



House of Representatives

File No. 791

General Assembly

January Session, 2013

(Reprint of File No. 41)

House Bill No. 6375
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 10, 2013

AN ACT CONCERNING UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 29-1c of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
4 shall establish a state-wide uniform crime reporting system within the
5 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and shall
6 develop policy concerning the use of data obtained through said
7 system.

8 (b) Each organized police department shall participate in the state-
9 wide uniform crime reporting system by submitting to the
10 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, at such
11 times and on such forms as said commissioner may prescribe, a
12 uniform crime report concerning crimes committed within such
13 organized police department's jurisdiction. Such report shall contain
14 the number and nature of offenses committed and such other
15 information as the commissioner shall require.

16 (c) If an organized police department fails to submit the report
17 required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section or if information
18 required to be contained in such report is missing, incomplete or
19 incorrect, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
20 Protection shall notify the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning
21 Division within the Office of Policy and Management and the chief
22 elected official of the municipality in which such police department is
23 located of such failure or such missing, incomplete or incorrect
24 information. Such notice to the chief elected official of the municipality
25 shall include a statement of the consequences to the municipality of the
26 failure to submit such a report or the submission of a report with
27 missing, incomplete or incorrect information. The Office of Policy and
28 Management may deny a municipality eligibility for state or federal
29 law enforcement grants if its police department has failed to submit
30 such report or submitted a report with missing, incomplete or incorrect
31 information. For purposes of this subsection, information is missing,
32 incomplete or incorrect if so designated by the Federal Bureau of
33 Investigation or if not submitted within sixty days of the end of the
34 month in which such information is required to be reported.

35 [(c)] (d) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
36 Protection may establish an advisory board composed of police chiefs
37 from organized police departments to assist him in developing such
38 policy referred to in subsection (a) of this section. The Commissioner of
39 Emergency Services and Public Protection may, with the advice and
40 assistance of said board, if so established, adopt regulations, in
41 accordance with chapter 54, necessary to implement and maintain the
42 state-wide uniform crime reporting system.

43 [(d)] (e) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
44 Protection shall publish an annual report concerning the extent,
45 fluctuation, distribution and nature of crime in Connecticut. The
46 annual report shall include a specific analysis of the nature, extent and
47 pattern of sex crimes in the state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	29-1c

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.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Revenue Loss	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill allows the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to deny a municipality eligibility for state and federal law enforcement grants if the municipality fails to supply complete and correct information to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection's (DESPP) state-wide uniform crime reporting system.

If a municipality is declared ineligible for state and federal grants, it may experience a revenue loss. The amount of revenue loss is dependent upon the number and size of state and federal law enforcement grants that a municipality receives, or may expect to receive, at the time of OPM's declaration of ineligibility.

The total amount of state and federal law enforcement grants that OPM has the ability to declare municipalities ineligible for is estimated to be \$500,000 in FY 14 and \$400,000 in FY 15.

House "A" requires DESPP to notify a municipality of the consequences of the failure to submit complete and correct information and has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future as long as a municipality is deemed ineligible and would be dependent upon the number and size of state and federal law enforcement grants that a municipality receives, or may expect to receive.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6375 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to deny eligibility for state and federal law enforcement grants to any municipality whose police department fails to comply with the state's uniform crime reporting system's (UCR) reporting requirements (see BACKGROUND).

By law, under the state's UCR program, police departments must submit to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) commissioner, at such times as he prescribes, reports on the number and nature of crimes committed within their jurisdictions and other such information as he requires. DESPP sends the data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which compiles and publishes states' data annually in its *Crime in the United States* series. Under the bill, if a department does not submit the required report or submits a report with missing, incomplete, or incorrect information, the DESPP commissioner must notify OPM's Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division and the municipality's chief elected official, and OPM may deny the town eligibility for state or federal law enforcement grants. The notice to the elected official must include a statement of the consequences of noncompliance.

Information is considered missing, incomplete, or incorrect under the bill if so designated by the FBI or if not submitted within 60 days of the end of the month in which it must be reported.

*House Amendment "A" adds the noncompliance statement to the

elected official's notice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

UCR Program

Under the UCR program, law enforcement agencies nationwide voluntarily provide data on crime within their jurisdictions to the FBI, either through a state UCR program, as is the case in Connecticut, or directly to the FBI's UCR program in states without a UCR program. Under Connecticut's UCR program, police departments submit crime data to DESPP, which must publish annual reports on the extent, fluctuation, and nature of crime in Connecticut. Nationally, the states' UCR data is used in law enforcement administration, operation, and management, and to indicate fluctuations in crime levels in America.

Examples of State and Federal Law Enforcement Grants

Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). This program provides states and local governments with funding necessary to support law enforcement and other programs. The program requires that 40% of total grant awards be set aside for local grant projects.

Stop Violence Against Women. This program encourages the development and improvement of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violent crimes against women and the development and improvement of advocacy and services in cases involving violent crimes against women.

Police and Youth Program. The goals of this program are to promote positive youth development and increase the number of police officers who are experienced and comfortable interacting with youth.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 24 Nay 0 (02/28/2013)

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 0 (04/15/2013)