



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

**Committee Bill No. 186**

LCO No. 5008



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:  
(GL)

***AN ACT ALLOWING PERSONS SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO OPERATE RIDES AT AMUSEMENT PARKS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 29-133 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

3 When used in sections 29-134 to [29-142] 29-143b, inclusive, as  
4 amended by this act:

5 (1) "Amusement" means any circus or carnival presented in the open,  
6 including a place where one or more rides or devices capable of  
7 accommodating one or more passengers and normally requiring the  
8 supervision or services of [an] a ride or device operator are presented  
9 for amusement or entertainment purposes, and any circus, carnival or  
10 other portable show or exhibition presented under any single tent, air-  
11 supported plastic or fabric or other portable shelter, and involving the  
12 assembly of one hundred or more persons. "Amusement" does not  
13 include an inflatable device leased for private residential use;

14 (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer  
15 Protection;

16 (3) "Insurance Commissioner" means the state Insurance  
17 Commissioner;

18 (4) "Grandstand" means any structure, either with or without a roof,  
19 providing seating for one hundred or more persons;

20 (5) "Owner" means the proprietor, operator, agent or possessor of  
21 such amusement;

22 (6) "Tent" means any structure with or without side panels having  
23 wood or metal supports and using any kind of a textile or similar  
24 material for coverage, and having a capacity sufficient to shelter one  
25 hundred or more persons or covering a ground area of more than one  
26 thousand two hundred square feet;

27 (7) "Ride or device operator" means the person in charge of a  
28 mechanical amusement ride or device who causes such ride or device to  
29 operate and has direct control of the starting, stopping or speed of a  
30 mechanical amusement ride or device; and

31 (8) "Carnival" means a transient enterprise that offers portable  
32 mechanical amusement rides or devices for public amusement and  
33 entertainment purposes, but excluding any enterprise that offers the  
34 lease of inflatable devices for private residential use.

35 Sec. 2. Section 29-143b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
36 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

37 (a) Nothing in section 29-133 or 29-136 shall be construed to preclude  
38 the hiring of a ride or device operator under the age of eighteen to  
39 operate amusement rides and devices at a location other than a carnival,  
40 provided (1) any such amusement ride or device operator is at least  
41 sixteen years of age, and (2) an adult of at least eighteen years of age  
42 who is trained in normal operating and emergency procedures  
43 supervises the area containing such amusement rides and devices.

44 (b) Nothing in section 29-133 or 29-136 shall be construed to preclude

45 the hiring of certified lifeguards under the age of eighteen to oversee  
46 aquatic rides and devices such as pools, water slides, lazy rivers, or  
47 interactive aquatic play devices, provided an adult of at least eighteen  
48 years of age who is trained in normal operating and emergency  
49 procedures supervises the area containing such aquatic rides or devices.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	29-133
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	29-143b

**Statement of Purpose:**

To permit persons sixteen years of age or older to operate rides at amusement parks, with certain requirements.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd Dist.; REP. D'AMELIO, 71st Dist.  
REP. RUTIGLIANO, 123rd Dist.

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