



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 613**

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 291

*Senate, April 14, 2026*

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. WINFIELD of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION, THE STATE MARSHALS ADVISORY BOARD AND STATE MARSHALS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 6-38b of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes  
2 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2026*):

4 (a) There is established a State Marshal Commission [which] to  
5 oversee the state marshal system. The functions of the commission shall  
6 include, but not be limited to, promoting a professional and effective  
7 state marshal system to provide competent service of process and  
8 execution throughout the counties of the state; establishing and  
9 applying appropriate standards of conduct and competence; recruiting,  
10 vetting and appointing qualified and suitable individuals to serve as  
11 state marshals; establishing and overseeing appropriate training and  
12 continuing education, within available appropriations; supporting and  
13 administering such operational, administrative and programmatic

14 systems related to state marshals; and taking such actions as are  
15 necessary to maintain the proper and efficient administration of the  
16 state marshal system. The commission shall consist of eight members  
17 appointed as follows: (1) The Chief Justice shall appoint one member  
18 who shall be a judge of the Superior Court; (2) the speaker of the House  
19 of Representatives, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the majority  
20 and minority leaders of the House of Representatives and the majority  
21 and minority leaders of the Senate shall each appoint one member; and  
22 (3) the Governor shall appoint one member who shall serve as  
23 chairperson. Of the seven members appointed pursuant to subdivisions  
24 (2) and (3) of this subsection, no more than four of such members may  
25 be members of any state bar. No member of the commission shall be a  
26 state marshal, except that two state marshals appointed by the State  
27 Marshals Advisory Board in accordance with section 6-38c, as amended  
28 by this act, shall serve as ex-officio, nonvoting members of the  
29 commission.

30 (b) The chairperson shall serve for a three-year term and all  
31 appointments of members to replace those whose terms expire shall be  
32 for terms of three years.

33 (c) If any vacancy occurs on the commission, the appointing authority  
34 having the power to make the initial appointment under the provisions  
35 of this section shall appoint a person for the unexpired term in  
36 accordance with the provisions of this section.

37 (d) Members shall serve without compensation but shall be  
38 reimbursed for actual expenses incurred while engaged in the duties of  
39 the commission.

40 (e) A majority of the membership of the commission shall constitute  
41 a quorum. The affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members of  
42 the commission present and voting shall be required for any action by  
43 the commission, and no action of the commission may pass by a tie vote.

44 (f) The commission shall develop and maintain materials for the  
45 purpose of the orientation of new members of the commission. Such

46 materials shall be consistent with the provisions of this section and  
47 provide a summary and overview of the role and authority of the State  
48 Marshal Commission and the process for the appointment of state  
49 marshals. The commission shall coordinate with the State Marshals  
50 Advisory Board to provide opportunities for new members of the  
51 commission to observe the performance of actual service of process,  
52 evictions and the restraining order duty of state marshals.

53 [(e)] (g) The commission, in consultation with the State Marshals  
54 Advisory Board, shall (1) adopt regulations in accordance with the  
55 provisions of chapter 54 to establish professional standards, including  
56 training requirements, residency requirements, minimum fees for  
57 execution and service of process, and for state marshals over the age of  
58 seventy-two, fitness for duty and annual certification requirements, and  
59 (2) implement policies and procedures to increase state marshal  
60 participation in the serving of *capias mittimus* orders. Such policies and  
61 procedures may require that at all times a certain minimum percentage  
62 of the overall number of state marshals be actively engaged in the  
63 service of *capias mittimus* orders. The costs of any fitness for duty  
64 certification adopted by the commission pursuant to this section shall  
65 be at the expense of the state marshal.

66 [(f)] (h) The commission shall be responsible for the equitable  
67 assignment of service of restraining orders and civil protection orders to  
68 the state marshals in each county and ensure that such restraining  
69 orders and civil protection orders are served expeditiously. Failure of  
70 any state marshal to accept for service any restraining order or civil  
71 protection order assigned by the commission or to serve such  
72 restraining order or civil protection order expeditiously without good  
73 cause shall be sufficient for the convening of a hearing for removal  
74 under subsection [(i)] (l) of this section.

