



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 5822



Offered by:

SEN. WINFIELD, 10th Dist.
SEN. KISSEL, 7th Dist.
REP. STAFSTROM, 129th Dist.
REP. FISHBEIN, 90th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 426

File No. 532

Cal. No. 303

"AN ACT CONCERNING COURT OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS."

1 In line 186, strike the opening and closing brackets and strike "on
2 which such appeal was filed"

3 Strike section 26 in its entirety and renumber the remaining sections
4 and internal references accordingly

5 Strike section 29 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
6 thereof:

7 "Sec. 29. Section 22-358 of the general statutes is repealed and the
8 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

9 (a) Any owner or [the agent of any owner of any domestic animal or
10 poultry, or the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer,
11 any municipal animal control officer, any regional animal control officer

12 or any police officer or state policeman, may kill any dog which he
13 observes pursuing or worrying any such domestic animal or poultry]
14 keeper of any animal or poultry, or an agent of such owner or keeper,
15 or any animal control officer appointed pursuant to section 22-328, 22-
16 331 or 22-331a, or any police officer, including a state police officer, may
17 kill any dog while the dog is in the act of biting, attacking or pursuing
18 any such animal or poultry of the owner or keeper. Any owner, keeper,
19 animal control officer or police officer who kills such dog shall make
20 complaint concerning the circumstances of the attack to any animal
21 control officer appointed pursuant to section 22-331 or 22-331a of the
22 town where such attack occurred. The animal control officer to whom
23 such complaint is made shall investigate the circumstances of the attack
24 set forth in the complaint and report on the circumstances of the attack
25 to the Chief State Animal Control Officer, appointed pursuant to section
26 22-328.

27 (b) Any person who is [bitten, or who shows visible evidence of
28 attack] protecting himself or herself or another person or animal from
29 physical harm while being bitten or attacked by a dog, cat or other
30 animal when such person is not upon the premises of the owner or
31 keeper of such dog, cat or other animal may kill such dog, cat or other
32 animal during such attack. [Such person shall make complaint
33 concerning the circumstances of the attack to the Chief Animal Control
34 Officer, any animal control officer or the municipal animal control
35 officer or regional animal control officer of the town wherein such dog,
36 cat or other animal is owned or kept. Any such officer to whom such
37 complaint is made shall immediately make an investigation of such
38 complaint.] Any person who kills such animal shall make complaint
39 concerning the circumstances of the attack to any animal control officer
40 appointed pursuant to section 22-331 or 22-331a of the town where such
41 attack occurred. The animal control officer to whom such complaint is
42 made shall investigate the circumstances of the attack set forth in the
43 complaint and report on the circumstances of the attack to the Chief
44 State Animal Control Officer, appointed pursuant to section 22-328.

45 [(c) The commissioner, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal

46 control officer, any municipal animal control officer or any regional
47 animal control officer may make any order concerning the restraint or
48 disposal of any biting dog, cat or other animal as the commissioner or
49 such officer deems necessary. Notice of any such order shall be given to
50 the person bitten by such dog, cat or other animal within twenty-four
51 hours. The owner of such animal shall pay all fees as set forth in section
52 22-333. Any owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal who fails
53 to comply with such order shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor. If
54 an owner or keeper fails to comply with a restraining order made
55 pursuant to this subsection, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any
56 animal control officer, any municipal animal control officer or any
57 regional animal control officer may seize the dog, cat or other animal to
58 ensure such compliance and the owner or keeper shall be responsible
59 for any expenses resulting from such seizure. Any person aggrieved by
60 an order of any municipal animal control officer, the Chief Animal
61 Control Officer, any animal control officer or any regional animal
62 control officer may request a hearing before the commissioner within
63 fourteen days of the issuance of such order. Any order issued pursuant
64 to this section that requires the restraint of an animal shall be effective
65 upon its issuance and shall remain in effect during any appeal of such
66 order to the commissioner. After such hearing, the commissioner may
67 affirm, modify or revoke such order as the commissioner deems proper.
68 Any dog owned by a police agency of the state or any of its political
69 subdivisions is exempt from the provisions of this subsection when such
70 dog is under the direct supervision, care and control of an assigned
71 police officer, is currently vaccinated and is subject to routine veterinary
72 care. Any guide dog owned or in the custody and control of a blind
73 person or a person with a mobility impairment is exempt from the
74 provisions of this subsection when such guide dog is under the direct
75 supervision, care and control of such person, is currently vaccinated and
76 is subject to routine veterinary care.]

