General Assembly

**Raised Bill No. 1498**

*January Session, 2025*

LCO No. **5143**

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PARK REPLACEMENT STATUTE.***

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

Section 1. Section 7-131n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

If any municipality takes, converts or repurposes any land, including, but not limited to, any land in such municipality's possession, for highway or other non-park or non-open space purposes, which land was purchased or acquired for park or other recreational or open space purposes, or for which bonds were issued for such purposes, or which had been dedicated for such purposes, such municipality shall provide comparable replacement land at least equal in value and per unit area size to the value and per unit area size of the land taken, converted or repurposed; provided before such municipality takes, converts or repurposes such land for highway or other non-park or non-open space purposes it shall hold a public hearing in addition to any public hearing required by section 13a-58 or by any other section of the general statutes or by any special act or city charter. At such public hearing and in the notice thereof, the municipality shall set forth the description of the land

proposed to be taken, converted or repurposed and the proposed use of such land, any reasons for the proposed taking, conversion or repurposing of the parkland, recreational space or open space rather than other land and the description of the replacement land to be provided. The municipality shall give notice of the time and place of such hearing by publication in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in such municipality, such notice to be given at least twice, at intervals of not less than two days, the first not more than fifteen days nor less than ten days and the second not less than two days before such hearing and such hearing shall be held within a period of not more than thirty and not less than fifteen days after any other public hearing required by section 13a-58 or by any other section of the general statutes. For purposes of this section "municipality" means any town, city or borough, or other political subdivision of the state.

| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
|---|---|---|
| Section 1 | *from passage* | 7-131n |

***Statement of Purpose:***

To clarify the municipal requirement to replace land taken for other purposes that was previously dedicated to open space or park space.

***[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]***