



General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 446

February Session, 2014

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	July 1, 2014	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable*

APP *Joint Favorable*