



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 195

LCO No. 1438

01438 _____ ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE LAND
SURROUNDING CANDLEWOOD LAKE.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section, "Candlewood Lake open space property" means
3 approximately four hundred fifty-four acres located in the town of
4 New Fairfield known as Vaughn's Neck, approximately two hundred
5 fifty-six acres located in the town of New Milford known as Great
6 Mountain or Candlewood Mountain, approximately fifty-two acres
7 located in the town of Sherman known as Deer Island and
8 approximately thirty-seven acres located in the town of Sherman
9 known as Green Island, and "open space or recreational purposes"
10 means use of lands for agriculture, parks, natural areas, forests,
11 camping, fishing, wetlands preservation, wildlife habitat, reservoirs,
12 hunting, golfing, boating, swimming and hiking.

13 (b) Upon a decision to lease, sell or dispose of Candlewood Lake
14 open space property, the owner of such property shall provide written
15 notice to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection of such

16 decision.

17 (c) Not later than thirty days after receipt of the notice pursuant to
18 subsection (b) of this section, the commissioner shall provide written
19 notice to the town in which the subject Candlewood Lake open space
20 property is located and the nonprofit land holding organizations that
21 have submitted information pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-
22 50c of the general statutes.

23 (d) A recipient of a notice pursuant to subsection (c) of this section
24 may, not later than ninety days after receipt of the notice, provide
25 written notice to the commissioner and the owner of the subject
26 Candlewood Lake open space property by certified mail, return receipt
27 requested, of a desire to acquire such land. Each recipient shall have
28 the right to acquire the interest in the land which the owner of the
29 subject property has declared its intent to sell, lease or otherwise
30 dispose of, provided the recipient offers fair market value for such
31 property.

32 (e) When more than one person gives notice of a desire to acquire
33 the subject Candlewood Lake open space property, the right to acquire
34 such land shall be in the following order: (1) A water company, as
35 defined in section 25-32a of the general statutes, for water supply
36 purposes; (2) a municipality in which the land is located for water
37 supply, open space or recreational purposes; (3) the state for open
38 space or recreational purposes; (4) a private, nonprofit land holding
39 organization for open space or recreational purposes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To protect open space lands surrounding Candlewood Lake.

[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.]