



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 19

February Session, 2012

Senate Bill No. 220

Senate, March 8, 2012

The Committee on Commerce reported through SEN. LEBEAU of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING NAVIGATION, COASTAL ACCESS AND CLEAN MARINAS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) As used in this section (1)
2 "certified clean marina" means a facility committed to the Department
3 of Energy and Environmental Protection's voluntary clean marina
4 program and engaged in efforts to operate at standards exceeding
5 regulatory compliance, including, but not limited to, implementing
6 practices that minimize pollution from mechanical activities, cleaning,
7 painting and fiberglass repair, hauling and storing boats, fueling,
8 facility management; and (2) "pledged clean marina" means a facility
9 committed to becoming a certified clean marina within one year of its
10 pledge date.

11 (b) A certified clean marina or a pledged clean marina that proposes
12 a sediment, dredging or disposal project and requests funding
13 pursuant to subsection (k) of section 22a-477 of the general statutes
14 shall be eligible for a grant of not less than forty per cent of the costs of

15 the project.

16 (c) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection may
17 require a pledged clean marina to repay any portion of a grant
18 awarded pursuant to subsection (b) of this section if such pledged
19 clean marina does not transition to a certified clean marina within one
20 year of such pledge.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section

CE *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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 13 \$	FY 14 \$
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Clean Water Fund - Cost	Potential	Potential

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill authorizes grants from the Long Island Sound Clean-Up Account (a subaccount of the Clean Water Fund) covering at least 40% of costs for sediment, dredging, or disposal project costs. There are 49 certified and pledged clean marinas in the state that would be eligible for this grant.

Current law provides grants from the Long Island Sound Clean-Up Account for certain projects that improve water quality and enhance habitats. The Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) determines the grant award. Currently, all of the state's approximate 260 marinas are eligible for this type of grant, including those 49 marinas in the voluntary clean marina program. There have been no grant awards made under this program.

The average cost of a dredging project in the state is approximately \$20 per cubic yard and the average volume of sediment dredged (based on known permits) is 13,618 cubic yards. The average cost of a sediment, dredging, or disposal project is \$272,360. Thus, for a grant awarded under the bill the state cost would be at least \$108,944 (at least 40% of project total).

There are 49 marinas eligible for this grant. It is not known at this time how many need sediment, dredging, or disposal projects.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the amount of grants and repayments made.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 220*****AN ACT CONCERNING NAVIGATION, COASTAL ACCESS AND CLEAN MARINAS*****SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes state grants covering at least 40% of certain marinas' costs for a sediment, dredging, or disposal project. A marina qualifies for a grant if it participates in the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) voluntary Connecticut Clean Marina Program. Participating marinas must either implement practices minimizing pollution or pledge to do so within one year of entering the program.

Funds for the grants come from DEEP's Long Island Sound Cleanup account, which funds sediment, dredging, and disposal projects and other projects designed mainly to improve water quality and enhance habitats. Under current law, all marinas qualify for these funds, even those that do not participate in the voluntary program. Nonparticipating marinas would still qualify for funds under the bill, and the DEEP commissioner would determine the amount based on his discretion, as current law provides.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012

CONNECTICUT CLEAN MARINA PROGRAM

Marinas qualify for a minimum 40% sediment, dredging, or disposal grant under the bill if they participate in the existing voluntary clean marina program. DEEP certifies a marina's participation based on its practices. It certifies the marina as a "clean marina" if it is exceeding the standards for regulatory compliance by minimizing pollution from mechanical activities, cleaning, painting and fiberglass repair, hauling and storing boats, fueling, and facility

management. DEEP certifies a marina as a “pledged clean marina” if it commits to becoming a certified clean marina within one year.

Although both types of marinas qualify for the minimum 40% grant, DEEP may recapture any portion of a grant it makes to a pledged clean marina that misses the one-year deadline for becoming a certified clean marina.

BACKGROUND

Clean Marina Program

Currently, 29 marinas are certified facilities and 20 are pledged facilities. DEEP is not now accepting pledges or certifying marinas for the program.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 16 Nay 0 (03/01/2012)