



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 6660

LCO No. 4534

04534_____ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR VARIOUS
STATE GRANT PROGRAMS AND CONCERNING THE FACE OF
CONNECTICUT STEERING COMMITTEE.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 22-26hh of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 The State Bond Commission shall have the power, from time to
4 time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more
5 series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate one
6 hundred [seventeen million seven hundred] thirty million two
7 hundred fifty thousand dollars, the proceeds of which shall be used for
8 the purposes of section 22-26cc, [provided not more than five million
9 dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2008, and further]
10 provided not more than two million dollars shall be used for the
11 purposes of section 22-26jj. All provisions of section 3-20, or the
12 exercise of any right or power granted thereby which are not
13 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and
14 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission
15 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the

16 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized
17 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to
18 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not
19 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided
20 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond
21 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be
22 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
23 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization, which is
24 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
25 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,
26 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this
27 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and
28 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the
29 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and
30 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of
31 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual
32 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the
33 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become
34 due.

35 Sec. 2. Section 22a-27s of the general statutes is repealed and the
36 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

37 (a) There is established the Face of Connecticut Steering Committee,
38 which shall be within the Department of Environmental Protection for
39 administrative purposes only. Such committee shall direct the
40 expenditure of any funds deposited in the Face of Connecticut account
41 created under section 22a-27t. The committee shall consist of the
42 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the Commissioner of
43 Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's
44 designee, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the executive director of
45 the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, the Secretary of
46 the Office of Policy and Management and ten members as follows: (1)
47 A representative of a local organization involved in historic
48 preservation, appointed by the speaker of the House of

49 Representatives; (2) a representative of a nonprofit organization
50 involved in farmland preservation, appointed by the president pro
51 tempore of the Senate; (3) a representative of a local or regional
52 nonprofit organization involved in the preservation of open space,
53 appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives; (4) a
54 representative of a water company actively involved in land
55 preservation, appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; (5) a
56 representative of the agricultural industry, appointed by the minority
57 leader of the House of Representatives; (6) a representative of a state-
58 wide nonprofit involved in the preservation of open space, appointed
59 by the minority leader of the Senate; (7) a representative of a state-wide
60 nonprofit organization involved in historic preservation, appointed by
61 the Governor; (8) a representative of an organization involved with
62 community redevelopment, appointed by the Governor; (9) a
63 representative of the legislative Brownfields Task Force, appointed by
64 the speaker of the House of Representatives; and (10) a representative
65 of the environmental law section of the Connecticut Bar Association
66 who is involved with brownfields remediation, appointed by the
67 president pro tempore of the Senate.

68 (b) All initial appointments to the committee shall be made not later
69 than September 1, 2008. The term of each appointed member of the
70 steering committee shall be coterminous with the term of the
71 appointing authority or until a successor is chosen, whichever is later.
72 The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall serve as the
73 chairperson of the committee for the two years following the
74 appointment of the committee, followed first by the Commissioner of
75 Agriculture for two years and subsequently by the executive director
76 of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism for two years
77 and subsequently by the Commissioner of Economic and Community
78 Development or said commissioner's designee for two years. Such
79 rotation shall repeat every two years thereafter in the order specified in
80 this subsection, except that if there is a vacancy in one of said
81 positions, one of the other commissioners or the executive director
82 may serve as chairperson until the vacancy is filled.

83 (c) The committee shall meet quarterly.

84 (d) The committee shall: (1) Not later than January 1, 2010, submit a
85 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, detailing
86 specific goals of current state programs concerning farmland
87 preservation, open space preservation, brownfields remediation,
88 historic preservation and the obstacles to achieving such goals to the
89 Office of Policy and Management and the joint standing committees of
90 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
91 environment and commerce, (2) create a grant program for mixed-use
92 preservation, (3) develop criteria for eligibility for smart growth
93 funding and make recommendations consisting of a prioritized list of
94 smart growth projects to the General Assembly, in accordance with the
95 provisions of section 11-4a, and (4) not later than January 1, 2010, and
96 each year thereafter, report to the General Assembly concerning what
97 projects were funded by the committee in accordance with this section.

98 Sec. 3. (Effective July 1, 2009) (a) For the purposes described in
99 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have
100 the power, from time to time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the
101 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in
102 the aggregate fifty million five hundred thousand dollars.

103 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the
104 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the
105 following agencies: (1) Ten million dollars by the Department of
106 Agriculture for the purchase of development rights of agricultural land
107 in accordance with chapter 422a of the general statutes; (2) seven
108 million five hundred thousand dollars by the Department of
109 Environmental Protection for the open space and watershed land
110 acquisition program established under section 7-131d of the general
111 statutes; (3) seven million five hundred thousand dollars by the
112 Department of Environmental Protection for the recreation and natural
113 heritage trust program established under sections 23-73 to 23-79,
114 inclusive, of the general statutes; (4) seven million five hundred

115 thousand dollars by the Department of Economic and Community
116 Development for brownfields remediation and redevelopment in
117 accordance with title 32 of the general statutes; and (5) twenty million
118 dollars which shall be deposited in the Face of Connecticut account to
119 be expended by the Department of Environmental Protection as
120 directed by the Face of Connecticut Steering Committee, established
121 under section 22a-27s of the general statutes, as amended by this act,
122 for the purpose of historic preservation, brownfields remediation and
123 farmland and open space preservation.

124 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the
125 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not
126 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and
127 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission
128 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the
129 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized
130 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to
131 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not
132 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided
133 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond
134 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be
135 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
136 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is
137 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
138 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,
139 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this
140 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and
141 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the
142 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and
143 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of
144 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual
145 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State
146 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become
147 due.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22-26hh
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	22a-27s
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To authorize bonds of the state for state grant programs for the purpose of historic preservation, brownfields remediation and farmland and open space preservation, and to require the Face of Connecticut Steering Committee to report on the goals and obstacles for such grant programs, create a grant program for mixed-use preservation, develop criteria for eligibility for smart growth funding and report on the status of various projects funded by the committee.

[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.]