

**Proposed Substitute  
Bill No. 6501**

LCO No. 4756

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STREAMLINING OF CERTAIN  
PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 22a-416 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3 *passage*):

4 (d) As used in this section the terms "class I", "class II", "class III" and  
5 "class IV" mean the classifications of wastewater treatment plants  
6 provided for in regulations adopted by the Department of Energy and  
7 Environmental Protection. The Commissioner of Energy and  
8 Environmental Protection may establish requirements for the presence  
9 of approved operators at pollution abatement facilities. Applicants for  
10 class I, [and] class II, class III and class IV certificates shall [only] be  
11 required to pass the relevant standardized national examination  
12 prepared by the Association of Boards of Certification for Wastewater  
13 Treatment Facility Operators. [Applicants for class III and class IV  
14 certificates shall only be required to pass the relevant standardized  
15 national examination prepared by the Association of Boards of  
16 Certification for Wastewater Treatment Facility Operators  
17 supplemented with additional questions submitted by the  
18 commissioner to such board. Operators with certificates issued by the  
19 commissioner prior to May 16, 1995, shall not be required to be  
20 reexamined.] The commissioner, or the commissioner's designated

21 agent, shall administer and proctor the examination of all applicants.  
22 The qualifications of the operators at such facilities shall be subject to  
23 the approval of the commissioner. The commissioner may adopt  
24 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, [requiring  
25 all operators at pollution abatement facilities to satisfactorily complete,  
26 on a regular basis, a state-certified training course, which may include  
27 training on the type of municipal pollution abatement facility at which  
28 the operator is employed and training concerning regulations  
29 promulgated during the preceding year. Any applicant for certification  
30 who passed either the examination prepared and administered on  
31 December 8, 1994, by the commissioner or the examination prepared by  
32 the Association of Boards of Certification for Wastewater Treatment  
33 Facility Operators and administered on December 8, 1994, by the  
34 commissioner shall be issued the appropriate certificate in accordance  
35 with the regulations adopted under this section] concerning application,  
36 certification, renewal and continuing education requirements for  
37 operators. On and after October 1, 2018, each certified operator shall  
38 obtain not less than six hours of continuing education each year.  
39 Continuing education units and associated courses shall be approved  
40 by the commissioner or the commissioner's designated agent in  
41 consultation with the operator certification advisory board. A record of  
42 such continuing education shall be maintained by the certified operator  
43 and by the facility employing the operator and shall be made available  
44 for inspection upon request by the commissioner.

45 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 22a-523 of the general statutes is  
46 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
47 *passage*):

48 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall  
49 establish a Nitrogen Credit Advisory Board to assist and advise the  
50 commissioner in administering the nitrogen credit exchange program.  
51 The board shall consist of the Commissioner of Energy and  
52 Environmental Protection or the commissioner's designee, the Secretary  
53 of the Office of Policy and Management or the secretary's designee, the

54 State Treasurer or the Treasurer's designee and nine public members to  
55 be appointed in accordance with this section. The nine public members  
56 shall include an official of a major publicly-owned treatment works  
57 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, a municipal  
58 public works official appointed by the president pro tempore of the  
59 Senate, a representative from a municipality with a population of  
60 greater than twenty thousand that purchases nitrogen credits and a  
61 representative from a municipality with a population of less than  
62 twenty thousand that sells credits appointed by the majority leader of  
63 the House of Representatives, a representative from a municipality with  
64 a population of greater than twenty thousand that sells nitrogen credits  
65 and a representative from a municipality with a population of less than  
66 twenty thousand [that purchases nitrogen credits] appointed by the  
67 majority leader of the Senate, and three persons having experience in  
68 either wastewater treatment, environmental law or finance, one to be  
69 appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, one  
70 to be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, and one to be  
71 appointed by the Governor. All initial appointments shall be made not  
72 later than August 1, 2001, and shall be made so the composition of the  
73 board is, to the extent possible, balanced with regard to buyers and  
74 sellers of credits, large and small municipalities and representatives  
75 from different geographic regions of the state.

