



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 179

January Session, 2023

House Bill No. 5503

House of Representatives, March 23, 2023

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. LEMAR of the 96th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE NAME OF THE THAMES RIVER.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioners of
2 Transportation and Energy and Environmental Protection shall (1)
3 consult with the Eastern Pequot Tribe, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe
4 and the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut with regard to
5 restoring the name of the Thames River to a former name that honors
6 the heritage of such river, and (2) in the event of an agreement of said
7 tribes concerning a former name, apply to the United States Board on
8 Geographic Names to restore the name of the Thames River to such
9 former name.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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TRA Joint Favorable

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.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Transportation, Dept.	TF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Departments of Transportation (DOT) and Energy and Environmental Protection to consult with various tribes on restoring the Thames River to a former name and, in the event of an agreement between the tribes, apply to the relevant federal authority to effect such change.

To the extent that the name restoration occurs, there would be a one-time cost for DOT to replace signs at approximately \$2,500 each. There are approximately four "Thames River" signs on DOT roadways.

The Out Years

None

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5503

AN ACT CONCERNING THE NAME OF THE THAMES RIVER.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 13 (03/10/2023)