



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5506

February Session, 2008

* HB05506GAE 031908 *

AN ACT CONCERNING A MUNICIPAL ETHICS PILOT PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
2 pilot program for the handling of municipal ethics complaints. The
3 Office of State Ethics shall notify municipalities of the opportunity to
4 participate in the pilot program and shall select six municipalities to
5 participate, provided the legislative body of each municipality, or in
6 the case of a municipality in which the legislative body is a town
7 meeting, the board of selectmen, consents to such participation on or
8 before July 1, 2009. In making such selections, the office shall rank all
9 municipalities from highest population to the lowest population, and
10 select two municipalities in the highest third of such ranking, two
11 municipalities in the middle third of such ranking, and two
12 municipalities in the lowest third of such ranking.

13 (b) Each municipality that participates in such pilot program shall
14 adopt an ethics code applicable to public officials and employees of
15 such municipality, that is as restrictive or more restrictive than the
16 State Code of Ethics for public officials established in chapter 10 of the
17 general statutes, prior to determining whether to consent to participate
18 in such pilot program.

19 (c) The Office of State Ethics shall have the power to enforce the
20 provisions of any such ethics code to the same extent as the office has

21 the power to enforce provisions of the State Code of Ethics under
22 chapter 10 of the general statutes.

23 (d) The Office of State Ethics shall adopt regulations, in accordance
24 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out
25 the pilot program described in this section. Such regulations shall
26 include, but not be limited to, procedures for the filing of a complaint
27 with the Office of State Ethics and procedures to be applied to the
28 hearing of any such ethics complaint by the Office of State Ethics.

29 (e) Not later than December 31, 2011, the Office of State Ethics shall
30 file a report with the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
31 having cognizance of matters relating to government administration
32 which details the pilot program described in this section, including the
33 number of complaints filed with the office pursuant to such program,
34 the disposition of such complaints and the need to expand or eliminate
35 such pilot program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*