
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 855

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DECOUPLING OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner to begin decoupling the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) and DEEP by October 1, 2021. By January 1, 2022, the commissioner must submit to the Energy and Technology Committee a report that includes an implementation plan for the decoupling, any progress made toward decoupling, and any recommendations for legislation.

PURA is within DEEP by law, and the PURA chairperson needs the DEEP commissioner's approval to, among other things, conduct comprehensive planning for PURA and organize the authority into divisions, bureaus, or other units (CGS § 16-2). Additionally, the law makes the commissioner a party in every PURA proceeding and allows her to participate in proceedings at her discretion (CGS § 16-9b).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 24 Nay 2 (03/02/2021)