law, and meaningful community engagement to tackle health, environmental, and economic challenges faced by children, families, and communities.

The program must serve as a proof-of-concept for TBLJ programming related to Brownfields to Healthfields (B2H) that advances healthy, safe, and vibrant communities. Under the bill, “B2H” is community-led brownfield redevelopment to transform contaminated properties in areas with pollution, disease, poverty, and violence into uses that strengthen children, family and community physical and mental health, resiliency, equity, and vitality.

The bill requires the TBLJ pilot program to have the following two goals:

1. describe B2H environmental remediation methods and outcomes in order to produce educational curriculum and programming that may be applied to other Connecticut communities; and

2. detail the integrated environmental, health, and economic benefits of B2H and potential state cost savings generated by federal and state brownfields funding.

The DPH commissioner, in collaboration with the DEEP commissioner, must report on the pilot program's findings and recommendations to the Environment, Insurance and Real Estate, and Public Health committees by January 1, 2028. The pilot program ends when the commissioner submits this report or on January 1, 2028, whichever is later.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Legislative History***

The House referred the bill (File 41) to the Appropriations Committee, which reported a substitute that, among other things, removed provisions that would have required DPH to design and implement an education program on and plan to increase the use of certain diagnostic codes in insurance claims.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

### Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 11 (03/09/2026)

### Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 37 Nay 12 (04/14/2026)