



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 48

February Session, 2014

House Bill No. 5436

House of Representatives, March 19, 2014

The Committee on Housing reported through REP. BUTLER of the 72nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE MEDICAL RESPITE FOR THE HOMELESS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) The Commissioner of
2 Housing shall develop a pilot program to provide temporary shelter to
3 homeless persons who are recovering from injury or illness. Such
4 program shall be implemented in up to three municipalities, each with
5 a population of seventy-five thousand or more. The commissioner may
6 contract with one or more nonprofit organizations to administer the
7 program. Not later than January 1, 2016, the commissioner shall
8 submit a report on the pilot program, in accordance with the
9 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
10 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
11 relating to housing.

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

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section
-----------	------------------------	-------------

HSG *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.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 15 \$	FY 16 \$
Department of Housing	GF - Cost	\$300,000 to \$900,000	\$400,000 to \$1.2 million

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost of \$900,000 in FY 15 by requiring the Commissioner of Housing to develop a medical respite pilot program in up to three municipalities as of October 1, 2014.

The Department of Housing currently runs a pilot program in New Haven for which the FY 14 budget included an appropriation of \$400,000. Assuming the annualized cost to implement a pilot program in one municipality under the bill is \$400,000 the cost to the agency to develop the program in three municipalities is \$1.2 million annually.

The bill does not specify when the pilot program would terminate. To the extent that the program continues beyond FY 15, there will be a cost to the agency of \$1.2 million annually.

The current New Haven pilot program (1) shares existing resources with a homeless shelter facility and (2) receives voluntary medical services from collaborating institutions. To the extent that similar shared resources and voluntary services are not available to the pilot programs under this bill, then the state's annual cost will increase in order to provide necessary services.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue until the pilot program terminates

.Sources: Department of Housing

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5436*****AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE MEDICAL RESPITE FOR THE HOMELESS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the housing commissioner to develop a pilot program, in up to three municipalities with populations of at least 75,000, to provide temporary shelter to homeless individuals recovering from an injury or illness. The commissioner may contract with nonprofit organizations to administer the program. She must report on the pilot program to the Housing Committee by January 1, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

COMMITTEE ACTION

Housing Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 7 Nay 0 (03/06/2014)