



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 377

January Session, 2023

Substitute Senate Bill No. 970

Senate, April 3, 2023

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. GASTON of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING A DOMESTIC TERRORISM PREVENTION
PLAN ANNEX IN LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLANS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 28-7 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2023*):

4 (a) Each town or city of the state shall establish a local organization
5 for civil preparedness in accordance with the state civil preparedness
6 plan and program, provided any two or more towns or cities may, with
7 the approval of the commissioner, establish a joint organization for civil
8 preparedness. The authority of such local or joint organization for civil
9 preparedness shall not supersede that of any regularly organized police
10 or fire department. In order to be eligible for any state or federal benefits
11 under this chapter, not later than January 1, 2017, and biennially
12 thereafter, each town or city of the state shall have a current emergency
13 plan of operations that has been approved by the commissioner. The
14 plan shall be submitted to the commissioner after it has been approved
15 by the local emergency management director and the local chief
16 executive. Such plan may be submitted with a notice stating that the

17 plan remains unchanged from the previously submitted version. The
 18 emergency plan of operations of every town or city situated on the
 19 shoreline of the state shall contain provisions addressing an emergency
 20 caused by any existing liquefied natural gas terminal located on the
 21 Long Island Sound and every town or city situated on the shoreline of
 22 the state shall submit such plan to the joint standing committee of the
 23 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety
 24 and security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, and the
 25 commissioner to obtain approval. The committee shall hold a public
 26 hearing regarding such plan not later than thirty days after receiving the
 27 plan. Not later than five days after the hearing, the committee shall (1)
 28 hold a roll-call vote to approve or reject the plan, and (2) forward the
 29 plan and a record of the committee's vote to the General Assembly. Such
 30 emergency plan of operations shall not be approved by the
 31 commissioner unless the commissioner determines that the plan
 32 proposes strategies that address all the activities and measures of civil
 33 preparedness identified in subdivision (4) of section 28-1, including, for
 34 any plan submitted on or after January 1, 2025, a domestic terrorism
 35 prevention strategy, as described in a domestic terrorism prevention
 36 plan annex, in accordance with any standards provided by the Division
 37 of Emergency Management and Homeland Security within the
 38 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Each town or
 39 city of the state shall consider whether to include in such plan provisions
 40 for the nonmilitary evacuation of livestock, horses, pets and service
 41 animals, and the temporary sheltering of pets, service animals and
 42 animals trained to assist first responders.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2023	28-7(a)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:
 In Subsec. (a) "and security" was added for consistency with standard drafting conventions.

PS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

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: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Various Municipalities	STATE MANDATE ¹ - Potential Cost	None	Minimal

Explanation

The bill requires municipalities to include a domestic terrorism prevention strategy in the local emergency operations plans beginning in FY 25. There is a potential minimal cost to municipalities to the extent additional resources are necessary to develop the plan.

The bill also requires the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection's Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to develop standards for the domestic terrorism prevention strategy, resulting in no fiscal impact to the state because the department has the expertise to meet the requirements of the bill.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

¹ State mandate is defined in Sec. 2-32b(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, "state mandate" means any state initiated constitutional, statutory or executive action that requires a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 970

AN ACT CONCERNING A DOMESTIC TERRORISM PREVENTION PLAN ANNEX IN LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLANS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires local emergency operations plans submitted on or after January 1, 2025, to include a domestic terrorism prevention strategy. The strategy must be described in a domestic terrorist prevention plan annex, based on standards provided by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection's (DESPP) Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. The bill prohibits the DESPP commissioner from approving plans that do not include these components.

By law, every town must have a current emergency operations plan approved by the DESPP commissioner every two years to be eligible for certain state or federal emergency management benefits. The plan must be approved by the local emergency management director and chief executive before it is submitted to the commissioner. If the previously submitted plan has not changed, the town may submit it with a notice to that effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/16/2023)