

PA 11-254

HB6399

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<u>Senate</u>	<u>7200, 7206-7207</u>	<u>3</u>

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**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**COMMERCE
PART 2
278 – 600**

2011

February 23, 2011

Members of the Commerce Committee,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed bill NO. 6399 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREEN JOBS TASK FORCE. I am currently an undergraduate student at the University of Connecticut with a dual major in Coastal Studies and Political Science, and I consider myself to be an environmental activist. It is of the utmost importance to me that upon graduation, I am able to find a job where my skills will be employed toward environmental goals. It is my hope that I will be able to find a "green job" in my home state of Connecticut, but if such a job is unavailable I would move elsewhere to find one. The creation of a green jobs task force would be an admirable demonstration of Connecticut's commitment to a green and sustainable future.

Thank you,

Kelsey Sullivan

239 Baxter Rd. Storrs, CT 06268

February 23, 2011

Distinguished Members of the Commerce Committee:

My name is Megan McClellan and I am majoring in environmental sciences with a concentration in natural resources and am also pursuing a minor in geography. I recently heard about the bill being brought to legislature, HB No. 6399: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREEN JOBS TASK FORCE and immediately felt compelled to do something to support it. I have always had a passion for the environment growing up and know that I want to pursue a career to better the future of the Earth's natural resources and study ways of utilizing natural resources for energy instead of using fossil fuels.

I was a very active member in the state 4-H program growing up and have many friends who have pursued degrees in agriculture and environmental sciences, but it seems that most of them have had to move out of state in order to find jobs, seeing as the need for these types of degrees in Connecticut is either fairly low, or just not well advertized.

I would like to find a career path in Connecticut when I graduate, but am very concerned that I will have a difficult time finding one. I believe that passing this bill will motivate me, as well as other graduates, in completing our degrees and pursuing related jobs in our home state.

Sincerely,

Megan McClellan
Uconn Class of 2012
Environmental Science Major
Member, Ecohouse Learning Community

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PCSW

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

The State's leading force for women's equality

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**Testimony of
 The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
 Before the
 Commerce Committee
 February 24, 2011**

Re: H.B. 6399, AA Establishing a Green Jobs Taskforce

Senators LeBeau and Frantz, Representative Berger and Camillo, and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) in response to the introduction of the above referenced bill.

H.B. 6399 would establish a task force to study the state's current and potential green jobs industry and corresponding workforce. PCSW encourages the inclusion of women in the development of this. If women are not intentionally included during the beginning of this endeavor, green jobs will be yet another field that passes by half of the state's population.

Green collar jobs represent an important new category of work force opportunities because they are relatively high quality jobs, with relatively low barriers to entry (require more education than high school, but less than a four-year degree), in sectors that are poised for dramatic growth. The combination of these three features means that cultivating green collar jobs for a variety of people is an effective strategy to provide workers with meaningful, community serving work, living wages, benefits, and advancement opportunities.

Today, growing numbers of women are intentionally targeting their education toward environmental careers. They are finding that the market for well-qualified women environmental professionals is wide open with excellent employment opportunities.¹ Additionally, holding a non-traditional occupation increases a non-college woman's chances of attaining a high wage category by 48.66%.²

¹ David J. Warner. *Environmental Careers, A Practical Guide to Opportunities in the 90's*.

² Sharon H. Mastracci, Ph.D. *Labor Pains: Employment and Training Programs for Women in NTOS*. Ann Arbor: UMI Publishing, 2001.

However women's increased interest in working in the environmental field is not reflected in the actual numbers. Green jobs are almost entirely male – on average women represent 1.65% of the energy efficiency building workforce, and 18% of the alternative energy workforce.³

Average Pay & Women's Employment in Occupations Going Green⁴

Energy Efficiency Building

Occupation	Percent Women	Average Annual Salary
Construction Laborers	2.7	\$30,950
Sheet Metal Workers	3.7	\$42,640
Insulation Workers	1.9	\$41,480
Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers	2.2	\$37,300
Heating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	0.9	\$40,630
Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	n/a	\$39,210
Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters	1.5	\$47,350
Carpenters	1.9	\$41,260
Electricians	1.7	\$48,100
Boilermakers	n/a	\$51,420