76 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 22-11h of the general statutes is  
77 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
78 *passage*):

79 (c) Individual structures used for aquaculture as defined in section  
80 22-11c, including, but not limited to, racks, cages or bags, as well as  
81 buoys marking such structures, which [do not otherwise require]  
82 received a permit under federal Army Corps of Engineers regulations  
83 and do not interfere with navigation in designated or customary boating  
84 or shipping lanes and channels, shall be placed in leased or designated  
85 shellfish areas and shall be exempt from the requirements of sections  
86 22a-359 to 22a-363f, inclusive.

87 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 22a-73 of the general statutes is  
88 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
89 *passage*):

90 (c) [No ordinance shall be effective until such ordinance has been  
91 approved by the commissioner. No ordinance shall be approved unless  
92 it is in conformity with] Any such municipal noise control ordinance  
93 shall be at least as stringent as any state noise control plan, including  
94 ambient noise standards, adopted pursuant to section 22a-69 or any  
95 standards or regulations adopted by the administrator of the United  
96 States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Noise Control  
97 Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-574) or any amendment thereto. Notwithstanding  
98 the provisions of this subsection, any municipality may adopt more  
99 stringent noise standards than those adopted by the commissioner. [,  
100 provided such standards are approved by the commissioner.]

101 Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 22a-174 of the general statutes is  
102 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
103 *passage*):

104 (c) The commissioner shall have the power, in accordance with  
105 regulations adopted by him, (1) to require that a person, before  
106 undertaking the construction, installation, enlargement or  
107 establishment of a new air contaminant source specified in the  
108 regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section, submit to him  
109 plans, specifications and such information as he deems reasonably  
110 necessary relating to the construction, installation, enlargement, or  
111 establishment of such new air contaminant source; (2) to issue a permit  
112 approving such plans and specifications and permitting the  
113 construction, installation, enlargement or establishment of the new air  
114 contaminant source in accordance with such plans, or to issue an order  
115 requiring that such plans and specifications be modified as a condition  
116 to his approving them and issuing a permit allowing such construction,  
117 installation, enlargement or establishment in accordance therewith, or  
118 to issue an order rejecting such plans and specifications and prohibiting

119 construction, installation, enlargement or establishment of a new air  
120 contaminant source in accordance with the plans and specifications  
121 submitted; (3) to require periodic inspection and maintenance of  
122 combustion equipment and other sources of air pollution; (4) to require  
123 any person to maintain such records relating to air pollution or to the  
124 operation of facilities designed to abate air pollution as he deems  
125 necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter and section 14-164c;  
126 (5) to require that a person in control of an air contaminant source  
127 specified in the regulations adopted under subsection (a), obtain a  
128 permit to operate such source if the source (A) is subject to any  
129 regulations adopted by the commissioner concerning high risk  
130 hazardous air pollutants, (B) burns waste oil, (C) is allowed by the  
131 commissioner, pursuant to regulations adopted under subsection (a), to  
132 exceed emission limits for sulfur compounds, (D) is issued an order  
133 pursuant to section 22a-178, or (E) violates any provision of this chapter,  
134 or any regulation, order or permit adopted or issued thereunder; (6) to  
135 require that a person in control of an air contaminant source who is not  
136 required to obtain a permit pursuant to this subsection register with him  
137 and provide such information as he deems necessary to maintain his  
138 inventory of air pollution sources and the commissioner may require  
139 renewal of such registration at intervals he deems necessary to maintain  
140 such inventory; (7) to require a permit for any source regulated under  
141 the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, P.L. 101-549; (8) to  
142 refuse to issue a permit if the Environmental Protection Agency objects  
143 to its issuance in a timely manner under Title V of the federal Clean Air  
144 Act Amendments of 1990; and (9) notwithstanding any regulation  
145 adopted under this chapter, to require that any source permitted under  
146 Title V of the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 shall comply  
147 with all applicable standards set forth in the Code of Federal  
148 Regulations, Title 40, Parts 51, 52, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 68, 70, 72 to 78,  
149 inclusive, and 82, as amended from time to time.

