



House of Representatives

File No. 730

General Assembly

February Session, 2026

(Reprint of File No. 314)

Substitute House Bill No. 5243
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 28, 2026

**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:

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

11 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members: (1) The
12 chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of

13 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
14 commerce, or their designees; (2) the state representatives and state
15 senators of the General Assembly representing the town of Groton, or
16 their designees; (3) the state representatives and state senators of the
17 General Assembly representing the town of Stonington, or their
18 designees; (4) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or
19 the secretary's designee; (5) the Commissioner of Economic and
20 Community Development, or the commissioner's designee; (6) the
21 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or the
22 commissioner's designee; (7) the Commissioner of Transportation, or
23 the commissioner's designee; (8) the chief elected official of Groton, or
24 the official's designee; (9) the chief elected official of Stonington, or the
25 official's designee; (10) a representative of a regional economic
26 development organization; (11) a representative of a chamber of
27 commerce; (12) a representative of the Bureau of Aquaculture of the
28 Department of Agriculture; and (13) any individuals the chairpersons of
29 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
30 cognizance of matters relating to commerce deem relevant and
31 necessary to carry out the duties of the working group, including, but
32 not limited to, a representative of the local traffic authority of the town
33 of Groton and a representative of the local traffic authority of the town
34 of Stonington.

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

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

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill has no fiscal impact by establishing a working group to develop a plan related to economic development and tourism in the greater Mystic area. It is anticipated that the members of the working group will have the expertise necessary or consult with any persons or experts needed, as allowed by the bill, to complete the plan.

House "A" has no fiscal impact by (1) modifying the membership of the working group and (2) changing the due date for the required report.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5243 (as amended by House "A")

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SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/17/2026)