



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

**Proposed Bill No. 637**

LCO No. 1598

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
SEN. KISSEL, 7<sup>th</sup> Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE-WIDE  
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS COUNCIL.**

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

1 That the general statutes be amended to establish a Geographic  
2 Information Systems Council consisting of the following members or  
3 their designees: (1) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
4 Management, (2) the Commissioners of Environmental Protection,  
5 Economic and Community Development, Transportation, Public  
6 Safety and Public Health, (3) the Chief Information Officer of the  
7 Department of Information Technology, (4) one member appointed by  
8 the president pro tempore of the Senate representing a municipality  
9 with a population of more than sixty thousand, (5) one member  
10 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate representing a regional  
11 planning agency, (6) two members appointed by the Governor, one  
12 representing a municipality with a population of less than sixty  
13 thousand but more than thirty thousand and one who is a user of  
14 geographic information systems, (7) one member appointed by the  
15 speaker of the House of Representatives representing a municipality  
16 with a population of less than thirty thousand, and (8) one member

17 appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives who  
18 is a user of geographic information systems. The Secretary of the Office  
19 of Policy and Management, or a designee, shall serve as chairperson of  
20 the council and shall administer the affairs of the council, within  
21 available appropriations. The Governor shall fill any vacancy by  
22 appointment for the unexpired portion of the term vacated. Members  
23 shall receive no compensation for their services on said council, but  
24 shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the  
25 performance of their duties. Said council shall hold one meeting each  
26 month and such additional meetings as may be prescribed by council  
27 rules. In addition, special meetings may be called by the chairperson or  
28 by any three members upon delivery of forty-eight hours written  
29 notice to each member.

30 Within available appropriations, the council shall develop a plan to  
31 establish a state-wide geographic information system database of  
32 existing and proposed infrastructure and natural resources to assist in  
33 making land use decisions. The database shall contain information on  
34 (1) industrial sites, (2) brownfields and sites on the hazardous waste  
35 disposal inventory maintained by the Commissioner of Environmental  
36 Protection under section 22a-133c of the general statutes, (3)  
37 infrastructures such as roadways, railways, airports, marine  
38 transportation centers and water and sewer facilities, (4) natural  
39 resources, including aquifers, (5) water resources such as wetlands and  
40 water courses, (6) open space and agricultural or farm lands, and (7)  
41 land used for residential and commercial development. Such database  
42 shall be designed to promote compatibility and coordination of  
43 geographic information system data used by local, regional and state  
44 government and the private sector. In establishing the database, the  
45 council shall consult with state agencies, municipalities and other users  
46 of geographic information system technology.

47 The council shall administer a program of technical assistance to  
48 regional planning agencies and municipalities to develop geographic  
49 information systems.

50 On or before January 1, 2006, and annually thereafter, the council  
51 shall submit a report on activities under this section to the joint  
52 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
53 matters relating to planning and development.

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a state-wide Geographic Information Systems Council.