

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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

sHB-5248

AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND TRANSMISSION PLANNING.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill expands the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) authority to establish energy efficiency standards, which does not result in a cost to the state as DEEP has the staff and expertise necessary to meet the requirements of the bill.

Additionally, the bill requires the Siting Council, when determining whether a public need exists for transmission lines, substations, and switchyards, to consider if the project addresses anticipated future electric grid reliability needs. This does not result in a cost to the state as the Siting Council has the staff and expertise necessary to make these determinations.

Rate Payer Impact

Appliance regulations under consideration in Sections 2-5 would be expected to save Connecticut residents over 6.6 million¹ megawatt-hours of electricity through 2050, resulting in significant savings to rate payers who take advantage of the efficiency standards.

Planned transmission projects can lower the costs to rate payers by

¹ Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

reducing the risk of unknown or unexpectedly high upgrade costs by eliminating transmission congestion and eliminating barriers to various new projects.

It is anticipated that requiring the Siting Council to determine whether a public need exists for transmission lines and to consider if the project addresses anticipated future electric grid reliability needs, could yield savings to rate payers. The extent of the savings will be dependent upon the specific project and various electric distribution company decisions, that are outside the immediate scope of the bill.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None