



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 1242***

LCO No. 4381



Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by:  
(TRA)

***AN ACT FUNDING SMALL HARBOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 102 of public act 21-111, as amended by section 82  
2 of public act 23-205, is amended to read as follows (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (a) The State Bond Commission shall authorize the issuance of bonds  
4 of the state, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20 of the  
5 general statutes, in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate  
6 twenty million dollars for the Connecticut Port Authority established  
7 pursuant to section 15-31a of the general statutes. [The amount  
8 authorized for the issuance and sale of such bonds in each of the  
9 following fiscal years shall not exceed the following corresponding  
10 amount for each such fiscal year, provided, to the extent the authority  
11 does not provide for the use of all or a portion of such amount in any  
12 such fiscal year, such amount not provided for shall be carried forward  
13 and added to the authorized amount for the next succeeding fiscal year,  
14 and, provided further, the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if  
15 any, may be added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each  
16 of the authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year

17 indicated as follows:

T1	Fiscal Year Ending	Amount
T2	June Thirtieth	
T3	2022	\$5,000,000
T4	2023	5,000,000
T5	2024	2,500,000
T6		
T7	2025	2,500,000
T8		
T9	2026	5,000,000
T10	Total	\$20,000,000]

18 (b) [The State Bond Commission shall approve a memorandum of  
 19 understanding between the Connecticut Port Authority and the state,  
 20 acting by and through the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
 21 Management and the Treasurer, providing for the issuance of said  
 22 bonds for the purposes of projects undertaken by the Connecticut Port  
 23 Authority regarding ports not located in the towns of New Haven, New  
 24 London or Bridgeport, including provisions regarding the extent to  
 25 which federal, private or other moneys then available or thereafter to be  
 26 made available for costs should be added to the proceeds of the bonds  
 27 authorized pursuant to this section for such projects. The memorandum  
 28 of understanding shall be deemed to satisfy the provisions of section 3-  
 29 20 of the general statutes and the exercise of any right or power granted  
 30 thereby that is not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.] The  
 31 proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount stated in  
 32 subsection (a) of this section, shall be deposited into the small harbor  
 33 improvement projects account, established pursuant to section 13b-55d  
 34 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

35 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise  
 36 of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the

37 provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all  
 38 bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this  
 39 section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived  
 40 from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in  
 41 accordance with said section, and from time to time renewed. All bonds  
 42 issued pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the state  
 43 and the full faith and credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for  
 44 the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same  
 45 become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with  
 46 the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for  
 47 punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and  
 48 the Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become  
 49 due.

50 [(d) Subject to the amount of limitations of the capping provisions in  
 51 subsection (a) of this section, the principal amount of the bonds  
 52 authorized under this section shall be deemed to be an appropriation  
 53 and allocation of such amount, and such approval of such request shall  
 54 be deemed the allotment by the Governor of such capital outlays within  
 55 the meaning of section 4-85 of the general statutes.]

56 Sec. 2. Section 13b-55d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
 57 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

58 (a) As used in this section, "small harbor" means any harbor in the  
 59 state not under the authority of the Connecticut Port Authority.

60 (b) The Connecticut Port Authority shall establish an account to be  
 61 known as the "small harbor improvement projects account". There shall  
 62 be deposited in the account: (1) The proceeds of notes, bonds or other  
 63 obligations issued by the state for the purpose of deposit therein and  
 64 used in accordance with the permissible uses thereof; (2) funds  
 65 appropriated by the General Assembly for the purpose of deposit  
 66 therein and used in accordance with the permissible uses thereof; and  
 67 (3) any other funds required or permitted by law to be deposited in the

68 account. The funds in said account shall be expended by the authority  
69 for the purposes described in subsection [(b)] (c) of this section. [As used  
70 in this section, "small harbor" means any harbor in the state not under  
71 the authority of the Connecticut Port Authority.]

72 [(b)] (c) The small harbor improvement projects account may be used  
73 (1) for federal and nonfederal dredging projects in small harbors to (A)  
74 support, in full or in part, local and state matching requirements for such  
75 projects; (B) cover the incremental costs associated with applicable  
76 environmental regulatory requirements or management practices,  
77 including beneficial use; and (C) cover part or all of the costs of such  
78 projects in the absence of adequate federal funds; [and] (2) to fund  
79 private maritime infrastructure projects in small harbors, provided all  
80 applicable permits and authorizations are obtained before such private  
81 maritime infrastructure projects receive any such funding; and (3) to  
82 provide reimbursement for dredging projects that were approved by the  
83 Connecticut Port Authority for funding or that commenced prior to the  
84 disbursement of such funds due to time considerations that impacted  
85 the flow of commerce at such small harbor. If the account is used for the  
86 purpose described in subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this  
87 subsection, the authority shall pursue reimbursement to the account  
88 from the federal government.

89 [(c)] (d) The authority shall adopt procedures in accordance with  
90 section 1-121 to implement the provisions of this section, including, but  
91 not limited to, a process for contracting for projects in small harbors  
92 under this section.

93 Sec. 3. Subsection (m) of section 32 of public act 15-1 of the June  
94 special session is amended to read as follows (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

95 (m) For the Connecticut Port Authority: Grants-in-aid for  
96 improvements to ports, harbors and marinas, including dredging and  
97 navigational improvements, and reimbursement for dredging projects  
98 at small harbors, as defined in section 13b-55d, as amended by this act,

99 not exceeding \$17,500,000, provided not less than \$5,000,000 shall be  
100 made available to the ports, harbors and marinas in the state other than  
101 the deep water ports in the cities of Bridgeport, New Haven and New  
102 London.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	PA 21-111, Sec. 102
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	13b-55d
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	PA 15-1 of the June Sp. Sess., Sec. 32(m)

***Statement of Purpose:***

To provide funding for small harbor improvement projects and permit such funds to be used for the reimbursement of dredging projects at small harbors.

***[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.]***