



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 293

January Session, 2023

Substitute Senate Bill No. 994

Senate, March 29, 2023

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. COHEN of the 12th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES, STUDYING AN EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION DATABASE OR REVISIONS TO MOTOR VEHICLE RECORDS AND REQUIRING THE SAFETY DRIVING COURSE TO INCLUDE EDUCATION ON THE EFFECTS OF CANNABIS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 14-44c of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (d) On and after [January 6, 2023] November 18, 2024, the
5 commissioner shall request a driver's record from the Drug and Alcohol
6 Clearinghouse, in accordance with 49 CFR 382.725, as amended from
7 time to time, for any person who applies for, renews, transfers or
8 upgrades a commercial driver's license or a commercial driver's
9 instruction permit. The commissioner shall use information obtained
10 from the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse solely for the purpose of
11 determining whether a person is qualified to operate a commercial

12 motor vehicle and shall not disclose such information to any person or
13 entity not directly involved in determining whether a person is qualified
14 to operate a commercial motor vehicle.

15 Sec. 2. Section 14-51 of the general statutes is repealed and the
16 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

17 (a) As used in this subpart: [(D):]

18 (1) "New car dealer" includes any person, firm or corporation
19 engaged in the business of merchandising new motor vehicles under a
20 manufacturer's or importer's contract for each such make of vehicle who
21 may, incidental to such business, sell used motor vehicles and repair
22 motor vehicles. Such person shall be qualified to conduct such business
23 in accordance with the requirements of section 14-52a.

24 (2) "Used car dealer" includes any person, firm or corporation
25 engaged in the business of merchandising motor vehicles other than
26 new who may, incidental to such business, repair motor vehicles. A
27 used car dealer does not include any person, firm or corporation
28 engaged in the business of leasing or renting motor vehicles that offers
29 for sale or sells used motor vehicles incidental to its primary business, if
30 (A) such person, firm or corporation is licensed in accordance with the
31 provisions of section 14-15, and (B) the motor vehicles that it offers for
32 sale were formerly the subject of one or more lease agreements to which
33 it was a party and the actual or prospective purchaser is the original
34 lessee pursuant to a purchase option specified in a lease agreement.
35 Such person shall be qualified to conduct such business in accordance
36 with the requirements of section 14-52a.

37 (3) "Repairer" includes any person, firm or corporation qualified to
38 conduct such business in accordance with the requirements of section
39 14-52a, having a suitable facility and having adequate equipment,
40 engaged in repairing, overhauling, adjusting, assembling or
41 disassembling any motor vehicle [, but shall exclude] or making minor
42 repairs to any motor vehicle, including repairs and replacement of
43 cooling, electrical, fuel and exhaust systems, brake adjustments, relining

44 and repairs, wheel alignment and balancing and repair and replacement
45 of shock absorbers. "Repairer" does not include a person engaged in
46 making repairs to tires, upholstering, glazing, general blacksmithing,
47 welding and machine work on motor vehicle parts when parts involving
48 such work are disassembled or reassembled by a licensed repairer.

49 [(4) "Limited repairer" includes any qualified person, having a
50 suitable place of business and adequate equipment engaged in the
51 business of minor repairs, including repairs and replacement of cooling,
52 electrical, fuel and exhaust systems, brake adjustments, relining and
53 repairs, wheel alignment and balancing, and repair and replacement of
54 shock absorbers. For the purpose of this section, the place of business of
55 a limited repairer shall be deemed to be suitable if the building in which
56 the work of the repairer is performed has space capable of receiving at
57 least one motor vehicle at any one time, exclusive of a grease pit or rack,
58 and has adequate space for an office and for the storage of parts and
59 accessories. A person shall be deemed capable of performing the duties
60 of a limited repairer if he is, in the opinion of the commissioner, a
61 qualified mechanic who has a thorough knowledge of the services to be
62 rendered, or has a certificate of completion of a specialized course from
63 a service school approved by the commissioner, or satisfactory proof of
64 previous employment by a licensed repairer for a period of three years,
65 or has successfully passed an examination given by the Department of
66 Motor Vehicles.]

67 (b) The lubricating of motor vehicles, adding or changing of oil or
68 other motor vehicle fluids, changing of tires and tubes, including the
69 balancing of wheels, or installing of batteries or light bulbs, windshield
70 wiper blades or drive belts shall not be construed as the repairing of
71 motor vehicles under the provisions of this subpart. [(D).]

72 Sec. 3. Section 14-52 of the general statutes is repealed and the
73 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

74 (a) No person, firm or corporation may engage in the business of the
75 buying, selling, offering for sale or brokerage of any motor vehicle or
76 the repairing of any motor vehicle without having been issued [either]

77 a new car dealer's, a used car dealer's [,] or a repairer's [or a limited
78 repairer's] license. The license fee for each such license, payable to the
79 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, shall be as follows: (1) New motor
80 vehicle dealer, seven hundred dollars; (2) used motor vehicle dealer, five
81 hundred sixty dollars; and (3) repairer, z [or limited repairer,] three
82 hundred forty dollars. Each such license shall be renewed biennially
83 according to renewal schedules established by the commissioner [so as]
84 to effect staggered renewal of all such licenses. If the adoption of a
85 staggered system results in the expiration of any license more or less
86 than one year from its issuance, the commissioner may charge a
87 prorated amount for such license fee. Not less than forty-five days prior
88 to the date of expiration of each such license, the commissioner shall
89 send or transmit to each licensee, in a manner determined by the
90 commissioner, an application for renewal. Any licensee which has not
91 filed the application for renewal accompanied by the prescribed fee
92 prior to the date of expiration of its license shall cease to engage in
93 business. An application for renewal filed with the commissioner after
94 the date of expiration shall be accompanied by a late fee of one hundred
95 dollars. The commissioner shall not renew any license under this
96 subsection which has expired for more than forty-five days.

97 (b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, each
98 applicant for a repairer's license shall furnish a surety bond in the
99 amount of twenty-five thousand dollars.

100 [(2) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, each applicant
101 for a limited repairer's license shall furnish a surety bond in the amount
102 of ten thousand dollars.]

103 [(3)] (2) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, each
104 applicant for a new car dealer's or a used car dealer's license shall
105 furnish a surety bond in the amount of sixty thousand dollars.

106 [(4)] (3) Each applicant for a leasing or rental license issued pursuant
107 to section 14-15, who is engaged in the leasing or renting of motor
108 vehicles for periods of thirty days or more, shall furnish a surety bond
109 in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars.

110 [(5)] (4) Each such bond required under subdivisions (1) to [(4)] (3),
111 inclusive, of this subsection shall be conditioned upon the applicant or
112 licensee complying with the provisions of any state or federal law or
113 regulation relating to the conduct of such business and provided as
114 indemnity for any loss sustained by any customer by reason of any acts
115 of the licensee constituting grounds for suspension or revocation of the
116 license or such licensee going out of business. Each surety bond shall be
117 executed in the name of the state of Connecticut for the benefit of any
118 aggrieved customer, but the penalty of the bond shall not be invoked
119 except upon order of the commissioner after a hearing held before said
120 commissioner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. For
121 purposes of this subdivision, "customer" does not include (A) any
122 person, firm or corporation that finances a licensed dealer's motor
123 vehicle inventory, or (B) any licensed dealer, in such person's capacity
124 as a dealer, who buys motor vehicles from, or sells motor vehicles to,
125 another licensed dealer.

