



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 189

February Session, 2026

Substitute House Bill No. 5274

House of Representatives, March 26, 2026

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through REP. SANCHEZ, E. of the 24th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING STATE MARSHALS ELIGIBILITY FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION WHILE PERFORMING DUTIES ON BEHALF OF THE STATE AND ELIGIBILITY FOR HEALTH INSURANCE WHILE OUT ON CERTAIN LEAVE.

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

1 Section 1. Section 5-142a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3 Any [high sheriff, chief deputy sheriff, deputy sheriff or special
4 deputy sheriff] state marshal who suffers death, disability or injury,
5 while in performance of any duty for which he is compensated by the
6 state, shall, for the purposes of section 5-142 and chapter 568, be
7 presumed to be an employee of the state and shall be compensated by
8 the state in accordance with said section and chapter.

9 Sec. 2. Section 31-310a of the general statutes is repealed and the
10 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

11 (a) For purposes of compensation the average weekly wage of a
12 supernumerary policeman or state marshal shall be construed to be the
13 average weekly earnings of production and related workers in
14 manufacturing in the state as determined by the Labor Commissioner in
15 accordance with the provisions of section 31-309.

16 (b) For the purposes of this section, compensation shall not be
17 prorated because of other employment by a supernumerary policeman
18 or state marshal.

19 (c) For the purpose of determining compensation payable under this
20 chapter for death, disability or injury incurred by volunteer police
21 officers, the average weekly wage of such officers shall be the average
22 production wage in the state as determined by the Labor Commissioner
23 under the provisions of section 31-309.

24 Sec. 3. Subsection (l) of section 5-259 of the 2026 supplement to the
25 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
26 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

27 (l) (1) Effective July 1, 1996, any deputies or special deputies
28 appointed pursuant to section 6-37 of the general statutes, revision of
29 1958, revised to 1999, or section 6-43, shall be allowed to participate in
30 the plan or plans procured by the Comptroller pursuant to subsection
31 (a) of this section. Such participation shall be voluntary and the
32 participant shall pay the full cost of the coverage under such plan.

33 (2) (A) Effective October 1, 2025, any state marshal who works as a
34 state marshal for fewer than twenty hours per week, on average, shall
35 be allowed to participate in the plan or plans procured by the
36 Comptroller pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such
37 participation shall be voluntary and the participant shall pay the full
38 cost of the coverage under such plan.

39 (B) Effective October 1, 2025, any state marshal who (i) works as a
40 state marshal at least twenty hours per week, on average, on a quarterly
41 basis, (ii) is actively engaged in either (I) service of process under a

42 waiver of fees issued pursuant to section 52-259b, (II) service of process
43 of orders of protection issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or 46b-16a, or
44 (III) service of capias mittimus orders issued by a family support
45 magistrate pursuant to section 46b-231, (iii) certifies to those facts in
46 clauses (i) and (ii) of this subparagraph on forms provided by and filed
47 with the State Marshal Commission on or before the fifteenth day of
48 April, July, October and January for the preceding calendar quarter, and
49 (iv) does not have access to coverage under a health benefit plan that is
50 available (I) through the employer of such state marshal's spouse,
51 provided such health benefit plan has an actuarial value that is
52 equivalent to or greater than the actuarial value of the plan or plans
53 procured by the Comptroller pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
54 and provides similar access to in-network providers as such plan or
55 plans procured by the Comptroller and is available at an employee
56 premium share, with respect to each class of coverage, that is not greater
57 than the premium shares applicable to active state employees in
58 accordance with the provisions of the State Employees Bargaining
59 Agent Coalition agreement, or (II) through the municipal employees'
60 retirement system established by part II of chapter 113 shall be allowed
61 to participate in the plan or plans procured by the Comptroller pursuant
62 to subsection (a) of this section. Such participation shall be voluntary
63 and the participant shall pay the same amount for the coverage under
64 such plan under the same terms and conditions as active state
65 employees in accordance with the provisions of the State Employees
66 Bargaining Agent Coalition agreement.

67 (C) Any calendar quarter in which a state marshal has been approved
68 for or received benefits pursuant to chapter 568 or section 5-142 or 31-
69 49g, such state marshal shall, in a form and manner prescribed by the
70 State Marshal Commission, submit proof of approval or receipt of such
71 benefits on or before the fifteenth day of April, July, October and
72 January. The Comptroller shall accept such proof as compliance with
73 subparagraphs (B)(i) and (B)(ii).

