

Dear Ms. Ritsick,

Has this Bill already been passed for 2015? I have just been advised of its existence today and its effects

my business as a Guide and Outfitter in that it limits passengers in vessels to two-I have heated driftboat that carries three passengers, typically for inland fishing. I am a USCG licensed Captain but Guides inland waters.

I am having difficulty understanding the notation in the review of said bill. Is the vote for the change to the bill to date or has it been passed for implementation in 2015. Public hearing was in no way advertised in our local papers(New Haven Register, Milford Post, etc.) so that a daily reader would readily find same.

Relative to your input, if that is your role now, if this bill adds and or may supercede(?) the previous requirement of just a current hunting or fishing license for any/all Guides for inland lands and waters-no USCG License that includes First Aid/CPR, etc. the State of CT fails to realize uncovered source(s) of revenue and may put the State of CT at risk legally for failing to insure the Public with reasonable care of same. Federal Code of Regulations require USCG Captains to pass and maintain standards of legal, physical, task-specific Skillsets to remove and/or greatly reduce random risk to Public.

Specifically, \$100.00 for this license allows any/all to purchase same without First Aid/CPR Public Safety Requirements, No Water Resue Skillsets, No Random Drug Testing, No Vessel Inpection for Life Jackets etc., No background check for any/all criminal/domestic violence convictions-pending or otherwise, No Medical Physical for Fitness to Guide the Public, No notice to State Tax Dept for Sales and Use Tax Number /Business License for collection of Sales/Service Taxes etc. The State of CT is now accepting a fee for a license to effect the Public with no checks and balances for its(Public) safety.

If we are seeking the sources of revenue then:

-Vessels that guide can be Registered for a set fee for any inland vessel, motor or hand propelled, A STATE OF CT ISSUE GUIDE DECAL TO BE DISPLAYED AT ALL TIMES ON VESSEL: Fee 25.00-50.00; ref, State of Alaska.

-Require Background Check and/or TWIC Card, CPR/First Aid Card, Physical Form from Licensed PA, Nurse Practitioner, MD documenting physical ability, State Dept of Revenue Sales/Use Tax Number,

Random Drug Testing Documentation, ie any all forms to be complete/signed and then the attendant fee to process same at 50.00-75.00, 7-14 day wait so no immediate over the counter sales of 100.00 Guiding License.; ref State of NY, RI. OR USCG LICENSE MAY BE ACCEPTED AT 50.00 fee, immediate issue.

-Any/all use of State Lands and Waters by Guides AND ANY/ALL Persons must purchase and display a Conservation license issued by the State of CT at all times to use our state resources : 15-18.00; ref. State of Washington.

In addition to the \$100.00 an additional $50.00+75.00+18.00= 243.00$ maximum due with the checks and balances for public safety as outlined above required. Revenue sources as well as Public Safety already realized by other states can be cited and implemented. State reciprocity should allow any/all able to be licensed as outlined here in any/all other states at the \$243.00 maximum fee, with or without vessel.

I respectfully submit this Bill as currently written may fail to insure Public Safety, may put the State of CT at risk legally, allows any/all to guide with or without basic skillsets, fails to notify and insure Dept of Revenue Tax Revenue (Service Tax) of any/all business action and should not pass through this level of review/sign-off AND SHOULD BE RETURNED FOR UPDATES AS OUTLINED OR DELETED FROM BILL SB 241 ANY/ALL REFERENCE TO ANY/ALL LICENSE TO GUIDE FISHING and/or HUNTING.

A USCG Licensed Captain meets the CFR measure of Public Safety and therefore should be allowed immediate issuing of \$100.00 license+25.00 Vessel Decal+50.00 immediate processing fee+15.00 conservation fee for a total of \$190.00 per annum.

I am sending this email to any/all applicable Legislators, DEEP Department Heads, in the sincerest hope the Bill has not passed and/or may be amended to include the above and the additional allowance of three passengers maximum in Guides Vessel, Inland Waters.

*Thank-you for your review and consideration,
Master Capt. James BS, MBA, MMO*