General Assembly **Substitute Bill No. 7186**

January Session, 2025

* HB07186FIN 050625 *

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM CONCERNING THE USE OF BODY SCANNING MACHINES IN CERTAIN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AND REQUIRING REPORTS CONCERNING STRIP AND CAVITY SEARCHES IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES.

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than December 31, 2025, the Commissioner of Correction shall (1) purchase at least two body scanning machines, and install at least one at the York Correctional Institution and at least one at the John R. Manson Youth Institution, Cheshire, and (2) establish a pilot program and directives that prioritize using such machines to inspect persons who are incarcerated in said institutions in lieu of correctional personnel conducting strip searches or cavity searches when such searches are typically performed, according to the existing directives. As part of such pilot program, the commissioner shall train correctional personnel in the use of such machines and collect data concerning such use.

(b) Not later than February 15, 2027, the Commissioner of Correction shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and government oversight. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) the total number of body scans performed by the body

scanning machines during the 2026 calendar year based upon the reason for the scan, by month, (2) the number of strip or cavity searches conducted during the 2026 calendar year, by month, (3) the total number of such body scans that discovered contraband material, by month, (4) the types and material of contraband discovered during such period, differentiated by the type of search or scan performed, (5) the use of any additional screening subsequent to the implementation of the body scanning machines, including a strip search, placement on a dry cell watch, urinalysis or medical assessment to confirm contraband was not present, and (6) any recommendations for legislative changes based upon the results of such pilot program.

Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than February 15, 2026, the Commissioner of Correction shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and government oversight. Such report shall include an evaluation of current directives and procedures for strip searches and cavity searches in correctional institutions in the state compared to other states in the northeastern region and federal policies, based on the type of institution, and highlight any differences in such directives and procedures.

Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes described in subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate five hundred thousand dollars.

(b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Department of Correction for the purpose of purchasing two body scanning machines, installing such machines and training corrections staff on their use in accordance with the provisions of section 1 of this act.

(c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise

of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become due.

Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On or before January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Correction shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and government oversight, concerning the conduct of strip and cavity searches in such facilities. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The number of strip searches and cavity searches of persons who are incarcerated that have occurred during the prior calendar year, disaggregated by correctional facility, (2) whether there have been any lawsuits filed concerning such strip searches or cavity searches during the year immediately preceding such report and, if so, the status or

outcome of such lawsuits, and (3) a copy of the current policy concerning the conduct of such searches, including any training requirements for correctional officers concerning the conduct of such searches.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*from passage*	New section
Sec. 2	*from passage*	New section
Sec. 3	*July 1, 2025*	New section
Sec. 4	*from passage*	New section

GOS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

FIN *Joint Favorable*