75 [(g)] (i) Any vacancy in the position of state marshal in any county as  
76 provided in section 6-38 shall be filled by the commission with an  
77 applicant (1) who shall be an elector in the county where such vacancy  
78 occurs, [and] (2) whose permanent place of abode, domicile and

79 residence is in the county where such vacancy occurs, and (3) who is not  
80 otherwise disqualified under any of the conditions contained in section  
81 7-291c or subsection (c) of section 29-161h. The commission may give  
82 preference to applicants who are able to serve on a full-time basis, or  
83 who demonstrate good-faith intent and ability to transition to service on  
84 a full-time basis within a reasonable period after appointment. For  
85 purposes of this subsection, "full-time basis" means the ability to be  
86 regularly and consistently available on weekdays during court hours to  
87 perform service of process and executions, and other statutory duties of  
88 a state marshal. Any applicant for such vacancy shall be subject to the  
89 application, examination, bonding, [and] investigation, interview and  
90 training requirements of the commission.

91 (j) (1) Before commencing an examination or recruitment process to  
92 make new appointments of state marshals, the commission shall consult  
93 with the State Marshals Advisory Board regarding the need for  
94 additional state marshals in the various counties. The commission shall  
95 establish, prior to such examination or recruitment, the number of state  
96 marshals to be appointed in each county during such recruitment  
97 process, which may be adjusted to account for additional vacancies  
98 created by resignation or retirement of current marshals during such  
99 recruitment process. Such number established by the commission shall  
100 be voted on and recorded in the minutes of a commission meeting.

101 (2) The commission shall establish interview committees for the  
102 purpose of interviewing the most suitable candidates for appointment.  
103 Any interview committee established under this subdivision may  
104 include a member who is a state marshal. The interview committee shall  
105 conduct interviews of such candidates. The interview committee shall  
106 review the applications, examination results and investigation materials  
107 of candidates to be interviewed for appointment as a state marshal. Such  
108 interview committees shall report their recommendations to the full  
109 commission.

110 (3) The commission shall approve candidates to enter training prior  
111 to appointment. The commission shall provide one state-wide training

112 program for such candidates. The training program shall include in-  
113 person classroom instruction and supervised field instruction.  
114 Classroom instruction shall be developed and conducted by a qualified  
115 vendor approved by the commission. Field instruction shall be  
116 conducted by experienced state marshals approved by the commission.  
117 The training program shall be comprehensive and shall cover subjects  
118 relating to the statutory duties and responsibilities of state marshals.

119 (4) Candidates approved for appointment by the commission shall be  
120 sworn into office at a public ceremony on a date determined by the  
121 commission.

122 [(h)] (k) Except as provided in section 6-38f, as amended by this act,  
123 no person may be a state marshal and a state employee at the same time.  
124 This subsection does not apply to any person who was both a state  
125 employee and a deputy sheriff or special deputy sheriff on April 27,  
126 2000.

127 [(i)] (l) No state marshal may be removed except by order of the  
128 commission for cause after due notice and hearing.

129 [(j)] (m) The commission, in consultation with the Judicial  
130 Department, shall adopt rules as it deems necessary for conduct of its  
131 internal affairs, including, but not limited to, rules that provide for: (1)  
132 The provision of timely, consistent and reliable access to a state marshal  
133 for persons applying for a restraining order or civil protection order  
134 under chapter 815a; (2) the provision of services to persons with limited  
135 English proficiency; (3) the provision of services to persons who are deaf  
136 or hard of hearing; (4) service of process that is a photographic copy,  
137 micrographic copy or other electronic image of an original document  
138 that clearly and accurately copies such original document, as provided  
139 in section 52-50a; and (5) timely payment, as described in section 4a-71,  
140 from the Judicial Department to state marshals.

141 [(k)] (n) The commission shall adopt regulations, in accordance with  
142 the provisions of chapter 54, for the application, examination, bonding  
143 and investigation requirements for filling vacancies in the position of

144 state marshal.

145 [(l)] (o) The commission shall issue not less than quarterly  
146 administrative bulletins to state marshals relating to topics concerning  
147 service of process and legal execution. The subject matter of topics  
148 contained in such bulletins shall include, but not be limited to: (1)  
149 Changes to state law affecting the duties of state marshals; (2) topics that  
150 refresh state marshals' knowledge in subject matter areas affecting their  
151 duties; (3) topics concerning the safety of state marshals; (4) topics  
152 concerning the professionalism of state marshals when interacting with  
153 the public; and (5) topics relating to the nature of complaints filed  
154 against state marshals with the State Marshal Commission.

