



House of Representatives

File No. 688

General Assembly

January Session, 2021

(Reprint of File No. 381)

Substitute House Bill No. 6302
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 14, 2021

**AN ACT STUDYING THE CONSOLIDATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY
ANSWERING POINTS.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study the current system of public safety answering points and make
3 recommendations for consolidating such answering points while
4 prioritizing the need to ensure public safety. The task force shall
5 consider and make recommendations regarding: (1) The establishment
6 of state goals regarding consolidation, (2) the definition of regional
7 public safety answering point, (3) any challenges to consolidation
8 presented by existing collective bargaining agreements, (4) issues that
9 may arise in municipalities that would no longer have an individual
10 physically located within the municipality to act as a dispatcher at all
11 times after consolidation, (5) timeframes for consolidation, (6) where
12 and how to locate regional public safety answering points, (7) ways to
13 enhance the skills of telecommunicators, as defined in section 28-30 of
14 the general statutes, and personnel providing emergency medical

15 dispatch, as defined in section 28-25 of the general statutes, including
16 recommendations regarding training standards and performance
17 accountability, (8) the governance structure for regional public safety
18 answering points, and (9) any other related issues the task force deems
19 appropriate.

20 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

21 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
22 one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Conference of
23 Municipalities and one of whom is a representative of a labor
24 organization representing employees of public safety answering points;

25 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
26 whom is a representative of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association
27 and one of whom is a representative of the Uniformed Professional Fire
28 Fighters Association of Connecticut;

29 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of
30 Representatives, one of whom is a member of the joint standing
31 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
32 relating to public safety and security and one of whom is a current or
33 former director of a regional public safety answering point;

34 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of whom
35 is a representative of the Managers of Emergency Communication
36 Centers Association and one of whom is a representative of the
37 Connecticut Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board;

38 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
39 Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Fire
40 Chiefs Association and one of whom is a representative of the
41 Connecticut Council of Small Towns;

42 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
43 is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Councils of
44 Government and one of whom is a member of the joint standing

45 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
46 relating to planning and development;

47 (7) The commanding officer of the Division of State Police within the
48 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or the
49 commanding officer's designee;

50 (8) The director of the Division of State-Wide Emergency
51 Telecommunications within the Department of Emergency Services and
52 Public Protection, or the director's designee; and

53 (9) The undersecretary of the Intergovernmental Policy and Planning
54 Division within the Office of Policy and Management, or the
55 undersecretary's designee.

56 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
57 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
58 of the General Assembly.

59 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
60 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
61 be filled by the appointing authority.

62 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
63 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
64 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
65 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
66 days after the effective date of this section. Such chairpersons may
67 establish subcommittees of the members as needed and designate a
68 chairperson of each such subcommittee.

69 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
70 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety
71 and security shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

72 (g) The task force shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of
73 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of
74 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public

75 safety and security and planning and development: (1) An interim
76 report on the findings and recommendations of the task force not later
77 than February 1, 2022, and (2) a final report on the findings and
78 recommendations of the task force not later than January 1, 2023. The
79 task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such final report or
80 January 1, 2023, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

The amendment strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact.

House "A" establishes a fifteen member task force to study the current system of public safety answering points and make recommendations for consolidating such answering points while prioritizing the need to ensure public safety.

The task force shall submit an interim report on the findings and recommendations to the Public Safety and Planning and Development committees by February 1, 2022, and a final report not later than January 1, 2023.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6302 (as amended by House "A")

***AN ACT STUDYING THE CONSOLIDATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY
ANSWERING POINTS.***

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 24 Nay 0 (03/24/2021)