

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200
Hartford, CT 06106 ◊ (860) 240-0200
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

HB-6506

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCEDURES OF THE OFFICE OF
THE CLAIMS COMMISSIONER.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 9090

File Copy No.: 596

House Calendar No.: 419

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Department of Administrative Services	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Potential Cost	124,322	128,674
Attorney General	GF - Potential Cost	301,023	311,559

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The strike-all amendment makes various changes to laws concerning claims presented to the claims commissioner regarding permission to sue the state, expanding the circumstances under which the state may be sued.

Specifically, the amendment allows the claims commissioner to grant permission to sue the state under certain circumstances and to an

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 41.3% of payroll in FY 22 and FY 23.

expanded pool of pending claims.

To the extent the amendment requires the Office of Attorney General (OAG) to represent the state in Court in an increased number of currently pending cases, there may be costs associated with hiring four additional agency staff, including attorneys and support staff. Costs to OAG would be \$301,023 in FY 22 and \$311,559 in FY 23, not including fringe benefits.

There may also be costs the state associated with additional litigation (i.e. experts, depositions, and discovery) when cases go to Court, in addition to liability cost in the form of judgments.

Also, the amendment states that the Governor must appoint six temporary deputies to serve in the Office of the Claims Commissioner within the Department of Administrative Services to be compensated \$259 per day plus mileage reimbursement (the same rate as a judge trial referee's). This will result in a minimal cost to the Office of the Claims Commissioner in both FY 22 and FY 23, as the term of the six deputies ends in October 2023.

Additionally, the amendment revises timelines of the Office of the Claims Commissioner (OCC) to grant claimants permission to sue the state. This will not result in a fiscal impact to the OCC as it attempts to eliminate the backlog of claims and create new mechanisms to move claims out of the office more efficiently.

Lastly, the strike-all amendment makes other changes that are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does 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.