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## OLR Bill Analysis

### SB 702

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FREE SWIMMING LESSONS TO INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), within available appropriations, to establish and administer an annual program to provide swimming lessons to children under age 18. The program must be (1) free to participants, (2) during the summer months, and (3) in at least eight state parks that meet criteria developed by DEEP.

Under the bill, DEEP must adopt criteria for selecting the state parks, giving priority to parks (1) with appropriate facilities and (2) located in municipalities that lack free swimming lessons for residents.

Additionally, the bill allows DEEP to (1) contract with a nonprofit entity that provides swimming lessons and water safety skills instruction to give swimming lessons under the program and (2) accept gifts, grants, and donations from public or private sources to establish and administer the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable

Yea 10 Nay 3 (02/25/2021)