

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200
Hartford, CT 06106 ◊ (860) 240-0200
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

sSB-896

AN ACT CONCERNING TREE REMOVAL ON PROPERTIES UNDER
THE CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

As Amended by Senate "A" (LCO 8494)

Senate Calendar No.: 118

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Below

Municipal Impact: See Below

Explanation

The bill declares it to be the goal of the state to, by January 1, 2024, increase the tree canopy by 5% of the total area within environmental justice (EJ) communities that currently have a tree canopy of less than 40%.

While making a certain declaration of goals itself has no fiscal impact, there would be a cost in FY 24 to reach the goal. Any fiscal impacts would depend on the number of communities below the 40% threshold, the total area of these communities, and the per-tree cost of planting. It is not clear whether costs would be incurred by the state or municipalities.

Additionally, the bill requires, by January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to submit a report to the Environment Committee on the agency's hazardous tree removal activities in state parks for the previous calendar year. This has no fiscal impact since DEEP has the expertise for this requirement.

Senate "A" replaces the underlying bill with the provisions and fiscal impacts described above.

The Out Years

There are no ongoing annualized fiscal impacts, as the goal described in the bill is for FY 24.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does 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.