



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6501**

January Session, 2021



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STREAMLINING OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 22a-416 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3 *passage*):

4 (d) As used in this section the terms "class I", "class II", "class III" and  
5 "class IV" mean the classifications of wastewater treatment plants  
6 provided for in regulations adopted by the Department of Energy and  
7 Environmental Protection. The Commissioner of Energy and  
8 Environmental Protection may establish requirements for the presence  
9 of approved operators at pollution abatement facilities. Applicants for  
10 class I, [and] class II, class III and class IV certificates shall [only] be  
11 required to pass the relevant standardized national examination  
12 prepared by the Association of Boards of Certification for Wastewater  
13 Treatment Facility Operators. [Applicants for class III and class IV  
14 certificates shall only be required to pass the relevant standardized  
15 national examination prepared by the Association of Boards of  
16 Certification for Wastewater Treatment Facility Operators  
17 supplemented with additional questions submitted by the

18 commissioner to such board. Operators with certificates issued by the  
19 commissioner prior to May 16, 1995, shall not be required to be  
20 reexamined.] The commissioner, or the commissioner's designated  
21 agent, shall administer and proctor the examination of all applicants.  
22 The qualifications of the operators at such facilities shall be subject to  
23 the approval of the commissioner. The commissioner may adopt  
24 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, [requiring  
25 all operators at pollution abatement facilities to satisfactorily complete,  
26 on a regular basis, a state-certified training course, which may include  
27 training on the type of municipal pollution abatement facility at which  
28 the operator is employed and training concerning regulations  
29 promulgated during the preceding year. Any applicant for certification  
30 who passed either the examination prepared and administered on  
31 December 8, 1994, by the commissioner or the examination prepared by  
32 the Association of Boards of Certification for Wastewater Treatment  
33 Facility Operators and administered on December 8, 1994, by the  
34 commissioner shall be issued the appropriate certificate in accordance  
35 with the regulations adopted under this section] concerning application,  
36 certification, renewal and continuing education requirements for  
37 operators. On and after October 1, 2018, each certified operator shall  
38 obtain not less than six hours of continuing education each year.  
39 Continuing education units and associated courses shall be approved  
40 by the commissioner or the commissioner's designated agent in  
41 consultation with the operator certification advisory board. A record of  
42 such continuing education shall be maintained by the certified operator  
43 and by the facility employing the operator and shall be made available  
44 for inspection upon request by the commissioner.

45 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 22a-523 of the general statutes is  
46 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
47 *passage*):

48 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall  
49 establish a Nitrogen Credit Advisory Board to assist and advise the  
50 commissioner in administering the nitrogen credit exchange program.

51 The board shall consist of the Commissioner of Energy and  
52 Environmental Protection or the commissioner's designee, the Secretary  
53 of the Office of Policy and Management or the secretary's designee, the  
54 State Treasurer or the Treasurer's designee and nine public members to  
55 be appointed in accordance with this section. The nine public members  
56 shall include an official of a major publicly-owned treatment works  
57 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, a municipal  
58 public works official appointed by the president pro tempore of the  
59 Senate, a representative from a municipality with a population of  
60 greater than twenty thousand that purchases nitrogen credits and a  
61 representative from a municipality with a population of less than  
62 twenty thousand that sells credits appointed by the majority leader of  
63 the House of Representatives, a representative from a municipality with  
64 a population of greater than twenty thousand that sells nitrogen credits  
65 and a representative from a municipality with a population of less than  
66 twenty thousand [that purchases nitrogen credits] appointed by the  
67 majority leader of the Senate, and three persons having experience in  
68 either wastewater treatment, environmental law or finance, one to be  
69 appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, one  
70 to be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, and one to be  
71 appointed by the Governor. All initial appointments shall be made not  
72 later than August 1, 2001, and shall be made so the composition of the  
73 board is, to the extent possible, balanced with regard to buyers and  
74 sellers of credits, large and small municipalities and representatives  
75 from different geographic regions of the state.

76 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 22-11h of the general statutes is  
77 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
78 *passage*):

79 (c) Individual structures used for aquaculture as defined in section  
80 22-11c, including, but not limited to, racks, cages or bags, as well as  
81 buoys marking such structures, which [do not otherwise require]  
82 received a permit under federal Army Corps of Engineers regulations  
83 and do not interfere with navigation in designated or customary boating

84 or shipping lanes and channels, shall be placed in leased or designated  
85 shellfish areas and shall be exempt from the requirements of sections  
86 22a-359 to 22a-363f, inclusive.

87 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 22a-73 of the general statutes is  
88 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
89 *passage*):

90 (c) [No ordinance shall be effective until such ordinance has been  
91 approved by the commissioner. No ordinance shall be approved unless  
92 it is in conformity with] Any such municipal noise control ordinance  
93 shall be at least as stringent as any state noise control plan, including  
94 ambient noise standards, adopted pursuant to section 22a-69 or any  
95 standards or regulations adopted by the administrator of the United  
96 States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Noise Control  
97 Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-574) or any amendment thereto. Notwithstanding  
98 the provisions of this subsection, any municipality may adopt more  
99 stringent noise standards than those adopted by the commissioner. [,  
100 provided such standards are approved by the commissioner.]

101 Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 22a-174 of the general statutes is  
102 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
103 *passage*):

104 (c) The commissioner shall have the power, in accordance with  
105 regulations adopted by him, (1) to require that a person, before  
106 undertaking the construction, installation, enlargement or  
107 establishment of a new air contaminant source specified in the  
108 regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section, submit to him  
109 plans, specifications and such information as he deems reasonably  
110 necessary relating to the construction, installation, enlargement, or  
111 establishment of such new air contaminant source; (2) to issue a permit  
112 approving such plans and specifications and permitting the  
113 construction, installation, enlargement or establishment of the new air  
114 contaminant source in accordance with such plans, or to issue an order  
115 requiring that such plans and specifications be modified as a condition

116 to his approving them and issuing a permit allowing such construction,  
117 installation, enlargement or establishment in accordance therewith, or  
118 to issue an order rejecting such plans and specifications and prohibiting  
119 construction, installation, enlargement or establishment of a new air  
120 contaminant source in accordance with the plans and specifications  
121 submitted; (3) to require periodic inspection and maintenance of  
122 combustion equipment and other sources of air pollution; (4) to require  
123 any person to maintain such records relating to air pollution or to the  
124 operation of facilities designed to abate air pollution as he deems  
125 necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter and section 14-164c;  
126 (5) to require that a person in control of an air contaminant source  
127 specified in the regulations adopted under subsection (a), obtain a  
128 permit to operate such source if the source (A) is subject to any  
129 regulations adopted by the commissioner concerning high risk  
130 hazardous air pollutants, (B) burns waste oil, (C) is allowed by the  
131 commissioner, pursuant to regulations adopted under subsection (a), to  
132 exceed emission limits for sulfur compounds, (D) is issued an order  
133 pursuant to section 22a-178, or (E) violates any provision of this chapter,  
134 or any regulation, order or permit adopted or issued thereunder; (6) to  
135 require that a person in control of an air contaminant source who is not  
136 required to obtain a permit pursuant to this subsection register with him  
137 and provide such information as he deems necessary to maintain his  
138 inventory of air pollution sources and the commissioner may require  
139 renewal of such registration at intervals he deems necessary to maintain  
140 such inventory; (7) to require a permit for any source regulated under  
141 the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, P.L. 101-549; (8) to  
142 refuse to issue a permit if the Environmental Protection Agency objects  
143 to its issuance in a timely manner under Title V of the federal Clean Air  
144 Act Amendments of 1990; and (9) notwithstanding any regulation  
145 adopted under this chapter, to require that any source permitted under  
146 Title V of the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 shall comply  
147 with all applicable standards set forth in the Code of Federal  
148 Regulations, Title 40, Parts 51, 52, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 68, 70, 72 to 78,  
149 inclusive, and 82, as amended from time to time.

