



House of Representatives

File No. 751

General Assembly

January Session, 2023

(Reprint of File No. 159)

Substitute House Bill No. 6607
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 8, 2023

AN ACT CONCERNING THE NIGHTTIME LIGHTING OF STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS AT CERTAIN TIMES FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section, "nonessential outdoor lighting" means lighting that has not been
3 deemed essential for either safety or functionality, as determined by a
4 state agency head.

5 (b) For any state-owned building, nonessential outdoor lighting shall
6 be turned off between the hours of eleven o'clock p.m. and six o'clock
7 a.m. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the State Capitol
8 building.

9 (c) The State Building Inspector and the Code and Standards
10 Committee shall consider a change in lighting design to effectuate the
11 purposes of this section for any revision to the State Building Code to

12 take effect on or after January 1, 2024.

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

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 \$
Various State Agencies	GF - Savings	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill would result in savings to the state by reducing electricity consumption at certain state agencies. The state currently owns 3,733 buildings as of October 2022¹, encompassing 67,316,464 sq ft of space: and leasing an additional 1,801,737 sq ft². The average cost for electricity has increased significantly this year bringing the monthly cost using the July rate³ to an estimated \$4,853,497. The Federal Department of Energy estimates that 30% of all electricity in office buildings is wasted monthly⁴. The estimated maximum savings for the state is 1.3 million⁵. There may be some potential cost associated with this bill depending upon the current shut off procedures in place by the building, but that cost is indeterminate and unlikely to significantly impact the savings generated.

House "A," would extend the two-month period for the shut-off period. The amendment would also narrow the scope to state-owned

¹ [CT Data](#)

² [Department of Administrative Service Annual Report](#)

³ [Eversource Commercial Rate](#)

⁴ [United States Department of Energy](#)

⁵ [Outdoor lighting as percentage of total utilization](#)

buildings outdoor lighting.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection extending or reducing the effective time period as outlined in the legislation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6607 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING THE NIGHTTIME LIGHTING OF STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS AT CERTAIN TIMES FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires nonessential outdoor lighting at state-owned buildings to be turned off between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. The shut-off requirement applies to lighting a state agency head determines are not essential for safety or functionality, but not to lighting at the State Capitol building.

The bill also requires the state building inspector and the Code and Standards Committee to consider a change in lighting design to effectuate this outdoor lighting requirement when making changes to the State Building Code that take effect on or after January 1, 2024.

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, generally prohibits using state funds to install or replace outdoor lights or lighting units on state building or facility grounds that (1) fail to maximize energy conservation and minimize light pollution; (2) emit more light than is minimally needed for their intended purposes; or (3) have an output of more than 1,800 lumens (the unit for measuring a light source's brilliance), unless it is a unit that allows no direct emissions above a certain point (CGS § 4b-16).

*House Amendment "A" (1) applies the requirement all year as opposed to only during "peak avian migration periods," (2) exempts the State Capitol building, and (3) adds the requirement for the state building inspector and the Code and Standards Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 32 Nay 0 (03/03/2023)