



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Committee Bill No. 363

LCO No. 3912



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS' WATER RIGHTS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Energy and
2 Environmental Protection shall conduct a study of private property
3 owners' water rights in the state. Such study shall include, but not be
4 limited to, an examination of a private property owner's rights to the
5 groundwater located on such property and the superiority of any such
6 right, if any, to the right of any other person, authority, corporation,
7 municipality or state to utilize such groundwater. Not later than
8 February 1, 2016, and in accordance with section 11-4a of the general
9 statutes, the commissioner shall submit a report to the joint standing
10 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
11 relating to the environment, public health and energy and technology.
12 Such report shall include, but not be limited to, any recommended
13 legislation to clarify such rights if such study determines that the
14 nature of such rights is not defined or that the superiority of any such
15 rights is not otherwise established.

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

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To require a study of private property owners' water rights with particular examination of such owners' groundwater rights.

[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. MCLACHLAN, 24th Dist.

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