



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 382

January Session, 2023

Senate Bill No. 1036

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 bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREATER HARTFORD REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE TO COMBAT ILLEGAL ROADWAY TRAFFIC ACTIVITY.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Emergency Services and Public Protection shall establish a Greater
3 Hartford Regional Law Enforcement Task Force to Combat Illegal
4 Roadway Traffic Activity. The task force shall combat illegal traffic
5 activities on greater Hartford area roadways committed by organized
6 groups of individuals riding motor vehicles, motorcycles, all-terrain
7 vehicles or other vehicles.

8 (b) The task force shall be comprised of state law enforcement officers
9 and members of law enforcement units in the greater Hartford area.

10 (c) The task force may request and receive from any federal, state or
11 local agency cooperation and assistance in the performance of its duties,
12 including the temporary assignment of personnel that may be necessary

13 to carry out the performance of its functions.

14 (d) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
15 may appoint a commanding officer and such other personnel as the
16 commissioner deems necessary to carry out the duties of the task force,
17 within available appropriations.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

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:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	GF - Potential Cost	Up to 127,426	Up to 130,612
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Potential Cost	Up to 18,655	Up to 19,122

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Hartford Police Department	Potential Cost	187,000	187,000
Various Municipal Police Departments	Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill establishes a Greater Hartford Regional Law Enforcement Task Force to Combat Illegal Roadway Traffic Activity on July 1, 2023, resulting in a potential cost to the state of up to \$146,081 in FY 24 and \$149,734 in FY 25, a potential cost to the Hartford Police Department of \$187,000 in FY 24 and FY 25, and a potential cost to municipalities in the Greater Hartford Region in both years.

The bill allows the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) to appoint a commanding officer and other personnel deemed necessary to the task force. If DESPP appoints one

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 solely with overtime expenses is 14.64% of payroll in FY 24.

State Police Master Sergeant² and two State Police Troopers to work 10 hours per week on the task force, it will cost the state up to \$127,426 in overtime expenses with associated fringe benefits of \$18,655 in FY 24, with these costs experiencing a 2.5% increase in FY 25.

The municipal impact will vary to the extent that towns in the Greater Hartford Region choose to participate in the task force. Based on how similar regional task forces have been organized and the current strategies used by the Hartford Police Department to combat such illegal activity, the bill may require Hartford to commit at least one sworn officer full-time, costing up to \$132,000 annually in overtime expenses, and increase its civilian staff by one Crime Analyst, starting at \$55,000, which resulting in a total potential cost of \$187,000, not including the city's fringe benefits expenses. Surrounding municipalities are expected to incur overtime expenses should they choose to commit officers and staff to this task force.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the volume of illegal roadway traffic activity and inflation.

Sources: Department of Administrative Services website

² State Police Master Sergeant is the lowest rank that may serve as a Commanding Officer in specialized units.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1036*****AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREATER HARTFORD REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE TO COMBAT ILLEGAL ROADWAY TRAFFIC ACTIVITY.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) commissioner to establish a regional task force to combat illegal traffic activities in the Greater Hartford area committed by organized groups riding motor vehicles, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, and other vehicles. Under the bill, this Greater Hartford Regional Law Enforcement Task Force to Combat Illegal Roadway Traffic Activity comprises state and local law enforcement officers in the Greater Hartford area.

The task force may ask for and receive from any federal, state, or local agency cooperation and help, including temporarily assigning any necessary personnel. The DESPP commissioner may also, within available appropriations, appoint a commanding officer and other personnel that he finds necessary.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/16/2023)