



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 Section 14-21bb of the general statutes is repealed and the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

17 (b) [Any] Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this
18 section, any person who [intends to operate or allow a vessel to be

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

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

47 (d) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall
48 cause all revenues collected pursuant to this subsection to be deposited
49 in the Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account
50 established in section 14-21aa.

51 (e) Any person who operates a vessel on the inland waters of the state

52 in violation of the provisions of this [subsection] section shall have
53 committed an infraction and shall be fined not more than eighty-five
54 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.*

TRA *Joint Favorable*