Wind

Occupation	Percent Women	Average Annual Salary
Team Assemblers	n/a	\$26,470
Laborers & Freight, Stock and Material Movers: Hand	18.6	\$23,840
Computer Controlled Machine Tool Operators	n/a	\$33,690
Cutting, punching, & press machine operators; metal & plastic	21.6	\$28,540
Drilling & Boring Machine Tools Setters	n/a	\$32,050
Customer Service Representatives	68.5	\$31,040
Welders	8.1	\$33,960
Production, Planning & Expediting Clerks	54.3	\$41,050
Machinists	5.2	\$36,370
Maintenance & Repair Workers: General	3.1	\$34,350

An inclusive State green job plan should include recruitment, orientation, retention, and sexual harassment policies that directly address the concerns of women, such as:

Recruitment:⁵

- Employers must assess skills, abilities, and aptitudes for nontraditional work by incorporating information on transferable skills in the hiring process and utilizing aptitude tests that are as bias-free as possible.

³ Wider Opportunities for Women. *Women and the Green Economy*, November 2008.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid for recommendations section.

- Recruitment sources must be expanded to include job training programs and community-based organizations, pre-apprenticeship programs, secondary and vocational education systems, and local women's employment training programs and career centers.

Orientation:

- Information must be provided to all employees on the formal and informal rules and regulations on the job, including company policies supporting women in nontraditional jobs and prohibiting discrimination and sexual harassment.
- Problems of isolation and stalled skill development by assigning several women to the same work environment must be avoided. A buddy or mentor who will teach skills and be supportive and who will identify appropriate skill assignments must be identified.
- Access must be provided to training opportunities for women to learn skills through occupationally-specific math training, pre-vocational training such as tool identification and safety, and physical conditioning.

Retention:

- Key issues should be addressed that commonly affect women, such as job assignment and promotion, family care and transportation, and health and safety concerns.
- Promoting the development of support mechanisms for women on the job, such as placing more than one woman on a worksite, encouraging support groups, and setting up online networks.
- Ensuring that there are proper facilities and equipment for women on the job.
- Monitor the progress of the union or company in preparing the workplace for women on an ongoing basis through nontraditional task forces and by conducting exit interviews.

Sexual Harassment

- A strong written policy prohibiting illegal discrimination against any employee that specifically addresses sexual harassment as prohibited conduct and describes steps to be taken if harassment occurs.
- Formal and informal problem solving mechanisms, grievance procedures, investigate measures and disciplinary procedures to resolve sexual harassment complaints.
- Conducting ongoing awareness trainings for every level of employee to review organizational policy, build problem-solving skills, review relevant law, and discuss their responsibility to create a harassment-free workplace are all valuable tools.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and look forward to working with you on this emerging issue.



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**



Public Hearing – February 24, 2011
Commerce Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Amey W. Marrella
Department of Environment Protection

Raised House Bill No. 6400 – AN ACT STREAMLINING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S STORMWATER GENERAL PERMITTING PROCESS.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Raised House Bill No. 6400 - AN ACT STREAMLINING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S STORMWATER GENERAL PERMITTING PROCESS. The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) offers the following testimony.

The Department has developed a stormwater management program following the federal approach that relies heavily on the use of general permits rather than individual permits to regulate and manage activities that generate polluted stormwater runoff. Such runoff has been identified regionally and nationally as having a serious impact on the quality of our waterbodies. General permits cover similar regulated activities, lay out a framework for compliance, and are much less costly and time consuming to administer and issue than the alternative – an individual permit. Registration under one of the Department's four types of stormwater general permits covers discharges from approximately 2,100 sites or activities. These stormwater discharges are regulated efficiently and effectively by: 1) establishing general pollution control measures in the general permit, which are customized for each site through its stormwater management plan, and 2) authorizing the site or activity upon submission and review of a registration and supporting information.

