



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 520

February Session, 2016

Substitute Senate Bill No. 423

Senate, April 6, 2016

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through SEN. OSTEN of the 19th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL FIRE APPARATUS SAFETY AND TESTING.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) Each municipal and
2 volunteer fire department shall maintain the pump and aerial
3 components of such department's fire apparatus in compliance with
4 the inspection, maintenance and testing requirements of standard 1911
5 of the National Fire Protection Association.

6 Sec. 2. Section 14-19 of the general statutes is repealed and the
7 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

8 The commissioner shall [, at the request of the chief of any regular
9 or volunteer fire department or the person in charge of any organized
10 civil preparedness auxiliary fire company,] register, without charge,
11 any motor vehicle used as fire apparatus by [such department or
12 company] any regular or volunteer fire department or organized civil

13 preparedness auxiliary fire company, and shall issue a certificate of
14 registration and number plates bearing the words "fire apparatus"
15 therefor.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2016	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2016	14-19

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2, "such department or company" was bracketed, and "any regular or volunteer fire department or organized civil preparedness auxiliary fire company," was inserted for accuracy.

PD *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

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: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 17 \$	FY 18 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill requires municipal and volunteer fire departments to maintain their pump and aerial fire apparatus components in compliance with Federal standards.

It is anticipated that most municipalities already maintain this equipment in accordance with Federal standards and, thus, experience no fiscal impact as a result of the bill. However, some municipalities may experience a cost associated with updating or purchasing new pump and aerial fire apparatuses in accordance with Federal standards.

The Out Years

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

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 423*****AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL FIRE APPARATUS SAFETY AND TESTING.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires municipal and volunteer fire departments to maintain their pump and aerial fire apparatus components in compliance with the National Fire Protection Association standard 1911. Standard 1911 sets minimum requirements for inspecting, maintaining, testing, and retiring fire apparatus. Existing law establishes state safety inspection requirements for fire apparatus (CGS § 14-11d).

By law, a vehicle used on a public road, including a vehicle used as fire apparatus, must be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Currently, the DMV commissioner must, upon request, register without charge and issue fire apparatus plates for any motor vehicle used by a regular or volunteer fire department or organized civil preparedness auxiliary fire company as fire apparatus. The bill instead requires him to register and issue fire apparatus plates regardless of whether he receives a request to do so, for any such motor vehicle used by these departments or fire companies.

Under law, unchanged by the bill, the DMV commissioner must issue, upon a municipality's request, municipal plates for any motor vehicle the municipality owns or leases (which may include fire apparatus) (CGS § 14-12(k)). It is unclear if the bill limits the commissioner's authority to issue such plates for fire apparatus owned or leased by a municipality.

Pursuant to DMV regulations, a motor vehicle is "fire apparatus" if it is used as an emergency vehicle and (1) weighs at least 18,001

pounds or (2) is registered as fire apparatus and bears fire apparatus plates (Conn. Agencies Regs. § 14-11d-1).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2016

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 2 (03/18/2016)