155 (p) Not later than January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the State  
156 Marshal Commission shall submit a report, in accordance with the  
157 provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the  
158 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the  
159 judiciary. Such report shall address and include the following: (1) State  
160 marshal workforce and turnover data, including the number of state  
161 marshals who resigned, retired or died in office during the preceding  
162 period, and the number on voluntary inactive status and the duration of  
163 such status; (2) the number of state marshals in each county and age  
164 distribution by county; (3) state marshal recruitment and appointment  
165 information, including the commission's recruitment plan, the number  
166 of applicants, the number who passed or failed an examination  
167 administered in the preceding period and demographics of any  
168 appointments made in each county; (4) the proportion of state marshals  
169 serving on a full-time basis, as defined in subsection (i) of this section,  
170 versus those state marshals not serving on a full-time basis; (5) training  
171 and professional development information, including summaries of the  
172 training programs for new and current state marshals and any material  
173 changes made in the preceding period; and (6) a summary of any  
174 policies, rules or directives adopted or modified by the commission  
175 during the preceding period.

176 [(m)] (q) The commission shall be within the Department of

177 Administrative Services [, provided] for administrative purposes only  
178 and the commission shall have independent decision-making authority.

179 (r) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority or  
180 responsibility of the commission to take actions necessary to implement  
181 the provisions of this section.

182 Sec. 2. Section 6-38c of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is  
183 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
184 *1, 2026*):

185 (a) There is established a State Marshals Advisory Board which shall  
186 consist of twenty-four state marshals to advise and make  
187 recommendations to the State Marshal Commission and to consider  
188 matters referred to it from the commission. Annually, between  
189 November first and November twentieth of each year, the state  
190 marshals in each county shall elect from among the state marshals in  
191 their county the following number of state marshals to serve on the  
192 board: Hartford, New Haven and Fairfield counties, four state marshals;  
193 New London and Litchfield counties, three state marshals; and Tolland,  
194 Middlesex and Windham counties, two state marshals. State marshals  
195 elected to serve on the board shall serve for a term of one year and may  
196 be reelected. The State Marshals Advisory Board shall be the judge of  
197 the county elections, returns and qualifications of its own members.

198 (b) The State Marshals Advisory Board shall adopt rules as the board  
199 deems necessary for the conduct of [its] elections and internal affairs,  
200 which rules shall continue in effect from year to year, as amended from  
201 time to time. Such rules shall include procedures for (1) the  
202 administration of county elections, and (2) the selection of a chairperson  
203 and other officers, as may be necessary, from the members of the board  
204 elected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

205 (c) Annually, in the month of December, the State Marshals Advisory  
206 Board shall hold a meeting and select two state marshals to be appointed  
207 as ex-officio members of the State Marshal Commission, in accordance  
208 with the provisions of section 6-38b, as amended by this act, for a term

209 of one year or until a successor is appointed and has qualified. If any  
210 vacancy occurs in such appointments, the State Marshals Advisory  
211 Board shall appoint a state marshal to fill the remainder of the unexpired  
212 term.

213 Sec. 3. Section 52-261 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes  
214 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
215 *October 1, 2026*):

216 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section and section 52-  
217 261a, each officer or person who serves process, summons or  
218 attachments on behalf of: (1) An official of the state or any of its agencies,  
219 boards or commissions, or any municipal official acting in his or her  
220 official capacity, shall receive a fee of not more than fifty dollars for each  
221 process served and an additional fee of fifty dollars for the second and  
222 each subsequent service of such process, except that such officer or  
223 person shall receive an additional fee of twenty dollars for each  
224 subsequent service of such process at the same address or for  
225 notification of the office of the Attorney General in dissolution and  
226 postjudgment proceedings if a party or child is receiving public  
227 assistance; and (2) any person, except a person described in subdivision  
228 (1) of this subsection, shall receive a fee of not more than fifty dollars for  
229 each process served and an additional fee of fifty dollars for the second  
230 and each subsequent service of such process, except that such officer or  
231 person shall receive an additional fee of twenty dollars for each  
232 subsequent service of such process at the same address or for  
233 notification of the office of the Attorney General in dissolution and  
234 postjudgment proceedings if a party or child is receiving public  
235 assistance. Each such officer or person shall also receive the fee set by  
236 the Department of Administrative Services for state employees for each  
237 mile of travel, subject to adjustment within thirty days of any revision  
238 to the federal General Services Administration mileage reimbursement  
239 rate, to be computed from the place where such officer or person  
240 received the process to the place of service, and thence in the case of civil  
241 process to the place of return. If more than one process is served on one  
242 person at one time by any such officer or person, the total cost of travel

