

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200  
Hartford, CT 06106 ◊ (860) 240-0200  
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

---

HB-5152

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN AUTHORITIES RELATED TO  
THE PREVENTION OF WILDFIRES.

---

## ***OFA Fiscal Note***

### ***State Impact:***

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 27 \$</b>	<b>FY 28 \$</b>
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

***Municipal Impact:*** None

### ***Explanation***

The bill makes various changes that limit activities across the state to prevent wildfires. The bill prohibits open brush burning within 100 feet of a woodland or grass land area when the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner identifies the forest fire risk as high or very high and extends the length of time the state forest fire warden may approve reimbursement for various emergency services. These procedural changes do not result in a fiscal impact as the agency currently has the ability to provide reimbursements beyond the one-month deadline.

Additionally, the bill (1) broadens the Governor's authority to ban access to and burning on certain woodlands and brushlands, and (2) increases the fine for violating a ban from a minimum of \$5 and a maximum of \$100, to a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$1,000, resulting in a potential revenue gain to the General Fund beginning in

Primary Analyst: SB  
Contributing Analyst(s): TM, RP  
Reviewer: PR

3/16/26

FY 27<sup>1</sup>. The extent of the revenue gain will depend on whether the governor enacts such a prohibition, the number of violations, and the fines imposed, with a minimum potential revenue gain of \$400 per violation.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the increased number of violations and additional fines collected.

---

<sup>1</sup> In the past four years, no person has been charged or fined under CGS 23-50