

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5457

AN ACT CONCERNING FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS THAT OCCUR
AT SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITIES.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 27 \$ | FY 28 \$ |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| CT Siting Council | SCF ¹ - Cost | 192,002 | 192,002 |

Note: SCF=Siting Council Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Connecticut Siting Council Fund of \$192,002 annually, beginning in FY 27. The bill requires the Siting Council to determine whether any solar photovoltaic facility equipment was a contributing factor in a fire or explosion. If so, the council must initiate an amendment proceeding to amend the certificate issued to the facility's owner to require the owner to adopt a solar photovoltaic facility fire mitigation plan.

It is estimated that the new requirements of the bill will result in one full-time Siting Analyst 2 position, with an annual salary of \$110,000 and corresponding fringe benefits of \$46,002. Additionally, it is estimated that the additional requirements for solar photovoltaic facility equipment will result in three additional Siting Council hearings, annually, which will result in an additional cost of approximately \$36,000.

¹ Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) §16-50r and §16-50v, the Council's budget is financed by fees and assessments paid to the Siting Council Fund.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the number of additional hearings, yearly.