243 for the service shall be the same as for the service of one process only,  
244 except, if an officer or person is requested by the court or required by  
245 law to effectuate in-hand personal service, or for service pursuant to  
246 subsection (h) of section 46b-15 or subsection (d) of section 46b-16a, such  
247 officer or person shall receive the fee set by the Department of  
248 Administrative Services for state employees for each mile of travel,  
249 subject to adjustment within thirty days of any revision to the federal  
250 General Services Administration mileage reimbursement rate, of each  
251 round trip traveled while attempting to effectuate in-hand personal  
252 service, to be computed from the place where the process was received  
253 to the place of attempted service, and if multiple trips to effectuate  
254 service are made, back to the place where process was received and then  
255 to the place of the subsequent attempt at service, and thence in the case  
256 of civil process to the place of return provided the officer or person shall  
257 state in the return of service that in-hand personal service was requested  
258 or required, or that in-hand service was made pursuant to subsection  
259 (h) of section 46b-15 or subsection (d) of section 46b-16a, and that  
260 multiple trips were necessary to effectuate in-hand personal service. The  
261 officer or person requesting the receipt of such round trip travel shall  
262 make out a bill reciting the dates, times and results of each trip the  
263 officer or person traveled while attempting to effectuate in-hand  
264 personal service. The officer or person requesting the receipt of such fees  
265 for attempted round trip travel may only receive such fees from the  
266 Judicial Department when ordered by the court or by law to effectuate  
267 in-hand personal service and only when such in-hand personal service  
268 is effectuated, when in-hand personal service of process is made  
269 pursuant to subsection (h) of section 46b-15 or subsection (d) of section  
270 46b-16a. Such payment from the Judicial Department of attempted  
271 round trip travel for in-hand service of process may be limited to three  
272 round trips, provided nothing in this section shall limit payment of a  
273 greater amount from the Judicial Department to an officer or person  
274 serving process. For service made pursuant to subsection (h) of section  
275 46b-15 and subsection (d) of section 46b-16a, which was not effectuated  
276 in-hand, regardless of any attempts to effectuate service in-hand, the  
277 mileage fee shall be from the place where the process was received to

278 the place of service, and thence in the case of civil process to the place of  
279 return. Where the court allows an applicant additional time to make  
280 service under subsection (c) of section 46b-15 or subsection (e) of section  
281 46b-16a, for purposes of calculating the mileage fee for multiple trips,  
282 such extra time will be considered a continuation of the original  
283 attempts at service. Each officer or person who serves process shall also  
284 receive the moneys actually paid for town clerk's fees on the service of  
285 process. Each officer or person who serves process shall also receive the  
286 moneys actually paid for fees for the disclosure or search of records of  
287 the Department of Motor Vehicles in connection with the service of  
288 process. Any officer or person required to summon jurors by personal  
289 service of a warrant to attend court shall receive for the first ten miles of  
290 travel while so engaged, such mileage to be computed from the place  
291 where such officer or person receives the process to the place of service,  
292 twenty-five cents for each mile, and for each additional mile, ten cents.  
293 For summoning any juror to attend court otherwise than by personal  
294 service of the warrant, such officer or person shall receive only the sum  
295 of fifty cents and actual disbursements necessarily expended by such  
296 officer or person in making service thereof as directed. Notwithstanding  
297 the provisions of this section, for summoning grand jurors, such officer  
298 or person shall receive only such officer's or person's actual expenses  
299 and such reasonable sum for services as are taxed by the court. The  
300 following fees shall be allowed and paid: (A) For taking bail or bail  
301 bond, one dollar; (B) for copies of writs and complaints, exclusive of  
302 endorsements, one dollar per page, not to exceed a total amount of nine  
303 hundred dollars in any particular matter; (C) for endorsements, fifty  
304 cents per page or fraction thereof; (D) for service of a warrant for the  
305 seizure of intoxicating liquors, or for posting and leaving notices after  
306 the seizure, or for the destruction or delivery of any such liquors under  
307 order of court, twenty dollars; (E) for the removal and custody of such  
308 liquors so seized, reasonable expenses, and twenty dollars; (F) for the  
309 levy of an execution, when the money is actually collected and paid  
310 over, or the debt or a portion of the debt is secured by the officer, fifteen  
311 per cent on the amount of the execution or portion thereof, provided the  
312 minimum fee for such execution shall be fifty dollars; (G) on the levy of

