

Transportation Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-390

Title: AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE TRANSPORTATION STATUTES.

Vote Date: 3/24/2022

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 3/14/2022

File No.:

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Transportation Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The purpose of this legislation is to change certain provisions in the transportation statutes including: allowing for the use of golf cart type vehicles on state highways in municipalities where such vehicles are allowed to operate on roads operated by municipal authorities, allow blood transport vehicles to use high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, allow Town Aid Road (TAR) grants to be used for the purposes of studies related to flood control and municipal stormwater planning, and authorizing the Department of Transportation (DOT) to establish a pilot program for micro transit services.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Joseph Giulietti, Commissioner, Department of Transportation (DOT): Commissioner Giulietti submitted comments regarding this legislation. The Department submitted testimony for the following sections: (1) DOT expressed concerns about the use of golf cart type vehicles on state highways because of higher speed limits and levels of traffic. (2) and (3) DOT is opposed to allowing blood transport vehicles to use HOV lanes because these vehicles are not included in Federal exemptions. (4) DOT expressed concerns because this section would open TAR grants for non-transportation uses. These grants are intended to be used for the maintenance of transportation infrastructure. (5) DOT supports the development of micro transit networks.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Beau Tompkins, Senior Executive Director, Connecticut Blood Center (CTBC): CTBC submitted testimony in support of Sections 2 and 3. CTBC operates at all hours of the day to

maintain the blood supply. The COVID-19 pandemic led to the cancelation of many blood drives and has caused the blood supply to be in a critical state. Allowing blood transport vehicles to use HOV lanes will decrease delivery delays and will help ensure patient safety.

Thomas Regan-Lefebvre, Coordinator at the Transport Hartford Academy, Center for Latino Progress (CLP): The CLP submitted testimony in support of Section 9. Micro transit is flexible for consumers and allows for easier for operators over ridership. It is a reliable form of transportation that can supplant the ownership of a motor vehicle and reaches people who reside in areas that lack public transit systems. Micro transit can also contribute to the coming DOT proposal to reduce vehicle miles traveled in Connecticut.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed

Reported by: Glenn Prushinski, Assistant Clerk Date: 4/1/2022
Phil Mainiero, Committee Clerk