



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 130**

January Session, 2011

Senate Bill No. 868

*Senate, March 22, 2011*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through SEN. CASSANO of the 4th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE DETECTIVES  
BY MUNICIPALITIES.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 7-283 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 (a) No [municipal corporation] municipality shall employ private  
4 detectives in the investigation or detection of crime at an expense of  
5 more than [five hundred] two thousand dollars unless (1) a specific  
6 appropriation therefor has been made, [nor unless] (2) the authorities  
7 [thereof] of such municipality have first applied to the [state police]  
8 Division of State Police within the Department of Public Safety for  
9 assistance in such investigation and waited a reasonable time for said  
10 [state police] division to act, and (3) the authorities of such  
11 municipality have given written notice of the hiring of such private  
12 detectives not less than seven business days prior to such hiring to (A)  
13 the police chief of the municipality, if applicable, (B) the Division of  
14 State Police within the Department of Public Safety, and (C) the state's

15 attorney for the judicial district in which the municipality is located.

16 (b) Any municipal official who violates any provision of subsection  
17 (a) of this section shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars and  
18 shall be liable to such municipality in a civil action for the amount  
19 expended in excess of such sum as has been appropriated for such  
20 investigation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2011	7-283

**PD**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do 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.

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***OFA Fiscal Note******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** See Below***Explanation***

The bill would allow any municipality to increase (from \$500 to \$2,000) the amount it expends to employ private detectives, without a specific appropriation. It is anticipated that any resulting additional minimal costs will only be incurred to the extent that local resources allow.

***The Out Years******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 868*****AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE DETECTIVES  
BY MUNICIPALITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases, from \$500 to \$2,000, the amount a town can spend without a specific appropriation to hire a private detective to investigate a crime. The bill prohibits a town from spending more than \$2,000 unless:

1. a specific appropriation is made;
2. town authorities have first applied to the State Police for assistance in the investigation and waited a reasonable time for them to act; and
3. at least seven business days before hiring a private detective, town authorities give written notice of the hiring to (a) the town's police chief, if applicable; (b) the State Police; and (c) the state's attorney for the judicial district in which the town is located.

Current law requires town authorities to contact the State Police for assistance with an investigation and wait a reasonable time for them to act before spending more than \$500 to hire a private detective.

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/07/2011)