



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 574

January Session, 2019

Substitute House Bill No. 6754

House of Representatives, April 10, 2019

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY, C. of the 133rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BODY-WORN ELECTRONIC RECORDING EQUIPMENT.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 7-277b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2019*):

4 (b) (1) (A) Any municipality that purchased such body-worn
5 recording equipment, electronic defense weapon recording equipment
6 or digital data storage devices or services, made a first-time purchase
7 of one or more dashboard cameras with a remote recorder or replaced
8 one or more dashboard cameras purchased prior to December 31, 2010,
9 with one or more dashboard cameras with a remote recorder during
10 the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, and June 30, 2018, shall, within
11 available resources, be reimbursed for up to one hundred per cent of
12 the costs associated with such purchases, provided the costs of such
13 digital data storage services shall not be reimbursed for a period of

14 service that is longer than one year, and provided further that in the
15 case of reimbursement for costs associated with the purchase of body-
16 worn recording equipment, such body-worn recording equipment is
17 purchased in sufficient quantity, as determined by the chief of police in
18 the case of a municipality with an organized police department or,
19 where there is no chief of police, the warden of the borough or the first
20 selectman of the municipality, as the case may be, to ensure that sworn
21 members of such municipality's police department or constables,
22 police officers or other persons who perform criminal law enforcement
23 duties under the supervision of a resident state trooper serving such
24 municipality are supplied with such equipment while interacting with
25 the public in such sworn members', such constables', such police
26 officers' or such persons' law enforcement capacity.

27 (B) Any municipality that purchased such body-worn recording
28 equipment during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, and June 30,
29 2018, and paid for such purchase not later than August 31, 2018, shall,
30 within available resources, be reimbursed for up to one hundred per
31 cent of the costs associated with such purchase in accordance with
32 subparagraph (A) of this subsection.

33 [(B)] (C) Any municipality that purchased such body-worn
34 recording equipment or digital data storage devices or services on or
35 after January 1, 2012, but prior to July 1, 2016, shall be reimbursed for
36 costs associated with such purchases, but not in an amount to exceed
37 the amount of grant-in-aid such municipality would have received
38 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision if such purchases had been
39 made in accordance with said subparagraph (A).

40 [(C)] (D) Any municipality that was reimbursed under
41 subparagraph [(B)] (C) of this subdivision for body-worn recording
42 equipment and that purchased additional body-worn recording
43 equipment during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, and June 30,
44 2018, shall, within available resources, be reimbursed for up to one
45 hundred per cent of the costs associated with such purchases,
46 provided such equipment is purchased in sufficient quantity, as

47 determined by the chief of police in the case of a municipality with an
48 organized police department or, where there is no chief of police, the
49 warden of the borough or the first selectman of the municipality, as the
50 case may be, to ensure that sworn members of such municipality's
51 police department or constables or other persons who perform
52 criminal law enforcement duties under the supervision of a resident
53 state trooper serving such municipality are supplied with such
54 equipment while interacting with the public in such sworn members',
55 such constables', such police officers' or such persons' law enforcement
56 capacity.

57 (2) Any municipality that was not reimbursed under subdivision (1)
58 of this subsection and that purchased such body-worn recording
59 equipment or electronic defense weapon recording equipment, digital
60 data storage devices or services, made a first-time purchase of one or
61 more dashboard cameras with a remote recorder or replaced one or
62 more dashboard cameras purchased prior to December 30, 2010, with
63 one or more dashboard cameras with a remote recorder during the
64 fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, shall, within available resources, be
65 reimbursed for up to fifty per cent of the costs associated with such
66 purchases, provided the costs of such digital data storage services shall
67 not be reimbursed for a period of service that is longer than one year.

68 Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 29-6d of the
69 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
70 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

71 (c) (1) On and after July 1, [2016] 2019, each sworn member of (A)
72 the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency
73 Services and Public Protection, (B) the special police forces established
74 pursuant to section 10a-156b, (C) any municipal police department for
75 a municipality that is a recipient of grant-in-aid as reimbursement for
76 body-worn recording equipment pursuant to subparagraph (A), (B) or
77 [(C)] (D) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 7-277b, as
78 amended by this act, or subdivision (2) of said subsection (b), and (D)
79 any municipal police department for any other municipality that is a

80 recipient of grant-in-aid as reimbursement for body-worn recording
 81 equipment pursuant to subparagraph [(B)] (C) of subdivision (1) of
 82 said subsection (b) if such sworn member is supplied with such body-
 83 worn recording equipment, shall use body-worn recording equipment
 84 while interacting with the public in such sworn member's law
 85 enforcement capacity, except as provided in subsection (g) of this
 86 section, or in the case of a municipal police department, in accordance
 87 with the department's policy, if adopted by the department and based
 88 on guidelines maintained pursuant to subsection (j) of this section,
 89 concerning the use of body-worn recording equipment.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2019	7-277b(b)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2019	29-6d(c)(1)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2(c)(1)(C), "as amended by this act," was inserted after "section 2-277b" for consistency with standard drafting conventions.

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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Treasurer, Debt Serv.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Explanation

There is a revenue gain to municipalities resulting from the bill, which extends reimbursements by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to municipalities who choose to replace their body worn cameras or dashboard cameras. To the extent a municipality opts to replace this equipment, it would receive a potentially significant reimbursement under OPM.

Body Camera Bond Funds

The body-worn camera purchase program, which was expanded to allow for reimbursements for first-time purchase of dashboard cameras in PA 17-225, is funded through General Obligation (GO) bond funds. The program has been authorized for \$12 million in net bond funds since its inception in 2015¹. As of April 3, 2019 the

¹ \$3 million of the original \$15 million authorization was cancelled by PA 16-4 MSS.

unallocated bond balance available to the program is approximately \$3.78 million. The bill does not change GO bond authorizations relevant to the program.

Future General Fund debt service costs may be incurred sooner under the bill to the degree that it causes authorized GO bond funds to be expended more rapidly than they otherwise would have been.

There is potential for municipalities who purchase or have purchased items from the expanded allowable item list, as described in the bill, to seek increased or additional reimbursements.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the terms of any bonds issued.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6754*****AN ACT CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BODY-WORN ELECTRONIC RECORDING EQUIPMENT.*****SUMMARY**

Existing law requires the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), within available resources, to administer a grant program that reimburses municipalities for purchasing body cameras and other law enforcement recording equipment and services. By law, the program may reimburse up to (1) 100% of the costs for eligible purchases made during FYs 17 and 18 and (2) 50% of the costs for such purchases made in FY 19.

This bill allows municipalities that purchased body-worn recording equipment during FYs 17 and 18, but paid for the equipment in the first two months of FY 19 (i.e., by August 31, 2018), to qualify for the reimbursement of up to 100%. As under existing law, the reimbursement must be made within available resources.

The bill also makes conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/25/2019)