OLR Bill Analysis
SB 245

AN ACT PROHIBITING HUNTING ALONG THE QUINNIPIAC RIVER IN NEW HAVEN.

SUMMARY

This bill designates portions of the Quinnipiac and Mill rivers in New Haven as state wildlife refuges. In doing so, it prohibits hunting, trapping, fishing, or trespassing in these areas. A violator is subject to a fine of up to $100 (CGS § 26-107).

Specifically, the bill establishes as a state wildlife refuge the portion of the (1) Quinnipiac River in New Haven extending from the I-95 bridge to the I-91 bridge and (2) Mill River in New Haven extending from the I-95 bridge to the I-91 bridge.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2019

BACKGROUND

State Wildlife Refuge

By law and regulation, hunting, trapping, fishing, and trespassing are prohibited in any state wildlife refuge (CGS § 26-107 and Conn. Agencies Regs. § 26-66-1(h)). Additionally, the law prohibits hunting, killing, pursuing, or trapping wildlife in a lane, road, or highway next to a state wildlife refuge. Being in a state wildlife refuge or closed area with a firearm, bow and arrow, trap, snare, net, or dog is prima facie evidence of a violation.

By law, the energy and environmental protection commissioner, or his designee, may hunt, kill, or trap predatory birds or animals in a state wildlife refuge or closed area (CGS § 26-107).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee
Joint Favorable
Yea  19  Nay  9  (03/08/2019)