



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

***Raised Bill No. 6956***

LCO No. 4598



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) There is established a panel on  
2 sustainable community rating systems. Such panel shall consist of the  
3 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the Commissioners  
4 of Energy and Environmental Protection, Housing, Economic and  
5 Community Development, Public Health and Transportation, or said  
6 secretary's and commissioners' designees. Additionally, such panel  
7 shall consist of a member of the Connecticut Green Bank, and the chief  
8 elected officials, or such officials' designees, of three municipalities, as  
9 jointly selected by the cochairpersons of the joint standing committees  
10 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the  
11 environment and planning and development. Such panel shall assess  
12 the viability of developing a sustainable community rating system in  
13 the state. In making such assessment, such panel shall review  
14 sustainable community rating systems used on either a national state  
15 or regional level, including, but not limited to, the STAR Community  
16 Rating System, the state of New York's Climate Smart Communities

17 Certification Program, Minnesota's Green Step Cities Program and  
18 Sustainable Jersey. Such assessment shall include, but not be limited to:  
19 (1) Consideration of the need to utilize one or more state agencies to  
20 establish such a sustainable community rating system in the state, (2)  
21 the availability of a third party to establish such a sustainable  
22 community rating system in the state, (3) the benefits of establishing a  
23 state and third-party partnership for the establishment of such a  
24 sustainable community rating system, (4) the current efforts of  
25 municipalities in the state to implement sustainable community  
26 practices and policies, and (5) requisite incentives for encouraging  
27 municipalities in the state to participate or seek certification as a  
28 sustainable community under any such sustainable community ratings  
29 system. Not later than January 1, 2016, such panel, in accordance with  
30 section 11-4a of the general statutes, shall submit a report to the joint  
31 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
32 matters relating to the environment, energy and technology, planning  
33 and development, commerce, public health, housing and  
34 transportation. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, any  
35 recommendations for legislation to establish or assist in the  
36 establishment of a sustainable community rating system in the state.

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

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a panel to assess the viability of establishing a sustainable community rating system in the state.

*[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.]*