150 Sec. 6. Subsection (d) of section 23-37 of the general statutes is  
151 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
152 *passage*):

153 (d) If the state forest fire warden determines that additional state  
154 forest fire control personnel are required to assist in extinguishing a  
155 forest fire in this state or in another state that is a member of a compact  
156 authorized to provide reciprocal aid, the state forest fire warden may  
157 temporarily supplement state forest fire control personnel with  
158 temporary emergency workers who meet the training and qualification  
159 requirements of the National Incident Management System: Wildland  
160 Fire Qualification System Guide published by the National Wildfire  
161 Coordinating Group, as amended from time to time. The Department of  
162 Administrative Services shall assist the state fire warden in developing  
163 appropriate classifications for such temporary emergency workers.

164 Sec. 7. Section 23-53 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
165 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

166 The Governor on behalf of this state is authorized to enter into a  
167 compact, substantially in the following form, with any one or more of  
168 the states of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York,  
169 Rhode Island and Vermont and with such other states of the United  
170 States or provinces of the Dominion of Canada as may legally join  
171 therein:

172 NORTHEASTERN INTERSTATE FOREST FIRE

173 PROTECTION COMPACT

174 ARTICLE I

175 The purpose of this compact is to promote effective prevention and  
176 control of forest fires in the northeastern region of the United States  
177 and adjacent areas in Canada by the development of integrated forest  
178 fire plans, by the maintenance of adequate forest fire fighting services  
179 by the member states, by providing for mutual aid in fighting forest  
180 fires among the states of the region and for procedures that will  
181 facilitate such aid, and by the establishment of a central agency to  
182 coordinate the services of member states and perform such common

183 services as member states may deem desirable.

184 ARTICLE II

185 This agreement shall become operative immediately as to those  
186 states ratifying it whenever any two or more of the states of Maine,  
187 New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and  
188 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have ratified it and the Congress  
189 has given its consent. Any state not mentioned in this article which is  
190 contiguous with any member state may become a party to this  
191 compact. Subject to the consent of the Congress of the United States,  
192 any province of the Dominion of Canada which is contiguous with any  
193 member state may become a party to this compact by taking such  
194 action as its laws and the laws of the Dominion of Canada may  
195 prescribe for ratification. In this event, the term "state" in this compact  
196 shall include within its meaning the term "province" and the  
197 procedures prescribed shall be applied in the instance of such  
198 provinces, in accordance with the forms and practices of the Canadian  
199 government.

200 ARTICLE III

201 Each state joining herein shall appoint three representatives to a  
202 commission hereby designated as the Northeastern Forest Fire  
203 Protection Commission. One shall be the state forester or officer  
204 holding an equivalent position in such state who is responsible for  
205 forest fire control. The second shall be a member of the legislature of  
206 such state designated by the commission or committee on interstate  
207 cooperation of such state, or if there be none, or if said commission on  
208 interstate cooperation cannot constitutionally designate the said  
209 member, such legislator shall be designated by the governor thereof;  
210 provided that if it is constitutionally impossible to appoint a legislator  
211 as a commissioner from such state, the second member shall be  
212 appointed by the governor of said state in his discretion. The third  
213 member shall be a person designated by the governor as the  
214 responsible representative of the governor. In the event that any

215 province of the Dominion of Canada shall become a member of this  
216 commission, it shall designate three members who will approximate  
217 this pattern of representation to the extent possible under the law and  
218 practices of such province. This commission shall be a body corporate  
219 with the powers and duties set forth herein.

220 **ARTICLE IV**

221 It shall be the duty of the commission to make inquiry and ascertain  
222 from time to time such methods, practices, circumstances and  
223 conditions as may be disclosed for bringing about the prevention and  
224 control of forest fires in the area comprising the member states, to  
225 coordinate the forest fire plans and the work of the appropriate  
226 agencies of the member states and to facilitate the rendering of aid by  
227 the member states to each other in fighting forest fires.

