

# 2021 Legislative Update

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# Environment Committee

JF Deadline: April 5, 2021

# Bills of Note

## Passed Out of Committee:

- **SB 837**: AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF PERFLUOROALKYL OR POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES IN CLASS B FIREFIGHTING FOAM.
- **HB 6499**: AN ACT CONCERNING RADIATION SECURITY.
- **SB 839**: AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS AND PESTICIDE REGULATION IN THE STATE.
- **SB 931**: AN ACT CONCERNING EMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR MEDIUM AND HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES
- **SB 927**: AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE SEWAGE SPILL RIGHT-TO-KNOW STATUTE.
- **HB 6496**: AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN SOIL-RELATED INITIATIVES.

## Awaiting Action:

- **HB 6386**: AN ACT CONCERNING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR TIRES, SMOKE DETECTORS AND CERTAIN GAS CYLINDERS
- **SB 884**: AN ACT REDUCING TRANSPORTATION-RELATED CARBON EMISSIONS
- **HB 6441**: AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION
- **SB 926**: AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESENCE OF PFAS IN CERTAIN CONSUMER PACKAGING
- **HB 6498**: AN ACT CONCERNING THE SITING OF CERTAIN SOLAR FACILITIES ON FARMLANDS AND CORE FORESTS
- **HB 6503**: AN ACT CONCERNING THE SITING OF ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITIES ON FARMS.
- **SB 930**: AN ACT CONCERNING FOOD WASTE DIVERSION AND ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITIES

## **HB 6386: AN ACT CONCERNING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR TIRES, SMOKE DETECTORS AND CERTAIN GAS CYLINDERS.**

### The purpose of this bill:

- Establishes an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program for gas cylinders and have DEEP study the feasibility of establishing an EPR program for smoke detectors and tires while also establishing a tire haulers license and a study of potential beneficial uses of scrap tires

### Supporting the bill:

- DEEP
- CT Conference of Municipalities
- League of Conservation Voters

### Against the bill:

- Paraco Gas
- Connecticut Retail Merchants Association
- U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association

# SB 927: AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE SEWAGE SPILL RIGHT-TO-KNOW STATUTE

## The purpose of this bill:

- Changes the definition of “sewage spill” to include, among other discharges, combined sewer overflow (CSOs)
- Requires the operator to notify DEEP and the municipality where the spill occurred within 2 hours of the spill if the spill is a threat to public health or the environment
- Increases public notice requirement by municipalities and DEEP

## Supporting the bill:

- Save the Sound
- Sen. Looney
- Citizens Campaign for the Environment

## Against the bill:

- DEEP
- MDC
- CT Association of Water Pollution Control Authorities

# **SB 931: AN ACT CONCERNING EMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR MEDIUM AND HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES**

## The purpose of this bill:

- Requires DEEP to assess the need to adopt California Air Resources Board (CARB) medium and heavy-duty vehicle emission standards to meet Connecticut's air quality and climate change goals.
- If needed DEEP would have the authority to adopt standards identical to those adopted by CARB

## Supporting the bill:

- DEEP
- Sierra Club
- Yale Center on Climate Change and Health

## Against the bill:

- Motor Transport Association of Connecticut
- Connecticut Energy Marketers Association
- CT Home Builders and Remodelers Association

## **HB 6499: AN ACT CONCERNING RADIATION SECURITY.**

The purpose of this bill:

- Allow DEEP to begin the process of becoming an Agreement State under the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and regulate radioisotopes, uranium and thorium and quantities of special nuclear materials

Supporting the bill:

- DEEP
- CBIA

Against the bill:

- Judicial Branch some concerns

## **SB 926: AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESENCE OF PFAS IN CERTAIN CONSUMER PACKAGING**

The purpose of this bill:

- Beginning October 2023, a manufacturer, supplier, or distributor may not offer for sale or for promotional purposes a package or packaging component to which PFAS was introduced during manufacturing or distribution in any amount or that has any detectable PFAS in such package or packaging component.

