



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 665**

January Session, 2013

House Bill No. 6509

*House of Representatives, May 1, 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 THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION REGARDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 54-300 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2013*):

4 (d) The commission shall be composed of the following members:

5 (1) Eight persons appointed one each by: (A) The Governor, (B) the  
6 Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, (C) the president pro tempore of  
7 the Senate, (D) the speaker of the House of Representatives, (E) the  
8 majority leader of the Senate, (F) the majority leader of the House of  
9 Representatives, (G) the minority leader of the Senate, and (H) the  
10 minority leader of the House of Representatives, all of whom shall  
11 serve for a term of four years;

12 (2) Two judges appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court,

13 one of whom shall serve for a term of one year and one of whom shall  
14 serve for a term of three years;

15 (3) One representative of the Court Support Services Division of the  
16 Judicial Branch appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court,  
17 who shall serve for a term of two years;

18 (4) The Commissioner of Correction, who shall serve for a term  
19 coterminous with his or her term of office;

20 (5) The Chief State's Attorney, who shall serve for a term  
21 coterminous with his or her term of office;

22 (6) The Chief Public Defender, who shall serve for a term  
23 coterminous with his or her term of office;

24 (7) One state's attorney appointed by the Chief State's Attorney,  
25 who shall serve for a term of three years;

26 (8) One member of the criminal defense bar appointed by the  
27 president of the Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association,  
28 who shall serve for a term of three years;

29 (9) The Victim Advocate, who shall serve for a term coterminous  
30 with his or her term of office;

31 (10) The chairperson of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, who shall  
32 serve for a term coterminous with his or her term of office;

33 (11) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public  
34 Protection, who shall serve for a term coterminous with his or her term  
35 of office;

36 (12) A municipal police chief appointed by the president of the  
37 Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, who shall serve for a term of  
38 two years;

39 (13) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services,  
40 who shall serve for a term coterminous with his or her term of office;

41 (14) The undersecretary of the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning  
42 Division within the Office of Policy and Management, who shall serve  
43 for a term coterminous with his or her term of office; [and]

44 (15) An active or retired judge appointed by the Chief Justice of the  
45 Supreme Court, who shall serve as chairperson of the commission and  
46 serve for a term of four years; [.] and

47 (16) Notwithstanding section 2-5, the cochairpersons and ranking  
48 members of the joint standing committee on judiciary, or their  
49 designees chosen from among the members of the committee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2013	54-300(d)

**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>
Legislative Mgmt.; Various State Agencies	GF - Potential Cost	Less than 1,000	Less than 1,000

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

There may be a cost of less than \$1,000 to agencies participating in the Connecticut Sentencing Commission to reimburse legislators and agency staff for mileage expenses.

**The Out Years**

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

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6509*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION REGARDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill expands the membership of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission, from 23 to 27, by adding the Judiciary Committee's chairpersons and ranking members, or their designees, who must be chosen from among the committee's members.

By law, the commission (1) reviews the state's existing criminal sentencing structure and any proposed changes to it and (2) makes recommendations to the governor, the legislature, and criminal justice agencies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 41      Nay 3      (04/12/2013)