

To: David Deen, Chair
House Committee on Fish, Wildlife & Water Resources

From: Mark Perrault, JFO

Date: February 11, 2014

Subject: H.590 – Relating to the safety and regulation of dams

H.590 as introduced would create an annual registration fee on persons registering a dam with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) on or before January 1, 2015. Registration fees collected under the bill would be deposited into the Environmental Permit Fund.

DEC classifies dams according to their potential for causing loss of life and property damage in the area downstream of the dam if it were to fail. A jurisdictional dam is one capable of impounding more than 500,000 cubic feet.

Under the bill, dams would be assessed a fee based on the dam’s hazard classification. As indicated in the following table, the proposed fee structure would raise \$647,050 annually:

Hazard Level	Fee	Jurisdictional Dams	Non-Jurisdictional Dams	Annual Revenue
Low	\$400	289	99	\$155,200
Unknown	\$600	0	571	\$342,600
Significant	\$750	113	6	\$89,250
High	\$1,500	39	1	<u>\$60,000</u>
Total				\$647,050