

158

FISCAL NOTE(Form 1)
(Office of Fiscal Analysis)
Analyst: kr
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Version:

BILL NUMBER: SHB 5233
FILE NUMBER:
AMENDMENTS: 8

EG-3/25/92

TITLE: "AN ACT CONCERNING THE SITING OF A LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY"

FAVORABLY REPORTED BY Environment and Energy and Public Utilities

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Passage

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER SHB 5233

- STATE IMPACT Cost and Future Costs (Low-Level Radioactive Waste Fund) and Future Costs (General Fund), see explanation below
- MUNICIPAL IMPACT Future Revenue Gain and Future Costs, see explanation below
- STATE AGENCY(S) Environmental Protection, Hazardous Waste Management Service (quasi-public), University of Connecticut and the UConn Health Center

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE IMPACT: Requiring the Ct. Hazardous Waste Management Service (CHWMS) to develop a new site selection plan using new criteria and to start a new bidding procedure for choosing a contractor to conduct site selection and requiring the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to select a temporary storage site, and increasing benefits to municipalities will increase costs to the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Fund (LLRWF). The extent of the increase in costs is not known at this time, but is estimated in the millions of dollars based on costs to date for the CHWMS (\$8 million since 1988) and previous cost estimates for storage facilities. The LLRWF is used by the State for the costs associated with siting a facility, approving a facility operator and other activities. The Fund is financed through assessments on low-level radioactive waste generators with Northeast Utilities contributing over 70% of the waste and the revenues. It is anticipated that the LLRWF will have a balance of approximately \$15.3 million at the end of FY 92. The large balance exists since the State is behind schedule in the siting process. The development of a new process and the selection of a temporary storage site proposed in this legislation will not increase next FY's assessment (\$2.8 million), but will increase future year assessments starting in FY 94. Both the

University of Connecticut and the UConn Health Center are currently assessed for their generation of low-level radioactive waste. The exact increase in future year costs to these institutions is not known. It should be noted, however, that in FY 92 their combined assessment was less than 1% of the total assessment of \$9.7 million. In addition, since the State and municipalities are rate payers of nuclear energy the increased assessments will affect them as well.

MUNICIPAL IMPACT: Passage of this bill would entitle host and neighboring municipalities to additional compensation and provide compensation to the host and neighbors of the temporary facility, increasing revenue to those municipalities and potentially increasing costs to all others.