126 [(6)] (5) The commissioner shall assess an administrative fee of two
127 hundred dollars against any licensee for failing to provide proof of bond
128 renewal or replacement on or before the date of the expiration of the
129 existing bond. Such fee shall be in addition to the license suspension or
130 revocation penalties and the civil penalties to which the licensee is
131 subject pursuant to section 14-64.

132 (c) The commissioner may request information from any applicant
133 for a repairer's license or used car dealer's license concerning the
134 financial status and ability of such applicant to comply with the
135 requirements of this subpart and the regulations adopted thereunder.
136 The commissioner shall review such information to determine if the
137 applicant has sufficient financial resources to conduct the business in a
138 manner consistent with the reasonable security and protection of its
139 customers in regard to the duties and responsibilities imposed by the
140 provisions of this subpart and the regulations adopted thereunder. The
141 commissioner may refuse to issue a license if the applicant fails to
142 provide any such information requested or, if, after review by the
143 commissioner, the commissioner is not satisfied as to such applicant's

144 financial status. The commissioner may, in any case deemed
145 appropriate, grant a license on condition that the applicant post a surety
146 bond, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section,
147 in an amount prescribed by the commissioner that is greater than the
148 minimum amount required by the applicable provisions of said
149 subsection (b). Any applicant aggrieved by any decision of the
150 commissioner made pursuant to this subsection shall be afforded an
151 opportunity for hearing in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.
152 The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54
153 to carry out the provisions of this subsection.

154 (d) Any person, firm or corporation engaging in the business of the
155 buying, selling, offering for sale or brokerage of any motor vehicle or of
156 the repairing of any motor vehicle without a license shall be guilty of a
157 class B misdemeanor.

158 (e) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall transmit to the
159 Commissioner of Revenue Services and the Commissioner of Energy
160 and Environmental Protection a summary of any complaint that the
161 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles receives alleging that a person, firm or
162 corporation is engaging in the business of the buying, selling, offering
163 for sale or brokerage of any motor vehicle or of the repairing of any
164 motor vehicle without a license.

165 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2024*) On and after January 1, 2024,
166 each limited repairer's license issued by the Commissioner of Motor
167 Vehicles prior to January 1, 2024, that is otherwise valid, shall remain
168 valid, according to its terms, and shall authorize each license holder to
169 engage in the business of minor repairs of motor vehicles under the
170 provisions of section 14-52 of the general statutes, revision of 1958,
171 revised to January 1, 2023, until the expiration of the license. On and
172 after January 1, 2024, the commissioner shall not issue or renew a limited
173 repairer's license.

174 Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than thirty days after the
175 effective date of this section, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall
176 provide written notice to each limited repairer licensed in accordance

177 with the provisions of section 14-52 of the general statutes, revision of
178 1958, revised to January 1, 2023. Such notice shall state that (1) the
179 limited repairer's license will not be renewed by the commissioner on
180 and after January 1, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of section 4
181 of this act, and (2) after the expiration of such license according to the
182 terms of the license, if such person desires to engage in the business of
183 repairing motor vehicles, such person shall apply to obtain a repairer's
184 license pursuant to section 14-52 of the general statutes, as amended by
185 this act.

186 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 14-58 of the general statutes is
187 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
188 *1, 2024*):

189 (b) Each such licensee shall, instead of registering each motor vehicle
190 owned by such licensee or temporarily in such licensee's custody, [make
191 application] apply to the commissioner for a general distinguishing
192 number and mark, and the commissioner may issue to the applicant a
193 certificate or certificates of registration containing the distinguishing
194 number and mark assigned to such applicant, and made in a form and
195 containing any further information that the commissioner may
196 determine, and, thereupon, each motor vehicle owned by the applicant
197 or temporarily in the applicant's custody shall be regarded as registered
198 under and having assigned to it such general distinguishing number
199 and mark until sold. For the registration of all motor vehicles registered
200 under a general distinguishing number and mark, the commissioner
201 shall charge a fee at the rate of seventy dollars per year. [No new car
202 dealer may be issued more than one such registration for each ten sales
203 transactions in a year and no repairer or limited repairer may be issued
204 more than three registrations in a year, unless such licensee makes
205 application for an additional registration to the commissioner, in such
206 form and containing such information as the commissioner may require
207 to substantiate such request. No used car dealer may be issued more
208 than three such registrations in a year, provided an additional
209 registration may be issued for each ten sales transactions in excess of
210 thirty such transactions upon submission of such application for an

211 additional registration.] The commissioner may issue to each such
212 licensee such [additional] registrations as the commissioner deems
213 necessary. The commissioner may withdraw any registration
214 previously issued or may limit the number of registrations which any
215 licensee is eligible to receive or to hold, if the commissioner determines
216 that a licensee does not require such number of registrations or if a
217 licensee has been found to be in violation of any of the provisions of
218 section 14-64.

219 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 14-62b of the general statutes is
220 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
221 *1, 2024*):

222 (b) No new car dealer, used car dealer [,] or repairer, [or limited
223 repairer, as defined in section 14-51,] licensed in accordance with the
224 provisions of section 14-52, as amended by this act, may purchase or in
225 any manner obtain possession of any motor vehicle for the purpose of
226 dismantling such motor vehicle and selling its parts, as defined in
227 subsection (a) of this section, for use in any other motor vehicle, except
228 that any such dealer or repairer may sell used motor vehicle parts if the
229 parts are installed in a motor vehicle by such dealer or repairer for the
230 purpose of repair or maintenance of such motor vehicle.

231 Sec. 8. Section 14-65e of the general statutes is repealed and the
232 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

233 For the purposes of sections 14-65f to 14-65j, inclusive, "motor vehicle
234 repair shop" or "repair shop" means a new car dealer, a used car dealer
235 [,] or a repairer, [or a limited repairer, as defined in section 14-51,] or
236 their agents or employees.

237 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 14-103 of the general statutes is
238 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
239 *1, 2024*):

240 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may establish and maintain
241 a system of voluntary examination of equipment of motor vehicles

242 registered in this state or being operated on the highways thereof. Such
243 examination may be made by [licensed automobile dealers and repair
244 garages, not including limited repairers, which have been] a new car
245 dealer, a used car dealer or a repairer, who is licensed in accordance
246 with the provisions of section 14-52, as amended by this act, and
247 approved by said commissioner for such purpose.

248 Sec. 10. Section 14-106b of the general statutes is repealed and the
249 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

250 (a) Each self-propelled motor vehicle registered in this state that is
251 designed and manufactured with an odometer shall at all times while
252 operating on the highway be equipped with a properly functioning
253 odometer. Any person who violates any provision of this section shall
254 be issued a warning for defective equipment under the provisions of
255 subsection (c) of section 14-103.

256 (b) No person or [his] such person's agent shall remove, turn back or
257 change the reading on the odometer of any motor vehicle required
258 under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section or subsection (a) of
259 section 14-106a to be equipped with an odometer, except in connection
260 with the repair of such odometer either while installed in or removed
261 from such motor vehicle and unless such person is licensed as a new car
262 dealer, used car dealer or [general or limited] repairer pursuant to
263 section 14-52, as amended by this act. Each odometer repaired and each
264 new or used odometer installed in any motor vehicle required to be
265 equipped with an odometer shall display mileage at least equal to the
266 mileage displayed by the odometer in such motor vehicle immediately
267 prior to such repair or replacement.

