



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Raised Bill No. 840

LCO No. 2816

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING MTBE AS A GASOLINE ADDITIVE.

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

1 Section 1. Section 22a-450a of the general statutes is repealed and
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) As used in this section, "MTBE" means the gasoline additive
4 methyl tertiary butyl ether.

5 (b) [The] By October 1, 2003, the Commissioner of Environmental
6 Protection shall [, in conjunction with the Northeast Regional Fuels
7 Task Force, develop and implement a] adopt regulations, in
8 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to plan for the [phase-
9 out] phase-down of the use of MTBE in a manner that will reduce or
10 eliminate MTBE as a gasoline additive. [on and after October 1, 2003.]
11 Such regulations shall be consistent with the federal Clean Air Act
12 Amendments of 1990, 42 USC 7401, et seq. and shall not have the effect
13 of reducing the level of federal transportation or highway funding to
14 the state relating to ethanol-containing fuels. Not later than January 1,
15 2001, and annually thereafter through January 1, [2003] 2005, the
16 commissioner shall report to the joint standing committee of the

17 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the
18 environment on how the elimination of MTBE will be achieved. Each
19 report shall include a progress update on the status of the regional
20 efforts to reduce MTBE levels in gasoline.

21 (c) Beginning July 1, 2000, the Connecticut Petroleum Council, the
22 National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, the Oxygenated
23 Fuels Association, and the Independent Connecticut Petroleum
24 Association, under the direction of the Commissioner of
25 Environmental Protection, shall undertake an effective education
26 campaign directed at all users of gasoline, including, but not limited
27 to, homeowners, marine trades and businesses, about the proper
28 handling of gasoline. Said campaign shall include, but not be limited
29 to: (1) Warning at the point of sale about the proper handling of
30 gasoline; (2) instructions on portable gasoline containers sold after July
31 1, 2000, about the proper handling of gasoline; and (3) newspaper,
32 radio and television information advertisements.

33 (d) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall seek a
34 waiver from the United States Environmental Protection Agency for
35 the purpose of discontinuing the use of MTBE [.] as a gasoline additive
36 in this state.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To repeal the statutory ban on MTBE as a gasoline additive and to require the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt regulations that will reduce or eliminate the use of MTBE as a gasoline additive.

[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.]