



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

**Raised Bill No. 592**

LCO No. 2447

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF CONNECTICUT FISHERIES.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) No person shall take or  
2 attempt to take any elver fish from the waters of the state. Any person  
3 who violates the provisions of this section shall be fined not more than  
4 two hundred fifty dollars.

5 Sec. 2. Section 26-117 of the general statutes, as amended by section  
6 1 of public act 01-115, is repealed and the following is substituted in  
7 lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

8 Any person who violates any provision of sections 26-102 and 26-  
9 111 to 26-116, inclusive, or any regulation issued by the commissioner  
10 pursuant thereto shall be fined [one hundred fifty-four] two hundred  
11 fifty dollars. Each fish taken or possessed contrary to said provisions  
12 or to the regulations issued by the commissioner shall constitute a  
13 separate offense.

14 Sec. 3. Section 26-141 of the general statutes, as amended by section

15 2 of public act 01-115, is repealed and the following is substituted in  
16 lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

17 Any person who violates any provision of this part for the violation  
18 of which no other penalty is provided shall be fined [one hundred  
19 fifty-four] two hundred fifty dollars. Each fish taken or possessed in  
20 violation of any provision of this part shall constitute a separate  
21 offense.

22 Sec. 4. Section 26-186 of the general statutes, as amended by section  
23 3 of public act 01-115, is repealed and the following is substituted in  
24 lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

25 Any person who violates any provision of this part for which no  
26 other penalty is provided shall be fined not more than [one hundred]  
27 two hundred fifty dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or  
28 both, and each fish or crustacean taken or possessed in violation of any  
29 provision of said sections shall constitute a separate offense.

30 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) The Commissioner of  
31 Environmental Protection shall establish a demarcation zone for the  
32 use of draggers based on the protection of the remaining estuaries and  
33 eelgrass beds in the state.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2002</i>

**Statement of Purpose:**

To protect the remaining elver fish and eelgrass beds in the state in addition to strengthening the penalties for fishing violations.

*[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.]*