



An Act Concerning The Use Of MTBE.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) As used in this section, "MTBE" means the
2 gasoline additive methyl tertiary butyl ether.

3 (b) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall, in
4 conjunction with the Northeast Regional Fuels Task Force, develop
5 and implement a plan for the phase-out of the use of MTBE in a
6 manner that will eliminate MTBE as a gasoline additive on and after
7 October 1, 2003. Not later than January 1, 2001, and annually thereafter
8 through January 1, 2003, the commissioner shall report to the joint
9 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
10 matters relating to the environment on how the elimination of MTBE
11 will be achieved. Each report shall include a progress update on the
12 status of the regional efforts to reduce MTBE levels in gasoline.

13 (c) Beginning July 1, 2000, the Connecticut Petroleum Council, the
14 National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, the Oxygenated
15 Fuels Association, and the Independent Connecticut Petroleum
16 Association, under the direction of the Commissioner of
17 Environmental Protection, shall undertake an effective education
18 campaign directed at all users of gasoline, including, but not limited
19 to, homeowners, marine trades and businesses, about the proper
20 handling of gasoline. Said campaign shall include, but not be limited

21 to: (1) Warning at the point of sale about the proper handling of
22 gasoline; (2) instructions on portable gasoline containers sold after July
23 1, 2000, about the proper handling of gasoline; and (3) newspaper,
24 radio and television information advertisements.

25 Sec. 2. Section 22a-438 of the general statutes is amended by adding
26 subsection (d) as follows:

27 (NEW) (d) Any person who or municipality which wilfully or with
28 criminal negligence discharges gasoline in violation of any provision of
29 this chapter, shall be fined not more than fifty thousand dollars per
30 day for each day of violation or be imprisoned not more than three
31 years or both. A subsequent conviction for any such violation shall
32 carry a fine of not more than one hundred thousand dollars per day for
33 each day of violation or imprisonment for not more than ten years or
34 both. For the purposes of this subsection, person includes any
35 responsible corporate officer.

36 Sec. 3. Section 22a-450 of the general statutes is repealed and the
37 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

38 The master of any ship, boat, barge or other vessel, or the person in
39 charge of any terminal for the loading or unloading of any oil or
40 petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products, or
41 hazardous wastes, or the person in charge of any establishment, or the
42 operator of any vehicle, trailer or other machine which by accident,
43 negligence or otherwise causes the discharge, spillage, uncontrolled
44 loss, seepage or filtration of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or
45 solid, liquid or gaseous products, or hazardous wastes which poses a
46 potential threat to human health or the environment, shall
47 immediately report to the commissioner such facts as the
48 commissioner by regulation may require. Any such report shall
49 include, but not be limited to, the location, the quantity and the type of
50 substance, material or waste, the date and the cause of the discharge,
51 spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration, the name and address
52 of the owner of the ship, boat, barge or other vessel, terminal,

53 establishment, vehicle, trailer or machine, and the name and address of
54 the person making the report and his relationship to the owner. Any
55 person who fails to make a report required by this section may be
56 fined not more than one thousand dollars and the employer of such
57 person may be fined not more than five thousand dollars, except that
58 any person who fails to make a report relating to the discharge,
59 spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of gasoline shall be
60 fined not more than five thousand dollars and the employer of such
61 person may be fined not more than ten thousand dollars.

62 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

ENV Committee Vote: Yea 23 Nay 0 JFS

JUD Committee Vote: Yea 33 Nay 0 JF