77 (c) In the interest of public health and safety, if after investigation,
78 any animal control officer appointed pursuant to section 22-328, 22-331
79 or 22-331a in the municipality or region in which an alleged dog bite or

80 attack occurs determines that a person has in fact been bitten or attacked
81 by a dog, such animal control officer may make any order concerning
82 the restraint or disposal of such biting or attacking dog as is necessary
83 to protect public health and safety. In determining the type of order to
84 be issued or conditions of restraint to be imposed, the animal control
85 officer shall consider factors that include, but need not be limited to: (1)
86 The ability of the owner or keeper of the dog, if any, to control the
87 animal; (2) the severity of injury inflicted on a person by the biting or
88 attacking dog; (3) the viciousness of the bite or attack; (4) any history of
89 past bites or attacks by the dog; (5) whether the bite or attack occurred
90 at a location that is off of the property of the owner or keeper of the dog;
91 (6) whether the biting or attacking dog was provoked; and (7) whether
92 the biting or attacking dog was protecting its owner or keeper from
93 physical harm.

94 (d) Any dog, while [actually worrying] biting, attacking or pursuing
95 deer, may be killed by [the Chief Animal Control Officer or an animal
96 control officer] any animal control officer appointed pursuant to section
97 22-328, 22-331 or 22-331a, or by a conservation officer or special
98 conservation officer appointed by the Commissioner of Energy and
99 Environmental Protection, or by any police officer, [or state policeman]
100 including a state police officer. The owner or keeper of any dog found
101 [worrying] biting, attacking or pursuing a deer shall be guilty of a class
102 D misdemeanor.

103 (e) Any person who kills any dog, cat or other animal in accordance
104 with the provisions of this section shall not be held criminally or civilly
105 liable therefor.

106 (f) Repealed by P.A. 19-197, S. 1.

107 (g) Repealed by P.A. 05-175, S. 24.

108 (h) The following shall apply to any order issued pursuant to this
109 section:

110 (1) In the interest of public health and safety, and the health and

111 safety of animals, whenever an order issued pursuant to this section
112 requires the restraint of an animal, the order shall be effective upon its
113 issuance and shall remain in effect during any appeal of such order;

114 (2) In the interest of public health and safety, and the health and
115 safety of animals, whenever an order issued pursuant to this section
116 requires the disposal of an animal, the issuing officer shall take physical
117 custody and retain possession of the animal subject to the order during
118 any appeal of such order;

119 (3) Not later than twenty-four hours after the issuance of any order
120 issued pursuant to this section, a copy of the order shall be delivered to
121 the owner or keeper of the biting or attacking animal, and the person
122 bitten or attacked, or to the owner or keeper of an animal which has been
123 bitten or attacked. The order shall also include a statement informing
124 the owner or keeper of the biting or attacking animal of their right to
125 pursue an appeal of the order;

126 (4) Not later than fifteen days after the date of an order issued
127 pursuant to this section by any animal control officer appointed
128 pursuant to section 22-331 or 22-331a, the municipality in which the
129 attack occurred shall offer in writing to the dog owner a pre-appeal
130 meeting, which may include the owner or keeper of the animal subject
131 to the order and the person who was bitten or attacked, or the owner or
132 keeper of an animal which has been bitten or attacked, to determine if
133 the order is in dispute. At such meeting the owner or keeper of the
134 animal subject to the order and their legal counsel, if any, the animal
135 control officer issuing the order and the animal control officer's
136 appointing authority, or their designee, may stipulate to an alternate
137 order. All settlement discussions that occur during the pre-appeal
138 meeting shall be confidential and protected from disclosure under state
139 law;

140 (5) A statement of the conclusion of the pre-appeal meeting,
141 including only the names of the attending parties, the date of the
142 prehearing meeting and whether the order was modified, shall be

143 provided by the municipality to the owner or keeper of the animal
144 subject to the order, and the victim or the owner or keeper of an animal
145 which has been bitten or attacked, not later than twenty-four hours after
146 the conclusion of the pre-appeal meeting. If a pre-appeal meeting
147 statement is issued pursuant to this subdivision, then the time to appeal
148 to the Superior Court shall run from the date of the issuance of such
149 statement. If there is no pre-appeal meeting, then the time to appeal to
150 the Superior Court runs from the date of the order;

