



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 1221

LCO No. 3779



Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by:
(LAB)

AN ACT MAKING CHANGES TO THE CONNECTICUT RETIREMENT SECURITY PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. Section 31-416 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 As used in this section, section 31-71e [] and sections 31-417 to 31-
4 427, inclusive:

5 (1) "Board" means the Connecticut Retirement Security Advisory
6 Board established pursuant to section 31-417;

7 (2) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 17b-706;

8 [(2)] (3) "Contribution level" means (A) the contribution rate selected
9 by the participant that may be expressed as (i) a percentage of the
10 participant's taxable wages as is required to be reported under Sections
11 6041 and 6051 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent
12 corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended
13 from time to time, or (ii) a dollar amount up to the maximum deductible

14 amount for the participant's taxable year under Section 219(b)(1) of the
 15 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
 16 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to
 17 time; or (B) in the absence of an affirmative election by the participant,
 18 three per cent of the participant's taxable wages as is required to be
 19 reported under Sections 6041 and 6051 of the Internal Revenue Code of
 20 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the
 21 United States, as amended from time to time. For participants enrolled
 22 on and after July 1, 2025, the contribution level in the absence of an
 23 affirmative election by the participant shall follow the provisions of
 24 section 414A(b)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any
 25 subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States,
 26 as amended from time to time. The contribution level of a participant
 27 who customarily and regularly receives gratuities in conjunction with
 28 his or her employment shall be a percentage of such participant's wages
 29 as is required to be reported under Sections 6041 and 6051 of the Internal
 30 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal
 31 revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time;

32 [(3)] (4) "Covered employee" means (A) an individual [(A)] (i) who
 33 has been employed by a qualified employer for a period of not less than
 34 one hundred twenty days, [(B)] (ii) who is nineteen years of age or older,
 35 [(C)] (iii) who performs services within the state for purposes of section
 36 31-222, and [(D)] (iv) whose service or employment is not excluded
 37 under the provisions of subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 31-
 38 222, and (B) on and after July 1, 2026, a personal care attendant (i) who
 39 has been employed by a qualified employer for a period of not less than
 40 thirty days, (ii) who is nineteen years of age or older, and (iii) who
 41 performs services within the state for purposes of section 31-222;

42 [(4)] (5) "Participant" means any individual participating in the
 43 program;

44 (6) "Personal care attendant" has the same meaning as provided in
 45 section 17b-706;

46 [(5)] (7) "Program" means the Connecticut Retirement Security
47 Program established pursuant to section 31-418, as amended by this act;

48 [(6)] (8) (A) "Qualified employer" means (i) any person, corporation,
49 limited liability company, firm, partnership, voluntary association, joint
50 stock association or other entity doing business in the state during the
51 calendar year, whether for profit or not for profit, that employed on
52 October first of the preceding calendar year five or more individuals in
53 the state and has paid not less than five of such individuals taxable
54 wages of not less than five thousand dollars in the preceding calendar
55 year, [.] or (ii) on and after July 1, 2026, a consumer that receives services
56 from a personal care attendant under a state-funded program. (B)
57 "Qualified employer" does not include: [(A)] (i) The federal government,
58 [(B)] (ii) the state or any political subdivision thereof, [(C)] (iii) any
59 municipality, unit of a municipality or municipal housing authority,
60 [(D)] (iv) an employer employing only individuals whose services are
61 excluded under subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 31-222, other
62 than a consumer that receives services from a personal care attendant
63 under a state-funded program, or [(E)] (v) an employer that was not in
64 existence at all times during the current calendar year and the preceding
65 calendar year, other than a consumer that receives services from a
66 personal care attendant under a state-funded program;

67 [(7)] (9) "Individual retirement account" means a Roth IRA;

68 [(8)] (10) "Roth IRA" means an account described in Section 408A of
69 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
70 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to
71 time;

72 [(9)] (11) "Normal retirement age" means the age specified in Section
73 408A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent
74 corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended
75 from time to time, when an individual may withdraw all funds without
76 penalty;

77 [(10)] (12) "Vendor" means (A) a federally regulated retirement plan
 78 sponsor conducting business in the state, including, but not limited to,
 79 a federally regulated investment company or an insurance company, or
 80 (B) a company conducting business in the state to (i) provide ancillary
 81 services, including, but not limited to, technological, payroll or
 82 recordkeeping services, and (ii) offer retirement plans or payroll deposit
 83 individual retirement account arrangements using products of
 84 regulated retirement plan sponsors. "Vendor" does not include
 85 individual registered representatives, brokers, financial planners or
 86 agents; and

87 [(11)] (13) "Fee" means investment management charges,
 88 administrative charges, investment advice charges, trading fees,
 89 marketing and sales fees, revenue sharing, broker fees and other costs
 90 necessary to administer the program.

