



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6811

January Session, 2023



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

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-21bb of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

3 (a) Any person who [registers a vessel or renews a vessel
4 registration pursuant to section 15-144 and who intends to operate or
5 allow such vessel to be operated on the waters of the state shall
6 concomitantly, in addition to the remittance of any fee required
7 pursuant to section 15-144, pay an] operates a vessel on the inland
8 waters of the state that is required to display a registration decal,
9 issued by this state or another state, shall possess an individual
10 Aquatic Invasive Species Stamp. The fee [of five] for such stamp shall
11 be seven dollars. [The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall cause all
12 revenues collected pursuant to this section to be deposited in the
13 Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account established
14 in section 14-21aa.] The Department of Energy and Environmental
15 Protection shall issue such stamp through the On-line Sportsmen
16 Licensing system of the department. Any such stamp shall be valid for
17 the calendar year in which it was issued.

18 (b) [Any] Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this

19 section, any person who [intends to operate or allow a vessel to be
20 operated on the inland waters of the state that is registered in another
21 state shall, prior to such operation, pay an] owns a vessel that is
22 required to display a registration decal, issued by this state or another
23 state, may purchase a vessel Aquatic Invasive Species Decal in lieu of
24 the requirement of subsection (a) of this section that each person who
25 operates such vessel obtain an individual Aquatic Invasive Species
26 Stamp. Any person who operates a vessel bearing a valid vessel
27 Aquatic Invasive Species Decal shall be deemed to have met the
28 requirements of subsection (a) of this section while operating such
29 vessel. The fee [of] for such vessel Aquatic Invasive Species Decal shall
30 be twenty dollars, [to] provided the Commissioner of Energy and
31 Environmental Protection [. Such fees shall be paid annually and such
32 payment shall be valid until the last day of December of such year.]
33 may charge an additional fee of not more than five dollars for the
34 production, processing and mailing of such decal. The Department of
35 Energy and Environmental Protection shall issue such decal through
36 the On-line Sportsmen Licensing system of the department. Any such
37 decal shall be valid for the calendar year in which it was issued. Any
38 such vessel Aquatic Invasive Species Decal shall be permanently
39 affixed to the vessel for which it was purchased approximately
40 amidship on the port side of the vessel either on the hull of the vessel
41 or at the operator's station and in such a manner as to be visible to law
42 enforcement officers approaching by vessel from the port side of such
43 vessel.

44 (c) The provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall not
45 be construed to apply to the operator of any vessel that is numbered
46 pursuant to section 15-145, provided such number bears the suffix of
47 "DL", "XP", "MS" or "YB" and displays a current registration validation
48 decal.

49 (d) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection
50 shall cause all revenues collected pursuant to this subsection to be
51 deposited in the Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation

52 account established in section 14-21aa.

53 (e) Any person who operates a vessel on the inland waters of the
54 state in violation of the provisions of this [subsection] section shall
55 have committed an infraction and shall be fined not more than eighty-
56 five dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2024	14-21bb

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*