

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7259

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO VARIOUS STATUTES CONCERNING CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

As Amended by House "A" (LCO 8913)

House Calendar No.: 508

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 26 \$ | FY 27 \$ |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Correction, Dept. | GF - Potential Savings | Minimal | Minimal |
| Judicial Dept. (Probation) | GF - Potential Cost/Savings | Minimal | Minimal |
| Resources of the General Fund | GF - Potential Revenue Impact | Minimal | Minimal |

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

| Municipalities | Effect | FY 26 \$ | FY 27 \$ |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| All Municipalities | Potential Cost | See Below | See Below |

Explanation

The bill makes various changes to criminal justice laws, resulting in the following fiscal impacts.

Section 3 reduces the penalty for a first offense of failure to appear in the second degree from a class A misdemeanor to a class D misdemeanor. Subsequent offenses continue to be a class A misdemeanor. This results in a potential savings to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue loss to the General Fund from fines beginning in FY 26. On average, the marginal cost for

supervision in the community is less than \$600¹ each year for adults and \$450 each year for juveniles.

Section 5 requires that individuals receive a sentence reduction for their time of imprisonment in other states under certain circumstances, resulting in a potential savings to the Department of Correction beginning in FY 26, to the extent that these individuals spend less time incarcerated in Connecticut correctional facilities. On average, the marginal cost to the state for incarcerating an offender for the year is \$3,300.²

Section 6 results in a potential cost to municipalities beginning in FY 26 to the extent they are subject to an action brought in superior court. Any cost will be dependent on court costs and attorney's fees associated with the action.

Section 10 increases penalties under the Liquor Control Act to class C misdemeanors for a first offense and class B misdemeanors for subsequent offenses in a potential cost to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue impact³ to the General Fund from fines beginning in FY 26.

Section 11 creates a new class C misdemeanor for knowingly allowing a person under legal age to engage in online gaming or sports wagering resulting in a potential cost to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines beginning in FY 26.

The bill makes various other changes that are not anticipated to result

¹ Probation 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.

² Inmate marginal cost is based on increased consumables (e.g., food, clothing, water, sewage, living supplies, etc.).

³ Under current law, these violations may be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,000. Under the amendment, such violations would be subject to a fine of up to \$500 for the first offense and up to \$1,000 for subsequent offenses.

in an impact to the state.

House "A" strikes the language of the underlying bill resulting in the fiscal impact described above.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, the number of sentence reductions, violations, and litigation against municipalities.