150 Sec. 6. Subsection (d) of section 23-37 of the general statutes is  
151 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
152 *passage*):

153 (d) If the state forest fire warden determines that additional state  
154 forest fire control personnel are required to assist in extinguishing a  
155 forest fire in this state or in another state that is a member of a compact  
156 authorized to provide reciprocal aid, the state forest fire warden may  
157 temporarily supplement state forest fire control personnel with  
158 temporary emergency workers who meet the training and qualification  
159 requirements of the National Incident Management System: Wildland  
160 Fire Qualification System Guide published by the National Wildfire  
161 Coordinating Group, as amended from time to time. The Department of  
162 Administrative Services shall assist the state fire warden in developing  
163 appropriate classifications for such temporary emergency workers.

164 Sec. 7. Section 23-53 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
165 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

166 The Governor on behalf of this state is authorized to enter into a  
167 compact, substantially in the following form, with any one or more of  
168 the states of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode  
169 Island and Vermont and with such other states of the United States or  
170 provinces of the Dominion of Canada as may legally join therein:

171 NORTHEASTERN INTERSTATE FOREST FIRE

172 PROTECTION COMPACT

173 ARTICLE I

174 The purpose of this compact is to promote effective prevention and  
175 control of forest fires in the northeastern region of the United States and  
176 adjacent areas in Canada by the development of integrated forest fire  
177 plans, by the maintenance of adequate forest fire fighting services by the  
178 member states, by providing for mutual aid in fighting forest fires  
179 among the states of the region and for procedures that will facilitate

180 such aid, and by the establishment of a central agency to coordinate the  
181 services of member states and perform such common services as  
182 member states may deem desirable.

183 ARTICLE II

184 This agreement shall become operative immediately as to those states  
185 ratifying it whenever any two or more of the states of Maine, New  
186 Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and the  
187 Commonwealth of Massachusetts have ratified it and the Congress has  
188 given its consent. Any state not mentioned in this article which is  
189 contiguous with any member state may become a party to this compact.  
190 Subject to the consent of the Congress of the United States, any province  
191 of the Dominion of Canada which is contiguous with any member state  
192 may become a party to this compact by taking such action as its laws  
193 and the laws of the Dominion of Canada may prescribe for ratification.  
194 In this event, the term "state" in this compact shall include within its  
195 meaning the term "province" and the procedures prescribed shall be  
196 applied in the instance of such provinces, in accordance with the forms  
197 and practices of the Canadian government.

198 ARTICLE III

199 Each state joining herein shall appoint three representatives to a  
200 commission hereby designated as the Northeastern Forest Fire  
201 Protection Commission. One shall be the state forester or officer holding  
202 an equivalent position in such state who is responsible for forest fire  
203 control. The second shall be a member of the legislature of such state  
204 designated by the commission or committee on interstate cooperation  
205 of such state, or if there be none, or if said commission on interstate  
206 cooperation cannot constitutionally designate the said member, such  
207 legislator shall be designated by the governor thereof; provided that if  
208 it is constitutionally impossible to appoint a legislator as a commissioner  
209 from such state, the second member shall be appointed by the governor  
210 of said state in his discretion. The third member shall be a person  
211 designated by the governor as the responsible representative of the

212 governor. In the event that any province of the Dominion of Canada  
213 shall become a member of this commission, it shall designate three  
214 members who will approximate this pattern of representation to the  
215 extent possible under the law and practices of such province. This  
216 commission shall be a body corporate with the powers and duties set  
217 forth herein.

218 **ARTICLE IV**

219 It shall be the duty of the commission to make inquiry and ascertain  
220 from time to time such methods, practices, circumstances and  
221 conditions as may be disclosed for bringing about the prevention and  
222 control of forest fires in the area comprising the member states, to  
223 coordinate the forest fire plans and the work of the appropriate agencies  
224 of the member states and to facilitate the rendering of aid by the member  
225 states to each other in fighting forest fires.

