

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5509

AN ACT CONCERNING JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

## **OFA Fiscal Note**

### **State Impact:**

| Agency Affected      | Fund-Effect                 | FY 27 \$ | FY 28 \$ |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Public Health, Dept. | GF - Potential Revenue Loss | Minimal  | Minimal  |

Note: GF=General Fund

### **Municipal Impact:**

| Municipalities     | Effect                 | FY 27 \$ | FY 28 \$ |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------|----------|
| All Municipalities | Potential Revenue Loss | Minimal  | Minimal  |

## **Explanation**

The bill requires registrars to wait at least 48 hours after application to grant marriage licenses, resulting in a minimal revenue loss to the Department of Public Health (DPH) and a potential minimal revenue loss to municipalities annually beginning in FY 27. The bill additionally makes changes regarding justices of the peace, which have no fiscal impact.

**Sections 6 and 7** require registrars to wait at least 48 hours after application to grant marriage licenses, resulting in a potential minimal revenue loss to the state and municipalities beginning in FY 27 to the extent fewer marriage licenses are issued due to this change.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to CGS Sec. 7-73, the total marriage license fee is \$50, which is distributed as follows: \$16 is retained by the municipality (a \$15 base fee plus a \$1 administrative retention), and \$34 is forwarded to the Department of Public Health and credited to a

**Section 8** establishes a task force to study the number of justices of the peace, current practices, selection process, training, qualifications, and issues related to forced marriage and marriage fraud, resulting in no fiscal impact. The task force has the necessary expertise to implement the bill's provisions.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future, subject to the number of couples that would have otherwise purchased a marriage license and the cost of the marriage license.

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separate non-lapsing account used to provide shelter services for victims of household abuse and rape crisis services.