



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 521

January Session, 2009

Substitute House Bill No. 6637

House of Representatives, April 6, 2009

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. ROY, R. 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 CLEANING OF RECREATIONAL VESSELS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section, "vessel" has the same meaning as in section 15-127 of the
3 general statutes and "recreational vessel" means any vessel that is (1)
4 manufactured or used primarily for pleasure; or (2) leased, rented or
5 chartered to a person for the pleasure of that person but "recreational
6 vessel" does not include a vessel that is (A) subject to Coast Guard
7 inspection, and (B) (i) engaged in commercial use, or (ii) carrying
8 paying passengers.

9 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 22a-430 of the general
10 statutes, any person who initiates, creates or originates a discharge of
11 water, substance or material into the waters of the state while engaged
12 in cleaning the hull of a recreational vessel shall not be required to
13 apply for or obtain a permit for such discharge prior to December 31,
14 2010.

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

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 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Department of Environmental Protection	EQ - Revenue Loss	Potential Significant	Potential Significant

Note: EQ=Environmental Quality Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill could result in a significant revenue loss to the Environmental Quality (EQ) fund in FY 10 and a partial revenue loss in FY 11 since it exempts certain persons from obtaining a discharge permit until 12/31/10.

Information regarding the number of permits issued in FY 08 is as follows:

Permit Type	Fee (\$)	Number of Permits FY 08	Permit Revenue FY 08 (\$)
Discharge of sewer compatible wastewater \leq 5,000 gpd	500	24,000	12,000,000
Discharge of sewer compatible wastewater $>$ 5,000 gpd	1,000	3,000	3,000,000
Totals	--	27,000	15,000,000

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of permits exempted under the bill's provisions.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6637

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CLEANING OF RECREATIONAL VESSELS.

SUMMARY:

This bill exempts people who clean the hulls of recreational vessels (e.g., boats) and discharge material, substance, or water into state waters from a requirement to obtain a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) discharge permit until December 31, 2010.

Under the bill, "vessel" has the same meaning as under the law, which is every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on water, used or capable of being used for transportation on water.

It defines "recreational vessel" as a watercraft, other than a seaplane, that is (1) manufactured or used primarily for pleasure or (2) leased, rented, or chartered to people for pleasure. It does not include a vessel that is (1) subject to Coast Guard inspection and engaged in commercial use or (2) carries paying passengers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 14 (03/20/2009)