226 The commission shall formulate and, in accordance with need, from  
227 time to time, revise a regional forest fire plan for the entire region  
228 covered by the compact which shall serve as a common forest fire plan  
229 for that area.

230 The commission shall, more than one month prior to any regular  
231 meeting of the legislature in any signatory state, present to the governor  
232 and to the legislature of the state its recommendations relating to  
233 enactments to be made by the legislature of that state in furthering the  
234 interests and purposes of this compact.

235 The commission shall consult with and advise the appropriate  
236 administrative agencies of the states party hereto with regard to  
237 problems connected with the prevention and control of forest fires and  
238 recommend the adoption of such regulations as it deems advisable.

239 The commission shall have power to recommend to the signatory  
240 states any and all measures that will effectuate the prevention and  
241 control of forest fires.



242

ARTICLE V

243 Any two or more member states may designate the Northeastern  
244 Forest Fire Protection Commission as a joint agency to maintain such  
245 common services as those states deem desirable for the prevention and  
246 control of forest fires. Except in those cases where all member states join  
247 in such designation for common services, the representatives of any  
248 group of such designating states in the Northeastern Forest Fire  
249 Protection Commission shall constitute a separate section of such  
250 commission for the performance of the common service or services so  
251 designated provided that, if any additional expense is involved, the  
252 state so acting shall appropriate the necessary funds for this purpose.  
253 The creation of such a section as a joint agency shall not affect the  
254 privileges, powers, responsibilities or duties of the states participating  
255 therein as embodied in the other articles of this compact.

256

ARTICLE VI

257 The commission may request the United States Forest Service to act  
258 as the primary research and coordinating agency of the Northeastern  
259 Forest Fire Protection Commission, in cooperation with the appropriate  
260 agencies in each state and the United States Forest Service may accept  
261 the initial responsibility in preparing and presenting to the commission  
262 its recommendations with respect to the regional fire plan.  
263 Representatives of the United States Forest Service may attend meetings  
264 of the commission and of groups of member states.

265

ARTICLE VII

266 The commission shall annually elect from its members a chairman  
267 and a vice-chairman. The commission shall appoint such officers or  
268 employees as may be required to carry the provisions of this compact  
269 into effect, shall fix and determine their duties, qualifications and  
270 compensation, and may at its pleasure, remove or discharge any such  
271 officer or employee. The commission shall adopt rules and regulations  
272 for the conduct of its business. It may establish and maintain one or

273 more offices for the transaction of its business and may meet at any time  
274 or place but must meet at least once a year.

275 A majority of the members of the commission representing a majority  
276 of the signatory states shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of its  
277 general business, but no action of the commission imposing any  
278 obligation on any signatory state shall be binding unless a majority of  
279 the members from such signatory state shall have voted in favor thereof.  
280 For the purpose of conducting its general business, voting shall be by  
281 state units.

282 The representatives of any two or more member states, upon notice  
283 to the chairman as to the time and purpose of the meeting, may meet as  
284 a section for the discussion of problems common to those states.

285 Sections established by groups of member states shall have the same  
286 powers with respect to officers, employees and the maintenance of  
287 offices as are granted by this article to the commission. Sections may  
288 adopt such rules, regulations and procedures as may be necessary for  
289 the conduct of their business.

290 **ARTICLE VIII**

291 It shall be the duty of each member state to formulate and put in effect  
292 a forest fire plan for that state and to take such measures as may be  
293 recommended by the commission to integrate such forest fire plan with  
294 regional forest fire plan.

295 Whenever the state forest fire control agency of a member state  
296 requests aid from the state forest fire control agency of any other  
297 member state in combatting, controlling or preventing forest fires, it  
298 shall be the duty of the state forest fire control agency of that state to  
299 render all possible aid to the requesting agency which is consonant with  
300 the maintenance of protection at home.