313 an execution on real property and on application for sale of personal  
314 property attached, to each appraiser, for each half day of actual service,  
315 reasonable and customary expenses; (H) for causing an execution levied  
316 on real property to be recorded, fees for travel, twenty dollars and costs;  
317 (I) for services on an application for the sale of personal property  
318 attached, or in selling mortgaged property foreclosed under a decree of  
319 court, the same fees as for similar services on executions; (J) for  
320 committing any person to a community correctional center, in civil  
321 actions, the fee set by the Department of Administrative Services for  
322 state employees for each mile of travel, from the place of the court to the  
323 community correctional center; (K) for summoning and attending a jury  
324 for reassessing damages or benefits on a highway, three dollars a day;  
325 (L) for any recording for which the recording fee is not otherwise  
326 prescribed by law, fifty dollars, costs and the fee set by the Department  
327 of Administrative Services for state employees for each mile of travel;  
328 and (M) for postage or international mailing costs incurred pursuant to  
329 a court order, actual expenses. The court shall tax as costs a reasonable  
330 amount for the care of property held by any officer under attachment or  
331 execution. The officer serving any attachment or execution may claim  
332 compensation for time and expenses of any person, in keeping, securing  
333 or removing property taken thereon, provided such officer shall make  
334 out a bill. The bill shall specify the labor done, and by whom, the time  
335 spent, the travel, the money paid, if any, and to whom and for what. The  
336 compensation for the services shall be reasonable and customary and  
337 the amount of expenses and shall be taxed by the court with the costs.

338 (b) Each officer or person shall receive the following fees: (1) For  
339 service and scheduling of an execution on a summary process judgment,  
340 or a foreclosure ejectment, not more than one hundred fifty dollars and  
341 the fee set by the Department of Administrative Services for state  
342 employees for each mile of travel; (2) for removal under section 47a-42  
343 of a defendant or other occupant bound by a summary process  
344 judgment, and the possessions and personal effects of such defendant  
345 or other occupant, not more than one hundred fifty dollars per hour and  
346 the fee set by the Department of Administrative Services for state  
347 employees for each mile of travel; (3) for removal and taking of an

348 inventory of possessions and personal effects of a defendant or other  
349 occupant bound by a summary process judgment under section 47a-42a,  
350 not more than one hundred fifty dollars per hour and the fee set by the  
351 Department of Administrative Services for state employees for each  
352 mile of travel; (4) for removal under section 49-22 of a defendant or other  
353 occupant bound by a foreclosure judgment, and the possessions and  
354 personal effects of such defendant or other occupant, not more than one  
355 hundred fifty dollars per hour and the fee set by the Department of  
356 Administrative Services for state employees for each mile of travel; and  
357 (5) for any execution or ejection, the officer or person serving such  
358 execution or ejection may claim compensation for time and expenses  
359 of any mover, locksmith or any other individual, in keeping, securing or  
360 removing property and the transportation incidental to such execution  
361 [of] or ejection, provided such officer or person shall make out a bill.  
362 The bill shall specify the labor done, and by whom, the time spent, the  
363 travel, the money paid, if any, and to whom and for what.

364 Sec. 4. Section 6-38d of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is  
365 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
366 *1, 2026*):

367 No state marshal shall (1) knowingly bill for, or receive fees for, work  
368 that such state marshal did not actually perform, (2) allow another  
369 person to serve process in the place of such state marshal, or (3)  
370 knowingly make a false or illegal return of process. Any violation of this  
371 section without good cause shall be sufficient for the convening of a  
372 commission hearing concerning removal of the state marshal under  
373 subsection [(i)] (l) of section 6-38b, as amended by this act.

