



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

**Raised Bill No. 446**

LCO No. 2496



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES  
MANAGEMENT GRANT AND PREVENTION AND EDUCATION  
PROGRAM.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) There is established an  
2 aquatic invasive species management grant and prevention and  
3 education program that shall be administered by the Department of  
4 Energy and Environmental Protection. Pursuant to such program, the  
5 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may make a  
6 grant to any municipality for: (1) Up to seventy-five per cent of the cost  
7 of conducting an aquatic invasive species diagnostic feasibility study  
8 associated with the abatement of a population of an aquatic invasive  
9 species in an inland water body of this state; or (2) up to fifty per cent  
10 of the cost of conducting a project to restore an inland water body of  
11 the state through the control and management of a population of  
12 aquatic invasive species that exists in said inland water body as of the  
13 effective date of this section.

14 (b) In addition to making grants, as described in subsection (a) of

15 this section, pursuant to such aquatic invasive species management  
16 grant and prevention and education program, the Commissioner of  
17 Energy and Environmental Protection may: (1) Employ additional  
18 seasonal staff in the department's boating division for the purpose of  
19 enforcing the provisions of section 15-180 of the general statutes at the  
20 inland water bodies of this state, (2) educate persons who engage in  
21 boating in this state on measures to prevent the spread of aquatic  
22 invasive species in the inland water bodies of this state, and (3)  
23 conduct a rapid response to a population of aquatic invasive species in  
24 an inland water body of this state that is identified after the effective  
25 date of this section.

26 (c) Not less than thirty per cent of any funds available to the  
27 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection for such  
28 aquatic invasive species management grant and prevention and  
29 education program shall be used for the purpose of making grants in  
30 accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of  
31 subsection (a) of this section. The remainder of any such funds shall be  
32 used for: (1) The prevention and education and rapid response efforts  
33 described in subsection (b) of this section, and (2) the administration of  
34 such program, provided not more than ten per cent of such funds shall  
35 be used for such administrative purposes.

36 (d) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may  
37 adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of  
38 the general statutes, to implement the aquatic invasive species  
39 management grant and prevention and education program described  
40 in this section. Such regulations may include, but shall not be limited  
41 to, eligibility criteria and priorities for the award of any grant pursuant  
42 to subsection (a) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a program to provide grants to municipalities for aquatic invasive species management efforts in lakes and to provide additional DEEP seasonal staff to conduct prevention and education efforts aimed at preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species in the state's lakes.

*[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.]*