General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 7160

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **5730**

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE AND VESSEL WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR OR ANY DRUG, NOTICE OF CASUAL CAR SALES, REGISTRATION FEES FOR PONTOON BOATS AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES.

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

Section 1. Section 14-15e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

(a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, no person, firm or corporation shall engage in the business of electronically filing applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or a certificate of title for motor vehicles with the Department of Motor Vehicles, unless such person, firm or corporation holds an electronic issuance license issued by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

(2) A motor vehicle dealer licensed in accordance with section 14-52 and acting pursuant to subsection (c) of section 14-12, subsection (b) of section 14-61 or section 14-61a, a person, firm or corporation engaging

in the business of leasing or renting motor vehicles licensed and acting pursuant to section 14-15 or a contractor authorized pursuant to subsection (b) of section 14-41, may use the department's electronic system for filing applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or certificate of title, as the case may be, without obtaining an electronic issuance license.

(3) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may require any person, firm or corporation that files, on average, five or more applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or a certificate of title for motor vehicles each month with the Department of Motor Vehicles to file such applications electronically and obtain an electronic issuance license. Any such person, firm or corporation that fails or refuses to file an application for such issuance electronically upon the request of the commissioner shall pay a fee of twenty-five dollars to the commissioner for each such application submitted.

(b) Each applicant for an electronic issuance license shall submit an application containing such information as the commissioner may require and pay a license fee in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars. Each license may be renewed biennially according to renewal schedules established by the commissioner to effect staggered renewal of such licenses. If the adoption of a staggered system results in the expiration of any license more or less than two years from its issuance, the commissioner may charge a prorated amount for such license fee. Not less than forty-five days prior to the date of expiration of each such license, the commissioner shall send or transmit to each licensee, in a manner determined by the commissioner, an application for renewal. Any licensee that has not filed the application for renewal accompanied by the license fee of two hundred fifty dollars prior to the expiration date of such license shall no longer be permitted to use the department's electronic system for filing applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or certificate of title pursuant to section 14-15d, as amended by this act. An application for renewal filed with the commissioner after the date of expiration shall be accompanied by a late

fee of one hundred dollars. The commissioner shall not renew any license under this section that has been expired for more than forty-five days.

(c) Each applicant for, or holder of, an electronic issuance license shall furnish surety bonds in the following amounts: (1) Twenty thousand dollars conditioned upon the applicant or holder complying with the provisions of any state or federal law or regulation relating to the conduct of filing applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or certificate of title and provided as indemnity for any loss sustained by any customer of such licensee by reason of the licensee's failure to comply with such laws or regulations; (2) twenty thousand dollars provided as security for any monetary loss suffered by the department as a result of the loss, destruction or misuse of any number plates assigned to such licensee by the department pursuant to subsection (f) of this section; and (3) five thousand dollars provided as security for any monetary loss suffered by the department due to such licensee's failure to remit registration and title fees received pursuant to section 14-15d, as amended by this act. The surety bond furnished pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be executed in the name of the state of Connecticut for the benefit of any aggrieved customer, but the penalty of the bond shall not be invoked except upon order of the commissioner after a hearing before the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. The commissioner shall assess an administrative fee of two hundred dollars against any electronic issuance licensee for failing to provide proof of bond renewal or replacement on or before the date of the expiration of the existing bond.

(d) The commissioner may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54, refuse to issue or renew a license to a person, firm or corporation to engage in the business of electronically filing applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or certificate of title for motor vehicles with the department (1) if the applicant for, or holder of, such a license, or **[**an officer or major

stockholder,**]** if the applicant or licensee is a firm or corporation, a director, officer, partner or owner of the firm or corporation or other individual who exercises substantial control over the firm or corporation or who has more than a twenty-five per cent ownership interest in the firm or corporation, has been found liable in a civil action for, or has been convicted of, a violation of any provision of law (A) pertaining to the business of electronic filing applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or certificate of title, or (B) involving fraud, larceny, stalking, embezzlement, bribery or deprivation or misappropriation of property, in the courts of the United States or any state, or (2) for any reason the commissioner reasonably deems necessary. Upon renewal of such license, a licensee shall make full disclosure of any such civil judgment or conviction under penalty of false statement. Each applicant for the issuance of such license, or if the applicant is a firm or corporation, each **[**officer or major stockholder of such firm or corporation,**]** director, officer, partner or owner of the firm or corporation or other individual who exercises substantial control over the firm or corporation or who has more than a twenty-five per cent ownership interest in the firm or corporation, shall be fingerprinted and shall submit to state and national criminal history records checks, conducted in accordance with section 29-17a.