268 (c) No person shall sell, offer for sale, use, install or cause to be
269 installed any device which causes the odometer in any motor vehicle
270 required under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section or
271 subsection (a) of section 14-106a to be so equipped to register any
272 mileage other than the true mileage driven. For purposes of this section,
273 the true mileage driven is that mileage driven by the vehicle as
274 registered by the odometer within the manufacturer's designed

275 tolerance.

276 (d) Any person violating the provisions of subsections (b) or (c) of
277 this section shall be guilty of committing a class A misdemeanor. Any
278 person violating the provisions of said subsections shall be liable for
279 damages equal to three times the amount of actual damage or one
280 thousand five hundred dollars, whichever is greater, court costs and
281 reasonable attorney's fees and shall pay a civil penalty of not more than
282 one thousand dollars for each violation. A violation of the provisions of
283 said subsections shall be deemed to be an unfair trade practice within
284 the provisions of chapter 735a. Any person licensed as a new car dealer,
285 used car dealer or [general or limited] repairer pursuant to section 14-
286 52, as amended by this act, shall, in addition to the penalties imposed by
287 this section, be subject to the suspension or revocation of [his] such
288 person's license as provided in section 14-64.

289 Sec. 11. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 12-692 of the
290 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
291 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

292 (3) "Rental company" means any business entity that is engaged in
293 the business of renting passenger motor vehicles, rental trucks without
294 a driver or machinery in this state to lessees and that uses for rental
295 purposes a motor vehicle fleet of five or more passenger motor vehicles,
296 rental trucks or pieces of machinery in this state, but does not mean any
297 person, firm or corporation that is licensed, or required to be licensed,
298 pursuant to section 14-52, as amended by this act, (A) as a new car dealer
299 [, repairer or limited] or repairer, or (B) as a used car dealer that is not
300 primarily engaged in the business of renting passenger motor vehicles
301 or rental trucks without a driver in this state to lessees. "Rental
302 company" does not include a business entity with total annual rental
303 income, excluding retail or wholesale sales of rental equipment, that is
304 less than fifty-one per cent of the total revenue of the business entity in
305 a given taxable year.

306 Sec. 12. Subsection (b) of section 13b-99 of the general statutes is
307 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*

308 1, 2024):

309 (b) Each such taxicab shall be inspected, biennially, at the time of
310 renewal of registration of such taxicab, by a repairer [or limited repairer]
311 licensed and authorized by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to
312 perform such inspections. The commissioner shall set a fee for such an
313 inspection.

314 Sec. 13. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 42-450 of the
315 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
316 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

317 (2) "Rental company" means any business entity that is engaged in
318 the business of renting trucks or vans without a driver in this state to
319 renters and that uses for rental purposes a motor vehicle fleet of five or
320 more rental trucks in this state, but does not mean any person, firm or
321 corporation that is licensed, or required to be licensed, pursuant to
322 section 14-52, as amended by this act, (A) as a new car dealer [, repairer
323 or limited] or repairer, or (B) as a used car dealer that is not primarily
324 engaged in the business of renting passenger motor vehicles or rental
325 trucks without a driver in this state to renters.

326 Sec. 14. Section 14-69 of the general statutes is repealed and the
327 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

328 (a) No person shall engage in the business of conducting a drivers'
329 school without being licensed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.
330 An application for a license shall be in writing and shall contain such
331 information as the commissioner requires. Each applicant for a license
332 or the renewal of a license shall be fingerprinted before such application
333 is approved. The commissioner shall subject each applicant for a license
334 or the renewal of a license to state and national criminal history records
335 checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, and a check of the
336 state child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to section
337 17a-101k. If any such applicant has a criminal record or is listed on the
338 state child abuse and neglect registry, the commissioner shall make a
339 determination [of] whether to issue a license or renew a license to

340 conduct a drivers' school in accordance with the standards and
341 procedures set forth in section 14-44 and the regulations adopted
342 pursuant to said section. If the application is approved, the applicant
343 shall be granted a license upon the payment of a fee of seven hundred
344 dollars and submission of a surety bond from a surety company
345 authorized to do business in this state, conditioned upon the faithful
346 performance by the applicant of any contract to furnish instruction, in
347 such amount as the commissioner may require. Such surety bond shall
348 be held by the commissioner to satisfy any execution issued against such
349 school in a cause arising out of failure of such school to perform such
350 contract. For each additional place of business of such school, the
351 commissioner shall charge a fee of one hundred seventy-six dollars,
352 except if the licensee opens an additional place of business with one year
353 or less remaining on the term of its license, the commissioner shall
354 charge a fee of eighty-eight dollars for each such additional place of
355 business for the year, or any part thereof, remaining on the term of such
356 license. No license or surety bond shall be required in the case of any
357 board of education, or any public, private or parochial school, which
358 conducts a course in driver education established in accordance with
359 sections 14-36e and 14-36f. A license so issued shall be valid for two
360 years. The commissioner shall issue a license certificate or certificates to
361 each licensee, one of which shall be displayed in each place of business
362 of the licensee. In case of the loss, mutilation or destruction of a license
363 certificate, the commissioner shall issue a duplicate license certificate to
364 the licensee upon proof of the facts and the payment of a fee of twenty
365 dollars.

366 (b) The biennial fee for the renewal of a license shall be seven hundred
367 dollars and the biennial renewal fee for each additional place of business
368 shall be one hundred seventy-six dollars, except if the licensee opens an
369 additional place of business with one year or less remaining on the term
370 of its license, the commissioner shall charge a fee of eighty-eight dollars
371 for each such additional place of business for the year, or any part
372 thereof, remaining on the term of such license. If the commissioner has
373 not received a complete renewal application and all applicable renewal
374 fees on or before the expiration date of an applicant's license, the

375 commissioner shall charge such applicant, in addition to such renewal
376 fees, a late fee of seven hundred dollars. Upon the expiration date of a
377 license, the licensee shall cease to conduct business until such time as
378 the licensee's application for renewal is approved by the commissioner.
379 The commissioner shall not renew any license under this section that
380 has expired for more than sixty days.

381 (c) Any person who engages in the business of conducting a drivers'
382 school without being licensed in accordance with this section shall be
383 guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

384 Sec. 15. Subsection (d) of section 14-100a of the general statutes is
385 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
386 *1, 2023*):

387 (d) (1) (A) Any person who transports a child under two years of age
388 or weighing less than thirty pounds in a motor vehicle on the highways
389 of this state shall provide and require the child to ride rear-facing in a
390 child restraint system equipped with a five-point harness approved
391 pursuant to regulations that the Department of Motor Vehicles shall
392 adopt in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

393 (B) Any person who transports a child under five years of age, but
394 not under two years of age, or weighing less than forty pounds, but not
395 less than thirty pounds, in a motor vehicle on the highways of this state
396 shall provide and require the child to ride rear-facing or forward-facing
397 in a child restraint system equipped with a five-point harness approved
398 pursuant to such regulations.

399 (C) Any person who transports a child under eight years of age, but
400 not under five years of age, or weighing less than sixty pounds, but not
401 less than forty pounds, in a motor vehicle on the highways of this state
402 shall provide and require the child to ride rear-facing or forward-facing
403 in a child restraint system equipped with a five-point harness or a
404 booster seat secured by a seat safety belt approved pursuant to such
405 regulations.

