



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 138

January Session, 2011

House Bill No. 5178

House of Representatives, March 22, 2011

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. GENTILE of the 104th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF ZONE CHANGES TO BE SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL.

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

1 Section 1. Section 8-3b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 When the zoning commission of any municipality proposes to
4 establish or change a zone or any regulation affecting the use of a zone
5 any portion of which is within five hundred feet of the boundary of
6 another municipality located within the area of operation of a regional
7 planning agency, the zoning commission shall give written notice of its
8 proposal to the regional planning agency or agencies of the region in
9 which it and the other municipality are located. Such notice shall be
10 made by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by electronic mail
11 to the electronic mail address or addresses designated by the regional
12 planning agency or agencies for receipt of such notice, not later than
13 thirty days before the public hearing to be held in relation thereto. The
14 regional planning agency shall study such proposal and shall report its

15 findings and recommendations thereon to the zoning commission at or
16 before the hearing, and such report shall be made a part of the record
17 of such hearing. The report of any regional planning agency of any
18 region that is contiguous to Long Island Sound shall include findings
19 and recommendations on the environmental impact of the proposal on
20 the ecosystem and habitat of Long Island Sound. If such report of the
21 regional planning agency is not submitted at or before the hearing, it
22 shall be presumed that such agency does not disapprove of the
23 proposal. A regional planning agency receiving such a notice may
24 transmit such notice to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
25 Management or his designee for comment. The planning agency may
26 designate its executive committee to act for it under this section or may
27 establish a subcommittee for the purpose. The report of said planning
28 agency shall be purely advisory.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	8-3b

PD *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 12 \$	FY 13 \$
Various Municipalities	Savings	Less than \$50	Less than \$50

Explanation

A minimal savings in averted postage costs will ensue for any municipality choosing to utilize electronic email to transmit zoning establishment or change notices to a regional planning agency. Postage for certified mail, return receipt requested, is \$5.54. On average four to six such notices would be expected per community per year.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to postage rates.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5178*****AN ACT AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF ZONE CHANGES TO BE SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows municipal zoning commissions to send certain notices to regional planning agencies (RPAs) by email, instead of certified mail. The bill applies to notice of proposals to establish or change a zone or regulation affecting the use of a zone, if part of the zone is within 500 feet of the boundary of a municipality located within an RPA's area of operation.

By law, the commission must send the notice 30 days before the required public hearing on the changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/07/2011)