374 Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 6-38f of the general statutes is repealed  
375 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

376 (c) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this section, for purposes  
377 of the State Marshal Commission filling any vacancy in the position of  
378 state marshal in any county in accordance with subsection [(g)] (i) of  
379 section 6-38b, as amended by this act, the State Marshal Commission  
380 shall not fill a vacancy in any county if the total number of state marshals

381 in such county is equal to or exceeds the number allowed under section  
382 6-38.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	6-38b
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	6-38c
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	52-261
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	6-38d
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	6-38f(c)

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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*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.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill establishes requirements and responsibilities for the State Marshal Commission. It is anticipated that the commission can implement these requirements within available resources, resulting in no fiscal impact.

### **The Out Years**

None.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 291*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION, THE STATE MARSHALS ADVISORY BOARD AND STATE MARSHALS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill makes changes in laws related to state marshals, including changes related to the State Marshal Commission and the State Marshals Advisory Board.

Regarding the State Marshal Commission, the bill does the following:

1. broadens the scope of its responsibilities, creates expressly stated functions, and establishes what constitutes a quorum for the commission's actions;
2. creates new processes and requirements for the commission to follow when filling state marshal vacancies and examining and recruiting new state marshals in each county (Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London, Tolland, and Windham), including establishing an interview committee and setting candidate training and swearing in requirements; and
3. requires it to annually report to the Judiciary Committee on specified state marshals-related information (for example, turnover data and recruitment and appointment information), starting by January 1, 2027.

Regarding the State Marshals Advisory Board, the bill requires the 24-member board to be the judge of the county elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members; and requires it to include procedures for administering the county elections in its rules.

It also increases officers' (including state marshals) maximum flat rate and hourly fees for serving and executing residential and commercial evictions and foreclosure ejectments by \$50.

The bill also makes minor, technical, and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

### **STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION**

The bill makes various changes to the existing eight-member state marshal commission by broadening the scope of its responsibilities, creating expressly stated functions, establishing what constitutes a quorum for the commission's actions, and requiring it to develop and maintain new member orientation material (see below). It does so without changing the board's composition or the requirement that it develop rules to conduct its internal affairs. The bill expressly states that its provisions must not be construed to limit the commission's authority or responsibility to take actions necessary to implement provisions on the commission's policies, procedures, and duties and the appointment of state marshals.

Under current law, the commission is within the Department of Administrative Services. The bill specifies that this is for administrative purposes only.

#### ***Stated Functions***

The bill explicitly states that the functions of the commission are at a minimum to:

1. promote a professional and effective state marshal system to provide competent service of process and execution throughout the state's counties;
2. establish and apply appropriate standards of conduct and competence;
3. recruit, vet, and appoint qualified and suitable people to serve as state marshals;

4. establish and oversee appropriate training and continuing education, within available appropriations;
5. support and administer state marshal-related operational, administrative, and programmatic systems; and
6. take actions necessary to maintain the proper and efficient administration of the state marshal system.

**Assigning Civil Protection Orders.** Under current law, the commission is responsible for the equitable assignment of service of restraining orders to the state marshals in each county and ensuring that the restraining orders are served expeditiously. To do so, the commission has adopted policies establishing a statewide system of on-call state marshals, which the commission developed in cooperation with the judicial branch.

The bill also requires the commission to equitably assign service of civil protection orders and ensure they are served expeditiously. Existing law and the bill subject any state marshal who fails to accept service for assigned orders to a removal hearing.

**New Member Orientation Materials.** The bill requires the commission to develop and maintain orientation materials for new commission members. The materials must provide a summary and overview of the commission's role and authority and the state marshal appointment process. The bill requires the commission to coordinate with the State Marshals Advisory Board to give new members opportunities to observe the actual service of process, evictions, and the restraining order duties of state marshals.

### **Quorum**

The bill specifies that a majority of the membership of the commission constitutes a quorum. For any action by the commission, the bill (1) requires the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members present and voting and (2) prohibits any action from passing by a tie vote.

**State Marshal Positions**

The bill also creates new processes and requirements for the commission in filling state marshal vacancies; interviewing, examining, and recruiting new state marshals in each county; setting candidate training; and swearing in approved candidates.

**Filling Vacancies.** Current law requires the commission to fill state marshal vacancies with an applicant (1) who is an elector in the county where the vacancy occurs and (2) whose permanent place of abode, domicile, and residence is in the county where the vacancy occurs. The bill further requires that the applicant is not otherwise disqualified as (1) a former police officer who was dismissed for malfeasance or serious misconduct or who resigned or retired while under investigation and was not exonerated or (2) someone who cannot qualify for a security service license.