151 (6) Any person aggrieved by any order issued under the provisions
152 of this section by the commissioner or any animal control officer
153 appointed pursuant to section 22-328, 22-331 or 22-331a, may appeal to
154 the Superior Court of the judicial district in which such aggrieved
155 person is a resident, provided such appeal is made not later than forty-
156 five days after issuance of the order. If the person aggrieved by an order
157 engages in a pre-appeal meeting under subdivision (4) of this
158 subsection, then the time to appeal to the Superior Court shall run from
159 the date of the statement issued pursuant to subdivision (5) of this
160 subsection. The pre-appeal meeting shall be concluded for purposes of
161 this section not later than thirty days after the date of the order;

162 (7) The owner or keeper of any animal subject to an order issued
163 pursuant to this section shall pay all fees as set forth in section 22-333. If
164 an owner or keeper of an animal subject to an order issued pursuant to
165 this section fails to comply with any restraint order made pursuant to
166 this section, any animal control officer appointed pursuant to section 22-
167 328, 22-331 or 22-331a may seize the animal prior to or during the
168 pendency of an appeal and until completion of an appeal of such order
169 to ensure such compliance and the owner shall be responsible for any
170 expenses resulting from such seizure;

171 (8) Once the order becomes a final order or judgment, the order is
172 enforceable on a state-wide basis and any animal control officer
173 appointed pursuant to section 22-328, 22-331 or 22-331a shall have the
174 authority to enforce the final order or judgment; and

175 (9) Any owner or keeper of an animal subject to a final order or
176 judgment issued pursuant to this subsection who fails to comply with a
177 final order or judgment shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

178 [(h)] (i) A person who sustains damage [by a dog] or physical injury
179 to such person's poultry, ratite, domestic rabbit, [companion] animal or
180 livestock as defined in section 22-278, by a biting or attacking dog shall
181 make complaint concerning circumstances of the bite or attack by such
182 dog on any such animal or livestock to the [Chief Animal Control
183 Officer, any animal control officer or the municipal animal control
184 officer or regional animal control officer of the town in which such dog
185 is owned or kept] animal control officer appointed pursuant to section
186 22-331 or 22-331a of the town in which the bite or attack occurred. The
187 animal control officer to whom such complaint is made shall investigate
188 the circumstances of the attack set forth in the complaint and report on
189 the circumstances of the attack to the Chief State Animal Control Officer,
190 appointed pursuant to section 22-328. An officer to whom such
191 complaint is made shall immediately investigate such complaint. [If
192 such officer finds that the complainant's animal has been bitten or
193 attacked by a dog when the attacked animal was not on the premises of
194 the owner or keeper of the attacking dog and provided the
195 complainant's animal was under the control of the complainant or on
196 the complainant's property, such officer, the commissioner, the Chief
197 Animal Control Officer or any animal control officer may make any
198 order concerning the restraint or disposal of such attacking dog as the
199 commissioner or such officer deems necessary. An owner or keeper of
200 such dog who fails to comply with such order shall be guilty of a class
201 D misdemeanor. If the owner or keeper of such dog fails to comply with
202 an order made pursuant to this subsection, the Chief Animal Control
203 Officer or any animal control officer, municipal animal control officer or
204 regional animal control officer may seize the dog to ensure such
205 compliance, and the owner or keeper of such dog shall be responsible
206 for any expenses resulting from such seizure. A person aggrieved by an
207 order of the Chief Animal Control Officer or any animal control officer,
208 municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer made

209 pursuant to this subsection may request a hearing before the
210 commissioner not later than fourteen days after the issuance of such
211 order. After such hearing, the commissioner may affirm, modify or
212 revoke such order as the commissioner deems proper. A dog owned by
213 a police agency of the state or any of its political subdivisions is exempt
214 from the provisions of this section when such dog is under the direct
215 supervision, care and control of an assigned police officer, has been
216 vaccinated annually and is subject to routine veterinary care.] In the
217 interest of public health and safety, and the health and safety of animals,
218 if after investigation, any animal control officer appointed pursuant to
219 section 22-331 or 22-331a in the municipality or region in which an
220 alleged dog bite or attack occurs determines that an animal has in fact
221 been bitten or attacked by a dog, such animal control officer, or the Chief
222 State Animal Control Officer appointed pursuant to section 22-328, may
223 make any order concerning the restraint or disposal of such biting or
224 attacking dog as is necessary to protect public health and safety and the
225 health and safety of animals. In determining the type of order to be
226 issued or conditions of restraint to be imposed, the animal control officer
227 shall consider factors that include, but need not be limited to: (1) The
228 ability of the owner or keeper to control the dog; (2) the severity of injury
229 inflicted by the biting or attacking dog; (3) the viciousness of the bite or
230 attack; (4) any history of past bites or attacks by the dog; (5) whether the
231 bite or attack occurred at a location that is off of the property of the
232 owner or keeper of the biting or attacking dog, provided the animal
233 attacked was under the control of animal's owner or keeper, or the
234 animal attacked was on property of the owner or keeper; (6) whether
235 the biting or attacking dog was provoked; and (7) whether the biting or
236 attacking dog was protecting its owner or keeper from physical harm.

