
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1092

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ACQUISITION AND CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES BY CONNECTICUT BROWNFIELD LAND BANKS.

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes Connecticut brownfield land banks (CBLBs) to enter into land banking agreements with regional councils of governments (RCOGs) to acquire, retain, remediate, and sell property in an RCOG's planning region. Under current law, CBLBs may only enter into land banking agreements with municipalities, and the agreements are required for CBLBs to acquire brownfield sites or adjacent properties.

The bill makes corresponding changes to treat RCOGs the same as municipalities under the current CBLB law. These changes (1) allow a CBLB to acquire brownfield sites or adjacent properties identified in the land banking agreement with the RCOG; (2) require the RCOG's approval before the CBLB conveys, exchanges, transfers, or sells the property; (3) allow CBLBs to enter into contracts and agreements with RCOGs to provide staffing to the CBLB; and (4) allow CBLBs to get grant funds or borrow from RCOGs for the CBLB's operations.

The bill also expands the statutory purpose of CBLBs to include acquiring, retaining, remediating, and selling brownfields in the state to enhance rivers' aquatic life and environmental quality, under land banking agreements with RCOGs. In doing so, it requires the economic and community development commissioner, when determining whether to approve an application for CBLB certification, to consider whether the applicant is financially and technically capable of fulfilling this new purpose, in addition to the other purposes specified in current law (CGS § 32-771). Under current law, a CBLB's purposes also include

(1) acquiring, retaining, remediating, and selling brownfields to benefit municipalities and (2) educating government officials, community leaders, economic development agencies, and nonprofit organizations on best practices for redeveloping brownfields.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 23 Nay 1 (03/14/2023)