



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 63

LCO No. 3563



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

***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:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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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.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.; REP. BUMGARDNER, 41st Dist.

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