The bill allows the commission to give preference to applicants who can serve on a full-time basis, or who demonstrate good-faith intent and ability to transition to service on a full-time basis within a reasonable period after appointment. Under the bill, “full-time basis” means the ability to be regularly and consistently available on weekdays during court hours to perform a state marshal’s statutory duties.

Under current law, applicants for any vacancy are subject to the commission’s application, examination, bonding, and investigation requirements. Under the bill, they are also subject the commission’s interview and training requirements.

**Number of New Appointments.** The bill requires the commission to consult with the State Marshals Advisory Board on the need for additional state marshals in each county before starting the process to examine or recruit new ones. And before starting recruitment, it must also determine the number of state marshals to be appointed in each county during the recruitment process. The commission must vote on the number and record it in its meeting minutes. The number may be adjusted for additional vacancies occurring during the recruitment

process.

**Interview Committees.** The bill requires the commission to establish interview committees to interview the most suitable candidates for appointment. A state marshal may be a member of the interview committee. The interview committee must conduct candidate interviews; review applications, exam results, and investigation materials; and report their recommendations to the full commission.

**Candidate Training.** The commission must approve candidates to enter a training program before they can be appointed. It must provide one state-wide training program, which must be in-person classroom instruction and supervised field instruction. The bill requires that (1) classroom instruction be developed and conducted by a commission-approved qualified vendor and (2) field instruction be done by experienced, commission-approved state marshals. The training program must be comprehensive and cover subjects relating to the state marshals' statutory duties and responsibilities.

**Swearing In.** Approved candidates must be sworn into office at a public ceremony by the commission on a date it sets.

### **Report to the Legislature**

Starting by January 1, 2027, the bill requires the State Marshal Commission to annually report to the Judiciary Committee on the following regarding state marshals:

1. workforce and turnover data, including the number (a) that resigned, retired, or died in office during the preceding period and (b) on voluntary inactive status and for how long;
2. the number and age distribution of state marshals per county;
3. recruitment and appointment information, including the commission's recruitment plan, number of applicants and examination outcomes in the preceding period, and appointment demographics in each county;

4. the proportion of those serving on a full-time basis versus those who are not on a full-time basis;
5. training and professional development information, including summaries of the training programs for new and current state marshals and any material changes made in the preceding period; and
6. a summary of any policies, rules, or directives adopted or modified by the commission during the preceding period.

## **STATE MARSHALS ADVISORY BOARD**

### ***County Elections***

By law, the State Marshals Advisory Board advises and makes recommendations to the State Marshal Commission and considers matters the commission refers to it. The board consists of 24 state marshals who serve for one year but can be reelected. Election of the marshals representing each county occurs annually between November 1 and November 20. The marshals in each county choose representatives to serve on the board, as follows:

1. four from Hartford, New Haven, and Fairfield counties each;
2. three from New London and Litchfield counties each; and
3. two from Tolland, Middlesex, and Windham counties each.

The bill requires the State Marshals Advisory Board to be the judge of the county elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members. It also requires that the board's rules include procedures for administering the county elections.

### ***Ex-Officio Members of the Commission***

Existing law requires the board to meet annually in December to select two state marshals to serve as ex-officio members of the State Marshal Commission for a one-year term. The bill specifies that the ex-officio members serve for one year or until a successor is appointed and has qualified.

**FEES TO EXECUTE EVICTIONS AND FORECLOSURES**

Regarding eviction and foreclosure judgments, the bill increases, from \$100 to \$150, the maximum flat rate and hourly fees an officer or person (such as state marshals) can receive to do the following:

1. serving and scheduling an execution on an eviction or a foreclosure ejection;
2. removing a defendant or other occupant bound by an eviction judgment from residential property, and their possessions and personal effects;
3. removing and taking inventory of possessions and personal effects of a defendant or other occupant bound by an eviction judgment from commercial property; or
4. removing a defendant or other occupant bound by an ejection on a foreclosure judgment, and their possessions and personal effects.

Unchanged by the bill, serving and scheduling an execution on an eviction or foreclosure ejection is compensated with a flat fee; the other services are compensated hourly.

As under existing law, under the bill, the officer or person would also be entitled to the Department of Administrative Services fee set for state employees for mileage.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute  
 Yea 41 Nay 0 (03/30/2026)