

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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SB-298

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REALLOCATION OF CERTAIN  
STATE FUNDS AND VARIOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO  
EDUCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, GENERAL GOVERNMENT,  
ELECTIONS, INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES AND  
WAREHOUSE DISTRIBUTION CENTERS.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 2367

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## ***OFA Fiscal Note***

### ***Cost***

The amendment expands the requirements for serving as a moderator, creates photo identification requirements for absentee voting and in-person voting, requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to waive fees for certain applicants seeking identity cards, and requires libraries to provide printing and photocopying services to comply with the amendment's photo identification requirements, resulting in the fiscal impacts outlined below beginning in FY 27.

The amendment requires municipal registrars to conduct national background checks on moderators to ensure compliance with the bill's provisions at the Secretary of the State's (SOTS) expense, resulting in a cost beginning in FY 26. The total cost of the background checks<sup>1</sup> depends on the number of moderators appointed.

The amendment requires, rather than allows the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to waive the fee for any applicant for an identity card who does not have the means to pay such fee, including any applicant who is a resident of a homeless shelter or other

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<sup>1</sup> Basic national background checks are estimated to cost \$20 to \$100 per report, depending on the depth of the search.

facility for homeless persons or a certified homeless youth or certified homeless young adult. This will result in a revenue loss to the Special Transportation Fund.

Additionally, the amendment results in a cost of less than \$5,000 annually to the Connecticut State Library (CSL) and municipal libraries, and a potential cost to the Office of the Treasurer (OTT) annually beginning in FY 27. It requires any library in the state that is open to the public to make a photocopier available for anyone who has received an absentee ballot to make a copy of their photo identification and allows such libraries to seek reimbursement from OTT. The cost to CSL and municipal libraries will vary based on the amount of copies made but is estimated to be less than \$5,000 annually. Any cost to the OTT will depend on how many municipalities seek reimbursement and the total amount of reimbursement provided.

*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.*