

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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SB-840

AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT'S SHELLFISH
RESTORATION PROGRAM AND THE CONNECTICUT SEAFOOD
COUNCIL.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill expands the state's shellfish restoration program by allowing the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) to perform several additional activities.

Section 1 allows the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) to obtain shellfish cultch for deposit on shellfish beds in addition to purchasing it. This has no fiscal impact since it codifies current practice. The agency is currently collecting shellfish cultch from municipalities by sweeping public beaches.

This section also allows DoAg to contract with a shell recovery vessel to collect and deposit shell on shellfish beds. This has no fiscal impact to the General Fund since any new contracts would be funded through the "Shellfish Fund". It may, however, result in increased costs to the Shellfish Fund which is a separate, nonlapsing account of the General Fund administered by DoAg. The balance in this account is currently \$70,577.

Section 2 allows DoAg to seek new private, state, or federal grants for deposit into the Shellfish Fund. This may result in a revenue gain to the Shellfish Fund to the extent additional revenue is generated

from these sources. Any revenue from these grants would be expected to offset any costs to the Shellfish Fund discussed in Section 1.

Lastly, **Section 3** restores the Connecticut Seafood Advisory Council and renames it the Connecticut Seafood Development Council. This has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None