



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 986

LCO No. 4987



Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 15-31b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) The purposes of the Connecticut Port Authority shall be to
5 coordinate the development of Connecticut's ports and harbors, with a
6 focus on private and public investments, pursue federal and state
7 funds for dredging and other infrastructure improvements to increase
8 cargo movement through the ports and maintain navigability of all
9 ports and harbors, market the economic development of such ports
10 and harbors, work with the Department of Economic and Community
11 Development and other state, local and private entities to maximize
12 the economic potential of the ports and harbors, support and enhance
13 the overall development of the state's maritime commerce and
14 industries, coordinate the planning and funding of capital projects
15 promoting the development of the ports and harbors, develop strategic
16 entrepreneurial initiatives that may be available to the state, coordinate

17 the state's maritime policy activities, serve as the Governor's principal
18 maritime policy advisor and undertake such other responsibilities as
19 may be assigned to it. To accomplish the purposes of the authority, the
20 authority shall have the duty and power to:

21 (1) Have perpetual succession as a body politic and corporate and to
22 adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its
23 business;

24 (2) Adopt an official seal and alter the same at pleasure;

25 (3) Maintain an office at such place or places as it may designate;

26 (4) Sue and be sued in its own name, and plead and be impleaded;

27 (5) Develop an organizational and management structure that will
28 best accomplish the goals of the authority concerning Connecticut
29 ports and harbors;

30 (6) Create a code of conduct for the board of directors of the
31 authority consistent with part I of chapter 10;

32 (7) Adopt rules for the conduct of its business, which shall not be
33 considered regulations as defined in section 4-166;

34 (8) Adopt an annual budget and plan of operations, including a
35 requirement of board approval before the budget or plan may take
36 effect;

37 (9) Make and enter into all contracts and agreements that are
38 necessary, desirable or incidental to the conduct of its business;

39 (10) Enter into joint ventures and invest in, and participate with, any
40 person or entity, including, [without limitation] but not limited to,
41 governmental or private business entities, in the formation, ownership,
42 management and operation of business entities, including stock and
43 nonstock corporations, limited liability companies and general and
44 limited partnerships, that are formed to advance the purposes of the

45 authority. The officers, employees and members of the board of
46 directors of the authority may serve, without compensation, as
47 directors or officers of any such business entities formed and such
48 service shall be deemed to be within the discharge of the duties of such
49 officers, employees or directors to the authority;

50 (11) Receive and accept, from any source, aid or contributions,
51 including money, property, labor and other things of value;

52 (12) Award grants and subsidies, make loans and provide other
53 forms of financial assistance to any person or entity [under a written
54 policy,] pursuant to a procedure adopted in accordance with the
55 provisions of section 1-121, setting forth the eligibility criteria,
56 application process, and such other provisions as may be necessary or
57 desirable to carry out the purposes of [this section] sections 15-31a to
58 15-31i, inclusive;

59 (13) Charge reasonable fees for the services it performs and waive,
60 suspend, reduce or otherwise modify such fees [in accordance with
61 written criteria established by the authority, and provided, that no
62 change may be made in fees without at least thirty days prior notice,
63 published] pursuant to a procedure adopted in accordance with the
64 provisions of section 1-121;

65 (14) Employ such assistants, agents and other employees as may be
66 necessary or desirable to carry out its purposes. (A) The executive
67 director and such employees shall be exempt from the classified
68 service and, except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this
69 subdivision, shall not be employees, as defined in subsection (b) of
70 section 5-270. The authority shall fix appropriate compensation for
71 such employees and establish all necessary or appropriate personnel
72 practices and policies, including those relating to hiring, promotion,
73 compensation, retirement and collective bargaining, which need not be
74 in accordance with chapter 68, and the authority shall not be an
75 employer, as defined in subsection (a) of section 5-270, and may
76 engage consultants, attorneys and appraisers as may be necessary or

77 desirable to carry out its purposes in accordance with sections 15-31a
78 to 15-31i, inclusive. (B) For purposes of group welfare benefits and
79 retirement, including, but not limited to, those provided under chapter
80 66 and sections 5-257 and 5-259, the officers and all other employees of
81 the authority shall be state employees. The authority shall reimburse
82 the appropriate state agencies for all costs incurred by such
83 designation;

84 (15) Invest in, acquire, lease, purchase, own, manage, hold and
85 dispose of real property and lease, convey or deal in or enter into
86 agreements with respect to such property on any terms necessary or
87 incidental to carrying out the purposes of sections 15-31a to 15-31i,
88 inclusive, provided such transactions shall not be subject to approval,
89 review or regulation by any state agency pursuant to title 4b or any
90 other provision of the general statutes, except the authority shall not
91 convey fee simple ownership in any property associated with the ports
92 or harbors under its jurisdiction and control without the approval of
93 the State Properties Review Board and the Attorney General; and

94 (16) Adopt any [policies and] procedures necessary to carry out the
95 provisions of [this section] sections 15-31a to 15-31i, inclusive, in
96 accordance with the provisions of section 1-121.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	15-31b(a)

TRA *Joint Favorable*