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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **HB 6534**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING APPOINTMENTS TO MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITIES.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill changes who is responsible for appointing commissioners to a housing authority's board in municipalities that are not towns. Under current law, housing authority commissioners are appointed by (1) the town council or board of selectmen, if applicable, or (2) if the municipality is not a town, the chief executive officer (CEO).

The bill transfers appointment authority from the CEO to the local legislative body. This means that under the bill, in all municipalities, the appointing authority is the local legislative body (or the board of selectmen if the legislative body is a town meeting).

By law, the appointing authority is also responsible for appointing a tenant commissioner under certain circumstances, if one is not elected or chosen by tenants or a tenant organization (CGS § 8-41(c)). Additionally, existing law allows the appointing authority to remove a commissioner for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct in office (CGS § 8-43).

The bill also makes minor, technical, and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Municipal Housing Authorities***

State law establishes a housing authority in every municipality. But a housing authority may only operate if the municipality's governing body declares by resolution that there is a need for the authority after finding there (1) are unsanitary or unsafe occupied apartments or homes in the municipality or (2) is a shortage of sanitary or safe affordable

rental housing available to low- or moderate-income families. A housing authority's powers are vested in locally appointed commissioners who govern the authority (CGS § 8-40).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12    Nay 8    (03/28/2025)