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**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6438*****AN ACT RESTRICTING THE USE OF METHOPRENE AND RESMETHRIN.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner, in consultation with the agriculture and public health commissioners and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) director, to (1) establish a plan, within available appropriations, for the use or application of larvicide to control mosquitoes and (2) update the plan by September 1, 2013 to restrict the use or application of methoprene or resmethrin in the state's coastal boundary and for other specified purposes. Under current law, he must consult with the agriculture and public health commissioners to establish a contingency plan, within available appropriations, for spraying larvicide to control mosquitoes in the event of mosquito-borne human or animal disease outbreaks.

The bill permits the introduction of methoprene or resmethrin into storm drains, wetlands, or other water bodies where mosquito larvae are found or suspected if DEEP's mosquito management coordinator recommends it to prevent an increasing threat of mosquito-borne illness, based on CAES' surveillance consistent with the state's mosquito management program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**MOSQUITO CONTROL PLAN**

The bill requires the DEEP commissioner to update the mosquito control plan by September 1, 2013 to:

1. prohibit the use or application of methoprene or resmethrin in any storm drain or water conveyance within the state's coastal boundary;

2. establish a record-keeping, reporting, and Internet posting requirement for the state and towns using or applying methoprene and resmethrin for mosquito control in the coastal area; and
3. establish a pilot program to evaluate the retail sale and use of methoprene and resmethrin in the coastal area to control mosquitoes in streams, storm drains and gutters, and bird baths to ensure their use is consistent with labeling requirements.

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Methoprene and Resmethrin***

Methoprene is a larvicide that is introduced into still water to combat mosquito larvae. Resmethrin is a broad-spectrum insecticide with many uses, including controlling adult mosquitoes.

### ***Coastal Boundary***

The “coastal boundary,” within the state’s costal area, is the furthest inland of (1) the 100-year-frequency coastal flood zone, (2) a 1,000-foot linear setback from the mean high-water mark, or (3) a 1,000-foot linear setback from the inland boundary of the tidal wetlands (CGS § 22a-94(b)).

### ***Coastal Area***

The state’s “coastal area” includes land and water within the area delineated by the westerly, southerly, and easterly limits of the state’s jurisdiction in Long Island Sound and the towns of Branford, Bridgeport, Chester, Clinton, Darien, Deep River, East Haven, East Lyme, Essex, Fairfield, Greenwich, Groton, Guilford, Hamden, Ledyard, Lyme, Madison, Milford, Montville, New Haven, New London, North Haven, Norwalk, Norwich, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Orange, Preston, Shelton, Stamford, Stonington, Stratford, Waterford, Westbrook, West Haven, and Westport (CGS § 22a-94(a)).

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 26 Nay 2 (03/04/2013)