OLR Bill Analysis HB 6250

# AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEVELS OF STAFFING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION OFFICERS.

#### SUMMARY

By law, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner must appoint conservation officers as needed to efficiently enforce the state's environmental laws and regulations.

This bill requires the commissioner to receive and consider conservation officer staffing recommendations from the Connecticut Conservation Officers Association at least once every two years. The association must base its recommendations on a review of conservation officers' statutory duties, including any increased duties since the last recommendation was made.

The bill also requires the DEEP commissioner to submit the association's recommendations to the Environment Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

### BACKGROUND

### Related Bill

HB 7198, favorably reported by the Public Safety and Security Committee, requires the DEEP and emergency services and public protection commissioners to (1) study how to improve the assignment of conservation officers throughout the state and (2) report to the Environment and Public Safety and Security committees by January 1, 2026.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

**Environment Committee** 

Joint Favorable Yea 33 Nay 0 (03/14/2025)