



House Bill No. 5178

Public Act No. 11-89

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:

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 Section 8-3b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

When the zoning commission of any municipality proposes to establish or change a zone or any regulation affecting the use of a zone any portion of which is within five hundred feet of the boundary of another municipality located within the area of operation of a regional planning agency, the zoning commission shall give written notice of its proposal to [the] each regional planning agency [or agencies] of the region in which it and the other municipality are located. Such notice shall be made by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by electronic mail to the electronic mail address designated by the regional planning agency on the agency's Internet web site for receipt of such notice, not later than thirty days before the public hearing to be held in relation thereto. If such notice is sent by electronic mail and the zoning commission does not receive an electronic mail from a regional planning agency confirming receipt of such notice, then not later than twenty-five days before the public hearing, the zoning commission shall also send such notice by certified mail, return receipt requested,

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

Approved July 13, 2011