House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 462

January Session, 2025

House Bill No. 7052

House of Representatives, April 2, 2025

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. BOYD of the 50th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES AND THE SALE OF AMMUNITION.

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

Section 1. Section 53-202w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) As used in this section and section 53-202x:

(1) "Large capacity magazine" means any firearm magazine, belt, drum, feed strip or similar device that has the capacity of, or can be readily restored or converted to accept, more than **[**ten**]** fifteen rounds of ammunition, but does not include: (A) A feeding device that has been permanently altered so that it cannot accommodate more than ten rounds of ammunition, (B) a .22 caliber tube ammunition feeding device, (C) a tubular magazine that is contained in a lever-action firearm, or (D) a magazine that is permanently inoperable;

(2) "Lawfully possesses", with respect to a large capacity magazine,

means that a person has (A) actual and lawful possession of the large capacity magazine, (B) constructive possession of the large capacity magazine pursuant to a lawful purchase of a firearm that contains a large capacity magazine that was transacted prior to or on April 4, 2013, regardless of whether the firearm was delivered to the purchaser prior to or on April 4, 2013, which lawful purchase is evidenced by a writing sufficient to indicate that (i) a contract for sale was made between the parties prior to or on April 4, 2013, for the purchase of the firearm, or (ii) full or partial payment for the firearm was made by the purchaser to the seller of the firearm prior to or on April 4, 2013, or (C) actual possession under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, or constructive possession under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, as evidenced by a written statement made under penalty of false statement on such form as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes; and

(3) "Licensed gun dealer" means a person who has a federal firearms license and a permit to sell firearms pursuant to section 29-28.

(b) Except as provided in this section, on and after April 5, 2013, any person who, within this state, distributes, imports into this state, keeps for sale, offers or exposes for sale, or purchases a large capacity magazine shall be guilty of a class D felony. On and after April 5, 2013, any person who, within this state, transfers a large capacity magazine, except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, shall be guilty of a class D felony.

(c) Except as provided in this section and section 53-202x, any person who possesses a large capacity magazine shall be guilty of a (1) class D felony if such person is ineligible to possess a firearm under state or federal law, or (2) class A misdemeanor if such person is not ineligible to possess a firearm under state or federal law.

(d) A large capacity magazine may be possessed, purchased or imported by:

(1) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection,

police departments, the Department of Correction, the Division of Criminal Justice, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection or the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States;

(2) A sworn and duly certified member of an organized police department, the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the Department of Correction, a chief inspector or inspector in the Division of Criminal Justice, a salaried inspector of motor vehicles designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, a conservation officer or special conservation officer appointed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection pursuant to section 26-5, or a constable who is certified by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council and appointed by the chief executive authority of a town, city or borough to perform criminal law enforcement duties, for use by such sworn member, inspector, officer or constable in the discharge of such sworn member's, inspector's, officer's or constable's official duties or when off duty;

(3) A member of the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States;

(4) A nuclear facility licensed by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the purpose of providing security services at such facility, or any contractor or subcontractor of such facility for the purpose of providing security services at such facility;

(5) Any person who is sworn and acts as a policeman on behalf of an armored car service pursuant to section 29-20 in the discharge of such person's official duties; or

(6) Any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of manufacturing large capacity magazines in this state that manufactures, purchases, tests or transports large capacity magazines in this state for sale within this state to persons specified in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of this subsection or for sale outside this state, or a federally-

licensed firearm manufacturer engaged in the business of manufacturing firearms or large capacity magazines in this state that manufactures, purchases, tests or transports firearms or large capacity magazines in this state for sale within this state to persons specified in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of this subsection or for sale outside this state.

(e) A large capacity magazine may be possessed by:

(1) A licensed gun dealer;

(2) A gunsmith who is in a licensed gun dealer's employ, who possesses such large capacity magazine for the purpose of servicing or repairing a lawfully possessed large capacity magazine;

(3) A person, firm, corporation or federally-licensed firearm manufacturer described in subdivision (6) of subsection (d) of this section that possesses a large capacity magazine that is lawfully possessed by another person for the purpose of servicing or repairing the large capacity magazine;

(4) Any person who has declared possession of the magazine pursuant to section 53-202x; or

(5) Any person who is the executor or administrator of an estate that includes a large capacity magazine, or the trustee of a trust that includes a large capacity magazine, the possession of which has been declared to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection pursuant to section 53-202x, which is disposed of as authorized by the Probate Court, if the disposition is otherwise permitted by this section and section 53-202x.

(f) Subsection (b) of this section shall not prohibit:

(1) The transfer of a large capacity magazine, the possession of which has been declared to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection pursuant to section 53-202x, by bequest or intestate succession, or, upon the death of a testator or settlor: (A) To a trust, or

(B) from a trust to a beneficiary;

(2) The transfer of a large capacity magazine to a police department or the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection;

(3) The transfer of a large capacity magazine to a licensed gun dealer in accordance with section 53-202x; **[**or**]**

(4) The transfer of a large capacity magazine prior to October 1, 2013, from a licensed gun dealer, pawnbroker licensed under section 21-40, or consignment shop operator, as defined in section 21-39a, to any person who (A) possessed the large capacity magazine prior to or on April 4, 2013, (B) placed a firearm that such person legally possessed, with the large capacity magazine included or attached, in the possession of such dealer, pawnbroker or operator prior to or on April 4, 2013, pursuant to an agreement between such person and such dealer, pawnbroker or operator for the sale of the firearm to a third person, and (C) is eligible to possess the firearm on the date of such transfer; or

(5) The transfer of a large capacity magazine within this state between any of the persons specified in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of subsection (e) of this section.

