



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 272**

February Session, 2026

House Bill No. 5454

*House of Representatives, March 31, 2026*

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. BOYD of the 50th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE REFUND OF CERTAIN FIREARM PERMIT FEES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsections (a) to (e), inclusive, of section 29-30 of the 2026  
2 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is  
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4 (a) The fee for each permit originally issued under the provisions of  
5 subsection (b) of section 29-28 for the sale at retail of firearms shall be  
6 two hundred dollars and for each renewal of such permit two hundred  
7 dollars. The fee for each state permit originally issued under the  
8 provisions of subsection (c) of section 29-28, for the carrying of pistols  
9 and revolvers shall be one hundred forty dollars plus sufficient funds as  
10 required to be transmitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to  
11 cover the cost of a national criminal history records check. The local  
12 permitting authority, as defined in section 29-28, or the chief of police of  
13 a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native American  
14 tribe within the borders of the state, as referenced in subsection (c) of

15 section 29-28, shall forward sufficient funds for the national criminal  
16 history records check to the commissioner no later than five business  
17 days after receipt by the local permitting authority, or such chief of  
18 police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native  
19 American tribe, of the application for the temporary state permit.  
20 [Seventy] Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, seventy  
21 dollars shall be retained by the local permitting authority, or such chief  
22 of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native  
23 American tribe. Upon approval by the local permitting authority, or  
24 such chief of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally  
25 recognized Native American tribe, of the application for a temporary  
26 state permit, seventy dollars shall be sent to the commissioner. The fee  
27 to renew each state permit originally issued under the provisions of  
28 subsection (c) of section 29-28 shall be seventy dollars. Upon deposit of  
29 such fees in the General Fund, ten dollars of each fee shall be credited  
30 within thirty days to the appropriation for the Department of  
31 Emergency Services and Public Protection to a separate nonlapsing  
32 account for the purposes of the issuance of permits under subsections  
33 (b) and (c) of section 29-28.

34 (b) A local permit originally issued before October 1, 2001, whether  
35 for the sale at retail of pistols and revolvers or for the carrying of pistols  
36 and revolvers, shall expire five years after the date it becomes effective  
37 and each renewal of such permit shall expire five years after the  
38 expiration date of the permit being renewed. On and after October 1,  
39 2001, no local permit for the carrying of pistols and revolvers shall be  
40 renewed.

41 (c) A state permit originally issued under the provisions of section 29-  
42 28 for the carrying of pistols and revolvers shall expire five years after  
43 the date such permit becomes effective and each renewal of such permit  
44 shall expire five years after the expiration date of the state permit being  
45 renewed and such renewal shall not be contingent on the renewal or  
46 issuance of a local permit. A temporary state permit issued for the  
47 carrying of pistols and revolvers shall expire sixty days after the date it  
48 becomes effective, and may not be renewed.

49 (d) The renewal fee required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section  
 50 shall apply for each renewal which is requested not earlier than thirty-  
 51 one days before, and not later than thirty-one days after, the expiration  
 52 date of the state permit being renewed.

53 (e) No fee or portion of any fee paid under the provisions of this  
 54 section for issuance or renewal of a state permit shall be refundable  
 55 except if (1) such permit for which the fee or portion was paid was not  
 56 issued or renewed, or (2) the local permitting authority fails to discharge  
 57 any obligation applicable to such local permitting authority pursuant to  
 58 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 29-28a or subsection (b) or (c)  
 59 of section 29-29 within the applicable time limits established under said  
 60 subdivision or subsection, in which case the local permitting authority  
 61 shall refund seventy dollars to the applicant. The portion of the fee  
 62 expended on the national criminal history records check for any such  
 63 permit that was not issued or renewed shall not be refunded.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	29-30(a) to (e)

**PS**            *Joint Favorable*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do 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.*

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:**

<b>Municipalities</b>	<b>Effect</b>	<b>FY 27 \$</b>	<b>FY 28 \$</b>
Municipal Police Departments; Various Municipalities	Potential Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal

**Explanation**

The bill results in potential minimal revenue loss to local permitting authorities to the extent they fail to complete their duties within the existing statutorily established timeframes and must issue refunds. Local permitting authorities are either a chief of police or the chief executive officer of the town.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to any refunds issued.

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**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 5454*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE REFUND OF CERTAIN FIREARM PERMIT FEES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires local handgun permitting authorities to partially refund the applicant's fees if the authorities do not complete their duties (such as by failing to act on an application) within statutorily established timeframes.

Under Connecticut law, handgun permits are issued under a two-part process, requiring approval from both the local permitting authority and the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP). The local official investigates an applicant, including through a background check, and issues a temporary state permit; the State Police conduct state and national criminal history record checks on the applicant and issue a five-year state permit.

By law, as part of the handgun permitting process, applicants must pay a \$140 fee and the local permitting authority retaining \$70. The bill instead requires the local authority to refund that \$70 to the applicant if it does not complete its duties within certain timeframes. Unchanged by the bill, applicants must also pay to cover the cost of an FBI national criminal history records check.

As under existing law, once a temporary state permit is approved, the local permitting authority forwards the other \$70 to the DESPP commissioner.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026.

**LOCAL PERMITTING AUTHORITY DUTIES**

By law, the local permitting authority must inform the applicant

whether the permit has been approved or denied within eight weeks of a submitted application. The local permitting authority must also take the applicant’s fingerprints or use any other method of positive identification and forward the fingerprints and positive identifying information to the State Police Bureau of Identification within five business days.

Existing law allows the local permitting authority to issue a temporary state permit before a national criminal history check has been received. Once the national criminal history check has been received by the local permitting authority, the local authority has one week to decide on the permit and notify the applicant. If the results have not been received within eight weeks, the permitting authority must inform the applicant of the delay in writing.

A “local permitting authority” is the chief of police or, where there is no police chief, the municipality’s chief executive officer (CEO) (or the resident state trooper or relevant state police officer designated by the municipality’s CEO).

**BACKGROUND**

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 29    Nay 0    (03/17/2026)