406 (D) No person shall transport a child in a motor vehicle on the
407 highways of this state in a rear-facing child restraint system in the front
408 seat of any motor vehicle that is equipped with a functional air bag on
409 the passenger side of such motor vehicle.

410 (2) Any person who transports a child eight years of age or older and
411 weighing sixty or more pounds in a motor vehicle on the highways of
412 this state shall either provide and require the child to use an approved
413 child restraint system or require the child to use a seat safety belt. Failure
414 to use a child restraint system shall not be considered as contributory
415 negligence nor shall such failure be admissible evidence in any civil
416 action. As used in this subsection, "motor vehicle" does not mean a bus
417 having a tonnage rating of one ton or more.

418 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
419 subsection, any person who transports a child four years of age or older
420 in a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212, on the
421 highways of this state shall either provide and require the child to use
422 an approved child restraint system or require the child to use a seat
423 safety belt. Any person who transports a child under four years of age
424 weighing less than forty pounds in a student transportation vehicle on
425 the highways of this state shall provide and require the child to use a
426 child restraint system approved pursuant to such regulations.

427 (4) No person shall restrain a child in a booster seat unless the motor
428 vehicle is equipped with a safety seat belt that includes a shoulder belt
429 and otherwise meets the requirement of subsection (b) of this section.

430 (5) Any person who violates the provisions of subdivision (1), (2), (3)
431 or (4) of this subsection shall, for a first violation, have committed an
432 infraction; for a second violation, be fined not more than one hundred
433 ninety-nine dollars; and, for a third or subsequent violation, be guilty of
434 a class A misdemeanor. The court may, subsequent to the violation but
435 prior to the imposition of a fine, remit the fine for a first-time violator
436 who presents proof of the acquisition, rental or purchase of a child
437 restraint system or booster seat appropriate for the weight and age of
438 the child that such person transports not later than fourteen days from

439 the date of the violation. The commissioner shall require any person
440 who has committed a first or second violation of the provisions of this
441 subsection to attend a child car seat safety course offered or approved
442 by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The commissioner may, after
443 notice and an opportunity for a hearing, suspend for a period of not
444 more than two months the motor vehicle operator's license of any
445 person who fails to attend or successfully complete the course.

446 Sec. 16. Section 14-147 of the general statutes is repealed and the
447 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

448 (a) Any person who counterfeits any number plate or marker, or
449 makes any substitute or temporary marker, except as provided in
450 section 14-18, or who counterfeits or in any manner alters any motor
451 vehicle registration or operator's license, and any person who gives,
452 loans or sells any such counterfeited or altered number plate, marker,
453 motor vehicle registration or operator's license, shall be [fined not more
454 than two hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or
455 both] guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

456 (b) Any person who loans or sells [any operator's license issued by
457 the commissioner, for use by any person, or] any number plate or
458 marker or certificate of registration issued by the commissioner, for use
459 on any car, except as provided in sections 14-59 and 14-60, shall [be fined
460 not more than one hundred dollars] have committed an infraction.

461 (c) No person shall use any motor vehicle registration or operator's
462 license other than the one issued to [him] such person by the
463 commissioner, except as provided in section 14-18; and no person shall
464 use a motor vehicle registration on any motor vehicle other than that for
465 which such registration has been issued. Any person who violates any
466 provision of this subsection shall [be fined not more than five hundred
467 dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or both] have
468 committed an infraction.

469 (d) Any person who loans any operator's license issued by the
470 commissioner, for use by another person, shall have committed an

471 infraction.

472 (e) Any person who sells any operator's license issued by the
473 commissioner, for use by another person, shall be guilty of a class D
474 misdemeanor.

475 Sec. 17. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-111 of the
476 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
477 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

478 (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection,
479 whenever the holder of any motor vehicle operator's license has been
480 convicted or has forfeited any bond taken or has received a suspended
481 judgment or sentence for any of the following violations, the
482 commissioner shall, without hearing, suspend such person's operator's
483 license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state as follows:
484 For a first violation of subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b)
485 of section 14-224 or section 14-110, 14-215 or 53a-119b, for a period of
486 not less than one year and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a
487 period of not less than two years; for a violation of subsection (a) of
488 section 14-222 or subsection (c) of section 14-224, for a period of not less
489 than thirty days or more than ninety days and, for a subsequent
490 violation thereof, for a period of not less than ninety days; for a violation
491 of subdivision (2) or (3) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, for a period
492 of not less than ninety days and for a subsequent violation thereof, for a
493 period of not less than one year; for a first violation of subsection (b), (d)
494 or (e) of section 14-147, as amended by this act, for a period of not less
495 than ninety days and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of
496 not less than five years; for a first violation of subsection (c) of section
497 14-147, as amended by this act, for a period of not less than thirty days
498 and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than one
499 year.

500 Sec. 18. Subsection (g) of section 14-111 of the general statutes is
501 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
502 *1, 2023*):

503 (g) When any person who does not hold a Connecticut operator's
504 license is convicted or has [his] such person's case nolloed or is given a
505 suspended judgment or sentence for a violation of any provision of
506 section 14-36, as amended by this act, 14-110 or 14-145, subsection (b),
507 (d) or (e) of section 14-147, as amended by this act, or section 14-215, 14-
508 224, 14-227a, 14-227m, 14-227n or 14-229, the commissioner shall not
509 issue to [him] such person a nonresident or resident operator's license
510 during such period as the commissioner may determine, which period
511 shall not be less than the period provided for suspension in subsection
512 (b) of this section or in subsection (g) of section 14-227a, subsection (c)
513 of section 14-227m or subsection (c) of section 14-227n. When any person
514 is convicted or has [his] such person's case nolloed or is given a
515 suspended judgment or sentence for any violation of any of the
516 provisions of section 14-12, the commissioner shall not issue registration
517 for any motor vehicle owned by such person until thirty days after
518 application therefor.

519 Sec. 19. (*Effective from passage*) For the purposes of this section, "motor
520 vehicle record" has the same meaning as provided in section 14-10 of the
521 general statutes and "police officer" has the same meaning as provided
522 in section 7-294a of the general statutes. The Commissioners of Motor
523 Vehicles and Emergency Services and Public Protection shall study the
524 feasibility of establishing and maintaining an emergency contact
525 information database or, alternatively, revising motor vehicle records to
526 add emergency contact information. Such database or revised motor
527 vehicle records shall (1) provide the holder of a Connecticut motor
528 vehicle operator's license, instruction permit or identity card with the
529 opportunity to furnish and update, as needed, the name, address,
530 telephone number and relationship to at least one contact person whom
531 the holder wishes to be contacted if the holder is involved in a motor
532 vehicle accident or emergency situation and the holder dies, is seriously
533 injured or is rendered unconscious and is unable to communicate with
534 such contact person, and (2) be accessible to police officers for the
535 purposes of notifying such contact person that such holder is involved
536 in a motor vehicle accident or emergency situation. Not later than
537 February 1, 2024, the commissioners shall submit the results of such

538 study and make recommendations regarding the implementation of
539 such database or revised motor vehicle records to the joint standing
540 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
541 relating to transportation, public safety and security and appropriations
542 and the budgets of state agencies.

