



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 7275**

January Session, 2007

\*           HB07275ENVAPP032107           \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE FACE OF CONNECTICUT.**

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

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Office of Policy and  
2 Management, in consultation with regional planning organizations,  
3 shall, within available appropriations, establish a "State Responsible  
4 Growth Planning Grant Program" to promote and encourage  
5 responsible growth planning.

6       (b) There is established the state responsible growth account, which  
7 shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund and  
8 shall contain any moneys required to be deposited by law for the  
9 purpose of funding the grant program established under subsection (a)  
10 of this section.

11       (c) The Office of Policy and Management may adopt regulations, in  
12 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes.  
13 Such regulations shall establish requirements for applications and  
14 criteria to be used in awarding grants under this section.

15       Sec. 2. Section 4d-90 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
16 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

17       (a) There is established a Geospatial Information Systems Council  
18 consisting of the following members, or their designees: (1) The

19 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; (2) the  
20 Commissioners of Environmental Protection, Economic and  
21 Community Development, Transportation, Public Safety, Public  
22 Health, Public Works, Agriculture, Emergency Management and  
23 Homeland Security and Social Services; (3) the Chief Information  
24 Officer of the Department of Information Technology; (4) the  
25 Chancellor of the Connecticut State University system; (5) the  
26 president of The University of Connecticut; (6) the Executive Director  
27 of the Connecticut Siting Council; (7) one member who is a user of  
28 geospatial information systems appointed by the president pro  
29 tempore of the Senate representing a municipality with a population of  
30 more than sixty thousand; (8) one member who is a user of geospatial  
31 information systems appointed by the minority leader of the Senate  
32 representing a regional planning agency; (9) one member who is a user  
33 of geospatial information systems appointed by the Governor  
34 representing a municipality with a population of less than sixty  
35 thousand but more than thirty thousand; (10) one member who is a  
36 user of geospatial information systems appointed by the speaker of the  
37 House of Representatives representing a municipality with a  
38 population of less than thirty thousand; (11) one member appointed by  
39 the minority leader of the House of Representatives who is a user of  
40 geospatial information systems; (12) the chairperson of the Public  
41 Utility Control Authority; (13) the Adjutant General of the Military  
42 Department; and (14) any other persons the council deems necessary  
43 appointed by the council. The Governor shall select the chairperson  
44 from among the members. The chairperson shall administer the affairs  
45 of the council. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the  
46 authority making the appointment. Members shall receive no  
47 compensation for their services on said council, but shall be  
48 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of  
49 their duties. Said council shall hold one meeting each month and such  
50 additional meetings as may be prescribed by council rules. In addition,  
51 special meetings may be called by the chairperson or by any three  
52 members upon delivery of forty-eight hours written notice to each  
53 member.

54 (b) The council, within available appropriations, shall coordinate a  
55 uniform geospatial information system capacity for municipalities,  
56 regional planning agencies, the state and others, as needed, which  
57 shall include the creation of a map of the state of Connecticut in  
58 graphic or electronic form and provisions for (1) creation, maintenance  
59 and dissemination of geographic information or imagery that may be  
60 used to (A) precisely identify certain locations or areas, or (B) create  
61 maps or information profiles in graphic or electronic form about  
62 particular locations or areas, and (2) promotion of a forum in which  
63 geospatial information may be centralized and distributed. In  
64 establishing such capacity, the council shall consult with  
65 municipalities, regional planning agencies, state agencies and other  
66 users of geospatial information system technology. The purpose of any  
67 such system shall be to provide guidance or assistance to municipal  
68 and state officials in the areas of land use planning, transportation,  
69 economic development, environmental, cultural and natural resources  
70 management, the delivery of public services and other areas, as  
71 necessary.

72 (c) The council may apply for federal grants and may accept and  
73 expend such grants on behalf of the state through the Office of Policy  
74 and Management.

75 (d) The council, within available appropriations, shall administer a  
76 program of technical assistance to municipalities and regional  
77 planning agencies to develop geospatial information systems and shall  
78 periodically recommend improvements to the geospatial information  
79 system provided for in subsection (b) of this section.

