



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

***Raised Bill No. 702***

LCO No. 2596



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:  
(KID)

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

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The Department of Energy  
2 and Environmental Protection shall, within available appropriations,  
3 establish and administer an annual program to provide swimming  
4 lessons to children under the age of eighteen. Such program shall (1) be  
5 offered free of charge to participants, (2) operate during the summer  
6 months, and (3) be administered at state parks in accordance with the  
7 provisions of subsection (b) of this section. The department may  
8 contract with a nonprofit entity that provides swimming lessons and  
9 water safety skills instruction to provide swimming lessons under the  
10 program.

11 (b) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall  
12 administer such program at not fewer than eight state parks. The  
13 department shall adopt criteria for the selection of state parks, with  
14 priority given to those state parks that (1) contain appropriate facilities,  
15 and (2) are located in municipalities that lack free-of-charge swimming

16 lessons for residents.

17 (c) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection may  
18 accept gifts, grants and donations, from any source, public or private,  
19 for the purposes of establishing and administering such program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2021	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to establish and administer a program to provide free swimming lessons to individuals under the age of eighteen.

*[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.]*