



# OLR RESEARCH REPORT

October 31, 2012

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## MUNICIPAL MANDATES

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You asked whether the legislature enacted any new municipal mandates during the 2012 session.

According to a [June 2012 report](#) prepared by the Connecticut Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR), the legislature enacted one public act, *An Act Concerning Educational Reform* (PA 12-116), that is projected to have a “moderate” impact on municipalities and 20 that “likely can be absorbed without a additional appropriation but which have minimal fiscal impact.” (The ACIR report also identifies 14 public acts that reduced existing mandates.) Attachment 1 lists these 21 public acts, briefly describes each mandate, and provides ACIR's description and OFA's fiscal analysis of it.

ACIR is required to annually report to the legislature on each state mandate enacted during any regular or special session (CGS § [2-32c](#)). Such reports are available at [ACIR's website](#) or through the Legislative Library.

### Attachment 1: Municipal Mandates Enacted in 2012

<i>Public Act No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Summary of Mandate Provisions</i>	<i>ACIR Description</i>	<i>OFA Analysis of the Mandate's Fiscal Impact to Municipalities</i>
<a href="#">PA 12-116</a>	An Act Concerning Educational Reform	<p>Among other things, requires towns, boards of education, or school superintendents to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Require their K-3 teachers to take a teacher reading exam</li> <li>• Disseminate certain information on school options</li> <li>• Implement a new uniform system of accounting for school revenues and expenditures</li> <li>• Establish school governance councils for certain low-performing schools</li> <li>• Make payments to state and local charter schools</li> <li>• Meet certain conditions for low-performing school districts to receive increased Education Cost Sharing grants</li> <li>• In conjunction with a new teacher evaluation and support pilot program, provide training for all evaluators and orientation to all teachers</li> <li>• Incorporate evaluations into decisions about granting tenure</li> </ul>	New mandate	See <a href="#">Fiscal Note</a> for detailed description of costs
<a href="#">PA 12-6</a>	An Act Concerning the Jeopardy Collection of Taxes	Requires local tax collectors to notify in writing the (1) taxpayer and (2) municipality's chief elected official or chief executive officer when beginning a jeopardy tax collection proceeding.	Minimal mandate	Cost to municipalities less than \$1,000
<a href="#">PA 12-40</a>	An Act Concerning College Readiness and Completion	Among other things, requires public high schools to align their curricula with the Connecticut State University System and community-technical colleges by the fall semester of 2016	Minimal mandate	No anticipated cost to local and regional school districts
<a href="#">PA 12-43</a>	An Act Concerning Family and Medical Leave Benefits for Certain Municipal Employees	Reduces the number of work hours school paraprofessionals in educational settings need to qualify for family and medical leave benefits	Minimal mandate	Potential minimal cost
<a href="#">PA 12-44</a>	An Act Concerning Insurance Coverage for the Birth-to-Three Program	Changes requirements for individual and group health insurance policies that provide coverage for medically necessary intervention (birth-to-three) services as part of an individualized family service place	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact

**Attachment 1 (continued)**

<b>Public Act No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Summary of Mandate Provisions</b>	<b>ACIR Description</b>	<b>OFA Analysis of the Mandate's Fiscal Impact to Municipalities</b>
<a href="#">PA 12-49</a>	An Act Concerning the Appointment of Primary Polling Place Officials	Among other things, requires registrars of voters to train prospective primary polling place officials on how to perform their duties	Minimal mandate	Minimal cost, to the extent that a municipality does not currently train its polling officials
<a href="#">PA 12-56</a>	An Act Concerning Voting Rights	Requires registrars to designate locations for election day registration, appoint election officials to serve at these locations, and train and supervise them	Minimal mandate	Cost to municipalities, varying by the type of election and its population
<a href="#">PA 12-70</a>	An Act Concerning Department of Transportation Project Delivery and Project Labor Agreements for Certain Public Works Projects	Authorizes the state, its agencies and political subdivisions to require a project labor agreement (PLA) for public works projects when they determine it is in the public's interest to do so. It requires these entities to determine if a PLA is in the public's best interest before entering into a design-build contract of at least \$10 million to (1) build a new school or (2) renovate or reconstruct an existing public school.	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact
<a href="#">PA 12-101</a>	An Act Concerning the Coastal Management Act and Shoreline Flood and Erosion Control Structures	Requires a municipal zoning commission to (1) approve a coastal site plan for a shoreline flood and erosion control structure under certain circumstances and (2) propose structure alternatives or mitigation measures and techniques if it denies such applications for certain reasons.	Minimal mandate	Potential significant costs
<a href="#">PA 12-111</a>	An Act Concerning Eyewitness Identification Procedures	Requires municipal police departments to (1) adopt procedures for photo and live lineups in accordance with Police Officer Standards Council and State Police policies and guidelines and (2) provide training in the administration of these procedures	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact
<a href="#">PA 12-114</a>	An Act Concerning Domestic Violence	(1) Requires local law enforcement agencies to follow certain procedures when receiving a complaint regarding the violation of a restraining order and (2) requires the operational guidelines they develop for arrest policies in family violence matters to meet the standards set out in the act	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact
<a href="#">PA 12-126</a>	An Act Concerning Workers' Compensation for Firefighters	Extends workers' compensation coverage for mental or emotional impairment to a volunteer or paid uniformed municipal firefighter diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder that originates from the firefighter witnessing the death of another firefighter while engaged in the line of duty	Minimal mandate	Potential fiscal impact