80 (e) On or before January 1, 2006, and annually thereafter, the council  
81 shall submit, in accordance with section 11-4a, a report on activities  
82 under this section to the joint standing committee of the General  
83 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and  
84 development.

85 Sec. 3. Section 22-26hh of the general statutes is repealed and the

86 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

87       The State Bond Commission shall have power, from time to time, to  
88 authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in [one or more] a lump  
89 sum or in a series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the  
90 aggregate [one hundred seven million seven hundred fifty thousand]  
91 two hundred million dollars, the proceeds of which shall be used for  
92 the purposes of section 22-26cc, provided: (1) not more than [ten]  
93 twenty million dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1,  
94 [2006] 2007, (2) not more than twenty million dollars of said  
95 authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008, and [further provided] (3)  
96 not more than two million dollars shall be used for the purposes of  
97 section 22-26jj. All provisions of section 3-20, or the exercise of any  
98 right or power granted thereby which are not inconsistent with the  
99 provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all  
100 bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this  
101 section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be  
102 derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued  
103 in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to time renewed.  
104 Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not exceeding twenty  
105 years from their respective dates as may be provided in or pursuant to  
106 the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond Commission authorizing  
107 such bonds. None of said bonds shall be authorized except upon a  
108 finding by the State Bond Commission that there has been filed with it  
109 a request for such authorization, which is signed by or on behalf of the  
110 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and states such  
111 terms and conditions as said commission, in its discretion, may  
112 require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be general  
113 obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state of  
114 Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and  
115 interest on said bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as  
116 part of the contract of the state with the holders of said bonds,  
117 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such  
118 principal and interest is hereby made, and the Treasurer shall pay such  
119 principal and interest as the same become due.

120 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 7-131e of the general statutes is  
121 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
122 *1, 2007*):

123 (a) Grant award decisions under the protected open space and  
124 watershed land acquisition grant program established under section  
125 7-131d or under the Charter Oak open space grant program  
126 established under section 7-131t shall be made by the Commissioner of  
127 Environmental Protection at least semiannually. All complete and  
128 eligible grant applications shall be acted upon by the commissioner as  
129 soon as practicable. A single project may receive a grant in more than  
130 one grant cycle, subject to future availability of funds and subject to  
131 the limitations set forth in this section and sections 23-78, 12-498 and  
132 7-131d. Up to [two] five per cent of the grant funds may be used for  
133 administrative expenses including, but not limited to: (1) Contractors  
134 to assist the Department of Environmental Protection in the review  
135 and evaluation of grant proposals and baseline data collection for  
136 conservation easements; (2) appraisals or appraisal reviews; and (3)  
137 preparation of legal and other documents. Administrative expenses  
138 may not be used for staff salaries. Not later than September 1, 1998, for  
139 the protected open space and watershed land acquisition grant  
140 program established under section 7-131d, and not later than  
141 September 1, 2000, for the Charter Oak open space grant program  
142 account established under section 7-131t, the commissioner shall  
143 develop written guidelines and a ranking system for consistency and  
144 equity in the distribution of grant awards under the protected open  
145 space and watershed land acquisition grant program established under  
146 section 7-131d or under the Charter Oak open space grant program  
147 account established under section 7-131t based on the criteria listed in  
148 subsections (b) and (c) of section 7-131d. Consistent with such criteria,  
149 additional consideration shall be given to: (A) Protection of lands  
150 adjacent to and complementary to adjacent protected open space land  
151 or class I or class II water company lands; (B) equitable geographic  
152 distribution of the grants; (C) proximity of a property to urban areas  
153 with growth and development pressures or to areas with open space

154 deficiencies and underserved populations; (D) protection of land  
155 particularly vulnerable to development incompatible with its natural  
156 resource values including the protection of a public water supply  
157 source; (E) consistency with the state's plan of conservation and  
158 development; (F) multiple protection elements, such as water quality  
159 and supply protection, scenic preservation and farmland preservation;  
160 (G) the extent to which the presence of already constructed buildings  
161 or other manmade improvements diminish or overshadow the natural  
162 resource value of a proposed acquisition, or its value relative to its  
163 cost; and (H) preservation of forest lands and bodies of water which  
164 naturally absorb significant amounts of carbon dioxide.

