



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 6809

LCO No. 4391



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR CERTAIN
STREAMSIDE BUFFERS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding any
2 provision of the general statutes, the Department of Energy and
3 Environmental Protection may utilize funds available for stormwater
4 infrastructure for the purpose of acquiring conservation easements
5 located along streams and rivers in the state provided any such
6 conservation easement requires the property owner to maintain a buffer
7 along such stream or river in a vegetated condition. The Commissioner
8 of Energy and Environmental Protection may determine the percentage
9 of such funds to be utilized for the purposes described in this section.
10 For purposes of this section, "vegetated condition" means the retention
11 of native trees, shrubs and herbaceous cover in lieu of lawn.

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

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To incentivize the retention of vegetation along the state's rivers and streams for water quality and pollution control purposes.

[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.]