301 Each signatory state agrees to render aid to the Forest Service or other  
302 agencies of the government of the United States in combatting,

303 controlling or preventing forest fires in areas under their jurisdiction  
304 located within the member state or a contiguous member state.

305 ARTICLE IX

306 Whenever the forces of any member state are rendering outside aid  
307 pursuant to the request of another member state under this compact, the  
308 employees of such state shall, under the direction of the officers of the  
309 state to which they are rendering aid, have the same powers (except the  
310 power of arrest), duties, rights, privileges and immunities as  
311 comparable employees of the state to which they are rendering aid.

312 No member state or its officers or employees rendering outside aid  
313 pursuant to this compact shall be liable on account of any act or  
314 omission on the part of such forces while so engaged, or on account of  
315 the maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection  
316 therewith.

317 All liability that may arise either under the laws of the requesting  
318 state or under the laws of the aiding state or under the laws of a third  
319 state on account of or in connection with a request for aid, shall be  
320 assumed and borne by the requesting state.

321 Any member state rendering outside aid pursuant to this compact  
322 shall be reimbursed by the member state receiving such aid for any loss  
323 or damage to, or expense incurred in the operation of any equipment  
324 answering a request for aid, and for the cost of all materials,  
325 transportation, wages, salaries, and maintenance of employees and  
326 equipment incurred in connection with such request. Provided, that  
327 nothing herein contained shall prevent any assisting member state from  
328 assuming such loss, damage, expense or other cost or from loaning such  
329 equipment or from donating such services to the receiving member state  
330 without charge or cost.

331 Each member state shall provide for the payment of compensation  
332 and death benefits to injured employees and the representatives of  
333 deceased employees in case employees sustain injuries or are killed

334 while rendering outside aid pursuant to this compact, in the same  
335 manner and on the same terms as if the injury or death were sustained  
336 within such state.

337 For the purposes of this compact the term employee shall include any  
338 volunteer or auxiliary legally included within the forest fire fighting  
339 forces of the aiding state under the laws thereof.

340 The commission shall formulate procedures for claims and  
341 reimbursement under the provisions of this article.

342 Aid by a member state to an area subject to federal jurisdiction  
343 beyond the borders of such state shall not be required under this  
344 compact unless substantially the same provisions of this article relative  
345 to powers, liabilities, losses and expenses in connection with such aid  
346 are embodied in federal laws.

347 The provisions of this article that relate to mutual aid in combating,  
348 controlling or preventing forest fires shall be applicable to the provision  
349 of such aid by any state that is party to this compact and any other state  
350 that is party to a regional forest fire protection compact in another  
351 region, provided the legislature of such other state assents to the mutual  
352 aid provisions of this compact.

353 ARTICLE X

354 When appropriations for the support of this commission or for the  
355 support of common services maintained by the commission or a section  
356 thereof under the provisions of article V are necessary, the commission  
357 or a section thereof shall allocate the costs among the states affected with  
358 consideration of the amounts of forested land in those states that will  
359 receive protection from the service to be rendered and the extent of the  
360 forest fire problem involved in each state, and shall submit its  
361 recommendations accordingly to the legislatures of the affected states.

362 The commission shall submit to the governor of each state, at such  
363 time as he may request, a budget of its estimated expenditures for such

364 period as may be required by the laws of such state for presentation to  
365 the legislature thereof.

366 The commission shall keep accurate books of account, showing in full  
367 its receipts and disbursements, and said books of account shall be open  
368 at any reasonable time to the inspection of such representatives of the  
369 respective signatory states as may be duly constituted for that purpose.

370 On or before the first day of December of each year, the commission  
371 shall submit to the respective governors of the signatory states a full and  
372 complete report of its activities for the preceding year.

373 ARTICLE XI

374 The representatives from any member state may appoint and consult  
375 with an advisory committee composed of persons interested in forest  
376 fire protection.

377 The commission may appoint and consult with an advisory  
378 committee of representatives of all affected groups, private and  
379 governmental.

380 ARTICLE XII

381 The commission may accept any and all donations, gifts and grants  
382 of money, equipment, supplies, materials and services from the federal  
383 or any local government, or any agency thereof and from any person,  
384 firm or corporation, for any of its purposes and functions under this  
385 compact, and may receive and utilize the same subject to the terms,  
386 conditions and regulations governing such donations, gifts and grants.

387 ARTICLE XIII

388 Nothing in this compact shall be construed to authorize or permit any  
389 member state to curtail or diminish its forest fire fighting forces,  
390 equipment, services or facilities, and it shall be the duty and  
391 responsibility of each member state to maintain adequate forest fire

392 fighting forces and equipment to meet normal demands for forest fire  
393 protection within its borders.

394 Nothing in this compact shall be construed to limit or restrict the  
395 powers of any state ratifying the same to provide for the prevention,  
396 control and extinguishment of forest fires, or to prohibit the enactment  
397 or enforcement of state laws, rules or regulations intended to aid in such  
398 prevention, control and extinguishment in such state.

399 Nothing in this compact shall be construed to affect any existing or  
400 future cooperative relationship or arrangement between the United  
401 States Forest Service and a member state or states.

402 ARTICLE XIV

403 This compact shall continue in force and remain binding on each state  
404 ratifying it until the legislature or the governor of such state takes action  
405 to withdraw therefrom. Such action shall not be effective until six  
406 months after notice thereof has been sent by the chief executive of the  
407 state desiring to withdraw to the chief executives of all states then  
408 parties to the compact.

409 Sec. 8. Subsection (f) of section 22a-54 of the general statutes is  
410 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
411 *passage*):

412 (f) (1) The commissioner may by regulation adopted in accordance  
413 with the provisions of chapter 54 prescribe fees for applicants to defray  
414 the cost of administering examinations and assisting in carrying out the  
415 purposes of section 22a-451, except the fees for certification and renewal  
416 of a certification shall be as follows: [(1)] (A) For supervisory  
417 certification as a commercial applicator, two hundred eighty-five  
418 dollars; [(2)] (B) for operational certification as a commercial applicator,  
419 eighty dollars; [,] and [(3)] (C) for certification as a private applicator,  
420 one hundred dollars. A federal, state or municipal employee who  
421 applies pesticides solely as part of his employment shall be exempt from  
422 payment of a fee. Any certificate issued to a federal, state or municipal

423 employee for which a fee has not been paid shall be void if the holder  
424 leaves government employment. The fees collected in accordance with  
425 this section shall be deposited in the General Fund.

426 (2) Not less than sixty days before the date of expiration of a  
427 certification, the commissioner shall provide notice of expiration and a  
428 renewal application to each holder of a certification. If a signed renewal  
429 application accompanied by the applicable renewal fee is not received  
430 by the commissioner on or before midnight of the expiration date, or if  
431 the expiration date is a Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday, on or before  
432 midnight of the next business day, the certification shall automatically  
433 lapse. Failure of a holder of a certification to receive a notice of  
434 expiration and renewal application shall not prevent a lapse of a  
435 certification.

436 (3) The commissioner may renew any certification issued pursuant to  
437 this section for the holder of a certification that has lapsed less than one  
438 year, provided the holder of such certification submits to the  
439 commissioner a signed renewal application, payment of the applicable  
440 renewal fee and any late fee. Such late fee shall be calculated as follows:  
441 Beginning on the first day that such certification lapses, ten per cent of  
442 the applicable renewal fee plus one and one-quarter per cent per month,  
443 or part thereof, for a period not to exceed one year. Any holder of a  
444 certification that has lapsed one year or more shall be examined in  
445 accordance with the requirements of this section and any regulation  
446 adopted pursuant to the provisions of this section.

