



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 63

LCO No. 35



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.

***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 That the general statutes be amended to require the Department of
- 2 Energy and Environmental Protection to adopt regulations, in
- 3 accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, that require any
- 4 future offshore wind project proposals to: (1) Increase the mitigation
- 5 measures for offshore wind projects to mitigate adverse consequences
- 6 to wildlife, birds, marine mammals, fisheries and any other aspects of
- 7 the fishing industry that result from activities connected with the
- 8 development and operation of the offshore wind facilities, including
- 9 workforce development retraining for fishermen adversely impacted by
- 10 offshore wind operations, (2) require contract commitments that
- 11 provide for selected bidders to make an initial payment and regular
- 12 recurring payments into an offshore wind project mitigation fund to
- 13 mitigate the ongoing adverse consequences that result from activities
- 14 connected with the development and operation of offshore wind
- 15 facilities by such selected bidders and prohibit the return of any such

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

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to adopt regulations regarding the mitigation of future offshore wind project proposals on wildlife and fisheries.