

## General Assembly

## **Amendment**

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10594



Offered by:

REP. STEINBERG, 136th Dist.

To: House Bill No. 6927

File No. 352

Cal. No. 234

## "AN ACT REQUIRING THE STUDY OF ENERGY SOURCES."

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

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2025) (a) (1) There is established a 4 test bed technologies advisory board, which shall, within available 5 appropriations, meet not less than twice a year to undertake the advisory board's powers and duties pursuant to this section. The 6 7 advisory board shall be an independent body within the Department of Economic and Community Development for administrative purposes 9 only. The advisory board shall consist of the following members, who 10 shall have experience working in private sector businesses or in state 11 agencies: (A) One appointed by the Governor; (B) one appointed by the 12 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development; (C) one 13 appointed by the Treasurer; (D) one appointed by the Comptroller; and 14 (E) one appointed by the Commissioner of Administrative Services in 15 consultation with the chief executive officer of a nonprofit organization 16 that operates an applied technology demonstration and training center.

(2) If, in the exercise of the advisory board's powers and duties pursuant to this section, the advisory board finds that (A) the use of a certain technology, product or process would promote operational cost reduction, and (B) the use of such technology, product or process would be feasible in the operations of a state agency and would not have any detrimental effect on such operations, the advisory board shall recommend that such agency undertake a pilot test program during which such agency shall use such technology, product or process in the operations of such agency on a temporary basis. The purpose of such pilot test program shall be to validate the effectiveness of such technology, product or process in reducing operational costs.

(3) The advisory board shall not recommend a pilot test bed program by a state agency for any such technology, product or process pursuant to this section unless the business that manufactures or markets the technology, product or process demonstrates that (A) the use of such technology, product or process by such agency will not adversely affect safety, (B) the technology, product or process is presently available for commercial sale and distribution or has potential for commercialization not later than two years following the completion of such pilot test program by such agency pursuant to this section, (C) such technology, product or process was not developed by a business that is eligible to participate in such pilot test program established pursuant to section 32-39e of the general statutes, (D) such business maintains documentation concerning any patent for such technology, product or process and any related intellectual property, and (E) such business is certified as a small contractor or a minority business enterprise by the Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to section 4a-60g of the general statutes.

(4) The advisory board shall evaluate the effectiveness of any pilot test bed program administered pursuant to this section. Not later than October 1, 2030, the advisory board shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, concerning the findings of such evaluations to the joint standing committee of the

General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology.

- (b) (1) The commissioner of each state agency shall administer pilot test bed programs at state agencies for the use of technologies, products or processes that promote operational cost reduction. The purpose of such pilot test bed programs shall be to validate the effectiveness of such technologies, products or processes in reducing operational costs.
- (2) (A) An applicant interested in participating in such a program shall submit an application to the advisory board. The advisory board shall prescribe the form and manner of such application. Each such application shall include an assessment of the potential viability of a pilot test program of such technology, product or process at such agency. Such assessment shall be conducted by an independent consulting firm or a market research firm that specializes in market research for similar technologies, products or processes described in such application. Such independent consulting or market research firm shall be classified as a provider of services under the Department of Administrative Services industry code of 6000 for research and development services or the North American Industry Classification System code of 541910 for marketing research and public opinion polling.
- (B) Any applicant selected to participate in a pilot test program pursuant to this section shall only participate in one such program for one state agency.
- (c) Not later than thirty days after receipt of an application pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, the advisory board shall evaluate any technology, product or process that is the subject of such application and make a recommendation pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section.
- 79 (d) If the advisory board recommends that a state agency undertake 80 a pilot test program, such agency, notwithstanding the requirements of

chapter 58 of the general statutes, may accept delivery of such technology, product or process and undertake such a pilot test program during which such agency shall use such technology, product or process in the operations of such agency on a temporary basis. The duration of such pilot test program shall be not less than thirty days and not more than sixty days.

- (e) Any costs associated with the acquisition and use of such technology, product or process by a state agency for a pilot test program pursuant to this section shall be borne by the applicant. The acquisition of any technology, product or process for a pilot test program pursuant to this section shall not be deemed to be a purchase under the provisions of state procurement law. The applicant shall maintain records related to any such pilot test program, as required by the advisory board. All proprietary information derived from such pilot test program shall be exempt from the provisions of subsection (a) of section 1-210 of the general statutes.
- (f) If the commissioner of the state agency that tested such technology, product or process determines that the pilot test program sufficiently demonstrates that the technology, product or process promotes operational cost reduction, such testing agency may request that the Commissioner of Administrative Services (1) procure such technology for use by such state agency, and (2) make such procurement pursuant to a request for proposal. If the Commissioner of Administrative Services grants a request to procure such technology for any state agency, the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall make information regarding such procurement available to all state agencies on the Internet web site of the Department of Administrative Services.
- (g) The commissioner of a state agency may identify a technology, product or process that meets the criteria described in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section and that is tested by a municipality that promotes operational cost reduction. Such commissioner may file a request to the advisory board for a recommendation to test such

technology, product or process. Not later than thirty days after receipt

- of such request, the advisory board shall evaluate the technology,
- 116 product or process and make a recommendation pursuant to
- subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section. If the advisory board
- 118 recommends such technology, product or process, such agency shall
- 119 undertake a pilot test program in accordance with the provisions of
- subsections (d) to (f), inclusive, of this section.
- 121 Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2025, and applicable to taxable years
- 122 commencing on or after January 1, 2026) (a) As used in this section:
- 123 (1) "Full-time employee" means an employee who is required to work
- at least thirty-five or more hours per week. "Full-time employee" does
- not include an employee employed at a temporary or seasonal job; and
- 126 (2) "Qualified test bed business" means a business organization that
- 127 (A) participated in a test bed pilot program pursuant to section 1 of this
- act, (B) establishes or maintains a physical presence in the state not later
- than two years after participation in such program, and (C) employs not
- 130 fewer than five full-time employees in the state.
- (b) For taxable income years commencing on or after January 1, 2026,
- but not after January 1, 2030, the Commissioner of Revenue Services
- shall grant a credit against the tax imposed under chapter 208 or 229 of
- the general statutes, other than the liability imposed by section 12-707
- of the general statutes, in an amount equal to the amount specified by
- the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development in a tax
- 137 credit voucher issued by the Commissioner of Housing pursuant to
- 138 subsection (c) of this section.
- 139 (c) The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall administer a system
- of tax credit vouchers for qualified test bed business organizations. Such
- 141 voucher may be used as a credit against the tax to which such
- organization is subject under chapter 208 or 229 of the general statutes,
- other than the liability imposed by section 12-707 of the general statutes.
- 144 To be eligible to claim a voucher under this section, a qualified test bed

business organization shall apply to the Commissioner of Revenue

146 Services in a form and manner prescribed by said commissioner."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2025, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2026	New section