



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 281

February Session, 2026

Senate Bill No. 373

Senate, March 31, 2026

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. GASTON of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ALLOWING A PERSONAL INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR STIPENDS PAID TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS, VOLUNTEER FIRE POLICE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE MEMBERS.

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

1 Section 1. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of
2 section 12-701 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed
3 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2027,*
4 *and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2027*):

5 (B) There shall be subtracted therefrom:

6 (i) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
7 income tax purposes, any income with respect to which taxation by any
8 state is prohibited by federal law;

9 (ii) To the extent allowable under section 12-718, exempt dividends
10 paid by a regulated investment company;

11 (iii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal

12 income tax purposes, the amount of any refund or credit for
13 overpayment of income taxes imposed by this state, or any other state
14 of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, or the District of
15 Columbia;

16 (iv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
17 income tax purposes and not otherwise subtracted from federal
18 adjusted gross income pursuant to clause (x) of this subparagraph in
19 computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, any tier 1 railroad
20 retirement benefits;

21 (v) To the extent any additional allowance for depreciation under
22 Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for property placed in
23 service after September 27, 2017, was added to federal adjusted gross
24 income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ix) of this subdivision in
25 computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of
26 such additional allowance for depreciation in each of the four
27 succeeding taxable years;

28 (vi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
29 income tax purposes, any interest income from obligations issued by or
30 on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof,
31 or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar
32 public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut;

33 (vii) To the extent properly includable in determining the net gain or
34 loss from the sale or other disposition of capital assets for federal income
35 tax purposes, any gain from the sale or exchange of obligations issued
36 by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision
37 thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or
38 similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut,
39 in the income year such gain was recognized;

40 (viii) Any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase
41 or carry obligations or securities the interest on which is subject to tax
42 under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that
43 such interest on indebtedness is not deductible in determining federal

44 adjusted gross income and is attributable to a trade or business carried
45 on by such individual;

46 (ix) Ordinary and necessary expenses paid or incurred during the
47 taxable year for the production or collection of income which is subject
48 to taxation under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, or
49 the management, conservation or maintenance of property held for the
50 production of such income, and the amortizable bond premium for the
51 taxable year on any bond the interest on which is subject to tax under
52 this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such
53 expenses and premiums are not deductible in determining federal
54 adjusted gross income and are attributable to a trade or business carried
55 on by such individual;

56 (x) (I) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a
57 person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried
58 individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
59 less than fifty thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing
60 separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
61 less than fifty thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a
62 return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly
63 whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than
64 sixty thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal
65 income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income
66 for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars, an amount
67 equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax
68 purposes;

69 (II) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a
70 person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried
71 individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
72 fifty thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing
73 separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
74 fifty thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a
75 return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly
76 whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is sixty

77 thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the
78 federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross
79 income for such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more, an
80 amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security
81 benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of
82 twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the
83 taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section
84 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

85 (III) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each
86 taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal
87 income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross
88 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
89 or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
90 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
91 or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax
92 as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross
93 income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars
94 or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of
95 household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
96 less than one hundred thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social
97 Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes; and

98 (IV) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each
99 taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal
100 income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross
101 income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more,
102 or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
103 income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more,
104 or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax
105 as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross
106 income from such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more
107 or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head
108 of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year
109 is one hundred thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the
110 difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for

111 federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the
112 Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five
113 per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal
114 Revenue Code;

115 (xi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
116 income tax purposes, any amount rebated to a taxpayer pursuant to
117 section 12-746;

118 (xii) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal
119 income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, any distribution to
120 such beneficiary from any qualified state tuition program, as defined in
121 Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and
122 maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the
123 state;

124 (xiii) To the extent allowable under section 12-701a, contributions to
125 accounts established pursuant to any qualified state tuition program, as
126 defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and
127 maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the
128 state;

129 (xiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
130 income tax purposes, the amount of any Holocaust victims' settlement
131 payment received in the taxable year by a Holocaust victim;

132 (xv) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal
133 income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, as defined in section
134 3-123aa, interest, dividends or capital gains earned on contributions to
135 accounts established for the designated beneficiary pursuant to the
136 Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly established by
137 sections 3-123aa to 3-123ff, inclusive;

138 (xvi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
139 income tax purposes, any income received from the United States
140 government as retirement pay for a retired member of (I) the Armed
141 Forces of the United States, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the

