



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

**Committee Bill No. 215**

LCO No. 3170



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW STATE PARKS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 23-24 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may  
4 establish the boundaries of any state park, state forest or other  
5 property under his jurisdiction by agreement with owners of adjoining  
6 property and may, with the approval of the Governor, exchange land  
7 with such property owners and execute deeds in the name of the state  
8 for the purpose of establishing such boundaries.

9 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
10 prior to establishing a state park, the commissioner shall hold a public  
11 hearing in the town where any proposed state park will be located. In  
12 the event such state park will be located in more than one town, the  
13 commissioner shall hold a public hearing in each of the towns where  
14 such state park will be located. Prior to conducting any such public  
15 hearing, the commissioner shall notify: (1) The chief elected official or

16 board of selectmen, as applicable, for each affected town, and (2) each  
17 applicable state representative and state senator for each affected town,  
18 of the commissioner's intent to establish such state park and the time,  
19 date and location of any such public hearing. During the course of any  
20 such public hearing, the commissioner shall present a detailed plan for  
21 the establishment of such state park that includes, but is not limited to,  
22 an indication of the funding sources for the establishment,  
23 maintenance and operation of such state park.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	23-24

**Statement of Purpose:**

To provide for notification, a public hearing and certain fiscal transparency prior to the establishment of new state parks.

*[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.]*

Co-Sponsors: SEN. FORMICA, 20th Dist.

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