Supporting the bill:

- CT League of Conservation Voters
- City of Middletown Public Works

Against the bill:

- Performance Fluoropolymer Partnership

Public hearing will be at 10am



# **HB 6498: AN ACT CONCERNING THE SITING OF CERTAIN SOLAR FACILITIES ON FARMLANDS AND CORE FORESTS**

The purpose of this bill:

- Would requires increased review of proposals to site solar facilities on certain farmlands and land that is core forest

Supporting the bill:

- Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality
- Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation

Against the bill:

- CBIA

Public hearing will be at 10am

## **HB 6503: AN ACT CONCERNING THE SITING OF ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITIES ON FARMS.**

The purpose of this bill:

- Sets time frames for the permitting of anaerobic digestion facilities as well as not requiring a facility to obtain a permit to construct or operate if the entity maintains a comprehensive nutrient management plan, as developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Public hearing will be at 10am

# **SB 930: AN ACT CONCERNING FOOD WASTE DIVERSION AND ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITIES**

The purpose of this bill:

- Requires any commercial food wholesaler or distributor, industrial food manufacturer or processor, supermarket, resort or conference center that is located within 40 miles from an authorized source-separated organic material composting facility to source-separated organic materials
- Allows DEEP to create a voluntary municipal pilot program for source separation.

Supporting the bill:

- Connecticut Council of Small Towns
- Sustainable Fairfield Task Force

Against the bill:

Public hearing will be at 10am

# Governor's Proposals

## **SB 884: AN ACT REDUCING TRANSPORTATION-RELATED CARBON EMISSIONS**

The purpose of this bill:

- Create a cap and trade program to limit pollution from fossil fuels related to transportation
- The bill then reinvests funds into clean energy programs including electrifying the sector, bikeways, roundabouts, etc.

Supporting the bill:

- DEEP
- League of Conservation Voters
- American Lung Association

Against the bill:

- House Republican Caucus
- MTAC
- Seirra Club

## HB 6441: An Act Concerning Climate Change Adaptation

### The purpose of this bill:

- Authorize municipal stormwater authorities statewide.
- Municipalities may adopt a buyer's conveyance fee.
- Adds flood prevention and climate resilience to the purview of municipal flood and erosion control boards
- Expands the Green Bank to finance adaptation and resilience projects

### Supporting the bill:

- CCM
- CT League of Conservation Voters
- Audubon Society

### Against the bill:

- Home Builders Remodeling Association
- CT Farm Bureau Association- hesitant
- CT Realtors- Petition Signed by 2,300 Real Estate Agents

# Energy and Technology Committee

JF Deadline: March 25, 2021

## **SB 4 : AN ACT CONCERNING DATA PRIVACY, NET NEUTRALITY, CYBER SECURITY AND FAIRNESS IN DATA USAGE IN THE NEW AGE OF A DIGITAL WORKFORCE**

The purpose of this bill:

- Creates an unnecessary and onerous regulatory burden on the state's broadband internet service providers. All broadband service providers would have to register with the Public Utilities Control Authority by Jan. 1, 2022. Upon registration, broadband service providers would be subject to regulatory oversight not dissimilar to how energy policy is currently regulated.

Supporting the bill:

- Senator Duff
- Comptroller Lembo

Against the bill:

- Charter Communications
- Frontier Communications
- Eversource, as drafted



## **SB 882: AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND HOME ENERGY AFFORDABILITY**

The purpose of this bill:

- Governor's bill: requires the state to reduce the level of emissions of greenhouse gas by January 1, 2040 to a level of zero percent from electricity supplied to electric customers in the State. It would require EDC's to file zero carbon demand reduction models/proposals and outline DEEPs review of such proposals. The bill outlines a requirement for landlords and what they would have to provide to renters regarding the energy costs of their dwelling.

Supporting the bill:

- Citizens Campaign for the Environment
- Northeast Clean Energy Council
- Avangrid/UI w/ Modification

Against the bill:

- Fuel Cell Energy
- Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Connecticut, Inc.

## HB 6442: AN ACT CONCERNING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO BROADBAND

### The purpose of this bill:

- Requires state agencies to review program and policies to provide for affordable, high speed broadband Internet service and ensure universal availability, set standards to meet demand, affordability of Internet service and educational facilities are connected.

The proposal creates a regulatory framework that is not dissimilar to how Energy policy is currently regulated. The proposal requires state agencies to create up to date maps to identify broadband gaps and requires reporting back to the legislature on their findings. The proposal gives PURA broad ability to regulate broadband internet access service providers.

### Supporting the bill:

- Attorney General Tong
- Office of Consumer Council

### Against the bill:

- Altice/Charter Communications
- Eversource, as drafted

## **HB 6524: AN ACT CONCERNING THE SOLICITATION OF NEW FUEL CELL ELECTRICITY GENERATION PROJECTS**

The purpose of this bill:

- Changes the solicitation by EDC's of new fuel cell generation project from a may to a shall, requiring EDC's to include fuel cell in their portfolios.

Supporting the bill:

- CT Center of Advanced Technology Inc.
- Doosan
- Fuel Cell
- CT Green Bank

Against the bill:

- Avangrid/UI unless modifications
- Eversource unless modifications
- Environment Connecticut

# Thank you!

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