



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 540

February Session, 2016

Substitute House Bill No. 5601

House of Representatives, April 7, 2016

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. MILLER, P. of the 36th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE AND A STUDY OF SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCIES.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Connecticut Transportation
2 Institute, as described in section 10a-121 of the general statutes, shall
3 conduct a study regarding methods and practices local school districts
4 may utilize to reduce costs and increase efficiencies in the provision of
5 student transportation. Such methods and practices shall include, but
6 need not be limited to, the development of a statistical evaluation of
7 efficiency model, using linear programming, for local school district
8 student transportation operations. Not later than June 30, 2017, the
9 Connecticut Transportation Institute shall submit a report of the
10 results of such study and any recommendations for the efficient
11 transportation of students to the joint standing committees of the
12 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
13 and local governments, in accordance with the provisions of section

14 11-4a of the general statutes.

15 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-124s of the general
16 statutes, the study described in subsection (a) of this section may be
17 funded by the regional performance incentive program established
18 pursuant to said section in an amount not greater than two hundred
19 fifty thousand dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

PD *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 \$
UConn	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Cost	Up to 250,000	Up to 250,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Connecticut Transportation Institute (within the University of Connecticut) to conduct a study on methods and practices local and regional school districts can use to reduce costs and increase efficiencies in student transportation. Up to \$250,000 from the Regional Performance Incentive Account¹ (RPIA) may be used to fund the study, which results in a cost to the Account.

The RPIA is estimated to have a balance of approximately \$1.7 million at the end of FY 16. However, it should be noted that PA 15-244, the FY 16 and FY 17 budget, eliminates the transfer of any revenue into the account in FY 17. This means that only \$1.7 million will be available for RPIA expenditures in FY 17. To the extent that the RPIA does not have sufficient funds to cover the expenses related to the study, the outstanding costs would be covered by the University of Connecticut.

¹ The Regional Planning Incentive Account is a non-lapsing account funded through a portion of the hotel tax and rental car surtax. It primarily funds: 1) grants-in-aid to councils of government (COGs), and 2) competitive grants to COGs and groups of municipalities.

The Out Years

There is no impact in the out years, as the transportation report is due June 30, 2017.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5601

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INSTITUTE AND A STUDY OF SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION
EFFICIENCIES.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/18/2016)