



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 284**

February Session, 2022

Substitute House Bill No. 5423

*House of Representatives, April 4, 2022*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY of the 133rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO COLLECT DATA RELATED TO FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE DELIVERY IN THE STATE.***

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) The Commissioner of Emergency  
2 Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Commissioner  
3 of Administrative Services, the State Fire Marshal, the Secretary of the  
4 Office of Policy and Management and the chairman of the Commission  
5 on Fire Prevention and Control, shall, within available appropriations,  
6 establish and administer a pilot program for the purpose of  
7 implementing a data collection system related to fire and rescue service  
8 delivery in the state. For a period of three years commencing from July  
9 1, 2022, the commissioner shall administer such pilot program in any  
10 local or regional fire department or district that has self-identified as  
11 challenged or in crisis regarding the delivery of fire and rescue services.

12 (b) Any local or regional fire department or district may apply for

13 participation in the data collection program. Any application submitted  
14 pursuant to this subsection shall include a written statement by the fire  
15 department or district that it is currently challenged or in crisis  
16 regarding the delivery of fire and rescue services.

17 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b) of this section, the Tolland  
18 County Mutual Aid Emergency Communications Center, the  
19 Quinebaug Valley Emergency Communications Center, the Litchfield  
20 County Dispatch, the Valley Shore Emergency Communications Center  
21 and the Northwest Connecticut Public Safety Communications Center  
22 may elect to participate in the data collection program upon request.

23 (d) Not later than sixty days after the commissioner approves the  
24 application of any local or regional fire department or district pursuant  
25 to subsection (b) of this section, the commissioner shall admit such fire  
26 department or district to the data collection program.

27 (e) For the purposes of data collection pursuant to such pilot  
28 program, the commissioner shall either utilize the National Fire  
29 Operations Reporting System or develop a data collection system  
30 capable of real-time tracking information relevant to fire and rescue  
31 responses, including, but not limited to (1) call processing time, (2)  
32 alarm handling, and (3) turnout time. The commissioner shall provide  
33 to any fire department or district participating in the program monthly  
34 reports of the data collected for such fire department or district pursuant  
35 to the program.

36 (f) On or before July 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the  
37 commissioner shall conduct an evaluation of the fire and rescue data  
38 collection pilot program. Such evaluation shall address the overall  
39 effectiveness of the pilot program in collecting the relevant data. The  
40 commissioner shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section  
41 11-4a of the general statutes, such evaluation and any recommendations  
42 for legislation to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
43 having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and planning and  
44 development.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section
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**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 23 \$	FY 24 \$
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	GF - Cost	140,000	140,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	16,212	16,212

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill requires the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) to establish and administer a pilot program regarding implementation of a fire and rescue service data collection system resulting in an annual cost to the state of \$156,212.

DESPP would need to hire a part-time durational project manager (\$40,000 in salary and \$16,212 in fringe benefits per year)<sup>2</sup> to create and administer the program, process applications, and work with the selected participants. The department would also need to contract with a data analytics organization (\$100,000 per year) to amalgamate data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System in order to effectively analyze and develop the necessary reporting required under the bill.

**The Out Years**

<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.

<sup>2</sup> This position would be needed for two days a week.

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue in FY 25 but end in FY 26 because the bill dictates the pilot program is established for only three years.



**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 5423**

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO COLLECT DATA RELATED TO FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE DELIVERY IN THE STATE.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/18/2022)