



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 349

January Session, 2001

Substitute House Bill No. 6555

House of Representatives, April 18, 2001

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. KNOPP of the 137th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT SEAFOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL.

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

1 Section 1. Section 22-455 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 There is established a Connecticut Seafood Advisory Council to
4 assist in the promotion of Connecticut seafood products and examine
5 market opportunities. The advisory council shall consist of one
6 freshwater fish producer appointed by the Governor, two finfish,
7 shellfish or lobster harvesters or representatives of harvester
8 organizations appointed one each by the speaker and majority leader
9 of the House of Representatives, two finfish, shellfish or lobster
10 processors or representatives of processor organizations appointed one
11 each by the minority leaders of the Senate and House of
12 Representatives, one retailer serving restaurants or representing a

13 restaurant organization appointed by the president pro tempore of the
 14 Senate, one member at-large appointed by the majority leader of the
 15 Senate, and four nonvoting members one of whom shall represent the
 16 Department of Environmental Protection, one the Department of
 17 Economic and Community Development and one the Department of
 18 Agriculture and one the Sea Grant Program at The University of
 19 Connecticut. The advisory council shall be within the Department of
 20 Agriculture.

21 Sec. 2. (NEW) The Connecticut Seafood Advisory Council may
 22 utilize federal, state or other available funds, including dues, and may
 23 enter into contracts in order to carry out the purposes of this section.
 24 The advisory council may establish a general membership and annual
 25 dues.

26 Sec. 3. The sum of seventy-five thousand dollars is appropriated,
 27 from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, to the
 28 Department of Agriculture for the funding of the Connecticut Seafood
 29 Advisory Council.

30 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect from its passage.

ENV *JOINT FAVORABLE SUBST. C/R* GAE
GAE *JOINT FAVORABLE*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Cost

Affected Agencies: Department of Agriculture

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

State Impact:

The bill appropriates \$75,000 to the Department of Agriculture from the General Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001 for the Connecticut Seafood Advisory Council. The FY 01 General Fund surplus projected by the Office of Fiscal Analysis (OFA) is \$608 million as of the February 5, 2001 statement. The Council had been receiving a \$50,000 a year General Fund appropriation since FY 1998.

The Governor's recommended budget, HB 6668, does not provide funding for the Council for FY 02 or FY 03.

Authorizing the Council to establish dues and use available funds from various sources is anticipated to minimally increase revenue. Increasing the number of members on the Connecticut Seafood Advisory Council from 10 to 11 members has no fiscal impact.

OLR BILL ANALYSIS

sHB 6555

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT SEAFOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL.

SUMMARY:

By law, the Connecticut Seafood Advisory Council is charged with the promoting the state’s seafood products and examining market opportunities. This bill allows the council to (1) enter into contracts and use state, federal, and other funds (including dues) for these purposes. (2) establish a general membership; and (3) establish annual dues. The bill expands the council, from 10 to 11 members, by adding a freshwater fish producer, appointed by the governor. It appropriates \$75,000 from the General Fund for FY 2000-01 to the Department of Agriculture to fund the council.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 27 Nay 0

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 19 Nay 0