



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 19**

February Session, 2022

House Bill No. 5178

*House of Representatives, March 15, 2022*

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. HORN of the 64th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF THE CRISIS INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM THROUGHOUT THE STATE.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1,  
2 2023, the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency  
3 Services and Public Protection shall, in conjunction with the Department  
4 of Mental Health and Addiction Services, expand the pilot program  
5 known as the CRISIS Initiative: Connection to Recovery through  
6 Intervention, Support and Initiating Services throughout the state. At a  
7 minimum, such expanded program shall include the components of the  
8 pilot program that require training for state police officers, coordination  
9 between state police officers and mental health professionals and  
10 referrals to facilities for mental health services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**PS**      *Joint Favorable*

*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:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 23 \$</b>	<b>FY 24 \$</b>
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	GF - Cost	550,000 to 2.5 million	See Below
Mental Health & Addiction Serv., Dept.	GF - Cost	866,700	866,700
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	351,300	351,300

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill is anticipated to result in a state cost of up to \$3.7 million in FY 23 and at least \$1.2 million in FY 24 due to expanding the CRISIS Initiative pilot program throughout the state by January 1, 2023.

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) of at least \$550,000 and up to \$2.5 million in FY 23 depending on how many additional state troopers are trained in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training. Currently, there are 40 trained CIT troopers. The cost to train approximately 25% of troopers is \$550,000, while the cost to train all remaining troopers is approximately \$2.5 million (inclusive of both training fees and overtime costs to cover

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<sup>1</sup>The 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 40.53% of payroll in FY 23.

officers who go to training).<sup>2</sup> CIT training takes approximately 40 hours and costs \$175 per trooper.

The bill also results in a cost to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) of approximately \$866,700 in FY 23 and FY 24 (with associated fringe costs of \$351,300 in each year) to support 9 additional social workers. Social workers will assist state police in de-escalating situations involving individuals with mental illness and ensure access to follow-up services.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation. The annual cost to train state police and cover overtime costs would be based on the number of additional troopers requiring CIT training in the future.

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<sup>2</sup> According to the Connecticut Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement (CABLE), the state's provider of CIT training, the goal of the CIT program is for each department to have at least 25% of its sworn personnel trained and to have several CIT officers cover each shift.

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**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 5178*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF THE CRISIS INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM THROUGHOUT THE STATE.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the State Police, in conjunction with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), to expand the Connection to Recovery through Intervention, Support, and Initiating Services Initiative pilot program (i.e., CRISIS Initiative) throughout the state by January 1, 2023. This expanded program must at least include the pilot program's components that require state police officer training, coordination between state police officers and mental health professionals, and referrals to mental health services facilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BACKGROUND*****CRISIS Initiative Pilot Program***

The CRISIS Initiative pilot program has generally established procedures among specific State Police and DMHAS personnel for referring and handling incidents involving individuals with addiction disorders or mental health conditions as well as other crisis incidents. The program began in 2017 and involved DMHAS assigning a full-time licensed clinician social worker with State Police Troop E, which generally covers southeast Connecticut and is based out of Montville. The 2021 state budget implementer expanded the program to Troop D, which generally covers northeast Connecticut and is based out of Killingly (PA 21-2, June Special Session, § 75).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 24 Nay 0 (03/03/2022)