

# Planning and Development Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** SB-449 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL POLICY AND PLANNING DIVISION WITHIN THE

**Title:** OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT.

**Vote Date:** 3/13/2026

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 3/11/2026

**File No.:**

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Planning and Development Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

The bill revises statutes relating to the local capital improvement fund, the small-town economic assistance program, and the public school district repair and improvement project program. It also requires the state to identify and classify certain state-owned land as farmland, forest land, open space land or maritime heritage land. Additionally, it repeals statutes relating to the intertown capital equipment purchase incentive program and provisions concerning zoning treatment of family childcare homes.

The bill is intended to update and clarify existing statutes, improve administration of state funding programs, and remove outdated or unnecessary provisions.

### SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE (IF APPLICABLE):

Rather than repealing section 8-3j of the general statutes as in the raised bill, this substitute amends section 8-3j in Sec. 5 by removing subsec. (b) concerning a municipal reporting requirement.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**Office of Policy and Management, Undersecretary, Martin Heft:** testified in support of the bill. He stated that the bill implements recommendations to clarify and improve administration of the Local Capital Improvement Program and the Small-Town Economic Assistance

Program, including ensuring funds are spent before new grants are issued and strengthening reporting requirements. The bill also adjusts school project grant timelines to align with data availability, establishes a process to classify certain state-owned land, and repeals outdated or unused statutes. He noted that only the municipal reporting requirement in one section is proposed for repeal, not the entire statute.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

None expressed.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

**Anonymous 1000:** Opposes this bill.

**Lena Gjonaj:** Opposes this bill.

**Cynthia Steckler:** Opposes this bill.

**Anonymous 999:** Opposes this bill.

**Reported by: Michael Hamann**

**Date: 3/20/26**