



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Committee Bill No. 5602**

LCO No. 3475



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT PROHIBITING HIGH-FREQUENCY COMMERCIAL SEISMIC SURVEYING IN LONG ISLAND SOUND FOR GAS AND OIL EXPLORATION.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 22a-473 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

3 (a) No person may engage in exploratory drilling for oil or gas until  
4 the regulations required by section 22a-472 are adopted.

5 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
6 no person shall engage in drilling for oil or gas, exploratory or  
7 otherwise, in the coastal waters of the state. No state agency or  
8 department, including, but not limited to, the Department of Energy  
9 and Environmental Protection, shall issue or approve any permit, lease,  
10 contract or conveyance for, or relating to, the drilling for oil or gas in the  
11 coastal waters of the state.

12 (c) No person shall engage in the practice of seismic mapping in the  
13 coastal waters of the state. No state agency or department, including,  
14 but not limited to, the Department of Energy and Environmental

15 Protection, shall issue or approve any permit, lease, contract or  
16 conveyance for, or relating to, seismic mapping in the coastal waters of  
17 the state. For the purposes of this section, "seismic mapping" means the  
18 use of sound wave technology to locate and map rocks and other  
19 geological formations below the Earth's surface that may contain oil or  
20 gas for the purpose of facilitating the exploration for or drilling of oil or  
21 gas.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2023	22a-473
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To protect marine mammals, marine ecosystems, shoreline tourism and fishing industries.

*[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: REP. PALM, 36th Dist.; SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

H.B. 5602