

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5448

AN ACT CONCERNING SECURITY OF CERTAIN ELECTION WORKERS AND ELECTIONS-RELATED LOCATIONS.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 25 \$	FY 26 \$
Judicial Dept. (Probation); Correction, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes a variety of changes related to security of election workers and results in the fiscal impacts described below.

Section 1 expands protections from personal address disclosure to municipal town clerks, registrar of voters, and election officials from within a narrow timeframe around elections and results in no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

Section 2 creates a new class D felony for possessing a weapon near an election site, which results in a potential cost to the Department of Correction and the Judicial Department for incarceration or probation and a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines. On average, the marginal cost to the state for incarcerating an offender for

the year is \$3,300¹ while the average marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$800² each year for adults and \$1,000 each year for juveniles.

Section 3 expands an existing class C felony to include influencing or attempting to influence an election worker³ and creates a new class A misdemeanor for publicly disclosing an election worker's personal information. This results in a potential cost to the Department of Correction and the Judicial Department for incarceration or probation and a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines, as described above.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of violations.

¹Inmate marginal cost is based on increased consumables (e.g., food, clothing, water, sewage, living supplies, etc.). This does not include a change in staffing costs or utility expenses because these would only be realized if a unit or facility opened.

²Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

³Since FY 14, there have not been any charges under CGS 9-364a.