

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 12-167—sHB 5259
Environment Committee

AN ACT REQUIRING THE INSPECTION OF VESSELS AND VESSEL TRAILERS FOR AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

SUMMARY: This act expands boaters' responsibility for inspecting their boats and boat trailers before transporting them in Connecticut. Prior law required them to inspect for and properly remove and dispose of any vegetation. The act requires them to inspect for vegetation and aquatic invasive species, as determined by the energy and environmental protection commissioner, and properly remove and dispose of what is visible and identifiable without optical magnification. As under prior law, violators are subject to a fine of up to \$100 for each violation.

The act requires Department of Energy and Environmental Protection-approved safe boating courses to instruct boaters on how to properly inspect boats and trailers for aquatic invasive species and dispose of them. By law, the courses must already instruct boaters on how to properly inspect for and dispose of vegetation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012

OLR Tracking: JKL:ND:JL:ts