Bill No.: HB-7187  
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING REVOCATION OF A PUBLIC OFFICIAL’S PENSION OR A STATE OR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES PENSION  
Vote Date: 3/20/2019  
Vote Action: Joint Favorable  
PH Date: 2/27/2019  
File No.:  

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REASONS FOR BILL:

To require state prosecutors to provide notice to the Attorney General when a criminal defendant is a public official or state or municipal employee so that the Attorney General may pursue pension revocation remedies available under state law. The relevant statute, Section 1-110(a), currently requires the Attorney General to inform the prosecutor in a criminal case of the pension revocation statute. This bill places the notice requirement on the State’s Attorney, rather than the Attorney General, so that the Attorney General can better fulfill their statutory requirements of pursuing pension revocation remedies.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY (SUPPORT):

Attorney General William Tong:  
The Attorney General supports this bill. When a public official is charged with a crime related to their office the State’s Attorney first brings a criminal case. The Attorney General is then required to bring a civil action to reduce or revoke the individual’s pension. By requiring the prosecutor to share information with the Attorney General, the Attorney General will better be able to carry out their statutory duties.

Division of Criminal Justice:  
The division supports the bill. It recommends expanding the notice requirement such that the State’s Attorney shall notify the Attorney General upon the conviction of a state, local or other public official for a crime related to that individual’s public office. This would be similar to how convictions of certified teachers are reported to the Commissioner of Education under Section 10-149a.
RESPONSE FROM THE PUBLIC:

Yankee Institute for Public Policy:
The Yankee Institute supports this bill. It is straightforward and bipartisan. The bill simply requires state prosecutors to inform the Attorney General of certain charges against public officials so the Attorney General can better carry out their statutory duties. It does not broaden powers for pension revocation nor does it increase the number of eligible crimes.

Reported by: Robert J. Anderson Date: March 28, 2019