



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Raised Bill No. 6384

LCO No. 2675



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES' EFFECTS ON LAKES AND RELATED FUNDING.

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

1 Section 1. Section 22a-339h of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

3 On or before November 1, [2006] 2020, the Commissioner of Energy
4 and Environmental Protection shall enter into an agreement with the
5 town of Middlefield and the Lake Beseck Association regarding a
6 schedule for annual water level draw downs of Lake Beseck. Water level
7 draw downs shall be three feet during even-numbered years with
8 completion achieved by December first of such year and maintained
9 until March first of the following year. Water level draw downs shall be
10 six feet during odd-numbered years achieved by November first of such
11 year and maintained until [December] January thirty-first of such year;
12 a three-foot water level draw down shall be maintained thereafter until
13 March first of the following year. Such water level draw downs are
14 designed to balance the various concerns of the lake community,
15 including: Recreational needs, preservation of lakefront infrastructure,

16 fisheries habitat and other natural resource concerns.

17 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than October 1, 2021, the
18 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall submit a
19 report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the
20 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
21 matters relating to the environment on the amount of revenue collected
22 from the Aquatic Invasive Species fees authorized pursuant to section
23 14-21bb of the general statutes and the number, value and purpose of
24 any grants to municipalities and not-for-profit organizations awarded
25 from the Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account in
26 accordance with section 14-21aa of the general statutes. The
27 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall provide the Commissioner of
28 Energy and Environmental Protection with any information necessary
29 to perform the requirements of this section. Such report may include any
30 recommendations from the Commissioner of Energy and
31 Environmental Protection on additional means for funding projects to
32 control or eradicate aquatic invasive species by municipalities and lake
33 authorities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	22a-339h
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To examine, address and decrease the effects of invasive aquatic species on the state's lakes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]