237 (j) Any dog or other animal owned by the United States military, a
238 law enforcement agency of the United States or a law enforcement
239 agency of this state or any of its political subdivisions shall be exempt
240 from the provisions of this section when such dog or other animal is
241 owned by or in the custody and control of such agency and under the
242 direct supervision, care and control of an assigned handler, is currently

243 vaccinated for rabies and is subject to routine veterinary care. Any
244 service animal owned by or in the custody and control of a person with
245 a disability shall be exempt from the provisions of this section when
246 such service animal is under the direct supervision, care and control of
247 such person, is currently vaccinated for rabies and is subject to routine
248 veterinary care. As used in this subsection, "service animal" and
249 "disability" have the same meanings as provided in section 22-345."

250 Strike sections 36 to 38, inclusive, in their entirety

251 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
252 internal references accordingly:

253 "Sec. 501. Section 52-278n of the general statutes is repealed and the
254 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

255 (a) The court may, on motion of a party, order an appearing
256 defendant to disclose property in which he has an interest or debts
257 owing to him sufficient to satisfy a prejudgment remedy. The existence,
258 location and extent of the defendant's interest in such property or debts
259 shall be subject to disclosure. The form and terms of disclosure shall be
260 determined by the court.

261 (b) A motion to disclose pursuant to this section may be made by
262 attaching it to the application for a prejudgment remedy or may be
263 made at any time after the filing of the application.

264 (c) The court may order disclosure at any time prior to final judgment
265 after it has determined that the party filing the motion for disclosure
266 has, pursuant to section 52-278d, 52-278e or 52-278i, probable cause
267 sufficient for the granting of a prejudgment remedy.

268 (d) A defendant, in lieu of disclosing assets pursuant to subsection (a)
269 of this section, may move the court for substitution either of a bond with
270 surety substantially in compliance with sections 52-307 and 52-308, or of
271 other sufficient security.

272 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (d), inclusive,

273 of this section, no party may compel disclosure of the names and
274 addresses of clients of an individual or entity that provides professional
275 services, as defined in subdivision (20) of section 4e-1, when the
276 disclosure of such names and addresses would constitute a violation of
277 state or federal law, or the applicable rules of professional conduct
278 governing such profession, as the case may be.

279 [(e)] (f) Rules of court shall be enacted to carry out the foregoing
280 provisions and may provide for reasonable sanctions to enforce orders
281 issued pursuant to this section.

282 Sec. 502. Section 52-351b of the general statutes is repealed and the
283 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

284 (a) A judgment creditor may obtain discovery from the judgment
285 debtor, or from any third person the judgment creditor reasonably
286 believes, in good faith, may have assets of the judgment debtor, or from
287 any financial institution to the extent provided by this section, of any
288 matters relevant to satisfaction of the money judgment. The judgment
289 creditor shall commence any discovery proceeding by serving an initial
290 set of interrogatories, in a prescribed form containing such questions as
291 to the assets and employment of the judgment debtor as may be
292 approved by the judges of the Superior Court or their designee, on the
293 person from whom discovery is sought. Service of an initial set of
294 interrogatories relevant to obtaining satisfaction of a money judgment
295 of a small claims session of the Superior Court may be made by sending
296 such interrogatories by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the
297 person from whom discovery is sought. Questions contained in the
298 interrogatory form shall be in clear and simple language and shall be
299 placed on the page in such manner as to leave space under each question
300 for the person served to insert such person's answer. Such person shall
301 answer the interrogatories and return them to the judgment creditor
302 within thirty days of the date of service. Interrogatories served on a
303 judgment debtor shall be signed by such debtor under penalty of false
304 statement. With respect to assets, the person served is required to reveal
305 information concerning the amount, nature and location of the

306 judgment debtor's nonexempt assets up to an amount clearly sufficient
307 in value to ensure full satisfaction of the judgment with interest and
308 costs, provided disclosure shall be first required as to assets subject to
309 levy or foreclosure within the state. If interrogatories are served on a
310 financial institution, the financial institution shall disclose only whether
311 it holds funds of the judgment debtor on account and the balance of such
312 funds, up to the amount necessary to satisfy the judgment.