In light of increasingly comprehensive federal requirements to manage stormwater, we agree there is a need to streamline the stormwater permitting process. However, with respect to the construction stormwater general permit, the Department is concerned about the effects of a legislative mandate allowing Professional Engineer (PE) certification for compliance with state stormwater requirements and applicable local government soil erosion and sediment control regulations. The Department's concerns are outlined below after some brief background information.

Within the stormwater general permit program, two stormwater general permits regulate the vast majority of sites and both rely on a Professional Engineer (PE) certification to assure a site's management plan meets permit requirements – the industrial stormwater general permit (covers approximately 1460 activities) and the construction stormwater general permit (covers about 320 activities).

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2011**

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pt/tj/lxe/gbr
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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June 8, 2011

Mr. Speaker, I move for the immediate transmittal
of items acted on --

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Motion on immediate transmittal of items that
need further action. Any objection? Hearing none, so
ordered.

Clerk, please call Calendar 336.

THE CLERK:

On page 11, Calendar 336, substitute for House
Bill Number 6399, AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ENERGY-
RELATED TASK FORCE. Favorable report of the Committee
on Government Administration and Elections.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative Jeff Berger, you have the floor,
sir.

REP. BERGER (73rd):

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Clerk is in
possession of -- 8496. I ask that he call it and I'm
allowed to summarize.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Clerk, please call LCO 8496.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 8496, House "A", offered by
Representative Berger.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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June 8, 2011

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

(Inaudible) summarize. Please proceed, sir.

REP. BERGER (73rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This amendment makes technical changes to the application process. I move for passage.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Question is on adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A". Remark further? If not, let me try your minds, all those in favor please signify by saying Aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

All those opposed, Nay? The Ayes have it.

Amendment is adopted. Representative Berger, remark further? Remark further? If not, staff and guests please come to the Well of the House, members take your seats, the machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber. Members to the Chamber. The House is voting by roll.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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June 8, 2011

Have all the members voted? If all the members have voted, please check the roll call board. If all members have -- check the roll call vote or -- the machine will be locked. Clerk will take --

Representative Kirkley-Bey? Machine is locked. Clerk, please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill Number 6399, as amended by House "A",

Total Number voting	148
Necessary for passage	75
Those voting Yea	140
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	3

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Bill as amended is passed.

Representative Olson.

REP. OLSON (46th):

Mr. Speaker, I move for the immediate transmittal of all items --

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Motion is immediate transmittal. Any objection?
If not, bill is transmitted to Senate. Clerk, please call Calendar 62.

THE CLERK:

S - 633

**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
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cd/lg/sg/mhr/gbr
SENATE

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June 8, 2011

the Senate Journal and Senate Transcript.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President, the single item appearing on Senate Agenda Number 6 is -- or under -- the first item under "House Bills Favorably Reported" is: Substitute House Bill 6399. Madam President, would move that we place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

If we might stand at ease for just a moment,
Madam President.

THE CLERK:

6399.

(Chamber at ease.)

THE CHAIR:

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

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It'd be placed on the Consent Calendar. Would
ask the Clerk to call the second Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered --

SENATOR LOONEY:

The third Consent --

THE CHAIR:

-- sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

-- Calendar.

THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the
Senate on the third Consent Calendar. Will all
Senators please return to the Chamber. An immediate
roll call has been ordered in the Senate on the third
Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to
the Chamber.

Madam President, the third Consent Calendar
begins on Senate Agenda Number 6, substitute for House
Bill 6399, and Calendar page 33, Calendar Number 387,
substitute for Senate Bill 952.

The Senate is now voting by roll call on the
third Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please
return to the Chamber. The Senate is now voting by

roll on the third Consent Calendar. Will all Senators please return to the Chamber.

THE CHAIR:

The -- your machine is open.

Senator Hartley.

Senator Slossberg.

All members have now voted. All members have voted.

The machine will be closed.

Mr. Clerk, will you call the tally?

THE CLERK:

Motion is on adoption of Consent Calendar Number 3.

Total number voting	36
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

Consent's Calendar is called -- passed.

At this time, I'm going to appoint (inaudible) --

SENATOR LOONEY:

Madam President, if we might first, I'd like to move immediate transmittal to the House of any items acted upon this evening requiring additional action by