

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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

sSB-3

AN ACT CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION AND SAFETY.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Cost	None	83,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	None	29,620
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

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

Explanation

The bill makes various changes to consumer protection statutes resulting in the impacts described below.

Sections 1-2 make various requirements regarding total price disclosure and connected device disclosures and make violations an unfair trade practice resulting in a cost to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). To meet the requirements of the bill DCP will have to hire one special investigator for a salary and other expenses cost of

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

\$83,000 in FY 27² along with an associated fringe benefit cost of \$29,620 in FY 27. The additional employee is needed to review complaints and conduct investigations for any violations of these sections.

Sections 3 and 5 make various right to repair and price gouging regulations and make violations an unfair trade practice enforced solely by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) resulting in no fiscal impact to the state. The OAG has the resources and expertise to meet the requirements of the bill.

Section 4 requires municipalities to register a ".gov" internet top-level domain and redirect any existing Internet web site addresses maintained by such municipality to the new ".gov" domain. This results in a potential cost to various municipalities in FY 25 to the extent they do not have the necessary staff to transition to a .gov domain.

Currently, 116 of Connecticut's 169 municipalities do not have a ".gov" top-level domain and would need to register a new domain with such designation. There is no registration cost for entities eligible for the ".gov" designation. There is no fiscal impact to municipalities that already use a .gov domain or have the staff necessary to complete the transition to the new domain.

For towns without the resources to complete the transition, there is a federal grant program administered by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency within the United States Department of Homeland Security that assists with the transition process.³

Section 6 removes a \$99 fine for price gouging violations resulting in a potential minimal revenue loss to the state to the extent violations occur.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would

²Costs begin in FY 27 due to the 7/1/2026 effective date of these sections.

³<https://www.cisa.gov/state-and-local-cybersecurity-grant-program>

continue into the future subject to inflation, employee wage increases, and the number of violations.