

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

HB-7093

AN ACT CONCERNING REFERENDA, INDEPENDENT  
EXPENDITURES AND OTHER CAMPAIGN FINANCE CHANGES.

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## ***OFA Fiscal Note***

### ***State Impact:***

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 26 \$</b>	<b>FY 27 \$</b>
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Resources of the Citizen's Election Fund	CEF - Potential Savings	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund CEF= Citizens' Election Fund

***Municipal Impact:*** None

### ***Explanation***

The bill makes a variety of changes regarding campaign finance and election laws including independent expenditures and political action committees resulting in the fiscal impacts outlined below.

**Section 4**, raises existing campaign finance reporting thresholds and makes a variety of changes around disclosures and campaign filings and increases the civil penalties that the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) may impose resulting in potential revenue to the resources of the general fund. The bill increases the maximum penalty for failing to report an independent expenditure from \$10,000 to \$20,000 or twice the amount of the unreported independent expenditure. The bill also raises existing penalties for willful failure to file from a maximum of \$50,000 to a maximum of \$50,000 or ten times the unreported independent expenditure. The potential revenue will depend on the total number of violations and the penalties imposed.

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Reviewer: PR

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This section additionally expands what may be considered a false statement, which results in potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines. Few, if any, additional violations are expected to occur.

**Section 22**, creates an additional requirement that candidates participating in the Citizen's Election Program (CEP) receive a number of qualifying contributions from in-state residents resulting in potential minimal savings for the resources of the Citizens' Election Fund. The exact impact will depend on the number of candidates who would no longer qualify for grants because of this provision.

The remaining sections of the bill make a variety of changes that result in no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the number of penalties imposed.