OLR Bill Analysis HB 7144

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS FROM THE REGIONAL PLANNING INCENTIVE ACCOUNT TO EACH REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE HIRING OF CERTAIN PERSONNEL.

SUMMARY

Beginning with the 2026 fiscal year, this bill increases by \$400,000 the regional services grant amount that each regional council of governments (COG) annually receives from the Regional Planning Incentive Account. Each COG must use this additional amount to fund three positions, including a regional building inspector to provide technical support for planning and developing housing. Under current law, the regional services grants to the nine COGs must total \$7 million each year, with each receiving a base amount and per-capita amount.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Regional Planning Incentive Account

The Regional Planning Incentive Account is a separate, nonlapsing General Fund account funded by 6.7% of the revenue generated by the room occupancy tax and 10.7% of the revenue generated by the rental car tax (CGS § 12-411(1)(J)).

Related Bill

SB 1186 (File 201), favorably reported by the Planning and Development Committee, primarily increases the per-capita portion of the regional services grant calculation if the consumer price index increases.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 15 Nay 4 (03/21/2025)