



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Committee Bill No. 256

LCO No. 4590

* SB00256PD 041509 *

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT HERITAGE AREAS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
2 section 2 of this act and section 16a-27 of the general statutes, as
3 amended by this act, "Connecticut Heritage Area" means a place
4 within the state that has been identified by the General Assembly as
5 having significant historic, recreational, cultural, natural and scenic
6 resources that form an important part of the state's heritage.

7 (b) Each state agency, department, board and commission (1) shall
8 consider Connecticut Heritage Areas when developing planning
9 documents and processes, and (2) may partner with the managing
10 entities of such areas on projects concerning, but not limited to,
11 environmental protection, heritage resource preservation, recreation,
12 tourism and trail development.

13 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The General Assembly
14 recognizes two Connecticut Heritage Areas: (1) The Quinebaug and
15 Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, and (2) the Upper
16 Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area.

17 Sec. 3. Section 16a-27 of the general statutes is repealed and the
18 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

19 (a) The secretary, after consultation with all appropriate state,
20 regional and local agencies and other appropriate persons, shall prior
21 to March 1, 2009, complete a revision of the existing plan and enlarge it
22 to include, but not be limited to, policies relating to transportation,
23 energy and air. Any revision made after May 15, 1991, shall identify
24 the major transportation proposals, including proposals for mass
25 transit, contained in the master transportation plan prepared pursuant
26 to section 13b-15. Any revision made after July 1, 1995, shall take into
27 consideration the conservation and development of greenways that
28 have been designated by municipalities and shall recommend that
29 state agencies coordinate their efforts to support the development of a
30 state-wide greenways system. The Commissioner of Environmental
31 Protection shall identify state-owned land for inclusion in the plan as
32 potential components of a state greenways system.

33 (b) Any revision made after August 20, 2003, shall take into account
34 (1) economic and community development needs and patterns of
35 commerce, and (2) linkages of affordable housing objectives and land
36 use objectives with transportation systems.

37 (c) Any revision made after March 1, 2006, shall (1) take into
38 consideration risks associated with natural hazards, including, but not
39 limited to, flooding, high winds and wildfires; (2) identify the potential
40 impacts of natural hazards on infrastructure and property; and (3)
41 make recommendations for the siting of future infrastructure and
42 property development to minimize the use of areas prone to natural
43 hazards, including, but not limited to, flooding, high winds and
44 wildfires.

45 (d) Any revision made after July 1, 2005, shall describe the progress
46 towards achievement of the goals and objectives established in the
47 previously adopted state plan of conservation and development and
48 shall identify (1) areas where it is prudent and feasible (A) to have

49 compact, transit accessible, pedestrian-oriented mixed-use
 50 development patterns and land reuse, and (B) to promote such
 51 development patterns and land reuse, (2) priority funding areas
 52 designated under section 16a-35c, and (3) corridor management areas
 53 on either side of a limited access highway or a rail line. In designating
 54 corridor management areas, the secretary shall make
 55 recommendations that (A) promote land use and transportation
 56 options to reduce the growth of traffic congestion; (B) connect
 57 infrastructure and other development decisions; (C) promote
 58 development that minimizes the cost of new infrastructure facilities
 59 and maximizes the use of existing infrastructure facilities; and (D)
 60 increase intermunicipal and regional cooperation.

61 (e) Any revision made after October 1, 2008, shall (1) for each policy
 62 recommended (A) assign a priority; (B) estimate funding for
 63 implementation and identify potential funding sources; (C) identify
 64 each entity responsible for implementation; and (D) establish a
 65 schedule for implementation; and (2) for each growth management
 66 principle, determine three benchmarks to measure progress in
 67 implementation of the principles, one of which shall be a financial
 68 benchmark.

69 (f) Any revision made after October 1, 2009, shall take into
 70 consideration the protection and preservation of Connecticut Heritage
 71 Areas.

72 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) Thereafter on or before March first in each revision year the
 73 secretary shall complete a revision of the plan of conservation and
 74 development.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	16a-27

