Appropriations Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.:SB-1526
AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR STATETitle:MARSHALS.Vote Date:4/24/2025Vote Action:JOINT FAVORABLEPH Date:3/28/2025File No.:Image: State St

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Appropriations Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill extends state employee health care benefits to state marshals. A study conducted in 2023 found that offering healthcare benefits to state marshals can improve recruitment efforts and diversity in hiring.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Jeffrey Beckham, Secretary- Office of Policy & Management

OPM opposes HB 1526 as state marshals are not considered state employees, they are public officials who are compensated on a fee-for-service basis. OPM estimates the initial cost would be over \$2.5 million in the first full year.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Arthur Quinn- Chairman- State Marshals Advisory Board

Supports this bill and testified to his experience being shot during the performance of his duties as a state marshal in October of 2009 and the long-term health and financial impact to his family.

Ed Hawthorne- President- Connecticut AFL-CIO

Supports HB 1526 as a necessary benefit to provide state marshals in order to improve recruitment and retention for the job.

Brian Mezick- President- State Marshal Association of CT

Provided testimony that the aging population of state marshals in Connecticut and the unique status and function of marshals in the state government has limited access to health benefits.

(13) state marshal's provided supporting testimony for this bill-

Phyllis Airey- Hartford County Madison Beggs- New Haven County Suzann Corbett- Litchfield County Julianne Ingham- Litchfield County Kevin McNeil- Fairfield County Tim Poloski- Tolland County Louis Sullivan- New London County Robert Bradley- Fairfield County Richard Fry- New Haven County Connor Lilly- Hartford County Nick Poppiti- New London County Lisa Stevenson- Ex-Officio state marshal commission Kevin Wakley- Windham County

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Beverly Allen-provides opposing testimony

Reported by: Chris Reddy

Date: April 30, 2025