

2053

FISCAL NOTE(Form 1)
(Office of Fiscal Analysis)
Analyst: MW 5/2/92
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BILL NUMBER: SHB 5477
FILE NUMBER:
AMENDMENTS: House "A", "D", and
"E"

TITLE: "AN ACT MAKING REVISIONS TO THE GENERAL STATUTES WITH RESPECT TO THE REORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND PERMITTING POLICE OFFICERS TO USE THEIR BUSINESS ADDRESS IN APPLICATIONS FOR PISTOL PERMITS"

FAVORABLY REPORTED BY Public Safety, Government Administration and Elections, Appropriations

EFFECTIVE DATE: Sec. 1-5, Upon Passage; Sec. 6 and 7, 7/1/92

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER SHB 5477

STATE IMPACT	Cost (Not General Fund) and Minimal Cost, Can Be Absorbed, see explanation below
MUNICIPAL IMPACT	Minimal Cost, Can Be Absorbed, see explanation below
STATE AGENCY(S)	Department of Public Safety, Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, Office of Policy and Management

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE AND MUNICIPAL IMPACT: The passage of this bill as amended would result in cost to the State's Drug Assets Forfeiture Revolving Fund and in minimal costs to the State and various municipalities that could be absorbed. The bill as amended allows state and local police officers to obtain firearms permits without providing their residence address on the permit application. (These applications are public and subject to Freedom of Information guidelines.) The issuing authority is required to notify each police officer of this right to revise his application to substitute the business or post office address for the home address. This would result in minimal, absorbable costs for the State and various municipalities.

The bill as amended changes the statutory references to the Department of Public Safety to conform to the current organizational and operational structure of the Department, as changed by PA 90-337. It specifies that the Deputy State Fire Marshal's position is an appointed, unclassified position and that any employee in the classified service who accepts appointment to this position may return to the classified service at their former level.

The bill as amended also makes changes in the process for granting local pistol permits. Currently, the authority that issues a permit to carry a pistol or revolver must take the application within 8 weeks. The bill as amended requires the authority to record the date it takes the applicant's fingerprints, allows the authority to send them to the FBI for a national criminal history records check, and prohibits the authority from issuing a permit before reviewing the FBI report. The authority is required to notify the applicant in writing if the FBI report is not received within 8 weeks from the application date. Minimal additional costs could result from recording the fingerprint date and in notifying the applicant if the FBI report is delayed. The authority already has the ability of obtaining an FBI records check and this would allow the authority to delay a decision on the applicant when the receipt of the FBI information is delayed longer than 8 weeks.

House Amendment "A" added this provision and results in minimal State and local costs that could be absorbed.

The bill as amended establishes a two month program, from July 1, 1992 to September 1, 1992, where police departments in Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Norwalk, Stamford and Waterbury would be authorized to purchase and dispose of firearms, as specified. It makes \$200,000 available to these cities from the Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission's Drug Asset Forfeiture Revolving Fund. Monies for this "gun amnesty" program are to be distributed by the Office of Policy and Management. Funds not expended shall revert to the Drug Assets Forfeiture Revolving Fund. House Amendment "D" established this gun amnesty program which results in a \$200,000 cost to the State's Drug Assets Forfeiture Revolving Fund and minimal costs to the participating municipalities.

House Amendment "E" added the City of Norwalk to the list of cities eligible for the gun amnesty program and results in no additional state costs.

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