313 (b) The interrogatory form shall specify the names and last-known
314 addresses of the judgment creditor and the judgment debtor, the court
315 in which and the date on which the judgment was rendered, and the
316 original amount of the judgment and the amount due thereon. The
317 interrogatory form shall contain a notice of rights with respect to
318 postjudgment interrogatories as prescribed by section 52-361b.

319 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, no party may
320 compel disclosure of the names and addresses of clients of an individual
321 or entity that provides professional services, as defined in subdivision
322 (20) of section 4e-1, when the disclosure of such names and addresses
323 would constitute a violation of state or federal law, or the applicable
324 rules of professional conduct governing such profession, as the case may
325 be.

326 [(c)] (d) On failure of a person served with interrogatories to return,
327 within the thirty days, a sufficient answer or disclose sufficient assets
328 for execution, or on objection by such person to the interrogatories, the
329 judgment creditor may move the court for such supplemental discovery
330 orders as may be necessary to ensure disclosure including (1) an order
331 for compliance with the interrogatories, or (2) an order authorizing
332 additional interrogatories. The judgment creditor may obtain discovery,
333 including the taking of depositions, from any person served with
334 interrogatories in accordance with procedures for discovery in civil
335 actions without further order of the court. The court may order such
336 additional discovery as justice requires provided the order shall contain
337 a notice that failure to comply therewith may subject the person served
338 to being held in contempt of court.

339 [(d)] (e) Any party from whom discovery is sought may seek a
340 protective order pursuant to section 52-400a.

341 Sec. 503. Section 51-343 of the general statutes is repealed and the
342 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

343 For purposes of this chapter and section 52-46a, the following
344 definitions shall apply:

345 [(a) "Domestic corporation" means any corporation incorporated
346 under the laws of this state.]

347 (1) "Domestic business organization" means any sole proprietorship,
348 partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association, firm or
349 other form of business or legal entity organized or incorporated under
350 the laws of this state.

351 [(b)] (2) "Filed" means filed at the court location where there is a clerk
352 designated to receive and maintain the record of the action regardless
353 of the court location to which the writ is made returnable.

354 [(c) "Foreign corporation"] (3) "Foreign business organization" means
355 any [corporation] sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, limited
356 liability company, association, firm or other form of business or legal
357 entity incorporated under the laws of any other state or foreign
358 government.

359 [(d)] (4) "Made returnable" designates the judicial district court
360 location or geographical area where the plaintiff desires the case to be
361 heard.

362 [(e)] (5) "Property" means anything of value.

363 [(f) "United States corporation" means any corporation incorporated
364 under the laws of the United States.]

365 Sec. 504. Subsection (c) of section 51-345 of the 2024 supplement to
366 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

367 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

368 (c) In all actions by a [corporation] domestic or foreign business
369 organization, except actions made returnable under subsection (b), (d)
370 or (g) of this section, civil process shall be made returnable as follows:

371 (1) If the plaintiff is [either a domestic corporation or a United States
372 corporation] a domestic business organization and the defendant is a
373 resident, either (A) to the judicial district where the plaintiff has an office
374 or place of business, or (B) to the judicial district where the defendant
375 resides, except:

376 (i) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
377 Manchester, East Windsor, South Windsor or Enfield, the action may be
378 made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district
379 of Hartford or the judicial district of Tolland.

380 (ii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
381 Plymouth, the action may be made returnable at the option of the
382 plaintiff to either the judicial district of New Britain or the judicial
383 district of Waterbury.

384 (iii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
385 Bethany, Milford, West Haven or Woodbridge, the action may be made
386 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of
387 New Haven or the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford.

388 (iv) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
389 Southbury, the action may be made returnable at the option of the
390 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford or the judicial
391 district of Waterbury.