(e) The commissioner shall not issue or renew an electronic issuance license unless the commissioner determines (1) the issuance or renewal is likely to improve access to services offered by the department or manage the number of transactions conducted at the main office or branch office of the department and will not compromise the integrity and security of the department's electronic system, and (2) the applicant for such license is capable of ensuring the adequate control and proper use of number plates and other materials to be provided by the department pursuant to subsection (f) of this section.

(f) (1) The department shall provide each electronic issuance licensee with an inventory of number plates and other materials to be used solely for the registration of transactions performed pursuant to the provisions

of section 14-15d, as amended by this act. Such licensee shall be responsible for all number plates assigned to such licensee by the department.

(2) If a person, firm or corporation holds an electronic issuance license that is no longer valid, or if an electronic issuance licensee is no longer conducting its business, such person, firm or corporation or licensee shall return to the commissioner, not later than five business days after such license becoming invalid or the termination of such business, (A) any number plates or other materials supplied by the commissioner to enable such person, firm or corporation or licensee to perform the registration of transactions pursuant to section 14-15d, as amended by this act, and (B) any applications for such transactions that were not acted upon or completed by such person, firm or corporation or licensee when it was conducting its business. A violation of any provision of this subdivision shall be an infraction.

(g) No electronic issuance licensee shall (1) include the words "Department of Motor Vehicles" or "DMV" or other indication of the department in the name of the licensee's business, or (2) act in any manner that misleads consumers to believe that such licensee represents or is otherwise affiliated with the department.

(h) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of this section, the commissioner may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54, impose a civil penalty of not more than two thousand dollars on any person, firm or corporation who violates any provision of this section.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 14-52a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

(a) The **[**commissioner**]** Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may, after notice and hearing, refuse to grant or renew a license to a person, firm or corporation to engage in the business of selling or repairing motor

vehicles pursuant to the provisions of section 14-52 if the applicant for, or holder of, such a license, or **[**an officer or major stockholder,**]** if the applicant or licensee is a firm or corporation, a director, officer, partner or owner of the firm or corporation or other individual who exercises substantial control over the firm or corporation or who has more than a twenty-five per cent ownership interest in the firm or corporation has been found liable in a civil action for odometer fraud or operating a dealer, repairer or motor vehicle recycler business without a license, convicted of a violation of any provision of laws pertaining to the business of a motor vehicle dealer or repairer, including a motor vehicle recycler, or convicted of any violation of any provision of laws involving fraud, larceny or deprivation or misappropriation of property, in the courts of the United States or any state. Upon renewal of such license, a licensee shall make full disclosure of any such civil judgment or conviction under penalty of false statement. Each applicant for such a license or if the applicant is a firm or corporation, each director, officer, partner or owner of the firm or corporation or other individual who exercises substantial control over the firm or corporation or who has more than a twenty-five per cent ownership interest in the firm or corporation shall be fingerprinted and submit to state and national criminal history records checks, conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The commissioner may require a person, firm or corporation to submit its application electronically.

Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 14-36d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(b) The commissioner may renew or produce a duplicate of any motor vehicle operator's license, commercial driver's license or identity card without personal appearance of the license or card holder if (1) the commissioner has on file a photograph or digital image of the applicant that meets the specifications and standards prescribed by the commissioner and may be used on such license or identity card, (2) the commissioner has satisfactory evidence of the identity of the applicant,

(3) the commissioner is satisfied that the applicant is a legal resident of this state, (4) in the case of a renewal, the applicant personally appeared to renew such license or identity card within the time limitations specified in **[**state or federal law**]** 6 CFR 37.25, as amended from time to time, or a shorter period of time at the discretion of the commissioner, and (5) the applicant meets all other requirements for the renewal or duplicate issuance of a license or identity card.

Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 14-36j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

(a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall amend the regulations adopted pursuant to sections 14-36f and 14-78 concerning the content of safe driving instruction courses offered at drivers' schools, high schools and other secondary schools to require the eight hours of instruction required by such regulations to include, for applicants to whom a learner's permit or youth instruction permit is issued, two hours of instruction concerning the statutory provisions, including penalties, applicable to drivers who are less than eighteen years of age, the dangers of teenage driving, the cognitive development of adolescents, the responsibilities and liabilities of parents of teenage drivers, and related topics deemed by the commissioner to be appropriate. Such course **[**may**]** shall be offered in person in a congregate setting. **[**, through distance learning or through a combination of both in-person in a congregate setting and distance learning, provided such distance learning is conducted in real-time by an instructor and has interactive components such as mandatory interactions, participation or testing.**]**

Sec. 5. Subsection (d) of section 14-44c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(d) On and after November 18, 2024, the commissioner shall request a driver's record from the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse, in

accordance with 49 CFR 382.725, as amended from time to time, for any person who applies for, renews, transfers or upgrades a commercial driver's license or a commercial learner's permit. The commissioner shall use information obtained from the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse solely for the purpose of determining whether such person is qualified to operate a commercial motor vehicle and shall not disclose such information to any other person or entity not directly involved in determining whether such person is qualified to operate a commercial motor vehicle. If the commissioner receives notification pursuant to 49 CFR 382.501(a), as amended from time to time, that such person is prohibited from operating a commercial motor vehicle, the commissioner shall not issue, renew or upgrade the commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit. If such person currently holds a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit, the commissioner shall, not later than sixty days after the date the commissioner receives such notification, **[**: (1) Downgrade the commercial driver's license to a Class D operator's license, or (2) cancel the commercial learner's permit**]** disqualify such person from holding a commercial driver's license or a commercial driver's instruction permit. The commissioner may restore such person's commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit if (1) the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse changes such person's status from prohibited to not prohibited, and (2) such person fulfills applicable reinstatement requirements and pays the restoration fee in accordance with the provisions of section 14-50b. Any person who is denied a commercial driver's license or a commercial learner's permit, or whose license or permit is **[**downgraded or cancelled**]** disqualified pursuant to this subsection, shall be granted an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 14-44e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(b) The commissioner shall not issue a commercial driver's license or

a commercial learner's permit to any applicant who does not meet the physical qualification standards set forth in 49 CFR 391, as amended from time to time. As required by 49 CFR 383.71(h), each applicant for a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit shall provide to the commissioner a copy of a medical examiner's certificate, prepared by a medical examiner, as defined in 49 CFR 390.5, indicating that such applicant is medically certified to operate a commercial motor vehicle. For each applicant who has submitted such medical certification and who has also certified, in accordance with 49 CFR 383.71(b) and subsection (c) of section 14-44c, that such applicant operates in nonexcepted interstate commerce, the commissioner shall post a medical certification status of "certified" on the Commercial Driver's License Information System driver record for such applicant. The holder of a commercial driver's license who has not been examined and certified as qualified to operate a commercial motor vehicle during the preceding twenty-four months, or a shorter period as indicated by the medical examiner submitting such certificate, shall be required to submit a new medical certificate. The commissioner shall not issue a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit to any applicant or holder who fails to submit the medical certification required by this section. If the holder of a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit fails to submit a new medical examiner's certificate before the expiration of twenty-four months or the period specified by the medical examiner, whichever is shorter, the commissioner shall, not later than sixty days after the date that such holder's medical status becomes uncertified, **[**: (1) Downgrade the commercial driver's license to a Class D operator's license; or (2) cancel the commercial learner's permit**]** disqualify such person from holding a commercial driver's license or a commercial driver's instruction permit. The commissioner may restore such person's commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit if such person fulfills applicable reinstatement requirements and pays the restoration fee in accordance with the provisions of section 14-50b. Any applicant or holder who is denied a commercial driver's license or a commercial learner's permit,

