

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6811

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE VESSEL
REGISTRATION AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES FEE.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Revenue Gain	None	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill is expected to result in a revenue gain, starting October 1, 2024, as it alters the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) fees paid by boaters to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) into the Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account. The agency uses these funds to restore and rehabilitate lakes, rivers, and ponds, including the eradication of AIS.

Currently, boaters pay vessel registration fees for the eradication of AIS by DEEP. These fees are currently: (1) \$5 for residents and (2) \$20 for nonresidents. The bill creates a new \$7 AIS stamp for individuals and a \$20 AIS decal for vessels, regardless of residency status, to be issued by DEEP. The bill also allows DEEP to charge an additional fee per decal of up to \$5 for producing, processing, and mailing.

The annualized amount of the revenue gain under the bill, beginning in FY 25, depends on the number of boaters who obtain the \$7 individual stamp and the \$20 vessel decal. The three-year average annual revenue

from the existing fees is \$483,540. A few scenarios below show the potential annualized revenue gain under the bill:

- If all current boaters with a registered vessel purchase the \$7 stamp - \$180,585
- If 70% of current boaters with a registered vessel purchase the \$20 decal and 30% purchase the stamp - \$1,043,948

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of AIS stamps and decals issued.