165 Sec. 5. Section 7-131g of the general statutes is repealed and the  
166 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

167 (a) Subject to the provisions of sections 7-131d to 7-131k, inclusive,  
168 the Commissioner of Environmental Protection may (1) where a  
169 federal grant is also made, approve grants to municipalities in an  
170 amount not to exceed one-half of the nonfederal share of open space  
171 land acquisition or development costs, (2) where a federal  
172 rehabilitation or innovation grant is made to a municipality under the  
173 Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-625, 92 Stat.  
174 3538), approve a grant to such municipality not to exceed fifteen per  
175 cent of the total project cost of such development or rehabilitation and  
176 (3) where a federal grant is not made, may approve grants to  
177 municipalities in accordance with the provisions of this section.

178 (b) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection may make  
179 grants under the open space and watershed land acquisition program  
180 to: (1) Municipalities for acquisition of land for open space under  
181 subdivisions (1) to (6), inclusive, of subsection (b) of section 7-131d in  
182 an amount not to exceed [fifty] ~~sixty-five~~ per cent of the fair market  
183 value of a parcel of land or interest in land proposed to be acquired; (2)  
184 municipalities for acquisition of land for class I and class II water  
185 supply protection under subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of said  
186 section 7-131d, in an amount not to exceed sixty-five per cent of such

187 value; (3) nonprofit land conservation organizations for acquisition of  
188 land for open space or watershed protection under subdivisions (1) to  
189 (6), inclusive, of subsection (b) of said section 7-131d, in an amount not  
190 to exceed [fifty] sixty-five per cent of such value; (4) water companies  
191 for acquisition of land under subdivision (7) of subsection (b) of said  
192 section 7-131d, in an amount not to exceed [forty] sixty-five per cent of  
193 such value provided if such a company proposes in a grant application  
194 that it intends to allow access to such land for recreational uses, such  
195 company shall seek approval of the Commissioner of Public Health for  
196 such access; and (5) distressed municipalities or targeted investment  
197 communities, as defined in section 32-9p, or, with the approval of the  
198 chief elected official or governing legislative body of such a  
199 municipality or community, to a nonprofit land conservation  
200 organization or water company, for acquisition of land within that  
201 municipality or community, for open space under subdivisions (1) to  
202 (6), inclusive, of subsection (b) of said section 7-131d, in an amount not  
203 to exceed [sixty-five] seventy-five per cent of such value or for  
204 performance of work in the restoration, enhancement or protection of  
205 resources in an amount not to exceed fifty per cent of the cost of such  
206 work. Applicants for grants under the program shall provide a copy of  
207 the application to the chairperson of the review board established  
208 under section 7-131e, as amended by this act. The board shall provide  
209 comments to the commissioner on pending applications as it deems  
210 necessary.

211 (c) For purposes of this subsection, the fair market value of land or  
212 interest in land shall be determined by one or more appraisals  
213 satisfactory to the commissioner and shall not include incidental costs,  
214 including, but not limited to, surveying, development or closing costs.  
215 The commissioner may consider a portion of the fair market value of a  
216 donation of land by an entity receiving a grant as a portion of the  
217 matching funds required under this subsection. No other funds made  
218 available by the state may be used by a potential grantee as matching  
219 funds under the program.

220 (d) To the extent there is a balance of bonds authorized but not  
221 allocated by the State Bond Commission on or after July 1, 1998,  
222 pursuant to any bond act for the purposes of (1) the recreation and  
223 natural heritage trust program established under sections 23-73 to 23-  
224 79, inclusive, and (2) the municipal open space grant program  
225 established under sections 7-131c to 7-131g, inclusive, the State Bond  
226 Commission shall authorize the issuance of such balance only for the  
227 purposes described in section 23-74 and sections 23-75 and 7-131d and  
228 in two substantially equal installments one in each half of the fiscal  
229 year commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999.

