
OFA Bill Analysis

HB 5030

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

SUMMARY:

The bill makes various changes regarding specialty license plates, DESPP deputy commissioners, LAUREN, the administration of the CHRO, DPH financial reporting, and the elimination of OHS.

§ 1 — PIZZA STATE LICENSE PLATES

Requires the DMV commissioner to issue commemorative Pizza State license plates and gives a portion of the fee and any related donations and proceeds to Connecticut Foodshare

The bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), by July 1, 2026, to issue "Pizza State" commemorative license plates.

The bill requires a \$65 fee for this plate, in addition to the regular fees for registering a motor vehicle. Under the bill:

1. \$15 of the fee must be deposited in an account controlled by the DMV for the cost of producing, issuing, renewing, and replacing the license plates; and
2. \$50 of the fee must be deposited into the Pizza State commemorative account.

The plates must have numbers and letters selected by DMV, but the commissioner may charge a higher fee for license plates that have (1) the numbers and letters from a previously issued plate or (2) letters instead of numbers or are low number plates, in addition to the fees set for these registrations by law.

The bill establishes the Pizza State commemorative account as a separate, non-lapsing account to receive (1) all of the fees other than the money designated for DMV's costs, (2) any private donations including

any voluntary donation of \$15 made when renewing Pizza State plate related registrations, and (3) proceeds from allowing for the plate image to be used on various products and programs deemed suitable as a means of supporting the account. Under the bill, funds in the account must be distributed annually by DMV to Connecticut Foodshare.

The bill allows DMV to adopt regulations to set standards and procedures for issuing, renewing, and replacing these license plates.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§ 2 — THIRD DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AT DESPP

The bill expands, from two to three, the number of deputy commissioners the Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) shall appoint.

Background — Related Bill

sHB 5456, favorably reported by the Public Safety and Security Committee, contains similar provisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: From passage

§ 3 — HISPANIC AMERICAN VETERANS OF CONNECTICUT ACCOUNT DISTRIBUTION

The bill changes the distribution of funds from quarterly to annually from the Hispanic American Veterans of Connecticut Account. Under current law, this is a nonlapsing account that is funded via private donations. These funds are distributed by the Office of Policy and Management to the Hispanic American Veterans of Connecticut, Inc.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§ 4 — ENERGY POLICY DETERMINATION AND EVALUATION

The bill removes energy policy determination and evaluation from the list of responsibilities under the Office of Policy and Management related to state staff planning and analysis. Under current law, these responsibilities already fall to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

EFFECTIVE DATE: From passage

§ 5 — QUARTERLY CERTIFICATION OF DEATH CERTIFICATE FEES AND NEGLECTED CEMETARY ACCOUNT BALANCE

No later than October 31, 2026, the Commissioner of Public Health is required to submit a quarterly certification to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management specifying: (1) the total amount of death certificate fees collected during the previous calendar quarter; and (2) the total remaining balance in the neglected cemetery account as of the last day of the preceding calendar quarter.

Under current law, all death certificate fees (\$20 per copy) collected by DPH are deposited in the neglected cemetery account. Using these funds, OPM provides grants to eligible municipalities for the purpose of municipal maintenance of neglected burial grounds and cemeteries.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§ 6- REMOVING THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FROM ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

This section removes the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) from the Department of Labor (DOL) for administrative purposes only.

Under current law, CHRO's business operations are managed by DOL.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§ 7-101 — ELIMINATING THE OFFICE OF HEALTH STRATEGY

Sections 7-90 and 95-101 of the bill change or repeal statutory references to the Office of Health Strategy (OHS) to reflect the elimination of the agency. The agency's duties and programs are reassigned to various agencies in these changes, including the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Social Services (DSS), and the Office of the Healthcare Advocate (OHA).

Four new sections (Sec. 91-94) name the following agencies as successors to OHS in regards to particular functions: OPM in matters concerning the State-wide Health Information Exchange, the all-payer claims database program, and the health care cost growth benchmarks; DPH in matters concerning the Health Systems Planning Unit and the certificate of need process; DSS in matters concerning financial health reporting done by hospitals; and OHA in matters concerning community benefit program reporting done by hospitals.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 35 Nay 15