447 Sec. 9. Subsection (g) of section 22a-50 of the general statutes is  
448 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*  
449 *1, 2022*):

450 (g) The registrant shall pay a fee of [nine hundred forty dollars] one  
451 hundred eighty-eight dollars per calendar year, or any portion thereof,  
452 for each pesticide registered and for each renewal of a registration. [A  
453 registration shall expire after five years.] The commissioner may register  
454 a pesticide for a period of one year or a period of five years. For such

455 five-year registrations, the commissioner shall establish regulations to  
456 phase in pesticide registration so that one fifth of the pesticides  
457 registered expire each year. The commissioner may register a pesticide  
458 for less than five years and prorate the registration fee accordingly to  
459 implement the regulations established pursuant to this subsection. The  
460 fees collected in accordance with this section shall be deposited in the  
461 General Fund. There shall be no refund of a registration fee if a product  
462 is voluntarily withdrawn or cancelled before the end of its registration  
463 period.

464 Sec. 10. Section 22a-6f of the general statutes is amended by adding  
465 subsection (h) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

466 (NEW) (h) Unless otherwise specified in a general permit issued on  
467 or after October 1, 2021, any person or municipality authorized to  
468 engage in a regulated activity covered by a general permit pursuant to  
469 any provision of this title shall pay an annual fee as follows: (1) If the  
470 person or municipality engaged in the regulated activity is required to  
471 register with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
472 and obtain approval of the registration before the activity is authorized,  
473 such annual fee shall be two hundred dollars; or (2) if the person or  
474 municipality that intends to engage in the activity is only required to  
475 register with the department before the activity is authorized, such  
476 annual fee shall be one hundred dollars. No annual fee for a general  
477 permit issued on or after October 1, 2021, shall exceed one thousand  
478 dollars.

479 Sec. 11. Section 22a-6bb of the general statutes is repealed and the  
480 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

481 (a) Whenever the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
482 Protection is required to hold a hearing prior to approving or denying  
483 an application upon receipt of a timely filed petition signed by at least  
484 twenty-five persons pursuant to sections 22a-32, 22a-39, 22a-42a, 22a-  
485 45a, 22a-94, 22a-174, as amended by this act, 22a-208a, 22a-349a, 22a-361,  
486 22a-363b, 22a-371, 22a-378a, 22a-403, 22a-411, 22a-430 and 25-68d, or any



487 regulation of the Connecticut state agencies provides that the  
488 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall hold a  
489 hearing prior to approving or denying an application upon receipt of a  
490 timely filed petition signed by at least twenty-five persons, such petition  
491 [may] shall designate a person authorized to withdraw such petition.  
492 Such authorized person may engage in discussions regarding an  
493 application and, if a resolution is reached, may withdraw the petition.

494 (b) If a petition is withdrawn, the authorized person shall file written  
495 notice with the commissioner and serve a copy of the withdrawal notice  
496 upon all parties and intervenors, if any, to the proceeding. The  
497 withdrawal of a petition shall result in the termination of the hearing  
498 process initiated by the petition. If the commissioner receives more than  
499 one petition that requires the holding of a hearing, all such petitions  
500 shall be withdrawn for the hearing to terminate pursuant to this section.

501 (c) If the petition is withdrawn after notice of a public hearing has  
502 been published, the commissioner shall publish or cause to be  
503 published, at the applicant's expense, once in a newspaper having a  
504 substantial circulation in the affected area, notice of the termination of  
505 such hearing due to the withdrawal of a petition pursuant to this section.

506 (d) Notwithstanding the withdrawal of any petitions pursuant to this  
507 section, the commissioner may hold a public hearing, continue with a  
508 public hearing for which notice has been published or complete a public  
509 hearing that has already commenced prior to approving or denying an  
510 application, if the commissioner determines that holding or continuing  
511 such public hearing is in the public interest.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22a-416(d)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	22a-523(a)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	22-11h(c)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	22a-73(c)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	22a-174(c)

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Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	23-37(d)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	23-53
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	22a-54(f)
Sec. 9	<i>January 1, 2022</i>	22a-50(g)
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	22a-6f
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	22a-6bb

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 8(f)(2), technical conforming changes were made for adherence to standard drafting conventions.

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*