



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 285

January Session, 2017

Substitute House Bill No. 6954

House of Representatives, March 29, 2017

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. VERRENGIA of the 20th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY INSPECTIONS OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS BY LOCAL FIRE MARSHALS.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study inspections of residential buildings by local fire marshals
3 provided for in section 29-305 of the general statutes. The task force
4 shall examine the feasibility of: (1) Prioritizing the schedule of
5 inspections for residential buildings based on the type and age of such
6 buildings and the use of fire suppression systems in such buildings, (2)
7 creating a new type of certified inspectors who inspect only residential
8 buildings, (3) expanding options for municipalities to create programs
9 to encourage landlords to schedule inspections for residential
10 buildings owned by such landlords, and (4) improving enforcement of
11 section 29-305 of the general statutes.

12 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

13 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
14 one of whom shall be a mayor of a city with a population exceeding
15 one hundred thousand;

16 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
17 of whom shall be a fire marshal of a city with a population exceeding
18 one hundred thousand;

19 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
20 Representatives, who shall be a fire chief of a city with a population
21 exceeding one hundred thousand;

22 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be
23 a member of the Connecticut Fire Marshals Association;

24 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
25 Representatives, who shall represent residential landlords;

26 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
27 an attorney with experience representing municipalities;

28 (7) The Commissioner of Administrative Services, or the
29 commissioner's designee; and

30 (8) The State Fire Marshal, or his or her designee.

31 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
32 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
33 of the General Assembly.

34 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than
35 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
36 filled by the appointing authority.

37 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
38 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force
39 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
40 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not
41 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

42 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
43 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
44 safety and security shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

45 (g) Not later than February 1, 2018, the task force shall submit a
46 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
47 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
48 relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the
49 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall
50 terminate on the date that it submits such report or February 1, 2018,
51 whichever is later.

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

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.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 18 \$
Various State Agencies	GF - Potential Cost	Less than \$1,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a task force to study inspections of residential buildings by local fire marshals. There may be a cost of less than \$1,000 in FY 18 to those agencies participating in the task force to reimburse legislators and agency staff for mileage expenses, currently at 53.5 cents/mile.

The Out Years

There is no ongoing fiscal impact because the task force terminates in FY 18.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6954

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INSPECTIONS OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS BY LOCAL FIRE
MARSHALS.***

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 24 Nay 1 (03/15/2017)