



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Committee Bill No. 605

LCO No. 5989



Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PORT AUTHORITY.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 15-31a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (b) The powers of the authority shall be vested in and exercised by a
5 board of directors, which shall consist of fifteen voting members as
6 follows: (1) The State Treasurer, or the Treasurer's designee, the
7 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or the
8 commissioner's designee, the Commissioner of Transportation, or the
9 commissioner's designee, the Commissioner of Economic and
10 Community Development, or the commissioner's designee, and the
11 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's
12 designee, all of whom shall serve ex officio; (2) one appointed by the
13 speaker of the House of Representatives for a term of four years; (3) one
14 appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives for a
15 term of two years; (4) one appointed by the minority leader of the House
16 of Representatives for a term of two years; (5) one appointed by the
17 president pro tempore of the Senate for a term of four years; (6) one

18 appointed by the majority leader of the Senate for a term of two years;
19 (7) one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate for a term of four
20 years; and (8) four appointed by the Governor, two for a term of four
21 years and two for a term of two years, one of whom shall represent a
22 port located in the town of New Haven, New London or Bridgeport and
23 one of whom shall represent a port not located in the town of New
24 Haven, New London or Bridgeport. Thereafter, said members of the
25 General Assembly and the Governor shall appoint members of the
26 board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire and each member
27 so appointed shall hold office for a period of four years from the first
28 day of July in the year of his or her appointment. Appointed members
29 shall include: (A) Individuals who have experience and expertise in one
30 or more of the following areas: (i) International trade; (ii) marine
31 transportation; (iii) finance; or (iv) economic development; (B) one
32 member or employee of a local port authority; (C) one elected or
33 appointed municipal official from a coastal municipality with a
34 population not greater than one hundred thousand; and (D) one elected
35 or appointed municipal official from a coastal community with a
36 population not greater than fifty thousand. The board of directors shall
37 select the chairperson from among the members of the board, who shall
38 serve for a term of two years. The board of directors shall select a vice-
39 chairperson from among its members and such other officers as it deems
40 necessary.

41 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 15-13c of the general statutes is
42 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
43 *passage*):

44 (a) There is created the Connecticut Pilot Commission, within the
45 [Connecticut Port Authority,] Department of Transportation for
46 administrative purposes only, [the Connecticut Pilot Commission] to
47 assist and advise the [authority] Connecticut Port Authority on matters
48 relating to the licensure of pilots, the safe conduct of vessels and the
49 protection of the ports and waters of the state, including the waters of
50 Long Island Sound.

51 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Connecticut Port Authority
 52 and the Commissioner of Transportation shall enter into a
 53 memorandum of understanding to provide that any employee of the
 54 Department of Transportation who is assigned to work at the
 55 Connecticut Port Authority shall be paid from the budget of the
 56 department.

57 Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) On or before January 1, 2022, the
 58 executive director of the Connecticut Port Authority shall submit a plan
 59 to ensure a transparent and equitable process for selecting and
 60 disbursing grants through the program known as the Small Harbor
 61 Improvement Projects Program. The executive director shall submit
 62 such plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
 63 having cognizance of matters relating to transportation in accordance
 64 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	15-31a(b)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	15-13c(a)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To appoint new members to the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Port Authority, place the Connecticut Pilot Commission within the Department of Transportation for administrative purposes only, require an employee of the Department of Transportation who is assigned to the Connecticut Port Authority be compensated from the department's budget and require the Connecticut Port Authority to develop a plan for the transparent and equitable distribution of grants.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.; REP. CARNEY, 23rd Dist.
 REP. SIMMS, 140th Dist.; REP. CHEESEMAN, 37th Dist.

S.B. 605