



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

**Proposed Bill No. 570**

LCO No. 1912



\* 0 1 9 1 2 \*

Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:

SEN. MARONEY, 14th Dist.

REP. DIMASSA, 116th Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING OPPORTUNITY ZONES.**

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

1 That the general statutes be amended to: (1) Appoint an  
2 ombudsman within the Department of Economic and Community  
3 Development to assist municipalities in setting up tax increment  
4 financing zones and advise municipalities on how to effectively use  
5 such zones to attract businesses; (2) establish minimum percentages of  
6 not less than fifteen per cent of manufacturing assistance act and  
7 brownfield remediation and development funds that must be spent  
8 within designated opportunity zones; (3) establish incentives for  
9 businesses participating in the small business express program to  
10 move to opportunity zones, including, but not limited to, reducing the  
11 amount of time a business is required to be in business to qualify for a  
12 grant and increasing the grant amount for every job created; (4) create  
13 training programs, in consultation with workforce investment boards,  
14 for municipalities that want to use tax increment financing funds for  
15 workforce development; (5) establish a state database of opportunity  
16 zones to provide information concerning properties that are available  
17 within opportunity zones, incentives available in particular zones and

18 municipal incentives offered through tax increment financing funds;  
19 (6) authorize bonds of the state for the purpose of providing low-  
20 interest loans to investors who develop mixed income housing in  
21 opportunity zones; and (7) establish incentives for investors to develop  
22 mixed income housing that utilizes solar power or other renewable  
23 energy sources in opportunity zones.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To layer state benefits on top of opportunity zones to make opportunity zones more attractive to investors.