392 (v) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
393 Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston,
394 Westport or Wilton, the action may be made returnable at the option of
395 the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Stamford-Norwalk or the
396 judicial district of Bridgeport.

397 (vi) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
398 Watertown or Woodbury, the action may be made returnable at the
399 option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Waterbury or the
400 judicial district of Litchfield.

401 (vii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
402 Avon, Canton, Farmington or Simsbury, the action may be made
403 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of
404 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain.

405 (viii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
406 Newington, Rocky Hill or Wethersfield, the action may be made
407 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of
408 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain, except for actions where
409 venue is in the geographical area as provided in section 51-348, as
410 amended by this act, or in rules of court.

411 (ix) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
412 Cromwell, the action may be made returnable at the option of the
413 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Hartford or the judicial district
414 of Middlesex.

415 (x) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of New
416 Milford, the action may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff
417 to either the judicial district of Danbury or the judicial district of
418 Litchfield.

419 (xi) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
420 Windham or Ashford, the action may be made returnable at the option
421 of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Windham or the judicial
422 district of Tolland.

423 (2) If the plaintiff is [either a domestic corporation or a United States
424 corporation] a domestic business organization and the defendant is a
425 [corporation, domestic or foreign] domestic or foreign business
426 organization, to the judicial district where (A) the plaintiff has an office
427 or place of business, (B) the injury occurred, (C) the transaction

428 occurred, or (D) the property is located or lawfully attached, except:

429 (i) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
430 Manchester, East Windsor, South Windsor or Enfield, the action may be
431 made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district
432 of Hartford or the judicial district of Tolland.

433 (ii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
434 Plymouth, the action may be made returnable at the option of the
435 plaintiff to either the judicial district of New Britain or the judicial
436 district of Waterbury.

437 (iii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
438 Bethany, Milford, West Haven or Woodbridge, the action may be made
439 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of
440 New Haven or the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford.

441 (iv) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
442 Southbury, the action may be made returnable at the option of the
443 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford or the judicial
444 district of Waterbury.

445 (v) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
446 Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston,
447 Westport or Wilton, the action may be made returnable at the option of
448 the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Stamford-Norwalk or the
449 judicial district of Bridgeport.

450 (vi) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
451 Watertown or Woodbury, the action may be made returnable at the
452 option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Waterbury or the
453 judicial district of Litchfield.

454 (vii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
455 Avon, Canton, Farmington or Simsbury, the action may be made
456 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of
457 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain.

458 (viii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
459 Newington, Rocky Hill or Wethersfield, the action may be made
460 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of
461 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain, except for actions where
462 venue is in the geographical area as provided in section 51-348, as
463 amended by this act, or in rules of court.

464 (ix) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
465 Cromwell, the action may be made returnable at the option of the
466 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Hartford or the judicial district
467 of Middlesex.

468 (x) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of New
469 Milford, the action may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff
470 to either the judicial district of Danbury or the judicial district of
471 Litchfield.

472 (xi) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of
473 Windham or Ashford, the action may be made returnable at the option
474 of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Windham or the judicial
475 district of Tolland.

476 (3) If the plaintiff is a foreign [corporation] business organization and
477 the defendant is a resident, to the judicial district where the defendant
478 resides.

479 (4) If the plaintiff is a foreign [corporation] business organization and
480 the defendant is a [corporation,] domestic or foreign business
481 organization, to the judicial district where (A) the injury occurred, (B)
482 the transaction occurred, or (C) the property is located or lawfully
483 attached.

484 Sec. 505. Subsection (g) of section 51-345 of the 2024 supplement to
485 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
486 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

487 (g) Venue for small claims matters shall be at Superior Court facilities

488 designated by the Chief Court Administrator to hear such matters. In
489 small claims matters, civil process shall be made returnable to the
490 Superior Court facility designated by the Chief Court Administrator to
491 serve the small claims area where the plaintiff resides, where the
492 defendant resides or is doing business or where the transaction or injury
493 occurred. If the plaintiff is a [domestic corporation, a United States
494 corporation, a foreign corporation or a limited liability company]
495 domestic or foreign business organization, civil process shall be made
496 returnable to a Superior Court facility designated by the Chief Court
497 Administrator to serve the small claims area where the defendant
498 resides or is doing business or where the transaction or injury occurred.

