



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 35**

January Session, 2025

Senate Bill No. 63

*Senate, March 5, 2025*

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. LOPES of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE MITIGATION OF EFFECTS ON WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES FROM FUTURE OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS.***

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

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than October 1, 2026, the
- 2 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall adopt
- 3 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the
- 4 general statutes, to require any future offshore wind project proposals
- 5 to: (1) Increase the mitigation measures for offshore wind projects to
- 6 mitigate adverse consequences to wildlife, birds, marine mammals,
- 7 fisheries and any other aspects of the fishing industry that result from
- 8 activities connected with the development and operation of the offshore
- 9 wind facilities, including workforce development retraining for
- 10 fishermen adversely impacted by offshore wind operations, (2) require
- 11 contract commitments that provide for selected bidders to make an
- 12 initial payment and regular recurring payments into an offshore wind
- 13 project mitigation fund to mitigate the ongoing adverse consequences
- 14 that result from activities connected with the development and

15 operation of offshore wind facilities by such selected bidders and  
16 prohibit the return of any such mitigation funds to selected bidders, (3)  
17 prohibit such bidders from administering any such mitigation funds,  
18 and (4) establish an independent mitigation fund oversight committee  
19 to administer, manage and distribute any such mitigation funds, which  
20 shall include payment for ongoing damages suffered by such  
21 stakeholders and the environment caused during and after the  
22 operational phase of such offshore wind projects.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**ENV**      *Joint Favorable*

*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.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to adopt various regulations related to offshore wind project proposals. This is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as DEEP has the staff and expertise necessary to complete the regulations.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**SB 63**

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE MITIGATION OF EFFECTS ON  
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES FROM FUTURE OFFSHORE WIND  
PROJECTS.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea    35    Nay    0    (02/19/2025)