543 Sec. 20. Subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the
544 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
545 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

546 (d) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued to any
547 applicant who is sixteen or seventeen years of age unless the applicant
548 has held a youth instruction permit and has satisfied the requirements
549 specified in this subsection. The applicant shall (A) submit to the
550 commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner shall direct, a
551 certificate of the successful completion (i) in a public secondary school,
552 a technical education and career school or a private secondary school of
553 a full course of study in motor vehicle operation prepared as provided
554 in section 14-36e, (ii) of training of similar nature provided by a licensed
555 drivers' school approved by the commissioner, or (iii) of home training
556 in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection, including, in each
557 case, or by a combination of such types of training, successful
558 completion of: Not less than forty clock hours of behind-the-wheel, on-
559 the-road instruction for applicants to whom a youth instruction permit
560 is issued on or after August 1, 2008; (B) submit to the commissioner, in
561 such manner as the commissioner shall direct, a certificate of the
562 successful completion of a course of not less than eight hours relative to
563 safe driving practices, including a minimum of four hours on the nature
564 and the medical, biological and physiological effects of alcohol and
565 drugs, including cannabis, as defined in section 21a-420, and their
566 impact on the operator of a motor vehicle, the dangers associated with
567 the operation of a motor vehicle after the consumption of alcohol or
568 drugs by the operator, the problems of alcohol and drug abuse, [and]
569 the penalties for alcohol and drug-related motor vehicle violations and
570 a video presentation specific to the impact of cannabis on the operator
571 of a motor vehicle and how the ingestion of cannabis can cause

572 impairment of motor function, reaction time, perception and peripheral
573 vision; and (C) pass an examination which may include a
574 comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws concerning motor
575 vehicles and the rules of the road in addition to the test required under
576 subsection (c) of this section and shall include an on-the-road skills test
577 as prescribed by the commissioner. At the time of application and
578 examination for a motor vehicle operator's license, an applicant sixteen
579 or seventeen years of age shall have held a youth instruction permit for
580 not less than one hundred eighty days, except that an applicant who
581 presents a certificate under subparagraph (A)(i) or subparagraph (A)(ii)
582 of this subdivision shall have held a youth instruction permit for not less
583 than one hundred twenty days and an applicant who is undergoing
584 training and instruction by the driver training unit for persons with
585 disabilities in accordance with the provisions of section 14-11b shall
586 have held such permit for the period of time required by said unit. The
587 commissioner shall approve the content of the safe driving instruction
588 at drivers' schools, high schools and other secondary schools. Subject to
589 such standards and requirements as the commissioner may impose, the
590 commissioner may authorize any drivers' school, licensed in good
591 standing in accordance with the provisions of section 14-69, as amended
592 by this act, or secondary school driver education program authorized
593 pursuant to the provisions of section 14-36e, to administer the
594 comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws concerning motor
595 vehicles and the rules of the road, required pursuant to subparagraph
596 (C) of this subdivision, as part of the safe driving practices course
597 required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, and to certify
598 to the commissioner, under oath, the results of each such test
599 administered. Such hours of instruction required by this subdivision
600 shall be included as part of or in addition to any existing instruction
601 programs. Any fee charged for the course required under subparagraph
602 (B) of this subdivision shall not exceed one hundred fifty dollars. Any
603 applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who, while a resident of
604 another state, completed the course required in subparagraph (A) of this
605 subdivision, but did not complete the safe driving course required in
606 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, shall complete the safe driving

607 course. The commissioner may waive any requirement in this
608 subdivision, except for that in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, in
609 the case of an applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who holds a
610 valid motor vehicle operator's license issued by any other state,
611 provided the commissioner is satisfied that the applicant has received
612 training and instruction of a similar nature.

613 Sec. 21. Subsection (b) of section 51-164n of the general statutes is
614 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
615 *1, 2023*):

616 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person
617 who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the provisions of
618 section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 2-71h, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35 or 7-41, subsection (c)
619 of section 7-66, section 7-83, 7-147h, 7-148, 7-148f, 7-148o, 7-283, 7-325, 7-
620 393, 8-12, 8-25, 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-185, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 10-
621 230, 10-251, 10-254, 10a-35, 12-52, 12-54, 12-129b or 12-170aa, subdivision
622 (3) of subsection (e) of section 12-286, section 12-286a, 12-292, 12-314b or
623 12-326g, subdivision (4) of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of
624 section 12-411, section 12-435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-476c, 12-487, 13a-71,
625 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-115, 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-124, 13a-139,
626 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-253, 13a-263 or 13b-39f, subsection (f) of section
627 13b-42, section 13b-90 or 13b-100, subsection (a) of section 13b-108,
628 section 13b-221 or 13b-292, subsection (a) or (b) of section 13b-324,
629 section 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c,
630 subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414 or 14-4,
631 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-12, subsection (d) of
632 section 14-12, subsection (f) of section 14-12a, subsection (a) of section
633 14-15a, section 14-16c, 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (f) of section 14-34a,
634 subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-44j, 14-49, 14-50a, 14-58,
635 as amended by this act, or 14-62a, subsection (b) of section 14-66, section
636 14-66a or 14-67a, subsection (g) of section 14-80, subsection (f) or (i) of
637 section 14-80h, section 14-97a or 14-98, subsection (a), (b) or (d) of section
638 14-100a, as amended by this act, section 14-100b, 14-103a, 14-106a, 14-
639 106c, 14-145a, [or] 14-146, [subsection (b) of section 14-147, section] 14-
640 152, 14-153, 14-161 or 14-163b, subsection (f) of section 14-164i, section

641 14-213b or 14-219, subdivision (1) of section 14-223a, subsection (d) of
642 section 14-224, section 14-240, 14-250, 14-253a, 14-261a, 14-262, 14-264,
643 14-266, 14-267a, 14-269, 14-270, 14-272b, 14-274, 14-275 or 14-275a,
644 subsection (c) of section 14-275c, section 14-276, subsection (a) or (b) of
645 section 14-277, section 14-278, 14-279 or 14-280, subsection (b), (e) or (h)
646 of section 14-283, section 14-283d, 14-283e, 14-283f, 14-283g, 14-291, 14-
647 293b, 14-296aa, 14-298a, 14-300, 14-300d, 14-300f, 14-319, 14-320, 14-321,
648 14-325a, 14-326, 14-330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of section
649 14-386a, section 15-15e, 15-25 or 15-33, subdivision (1) of section 15-97,
650 subsection (a) of section 15-115, section 16-15, 16-16, 16-44, 16-256e, 16-
651 278 or 16a-15, subsection (a) of section 16a-21, section 16a-22, subsection
652 (a) or (b) of section 16a-22h, section 16a-106, 17a-24, 17a-145, 17a-149 or
653 17a-152, subsection (b) of section 17a-227, section 17a-465, subsection (c)
654 of section 17a-488, section 17b-124, 17b-131, 17b-137, 19a-33, 19a-39 or
655 19a-87, subsection (b) of section 19a-87a, section 19a-91, 19a-102a, 19a-
656 102b, 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-113, 19a-215, 19a-216a, 19a-219, 19a-222, 19a-
657 224, 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-335, 19a-336, 19a-
658 338, 19a-339, 19a-340, 19a-425, 19a-442, 19a-502, 19a-565, 20-7a, 20-14, 20-
659 153a, 20-158, 20-231, 20-233, 20-249, 20-257, 20-265, 20-324e, 20-329c or
660 20-329g, subsection (b) of section 20-334, section 20-341l, 20-366, 20-482,
661 20-597, 20-608, 20-610, 20-623, 21-1, 21-38, 21-39, 21-43, 21-47, 21-48 or
662 21-63, subsection (d) of section 21-71, section 21-76a or 21-100,
663 subsection (c) of section 21a-2, subdivision (1) of section 21a-19, section
664 21a-20 or 21a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 21a-25,
665 section 21a-26 or 21a-30, subsection (a) of section 21a-37, section 21a-46,
666 21a-61, 21a-63, 21a-70b or 21a-77, subsection (b) or (c) of section 21a-79,
667 section 21a-85 or 21a-154, subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-
668 159, section 21a-278b, subsection (c), (d) or (e) of section 21a-279a,
669 section 21a-421eee, 21a-421fff, 21a-421hhh, subsection (a) of section 21a-
670 430, section 22-12b, 22-13, 22-14, 22-15, 22-16, 22-26g, 22-30, 22-34, 22-35,
671 22-36, 22-38, 22-39, 22-39f, 22-49, 22-54, 22-61j or 22-61l, subdivision (1)
672 of subsection (n) of section 22-61l, subsection (f) of section 22-61m,
673 subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 22-61m, section 22-84, 22-89,
674 22-90, 22-96, 22-98, 22-99, 22-100 or 22-111o, subsection (d) of section 22-
675 118l, section 22-167, subsection (c) of section 22-277, section 22-278, 22-

