



House of Representatives

File No. 803

General Assembly

January Session, 2013

(Reprint of File No. 408)

House Bill No. 6523
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 13, 2013

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF FIRE CHIEFS AT
CERTAIN STATE FACILITIES.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) Notwithstanding section
2 7-313e of the general statutes or any other provision of the general
3 statutes, or any provision of a municipal ordinance, the fire chief of the
4 fire department at The University of Connecticut at Storrs, The
5 University of Connecticut Health Center or the Southbury Training
6 School, or any member of such department serving in the capacity of
7 fire officer-in-charge, shall, whenever any fire department or company
8 is responding to or operating at a fire, service call or other emergency
9 at said university, health center or training school, (1) control and
10 direct emergency activities at such scene, (2) order any person to leave
11 any building or place in the vicinity of such fire, service call or
12 emergency for the purpose of protecting such person from injury, and
13 (3) have all other authority provided to a fire chief or fire officer-in-
14 charge pursuant to section 7-313e of the general statutes.

15 Sec. 2. Section 15-101ww of the general statutes is repealed and the
16 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

17 Notwithstanding section 7-313e or any other provision of the
18 general statutes, or any provision of a municipal ordinance, the fire
19 chief of the fire department at Bradley International Airport, or any
20 member serving in the capacity of the fire officer-in-charge shall, when
21 any fire department or company is responding to or operating at a fire,
22 service call or other emergency at Bradley International Airport, (1)
23 control and direct emergency activities at such scene, (2) order any
24 person to leave any building, aircraft or place in the vicinity of such
25 fire for the purpose of protecting such person from injury, and (3) have
26 all other authority provided to a fire chief or a fire officer-in-charge
27 pursuant to section 7-313e.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	15-101ww

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:*** None***Explanation***

The bill, which establishes the authority of the chiefs of the fire departments at the University of Connecticut, The University of Connecticut Health Center, the Southbury Training School, and Bradley International Airport in the event of a service call at such facility, has no fiscal impact.

House "A," which eliminated references to the Connecticut Valley Hospital and added references to Bradley International Airport, has no fiscal impact.

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

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6523 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF FIRE CHIEFS AT CERTAIN STATE FACILITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill gives the UConn and Southbury Training School fire chiefs, or anyone serving as fire officer-in-charge for these entities, the same authority as their municipal counterparts when responding to a fire, service call, or other emergency in their jurisdiction. The UConn fire chief oversees both the UConn Storrs campus and UConn Health Center.

In doing so, the bill requires these state facility fire officials to:

1. control and direct emergency activities at the scene;
2. order people to leave any building or place near such fire, service call, or emergency to protect them from injury;
3. temporarily block any public highway, street, or private right-of-way;
4. enter any building where a fire is in progress or near, or where there is reasonable cause to believe a fire is in progress, extinguish the fire or prevent it from spreading;
5. generally inspect all buildings (except inside a private dwelling), structures, or other places within his or her jurisdiction, to prevent fires;
6. order disengagement or decoupling of certain vehicles (e.g., trains) to extinguish a fire or prevent its spread; and

- 7. take command of any industrial fire brigade or fire chief when such firefighters have been called to a fire scene (CGS § 7-313e).

*House Amendment "A" eliminates the Connecticut Valley Hospital's fire chief from the list and makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 24 Nay 0 (03/21/2013)