(g) The court may order suspension of prosecution in addition to any other diversionary programs available to the defendant, if the court finds that a violation of this section is not of a serious nature and that the person charged with such violation (1) will probably not offend in the future, (2) has not previously been convicted of a violation of this section, and (3) has not previously had a prosecution under this section suspended pursuant to this subsection, it may order suspension of prosecution in accordance with the provisions of subsection (i) of section 29-33.

Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 29-38m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(d) The provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall not

apply to the sale of ammunition to (1) the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, police departments, the Department of Correction, the Division of Criminal Justice, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection or the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States; (2) a sworn and duly certified member of an organized police department, the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the Department of Correction, a chief inspector or inspector in the Division of Criminal Justice, a salaried inspector of motor vehicles designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, a conservation officer or special conservation officer appointed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection pursuant to section 26-5, or a constable who is certified by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council and appointed by the chief executive authority of a town, city or borough to perform criminal law enforcement duties, for use by such sworn member, inspector, officer or constable in the discharge of such sworn member's, inspector's, officer's or constable's official duties or when off duty; (3) a member of the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States; (4) a nuclear facility licensed by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the purpose of providing security services at such facility, or any contractor or subcontractor of such facility for the purpose of providing security services at such facility; **[**or**]** (5) a federally licensed firearm manufacturer, importer, dealer or collector; or (6) a patron of a firing or shooting range, provided such ammunition is sold, obtained and discharged at such firing or shooting range.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*October 1, 2025*	53-202w
Sec. 2	*October 1, 2025*	29-38m(d)

PS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 $	FY 27 $
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	GF - Cost	15,000	None
Judicial Dept. (Probation); Correction, Dept.	GF - Potential Savings	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	GF - Potential Cost	55,500	55,500
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits[1]	GF - Potential Cost	22,595	22,595

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which changes the definition of a large capacity magazine, results in a one-time cost to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) of $15,000 in FY 26 to make upgrades to the Special Licensing and Firearms Unit software. This change also results in a potential savings to the Department of Correction and the Judicial Department for incarceration or probation and a potential revenue loss to the General Fund from fines.[2] On average, the marginal cost to the

[1]The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

[2] In FY 22 – FY 24, a total of 2,106 charges were recorded and $786 in revenue collected associated with CG§ 53-202w, 53-202x, and 29-38m.

state for incarcerating an offender for the year is $3,300[3] while the average marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than $600[4] each year for adults and $450 each year for juveniles.

The bill also allows the transfer of large capacity magazines within the state between people who are allowed to lawfully possess such magazines, resulting in a potential cost of $55,500 in FY 26 and FY 27 to DESPP and $22,595 in FY 26 and FY 27 to the State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits, to the extent that the volume of such transfers is great enough to require DESPP to hire an additional Processing Technician.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, the actual number of violations, and the volume of transfers.

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

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

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 7052

AN ACT CONCERNING LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES AND THE SALE OF AMMUNITION.

SUMMARY

This bill increases, from 10 to 15 rounds, how much ammunition a firearm magazine may accept before it is considered a large capacity magazine (LCM). Existing law, with exceptions, prohibits anyone from keeping, offering, or exposing LCMs for sale; transferring LCMs; or buying, distributing, or bringing them into Connecticut.

The bill also allows for the transfer of LCMs between people or entities who are allowed to possess them under existing law.

Lastly, the bill exempts firing or shooting range patrons from certain ammunition purchase requirements and restrictions. Specifically, it allows patrons to purchase ammunition without being at least age 18 or having certain firearm or ammunition credentials.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

§ 2 — LCMS

Under current law, an LCM is any firearm magazine, belt, drum, feed strip, or similar device that can hold, or can be readily restored or converted to accept, more than 10 rounds of ammunition. The bill increases the ammunition capacity threshold to 15 rounds. As under existing law, an LCM does not include:

1. a detachable firearm magazine that has been permanently altered to contain only 10 rounds (the bill does not correspondingly change this number),

2. a .22 caliber tube ammunition feeding device,

3. a tubular magazine contained in a lever-action firearm, and

4. a magazine that is permanently inoperable.

Transferring LCMs

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, allows certain people, including law enforcement, to possess, purchase, or import LCMs. It also allows the following to possess LCMs:

1. anyone who declared LCM possession with the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection within a specified time;

2. licensed gun dealers;

3. gunsmiths employed by a licensed gun dealer, who receive lawfully possessed LCMs for servicing or repair;

4. Connecticut LCM manufacturers allowed to possess, purchase, or import LCMs, to service or repair another person's lawfully possessed LCM; and

5. executors or administrators of an estate that includes legally declared LCMs, which are disposed of as authorized by the probate court, if the disposition is otherwise permitted.

The bill allows the transfer of LCMs within the state between these people who are allowed to lawfully possess LCMs.

LCM Penalties

Under existing law, a person who offers, or exposes LCMs for sale; transfers LCMs; or buys, distributes, or brings them into Connecticut is guilty of a class D felony, which is punishable by up to five years imprisonment, up to a $5,000 fine, or both.

Additionally, anyone who illegally possesses an LCM is guilty of a (1) class D felony for violators who are ineligible to possess firearms and (2) class A misdemeanor for those who are eligible, which is punishable

by up to 364 days imprisonment, up to a $2,000 fine, or both.

AMMUNITION SALES

Existing law generally requires anyone buying ammunition or ammunition magazines to be at least age 18 and prohibits sales unless the buyer presents to the seller:

1. a handgun permit, gun dealer permit, or long gun or handgun eligibility certificate or

2. an ammunition certificate and a driver's license, passport, or other valid government-issued identification that contains his or her photograph and date of birth.

The bill exempts a firing or shooting range patron from these requirements if the ammunition is sold, obtained, and discharged at the range.

As under existing law, any violation is a class D felony.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 15 Nay 14 (03/18/2025)