

# Labor and Public Employees Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-698

AN ACT CONCERNING COMPLAINTS OF WORKPLACE VIOLENCE OR

**Title:** ABUSIVE CONDUCT INVOLVING STATE EMPLOYEES.

**Vote Date:** 3/19/2019

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 2/21/2019

**File No.:**

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Labor and Public Employees Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

The bill requires the DAS commissioner to submit an annual report that 1. summarizes the number of complaints about workplace violence or abusive conduct involving state employees and complaint outcomes for the previous year. 2. recommends administrative or legislative actions related to the complaints, 3. provides any additional relevant recommendations. The DAS commissioner must submit a report to the Governor and the GAE, Labor, Public Safety and Human Services committee.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**Department of Administrative Services, State of CT:** Testimony was submitted saying this bill is not required since DAS is already required to create a report each year for the Labor Committee and the Governor, summarizing the number of workplace violence and abusive conduct complaints. The outcomes and recommendations for policies and procedures to prevent report, evaluate and investigate each complaint must also be submitted. All state agencies report to the State-wide Security Management Council on the resolution of workplace violence incidents. There is a web-based reporting procedure that is being upgraded to be more user-friendly. They feel this bill is redundant.

### NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

**Isabel Blank, Manager, External Affairs, Yankee Institute for Public Policy:** Requiring these reports is a simple and straightforward way to improve transparency in government.

There have been deeply disturbing instances of serious misconduct in recent years. This bill makes sure that the legislature and the general public are not only away of the issues and their frequency, but also that policies and procedures to prevent, report evaluate and investigate such complaints are provided.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None submitted

**Reported by: Marie Knudsen**

**Date: March 21, 2019**