



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 241**

February Session, 2024

Substitute House Bill No. 5479

*House of Representatives, April 3, 2024*

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. BOYD of the 50th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT CAMPUS IN STORRS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (10) of section 19a-177 of the 2024 supplement  
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

4 (10) Establish primary service areas and assign in writing a primary  
5 service area responder for each primary service area. Each state-owned  
6 campus having an acute care hospital on the premises shall be  
7 designated as the primary service area responder for that campus. The  
8 fire department of The University of Connecticut shall be designated as  
9 the primary service area responder for advanced life support services  
10 on the university's campus in Storrs, provided said department satisfies  
11 all minimum qualifications for the provision of advanced life support  
12 services other than a requirement for an acute care hospital on the  
13 premises of said campus;

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	19a-177(10)
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**PS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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 25 \$	FY 26 \$
UConn <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	Up to 500,000	Up to 500,000

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill results in costs of up to \$500,000 annually beginning in FY 25 to the University of Connecticut. It designates the UConn Fire Department as the primary service area responder for advanced life support services on the Storrs campus.

To provide coverage for advanced life support services, UConn must hire up to four firefighters, for a total annual personnel cost of approximately \$411,858 (\$302,748 for salary and \$109,110 for fringe). UConn will also incur costs of up to \$90,000 annually for additional overtime and equipment.

The UConn Fire Department currently does not provide advanced life support services 24 hours per day, 365 days per year as the bill requires. Advanced life support services entail a higher degree of training and a broader range of equipment than what the UConn Fire

<sup>1</sup>Pursuant to PA 23-204, higher education constituent units are responsible for the costs of group life insurance, active health insurance, Social Security, and Medicare for all active employees, totaling an estimated non-pension fringe benefit rate of 36.04% of payroll in FY 25. A minimal cost is also incurred by the Office of the State Comptroller's Fringe Benefit account associated with employee participation in a state-offered retirement plan.

Department currently possesses. Equipment needs include advanced airway equipment, a cardiac monitor, intravenous fluids, and certain medications.

***The Out Years***

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

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 5479**

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT CAMPUS IN STORRS.***

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires the public health commissioner to designate the UConn fire department as the primary service area responder (PSAR) for advanced life support services on UConn’s Storrs campus, so long as it meets all minimum qualifications for providing these services, other than a requirement for an acute care hospital on the campus’s premises. (Neither the bill nor existing state statutes or regulations define the term “advanced life support services” or prescribe the minimum qualifications for providing them.)

By law, the commissioner must (1) create specific geographic areas where one emergency medical service organization is assigned for each category of emergency medical response services (referred to as “primary service areas”) and (2) assign in writing a PSAR for each area (CGS §§ 19a-175 and 19a-177). Existing law also requires that each state-owned campus having an acute care hospital on the premises be designated as the primary service area responder for that campus.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2024

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 23 Nay 2 (03/19/2024)