

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6872

AN ACT CONCERNING FAITHLESS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS
AND AUTHORIZING MANDAMUS ACTIONS RELATED TO THE
CERTIFICATION OR DECLARATION OF ELECTION RESULTS.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Governor's Off.; Treasurer; Attorney General; Secretary of the State	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill does create some potential cost to the state. The bill creates criminal penalties for faithless electors at the national level; and empowers state residents to bring a writ of mandamus action against specific officers to complete certification duties. Any mandamus case would be given jurisdiction to the Connecticut Supreme Court. The bill does note that if a resident were to prevail in their lawsuit, they would be able to recover their court costs and reasonable attorney's fees. While it is not specifically stipulated who those potential fees could be recovered from, if it were state government, some costs could be involved.

Because registrars and municipal officials are responsible for some

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election related certification it is possible that they too could face a mandamus lawsuit. Should the individual suing prevail like state government local government could face costs of recovery.

The Out Years

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