

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200

Hartford, CT 06106 ◇ (860) 240-0200

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

sSB-1179

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY MAKERSPACE INITIATIVE PROGRAM.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Department of Economic & Community Development	GF - Cost	190,000	190,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	77,349	77,349
Treasurer, Debt Serv.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in an annual cost of \$267,349 to the state by requiring the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to establish and administer a pilot program to provide financial assistance associated with "makerspaces." The bill also results in a potential cost associated with accelerated debt service by requiring \$1 million to be made available from the Connecticut Manufacturing Innovation Fund (MIF), a state bond funded program, towards this pilot program.

Administrative Costs

DECD will require two full-time positions at an annual cost of \$267,349 (\$190,000 for salary and \$77,349 for fringe benefits) to

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.

administer the program. The duties of the staff include developing an application process, marketing the program, seeking out other funding sources, and reporting on the effectiveness of the program.

Program Funding

The bill requires \$1 million to be made available from MIF, which is supported by General Obligation (GO) bond funds, towards the pilot program. Future General Fund debt service costs may be incurred sooner under the bill to the degree that it causes authorized GO bond funds to be expended more rapidly than they otherwise would have been.

As of April 1, 2025, there is no unallocated balance available towards MIF. This bill does not change GO bond authorizations relevant to the program. SB 1247, the Governor's FY 26 and FY 27 bond authorization bill, authorizes \$20 million in FY 26 and \$25 million in FY 27 towards MIF.

The bill also allows DECD to explore other means of funding such program, including, but not limited to, public-private partnerships, grant programs and federal funds or state funds.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and subject to the terms of any bonds issued.