



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 710**

February Session, 2026

Substitute House Bill No. 5241

*House of Representatives, April 21, 2026*

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. WALKER of the 93rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

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

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

2 (1) "Triple Bottom Line Justice" or "TBLJ" means the integration of  
3 evidence-based practice, rule of law and meaningful community  
4 engagement to tackle health, environmental and economic challenges  
5 faced by children, families and communities.

6 (2) "Environmental and climate stressors" means physical, chemical,  
7 biological or climate-related conditions in the external environment that  
8 adversely impact human physical and mental health, including, but not  
9 limited to, air, land and water pollution, extreme heat and severe  
10 weather events.

11 (3) "Brownfields to Healthfields" or "B2H" means the TBLJ  
12 methodology for community-led brownfield redevelopment in areas

13 with pollution, disease, poverty and violence to transform contaminated  
14 properties into reuses that strengthen children, family and community  
15 physical and mental health, resiliency, equity and vitality.

16 (b) Not later than January 1, 2027, the Commissioner of Public Health,  
17 in collaboration with the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
18 Protection, shall establish a Triple Bottom Line Justice demonstration  
19 pilot program to serve as a proof-of-concept for TBLJ programming  
20 relating to B2H that advances healthy, safe and vibrant communities.  
21 The commissioner shall establish such program in a city with a  
22 population of more than one hundred forty-eight thousand, as  
23 determined in accordance with the most recent decennial United States  
24 census and contract with an existing community-led redevelopment  
25 organization located in such city to administer the program.

26 (c) The goal of the program shall be to: (1) Delineate the methodology  
27 and outcomes for environmental remediation achieved through B2H to  
28 produce educational curriculum and programming for application to  
29 communities in the state; and (2) delineate the integrated  
30 environmental, health and economic benefits of B2H that strengthen  
31 children, family and community resiliency, equity and vitality and the  
32 potential cost savings to the state generated by federal and state  
33 brownfields funding.

34 (d) Not later than January 1, 2028, the Commissioner of Public Health,  
35 in collaboration with the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
36 Protection, shall issue a final report, in accordance with section 11-4a of  
37 the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General  
38 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, the  
39 environment and insurance regarding the findings and  
40 recommendations of the pilot program. The pilot program shall  
41 terminate on the date the commissioner issues such report or January 1,  
42 2028, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2026	New section
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**APP**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	178,200	149,300
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	31,000	20,600

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to establish a Triple Bottom Line Justice (TBLJ) pilot program, resulting in a total estimated General Fund cost of \$209,200 in FY 27 and \$169,900 in FY 28.

It is anticipated that DPH will hire one durational State Program Manager, at a cost of \$74,000 (with \$31,000 fringe benefits) in FY 27 and \$49,300 in FY 28 (with \$20,600 fringe benefits), to coordinate the pilot program and manage community contracts until its termination on January 1, 2028.

Other Expenses costs to DPH are anticipated to total \$104,200 in FY 27 and \$100,000 in FY 28. An estimated cost of \$100,000 in both FY 27 and FY 28 is required to contract with a community-led redevelopment organization to lead local remediation elements of the pilot. Additionally, in FY 27 only, there is cost of \$4,200 to supply the new

<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 41.82% of payroll in FY 27.

position with a personal laptop, software, and office supplies.

***The Out Years***

There is no cost in the out years due to the pilot's termination during FY 28.

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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)