



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 412

January Session, 2021

House Bill No. 6066

House of Representatives, April 13, 2021

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. LEMAR of the 96th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING STREET RACING.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 14-224 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2021*):

4 (c) (1) No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon any public
5 highway [for a wager or] for any race, [or for the purpose of making a
6 speed record] contest or demonstration of speed or skill.

7 (2) No person shall (A) possess a motor vehicle under circumstances
8 manifesting an intent that it be used in a race, [or event prohibited under
9 subdivision (1) of this subsection] contest or demonstration of speed or
10 skill, (B) act as a starter, timekeeper, judge or spectator at a race, [or
11 event prohibited under subdivision (1) of this subsection] contest or
12 demonstration of speed or skill, or (C) wager on the outcome of a race,
13 [or event prohibited under subdivision (1) of this subsection] contest or
14 demonstration of speed or skill.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
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|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2021</i> | 14-224(c) |
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TRA *Joint Favorable*

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 22 \$ | FY 23 \$ |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Judicial Dept.; Correction, Dept. | GF - Potential Cost | See Below | See Below |
| Resources of the General Fund; Resources of the Special Transportation Fund | GF&TF - Potential Revenue Gain | Minimal | Minimal |

Note: GF=General Fund; GF&TF=General Fund & Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill modifies the circumstances that constitute illegal street racing and results in a potential cost for incarceration or probation and a potential revenue gain from fines.

As under current law, the bill makes violations subject to a fine of \$75 to \$600, up to one year imprisonment, or both for a first offense and a \$100 to \$1,000 fine, up to one year imprisonment, or both for any subsequent offense. Offenders are also subject to having the vehicle impounded if it is registered to them, or an additional monetary penalty, if the vehicle used, is registered to someone else.

On average, the marginal cost to the state for incarcerating an offender for the year is \$2,200¹ while the average marginal cost for

¹ Inmate marginal cost is based on increased consumables (e.g. food, clothing, water, sewage, living supplies, etc.) This does not include a change in staffing costs or utility expenses because these would only be realized if a unit or facility opened.

supervision in the community is less than \$700² each year.

The potential revenue gain is dependent on any resulting change in violations or fines. In FY 20, 17 tickets were issued for illegal street racing and all were dismissed resulting in no fine revenue. In FY 19, 26 tickets were issued and all but three were dismissed, resulting in fine revenue of \$1,038.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of violations.

² Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6066*****AN ACT CONCERNING STREET RACING.*****SUMMARY**

Current law prohibits driving a motor vehicle on a public road for purposes of betting, racing, or making a speed record. It also prohibits (1) possessing a motor vehicle under circumstances showing an intent to use it in one of these prohibited races or events; (2) acting as a starter, timekeeper, judge, or spectator at such a race or event; or (3) betting on the race's or event's outcome. This bill instead makes these prohibitions specifically apply to races, contests, or demonstrations of speed or skill (i.e., street racing). (Existing law prohibits driving a motor vehicle in any race, contest, or demonstration of speed or skill as a public exhibition except in specific circumstances (CGS § 14-164a).)

By law and under the bill, a first offense for driving a motor vehicle on a public road for any race, contest, or demonstration of speed or skill is punishable by a fine of \$150 to \$600, up to one year in prison, or both; and any subsequent offense is punishable by a fine of \$300 to \$1,000, up to one year in prison, or both (CGS § 14-224(g)(2)). Additionally, anyone convicted of this must attend an operator's retraining program (CGS § 14-111g(a)). Also, a court may (1) order the motor vehicle driven by the offender to be impounded for up to 30 days if it is registered to the offender or (2) if the vehicle is registered to someone else, fine the offender up to \$2,000 for a first offense and up to \$3,000 for any subsequent offense. By law, the impounded vehicle's owner is responsible for all fees or costs resulting from the impoundment (CGS § 14-224(h)).

By law and under the bill, a first offense for the other prohibited conduct (e.g., possessing a vehicle with intent to race, acting as a starter

or spectator, or betting on a race) is punishable by a fine of \$75 to \$600, up to one year in prison, or both; and any subsequent offense is punishable by a fine of \$100 to \$1,000, up to one year in prison, or both (CGS § 14-224(g)(3)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/24/2021)