



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 582**

January Session, 2025

Senate Bill No. 1465

*Senate, April 8, 2025*

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. MARONEY of the 14th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF CONSUMER PROTECTION TO ALLOW CERTAIN SKILLED TRADE LICENSEES TO DEVIATE FROM CERTAIN SKILLED TRADE HIRING RATIOS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 20-332b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall amend existing  
4 regulations of Connecticut state agencies adopted pursuant to section  
5 20-332 to specify the following allowable hiring ratios regarding  
6 apprentices, journeymen and contractors for the following trades:

T1	TRADE	
T2	Electrical, Plumbing, Heating, Piping and Cooling,	
T3	Sprinkler Fitter and Sheet Metal Work	
T4		
T5	Apprentices	Licensees
T6		(Journeymen or Contractors)
T7	1	1
T8	2	2
T9	3	3
T10	4	6

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T11	5	9
T12	6	12
T13	7	15
T14	8	18
T15	9	21
T16	10	24
T17		
T18	Ratio continues at 3 Journeypersons	
T19	To 1 Apprentice	

7     (b) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this  
8     section, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection may allow a licensed  
9     contractor in the electrical, plumbing, heating, piping and cooling,  
10    sprinkler fitter or sheet metal work trades to hire one or more additional  
11    apprentices even if the licensed contractor does not employ a sufficient  
12    number of licensees to satisfy the applicable allowing hiring ratio  
13    established in the regulations amended pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
14    section, provided:

15     (A) The licensed contractor submits an application to the Department  
16     of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the  
17     commissioner, for each such apprentice, which application shall (i)  
18     disclose the name of the licensed contractor and the name of the  
19     apprentice, (ii) demonstrate that good cause exists for the commissioner  
20     to allow the licensed contractor to hire the apprentice, and (iii) include  
21     any other information the commissioner, in the commissioner's  
22     discretion, deems relevant for the purposes of this subsection; and

23     (B) The commissioner determines, after reviewing the application  
24     submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision and in the  
25     commissioner's discretion, that good cause exists for the commissioner  
26     to allow the licensed contractor to hire the apprentice.

27     (2) Not later than ten business days after a licensed contractor  
28     submits an application to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection  
29     pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the  
30     commissioner shall (A) complete the commissioner's review of such  
31     application, (B) determine whether good cause exists for the

32 commissioner to allow the licensed contractor to hire the apprentice,  
33 and (C) send notice to the licensed contractor, in a form and manner  
34 prescribed by the commissioner, disclosing the commissioner's  
35 determination regarding whether good cause exists for the  
36 commissioner to allow the licensed contractor to hire the apprentice.

37 (3) If the Commissioner of Consumer Protection does not send notice  
38 to the licensed contractor within the ten-business-day period  
39 established in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the licensed contractor's  
40 application shall be deemed to have been approved by the  
41 commissioner.

42 (4) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, in accordance  
43 with the provisions of chapter 54, amend any regulations adopted  
44 pursuant to section 20-332 and amended pursuant to subsection (a) of  
45 this section for the purposes of this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	July 1, 2025	20-332b
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**GL**      *Joint Favorable*

*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.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill creates a process for certain occupational licenses to apply to the Department of Consumer Protection to hire an additional apprentice resulting in a potential revenue gain to the state to the extent additional occupational licenses are applied for.

#### **The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of licenses applied for.

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 1465*****AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF CONSUMER PROTECTION TO ALLOW CERTAIN SKILLED TRADE LICENSEES TO DEVIATE FROM CERTAIN SKILLED TRADE HIRING RATIOS.*****SUMMARY**

Existing law sets a hiring ratio that certain trades must follow (see BACKGROUND). The hiring ratio requires a certain number of licensed journeypersons or contractors before another apprentice may be hired in the following trades: electrical; plumbing; heating, piping, and cooling; sprinkler fitter; and sheet metal work.

Under this bill, the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) commissioner may allow a licensed contractor in one of these fields to hire one or more additional apprentices even if the contractor does not employ enough licensees to satisfy the hiring ratio under certain conditions.

The contractor must apply to DCP, in a way the commissioner sets, for each apprentice. The application must (1) disclose the contractor's and apprentice's name, (2) demonstrate good cause exists for the commissioner to allow the apprentice to be hired, and (3) include any other information the commissioner deems relevant.

The commissioner may allow the apprentice to be hired if he determines after reviewing the application that good cause exists.

Within 10 business days after a contractor submits an application, the commissioner must (1) complete the application review, (2) determine whether good cause exists to allow the apprentice to be hired, and (3) send notice to the contractor disclosing his decision. If the commissioner does not send notice to the contractor within this time period, the contractor's application is deemed approved.

The bill allows the DCP commissioner to amend regulations to

implement these provisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

## BACKGROUND

### *Hiring Ratios*

Connecticut law and regulations set a hiring ratio for the following trades: electrical; plumbing; heating, piping, and cooling; sprinkler fitter; and sheet metal work (CGS § 20-332b and Conn. Agency Regs., § 20-332-15a). The below table provides the number of licensed journeypersons or contractors a company must have before hiring apprentices.

**Table: Hiring Ratios of Apprentices to Licensed Journeypersons or Contractors**

<i>Apprentices</i>	<i>Licensees (Journeypersons or Contractors)</i>
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	6
5	9
6	12
7	15
8	18
9	21
10*	24*

\*If there are 11 or more apprentices, the ratio continues at 1:3 (apprentice to licensees).

### *Ratio Relief*

Employers may currently request an exception to the ratio schedule from the Connecticut Department of Labor (i.e. “ratio relief”).

## COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 21    Nay 0    (03/21/2025)