



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Proposed Bill No. 357

LCO No. 2060



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:

SEN. SLOSSBERG, 14th Dist.
SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.
SEN. WINFIELD, 10th Dist.
SEN. MOORE, 22nd Dist.
SEN. MAYNARD, 18th Dist.
SEN. LEONE, 27th Dist.

SEN. FASANO, 34th Dist.
SEN. BOUCHER, 26th Dist.
REP. DARGAN, 115th Dist.
REP. ROSE, 118th Dist.
REP. BACKER, 121st Dist.
REP. REED, 102nd Dist.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROMOTION OF THE SHELLFISH
INDUSTRY IN CONNECTICUT.***

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

- 1 That the general statutes be amended to establish an Aquaculture
2 Coordinating Council that shall be composed of members of the
3 shellfish industry from across the state, state shellfish regulatory
4 officials and representatives of the Department of Economic and
5 Community Development, the Sea Grant Program at The University of
6 Connecticut and the Department of Public Health. Said council shall:
7 (1) Develop a plan to expand the shellfish industry in Connecticut, (2)
8 assure the public availability of maps indicating the names of state
9 shellfish bed lessees, (3) review the language of current state shellfish
10 leases and make recommendations to the legislature for any requisite
11 changes to such leases, (4) review health and safety standards
12 pertaining to the state's shellfish industry, and (5) coordinate with

13 other states to further develop the state's shellfish industry.
14 Additionally, whistleblower status shall be afforded to any state
15 shellfish bed lessee, and the employees of such lessee, who make or file
16 complaints concerning state shellfish regulatory authorities. Such
17 council shall be located within the Agricultural Experiment Station for
18 administrative purposes only. Annually, such council shall issue a
19 report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
20 having cognizance of matters relating to the environment, commerce
21 and public health concerning the status of the state's shellfish industry.

Statement of Purpose:

To promote the state's shellfish industry and establish a council to address on-going concerns within the industry.