

# Planning and Development Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-5273

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL POLICY AND PLANNING DIVISION WITHIN THE

**Title:** OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT.

**Vote Date:** 3/15/2024

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 2/28/2024

**File No.:**

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Planning and Development Committee

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

HB-5273 seeks to update and clarify language, obsolete language tax collector statements, revaluations, reporting periods including who reports to Office of Policy Management (OPM) on Totally Disabled, and pushing the Renter's Rebate application deadline to September 30th to eliminate the need for OPM to pro-rate payments. This bill also addresses removing OPM from unnecessary processes regarding the Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPIP) that previously required municipalities to submit waivers for small grants unrelated to land use. These changes clarify grant requirements and accommodate for the length of the project.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

[Martin L. Heft, Undersecretary, Office of Policy and Management](#)

Heft voices OPM's support for this bill and its updates to assessment, tax collection, revaluation phase-in, discretionary fund threshold, regional performance incentive program and renters' rebate and elimination of obsolete language.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

The following praised the bill for improving and streamlining the grant application process of RPIP, making the cost share more flexible. They believe this will cut on long term costs of

municipalities government services and incentives more governments to apply to implement effective projects. Northeastern strongly suggests extending the grant period because some projects may take longer than the current time frame:

[Matthew W. Hart, Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments](#)  
[Francis R. Pickering, Executive Director, Western Connecticut Council of Governments](#)  
[John Filchak, Executive Director, Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments](#)  
[Brian O'Connor, Director of Public Policy, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities](#)

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

The following are in opposition, specifically lines 190-192 and 213-219 of the bills. These lines remove the collaboration process between towns and unions. Both parties suggest implementing language to facilitate this process:

[James Demetriades, Attorney, Ferguson, Doyle & Chester P.C.](#)  
[Zak Leavy, Legislative Director, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 4](#)

**Reported by: Kevin Caruth**

**Date: 04/1/2024**