

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5001

AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ALL AND
VARIOUS OTHER REFORMS RELATED TO THE
ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 6029

File Copy No.: 725

House Calendar No.: 348

Senate Calendar No.: 460

OFA Fiscal Note

Reduces Cost In Bill

The amendment strikes sections 2 through 73 of the bill, eliminating those sections and the associated fiscal impacts as described below.

The amendment eliminates the state costs from the bill associated with risk-limiting audits, absentee ballot tracking, and automatic absentee ballot status. The resulting total reduction to the bill's General Fund cost is approximately \$415,000 in FY 27, \$280,000 in FY 28, and \$435,000 in FY 29.

The amendment additionally eliminates the bill's costs to municipalities of: (1) up to \$22,000 in FY 27 to municipalities statewide associated with Help America Vote Act provisions; (2) approximately \$2,000 in FY 27 and up to \$50,000 in FY 29 and beyond associated with risk-limiting audits; (3) less than \$200 per year to each town beginning in FY 26 associated with deputy registrar training; and (4) any potential costs associated with an optional town voter participation pilot program.

The amendment also eliminates the bill's savings to SOTS and municipalities, respectively, associated with: (1) the elimination of the

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outer envelope (which may have been partially offset by privacy sleeve costs); and (2) the optional shift to quadrennial municipal elections.

Finally, the amendment eliminates the bill's: (1) potential costs and revenue gains associated with the bill's restrictions on activities around the polling place; and (2) annual revenue increase to UConn for deputy registrar training.

The bill's remaining costs are associated with the anticipated increase in participation via absentee voting and the need to replace certain voting materials. These costs are to the Secretary of the State (SOTS), the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC), fringe benefits, and municipalities.

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.