or whose license or permit is disqualified, suspended, revoked or cancelled pursuant to this subsection, shall be granted an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 14-58 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) Each new car dealer, used car dealer or repairer before engaging in such business shall make a separate sworn application to the commissioner for a license to engage in such business in each place of business conducted by such dealer. The application shall include any information that may be required by the commissioner on blanks to be furnished by said commissioner. Each application shall be accompanied by a fee of one hundred forty dollars for each place of business conducted by the applicant, together with the fee for the type of license for which the applicant is **[**making application**]** applying, and such fee or fees shall not be subject to prorating and shall not be subject to refund. No such license shall be transferable. When such licensee adds buildings **[**or adjacent land to**]** directly bordering or sharing a common boundary with such licensee's licensed place of business, without any intervening highway or private roadways, the commissioner may require the licensee to furnish satisfactory evidence of compliance with the provisions of section 14-54, or with other applicable provisions of law, administered by the municipality wherein such business is located, concerning building or zoning requirements. When a change of officers of a corporation engaged in such business is made, a notice of the change shall be sent to the commissioner within a period of fifteen days from the date of the change. The commissioner may suspend the license of any corporation, after notice and hearing, when the newly appointed or elected officers cannot be considered as qualified to conduct the business as provided in section 14-51, as amended by this act.

Sec. 8. Section 14-64 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

The commissioner may suspend or revoke the license or licenses of any licensee or impose a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars for each violation on any licensee or both, when, after notice and hearing, the commissioner finds that the licensee (1) has violated any provision of any statute or regulation of any state or any federal statute or regulation pertaining to its business as a licensee or has failed to comply with the terms of a final decision and order of any state department or federal agency concerning any such provision; **[**or**]** (2) has failed to maintain such records of transactions concerning the purchase, sale or repair of motor vehicles or major component parts, as required by such regulations as shall be adopted by the commissioner, for a period of **[**two**]** three years after such purchase, sale or repairs, provided the records shall include the vehicle identification number and the name and address of the person from whom each vehicle or part was purchased and to whom each vehicle or part was sold, if a sale occurred; **[**or**]** (3) has failed to allow inspection of such records by the commissioner or the commissioner's representative during normal business hours, provided written notice stating the purpose of the inspection is furnished to the licensee, or has failed to allow inspection of such records by any representative of the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or any organized local police department, which inspection may include examination of the premises to determine the accuracy of such records; **[**or**]** (4) has made a false statement as to the condition, prior ownership or prior use of any motor vehicle sold, exchanged, transferred, offered for sale or repaired if the licensee knew or should have known that such statement was false; **[**or**]** (5) is not qualified to conduct the licensed business, applying the standards of section 14-51, as amended by this act, and the applicable regulations; **[**or**]** (6) has violated any provision of sections 42-221 to 42-226, inclusive; **[**or**]** (7) has failed to fully execute or provide the buyer with (A) an order as described in section 14-62, (B) the properly assigned certificate of title, or (C) a temporary transfer or new issue of registration; **[**or**]** (8) has failed to deliver a motor vehicle free and clear of all liens, unless written notification is given to the buyer

stating such motor vehicle shall be purchased subject to a lien; **[**or**]** (9) has violated any provision of sections 14-65f to 14-65j, inclusive, and section 14-65*l*; **[**or**]** (10) has used registration number plates issued by the commissioner, in violation of the provisions and standards set forth in sections 14-59 and 14-60 and the applicable regulations; **[**or**]** (11) has failed to secure or to account for or surrender to the commissioner on demand official registration plates or any other official materials in its custody; or (12) has been convicted, or if the licensee is a firm or corporation, an officer or major stockholder has been convicted, of a violation of any provision of laws pertaining to the business of a motor vehicle dealer or repairer, including a motor vehicle recycler, or of any violation involving fraud, larceny or deprivation or misappropriation of property, in the courts of the United States or of any state, or has failed to make full disclosure of any such conviction. In addition to, or in lieu of, the imposition of any other penalties authorized by this section, the commissioner may order any such licensee to make restitution to any aggrieved customer.

