House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 463

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 7053

House of Representatives, April 2, 2025

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. BOYD of the 50th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP UNIFORM STATUTORY DEFINITIONS OF "FIRST RESPONDER" AND "ESSENTIAL WORKER".

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working group to develop uniform statutory definitions of the terms "first responder" and "essential worker".

(b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

(1) Any persons appointed by the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security who the chairpersons and ranking members determine may serve as sources of information and data to accomplish the purposes of the working group;

(2) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or the commissioner's designee;

(3) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

(4) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee; and

(5) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee.

(c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security shall select the chairpersons of the working group from among the members of the working group. Such chairpersons of the working group shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

(g) Not later than January 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2026, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	*from passage*	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:
In Subsec. (b), the subdivisions were reordered for consistency with standard drafting conventions and Subdiv. (1) was rewritten for clarity; and in Subsec. (c), "(5)" was changed to "(1)" for consistency with the provisions of Subsec. (b).

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which establishes a working group to develop uniform statutory definitions of the terms "first responder" and "essential worker," results in no fiscal impact because the working group has the expertise to meet the requirements of the bill.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7053

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP UNIFORM STATUTORY DEFINITIONS OF "FIRST RESPONDER" AND "ESSENTIAL WORKER".

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/18/2025)