



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 627

January Session, 2023

House Bill No. 6909

House of Representatives, April 17, 2023

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. BLUMENTHAL of the 147th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING COMMUNITY OUTREACH BY STATE AGENCIES REGARDING APPROPRIATE TERMINOLOGY.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "state agency" means any department, board, council, commission,
3 institution or other executive branch agency of state government,
4 including, but not limited to, each constituent unit and each public
5 institution of higher education.

6 (b) Prior to a state agency commencing the use of any term to describe
7 or identify a particular community based on ethnicity, religious
8 affiliation, race, gender identity or sexual orientation in an official
9 communication to the public or on a form to be completed by the public,
10 the state agency shall attempt to solicit feedback from the members or
11 representatives of such community regarding whether the use of such
12 term is appropriate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	New section
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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.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Various State Agencies	Various - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: Various=Various

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill results in a potential cost by requiring state agencies to solicit feedback on the terminology used to describe particular demographic groups from that community prior to using them on official state forms. To the extent that certain communities' requests changes in the forms terminology, there would be a resulting cost to the impacted state agency.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of terminology changes requested and the amount of printing costs associated with those changes.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6909*****AN ACT CONCERNING COMMUNITY OUTREACH BY STATE AGENCIES REGARDING APPROPRIATE TERMINOLOGY.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires state agencies to try to solicit feedback before using, in official communications to the public or on forms to be completed by the public, any term that describes or identifies a particular community based on ethnicity, religious affiliation, race, gender identity, or sexual orientation. They must specifically solicit members or representatives of a respective community as to whether using a term is appropriate.

Under the bill, a “state agency” is any department, board, council, commission, institution, or other state executive branch agency, including constituent units and public higher education institutions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/27/2023)