

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7150

AN ACT CONCERNING JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Secretary of the State	GF - Cost	1,600	1,600

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill defines official misconduct by justices of the peace and assigns liability under certain conditions. In addition, the bill expands the Secretary of the State's (SOTS) oversight role, resulting in a minimal cost to the SOTS, and a potential cost to municipalities.

The bill expands SOTS administration and oversight of justices of the peace, resulting in a cost of \$1,600 in FY 26 and FY 27. This cost is associated with required annual e-licenses to maintain the testing program.

The bill may result in a potential cost to municipalities beginning in FY 26 to the extent they are found liable for a justice's misconduct, as the bill makes a justice's employer liable for damages that occur due to a justice's misconduct under certain circumstances.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the number of municipalities held responsible for a justice's misconduct.