



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4327



Offered by:

REP. PARKER, 101st Dist.

REP. CALLAHAN, 108th Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5331

File No. 142

Cal. No. 122

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE AIR PERMITS OF CERTAIN
CREMATORIES."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Energy
4 and Environmental Protection shall establish a working group to
5 evaluate mercury vapor emissions and fine particulate matter emissions
6 factors associated with crematories used for human remains and to
7 develop recommendations for the use of such emissions factors in the
8 review of permit applications, registrations and other approvals issued
9 pursuant to section 22a-174 of the general statutes.

10 (b) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or
11 the commissioner's designee, shall convene the working group not later
12 than June 15, 2026, which may include the following members, as
13 appointed by the commissioner: (1) The Commissioner of Public Health,
14 or the commissioner's designee; (2) a representative of the Connecticut

15 Funeral Directors Association, as designated by such association; (3) a
16 representative of crematory operators in the state, as designated by the
17 commissioner in conjunction with the Connecticut Funeral Directors
18 Association; (4) a representative from the Cremation Association of
19 North America, as designated by the commissioner in conjunction with
20 the Connecticut Funeral Directors Association; (5) a representative from
21 a crematory equipment supplier or manufacturer, as designated by the
22 commissioner in conjunction with the Connecticut Funeral Directors
23 Association; (6) a representative of a municipality with a crematory
24 located in the jurisdiction subject to permitting under section 22a-174 of
25 the general statutes; (7) a representative of an environmental
26 organization with expertise in air quality; (8) an individual with
27 expertise in mercury emissions, emissions modeling or atmospheric
28 science from an institution of higher education; and (9) any other
29 person, as deemed necessary by the commissioner, to fulfill the
30 purposes of this section.

31 (c) In undertaking its work for the purposes described in subsection
32 (a) of this section, the working group shall: (1) Review the requirements
33 of section 22a-174 of the general statutes and any regulations adopted
34 pursuant to said section, including section 22a-174-3a of the Regulations
35 of Connecticut State Agencies, as such requirements apply to
36 crematories; (2) review federal regulations and guidance, including
37 from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the
38 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and any other
39 state or local jurisdiction in the United States concerning mercury
40 emissions from crematories; (3) evaluate available data, emissions
41 factors and methodologies used to estimate mercury vapor emissions
42 and fine particulate matter emissions from the cremation of human
43 remains; (4) assess variability in mercury vapor emissions, including,
44 but not limited to, variability attributable to dental amalgam, operating
45 practices and emissions control technologies; (5) identify best available
46 practices and technologies for minimizing mercury vapor emissions and
47 fine particulate matter emissions from crematories; (6) evaluate the
48 manner in which emissions factors are used by the Department of

49 Energy and Environmental Protection in implementing section 22a-174
 50 of the general statutes, including, but not limited to, in permit
 51 application review and establishment of new setback guidelines for
 52 currently permitted crematories and whether updated factors are
 53 warranted; and (7) develop recommendations for mercury vapor
 54 emissions factors and fine particulate matter emissions factors and
 55 related guidance to be used by the department in carrying out its
 56 responsibilities under section 22a-174 of the general statutes.

57 (d) Not later than January 15, 2027, the working group shall submit a
 58 report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the
 59 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 60 matters relating to the environment. Such report shall include the
 61 findings and recommendations of the working group, including any
 62 legislative recommendations.

63 (e) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall
 64 provide administrative staff support to the working group.

65 (f) The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits the
 66 report required pursuant to subsection (d) of this section or January 15,
 67 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