499 Sec. 506. Section 22-357 of the general statutes is repealed and the
500 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

501 (a) As used in this section:

502 (1) "Law enforcement officer" means: Each officer, employee or other
503 person otherwise paid by or acting as an agent of (A) the Division of
504 State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public
505 Protection; (B) the Office of the State Capitol Police; (C) a municipal
506 police department; and (D) the Department of Correction;

507 (2) "Property" includes, but is not limited to, a companion animal, as
508 defined in section 22-351a; and

509 (3) "The amount of such damage", with respect to a companion
510 animal, includes expenses of veterinary care, the fair monetary value of
511 the companion animal, including all training expenses for a guide dog
512 owned by a blind person or an assistance dog owned by a deaf or
513 mobility impaired person and burial expenses for the companion
514 animal.

515 (b) If any dog does any damage to either the body or property of any
516 person, the owner, [or] keeper, or both, shall be liable for the amount of
517 such damage, except when such damage has been occasioned to the
518 body or property of a person who, at the time such damage was

519 sustained, was committing a trespass or other tort, or was teasing,
520 tormenting or abusing such dog. [or, if] If the owner or keeper is a
521 minor, the parent or guardian of such minor, shall be liable for the
522 amount of such damage. [, except when such damage has been
523 occasioned to the body or property of a person who, at the time such
524 damage was sustained, was committing a trespass or other tort, or was
525 teasing, tormenting or abusing such dog.] If a minor, on whose behalf
526 an action under this section is brought, was under seven years of age at
527 the time such damage was done, it shall be presumed that such minor
528 was not committing a trespass or other tort, or teasing, tormenting or
529 abusing such dog, and the burden of proof thereof shall be upon the
530 defendant in such action. In an action under this section against a
531 household member of a law enforcement officer to whom has been
532 assigned a dog owned by a law enforcement agency of the state, any
533 political subdivision of the state or the federal government for damage
534 done by such dog, it shall be presumed that such household member is
535 not a keeper of such dog and the burden of proof shall be upon the
536 plaintiff to establish that such household member was a keeper of such
537 dog and had exclusive control of such dog at the time such damage was
538 sustained.

539 Sec. 507. Section 22-364b of the 2024 supplement to the general
540 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
541 (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

542 The owner or keeper of a dog shall restrain and control such dog on
543 a leash when such dog is not on the property of its owner or keeper and
544 is in proximity to a person with a disability accompanied by a service
545 animal, provided such service animal is readily identifiable as a service
546 animal, is in the direct custody of such person and is licensed in
547 accordance with section 22-345. Any person who violates the provisions
548 of this section shall have committed an infraction. If an owner or keeper
549 of a dog violates the provisions of this section and, as a result of such
550 violation, such dog attacks and injures the service animal, such owner,
551 [or] keeper, or both, shall be liable, as provided in section 22-357, as
552 amended by this act, for any damage done to such service animal, and

553 such liability shall include liability for any costs incurred by such person
554 for the veterinary care, rehabilitation or replacement of the injured
555 service animal and for reasonable attorney's fees.

556 Sec. 508. Subsection (a) of section 54-142t of the 2024 supplement to
557 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
558 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

559 (a) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in
560 consultation with the Judicial Branch and the Criminal Justice
561 Information System Governing Board established pursuant to section
562 54-142q, shall develop and implement automated processes for erasure
563 pursuant to section 54-142a. Any agency holding records subject to such
564 automated processes for erasure, including, but not limited to, the
565 Department of Correction, the Division of Criminal Justice, the Judicial
566 Branch and the Criminal Justice Information System Governing Board,
567 shall assist the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
568 in carrying out such automated processes for erasure and shall provide
569 all necessary information to the Department of Emergency Services and
570 Public Protection.

571 Sec. 509. Section 9 of substitute house bill 5288 of the current session,
572 as amended by House Amendment Schedule "A", is repealed. (*Effective*
573 *from passage*)

574 Sec. 510. Sections 51-59 and 51-185 of the general statutes are
575 repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2024*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 29	October 1, 2024	22-358
Sec. 501	October 1, 2024	52-278n
Sec. 502	October 1, 2024	52-351b
Sec. 503	October 1, 2024	51-343
Sec. 504	October 1, 2024	51-345(c)
Sec. 505	October 1, 2024	51-345(g)
Sec. 506	October 1, 2024	22-357

Sec. 507	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	22-364b
Sec. 508	<i>from passage</i>	54-142t(a)
Sec. 509	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section
Sec. 510	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	Repealer section