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sHB-5542

AN ACT CONCERNING BUMP STOCKS AND OTHER MEANS OF
ENHANCING THE RATE OF FIRE OF A FIREARM.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 4740

File Copy No.: 592

House Calendar No.: 393

OFA Fiscal Note

See Fiscal Note Details

Section 501 of the amendment, which requires state laws concerning bump stocks be consistent with federal regulations, potentially removes the fiscal impact of the underlying bill. To the extent that federal policy continues to permit the possession of bump stocks, there is no longer a cost or revenue associated with adopting regulations and fines related to banning bump stocks.

Section 502 results in a potential revenue loss to certain financially distressed municipalities, beginning in FY 20. Such revenue loss would be equal to the amount of debt service paid on behalf of the municipality pursuant to an agreement with the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB).

The amendment requires MARB to make recommendations concerning any funding needed to enable certain designated municipalities to meet their fiscal needs. To the extent that any future state budgets approved by the General Assembly include additional funding for such municipalities, the potential revenue loss resulting from the amendment is at least partially offset.

The amendment also specifies that any future contract between a municipality and MARB must be approved by the Appropriations and

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Finance committees. This has no fiscal impact, as it relates to future contracts.

Section 502 also results in a potential revenue gain to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) of up to \$2 million. To the extent that any municipal aid decreases outlined in this section are enough to allocate funds to DESPP, the amendment requires funds allocated for the purpose of the statewide firearms trafficking task force.

Section 1 also requires that the remainder of funds available from municipal aid withheld from distressed municipalities after allocating \$2 million to DESPP shall be distributed to State Department of Education (SDE). The amount allocated to SDE would be subject to the amount of municipal aid withheld under this section.

Section 503 could result in a cost of up to approximately \$11 million associated with SDE to provide grants to towns, not to exceed the cost of one school resource officer, which a local or regional board of education employs as a new employee on or after January 1, 2019. It is estimated the average school resource officer salary is approximately \$65,000, annually. The actual cost to SDE would be subject to the amount of municipal aid withheld under Section 502, less the \$2 million allocated to DESPP.

If all 169 towns applied for a grant, SDE could be responsible for distributing approximately \$11 million. As the grant program is within available appropriations, if full funding to eligible towns is not available, SDE will prorate the grants to stay within the appropriation. The school resource officer grants result in a revenue gain to the municipalities receiving funds.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does 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.