

## Public Safety and Security Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-970

AN ACT CONCERNING A DOMESTIC TERRORISM PREVENTION PLAN

**Title:** ANNEX IN LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLANS.

**Vote Date:** 3/16/2023

**Vote Action:** JOINT FAVORABLE

**PH Date:** 2/23/2023

**File No.:** 377

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### **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Public Safety and Security Committee

### **REASONS FOR BILL:**

Due to the increase of domestic terrorism across the country, the Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection has put forth this bill proposing that Connecticut General Statutes require a domestic terrorism prevention plan annex to local emergency operations. The emphasis of this bill would focus on domestic terrorism prevention, preparedness and having a plan to address this issue.

### **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

#### **James Rovella, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection**

Commissioner Rovella states that this bill is being proposed by DESSP to address the increase of domestic terrorism across the nation. This bill would change the Connecticut General Statutes requiring a domestic terrorism plan annex to local emergency operation plans these plans would include prevention, preparedness and planning.

### **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

#### **Betsy Gara, Executive Director, Connecticut Council of Small Towns**

Ms. Gara states that COST supports the intention of this bill, however there are concerns that many towns do not have the resources or the expertise to develop an effective domestic terrorism prevention plan. She recommends that SB970 be amended to direct DEMHS to develop a model plan that can be incorporated into municipalities plans. The plans also should be protected from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act as the information in the plan could be sensitive in nature, which may result in a security risk.

### **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

**Officer Gary Corigliano**

Mr. Corigliano has sent in testimony to all bills regarding gun laws as he feels the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment of the Constitution is being violated.

**Reported by: Bonnie Gray, Assistant Clerk**

**Date: 3/21/2023**