

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5381

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ACCOUNT TO COMPENSATE VICTIMS OF UNLAWFUL FUNERAL SERVICE PRACTICES.

As Amended by House "A" (LCO 4913)

House Calendar No.: 428

Senate Calendar No.: 484

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Cost	None	76,750
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	None	31,260
Consumer Protection, Dept.	Funeral Service Guaranty Account - Potential Cost	None	See Below
Consumer Protection, Dept.	Funeral Service Guaranty Account - Potential Revenue Gain	None	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) to oversee the funeral service guaranty account (FSGA) and make grants to eligible applicants resulting in a cost to the state. To meet the requirements of the bill, DCP will have to hire a paralegal specialist for

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 41.82% of payroll in FY 27.

a salary and other expenses cost of \$76,750 in FY 28², along with associated fringe benefit costs of \$31,260 in FY 28. The new employee is needed to review applications, make payments from the account, and answer applicant questions.

The bill specifies that DCP may deduct and retain up to two percent of the balance of the FSGA for the costs incurred in managing the account resulting in a potential cost to the FSGA and a corresponding potential revenue gain to DCP.

House "A" strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact resulting in the impact described above.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to employee wage increases and inflation.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does 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.

²The fiscal impact begins in FY 28 due to the 7/1/27 start date of the FSGA.