



**Substitute House Bill No. 5243**

**Special Act No. 26-30**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM PLAN FOR THE GREATER MYSTIC AREA.**

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working group to develop a plan relating to economic development and tourism in the greater Mystic area. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of (1) the potential federal, state or other sources of funding for the restoration of any breakwater located in Stonington Harbor, (2) transportation options to ease traffic congestion and alleviate parking pressure, and (3) potential easements and infrastructure improvements to enhance accessibility and coastal resiliency. For the purposes of this subsection, "the greater Mystic area" means the towns of Groton and Stonington.

(b) The working group shall consist of the following members: (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, or their designees; (2) the state representatives and state senators of the General Assembly representing the town of Groton, or their designees; (3) the state representatives and state senators of the General Assembly representing the town of Stonington, or their

***Substitute House Bill No. 5243***

designees; (4) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee; (5) the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's designee; (6) the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or the commissioner's designee; (7) the Commissioner of Transportation, or the commissioner's designee; (8) the chief elected official of Groton, or the official's designee; (9) the chief elected official of Stonington, or the official's designee; (10) a representative of a regional economic development organization; (11) a representative of a chamber of commerce; (12) a representative of the Bureau of Aquaculture of the Department of Agriculture; and (13) any individuals the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce deem relevant and necessary to carry out the duties of the working group, including, but not limited to, a representative of the local traffic authority of the town of Groton and a representative of the local traffic authority of the town of Stonington.

(c) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

(d) Not later than February 1, 2027, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or February 1, 2027, whichever is later.