AN ACT CONCERNING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WATER PLANNING COUNCIL.

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

Section 1. Section 22a-352 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2014):

(a) [The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Department of Public Health and the Office of Policy and Management shall establish a continuing planning process and shall prepare and periodically update jointly a state-wide long-range] Not later than January 1, 2017, the Water Planning Council, established pursuant to section 25-33o, shall prepare a state water plan for the management of the water resources of the state. In [carrying out such preparation, the aforesaid agencies] developing such state water plan, the Water Planning Council shall: (1) Design a unified planning program and budget; (2) coordinate regional water and sewer facilities plans; [and provide technical or financial assistance to regional planning agencies in the preparation of regional water and sewer facilities plans which are necessary as guidelines for the planning and designing of local and interlocal facilities and which are required by the federal government as a prerequisite for grants to municipalities for the construction of certain water and sewer facilities] (3) identify the data needs and develop a consistent format for submitting data to regional planning
agencies for use in planning and permitting; (4) seek involvement of
interested parties; (5) solicit input from the advisory group established
pursuant to section 25-33o; (6) integrate individual water supply plans,
water quality standards, stream flow classifications, as described in
regulations adopted pursuant to section 26-141b, water utility
coordinating committee plans, the state plan of conservation and
development, as described in section 16a-30, and any other planning
documents deemed necessary by the council; and (7) update the model
ordinance for municipal water emergencies.

(b) The [state-wide water resources plan] state water plan
developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall: (1) Identify
the quantities and qualities of water that [could be available to specific
areas under feasible distribution] are available for public water supply,
health and environmental benefits; (2) identify present and projected
demands for water [for specific areas] resources; (3) recommend the
utilization of the state's water resources, including surface and
subsurface water, for their greatest public water supply, health and
environmental benefits; (4) make recommendations for technology and
infrastructure upgrades and such major engineering works or special
districts which may be necessary, including the need, timing and
general cost thereof; (5) recommend land use and other measures
where appropriate to insure the desired quality and abundance of
water; (6) take into account desired ecological, recreational,
agricultural, industrial and commercial use of water bodies; (7) inform
residents of the state about the importance of water-resource
stewardship and conservation; (8) establish conservation guidelines
and incentives for consumer water conservation; (9) develop a water
reuse policy; (10) meet data collection and analysis needs to provide
for data driven water planning and permitting decisions; (11) take into
account the ecological, environmental and economic impact that
implementation of the state water plan will have on the state; (12)
include short and long-range objectives and strategies to communicate
and implement the plan; and [(7)] (13) seek to incorporate regional and
local plans and programs for water use and management and plans for
water and sewerage facilities in the [state-wide] state water plan.

[(c) Upon completion of each planning document and when adopted by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Commissioner of Public Health and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, said final plan shall be submitted to the General Assembly.]

(c) In adopting the state water plan, the Water Planning Council shall provide a time period of not less than one hundred twenty days for public review and comment prior to finalizing such plan. After such public hearing, the council shall fully consider all written and oral comments concerning the proposed state water plan. The council shall make available the electronic text of the finalized state water plan or an Internet web site where the finalized state water plan shall be posted and a report summarizing: (1) All public comments received pursuant to this subsection, and (2) the changes made to the finalized state water plan in response to such comments and the reasons for such changes.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2018, the Water Planning Council, in accordance with section 11-4a, shall submit the state water plan to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment, public health, planning and development and energy and technology for said committees' approval, revision or disapproval, in whole or in part. The council shall submit such report to the Governor electronically.

(e) Not later than forty-five days after the convening of the next regularly scheduled session of the General Assembly following submission of such plan, said joint standing committees shall conduct a joint public hearing on the state water plan. Not later than forty-five days after completion of such joint public hearing, said joint standing committees shall submit the plan with said committees' recommendations for approval or disapproval to the General Assembly. The state water plan shall become effective when adopted by the General Assembly as the state water plan for the state, provided
if the General Assembly fails to adopt the plan on or before July 1, 2018, such state water plan shall be deemed approved.