676 279, 22-280a, 22-318a, 22-320h, 22-324a or 22-326, subsection (b),
677 subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (e) or subsection (g) of section 22-344,
678 subsection (a) or (b) of section 22-344b, section 22-344c, subsection (d) of
679 section 22-344d, section 22-344f, 22-350a, 22-354, 22-359, 22-366, 22-391,
680 22-413, 22-414, 22-415, 22-415c, 22a-66a or 22a-246, subsection (a) of
681 section 22a-250, section 22a-256g, subsection (e) of section 22a-256h,
682 section 22a-363 or 22a-381d, subsections (c) and (d) of section 22a-381e,
683 section 22a-449, 22a-450, 22a-461, 23-4b, 23-38, 23-45, 23-46 or 23-61b,
684 subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 23-65, section
685 25-37 or 25-40, subsection (a) of section 25-43, section 25-43d, 25-135, 26-
686 18, 26-19, 26-21, 26-31, 26-40, 26-40a, 26-42, 26-43, 26-49, 26-54, 26-55, 26-
687 56, 26-58 or 26-59, subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 26-61,
688 section 26-64, subdivision (1) of section 26-76, section 26-79, 26-87, 26-89,
689 26-91, 26-94, 26-97, 26-98, 26-104, 26-105, 26-107, 26-114a, 26-117,
690 subsection (b) of section 26-127, 26-128, 26-128a, 26-131, 26-132, 26-138,
691 26-139 or 26-141, subdivision (1) of section 26-186, section 26-207, 26-215,
692 26-217 or 26-224a, subdivision (1) of section 26-226, section 26-227, 26-
693 230, 26-231, 26-232, 26-244, 26-257a, 26-260, 26-276, 26-280, 26-284, 26-
694 285, 26-286, 26-287, 26-288, 26-290, 26-291a, 26-292, 26-294, 27-107, 28-13,
695 29-6a, 29-16, 29-17, 29-25, 29-143o, 29-143z or 29-156a, subsection (b), (d),
696 (e), (g) or (h) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y or 29-161z, subdivision
697 (1) of section 29-198, section 29-210, 29-243 or 29-277, subsection (c) of
698 section 29-291c, section 29-316 or 29-318, subsection (b) of section 29-
699 335a, section 29-381, 30-19f, 30-48a or 30-86a, subsection (b) of section
700 30-89, subsection (c) or (d) of section 30-117, section 31-3, 31-10, 31-11,
701 31-12, 31-13, 31-14, 31-15, 31-16, 31-18, 31-23, 31-24, 31-25, 31-32, 31-36,
702 31-38, 31-40, 31-44, 31-47 or 31-48, subsection (b) of section 31-48b,
703 section 31-51, 31-51g, 31-52, 31-52a, 31-53 or 31-54, subsection (a) or (c)
704 of section 31-69, section 31-70, 31-74, 31-75, 31-76, 31-76a, 31-89b or 31-
705 134, subsection (i) of section 31-273, section 31-288, 31-348, 33-624, 33-
706 1017, 34-13d or 34-412, subdivision (1) of section 35-20, subsection (a) of
707 section 36a-57, subsection (b) of section 36a-665, section 36a-699, 36a-
708 739, 36a-787, 38a-2 or 38a-140, subsection (a) or (b) of section 38a-278,
709 section 38a-479qq, 38a-479rr, 38a-506, 38a-548, 38a-626, 38a-680, 38a-713,
710 38a-733, 38a-764, 38a-786, 38a-828, 38a-829, 38a-885, 42-133hh, 42-230,

711 42-470 or 42-480, subsection (a) or (c) of section 43-16q, section 45a-283,
712 45a-450, 45a-634 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 46a-54,
713 section 46a-59, 46a-81b, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 46b-38d, 47-34a, 47-47 or
714 47-53, subsection (i) of section 47a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (k)
715 of section 47a-21, section 49-2a, 49-8a, 49-16, 52-143 or 52-289, subsection
716 (j) of section 52-362, section 53-133, 53-199, 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-
717 264, 53-280, 53-290a, 53-302a, 53-303e, 53-311a, 53-314, 53-321, 53-322, 53-
718 323 or 53-331, subsection (b) of section 53-343a, section 53-344,
719 subsection (b) or (c) of section 53-344b, subsection (b) of section 53-345a,
720 section 53-377, 53-422 or 53-450 or subsection (i) of section 54-36a, or (2)
721 a violation under the provisions of chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any
722 regulation adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 12-484,
723 12-487 or 13b-410, or (4) a violation of any ordinance, regulation or
724 bylaw of any town, city or borough, except violations of building codes
725 and the health code, for which the penalty exceeds ninety dollars but
726 does not exceed two hundred fifty dollars, unless such town, city or
727 borough has established a payment and hearing procedure for such
728 violation pursuant to section 7-152c, shall follow the procedures set
729 forth in this section.

730 Sec. 22. Section 54-1q of the general statutes is repealed and the
731 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

732 The court shall not accept a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a
733 person in a proceeding with respect to a violation of section 14-110,
734 subsection (b), [or] (c), (d) or (e) of section 14-147, as amended by this
735 act, section 14-215, subsection (a) of section 14-222, subsection (a) or (b)
736 of section 14-224 or section 53a-119b unless the court advises such
737 person that conviction of the offense for which such person has been
738 charged may have the consequence of the Commissioner of Motor
739 Vehicles suspending such person's motor vehicle operator's license.