230 Sec. 6. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes described in  
231 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
232 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
233 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
234 the aggregate forty-eight million dollars, provided twenty-four million  
235 dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008.

236 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
237 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the  
238 Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of funding  
239 the protected open space and watershed land acquisition grant  
240 program established under section 7-131d of the general statutes.

241 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
242 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not  
243 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and  
244 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission  
245 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the  
246 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized  
247 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to  
248 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
249 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
250 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
251 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be  
252 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that

253 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is  
254 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
255 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,  
256 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this  
257 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and  
258 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the  
259 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and  
260 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of  
261 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual  
262 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State  
263 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
264 due.

265       Sec. 7. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes described in  
266 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
267 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
268 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
269 the aggregate thirty-six million dollars, provided eighteen million  
270 dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008.

271       (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
272 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the  
273 Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of funding  
274 the Connecticut recreation and natural heritage trust program created  
275 by sections 23-74 to 23-80, inclusive, of the general statutes.

276       (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
277 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not  
278 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and  
279 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission  
280 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the  
281 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized  
282 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to  
283 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
284 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
285 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond

286 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be  
287 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
288 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is  
289 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
290 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,  
291 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this  
292 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and  
293 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the  
294 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and  
295 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of  
296 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual  
297 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State  
298 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
299 due.

300       Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Connecticut Housing  
301 Finance Authority shall administer, in consultation with the  
302 Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, established  
303 pursuant to section 10-392 of the general statutes, and the Connecticut  
304 Trust for Historic Preservation, established pursuant to special act 75-  
305 93, a grant program to fund city and village restoration programs,  
306 including, but not limited to, the rehabilitation of historic urban  
307 neighborhoods and stimulation of affordable housing and mixed use  
308 development in historic buildings. Such grants shall be awarded prior  
309 to the commencement of any development for the purposes of site  
310 assembly and brownfields remediation.

311       (b) There is established the historic cities and villages account which  
312 shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. Such  
313 account shall contain any moneys required to be deposited by law and  
314 shall be used to fund the grant program established in subsection (a) of  
315 this section.

316       (c) In each fiscal year that there are funds available in the historic  
317 cities and villages account, the Connecticut Commission on Culture  
318 and Tourism, established pursuant to section 10-392 of the general

319 statutes, in consultation with the Connecticut Trust for Historic  
320 Preservation, established pursuant to special act 75-93, shall administer  
321 a matching grant program to fund the planning and restoration of  
322 historic municipal buildings.

323       Sec. 9. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes described in  
324 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
325 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
326 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
327 the aggregate twenty-eight million dollars, provided fourteen million  
328 dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008.

329       (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
330 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be deposited in the  
331 historic cities and villages account established under section 8 of this  
332 act for the purpose of funding the programs specified in section 8 of  
333 this act.

334       (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
335 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not  
336 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and  
337 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission  
338 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the  
339 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized  
340 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to  
341 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
342 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
343 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
344 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be  
345 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
346 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is  
347 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
348 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,  
349 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this  
350 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and  
351 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the

352 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and  
353 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of  
354 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual  
355 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State  
356 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
357 due.

358       Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Connecticut Trust for  
359 Historic Preservation, established pursuant to special act 75-93, shall  
360 administer a matching grants program to fund community efforts to  
361 plan for preservation, identify and evaluate historic resources and  
362 register properties on the state or national Register of Historic Places.

363       (b) There is established the historic registration account, which shall  
364 be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. Such  
365 account shall contain any moneys required to be deposited by law and  
366 shall be used to fund the matching grant program established in  
367 subsection (a) of this section.

368       Sec. 11. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes described in  
369 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
370 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
371 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
372 the aggregate two million dollars, provided one million dollars of said  
373 authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008.

374       (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
375 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be deposited in the  
376 historic registration account established under section 10 of this act, for  
377 the purpose of funding the matching grant program established under  
378 section 10 of this act.

