

## OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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

HB-6990

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE OF  
DIGITAL WALLETS AND VIRTUAL CURRENCY.

### AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 7502

File Copy No.: 270

House Calendar No.: 193

### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

#### ***State Impact:***

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Criminal Justice, Div.	GF - Potential Cost	up to \$100,000	None
State Revenues	Various - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Correction, Dept.; Judicial Dept. (Probation)	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund; Various=Various

#### ***Municipal Impact:***

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Various Municipal Police Departments	Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
All Municipalities	Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

### ***Explanation***

The amendment strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact. The amendment, which clarifies that digital wallets and virtual currency are subject to certain property laws, results in 1) a potential

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cost to the Division of Criminal Justice for electronic notifications, 2) a potential revenue gain to the state, to local police departments, and to municipalities for new property subject to forfeiture, 3) a potential cost to the Department of Correction and to the Judicial Department for incarceration or probation, and 4) a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines.

The amendment allows the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) to issue electronic notices related to the seizure of digital wallets and virtual currency including posting such notice online. Should DCJ choose to employ these electronic options, the amendment results in a potential cost of up to \$100,00 in FY 26 to DCJ to the extent that a consultant may be needed to develop a web page for posting these notices.

The amendment also includes digital wallets and virtual currency in forfeiture processes which results in a potential revenue gain to the state and to municipalities to the extent that this subjects more property to the forfeiture process.

The amendment also results in a potential cost to the Department of Correction and the Judicial Department for incarceration or probation and a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines to the extent that additional violations are prosecuted. On average, the marginal cost to the state for incarcerating an offender for the year is \$3,300<sup>1</sup> while the average marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$600<sup>2</sup> each year for adults and \$450 each year for juveniles.

*The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is*

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<sup>1</sup> Inmate marginal cost is based on increased consumables (e.g., food, clothing, water, sewage, living supplies, etc.) This does not include a change in staffing costs or utility expenses because these would only be realized if a unit or facility opened.

<sup>2</sup> Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

*consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

*Sources: State Laws on Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering (OLR Research Report)  
2024-R-0110*