



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 148**

February Session, 2026



**AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO AQUACULTURE-RELATED STATUTES.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 26-192e of the general  
2 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (b) The department shall [, by written order, promulgate] determine  
5 definite bounds of the area or areas closed to shellfishing when  
6 classified as conditional-closed, conditionally restricted, restricted or  
7 prohibited. Such [order] determination shall become effective when (1)  
8 [the closure classification is published in a newspaper having circulation  
9 in towns, cities and boroughs in which or adjacent to which any such  
10 area is situated; (2)] the classification is filed in writing or electronically  
11 in the offices of the clerk and the director of health in each such town,  
12 city or borough, [and (3)] (2) signs are posted at points on or near every  
13 such classified area, and (3) notice of the closure is posted on the  
14 department's Internet web site.

15 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section,  
16 when the Commissioner of Agriculture, after consultation with the  
17 Commissioner of Public Health, finds that tidal flats, shores or coastal  
18 waters which may contain shellfish are so contaminated or polluted that

19 a health emergency exists, [he] the commissioner may close such area  
20 for the duration of such emergency by giving notice of such emergency  
21 closure [(1)] in writing to the municipal or district health authority [, and  
22 (2) to the general public by publication in a newspaper having general  
23 circulation in the town, city or borough within which such area lies] and  
24 any applicable municipal shellfish commission. Such notice shall state  
25 when the closing shall take effect.

26 Sec. 2. Section 26-206 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective from*  
27 *passage*)

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|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                     |                    |
| Section 1   | <i>from passage</i> | 26-192e(b) and (c) |
| Sec. 2  | <i>from passage</i> | Repealer section   |

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*