228 The commission shall formulate and, in accordance with need, from  
229 time to time, revise a regional forest fire plan for the entire region  
230 covered by the compact which shall serve as a common forest fire plan  
231 for that area.

232 The commission shall, more than one month prior to any regular  
233 meeting of the legislature in any signatory state, present to the  
234 governor and to the legislature of the state its recommendations  
235 relating to enactments to be made by the legislature of that state in  
236 furthering the interests and purposes of this compact.

237 The commission shall consult with and advise the appropriate  
238 administrative agencies of the states party hereto with regard to  
239 problems connected with the prevention and control of forest fires and  
240 recommend the adoption of such regulations as it deems advisable.

241 The commission shall have power to recommend to the signatory  
242 states any and all measures that will effectuate the prevention and  
243 control of forest fires.

244 **ARTICLE V**



245 Any two or more member states may designate the Northeastern  
246 Forest Fire Protection Commission as a joint agency to maintain such  
247 common services as those states deem desirable for the prevention and  
248 control of forest fires. Except in those cases where all member states  
249 join in such designation for common services, the representatives of  
250 any group of such designating states in the Northeastern Forest Fire  
251 Protection Commission shall constitute a separate section of such  
252 commission for the performance of the common service or services so  
253 designated provided that, if any additional expense is involved, the  
254 state so acting shall appropriate the necessary funds for this purpose.  
255 The creation of such a section as a joint agency shall not affect the  
256 privileges, powers, responsibilities or duties of the states participating  
257 therein as embodied in the other articles of this compact.

258 ARTICLE VI

259 The commission may request the United States Forest Service to act  
260 as the primary research and coordinating agency of the Northeastern  
261 Forest Fire Protection Commission, in cooperation with the  
262 appropriate agencies in each state and the United States Forest Service  
263 may accept the initial responsibility in preparing and presenting to the  
264 commission its recommendations with respect to the regional fire plan.  
265 Representatives of the United States Forest Service may attend  
266 meetings of the commission and of groups of member states.

267 ARTICLE VII

268 The commission shall annually elect from its members a chairman  
269 and a vice-chairman. The commission shall appoint such officers or  
270 employees as may be required to carry the provisions of this compact  
271 into effect, shall fix and determine their duties, qualifications and  
272 compensation, and may at its pleasure, remove or discharge any such  
273 officer or employee. The commission shall adopt rules and regulations  
274 for the conduct of its business. It may establish and maintain one or  
275 more offices for the transaction of its business and may meet at any  
276 time or place but must meet at least once a year.

277 A majority of the members of the commission representing a  
278 majority of the signatory states shall constitute a quorum for the  
279 transaction of its general business, but no action of the commission  
280 imposing any obligation on any signatory state shall be binding unless  
281 a majority of the members from such signatory state shall have voted  
282 in favor thereof. For the purpose of conducting its general business,  
283 voting shall be by state units.

284 The representatives of any two or more member states, upon notice  
285 to the chairman as to the time and purpose of the meeting, may meet  
286 as a section for the discussion of problems common to those states.

287 Sections established by groups of member states shall have the same  
288 powers with respect to officers, employees and the maintenance of  
289 offices as are granted by this article to the commission. Sections may  
290 adopt such rules, regulations and procedures as may be necessary for  
291 the conduct of their business.

292 **ARTICLE VIII**

293 It shall be the duty of each member state to formulate and put in  
294 effect a forest fire plan for that state and to take such measures as may  
295 be recommended by the commission to integrate such forest fire plan  
296 with regional forest fire plan.

297 Whenever the state forest fire control agency of a member state  
298 requests aid from the state forest fire control agency of any other  
299 member state in combatting, controlling or preventing forest fires, it  
300 shall be the duty of the state forest fire control agency of that state to  
301 render all possible aid to the requesting agency which is consonant  
302 with the maintenance of protection at home.

