

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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HB-7042

## AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIREARM INDUSTRY RESPONSIBILITY ACT.

### AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 7477

File Copy No.: 766

House Calendar No.: 479

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

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

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Emergency Services and Public Protection, Dept.	GF - Cost	414,000 - 1,035,000	552,000 - 1,380,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	174,333 - 435,833	232,444 - 581,111
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Judicial Dept. (Probation)	GF - Potential Savings	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

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

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Municipal Police Departments; Various Municipalities	STATE MANDATE <sup>2</sup> - Cost	Potential Significant	Potential Significant

<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26. The estimated active hazardous duty employee fringe benefit cost is 49.15% of payroll in FY 26.

<sup>2</sup> State mandate is defined in Sec. 2-32b(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, "state mandate" means any state initiated constitutional, statutory or executive action that

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(SM)

All Municipalities	Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
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### ***Explanation***

**Sections 1-3** require firearm industry members to implement "reasonable controls" to prevent certain illegal activities and ensure compliance with firearm-related laws and allows the individuals harmed by violations, municipalities, and Office of the Attorney General to initiate civil lawsuits for violations, resulting in a potential revenue gain to the state and to municipalities to the extent violations occur.

The court system disposes of over 250,000 cases annually and the number of cases is not anticipated to be great enough to need additional resources.

**Sections 4-6**, which add certain misdemeanor convictions that occur in other jurisdictions to the list of disqualifying offenses that prohibit a person from being issued long gun and handgun eligibility certificates and handgun permits, result in an annual cost to the state ranging from \$784,444 to \$1,961,111 and potentially significant costs to municipal police departments and various municipalities beginning in the second quarter of FY 26.

The total cost to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) is estimated to range from \$414,000 to \$1,035,000 in FY 26 and \$552,000 to \$1,380,000 in FY 27. To determine whether certain misdemeanors of other jurisdictions fall within the amendment's applicability, the department will need to formally request records from such jurisdictions and make a subjective interpretation of such offenses. This additional review will require DESPP to hire four to ten Staff Attorneys and two to five Troopers First Class.<sup>3</sup> These positions will

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requires a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

<sup>3</sup> Annually, DESPP receives an average of 68,000 applications that would be subject to the bill's provisions. It is assumed that 2-5% of applicants will have a misdemeanor on

incur costs to the State Comptroller of \$174,333 to \$435,833 in FY 26 and \$232,444 to \$581,111 in FY 27 for fringe benefits. Equipment expenses for these positions are expected to range from \$20,000 to \$50,000 annually.

The cost to municipal police departments and various municipalities (that do not have police departments) will depend on the number of applications for temporary permits that such municipal authorities receive. Like DESPP, they will require additional sworn and legal staff hours to review applications that are subject to the amendment's requirements.

**Sections 7 and 8**, which exclude the intentional discharge of a firearm in self-defense or the defense of others from a class C misdemeanor for unlawfully discharging a firearm, results in a potential savings to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue loss to the General Fund from fines.<sup>4</sup> On average, the marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$600<sup>5</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 consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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their criminal record that warrants additional review under the bill. Applications requiring such review will require an average 3 hours additional review by sworn staff and 6 hours review by legal staff. The annual starting salary for Staff Attorney 1 is estimated to be \$86,000. The annual starting salary for Trooper First Class is estimated to be \$94,000.

<sup>4</sup> In FY 24, 331 charges were recorded and \$1,850 in associated revenue was collected under CGS § 53-203.

<sup>5</sup> Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant.