

2009 -- H 5261

LC00561

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2009

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- GREEN JOBS TASK FORCE

Introduced By: Representatives A Rice, Ruggiero, Dennigan, Jacquard, and Kennedy

Date Introduced: February 03, 2009

Referred To: House Constituent Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 84

4 GREEN JOBS TASK FORCE

5 **23-84-1. Short title.** – This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the “Green Jobs
6 Task Force”.

7 **23-84-2. Definitions.** – As used in this chapter, the following words shall have the
8 following meaning unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

9 (1) “Energy improvement project” means:

10 (i) A project to improve energy efficiency in a building or facility, including the design,
11 acquisition, installation, construction, and commissioning of equipment or improvements to a
12 building or facility owned or operated by a state agency, and training of building or facility staff
13 necessary to properly operate and maintain the equipment or improvements; or

14 (ii) A project to design, acquire, install, construct, and commission equipment or products
15 to utilize solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, or other alternative energy sources in heating,
16 cooling, or providing electricity for a building or facility owned or operated by a state agency and
17 training of building or facility staff necessary to properly operate and maintain the equipment or
18 improvements.

19 (2) “Energy project study” means a technical and financial study of one or more energy

1 improvement projects, including:

2 (i) An analysis of historical energy consumption and cost data;

3 (ii) A description of existing equipment, structural elements, operating characteristics,
4 and other conditions affecting energy use;

5 (iii) A description of the proposed energy improvement projects;

6 (iv) A detailed budget for the proposed project; and

7 (v) Calculations sufficient to demonstrate the expected energy and operational cost
8 savings and reduction in fossil-fuel use.

9 (3) “Financing agreement” means a tax-exempt lease-purchase agreement entered into by
10 the director of administration and a financial institution under a standard project financing
11 agreement.

12 (4) “Green economy” means products, processes, methods, technologies, or services
13 intended to do one or more of the following:

14 (i) Increase the use of energy from renewable sources;

15 (ii) Achieve the statewide energy-savings;

16 (iii) Achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction;

17 (iv) Mitigation of the greenhouse gas emissions through, but not limited to, carbon
18 capture, storage, or sequestration;

19 (v) Monitor, protect, restore, and preserve the quality of surface waters; or

20 (vi) Expand the use of biofuels, including by expanding the feasibility or reducing the
21 cost of producing biofuels or the types of equipment, machinery, and vehicles that can use
22 biofuels. “Green economy” includes strategies that reduce carbon emissions, such as utilizing
23 existing buildings and other infrastructure, and utilizing mass transit or otherwise reducing
24 commuting for employees.

25 (5) “State agency” means any office, board, commission, authority, department, or other
26 agency of state government.

27 **23-84-3. Composition of the green jobs task force.** – (a) The green jobs task force is
28 created to advise and assist the governor and general assembly regarding activities to advance the
29 state’s economy, and to develop a statewide action plan as provided under section 23-84-4. The
30 task force shall be appointed no later than July 30, 2009, and consist of:

31 (1) Three (3) members of the house of representatives, including one member of the
32 minority party, appointed by the speaker;

33 (2) Three (3) members of the senate, including one member of the minority party,
34 appointed by the senate president;

1 (3) Three (3) members from the public appointed by the governor, including one member
2 representing the manufacturing industry, one member representing a statewide organization
3 dedicated to commerce, and one member representing a statewide organization dedicated to
4 agricultural and/or the environment;

5 (4) Two (2) members from the public appointed by the speaker, including one member
6 representing labor, and one member representing financial institutions or venture capital; and

7 (5) Two (2) members from the public appointed by the senate president, including one
8 member from a local economic development authority, and one member from a firm currently
9 engaged in green manufacturing.

10 (b) The director of administration, in cooperation with the director of labor and training,
11 shall provide staff support to the task force. The task force may accept outside resources to help
12 support its efforts.

13 (c) Each of the general assembly appointing authorities must name a co-chair of the task
14 force from the general assembly appointed by that authority.

15 **23-84-4. Duties of the green jobs task force.** – (a) By January 15, 2010, the task force
16 shall develop and present to the general assembly and to the governor a statewide action plan to
17 optimize the growth of the green economy.

18 (b) The plan shall include necessary draft legislation and budget requests and may
19 include administrative actions of governmental entities, collaborative actions, and actions of
20 individuals and individual organizations. The plan must be developed following the analysis
21 described in this paragraph and must be based on the analysis. The analysis must include:

22 (1) A market analysis of the business opportunities and needs created by the laws
23 enumerated in paragraph (a), including local, state, national, and international markets;

24 (2) An analysis of the labor force needs related to the market analysis opportunities,
25 including educational, training, and retraining needs; and

26 (3) An inventory of the current labor and business assets available to respond to the
27 opportunities.

28 **23-84-5. Expiration.** – The task force shall expire on July 30, 2010.

29 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and shall expire on July 30, 2010.

=====
LC00561
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- GREEN JOBS TASK FORCE

- 1 This act would create a Green Jobs Task force.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage and would expire on July 30, 2010.

=====
LC00561
=====