



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 7051

LCO No. 5053



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING A BLACK BEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Energy and Environmental Protection, in conjunction with
3 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall
4 develop, and thereafter revise as necessary, a black bear management
5 plan to ensure public safety and the protection of property and maintain
6 a sustainable black bear population in the state. Such plan shall include,
7 but need not be limited to: (1) An assessment of the current black bear
8 population, and the desired future status of such population, in various
9 regions of the state, (2) recommendations for minimizing human and
10 black bear conflicts, (3) guidelines for public education initiatives
11 concerning management and conflict avoidance, (4) strategies for
12 nonlethal black bear deterrence and response, (5) an evaluation of
13 potential black bear population control measures, (6) protocols for the
14 public, the state and agencies, instrumentalities and political
15 subdivisions of the state to manage black bears that pose an imminent
16 threat to public safety or property, (7) recommendations for waste
17 management practices to reduce black bear attractants, and (8) strategies

18 for coordinating with municipalities, law enforcement officers and
19 interested parties to improve black bear safety measures.

20 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Energy and
21 Environmental Protection shall submit the plan, in accordance with the
22 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
23 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
24 relating to public safety and the environment. If such plan is revised, the
25 commissioner shall submit such revised plan to said committees not
26 later than thirty days after the development of such revised plan.

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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Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioners of Energy and Environmental Protection and Emergency Services and Public Protection to develop a black bear management plan to ensure public safety and the protection of property and maintain a sustainable black bear population in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]