Sec. 9. Section 14-66b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

Each owner of a wrecker registered pursuant to subsection (c) of section 14-66 shall keep and maintain a record stating the following information: (1) The registration number of each motor vehicle towed or transported and the registration number of each wrecker used to tow or transport such motor vehicle; (2) the date and time the tow commenced and was completed; (3) the location from which the disabled motor vehicle was towed and the destination of such tow; (4) the mileage of the wrecker at the commencement and completion of the tow; (5) the charge for tow service and any other charges incurred for services related to such tow; (6) the name and address of the person requesting tow service; and (7) any other information the commissioner deems necessary, specified in regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. Such records shall be retained at the place of business of the wrecker service for a period of **[**two**]** three years and shall

be available for inspection during regular business hours by any law enforcement officer or inspector designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. Each owner of a wrecker shall also keep and maintain copies of any written contracts with owners or lessees of property authorizing the towing or removal of motor vehicles from the property of such owner or lessee, or with lending institutions repossessing any motor vehicles, as provided in section 14-145, and such contracts shall be available for inspection by motor vehicle owners, agents of the owners, or lending institutions, upon request. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may permit any licensed motor vehicle dealer or repairer who operates a wrecker service to maintain, in an electronic format prescribed by the commissioner, all records, documents and forms required by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Such records, documents and forms shall be produced in written format, upon request by the department, during the licensee's business hours on the same day of such request. Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be deemed to have committed an infraction.

Sec. 10. Section 14-67*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) Upon receiving such certificate of approval pursuant to section 14-67i, each applicant for an issuance of a motor vehicle recycler's license shall (1) submit such certificate of approval to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, (2) pay a fee of two hundred eighty dollars to the commissioner for the examination of the location or proposed location of each such motor vehicle recycler's yard or business, (3) pay a license fee of seven hundred five dollars to the commissioner for each motor vehicle recycler's yard or business, and (4) submit a surety bond in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars.

(b) Any surety bond submitted pursuant to subsection (a) or (d) of this section shall be conditioned upon the applicant or licensee complying with the provisions of any state or federal law or regulation relating to the business of operating a motor vehicle recycler's yard and

provided as indemnity for any loss sustained by any aggrieved customer by reason of any acts of the licensee constituting grounds for suspension or revocation of the license or such licensee going out of business. Each surety bond shall be executed in the name of the state of Connecticut for the benefit of any aggrieved customer, but the penalty of the bond shall not be invoked except upon order of the commissioner after a hearing held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. The commissioner shall assess an administrative fee of two hundred dollars against any licensee for failing to provide proof of bond renewal or replacement on or before the date of the expiration of the existing bond.

(c) Except as provided in subsection **[**(e)**]** (f) of this section, upon receipt of such certificate of approval, the payment of the required fees, the submission of such surety bond and observance of regulations required, the commissioner may issue a license, provided the commissioner may refuse to grant a license to a person, firm or corporation to engage in the business of operating a motor vehicle recycler's yard if the applicant for such license or, **[**an officer or major stockholder,**]** if the applicant is a firm or corporation, a director, officer, partner or owner of the firm or corporation or other individual who exercises substantial control over the firm or corporation or who has more than a twenty-five per cent ownership interest in the firm or corporation, has been convicted of a violation of any provision of laws pertaining to the business of a motor vehicle dealer or repairer, including a motor vehicle recycler, in the courts of the United States or of this state or any state of the United States, in accordance with the hearing requirements provided for in section 14-67p.

(d) Any license may be renewed on a biennial basis upon payment of a fee of seven hundred dollars and submission of a surety bond in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars. A licensee that does not file the application for renewal, accompanied by such fee and surety bond, prior to the date of expiration of such license, shall cease to engage in such licensee's business. An application for renewal filed with the commissioner after the date of expiration shall be accompanied by a late