303 Each signatory state agrees to render aid to the Forest Service or  
304 other agencies of the government of the United States in combatting,  
305 controlling or preventing forest fires in areas under their jurisdiction  
306 located within the member state or a contiguous member state.

307

ARTICLE IX

308 Whenever the forces of any member state are rendering outside aid  
309 pursuant to the request of another member state under this compact,  
310 the employees of such state shall, under the direction of the officers of  
311 the state to which they are rendering aid, have the same powers  
312 (except the power of arrest), duties, rights, privileges and immunities  
313 as comparable employees of the state to which they are rendering aid.

314 No member state or its officers or employees rendering outside aid  
315 pursuant to this compact shall be liable on account of any act or  
316 omission on the part of such forces while so engaged, or on account of  
317 the maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection  
318 therewith.

319 All liability that may arise either under the laws of the requesting  
320 state or under the laws of the aiding state or under the laws of a third  
321 state on account of or in connection with a request for aid, shall be  
322 assumed and borne by the requesting state.

323 Any member state rendering outside aid pursuant to this compact  
324 shall be reimbursed by the member state receiving such aid for any  
325 loss or damage to, or expense incurred in the operation of any  
326 equipment answering a request for aid, and for the cost of all  
327 materials, transportation, wages, salaries, and maintenance of  
328 employees and equipment incurred in connection with such request.  
329 Provided, that nothing herein contained shall prevent any assisting  
330 member state from assuming such loss, damage, expense or other cost  
331 or from loaning such equipment or from donating such services to the  
332 receiving member state without charge or cost.

333 Each member state shall provide for the payment of compensation  
334 and death benefits to injured employees and the representatives of  
335 deceased employees in case employees sustain injuries or are killed  
336 while rendering outside aid pursuant to this compact, in the same  
337 manner and on the same terms as if the injury or death were sustained

338 within such state.

339 For the purposes of this compact the term employee shall include  
340 any volunteer or auxiliary legally included within the forest fire  
341 fighting forces of the aiding state under the laws thereof.

342 The commission shall formulate procedures for claims and  
343 reimbursement under the provisions of this article.

344 Aid by a member state to an area subject to federal jurisdiction  
345 beyond the borders of such state shall not be required under this  
346 compact unless substantially the same provisions of this article relative  
347 to powers, liabilities, losses and expenses in connection with such aid  
348 are embodied in federal laws.

349 The provisions of this article that relate to mutual aid in combating,  
350 controlling or preventing forest fires shall be applicable to the  
351 provision of such aid by any state that is party to this compact and any  
352 other state that is party to a regional forest fire protection compact in  
353 another region, provided the legislature of such other state assents to  
354 the mutual aid provisions of this compact.

355 ARTICLE X

356 When appropriations for the support of this commission or for the  
357 support of common services maintained by the commission or a  
358 section thereof under the provisions of article V are necessary, the  
359 commission or a section thereof shall allocate the costs among the  
360 states affected with consideration of the amounts of forested land in  
361 those states that will receive protection from the service to be rendered  
362 and the extent of the forest fire problem involved in each state, and  
363 shall submit its recommendations accordingly to the legislatures of the  
364 affected states.

365 The commission shall submit to the governor of each state, at such  
366 time as he may request, a budget of its estimated expenditures for such  
367 period as may be required by the laws of such state for presentation to

368 the legislature thereof.

369 The commission shall keep accurate books of account, showing in  
370 full its receipts and disbursements, and said books of account shall be  
371 open at any reasonable time to the inspection of such representatives  
372 of the respective signatory states as may be duly constituted for that  
373 purpose.

374 On or before the first day of December of each year, the commission  
375 shall submit to the respective governors of the signatory states a full  
376 and complete report of its activities for the preceding year.

377 ARTICLE XI

378 The representatives from any member state may appoint and  
379 consult with an advisory committee composed of persons interested in  
380 forest fire protection.

