



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 321

January Session, 2005

Substitute House Bill No. 5595

House of Representatives, April 13, 2005

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. ROY of the 119th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF BANTAM LAKE FOR PRESERVATION.

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

1 Section 1. Section 22a-339f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall:

4 (1) Designate a lake located in two or more municipalities and
5 Bantam Lake in Morris and Litchfield to be the subject of a program of
6 preservation which may serve as a pilot program for the preservation
7 and enhancement of the historic, cultural, recreational, economic,
8 scenic, public health and environmental value of lakes in this state;

9 (2) Encourage partnerships and agreements with municipalities
10 which are contiguous to the [lake] lakes and, to the greatest extent
11 practicable under law, direct programs, grants and technical assistance
12 so as to provide environmental support to the [lake] lakes;

13 (3) Coordinate state and municipal activities and resources to
14 preserve, protect and restore the [lake and its shoreline] lakes and their
15 shorelines;

16 (4) Provide access to existing scientific data and information relating
17 to the [lake, its shoreline] lakes, their shorelines and watershed [area]
18 areas to the municipalities in which [it is] they are located;

19 (5) Cooperate with such municipalities to promote and encourage
20 public use and enjoyment of the resource for all lawful purposes
21 consistent with achievement of the other goals set forth in this section;

22 (6) Provide, upon request of such municipalities, an agency
23 representative to whom they may communicate goals and needs and
24 who shall facilitate communication and interaction between such
25 municipalities and the state; and

26 (7) Cooperate with the contiguous municipalities in any efforts to
27 protect and preserve the character of the [designated lake as such
28 municipalities may undertake] lakes designated pursuant to
29 subdivision (1) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22a-339f

ENV Joint Favorable Subst.

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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Department of Environmental Protection	GF - None	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Expansion of a heritage lake program can be handled within the existing resources of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The DEP currently provides technical assistance and advice and has data available on lakes for use by municipalities or the public.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5595

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF BANTAM LAKE FOR PRESERVATION**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to add Bantam Lake in Morris and Litchfield to the pilot program for the preservation and enhancement of the historic, cultural, recreational, economic, scenic, public health, and environmental value of lakes in the state. Under current law, DEP had to designate one lake located in two or more municipalities for the pilot. DEP designated Lake Waramaug in 2000.

The bill also makes conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Pilot Program for Lake Preservation***

The program requires DEP to encourage partnerships and agreements with municipalities contiguous to Lake Waramaug, which it designated for the pilot program. DEP must, as practical under the law, direct programs, grants, and technical assistance to provide environmental support to the lake. DEP must also coordinate state and municipal activities and resources to preserve, protect, and restore the lake and its shoreline, among other things.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0