379       (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
380 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not  
381 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and  
382 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission

383 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the  
384 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized  
385 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to  
386 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
387 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
388 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
389 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be  
390 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
391 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is  
392 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
393 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,  
394 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this  
395 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and  
396 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the  
397 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and  
398 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of  
399 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual  
400 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State  
401 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
402 due.

403       Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Connecticut  
404 Commission on Culture and Tourism, established pursuant to section  
405 10-392 of the general statutes, in consultation with the Connecticut  
406 Trust for Historic Preservation, established pursuant to special act 75-  
407 93, shall administer a matching grant program to fund the preservation  
408 of historic landscapes and buildings, including, but not limited to:  
409 Barns and other farm buildings, scenic roads, town greens, stone walls,  
410 archeological sites, cemeteries, estates or formal gardens. Such funds  
411 shall be used for easement acquisition, structural assessments,  
412 feasibility studies and restoration.

413       (b) There is established the historic landscape account, which shall  
414 be a separate nonlapsing account within the General Fund. Such  
415 account shall contain any moneys required to be deposited by law and

416 shall be used to fund the matching grant program established in  
417 subsection (a) of this section.

418       Sec. 13. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes described in  
419 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
420 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
421 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
422 the aggregate ten million dollars, provided five million dollars of said  
423 authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008.

424       (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
425 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be deposited in the  
426 historic landscape account established in section 12 of this act for the  
427 purpose of funding the matching grant program established in section  
428 12 of this act.

429       (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
430 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not  
431 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and  
432 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission  
433 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the  
434 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized  
435 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to  
436 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
437 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
438 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
439 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be  
440 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
441 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is  
442 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
443 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,  
444 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this  
445 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and  
446 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the  
447 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and  
448 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of

449 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual  
450 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State  
451 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
452 due.

453       Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of  
454 Agriculture shall convene a Best Management Practices Committee  
455 that shall consist of representatives of: The Department of Agriculture,  
456 the Department of Environmental Protection, The University of  
457 Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service, the Connecticut  
458 Agricultural Experiment Station and the United States Department of  
459 Agriculture. The committee shall review currently utilized and  
460 accepted best management practices, nutrient management plans and  
461 integrated pest management, make recommendations to enhance the  
462 environmental quality of farms, and submit such recommendations, in  
463 accordance with the provisions of 11-41 of the general statutes, to the  
464 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance  
465 of matters relating to the environment. The committee shall establish  
466 cost-sharing funding levels for best management practices that the  
467 Commissioner of Agriculture shall administer.

468       (b) The Commissioner of Agriculture may provide cost-sharing or  
469 matching grant moneys for any federal funding allocated for a similar  
470 purpose, with funds available through bond authorization pursuant to  
471 section 15 of this act, to assist and promote best management practices.  
472 For purposes of this section, "cost-sharing or matching grant moneys"  
473 means all contributions, including cash and third party in-kind  
474 donations that are approved by the commissioner.

475       Sec. 15. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes described in  
476 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
477 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
478 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
479 the aggregate eighteen million dollars, provided nine million dollars of  
480 said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008.

481 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
482 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the  
483 Department of Agriculture for the purpose of carrying out the  
484 provisions of section 14 of this act.

485 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
486 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not  
487 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and  
488 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission  
489 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the  
490 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized  
491 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to  
492 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
493 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
494 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
495 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be  
496 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
497 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is  
498 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
499 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,  
500 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this  
501 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and  
502 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the  
503 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and  
504 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of  
505 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual  
506 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State  
507 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
508 due.

509 Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Department of  
510 Environmental Protection shall administer, within available  
511 appropriations, a community stewardship grant program to provide  
512 individual grants of not more than thirty thousand dollars to  
513 municipalities and land trusts for stewardship programs including, but

514 not limited to, the development of public access on preserved land and  
515 the control of invasive plant species.

516 (b) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection may adopt  
517 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to  
518 carry out the provisions of this section. Such regulations shall establish  
519 requirements for applications and criteria to be used in awarding  
520 grants under this section.

