## STATE OF CONNECTICUT BY HIS EXCELLENCY DANNEL P. MALLOY

CAPITOL OFFICE

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## **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 17**

WHEREAS, this administration is committed to promoting the overall economic development of the state, creating more job opportunities, enhancing the state's economic development tools, and encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship;

WHEREAS, the success of the 2011 Governor's Economic Summit and the October special session on job creation marked a new beginning in making Connecticut more competitive, including passage of the watershed *An Act Promoting Economic Growth and Job Creation in the State*;

WHEREAS, it is critical to build on this success and continue to focus on the inter-relationship between economic, fiscal, and tax policy;

WHEREAS, while Connecticut's total effective business tax burden is the lowest in the nation, we must continue to evaluate and improve the state's business tax policy, which is vital to assuring a positive environment for business development and job growth;

**WHEREAS**, in this current economic climate it is particularly appropriate to evaluate all of the state's economic development tax credit programs to ensure that such programs are effective, utilized properly and are a worthwhile use of the Connecticut tax payer's money;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, DANNEL P. MALLOY, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of the State of Connecticut do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT:** 

- 1. There is hereby established a Governor's Business Tax Policy Review Taskforce. The Taskforce shall consist of 9 members appointed as follows:
- a. The Commissioners of the Departments of Revenue Services and Economic and Community Development, who shall serve as co-chairs;
- b. Three members appointed by the Governor who shall have expertise in issues related to business growth, tax policy and/or municipal economic development;
- c. The Commissioner of the Department of Labor, or the Commissioner's designee; and
- d. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the Secretary's designee; and
  - e. The Treasurer and the Comptroller, or their designees.
- 2. The Taskforce shall, with staff support from the Departments of Revenue Services and Economic and Community Development and the Office of Policy and Management:
- a. establish a work plan identifying specific business tax areas and other issues, including business tax credits or other targeted business tax relief, that should be the focus of future legislation and/or state economic policy;
- b. evaluate the cost, benefit, efficiency, effectiveness and measurable performance of the current business tax credit structure with respect to economic development, business retention and growth, and employment retention and growth; and
- c. report its findings and recommendations to the Governor no later than October 1, 2012.

- 3. All members of the Taskforce shall serve coterminously with and at the pleasure of the appointing authority.
- 4. A majority of the members of the Taskforce shall constitute a quorum.
- 5. Meetings of the Taskforce shall be scheduled and convened jointly by the co-chairs of the Taskforce or upon majority vote of the membership.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 12 day of January 2012.

Dannel P. Malloy

Governor

By His Excellency's Order

Denise Merrill

Secretary of the State