91 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 31-418 of the general statutes is
 92 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
 93 *2025*):

94 (a) There is established the Connecticut Retirement Security Program,
 95 the purpose of which shall be to promote and enhance retirement
 96 savings for private sector employees in the state, to be administered by
 97 the Comptroller. The office of the Comptroller shall constitute a
 98 successor agency to the Connecticut Retirement Security Authority for
 99 the purposes of administering the Connecticut Retirement Security
 100 Program, in accordance with subsections (a), (b), (c), (d) and (f) of
 101 sections 4-38d and 4-38e. The Comptroller in consultation with the
 102 board, may:

103 (1) Establish criteria and guidelines for the program to offer qualified
 104 retirement investment choices. Such criteria and guidelines shall
 105 establish a cap on total annual fees and shall provide participants with
 106 information regarding each retirement investment choice's historical
 107 investment performance;

108 (2) Receive and invest moneys in the program in any instruments,
109 obligations, securities or property in accordance with section 31-423, as
110 amended by this act;

111 (3) Contract with financial institutions or other organizations offering
112 or servicing retirement programs. The Comptroller may require that
113 each participant be charged a fee to defray the costs of the program. The
114 amount and method of collection of such fee shall be determined by the
115 Comptroller. No employer shall be required to fund or be responsible
116 for collecting fees from plan participants;

117 (4) Charge and equitably apportion among participants the
118 administrative costs and expenses incurred in the exercise of the
119 Comptroller's powers and duties as granted by this section;

120 (5) Borrow working capital funds and other funds as may be
121 necessary for the start-up and continuing operation of the program,
122 provided such funds are borrowed in the name of the program only.
123 Such borrowings shall be payable solely from revenues of the program;

124 (6) Do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the provisions
125 of section 31-71e, and sections 31-417 to 31-427, inclusive; [and]

126 (7) Establish an administrative process by which participants,
127 potential participants and employees may submit grievances,
128 complaints and appeals to the Comptroller and have such grievances,
129 complaints and appeals heard and addressed by the Comptroller; and

130 (8) Implement the provisions of section 414A(b)(3)(A) of the Internal
131 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal
132 revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time.

133 Sec. 3. Section 31-423 of the general statutes is repealed and the
134 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

135 (a) The Comptroller shall provide for each participant's account to be
136 invested in (1) an age-appropriate target date fund, or (2) other

137 investment vehicles the Comptroller may prescribe if affirmatively
138 selected by the participant.

139 (b) For each participant who receives a federal Saver's Match
140 contribution pursuant to 26 USC 6433, as amended from time to time,
141 the Comptroller shall provide an applicable retirement savings vehicle
142 able to receive such contribution.

143 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 31-425 of the general statutes is
144 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
145 *2025*):

146 (c) If a qualified employer fails to (1) enroll [a covered employee] such
147 qualified employer's covered employees as required under subsection
148 (a) of section 31-422, [such covered employee, the Labor Commissioner
149 or the Comptroller, may bring a civil action to require the qualified
150 employer to enroll the covered employee and shall recover such costs
151 and reasonable attorney's fees as may be allowed by the court.] or (2)
152 fails to transmit contributions to the program, as required under
153 subsection (e) of section 31-422, the Comptroller shall send a notice of
154 noncompliance to such qualified employer. The Comptroller shall send
155 at least two notices of noncompliance followed by a final notice of
156 noncompliance. Each year a qualified employer is found to be
157 noncompliant for not less than ninety calendar days after service of such
158 final notice of noncompliance, such employer may be assessed a civil
159 penalty by the Comptroller of (A) not more than five hundred dollars
160 for a qualified employer that employs not less than five and not more
161 than twenty-four employees, (B) not more than one thousand dollars for
162 a qualified employer that employs not less than twenty-five and not
163 more than ninety-nine employees, and (C) not more than one thousand
164 five hundred dollars for a qualified employer that employs one hundred
165 or more employees.

166 (d) The Comptroller may adopt regulations in accordance with the
167 provisions of chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section.

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

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	31-416
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	31-418(a)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	31-423
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	31-425(c)

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the recommendations of the Comptroller concerning the administration of the Connecticut Retirement Security Program.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]