
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6914

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT ACT.

SUMMARY

This bill requires municipal or state officials to consider a harbor management commission's written recommendations (e.g., ones made in a comment letter) when the officials are making regulatory decisions or undertaking or sponsoring development affecting the commission's jurisdiction, but only if the recommendation arises from content already in an approved and adopted harbor management plan.

By law, a harbor management plan must identify existing and potential harbor problems; establish goals; and make recommendations for the harbor's use, development, and preservation, among other things. A municipal harbor management commission must have the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and Connecticut Port Authority review and approve its plan before the municipality may adopt it (CGS §§ 22a-113m & -113n). Once adopted, any recommendations contained in the plan are binding on municipal and state officials making regulatory decisions or undertaking or sponsoring development affecting the commission's jurisdiction, unless the official shows cause for why a different action should be taken.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 33 Nay 0 (03/14/2025)