142 United States Code, or (II) the National Guard, as defined in Section 101
143 of Title 10 of the United States Code;

144 (xvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
145 income tax purposes for the taxable year, any income from the discharge
146 of indebtedness in connection with any reacquisition, after December
147 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or
148 instruments, as those terms are defined in Section 108 of the Internal
149 Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery
150 and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to the extent any such income was added
151 to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xi) of
152 this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income for a
153 preceding taxable year;

154 (xviii) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted
155 gross income, the amount of any contribution to a manufacturing
156 reinvestment account established pursuant to section 32-9zz in the
157 taxable year that such contribution is made;

158 (xix) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
159 income tax purposes, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1,
160 2015, ten per cent of the income received from the state teachers'
161 retirement system, (II) for the taxable years commencing January 1,
162 2016, to January 1, 2020, inclusive, twenty-five per cent of the income
163 received from the state teachers' retirement system, and (III) for the
164 taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, and each taxable year
165 thereafter, fifty per cent of the income received from the state teachers'
166 retirement system or, for a taxpayer whose federal adjusted gross
167 income does not exceed the applicable threshold under clause (xx) of
168 this subparagraph, the percentage pursuant to said clause of the income
169 received from the state teachers' retirement system, whichever
170 deduction is greater;

171 (xx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
172 income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of
173 this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this
174 subparagraph, for a person who files a return under the federal income

175 tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for
 176 such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a
 177 married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
 178 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
 179 or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such
 180 taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband
 181 and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married
 182 individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such
 183 taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable
 184 year commencing January 1, 2019, fourteen per cent of any pension or
 185 annuity income, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2020,
 186 twenty-eight per cent of any pension or annuity income, (III) for the
 187 taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, forty-two per cent of any
 188 pension or annuity income, and (IV) for the taxable years commencing
 189 January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023, one hundred per cent of any
 190 pension or annuity income;

191 (xxi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 192 income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of
 193 this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this
 194 subparagraph, any pension or annuity income for the taxable year
 195 commencing on or after January 1, 2024, and each taxable year
 196 thereafter, in accordance with the following schedule, for a person who
 197 files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual
 198 whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than
 199 one hundred thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing
 200 separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is
 201 less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a head of household
 202 whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than
 203 one hundred thousand dollars:

T1	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T2	Less than \$75,000	100.0%
T3	\$75,000 but not over \$77,499	85.0%
T4	\$77,500 but not over \$79,999	70.0%

T5	\$80,000 but not over \$82,499	55.0%
T6	\$82,500 but not over \$84,999	40.0%
T7	\$85,000 but not over \$87,499	25.0%
T8	\$87,500 but not over \$89,999	10.0%
T9	\$90,000 but not over \$94,999	5.0%
T10	\$95,000 but not over \$99,999	2.5%
T11	\$100,000 and over	0.0%

204 (xxii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 205 income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of
 206 this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this
 207 subparagraph, any pension or annuity income for the taxable year
 208 commencing on or after January 1, 2024, and each taxable year
 209 thereafter, in accordance with the following schedule for married
 210 individuals who file a return under the federal income tax as married
 211 individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such
 212 taxable year is less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars:

T12	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T13	Less than \$100,000	100.0%
T14	\$100,000 but not over \$104,999	85.0%
T15	\$105,000 but not over \$109,999	70.0%
T16	\$110,000 but not over \$114,999	55.0%
T17	\$115,000 but not over \$119,999	40.0%
T18	\$120,000 but not over \$124,999	25.0%
T19	\$125,000 but not over \$129,999	10.0%
T20	\$130,000 but not over \$139,999	5.0%
T21	\$140,000 but not over \$149,999	2.5%
T22	\$150,000 and over	0.0%

213 (xxiii) The amount of lost wages and medical, travel and housing
 214 expenses, not to exceed ten thousand dollars in the aggregate, incurred
 215 by a taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the donation
 216 to another person of an organ for organ transplantation occurring on or

217 after January 1, 2017;

218 (xxiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
219 income tax purposes, the amount of any financial assistance received
220 from the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund or paid to or on
221 behalf of the owner of a residential building pursuant to sections 8-442
222 and 8-443;

223 (xxv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
224 income tax purposes, the amount calculated pursuant to subsection (b)
225 of section 12-704g for income received by a general partner of a venture
226 capital fund, as defined in 17 CFR 275.203(l)-1, as amended from time to
227 time;