381 The commission may appoint and consult with an advisory  
382 committee of representatives of all affected groups, private and  
383 governmental.

384 ARTICLE XII

385 The commission may accept any and all donations, gifts and grants  
386 of money, equipment, supplies, materials and services from the federal  
387 or any local government, or any agency thereof and from any person,  
388 firm or corporation, for any of its purposes and functions under this  
389 compact, and may receive and utilize the same subject to the terms,  
390 conditions and regulations governing such donations, gifts and grants.

391 ARTICLE XIII

392 Nothing in this compact shall be construed to authorize or permit  
393 any member state to curtail or diminish its forest fire fighting forces,  
394 equipment, services or facilities, and it shall be the duty and  
395 responsibility of each member state to maintain adequate forest fire

396 fighting forces and equipment to meet normal demands for forest fire  
397 protection within its borders.

398 Nothing in this compact shall be construed to limit or restrict the  
399 powers of any state ratifying the same to provide for the prevention,  
400 control and extinguishment of forest fires, or to prohibit the enactment  
401 or enforcement of state laws, rules or regulations intended to aid in  
402 such prevention, control and extinguishment in such state.

403 Nothing in this compact shall be construed to affect any existing or  
404 future cooperative relationship or arrangement between the United  
405 States Forest Service and a member state or states.

406 ARTICLE XIV

407 This compact shall continue in force and remain binding on each  
408 state ratifying it until the legislature or the governor of such state takes  
409 action to withdraw therefrom. Such action shall not be effective until  
410 six months after notice thereof has been sent by the chief executive of  
411 the state desiring to withdraw to the chief executives of all states then  
412 parties to the compact.

413 Sec. 8. Subsection (f) of section 22a-54 of the general statutes is  
414 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
415 *passage*):

416 (f) (1) The commissioner may by regulation adopted in accordance  
417 with the provisions of chapter 54 prescribe fees for applicants to defray  
418 the cost of administering examinations and assisting in carrying out the  
419 purposes of section 22a-451, except the fees for certification and renewal  
420 of a certification shall be as follows: [(1)] (A) For supervisory  
421 certification as a commercial applicator, two hundred eighty-five  
422 dollars; [(2)] (B) for operational certification as a commercial applicator,  
423 eighty dollars; [,] and [(3)] (C) for certification as a private applicator,  
424 one hundred dollars. A federal, state or municipal employee who  
425 applies pesticides solely as part of his employment shall be exempt from

426 payment of a fee. Any certificate issued to a federal, state or municipal  
427 employee for which a fee has not been paid shall be void if the holder  
428 leaves government employment. The fees collected in accordance with  
429 this section shall be deposited in the General Fund.

430 (2) Not less than sixty days before the date of expiration of a  
431 certification, the commissioner shall provide notice of expiration and a  
432 renewal application to each licensee. If a signed renewal application  
433 accompanied by the applicable renewal fee is not received by the  
434 commissioner on or before midnight of the expiration date, or if the  
435 expiration date is a Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday, on or before  
436 midnight of the next business day, the license shall automatically lapse.  
437 Failure of a licensee to receive a notice of expiration and renewal  
438 application shall not prevent a lapse of a license.

439 (3) The commissioner may renew any certification issued pursuant to  
440 this section for the holder of a certification that has lapsed less than one  
441 year, provided the holder of such certification submits to the  
442 commissioner a signed renewal application, payment of the applicable  
443 renewal fee and any late fee. Such late fee shall be calculated as follows:  
444 Beginning on the first day that such certification lapses, ten per cent of  
445 the applicable renewal fee plus one and one-quarter per cent per month,  
446 or part thereof, for a period not to exceed one year. Any holder of a  
447 certification that has lapsed one year or more shall be examined in  
448 accordance with the requirements of this section and any regulation  
449 adopted pursuant to the provisions of this section.