521 Sec. 17. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes described in  
522 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
523 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
524 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
525 the aggregate two million dollars, provided one million dollars of said  
526 authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008.

527 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
528 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the  
529 Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of funding  
530 the community stewardship grant program established in section 16 of  
531 this act.

532 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
533 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not  
534 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and  
535 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission  
536 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the  
537 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized  
538 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to  
539 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
540 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
541 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
542 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be  
543 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
544 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is  
545 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and

546 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,  
547 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this  
548 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and  
549 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the  
550 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and  
551 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of  
552 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual  
553 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State  
554 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
555 due.

556       Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) There is established the  
557 Long Island stewardship account, a separate, nonlapsing account  
558 within the Long Island Sound account. The account may receive any  
559 funds required by law to be deposited into the account. The  
560 Commissioner of Environmental Protection may receive private  
561 donations and funds from the federal government for deposit in the  
562 account.

563       (b) All moneys deposited in the account shall be used by the  
564 Commissioner of Environmental Protection for the provision of grants  
565 for the purposes of improvement, protection and acquisition of Long  
566 Island Sound stewardship sites located along the Connecticut  
567 coastline.

568       Sec. 19. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes described in  
569 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have  
570 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the  
571 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in  
572 the aggregate seven million dollars, provided three million five  
573 hundred thousand dollars of said authorization shall be effective July  
574 1, 2008.

575       (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
576 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the  
577 Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of funding

578 the grant program established in section 18 of this act.

579 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the  
580 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not  
581 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and  
582 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission  
583 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the  
584 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized  
585 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to  
586 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not  
587 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided  
588 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond  
589 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be  
590 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that  
591 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is  
592 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
593 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,  
594 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this  
595 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and  
596 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the  
597 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and  
598 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of  
599 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual  
600 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State  
601 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
602 due.

603 Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Department of  
604 Environmental Protection shall provide matching grants, within  
605 available appropriations, to assist land trusts to improve  
606 organizational development and land protection, as well as to support  
607 education and innovative strategies for land protection.

608 Sec. 21. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) A municipality may repay its  
609 portion of a state matching grant for the preservation of farm land or  
610 open space land in equal installments during the ten-year period after

611 the grant is made. If the grant is repaid in five years or less, no interest  
612 on such grant shall be charged to the municipality. The interest rate  
613 during the final four years of payment shall be the prime rate in effect  
614 for the first day of the month such payment is due, minus one per cent.

615       Sec. 22. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of one million one hundred  
616 fifty thousand dollars is appropriated to the state responsible growth  
617 account established in section 1 of this act, from the General Fund, for  
618 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for the State Responsible Growth  
619 Planning Grant Program established in section 1 of this act.

620       Sec. 23. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The sum of one million one hundred  
621 fifty thousand dollars is appropriated to the state responsible growth  
622 account established in section 1 of this act, from the General Fund, for  
623 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for the State Responsible Growth  
624 Planning Grant Program established in section 1 of this act.

625       Sec. 24. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of two million dollars is  
626 appropriated to the Office of Policy and Management, from the  
627 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for a grant to the  
628 Geospatial Information Systems Council.

629       Sec. 25. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The sum of two million dollars is  
630 appropriated to the Office of Policy and Management, from the  
631 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for a grant to the  
632 Geospatial Information Systems Council.

633       Sec. 26. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of one million one hundred  
634 twenty-five thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of  
635 Environmental Protection, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year  
636 ending June 30, 2008, for the hiring of five additional state forest land  
637 managers and additional state parks staff.

638       Sec. 27. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The sum of one million one hundred  
639 twenty-five thousand dollars is appropriated to the Department of  
640 Environmental Protection, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year  
641 ending June 30, 2009, for the hiring of five additional state forest land

642 managers and additional state parks staff.

643 Sec. 28. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of sixty thousand dollars is  
 644 appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection, from the  
 645 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for the matching  
 646 grants program established in section 20 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	4d-90
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	22-26hh
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	7-131e(a)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	7-131g
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 25	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 27	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

**ENV**

*Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

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