



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 98

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1154

Senate, March 18, 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 substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE OF CERTAIN LIGHTER-THAN-AIR BALLOONS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than October 1,
2 2025, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall
3 engage representatives of the helium industry, including, but not
4 limited to, manufacturers and distributors, to develop a schedule for the
5 phase-out of helium utilized to fill lighter-than-air balloons. Such
6 schedule shall provide for an end to such use in the state not later than
7 December 31, 2027. Not later than February 1, 2026, the commissioner
8 shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the General
9 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment, in
10 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
11 on the nature of such schedule and progress toward reaching such
12 discontinued use. Such report may contain any additional legislative
13 recommendations concerning such lighter-than-air balloons.

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

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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, which requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to develop a schedule regarding the phase out helium filled balloons, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as DEEP has the staff and expertise necessary to do so.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1154*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE OF CERTAIN LIGHTER-THAN-AIR BALLOONS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), by October 1, 2025, to work with representatives from the helium industry, including manufacturers and distributors, to make a schedule to phase out, by December 31, 2027, the use of helium in filling lighter-than-air balloons in Connecticut. The bill requires the DEEP commissioner to report to the Environment Committee by February 1, 2026, with a description of the schedule, progress achieved, and any further legislative recommendations regarding lighter-than-air balloons.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 34 Nay 1 (02/28/2025)