



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 503**

January Session, 2021

House Bill No. 6575

*House of Representatives, April 19, 2021*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. FOX of the 148th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING RISK-LIMITING AUDITS FOR ELECTION RESULTS.***

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 working  
2 group to (1) examine employing risk-limiting audits to determine the  
3 accuracy of election results, including (A) the feasibility of  
4 implementing such audits, (B) the different methods used in such audits  
5 and the practical considerations for implementation of each such  
6 method within the existing statutory framework, (C) any potential  
7 equipment necessary to implement one or more of such methods, (D)  
8 the procedures necessary to implement one or more of such methods,  
9 and (E) any changes to such statutory framework necessary to  
10 implement one or more of such methods, and (2) within available  
11 appropriations, oversee a pilot program in not less than five and not  
12 more than ten municipalities of one or more of such methods for the  
13 municipal elections held in such municipalities in 2021.

- 14 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:
- 15 (1) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee, who shall  
16 be the chairperson of such working group;
- 17 (2) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 18 (3) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- 19 (4) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
20 Representatives;
- 21 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
- 22 (6) Two appointed by the chairpersons and ranking members of the  
23 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
24 matters relating to elections, each of whom shall be enrolled in a  
25 different political party from the other;
- 26 (7) Two appointed by the Secretary of the State, one of whom shall be  
27 admitted to the practice of law in this state and have expertise in the  
28 election laws of this state, and the other of whom shall be a statistician;
- 29 (8) Two appointed by the president of the Registrars of Voters  
30 Association of Connecticut, each of whom shall be enrolled in a different  
31 political party from the other; and
- 32 (9) The director of the Center for Voting Technology Research at The  
33 University of Connecticut, or the director's designee.
- 34 (c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision  
35 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
36 of the General Assembly.
- 37 (d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not  
38 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy  
39 shall be filled by the appointing authority.
- 40 (e) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee, as

41 chairperson of the working group, shall schedule the first meeting of  
42 such working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after  
43 the effective date of this section.

44 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
45 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections  
46 shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

47 (g) Not later than January 31, 2022, the working group shall submit a  
48 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
49 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
50 relating to elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
51 of the general statutes, and to the Secretary of the State. The working  
52 group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January  
53 31, 2022, whichever is later.

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

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable*

*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.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:**

<b>Municipalities</b>	<b>Effect</b>	<b>FY 22 \$</b>	<b>FY 23 \$</b>
Various Municipalities	Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

**Explanation**

This bill establishes a working group to examine employing risk-limiting audits to determine the accuracy of election results and to oversee a pilot program in five to ten municipalities for risk-limiting audits for the municipal elections held in such municipalities in 2021.

The working group provision has no fiscal impact as PA 17-236 prohibits transportation allowances for working group members.

A municipality may incur minimal costs to take part in the pilot program; however, as the pilot program is voluntary it is assumed that a municipality would participate only to the extent it has available resources.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**HB 6575**

***AN ACT CONCERNING RISK-LIMITING AUDITS FOR ELECTION RESULTS.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19    Nay 0    (03/31/2021)