



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 441**

February Session, 2022

Senate Bill No. 242

*Senate, April 13, 2022*

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. COHEN of the 12th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP ON THE RESTORATION OF EEL GRASS.***

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

1       Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The co-chairpersons and ranking  
2       members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
3       having cognizance of matters relating to the environment shall convene  
4       a working group on the restoration of eel grass along the state's  
5       shoreline. Such working group shall consist of members of shoreline  
6       conservation commissions, members of municipal shellfish  
7       commissions, a marine biologist from The University of Connecticut at  
8       Avery Point, a student from the Marine Science Magnet School in  
9       Groton and Save the Sound's Long Island Soundkeeper. The co-  
10      chairpersons, in consultation with the ranking members, of said joint  
11      standing committee shall select the members and chairperson of such  
12      working group. The chairperson of such working group shall  
13      commence the first meeting of such working group not later than thirty  
14      days after the effective date of this section. Such working group shall

15 develop strategies for the preservation, restoration and expansion of eel  
 16 grass along the state's shoreline. In developing such strategies, the  
 17 working group shall review and synthesize information from studies  
 18 performed by the states of New York and Rhode Island, including, but  
 19 not limited to, Tier 1 mapping of *Zostera marina* in Long Island Sound  
 20 and change analysis performed by the University of Rhode Island. Not  
 21 later than January 15, 2023, the chairperson of such working group shall  
 22 submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
 23 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General  
 24 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment  
 25 detailing the work of such working group, including, but not limited to,  
 26 explanations of any such strategies and identification of any priority  
 27 areas of the shoreline for the implementation of such strategies.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill, which requires the Environment Committee to form a working group on the restoration of eel grass along the shoreline, has no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None



**OLR Bill Analysis**

**SB 242**

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP ON THE RESTORATION OF EEL GRASS.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/29/2022)