



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 59**

January Session, 2021

Substitute House Bill No. 6422

*House of Representatives, March 16, 2021*

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 REQUIRING A STUDY OF THE OBSTACLES TO MERGING OR CONSOLIDATING MUNICIPAL FIRE DISTRICTS AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Secretary of the Office of Policy  
2 and Management, in consultation with municipal officials selected by  
3 the secretary and a representative of the Uniformed Professional  
4 Firefighters Association of Connecticut, shall conduct a study regarding  
5 the obstacles to merging or consolidating the fire districts or fire  
6 departments of two or more municipalities. Not later than January 1,  
7 2022, the secretary shall submit a report on the findings of such study,  
8 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
9 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
10 cognizance of matters relating to planning and development.

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

**PD**      *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 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	None

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill requires the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to conduct a study regarding the consolidation of fire districts or departments in two or more municipalities. This may result in consulting costs to OPM, which could vary significantly based on the scope of the study.

It should be noted that the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control (CFPC) is currently working with local fire service officials to establish options for fiscal sustainability for fire departments, including regionalization and consolidation.

**The Out Years**

As the study required by the bill is due January 1, 2022, there is no impact in the out years.



**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 6422**

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**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/02/2021)