74 (3) Effective December 1, 2000, any judicial marshal shall be allowed
75 to participate in the plan or plans procured by the Comptroller pursuant

76 to subsection (a) of this section. Such participation shall be voluntary
 77 and the participant shall pay the full cost of the coverage under such
 78 plan unless and until the judicial marshals participate in the plan or
 79 plans procured by the Comptroller under this section through collective
 80 bargaining negotiations pursuant to subsection (f) of section 5-278.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	5-142a
Sec. 2	October 1, 2026	31-310a
Sec. 3	October 1, 2026	5-259(1)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 3, Subdivision (4) was moved to Subdivision (2)(C) for clarity.

LAB *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 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Department of Administrative Services - Workers' Comp. Claims	GF - Cost	150,000	200,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which extends state employee workers' compensation benefits to state marshals, is estimated to result in a cost of \$150,000 in FY 27 and \$200,000 in FY 28. It is uncertain how many of the 163 state marshals would qualify for workers' compensation under these provisions, or the cost per marshal. Costs related to claims may vary significantly from year to year.

The Out Years

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

Sources: Core-CT Financial Accounting System

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5274*****AN ACT CONCERNING STATE MARSHALS ELIGIBILITY FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION WHILE PERFORMING DUTIES ON BEHALF OF THE STATE AND ELIGIBILITY FOR HEALTH INSURANCE WHILE OUT ON CERTAIN LEAVE.*****SUMMARY**

This bill treats state marshals as state employees for the purpose of workers compensation (WC) benefits and certain hazardous duty disability compensation if they die, become disabled, or are injured while performing duties paid for by the state. It eliminates similar provisions for sheriffs, chief deputy sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, and special deputy sheriffs (these positions were eliminated and their duties and responsibilities transferred to state and judicial marshals in 2000).

For the purpose of calculating a state marshal's WC benefit, the bill (1) requires that the statewide average weekly wage of production and related manufacturing workers be used as the state marshal's average weekly wage and (2) prohibits prorating benefits based on a state marshal's other employment. Existing law applies these requirements to the calculation of supernumerary (part time) police officers' WC benefits. The bill does not specify how to calculate a state marshal's hazardous duty disability compensation.

Under existing law, state marshals working on average at least 20 hours weekly each quarter are eligible for state employee health insurance if they submit proof that they have met certain quarterly work requirements and do not have health insurance available in certain other ways (see BACKGROUND – *Health Insurance for State Marshals*). The bill requires state marshals to quarterly submit to the comptroller, on a form created by the State Marshal Commission, proof of approval or receipt of (1) WC benefits, (2) certain hazardous duty disability

compensation, or (3) paid family and medical leave benefits. The bill requires the comptroller to accept this proof as the state marshal's compliance with the state employee health insurance plan's quarterly requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

BACKGROUND

State Marshals

State marshals serve civil process and their duties include performing evictions and serving and collecting wage executions and tax warrants.

Hazardous Duty Disability Compensation

By law, hazardous duty state employees injured under certain circumstances qualify for medical and hospital expenses and disability compensation that differs from workers' compensation, including 100% of pay benefits for a period of time (CGS § 5-142a).

Health Insurance for State Marshals

By law, state marshals may participate in the state employee health insurance plan, under the same terms and conditions, and paying the same amount, as active state employees under the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) agreement. But those who work as a state marshal 20 hours per week or more on average, on a quarterly basis, must:

1. be actively engaged in serving (a) process for indigent parties who have the cost of serving process waived in civil or criminal matters; (b) protection orders for victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse, sexual assault, or stalking; or (c) capias mittimus orders (civil arrest warrants) issued by a family support magistrate;
2. certify the above facts for the preceding calendar quarter on forms provided by and filed with the State Marshal Commission by the 15th day of each April, July, October, and January; and

3. not have access to health insurance coverage through (a) their spouse’s employer, if it meets certain criteria, or (b) the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System.

By law, a state marshal is disqualified from coverage under the state employee health insurance plan if the health insurance available through their spouse (1) has an actuarial value that at least equals the state employee plan; (2) provides similar access to in-network providers; and (3) is available at an employee premium share, for each class of coverage, that is no greater than the premium shares for active state employees under the SEBAC agreement.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/12/2026)