450 Sec. 9. Subsection (g) of section 22a-50 of the general statutes is  
451 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*  
452 *1, 2022*):

453 (g) The registrant shall pay a fee of [nine hundred forty dollars] one  
454 hundred eighty-eight dollars per calendar year, or any portion thereof,  
455 for each pesticide registered and for each renewal of a registration. [A  
456 registration shall expire after five years.] The commissioner may register  
457 a pesticide for a period of one year or a period of five years. For such

458 five-year registrations, the commissioner shall establish regulations to  
459 phase in pesticide registration so that one fifth of the pesticides  
460 registered expire each year. The commissioner may register a pesticide  
461 for less than five years and prorate the registration fee accordingly to  
462 implement the regulations established pursuant to this subsection. The  
463 fees collected in accordance with this section shall be deposited in the  
464 General Fund. There shall be no refund of a registration fee if a product  
465 is voluntarily withdrawn or cancelled before the end of its registration  
466 period.

467 Sec. 10. Section 22a-6f of the general statutes is amended by adding  
468 subsection (h) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

469 (NEW) (h) Unless otherwise specified in a general permit issued on  
470 or after October 1, 2021, any person or municipality authorized to  
471 engage in a regulated activity covered by a general permit pursuant to  
472 any provision of this title shall pay an annual fee as follows: (1) If the  
473 person or municipality engaged in the regulated activity is required to  
474 register with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
475 and obtain approval of the registration before the activity is authorized,  
476 such annual fee shall be two hundred dollars; or (2) if the person or  
477 municipality that intends to engage in the activity is only required to  
478 register with the department before the activity is authorized, such  
479 annual fee shall be one hundred dollars. No annual fee for a general  
480 permit issued on or after October 1, 2021, shall exceed one thousand  
481 dollars.

482 Sec. 11. Section 22a-6bb of the general statutes is repealed and the  
483 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

484 (a) Whenever the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
485 Protection is required to hold a hearing prior to approving or denying  
486 an application upon receipt of a timely filed petition signed by at least  
487 twenty-five persons pursuant to sections 22a-32, 22a-39, 22a-42a, 22a-  
488 45a, 22a-94, 22a-174, as amended by this act, 22a-208a, 22a-349a, 22a-361,  
489 22a-363b, 22a-371, 22a-378a, 22a-403, 22a-411, 22a-430 and 25-68d, or any



490 regulation of the Connecticut state agencies provides that the  
491 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall hold a  
492 hearing prior to approving or denying an application upon receipt of a  
493 timely filed petition signed by at least twenty-five persons, such petition  
494 [may] shall designate a person authorized to withdraw such petition.  
495 Such authorized person may engage in discussions regarding an  
496 application and, if a resolution is reached, may withdraw the petition.

497 (b) If a petition is withdrawn, the authorized person shall file written  
498 notice with the commissioner and serve a copy of the withdrawal notice  
499 upon all parties and intervenors, if any, to the proceeding. The  
500 withdrawal of a petition shall result in the termination of the hearing  
501 process initiated by the petition. If the commissioner receives more than  
502 one petition that requires the holding of a hearing, all such petitions  
503 shall be withdrawn for the hearing to terminate pursuant to this section.

504 (c) If the petition is withdrawn after notice of a public hearing has  
505 been published, the commissioner shall publish or cause to be  
506 published, at the applicant's expense, once in a newspaper having a  
507 substantial circulation in the affected area, notice of the termination of  
508 such hearing due to the withdrawal of a petition pursuant to this section.

509 (d) Notwithstanding the withdrawal of any petitions pursuant to this  
510 section, the commissioner may hold a public hearing, continue with a  
511 public hearing for which notice has been published or complete a public  
512 hearing that has already commenced prior to approving or denying an  
513 application, if the commissioner determines that holding or continuing  
514 such public hearing is in the public interest.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22a-416(d)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	22a-523(a)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	22-11h(c)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	22a-73(c)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	22a-174(c)

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Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	23-37(d)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	23-53
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	22a-54(f)
Sec. 9	<i>January 1, 2022</i>	22a-50(g)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	22a-6f
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	22a-6bb