

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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

sSB-260

AN ACT CONCERNING ROAMING DOGS.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Judicial Dept. (Probation)	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill increases penalties for violating the ban on roaming dogs and adds two exemptions from the ban, resulting in a net potential cost to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines.^{1,2} On average, the marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$600³ each year for adults and \$450 each year for juveniles.

¹ Violations are currently punished as an infraction, with violators typically charged a \$50 fine, \$7 fee, and \$35 surcharge. The bill makes first offenses punishable by a fine of up to \$350 and second and subsequent offenses punishable by up to \$500. Third or subsequent violations occurring within one year after the immediate prior violation is a class C misdemeanor, punishable by up to three months in prison and a fine of up to a \$500.

² Between FY 22 and FY 25, there were a total of 3,644 offenses recorded and \$181,625 in fines collected under CGS § 22-364.

³ Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of offenses and fines collected.