

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 7186

January Session, 2025

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM CONCERNING THE USE OF BODY SCANNING MACHINES IN CERTAIN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AND REQUIRING REPORTS CONCERNING STRIP AND CAVITY SEARCHES IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (Effective from passage) (a) Not later than December 31, 2025, 2 the Commissioner of Correction shall (1) purchase at least two body 3 scanning machines, and install at least one at the York Correctional 4 Institution and at least one at the John R. Manson Youth Institution, 5 Cheshire, and (2) establish a pilot program and directives that prioritize 6 using such machines to inspect persons who are incarcerated in said 7 institutions in lieu of correctional personnel conducting strip searches 8 or cavity searches when such searches are typically performed, 9 according to the existing directives. As part of such pilot program, the 10 commissioner shall train correctional personnel in the use of such 11 machines and collect data concerning such use.

(b) Not later than February 15, 2027, the Commissioner of Correction
shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General
Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and
government oversight. Such report shall include, but need not be
limited to, (1) the total number of body scans performed by the body

18 scanning machines during the 2026 calendar year based upon the reason 19 for the scan, by month, (2) the number of strip or cavity searches 20 conducted during the 2026 calendar year, by month, (3) the total number 21 of such body scans that discovered contraband material, by month, (4) 22 the types and material of contraband discovered during such period, 23 differentiated by the type of search or scan performed, (5) the use of any 24 additional screening subsequent to the implementation of the body 25 scanning machines, including a strip search, placement on a dry cell 26 watch, urinalysis or medical assessment to confirm contraband was not 27 present, and (6) any recommendations for legislative changes based 28 upon the results of such pilot program.

29 Sec. 2. (Effective from passage) Not later than February 15, 2026, the 30 Commissioner of Correction shall submit a report, in accordance with 31 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint 32 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of 33 matters relating to the judiciary and government oversight. Such report 34 shall include an evaluation of current directives and procedures for strip 35 searches and cavity searches in correctional institutions in the state 36 compared to other states in the northeastern region and federal policies, 37 based on the type of institution, and highlight any differences in such 38 directives and procedures.

Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes described in subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate five hundred thousand dollars.

(b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount
stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Department
of Correction for the purpose of purchasing two body scanning
machines, installing such machines and training corrections staff on
their use in accordance with the provisions of section 1 of this act.

49 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise

50 of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the 51 provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all 52 bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this 53 section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived 54 from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in 55 accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from time to 56 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not 57 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided 58 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond 59 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be 60 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that 61 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed 62 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management 63 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its 64 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall 65 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state 66 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and 67 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as 68 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds, 69 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such 70 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay 71 such principal and interest as the same become due.

72 Sec. 4. (NEW) (Effective from passage) On or before January 1, 2026, and 73 annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Correction shall submit a 74 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general 75 statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly 76 having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and government 77 oversight, concerning the conduct of strip and cavity searches in such 78 facilities. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The 79 number of strip searches and cavity searches of persons who are 80 incarcerated that have occurred during the prior calendar year, 81 disaggregated by correctional facility, (2) whether there have been any 82 lawsuits filed concerning such strip searches or cavity searches during 83 the year immediately preceding such report and, if so, the status or

- 84 outcome of such lawsuits, and (3) a copy of the current policy 85 concerning the conduct of such searches, including any training 86 requirements for correctional officers concerning the conduct of such 87 searches.
 - This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:Section 1from passageNew sectionSec. 2from passageNew sectionSec. 3July 1, 2025New sectionSec. 4from passageNew section
 - GOS Joint Favorable Subst.
 - FIN Joint Favorable