

Commerce Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1092
AN ACT CONCERNING THE ACQUISITION AND CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN
Title: PROPERTIES BY CONNECTICUT BROWNFIELD LAND BANKS.
Vote Date: 3/14/2023
Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute
PH Date: 3/2/2023
File No.: 297

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Commerce Committee
[Rep. Geraldo C. Reyes, 75th Dist.](#)

REASONS FOR BILL:

Connecticut brownfields continue to plague towns and cities across the state, as these properties hamper economic development and lower property values. Additionally, some of these brownfields have negatively affected the environmental quality and aquatic life of state rivers. SB-1092 aims to remediate and redevelop brownfields to make them economically viable and return them to local tax rolls, as well as enhance the quality of rivers in the state.

Substitute Language: LCO 5803

Added OFA Fiscal Impact Statement and OLR Bill Analysis.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Randy Collins, Advocacy Manager, CCM

Mr. Collins supports the purpose of the bill but raised concerns with the language in Section 2 and Section 3, which allows a Connecticut Land Bank to enter into an agreement with a regional council of government to acquire, retain, remediate, or sell brownfield property that is located within a municipality represented by such council of government. He requests the

language be amended to include the consent of the host municipality before any agreement between a Land Bank and a regional council of government is entered.

Ann Catino & Gary O'Connor, Co-Chairs, Brownfield Working Group

Ms. Catino and Mr. O'Connor support this bill. They believe SB-1092 will greatly enhance the ability of Connecticut Brownfield Land Banks to remediate and redevelop Connecticut's brownfields. Additionally, they argue there are more situations where Connecticut brownfield land banks should be able to enter into a land banking agreement with a regional council of governments, including projects involving brownfield sites located in multiple jurisdiction; projects requiring the expertise of a regional council government to work in concert with the Connecticut brownfield land bank; projects having a regional impact; and brownfield sites that can be remediated using funds only available to a regional council of governments.

Chris Edge, Economic Development Director, Town of Berlin

Mr. Edge supports this bill. He believes the addition of planning regions would be a big step forward in moving along brownfield properties in the state.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Colin DeCure

Date: 3/30/2023