



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 203**

*January Session, 2015*

Substitute House Bill No. 6775

*House of Representatives, March 25, 2015*

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. DARGAN of the 115th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF THE COSTS OF CERTIFICATION FOR A POLICE OFFICER.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) For purposes of this  
2 section, "police officer", "certification" and "law enforcement unit" have  
3 the same meanings as provided in section 7-294a of the general statutes  
4 and "cost of certification" means the cost of training, equipment,  
5 uniforms, salary and fringe benefits and any cost related to the entry  
6 level requirements established by the Police Officer Standards and  
7 Training Council associated with the police officer, except that "cost of  
8 certification" does not include the cost of any equipment or uniforms  
9 that were returned by such officer.

10 (b) When a police officer obtains certification while employed by a  
11 law enforcement unit and is subsequently hired by another law  
12 enforcement unit on or after October 1, 2015, and within four years of  
13 such officer obtaining such certification, the law enforcement unit

14 hiring the police officer shall reimburse the initial law enforcement  
 15 unit the cost of certification as follows: (1) If the police officer is hired  
 16 not more than one year after certification, reimbursement shall be the  
 17 full cost of certification, (2) if the police officer is hired more than one  
 18 year, but not more than two years, after certification, reimbursement  
 19 shall be two-thirds of the cost of certification, (3) if the police officer is  
 20 hired more than two years, but not more than three years, after  
 21 certification, reimbursement shall be one-half of the cost of  
 22 certification, and (4) if the police officer is hired more than three years,  
 23 but not more than four years, after certification, reimbursement shall  
 24 be one-quarter of the cost of certification.

25 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect an agreement  
 26 between a police officer or a collective bargaining unit and a law  
 27 enforcement unit entered into before October 1, 2015, that provides for  
 28 the reimbursement of the cost of certification.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2015	New section

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Sec. 1 (b)(2), (3) and (4), "but less than" was changed to "but not more than" for accuracy.

**PS**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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:** See Below

**Municipal Impact:** See Below

**Explanation**

The bill requires law enforcement agencies that hire a police officer within four years of obtaining certification at a different law enforcement agency to reimburse the certifying agency a pro-rata share of the cost of such certification depending upon the officer's length of service at the certifying agency.

The cost of police officer certification, as defined in the bill, is estimated to range between \$70,000 and \$120,000 depending on the salary, fringe benefit rate, and training method of the officer. Under the provisions of the bill, law enforcement agencies that hire an officer from another such agency within four years of certification would incur a cost based on the cost of certification and duration of prior employment of each officer hired. Law enforcement agencies that lose an officer to such a transfer would realize a corresponding revenue gain equal to the pro-rata cost of certification.

**The Out Years**

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

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 6775*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF THE COSTS OF CERTIFICATION FOR A POLICE OFFICER.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires any law enforcement unit that hires a police officer from another law enforcement unit within four years after his or her certification to fully or partially reimburse the original unit for the cost of certification. The reimbursement amount is calculated as follows:

1. up to one year after certification, the full cost;
2. more than one year and up to two years after certification, two-thirds of the cost;
3. more than two years and up to three years after certification, one-half of the cost; and
4. more than three years and up to four years after certification, one-quarter of the cost.

The “cost of certification” covers the officer’s training, equipment, uniforms, salary, fringe benefits, and any cost related to the entry-level requirements for the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, which is responsible for certifying municipal police officers. It does not include any equipment or uniforms the officer returns to the law enforcement unit.

The bill does not affect any agreement between a police officer or a collective bargaining unit and a law enforcement unit entered into before October 1, 2015 that provides for reimbursement of the cost of certification.

Under the bill, a “law enforcement unit” is any agency, organ, or department whose primary functions include enforcing criminal or traffic laws; preserving public order; protecting life and property; or preventing, detecting, or investigating crime. It includes the Mohegan and Mashantucket Pequot police units.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/10/2015)