740 Sec. 23. Section 54-143a of the general statutes is repealed and the
741 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

742 A cost of twenty dollars shall be imposed against any person
743 convicted of a violation, as defined in section 53a-27, under any

744 provision of section 12-487 or sections 13b-410a to 13b-410c, inclusive;
 745 any regulation adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 12-
 746 484, 12-487 or 13b-410; or a violation of subsection (a) or (e) of section
 747 14-147, as amended by this act, section 14-219, 14-266, 14-267a, 14-269 or
 748 14-270, chapter 268 or subsection (a) of section 22a-250, or any section of
 749 the general statutes the violation of which is deemed an infraction, or
 750 who forfeits a cash bond or guaranteed bail bond certificate posted
 751 under section 14-140a or under reciprocal agreements made with other
 752 states for the alleged violation of any of said sections, or who pleads
 753 nolo contendere to a violation of any of said sections and pays the fine
 754 by mail; except that such cost shall be thirty-five dollars for a violation
 755 of any section of the general statutes the violation of which is deemed
 756 an infraction and carries a fine of thirty-five dollars or more. The costs
 757 imposed by this section shall be deposited in the General Fund and shall
 758 be in addition to any costs imposed by section 54-143.

| | | |
|---|------------------------|--------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | 14-44c(d) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 14-51 |
| Sec. 3 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 14-52 |
| Sec. 4 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | New section |
| Sec. 5 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 6 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 14-58(b) |
| Sec. 7 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 14-62b(b) |
| Sec. 8 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 14-65e |
| Sec. 9 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 14-103(b) |
| Sec. 10 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 14-106b |
| Sec. 11 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 12-692(a)(3) |
| Sec. 12 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 13b-99(b) |
| Sec. 13 | <i>January 1, 2024</i> | 42-450(a)(2) |
| Sec. 14 | <i>July 1, 2023</i> | 14-69 |
| Sec. 15 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 14-100a(d) |
| Sec. 16 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 14-147 |
| Sec. 17 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 14-111(b)(1) |
| Sec. 18 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 14-111(g) |
| Sec. 19 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 20 | <i>October 1, 2023</i> | 14-36(d)(1) |

| | | |
|---------|-----------------|------------|
| Sec. 21 | October 1, 2023 | 51-164n(b) |
| Sec. 22 | October 1, 2023 | 54-1q |
| Sec. 23 | October 1, 2023 | 54-143a |

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2(a) and (b), "(D)" was bracketed for consistency with standard drafting conventions; in Section 5, "as amended by this act" was changed to "revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2023" for accuracy and "for and" was changed to "to" for clarity; in Section 19, "7-294" was changed to "7-294a" for accuracy; and Sections 21 to 23, inclusive, were added to conform with the changes being made in Section 16.

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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 24 \$ | FY 25 \$ |
|--|--|----------|----------|
| Department of Motor Vehicles | TF - Potential Revenue Loss | Minimal | Minimal |
| Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection | Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account - Potential Revenue Gain | Minimal | Minimal |
| Resources of the General Fund | GF - Potential Revenue Gain/ Loss | Minimal | Minimal |
| Judicial Dept. (Probation) | GF - Potential Cost | Minimal | Minimal |
| Resources of the Special Transportation Fund | TF - Potential Revenue Gain/ Loss | Minimal | Minimal |

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Various sections of the bill eliminate the separate license for "limited repairers," instead requiring those businesses to get "repairers" licenses. While the requirements for both types of licenses are similar, and both have a \$340 license fee, it's possible that a subset of limited repairers would opt not to transition to a repairers license, resulting in a potential minimal revenue loss to the Special Transportation Fund (STF) from fewer licensure fees. On average, limited repairer licenses result in annual revenue of less than \$20,000.

Section 14 requires driver school licensees to submit to a state background check when renewing their license, resulting in a potential revenue gain. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) conducts state background checks for a \$75 fee per person, paid to the General Fund (GF). State background checks also require fingerprinting, which DESPP conducts for a \$15 fee per person, paid to the Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account.¹

Section 15 permits courts to suspend the fine for a first-time violator of the car seat safety statutes if the violator acquires a car seat or booster seat, as appropriate, within 14 days of the violation, resulting in a potential revenue loss from fines. In FY 22, roughly \$13,000 was collected in revenue for car seat safety related violations.

Various sections of the bill make changes to penalties for counterfeiting vehicle registration, plates, or markers as well as operator licenses; these acts are now considered to be infractions. This could potentially result in a loss of revenue to both the STF (base fine) and GF (surcharge). In FY 22, \$1,626 was collected for violations for using a license or a registration other than that which was issued to a person and/or vehicle. In FY 22, \$150 was collected for violations for counterfeiting or loaning plates, markers, operator's licenses, or registrations.

These sections also make the offense of loaning or selling an operator license to another person a Class D misdemeanor. This results in a potential cost to the Judicial Department and a potential revenue gain from fines. On average, the marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$800² each year.

The other sections of the bill are technical, make conforming changes,

¹ Funds in the non-lapsing Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account are used for IT support and maintenance for the fingerprinting systems.

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.

or otherwise do not have a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

The Out Years

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

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 994****AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES, STUDYING AN EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION DATABASE OR REVISIONS TO MOTOR VEHICLE RECORDS AND REQUIRING THE SAFETY DRIVING COURSE TO INCLUDE EDUCATION ON THE EFFECTS OF CANNABIS.**

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§§ 16-18 & 21-23 — PENALTIES FOR CRIMES AND VIOLATIONS RELATED TO DRIVER’S LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS, AND LICENSE PLATES

Increases the penalty for selling a state-issued driver’s license to a class D misdemeanor; lowers the penalty for using someone else’s registration or driver’s license to an infraction; increases the maximum fine for certain other violations by classifying them as class D misdemeanors

§ 19 — EMERGENCY CONTACT STUDY

Requires DMV and DESPP to study the feasibility of establishing and maintaining an emergency contact information database or revising motor vehicle records to add emergency contact information

§ 20 — CANNABIS EDUCATION IN EIGHT-HOUR SAFE DRIVING COURSE

Specifically requires that cannabis be covered in the eight hour safe driving practices course and additionally requires that the course include a video presentation specific to cannabis’s impact on drivers

SUMMARY

This bill makes several changes in the motor vehicle statutes, including the following:

1. delays the date by which the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) must begin checking the federal Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse before processing commercial driver’s license (CDL) transactions;
2. eliminates the separate license for limited repairers, instead requiring these businesses to get repairer’s licenses;
3. modifies penalties related to license plate and driver’s license sale and counterfeiting;
4. allows the court to cancel the fine for a first-time violator of the state’s car seat law if he or she shows proof of getting an appropriate car seat; and
5. requires DMV to study establishing and maintaining an

emergency contacts database or modifying the driver record to include this information.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Various, see below

§ 1 — DRUG AND ALCOHOL CLEARINGHOUSE CHECKS

Delays the deadline for DMV to begin requesting a commercial driver's record from the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse in conformance with federal law

The bill delays, from January 6, 2023, to November 18, 2024, the deadline for DMV to begin complying with federal regulations requiring state licensing agencies to request a driver's record from the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse anytime the driver applies for, renews, transfers, or upgrades a CDL. The delay conforms to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) extended compliance date (86 Fed. Reg. 55718).

The bill also requires DMV to request records from the clearinghouse when a driver applies for, renews, transfers, or upgrades a commercial learner's permit.

The clearinghouse is an online database that gives employers and government agencies access to information about CDL and commercial learner's permit holders' drug and alcohol program violations (e.g., positive drug or alcohol test results and test refusals). FMCSA regulations require that state licensing agencies deny CDL transactions if the clearinghouse shows the driver is prohibited.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 2-5 & 7-13 — LIMITED REPAIRER LICENSE ELIMINATION

Beginning January 1, 2024, eliminates the separate license for limited repairers, instead requiring these businesses to get repairer's licenses; current licenses remain valid until they expire; requires DMV to notify licensed limited repairers

Current law requires businesses seeking to repair motor vehicles to obtain either a repairer's or limited repairer's license, depending on the type of work they perform. A limited repairer engages in the business of making minor repairs to a motor vehicle, including cooling, electrical, fuel, and exhaust system repairs or replacements; brake adjustments,

relining, and repairs; wheel alignment and balancing; and shock absorber repair and replacement.

