



House of Representatives

File No. 730

General Assembly

February Session, 2016

(Reprint of File No. 420)

Substitute House Bill No. 5580
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 25, 2016

**AN ACT CONCERNING GUIDELINES FOR THE CREATION OF A
"CONNECTICUT-GROWN BEER" DESIGNATION.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Agriculture,
2 in consultation with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station,
3 shall develop guidelines for the creation of a "Connecticut-Grown
4 beer" designation and the requisite statutory and regulatory provisions
5 necessary for establishing and promoting such designation. Such
6 guidelines shall include recommendations concerning: (1) The type of
7 hops and cereal grains that are best suited for Connecticut's soils,
8 topography and climate, (2) best practices for cultivating hops and
9 cereal grains in Connecticut, including management strategies for
10 insects, diseases, weather and other environmental factors, (3) the
11 minimum, maximum and average harvest yields per plant and per
12 acre for hops and cereal grains under cultivation in Connecticut at
13 various stages of maturity, (4) the average time for hops to reach
14 maturity from planting and cutting to average harvest yields, (5) the
15 minimum and average weight of cereal grains and hops required per

16 gallon of finished beer, (6) legislation required to increase the amount
 17 of Connecticut-Grown cereal grains and hops that could be used in
 18 "Connecticut-Grown beer", (7) policies governing the establishment of
 19 a permit for farm breweries, (8) any existing state and federal grants
 20 and programs that could be used to increase production of
 21 Connecticut-Grown cereal grains and hops, (9) the total percentage of
 22 Connecticut-Grown product used in manufacturing a beer that is
 23 necessary to designate the beer as Connecticut-Grown, (10) reporting
 24 requirements necessary for brewers of "Connecticut-Grown beer", (11)
 25 verification systems for evaluating compliance with and enforcing
 26 regulations pertaining to "Connecticut-Grown beer", and (12) any other
 27 issue deemed relevant to such designation by the Department of
 28 Agriculture and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

29 (b) Not later than January 1, 2017, the Department of Agriculture
 30 and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station shall submit such
 31 guidelines to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
 32 having cognizance of matters relating to the environment and general
 33 law, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
 34 statutes.

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

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Department of Agriculture (DoAg), in consultation with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES), to develop certain guidelines to create a "Connecticut-Grown beer" designation by January 1, 2017. As DoAg currently has staff with expertise to develop the guidelines, the bill does not result in a fiscal impact.

House "A" replaces the establishment of a farm brewery manufacturer permit with a requirement for the "Connecticut-Grown beer" designation. This does not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5580 (as amended by House "A")

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FARM BREWERY MANUFACTURER PERMIT.

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/16/2016)

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 0 (04/15/2016)