

**Public Safety and Security Committee
JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT**

Bill No: SB-119
AN ACT EXEMPTING VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES AND DEPARTMENTS
AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICES AND COMPANIES FROM THE
Title: FEE FOR A CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK.
Vote Date: 3/18/2021
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/9/2021
File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Public Safety and Services Committee

Co-Sponsors:

Sen. Dan Champagne, 35th Dist.

Rep. Michael A. Winkler, 56th Dist.

Rep. Ben McGorty, 122nd Dist.

Rep. Craig C. Fishbein, 90th Dist.

Sen. Eric C. Berthel, 32nd Dist.

Sen. John A. Kissel, 7th Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill will eliminate the fees that volunteer fire and ambulance companies pay for checking a person's criminal history record. The elimination of these fees will help alleviate the financial burden of these departments. Fees that the State Police Bureau of Identification incur will be paid from fees collected by the State Bar Examining Committee.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Ted Schroll, Jr., Legislative Representative, Connecticut State Firefighters Association

Mr. Schroll writes in support of this legislation. Many volunteer fire departments rely on donations and special work projects to provide operating funds. They are required to screen new personnel for security reasons and the fees needed to pay for these criminal history checks place an undue burden on their limited funds.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed

Reported by: Bonnie Gray, Asst. Clerk

Date: 3/31/2021