



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 531**

January Session, 2021

Substitute House Bill No. 6642

*House of Representatives, April 20, 2021*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY, C. of the 133rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF ACCESS TO MUNICIPAL-OWNED BEACHES AND PARKS ADJACENT TO MARINE OR TIDAL WATERS.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Energy and  
2 Environmental Protection and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
3 Management shall jointly conduct a study of access by members of the  
4 public to beaches and parks adjacent to marine or tidal waters that are  
5 owned or otherwise controlled by any municipality or other political  
6 subdivision of the state. Such study shall include, but not be limited to,  
7 an examination of any (1) ordinances, regulations or other rules enacted  
8 or enforced by any such municipality or political subdivision that limit  
9 access to any such beach or park based on residency of any potential  
10 visitor, and (2) fees or other means of limiting access that disparately  
11 impact any such potential visitor based on residency.

12 (b) Not later than January 1, 2022, the commissioner and the secretary

13 shall submit to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
 14 having cognizance of matters relating to the environment and planning  
 15 and development, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of  
 16 the general statutes, (1) a report on the findings of such study, and (2)  
 17 recommendations for legislation to address potential concerns  
 18 identified in such study regarding access by members of the public to  
 19 such beaches and parks.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Subsec. (a), "(1) any" was changed to "any (1)" and "(2) any fees" was changed to "(2) fees" to eliminate redundant language.

**PD**      *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

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*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to jointly conduct a study of access by the public to beaches and parks adjacent to waters owned by any municipality. The study must examine ordinances limiting beach access and fees that disproportionately impact visitors based on residency.

This has no fiscal impact as both DEEP and OPM have the expertise to perform the study.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None



**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 6642**

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF ACCESS TO MUNICIPAL-OWNED BEACHES AND PARKS ADJACENT TO MARINE OR TIDAL WATERS.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 1 (03/31/2021)