



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Substitute Bill No. 6647



AN ACT CONCERNING GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) There is created a
2 Geographic Information Systems Advisory Council to consult with the
3 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management on matters relating to
4 (1) the coordination, procurement, processing, storage and distribution
5 of free and public geographic information systems data, and (2) the
6 powers and duties of the secretary under section 4d-90 of the general
7 statutes. In the course of such consultation, the advisory council shall
8 (A) develop (i) priorities regarding the performance of any action
9 described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, and (ii) an
10 annual five-year plan for such performance, and (B) make
11 recommendations to the secretary concerning such priorities and plan.

12 (b) The advisory council shall consist of the following members:

13 (1) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
14 secretary's designee;

15 (2) The Chief Data Officer, or the officer's designee;

16 (3) One representative of the Department of Energy and
17 Environmental Protection who has expertise in geographic information
18 systems, appointed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental

19 Protection;

20 (4) One representative of the Department of Transportation who has
21 expertise in geographic information systems, appointed by the
22 Commissioner of Transportation;

23 (5) One representative of the Department of Emergency Services and
24 Public Protection who has expertise in geographic information systems,
25 appointed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
26 Protection;

27 (6) One representative of the Department of Public Health who has
28 expertise in geographic information systems, appointed by the
29 Commissioner of Public Health;

30 (7) Two representatives of different regional councils of governments
31 who have expertise in geographic information systems, including aerial
32 imagery acquisition and the provision of geographic information to
33 municipalities, appointed by the chairperson of the Connecticut
34 Association of Councils of Governments;

35 (8) Two representatives of different municipal governments who
36 have expertise in geographic information systems and are members of
37 the Connecticut GIS Network, appointed by the president of the
38 Connecticut Conference of Municipalities;

39 (9) One representative of The University of Connecticut who has
40 experience in providing the state's geospatial information, including
41 state-wide aerial imagery and elevation, to various constituencies,
42 appointed by the president of The University of Connecticut;

43 (10) One representative of a public utility company, appointed by the
44 chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority; and

45 (11) Two representatives from different private companies, neither of
46 which is a public utility company, who have expertise in mapping
47 applications for commercial purposes, one of whom is appointed jointly

48 by the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
49 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and
50 development and the other of whom is appointed jointly by the ranking
51 members of said committee.

52 (c) All initial appointments to the advisory council shall be made not
53 later than January 1, 2022, and all subsequent appointments shall be
54 made not later than January 1, 2024, and biennially thereafter. Each
55 member of the advisory council shall serve for a term of two years,
56 except that in the event of any vacancy the appointing authority shall
57 fill such vacancy for the unexpired portion of such term.

58 (d) The advisory council shall meet not later than March first
59 following any initial or subsequent appointment of its members, and
60 shall elect at such meeting a chairperson and vice-chairperson from
61 among its members. Except as provided in this subsection, all other
62 meetings of the advisory committee shall be as scheduled by the
63 chairperson.

64 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) The Secretary of the Office
65 of Policy and Management shall designate an employee of the Office of
66 Policy and Management to serve as Geographic Information Officer.
67 Such employee shall have extensive knowledge of the principles,
68 practices, terminology and trends in geographic information systems,
69 spatial data, analysis and related technology and experience in
70 administration, project management, policy development, coordination
71 of services and planning. Such employee shall (1) oversee the operations
72 of a Geographic Information Systems Office, (2) manage the staff of such
73 office, and (3) in conjunction with the Geographic Information Systems
74 Advisory Council created under section 1 of this act, establish goals for
75 such office within the scope of the powers and duties described in
76 subsection (b) of this section.

77 (b) The Geographic Information Officer shall be responsible for (1)
78 coordinating the collection, compilation and dissemination of
79 geographic information systems data across the state, including from

80 and to state agencies, regional councils of governments, municipalities
81 and other constituencies, (2) managing a geospatial data clearinghouse
82 for public access to such information through the online repository
83 described in subsection (i) of section 4-67p of the general statutes, (3)
84 supporting economic development efforts in the state through the
85 provision of such information, (4) providing training and outreach on
86 the use of such information, (5) administering the creation and
87 acquisition of geospatial data, including aerial imagery and elevation
88 and parcel information, (6) adopting geospatial data standards,
89 guidelines and procedures to ensure consistency and quality of such
90 data, and (7) performing technical data processing to aggregate and
91 organize existing data sets and create new data sets.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2021	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2021	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b)(7), "councils of governments" was changed to "regional councils of governments" for consistency.

PD *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*