Beginning January 1, 2024, the bill eliminates the separate license for limited repairers, instead requiring that people engaging in the above listed activities obtain a repairer's license. The bill specifies that all valid licenses issued before that date (1) remain valid, according to their terms, until they expire and (2) authorize the businesses to continue their business of making minor repairs. Within 30 days after the bill takes effect, DMV must notify, in writing, each licensed limited repairer that (1) the limited repairer's license will not be renewed on or after January 1, 2024, and (2) after the license expires, the limited repairer must apply for a repairer's license to continue repairing motor vehicles.

Qualifications and requirements for repairers and limited repairers are substantially similar under current law, except that the required surety bond amount is higher for repairers (\$25,000) than for limited repairers (\$10,000). Thus, the bill increases the surety bond amount for businesses currently operating under a limited repairers license by \$15,000. (A surety bond is an agreement between three parties – the principal (e.g., business owner), the surety (guarantor), and the obligee (e.g., the government) – that guarantees the principal will fulfill their obligations. Bond premiums are generally a percentage of the bond's value and vary based on risk-related factors such as credit score and experience.)

By law, unchanged by the bill, lubricating motor vehicles, adding or changing oil or other fluids, changing tires and tubes (including wheel balancing), or installing batteries, light bulbs, windshield wiper blades, or drive belts is not considered repairing motor vehicles and does not require a license.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2024, except that the provision requiring DMV to provide notice is effective upon passage.

§ 6 — DEALER PLATES

Allows dealer and repairer plates to be issued at the DMV commissioner's discretion, rather than based on sales transactions and annual limits

Under existing law, rather than requiring car dealers and repairers to register each vehicle they own or temporarily possess, DMV issues them a general distinguishing number and mark and registration certificates and license plates containing the general mark.

The bill allows the DMV commissioner to issue these registrations to dealers and repairers as he deems necessary. Current law generally prohibits DMV from issuing more than (1) one registration to new car dealers for every 10 sales transactions and (2) three per year to used car dealers, repairers, and limited repairers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2024

§ 14 — DRIVER'S SCHOOL LICENSEE RENEWALS

Specifically requires driver's school licensees to be fingerprinted and undergo background checks when renewing their license

The bill specifically requires that driver's school licensees be fingerprinted and undergo a state and national criminal records check and a review of the state child abuse and neglect registry when renewing their license, in addition to when they initially apply.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

§ 15 — CAR SEAT VIOLATION FINE CANCELLATION

Allows the court to refrain from imposing a fine on a first-time violator of the state's car seat law if the person shows proof of getting an appropriate car seat for the child he or she transports

Existing law requires people transporting children to secure them as the law requires (e.g., in a car seat or booster seat) and makes a first violation an infraction.

The bill allows the court, within 14 days after the violation but before imposing the fine, to refrain from imposing a fine on a first-time violator if he or she shows proof of acquiring, renting, or buying a car seat or booster seat appropriate for the age and weight of the child he or she transports.

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, requires the DMV commissioner to require first- and second-time violators to attend a car seat safety course.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

§§ 16-18 & 21-23 — PENALTIES FOR CRIMES AND VIOLATIONS RELATED TO DRIVER’S LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS, AND LICENSE PLATES

Increases the penalty for selling a state-issued driver’s license to a class D misdemeanor; lowers the penalty for using someone else’s registration or driver’s license to an infraction; increases the maximum fine for certain other violations by classifying them as class D misdemeanors

The bill makes changes to penalties for the unlawful use or transfer or counterfeiting of license plates, registrations, and driver’s licenses.

It increases the maximum penalty for selling a DMV-issued driver’s license by making it a class D misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$250, up to 30 days in prison, or both. Currently, it is punishable by a fine of up to \$100.

The bill also lowers the maximum penalties for (1) using a registration or driver’s license that was issued to someone else or (2) using a registration on a vehicle other than the one for which the registration was issued. Currently, violators face a fine of up to \$500, up to 30 days in prison, or both. Under the bill, a violation is an infraction.

Currently, certain violations of the law related to counterfeiting or altering a credential are punishable by a fine of up to \$200, up to 30 days in prison, or both. The bill classifies these violations as class D misdemeanors, which increases the maximum fine from \$200 to \$250. The specific counterfeiting or altering offenses are:

1. counterfeiting a license plate, or making any substitute or temporary marker;
2. counterfeiting or altering a driver’s license or registration; and
3. loaning or selling an altered or counterfeit license plate, marker,

registration, or driver's license.

Lastly, the bill makes a minor change classifying the following violations as infractions, conforming to current practice: (1) illegally selling or loaning a DMV-issued license plate or marker and (2) loaning a DMV-issued license for use by another person. The bill also makes numerous technical and conforming changes (§§ 17-18 & 21-23).

Infractions are punishable by fines, usually set by Superior Court judges, of between \$35 and \$90, plus a \$20 or \$35 surcharge and an additional fee based on the fine's amount. There may also be other applicable charges depending on the type of infraction. For example, certain motor vehicle infractions trigger a Special Transportation Fund surcharge of 50% of the fine. An infraction is not a crime, and violators can pay the fine by mail without making a court appearance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

§ 19 — EMERGENCY CONTACT STUDY

Requires DMV and DESPP to study the feasibility of establishing and maintaining an emergency contact information database or revising motor vehicle records to add emergency contact information

The bill requires the DMV and Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) commissioners to study the feasibility of establishing and maintaining an emergency contact information database or, alternatively, revising motor vehicle records to add emergency contact information. The database or revised motor vehicle record must do the following:

1. give a Connecticut driver's license, instruction permit, or identity card holder the opportunity to provide and update information (name, address, phone number, and relationship) for at least one contact person who the holder wishes to be notified if he or she dies, is seriously injured, or is rendered unconscious and unable to communicate with the contact person and
2. be accessible to police officers to notify the contact person if the holder is involved in a motor vehicle accident or an emergency

situation.

By February 1, 2024, the agencies’ commissioners must submit the study’s results and recommendations on implementing a database or revised motor vehicle records, to the Transportation, Public Safety, and Appropriations committees.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 20 — CANNABIS EDUCATION IN EIGHT-HOUR SAFE DRIVING COURSE

Specifically requires that cannabis be covered in the eight hour safe driving practices course and additionally requires that the course include a video presentation specific to cannabis’s impact on drivers

By law, adult instruction permit and youth instruction permit holders must complete an eight-hour safe driving practices course before obtaining a driver’s license. The course must include at least four hours on (1) the nature and the medical, biological, and physiological effects of alcohol and drugs; (2) how they impact a driver; (3) the dangers associated with driving after consuming alcohol or drugs; (4) the problems of alcohol and drug abuse; and (5) the penalties for alcohol and drug-related motor vehicle violations.

The bill (1) specifically requires that the drugs covered include cannabis and (2) additionally requires that the course include a video presentation specific to cannabis’s impact on drivers and how ingesting cannabis can impair motor function, reaction time, perception, and peripheral vision.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 36 Nay 0 (03/10/2023)