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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sHB 5009

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SAFETY CAPACITY OF SQUANTZ POND STATE PARK.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection commissioner to adopt regulations by January 31, 2024, to establish the public safety capacity of Squantz Pond State Park in New Fairfield.

These regulations must provide for closing the park to new entrants (whether by vehicle or on foot) when the public safety capacity is reached. They must also use the following factors in determining the park's public safety capacity:

1. the number of visitors and swimmers that can be safely supervised given the park and lifeguard staffing levels,
2. the park's parking capacity,
3. pedestrian and vehicular traffic on the highway leading to the park that may threaten pedestrians' public safety or impede emergency vehicles using the highway, and
4. the commissioner's authority to use the number of vehicles entering the park as a proxy for the number of park visitors.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 32 Nay 0 (02/17/2023)