



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 174

January Session, 2007

Substitute House Bill No. 7180

House of Representatives, March 28, 2007

The Committee on Energy and Technology reported through REP. FONTANA, S. of the 87th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITE PROVIDERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On and after January 1,
2 2008, any direct broadcast satellite provider doing business in the state
3 shall make available at least one in-state employee to handle customer
4 service matters for the direct broadcast satellite provider's customers in
5 the state. Such individual shall register with the Department of
6 Consumer Protection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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ET Joint Favorable Subst.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Cost	Potential 128,000	Potential 125,660
Comptroller Misc. Accounts (Fringe Benefits) ¹	GF - Cost	Potential 59,000	Potential 59,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill requires any direct broadcast satellite provider doing business in Connecticut to register at least one employee in the state with the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). Currently, there are four satellite television companies doing business in the state.

This bill could result in a cost to DCP for a Lead Special Investigator and a Special Investigator. Costs for DCP are less in FY 09 than FY 08, because FY 08 includes one-time equipment start up costs.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of complaints received,

¹ The fringe benefit costs for state employees are budgeted centrally in the Miscellaneous Accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated first year fringe benefit rate for a new employee as a percentage of average salary is 25.8%, effective July 1, 2006. The first year fringe benefit costs for new positions do not include pension costs. The state's pension contribution is based upon the prior year's certification by the actuary for the State Employees Retirement System (SERS). The SERS 2006-07 fringe benefit rate is 34.4%, which when combined with the non pension fringe benefit rate totals 60.2%.

and subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7180

AN ACT CONCERNING DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITE PROVIDERS.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires, starting January 1, 2008, each direct broadcast satellite TV provider doing business in Connecticut to have at least one employee in the state to handle customer service matters for its Connecticut customers. The individual must register with the Department of Consumer Protection.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 21 Nay 1 (03/13/2007)