



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 695**

*January Session, 2013*

House Bill No. 6676

*House of Representatives, May 2, 2013*

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. FOX, G. of the 146th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT LONGEVITY INITIATIVE ON A STATE-WIDE BASIS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) For purposes of this  
2 section, "Project Longevity Initiative" means a comprehensive  
3 community-based initiative that is designed to reduce gun violence in  
4 the state's cities and "secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of  
5 Policy and Management.

6 (b) Pursuant to the provisions of section 4-66a of the general  
7 statutes, the secretary shall (1) provide planning and management  
8 assistance to municipal officials in the city of New Haven in order to  
9 ensure the continued implementation of the Project Longevity  
10 Initiative in said city and the secretary may utilize state and federal  
11 funds as may be appropriated for such purpose; and (2) do all things  
12 necessary to apply for and accept federal funds allotted to or available  
13 to the state under any federal act or program which support the  
14 continued implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in the city

15 of New Haven.

16 (c) The secretary, or the secretary's designee, in consultation with  
17 the United States Attorney for the district of Connecticut, the Chief  
18 State's Attorney, the Commissioner of Correction, the executive  
19 director of the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch,  
20 the mayors of the cities of Hartford and Bridgeport, and clergy  
21 members, nonprofit service providers and community leaders from the  
22 cities of Hartford and Bridgeport, shall implement the Project  
23 Longevity Initiative in the cities of Hartford and Bridgeport.

24 (d) Pursuant to the provisions of section 4-66a of the general  
25 statutes, the secretary shall (1) provide planning and management  
26 assistance to municipal officials in the cities of Hartford and  
27 Bridgeport in order to ensure implementation of the Project Longevity  
28 Initiative in said cities and the secretary may utilize state and federal  
29 funds as may be appropriated for such purpose; and (2) do all things  
30 necessary to apply for and accept federal funds allotted to or available  
31 to the state under any federal act or program which will support  
32 implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in the cities of  
33 Hartford and Bridgeport.

34 (e) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may  
35 accept and receive on behalf of the office, subject to the provisions of  
36 section 4b-22 of the general statutes, any bequest, devise or grant made  
37 to the Office of Policy and Management to further the objectives of the  
38 Project Longevity Initiative and may hold and use such property for  
39 the purpose specified, if any, in such bequest, devise or gift.

40 (f) The secretary in consultation with the federal and state officials  
41 described in subsection (c) of this section shall create a plan for  
42 implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative on a state-wide  
43 basis.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
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**JUD**      *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:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 14 \$</b>	<b>FY 15 \$</b>
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Cost	Up to \$500,000	Up to \$500,000

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill requires the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to 1) support the continued implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in New Haven; 2) implement the initiative in Hartford and Bridgeport, and; 3) create a plan to implement the initiative statewide.

OPM is currently involved in the Project Longevity Initiative. PA 12-104, the revised FY 13 budget, appropriated \$500,000 to OPM to support the project through its Focus Deterrence account.

There is a cost of up to \$500,000 to OPM associated with consultant services and data analysis necessary to continue the implementation of Project Longevity. sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$475,000 in both FY 14 and FY 15 to the Focus Deterrence account. It is assumed that this funding would be used for the continued implementation of Project Longevity.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6676*****AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT LONGEVITY INITIATIVE ON A STATE-WIDE BASIS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) secretary to secure and use available federal and state funds and resources to (1) support the continued implementation of the “Project Longevity Initiative” in New Haven, (2) work with specified federal and state officials to implement the initiative in Hartford and Bridgeport, and (3) create a plan to implement the initiative statewide.

The initiative, launched in New Haven in 2012, is a comprehensive community-based initiative designed to reduce gun violence in Connecticut’s cities (see BACKGROUND).

The bill also authorizes the secretary, with the governor’s and attorney general’s approval, to accept, hold, and use bequests, devices, or grants to further the objectives of Project Longevity.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

**PROJECT LONGEVITY INITIATIVE*****Continued Implementation in New Haven***

The bill requires the OPM secretary to:

1. provide planning and management assistance to municipal officials in New Haven to ensure the continued implementation of Project Longevity in that city and
2. do everything necessary to apply for and accept federal funds allotted to or available to the state under any federal act or

program that supports the continued implementation of Project Longevity in New Haven.

The bill allows the secretary to use state and federal funds as appropriated for the continued implementation of the initiative in New Haven.

***Implementation in Hartford, Bridgeport, and Statewide***

The bill requires the secretary, or the secretary's designee, in consultation with certain federal and state officials, to (1) implement Project Longevity in Hartford and Bridgeport and (2) create a plan for implementing it statewide. These federal and state officials are:

1. the U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut;
2. the chief state's attorney;
3. the correction commissioner;
4. the executive director of the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch;
5. the mayors of Hartford and Bridgeport; and
6. clergy members, nonprofit service providers, and community leaders from Hartford and Bridgeport.

Under the bill, the secretary is required to (1) provide the municipal officials in Hartford and Bridgeport with planning and management assistance and (2) secure available federal and state funds to implement Project Longevity in both cities, as is required for New Haven's continued implementation.

***Acceptance and Use of Bequests, Devise, or Grants for Project Longevity***

The bill authorizes the secretary, with the governor's and attorney general's approval, to (1) accept and receive any bequest, devise or grant made to the Office of Policy and Management to further the objectives of Project Longevity and (2) to hold and use such property

for the purpose specified, if any, in the bequest, devise or gift.

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Project Longevity – New Haven***

The Project Longevity Initiative was launched in New Haven in 2012 as the beginning of a comprehensive initiative to reduce gun violence in Connecticut's major cities. It is based on the Group Violence Reduction Strategy developed by the Center for Crime Prevention and Control at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.

Project Longevity's strategy is based on the premise that violence can be reduced dramatically when community members and law enforcement join together to directly engage violent groups and clearly communicate to them:

1. a community message against violence,
2. a law enforcement message about the consequences of violence,  
and
3. an offer of help for those who want it.

To accomplish this, law enforcement, social service providers, and community members are recruited, assembled, and trained to engage in a sustained relationship with violent groups.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 44    Nay 0    (04/16/2013)