



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Proposed Bill No. 5214

LCO No. 630



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:

REP. ANDERSON, 62nd Dist.

REP. CASE, 63rd Dist.

SEN. SEMINARA, 8th Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSERVATION OF CERTAIN WATERS
AND LANDS OF THE UPPER FARMINGTON RIVER.**

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

1 That the general statutes be amended to require the Department of
2 Energy and Environmental Protection to: (1) Conduct a study, within
3 available resources, to develop courses of action to conserve any land
4 and riparian rights in the Upper Farmington River Valley and its
5 watershed area, including Colebrook River Lake and any related
6 Metropolitan District Commission managed water supply bodies, in the
7 event that the Department of Public Health approves any applications
8 by the Metropolitan District Commission to abandon any waters and
9 watershed areas currently protected as a drinking water supply; (2)
10 consult stakeholder organizations that promote land conservation,
11 watershed area protection, fish and wildlife management and
12 recreation, as well as all municipalities in which the affected land and
13 waters are located; and (3) include in such study paths to land

- 14 acquisition, ways to optimize water flow for all users, and management
15 of existing hydroelectric power generation.

Statement of Purpose:

To explore and plan for ways to best conserve one of the state's largest remaining contiguous blocks of forested open space as well as to protect the federally designated Wild and Scenic Upper Farmington River.