



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 1013

LCO No. 3857



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DATA COLLECTION.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than February 15, 2014,
2 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and The
3 University of Connecticut shall, in accordance with section 11-4a of the
4 general statutes, report to the joint standing committee of the General
5 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment on
6 the joint efforts of said department and university to establish a
7 Connecticut Center for Coasts. Such report shall include, but not be
8 limited to, the following: (1) A detailed description of the mission for
9 such a center that shall include, at a minimum, conducting research,
10 outreach and education projects to guide the development of
11 technologies and regulatory provisions that increase the protection of
12 ecosystems, coastal properties and other lands and attributes of the
13 state that are subject to the effects of rising sea levels, (2) the proposed
14 governance of such center, including appointment of a center director,
15 establishment of an advisory board and the requisite staffing level for
16 such center, (3) a plan for the center's performance of: (A) Mapping

17 exercises to assess and visualize key characteristics of shoreline
18 resiliency, such as shoreline changes, (B) pilot-scale engineering and
19 impact assessment studies, (C) consensus building efforts to determine
20 state-wide uniform guidelines for planning and development
21 purposes, including the expected rate of sea level rise for the next one
22 hundred years, (D) ways to develop state-wide, science-based
23 planning and management alternatives, (E) development in science
24 and information-based outreach and technology transfer programs for
25 state and local agencies and officials involved in planning and
26 development, (F) an assessment of soft shore protection strategies in
27 Long Island Sound and the development of instructional guides for the
28 use of such soft shore protection strategies, (G) a comprehensive
29 coastal infrastructure inventory and risk assessment, (H) an analysis of
30 the impact of seawalls in urban and rural communities, (I) the
31 development of uniform, state-wide models that predict inundation
32 flood scenarios under slow, constant sea level rise and under storm
33 surges, (J) projects that lead to the development of rapid storm damage
34 assessment technology, (K) developing design guidelines for the
35 construction and repair of seawalls, and (L) developing tools for
36 determining appropriate shore protection strategies and providing
37 coastal protection information to a diverse range of end users, (4) a
38 listing of the existing university and department resources that will be
39 utilized in the performance of the center's responsibilities and a
40 description of the specific ways in which each resource will be used to
41 perform such responsibilities, and (5) the sources and amounts of
42 funding that the department and university, either jointly or
43 individually, intend to secure or secured for the purpose of
44 establishing such center.

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

Statement of Purpose:

To require a report to the General Assembly concerning the establishment of a Connecticut Center for Coasts that would perform data collection and analysis to develop tools used for planning and development in response to rising sea levels.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]