

# Public Safety and Security Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-1491

AN ACT CONCERNING A FIRE SUPPRESSION INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

**Title:** PROGRAM.

**Vote Date:** 3/18/2025

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Change of Reference to Appropriations

**PH Date:** 3/11/2025

**File No.:**

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

None

### REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill requires the Department of Administrative Services to create a funding mechanism to pay back municipalities who develop fire suppression infrastructures within their community. This program will only apply to towns with a population of no more than ten thousand.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Michelle Gilman Department of Administrative Services Commissioner](#)

Commissioner Gilman appreciates the intent behind the bill. She expresses that the fire suppression infrastructure that the bill covers is not within DAS purview. This ultimately would require DAS to hire additional staff and administer this new grant program. Due to these factors DAS opposes this bill.

### NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Betsy Gara Connecticut Council of Small Towns Executive Director](#)

Ms. Gara is in full support of the bill and states that it will help smaller municipalities who lack sufficient water sources and inadequate infrastructure to extinguish fires. She believes that the grants that this bill offers will help smaller municipalities in developing an infrastructure that can help address the number of emergencies they experience.

[Mike Muszynski Connecticut Conference of Municipalities](#)

Mike states that CCM supports this bill because it will reimburse towns with less than ten thousand in population for the cost of fire suppression infrastructure. He also mentions that its vital for the grant to be established CCM recommends that the state fully fun and financially commit to the program.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None

**Reported by: Rena Lewis**

**Date: 3/24/25**