House of Representatives



General Assembly

File No. 80

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 6073

House of Representatives, March 12, 2025

The Committee on Government Oversight reported through REP. DATHAN of the 142nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCESS AND TIMELINE FOR THE REVIEW OF EXISTING REGULATIONS OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 4-189i of the general statutes is repealed and the 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 (a) Not later than [July 1, 2017] June 30, 2027, and not later than every 4 seven years thereafter, each [committee of cognizance, in consultation 5 with each agency that is within the cognizance of the committee, shall establish the date by which each such agency shall submit a review of 6 7 its existing regulations and shall notify the administrator of the 8 regulation review committee of each such date and any extension 9 thereof. In establishing such date, or any extension of the date that may 10 be requested by the agency, the committee of cognizance (1) shall 11 consider the volume and complexity of such regulations and the 12 personnel and other resources of the agency that would be available to undertake the review within the agency's available appropriations, and
(2) may establish a schedule of dates for the review of various portions
of such regulations upon the agreement of the committee of cognizance
and the administrative head of the agency.

17 (b) Not later than the date specified by the committee of cognizance 18 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, each such agency shall submit 19 to the committee of cognizance and to the administrator of the 20 regulation review committee] agency shall conduct a review of its 21 existing regulations, which shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) 22 The agency's recommendations on how it may substantially reduce the 23 number and length of its existing regulations; (2) the agency's 24 determination of whether each of its existing regulations (A) is obsolete, 25 (B) has not been used within the preceding seven years, (C) is 26 inconsistent with any provision of the general statutes, federal law or 27 any regulation adopted under the general statutes or federal law, (D) 28 has been the subject of written complaints, and (E) is otherwise no 29 longer effective; and (3) the agency's recommendation, if any, regarding 30 any extraordinary circumstances in which waivers from its existing 31 regulations may be appropriate.

32 (b) Not later than January 1, 2028, and not later than every seven years 33 thereafter, each agency shall submit a summary of the results of the 34 review conducted under subsection (a) of this section to the committee 35 having cognizance over such agency and to the administrator of the 36 regulation review committee, in accordance with the provisions of 37 section 11-4a.

(c) Upon receipt of an agency's [review] <u>summary of its review</u>, the
committee of cognizance shall schedule a public hearing, which shall be
held not later than ninety days following such receipt. The committee of
cognizance shall make copies of the [review] <u>summary</u> available to the
public at least fifteen days prior to the hearing.

(d) Following the public hearing: (1) The committee of cognizance
may request the agency to initiate the process under chapter 54 to carry
out a recommendation of the agency under subsection [(b)] (a) of this

section to amend or repeal an existing regulation which, in the determination of the committee of cognizance, does not require the enactment of authorizing legislation, and (2) the committee of cognizance shall consider any recommendation by the agency under subsection [(b)] (a) of this section which, in the determination of the committee of cognizance, would require the enactment of authorizing legislation.

53 (e) If an agency fails to submit a <u>summary of the results of the</u> review 54 of its regulations to the committee of cognizance and the administrator 55 of the regulation review committee as required by subsection (b) of this 56 section or if the committee of cognizance determines that the agency has 57 not conducted a satisfactory review of its regulations as required by 58 [said] subsection (a) of this section, the committee of cognizance may: 59 (1) Conduct a review of the existing regulations of the agency, as 60 described in subsection [(b)] (a) of this section, (2) request the agency to 61 initiate the process under chapter 54 to carry out a recommendation of 62 the committee of cognizance pursuant to such review to amend or 63 repeal an existing regulation which, in the determination of the 64 committee of cognizance, does not require the enactment of authorizing 65 legislation, and (3) introduce legislation to authorize the agency to 66 amend or repeal existing regulations. If the agency fails to initiate the 67 process to amend or repeal an existing regulation pursuant to 68 subdivision (2) of this subsection, the committee of cognizance may 69 introduce legislation requiring the agency to initiate such process.

Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of section 4-189h of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2025):

(3) "Existing regulation" means a regulation that was adopted by an
agency no later than one year prior to the scheduled date of review, as
provided in subsection [(b)] (a) of section 4-189i, as amended by this act;

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2025	4-189i
Sec. 2	October 1, 2025	4-189h(3)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Sections 1(c) and (e), references to "review" were changed to reference the summary of the review for consistency.

GOS Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill alters the process for state agencies to review existing regulations resulting in no fiscal impact to the state because the affected state agencies have the expertise to meet the requirements of the bill.

The Out Years

State Impact: None Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6073

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCESS AND TIMELINE FOR THE REVIEW OF EXISTING REGULATIONS OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES.

SUMMARY

This bill transfers responsibility for conducting periodic reviews of a state agency's existing regulations from the legislative committee of cognizance to the state agency itself. Under current law, each legislative committee, at least every seven years, must consult with state agencies within its cognizance to establish a date the agency will submit a review of its existing regulations to the committee. Committees must notify the Regulation Review Committee administrator of these dates and any extensions approved by the committee of cognizance.

The bill eliminates these provisions and instead requires each agency to conduct these reviews by June 30, 2027, submit a summary of its review by June 30, 2028, and then do so again at least every seven years. The summary must be submitted to the committee of cognizance and the Regulation Review Committee administrator.

As under existing law, the agency's review must at least include (1) recommendations for reducing regulations' number and length; (2) determinations on whether they are obsolete, unused, inconsistent with other laws, no longer effective, or the subject of written complaints; and (3) recommendations on extraordinary circumstances warranting their waiver.

Finally, the bill also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

ACTION ON AGENCY REVIEWS

The bill generally maintains the existing provisions for conducting public hearings on agency reviews and acting on agency recommendations.

Current law requires that upon receiving a review from an agency, the committee of cognizance must hold a public hearing on the review within 90 days of receiving it. The bill instead requires this after receiving the summary. The committee must make copies of the submission publicly available at least 15 days before the hearing.

Following the hearing, the committee may ask the agency to proceed in amending or repealing any regulations within its authority through the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act (UAPA). The committee must also consider recommendations that require legislative authorization in the committee's opinion.

If an agency fails to submit a summary, or the committee deems an agency's review unsatisfactory, the committee may:

- 1. conduct its own review;
- 2. ask the agency, within its authority, to initiate proceedings under UAPA to implement the committee's recommendations; and
- 3. introduce legislation to authorize the agency to amend or repeal existing regulations (presumably outside the agency's current authority).

If the agency fails to initiate the proceedings, the committee may introduce legislation requiring an agency to commence this process.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Oversight Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 9 Nay 0 (02/25/2025)