(f) In the event that the General Assembly disapproves the state water plan, in whole or in part, the state water plan shall be deemed to be rejected and shall be returned to the Water Planning Council for appropriate action.

(g) The Water Planning Council shall oversee the implementation and periodic updates of the state water plan. On or before January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the Water Planning Council shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment, public health, planning and development and energy and technology on the status of the development and implementation of the state water plan.

Sec. 2. Section 25-33j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2014):

The Commissioner of Public Health may enter into contracts with consultants to provide services to water utility coordinating committees. [The amount of any contract shall not exceed two hundred thousand dollars.] Any appropriation made to the Department of Public Health for the purposes of this section shall not lapse until [The] the Department of Public Health has completed the planning process for a water utility coordinating committee.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2014) The Department of Public Health and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall study the feasibility of creating a licensure program for water professionals who are qualified by reason of their knowledge to assist the Department of Public Health in carrying out the provisions of sections 25-32, 25-33 and 25-34 of the general statutes. Such study shall include, but not be limited to, desired professional qualifications for such water professionals, appropriate responsibilities for such water
professionals and any cost to establish such licensure program. Not later than January 1, 2015, said departments shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment, public health, planning and development and energy and technology concerning such study.

Sec. 4. Section 28-9 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (c) as follows (Effective July 1, 2014):

(NEW) (c) (1) The Water Planning Council, in consultation with the regional councils of government, shall develop a water emergency response plan.

(2) Whenever the Governor declares a major disaster due to a drought, the regional councils of government in the affected area of the state shall implement a response plan, in consultation with the Departments of Energy and Environmental Protection and Public Health, to restrict nonemergency water uses, including, but not limited to, the watering of lawns.

(3) In any area of the state where the Governor declares a major disaster due to a drought, the Department of Public Health may authorize the use of greywater for purposes other than for the provision of drinking water. For the purposes of this subsection, "greywater" means wastewater other than sewage. "Greywater" includes water from sink drainage and washing machine discharge.

Sec. 5. Section 25-32b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2014):

[The Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority,] The Governor may declare a public drinking water supply emergency, for the state or a portion of the state, upon receipt of information that a public water supply emergency exists, [or] is imminent or can reasonably be expected to
occur without the immediate implementation of conservation practices. Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes or regulations adopted thereunder, or special act or municipal ordinance, the Commissioner of Public Health, upon such a declaration by the Governor, may authorize or order one or more of the following: (1) The implementation of water conservation practices, including, but not limited to, water use restrictions, by a public water supply company or the municipality in which such emergency occurs, (2) the sale, supply or taking of any waters, including waters into which sewage is discharged, or (3) the temporary or permanent interconnection of water mains for the sale or transfer of water among water companies. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, upon such a declaration by the Governor, shall determine the terms of the sale of any water sold pursuant to this section if the water companies that are party to the sale cannot determine such terms or if one of such water companies is regulated by the authority. The authorization or order may be implemented prior to such determination. Any authorization or order shall be for an initial period of not more than thirty days but may be extended for additional periods of thirty days up to one hundred fifty days, consistent with the contingency procedures for a public drinking water supply emergency in the plan approved pursuant to section 25-32d, to the extent the Commissioner of Public Health deems appropriate. Upon request by the Commissioner of Public Health, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, pursuant to section 22a-378, shall suspend a permit issued pursuant to section 22a-368 or impose conditions on a permit held pursuant to said section. The time for such suspension or conditions shall be established in accordance with subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 22a-378. As used in this section and section 22a-378, "public drinking water supply emergency" includes the contamination of water, the failure of a water supply system or the shortage of water.

Sec. 6. (Effective July 1, 2014) The Water Planning Council shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with The University of Connecticut for the development of a work plan that establishes a
method for undertaking the development of the state water plan by the council.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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ENV Joint Favorable Subst.