**Attachment 1 (continued)**

<b>Public Act No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Summary of Mandate Provisions</b>	<b>ACIR Description</b>	<b>OFA Analysis of the Mandate's Fiscal Impact to Municipalities</b>
<a href="#">PA 12-131</a>	An Act Establishing a Fine Art Secured Lending License	Creates a new fine art secured lending license issued by towns and cities with provisions and requirements similar to those for pawnbrokers	Minimal mandate	Revenue gain of less than \$5,000 for municipalities
<a href="#">PA 12-146</a>	An Act Concerning Persons Aggrieved by Decisions of Municipal Land Use Boards and the Penalties for Violating Municipal Blight Ordinances	Requires towns that have housing blight ordinances to include in their implementing regulations provisions mandating (1) written notice to the property's owner and occupant of a violation and (2) a reasonable opportunity to remediate the conditions before any enforcement action	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact
<a href="#">PA 12-148</a>	An Act Enhancing Emergency Preparedness and Response	Requires municipalities to notify the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) whenever they do road work (1) over five miles long or (2) in a commercial area	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact
<a href="#">PA 12-161</a>	An Act Concerning the Private Rental Investment Mortgage and Equity Program	Requires Department of Economic and Community Development approval for dissolving municipal redevelopment agencies that planned and implemented state-assisted projects.	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact
<a href="#">PA 12-173</a>	An Act Concerning Individualized Education Programs and Other Issues Relating to Special Education	Makes several changes in the state's special education law	Minimal mandate	Potential minimal cost
<a href="#">PA 12-183</a>	An Act Concerning Revisions to the State's Brownfield Remediation and Development Statutes	Establishes a process municipalities must follow to nominate a brownfield site for acceptance in the Liability Protection Program	Minimal mandate	Potential revenue gain
<a href="#">PA 12-198</a>	An Act Concerning the Administration of Medicine to Students with Diabetes, the Duties of School Medical Advisors, the Availability of CPR and AED Training Materials for Boards of Education and Physical Exercise During the School Day	Requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• school boards to implement a plan for managing students with glycogen storage disease enrolled in schools in their jurisdictions</li> <li>• public schools to include a total of 20 minutes of physical exercise in each regular school day for students in kindergarten through grade five</li> </ul>	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact

**Attachment 1 (continued)**

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<a href="#">PA 12-1, June Special Session (JSS)</a>	An Act Implementing the Provisions of the State Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2012	Requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• each school-based health center that receives operational funding from the Department of Public Health to establish a communications agreements with the school's local or regional board of education</li> <li>• municipalities to include the Judicial Branch's form on community-based resources for people involved in foreclosure mediation with any statement sent to a homeowner about a public sewer, water service, or property tax arrearage</li> <li>• municipal police departments to record and retain certain traffic stop data using a specific form</li> <li>• local and regional boards of education, in collaboration with the Board of Regents and the UConn Board of Trustees, to develop a plan to align Connecticut's common core state standards with college-level programs at Connecticut public higher education institutions</li> </ul>	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact
<a href="#">PA 12-2, JSS</a>	An Act Implementing Certain Provisions Concerning Government Administration	Requires any municipality that receives certain GIS data from electric companies to demonstrate that it has appropriate procedures to keep it confidential	Minimal mandate	No fiscal impact

Source: Connecticut Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, *State Mandates on Municipalities: Actions in 2012*, June 2012; Public act summaries and fiscal notes