228 (xxvi) To the extent any portion of a deduction under Section 179 of
229 the Internal Revenue Code was added to federal adjusted gross income
230 pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xiv) of this subdivision in computing
231 Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such
232 disallowed portion of the deduction in each of the four succeeding
233 taxable years;

234 (xxvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
235 income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal
236 income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross
237 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
238 or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
239 income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,
240 or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such
241 taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband
242 and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married
243 individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such
244 taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, for the taxable
245 year commencing January 1, 2023, twenty-five per cent of any
246 distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth
247 individual retirement account;

248 (xxviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal

249 income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal
 250 income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross
 251 income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars,
 252 or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross
 253 income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars,
 254 or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such
 255 taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable
 256 year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from
 257 an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual
 258 retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025,
 259 seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement
 260 account other than a Roth individual retirement account, and (III) for
 261 the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year
 262 thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other
 263 than a Roth individual retirement account. The subtraction under this
 264 clause shall be made in accordance with the following schedule:

T23	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T24	Less than \$75,000	100.0%
T25	\$75,000 but not over \$77,499	85.0%
T26	\$77,500 but not over \$79,999	70.0%
T27	\$80,000 but not over \$82,499	55.0%
T28	\$82,500 but not over \$84,999	40.0%
T29	\$85,000 but not over \$87,499	25.0%
T30	\$87,500 but not over \$89,999	10.0%
T31	\$90,000 but not over \$94,999	5.0%
T32	\$95,000 but not over \$99,999	2.5%
T33	\$100,000 and over	0.0%

265 (xxix) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 266 income tax purposes, for married individuals who file a return under
 267 the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose
 268 federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one
 269 hundred fifty thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing
 270 January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual

271 retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (II)
 272 for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent
 273 of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a
 274 Roth individual retirement account, and (III) for the taxable year
 275 commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any
 276 distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth
 277 individual retirement account. The subtraction under this clause shall
 278 be made in accordance with the following schedule:

T34	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T35	Less than \$100,000	100.0%
T36	\$100,000 but not over \$104,999	85.0%
T37	\$105,000 but not over \$109,999	70.0%
T38	\$110,000 but not over \$114,999	55.0%
T39	\$115,000 but not over \$119,999	40.0%
T40	\$120,000 but not over \$124,999	25.0%
T41	\$125,000 but not over \$129,999	10.0%
T42	\$130,000 but not over \$139,999	5.0%
T43	\$140,000 but not over \$149,999	2.5%
T44	\$150,000 and over	0.0%

279 (xxx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 280 income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022,
 281 the amount or amounts paid or otherwise credited to any eligible
 282 resident of this state under (I) the 2020 Earned Income Tax Credit
 283 enhancement program from funding allocated to the state through the
 284 Coronavirus Relief Fund established under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief,
 285 and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, and (II) the 2021 Earned
 286 Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the
 287 state pursuant to Section 9901 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American
 288 Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2;

289 (xxxii) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, and each
 290 taxable year thereafter, for a taxpayer licensed under the provisions of
 291 chapter 420f or 420h, the amount of ordinary and necessary expenses

292 that would be eligible to be claimed as a deduction for federal income
293 tax purposes under Section 162(a) of the Internal Revenue Code but that
294 are disallowed under Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code
295 because marijuana is a controlled substance under the federal
296 Controlled Substance Act;

297 (xxxii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
298 income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing on or after
299 January 1, 2025, and each taxable year thereafter, any common stock
300 received by the taxpayer during the taxable year under a share plan, as
301 defined in section 12-217ss;

302 (xxxiii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
303 income tax purposes, the amount of any student loan reimbursement
304 payment received by a taxpayer pursuant to section 10a-19m;

305 (xxxiv) Contributions to an ABLÉ account established pursuant to
306 sections 3-39k to 3-39q, inclusive, not to exceed five thousand dollars for
307 each individual taxpayer or ten thousand dollars for taxpayers filing a
308 joint return;

309 (xxxv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
310 income tax purposes, the amount of any payment received pursuant to
311 subsection (c) of section 3-122a;

312 (xxxvi) For an account holder, as defined in section 12-724b, who files
313 a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual, a
314 married individual filing separately or a head of household, whose
315 federal adjusted gross income for the taxable year is less than one
316 hundred twenty-five thousand dollars or who files a return under the
317 federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal
318 adjusted gross income for the taxable year is less than two hundred fifty
319 thousand dollars:

320 (I) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross
321 income, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2027, an amount
322 equal to the contributions deposited during the taxable years

323 commencing January 1, 2026, and January 1, 2027, in a first-time
324 homebuyer savings account established pursuant to subsection (c) of
325 section 12-724b, less any amounts withdrawn during said taxable years
326 by the account holder from such account under subparagraph (D) of
327 subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of section 12-724b. The amount claimed
328 under this subclause shall not exceed two thousand five hundred
329 dollars for each such taxable year for an unmarried individual, a
330 married individual filing separately or a head of household and five
331 thousand dollars for each such taxable year for married individuals
332 filing jointly;

333 (II) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross
334 income, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2028, and each
335 taxable year thereafter, an amount equal to the contributions deposited
336 during the taxable year in a first-time homebuyer savings account
337 established pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-724b, less any
338 amounts withdrawn during the taxable year by the account holder from
339 such account pursuant to subparagraph (D) of subdivision (2) of
340 subsection (f) of section 12-724b. The amount allowed to be claimed
341 under this subclause for the taxable year shall not exceed two thousand
342 five hundred dollars for an unmarried individual, a married individual
343 filing separately or a head of household and five thousand dollars for
344 married individuals filing jointly; and

345 (III) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
346 income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2027,
347 and each taxable year thereafter, an amount equal to the sum of all
348 interest accrued on a first-time homebuyer savings account, established
349 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-724b, during the taxable year;
350 [and]

351 (xxxvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
352 income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2027,
353 and each taxable year thereafter, for an account holder who is a qualified
354 beneficiary of a first-time homebuyer savings account, as those terms
355 are defined in section 12-724b, and who files a return under the federal

356 income tax as an unmarried individual, a married individual filing
 357 separately or a head of household, whose federal adjusted gross income
 358 for the taxable year is less than one hundred twenty-five thousand
 359 dollars or who files a return under the federal income tax as married
 360 individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for the
 361 taxable year is less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars, an amount
 362 equal to any withdrawal from such account that is used to pay or
 363 reimburse such qualified beneficiary for eligible costs, as defined in
 364 section 12-724b, incurred by the qualified beneficiary; and

365 (xxxviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal
 366 income tax purposes, any qualified payment, as defined in Section 139B
 367 of the Internal Revenue Code, not to exceed two thousand dollars in the
 368 aggregate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2027, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2027</i>	12-701(a)(20)(B)

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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Revenue Serv., Dept.	GF - Revenue Loss	None	250,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which establishes a state personal income tax deduction of up to \$2,000 for certain payments volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel receive for their service, results in a General Fund revenue loss of \$250,000 beginning in FY 28.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of qualifying individuals.

Sources: Joint Committee on Taxation Estimated Budget Effects of the Revenue Provisions Contained in The House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 1865, The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 373*****AN ACT ALLOWING A PERSONAL INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR STIPENDS PAID TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS, VOLUNTEER FIRE POLICE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE MEMBERS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill establishes a state income tax deduction of up to \$2,000 for certain payments volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel receive for their service. The deduction applies to “qualified payments,” which, under federal law, generally means state or local payments to someone for his or her services as a member of a volunteer organization that is organized, operated, and contractually obligated to provide firefighting or EMS services to the state or locality.

Under federal law, individuals may exclude up to \$600 of qualified payments they receive from their gross income for federal tax purposes. Because the starting point for Connecticut’s income tax is an individual’s federal adjusted gross income, this federal exemption automatically applies to the individual’s Connecticut income tax, unless state law provides otherwise.

The bill allows individuals to deduct up to \$2,000 in qualified payments that are included in the taxpayer’s gross income for federal income tax purposes (i.e. qualified payments that are taxable for federal income tax purposes because they exceed the \$600 maximum). The bill’s maximum deduction amount applies regardless of the taxpayer’s filing status.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2027, and applicable to tax years beginning on or after that date.

BACKGROUND***Other Federal Deduction for Volunteer Firefighters and EMS Personnel***

Eligible taxpayers may exclude from their federal gross income any income tax or property tax rebate or reduction provided to volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel by a state or political subdivision (26 U.S.C. § 139B).

Connecticut Property Tax Relief

State law allows municipalities to provide, by ordinance, a \$2,000 property tax abatement (or the equivalent amount in the form of an exemption) to specified volunteer emergency personnel, including volunteer firefighters and emergency medical technicians and paramedics (CGS § 12-81w).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/17/2026)