



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 54

February Session, 2026

Senate Bill No. 364

Senate, March 18, 2026

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. ANWAR of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING EXTREME WEATHER PROTOCOLS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Not later than January 1,
2 2027, the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
3 within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
4 shall (1) develop, in consultation with the Office of the Governor and
5 municipal leaders, (A) standardized extreme hot and cold weather
6 protocols that include, but are not limited to, weather factors, such as
7 temperatures, heat index and wind chill, that will prompt the state and
8 municipalities to require the opening of cooling centers and warming
9 centers throughout the state, and (B) methods for accessing
10 transportation to such centers and communicating such protocols to the
11 public, (2) post such protocols on the division's Internet web site, and
12 (3) provide such protocols to the 2-1-1 Infoline program operated by the
13 United Way of Connecticut.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section

PH *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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Various State Agencies	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
All Municipalities	Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill may result in increased costs to the state and municipalities to the extent the standard protocols required under the bill lead to more extreme weather activations than under current practice. For context costs associated with increased activations may include, but are not limited to, municipalities opening more cooling or warming centers, the Department of Social Services supporting additional rides for members via non-emergency medical transportation, and the Department of Housing supporting hoteling.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the increase in extreme weather activations.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 364*****AN ACT CONCERNING EXTREME WEATHER PROTOCOLS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to develop the following:

1. standardized extreme hot and cold weather protocols that include weather factors (e.g., temperatures, heat index, and wind chill) that will prompt the state and municipalities to require cooling and warming centers to open statewide;
2. ways to access transportation to these centers; and
3. ways to communicate the protocols to the public.

The division must do this by January 1, 2027, and in consultation with the governor's office and municipal leaders.

Under the bill, the division must also post the protocols on its website and give them to the United Way of Connecticut's 2-1-1 Infoline program. (In practice, DESPP posts extreme weather protocols on its website.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 9 (03/09/2026)