



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 43

February Session, 2016

Substitute House Bill No. 5245

House of Representatives, March 15, 2016

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. JUTILA of the 37th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PERMITTING ELECTRONIC NOTIFICATION OF A SPECIAL SESSION OR A RECONVENED SESSION.

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

1 Section 1. Section 2-7 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) Whenever the Governor, the members of the General Assembly
4 or the president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker of the
5 House of Representatives call a special session of the General
6 Assembly, the Secretary of the State shall give notice thereof either by
7 (1) mailing a true copy of the call of such special session, by first class
8 mail, evidenced by a certificate of mailing, to each member of the
9 House of Representatives and of the Senate at his or her address as it
10 appears upon the records of said secretary not less than ten nor more
11 than fifteen days prior to the date of convening of such special session,
12 [or by] (2) causing a true copy of the call to be delivered to each
13 member by a state marshal, constable, state policeman or indifferent

14 person at least twenty-four hours prior to the time of convening of
 15 such special session, or (3) sending an electronic copy of the call of
 16 such special session to the official legislative electronic mail address of
 17 each member of the House of Representatives and of the Senate at least
 18 seventy-two hours prior to the time of convening of such special
 19 session.

20 (b) Whenever the Secretary of the State is required to reconvene the
 21 General Assembly pursuant to article third of the amendments to the
 22 Constitution of Connecticut, said secretary shall give notice thereof
 23 either by (1) mailing a true copy of the call of such reconvened session,
 24 by first class mail, evidenced by a certificate of mailing, to each
 25 member of the House of Representatives and of the Senate at his or her
 26 address as it appears upon the records of said secretary not less than
 27 five days prior to the date of convening of such reconvened session, [or
 28 by] (2) causing a true copy of the call to be delivered to each member
 29 by a state marshal, constable, state policeman or indifferent person at
 30 least twenty-four hours prior to the time of convening of such
 31 reconvened session, or (3) sending an electronic copy of the call of such
 32 reconvened session to the official legislative electronic mail address of
 33 each member at least seventy-two hours prior to the time of convening
 34 of such reconvened session.

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

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	2-7
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Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Sec. 1(b)(3), "special" was changed to "reconvened" for accuracy.

GAE *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.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 17 \$	FY 18 \$
Secretary of the State	GF - Savings	See Below	See Below
Emergency Services and Public Protection, Dept.	GF - Potential Savings	\$5,000 - \$10,000 per occurrence	\$5,000 - \$10,000 per occurrence

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill allows the Secretary of the State (SOTS) to deliver notice of a special or reconvened session via email. Currently, such notices are delivered by either first class mail or in-person to the legislator's home address. If these in-person deliveries happen outside of the normal course of a shift an overtime cost arises. Should the Secretary utilize the email option, there is a fiscal savings to the SOTS of less than \$100 for mailed notices, arising from postage, and a potential savings of \$5,000 to \$10,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for in-person deliveries that could occur from state police overtime costs.

The Out Years

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

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5245*****AN ACT PERMITTING ELECTRONIC NOTIFICATION OF A SPECIAL SESSION OR A RECONVENED SESSION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill gives the secretary of the state the option of notifying General Assembly members of special and reconvened sessions through email. She retains the option of notifying them by (1) sending a copy of the session call, by first class mail, to their home address or (2) having the copy delivered to them in person by a state marshal, constable, state police officer, or indifferent person.

If the secretary opts to notify legislators by email, the bill requires that she send the electronic copy at least 72 hours before the session convenes. If she notifies members by mail, existing law requires that she do so between 10 and 15 days before a special session and at least five days before a reconvened session. If she opts to notify them in person, the copy of the session call must be delivered at least 24 hours beforehand.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 0 (02/29/2016)