



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 470

January Session, 2011

House Bill No. 5300

House of Representatives, April 7, 2011

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. ROY of the 119th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SPEED LIMITS OF BOATS ON THE MYSTIC RIVER.

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

1 Section 1. Section 15-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) If any vessel, wholly or partly propelled by power, moves at a
4 greater rate of speed than six miles per hour, when approaching or
5 passing, and while within two hundred feet of, any wharf, pier or dock
6 in the city of Hartford between the Bulkeley Bridge over the
7 Connecticut River and the southern limits of said city, or Long Wharf
8 and pier in New Haven Harbor, when any vessel is lying thereat at any
9 berth below the north end of the platform on the east side of the wharf,
10 or the wharf or pier in Bridgeport Harbor known as Mather's Dock, or
11 any wharf, pier or marine railway in Norwalk Harbor, or any wharf in
12 the city of Middletown, or any dock, pier or wharf in the city of New
13 London or in New London Harbor, or in the city of Norwich, or
14 between the cities of New London and Norwich, or on the Eight Mile

15 River in Lyme between the northerly end of the channel at Hamburg
 16 Village and the southerly end at the Connecticut River, or any wharf
 17 on either side of Mystic River between its mouth at Noank beacon and
 18 the most northerly channel buoy north of the Marine Historical
 19 Association, or while passing between Branford Point Dock and Sybil's
 20 Creek, so called, in the Branford River, the person in command of any
 21 such vessel shall forfeit one hundred dollars to the state, and shall also
 22 be liable to pay threefold damages to any person whose property is
 23 injured in consequence of the violation of the provisions of this section.

24 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
 25 on and after the adoption of regulations by the Department of
 26 Environmental Protection pursuant to section 15-121 that establish
 27 speed limits for vessels moving on the Mystic River, the speed limit for
 28 vessels moving on the Mystic River shall be as established in such
 29 regulations.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	15-16

ENV *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:*** None***Explanation***

Promulgating regulations on speed limits for vessels on the Mystic River has no fiscal impact to the Department of Environmental Protection.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5300

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SPEED LIMITS OF BOATS ON THE MYSTIC RIVER.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires boats on the Mystic River to comply with regulations to be promulgated by the Department of Environmental Protection regarding speed limits. The regulations will supersede current law, under which powerboats cannot move faster than six miles per hour when approaching or passing and while within 200 feet of any wharf on either side the Mystic River between its mouth at the Noank beacon and the most northerly channel buoy north of the Marine Historical Association.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/21/2011)