

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sSB-292

AN ACT CONCERNING HEATING EFFICIENCY IN NEW
CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR ALTERATIONS OF RESIDENTIAL
BUILDINGS.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 5400

File Copy No.: 245

Senate Calendar No.: 196

OFA Fiscal Note

Potential Cost

The amendment adds provisions which could result in significant costs to the Department of Housing (DOH).

Beginning in the 2023 regular legislative session, the amendment requires the Commissioner of Housing to prepare a housing impact statement on any bill concerning housing at the request of any member of the General Assembly. Any impact statement shall consider the bill's impact on 1) the cost of housing in the state, 2) new housing production in the state, and 3) minority residents of the state, and should include analyses or projections, as applicable, of the potential return on investment for any funds to be expended pursuant to the bill. The commissioner must complete the requested statement before any bill subject to a request appears on the calendar of either chamber.

The annual cost to DOH will depend on the number and type of impact statements requested. It is not clear from the amendment if impact statements must project numerical impacts. DOH lacks the staff capacity to prepare a moderate number of qualitative impact statements, and lacks both the capacity and expertise to prepare any number of statements with numerical impacts (for example, the increase to average housing costs or a rate of return on state costs). To the extent

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the housing impact statements require quantitative analysis to project numerical impacts, the amendment results in significant costs to DOH. It is anticipated that DOH would need to hire consultants and/or several additional staff with statistical modeling expertise to prepare such projections, and that any costs for consultants would be significantly increased because of the short amount of time allowed for such statements to be prepared. If non-quantitative housing impact statements are permitted, DOH is anticipated to incur additional staff costs depending on request volume and may incur consultant costs for some impact statements.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does 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.