fee of one hundred dollars. The commissioner shall not renew any recycler's license under this section that has been expired for more than forty-five days and the holder of any such expired license may apply for a new license in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(e) Each such licensee shall, instead of registering each motor vehicle owned by the licensee, apply to the commissioner for a general distinguishing number and mark, and the commissioner may issue to the applicant a certificate of registration containing the distinguishing number and mark assigned to such licensee and, thereupon, each motor vehicle owned by such licensee shall be regarded as registered under such general distinguishing number and mark. No licensee may be issued more than three registrations under a general distinguishing number and mark in a year, unless the licensee applies for an additional registration to the commissioner, in such form and containing such information as the commissioner may require to substantiate such request. The commissioner may issue to each such licensee such additional registrations as the commissioner deems necessary. The licensee shall issue to each person driving such motor vehicle a document indicating that such person is validly entrusted with the vehicle, which document shall be carried in the motor vehicle. The commissioner shall determine the form and contents of such document. For the registration of each motor vehicle under a general distinguishing number and mark, the commissioner shall charge a fee at the rate of seventy dollars per year. Such licensee shall furnish proof of financial responsibility satisfactory to the commissioner, as described in section 14-112. Such number plates may be used as provided for under section 14-67n.

[(e)**]** (f) Each applicant for a recycler's license shall be required to certify that, to the best of such applicant's knowledge and belief, all the property to be used for the operation of the yard and business is in compliance with the provisions of all applicable provisions of title 22a and all regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection pursuant to the provisions of said title. Upon

receipt of such certification and completed application, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall notify the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection. The notification shall include a statement of the location of the subject property and a legal description thereof. Within forty-five days of receipt of such notification, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall inform the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles if there is any reason to believe that the property that is proposed to be licensed is not in compliance with the above referenced statutory and regulatory requirements. If the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is informed that there is any such reason to believe that the subject location is not in compliance with such requirements, said commissioner may (1) refuse to issue the license, or (2) issue the license subject to such conditions, including, but not limited to, the remediation of the conditions causing the suspected violation or violations, as are acceptable to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Sec. 11. Section 14-51 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) As used in this subpart:

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

(2) "Used car dealer" includes any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of merchandising motor vehicles other than new who may, incidental to such business, repair motor vehicles. **[**A used car dealer**]** "Used car dealer" does not include any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of leasing or renting motor vehicles

that offers for sale or sells used motor vehicles incidental to its primary business, if (A) such person, firm or corporation is licensed in accordance with the provisions of section 14-15, and (B) the motor vehicles that it offers for sale were formerly the subject of one or more lease agreements to which it was a party and the actual or prospective purchaser is the original lessee pursuant to a purchase option specified in a lease agreement. Such person shall be qualified to conduct such business in accordance with the requirements of section 14-52a, as amended by this act.

(3) "Repairer" includes any person, firm or corporation qualified to conduct such business in accordance with the requirements of section 14-52a, as amended by this act, having a suitable facility and having adequate equipment, engaged in repairing, overhauling, adjusting, assembling or disassembling any motor vehicle or making minor repairs to any motor vehicle, including repairs and replacement of cooling, electrical, fuel and exhaust systems, brake adjustments, relining and repairs, wheel alignment and balancing and repair and replacement of shock absorbers. "Repairer" does not include a person engaged in making repairs to tires, upholstering, glazing, general blacksmithing, welding and machine work on motor vehicle parts when parts involving such work are disassembled or reassembled by a licensed repairer.

(4) "Motor vehicle" does not include a low-speed vehicle.

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

Sec. 12. Section 14-166 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) The acquisition of a certificate of title shall not be required and the issuance of a certificate of title by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles

shall not be required for the following: (1) A vehicle owned by the United States, unless it is registered in this state; (2) a vehicle owned by a manufacturer or dealer and held for sale, even though incidentally moved on the highway or used for purposes of testing or demonstration; or a vehicle used by a manufacturer solely for testing; (3) a vehicle owned by a nonresident of this state and not required by law to be registered in this state; (4) a vehicle regularly engaged in the interstate transportation of persons or property for which a currently effective certificate of title has been issued in another state; (5) a vehicle moved solely by animal power; (6) an implement of husbandry; (7) special mobile equipment; (8) a self-propelled wheel chair or invalid tricycle; (9) any trailer having a gross weight not in excess of three thousand pounds; (10) any vehicle for which a temporary registration has been issued pursuant to section 14-12 for the purpose of permitting a nonresident owner who purchases a vehicle in Connecticut to transport such vehicle to such owner's home state; (11) a motor vehicle owned by the state or any town, city or borough within the state; and (12) a motor vehicle registered temporarily for inspection purposes pursuant to section 14-12.

[(b) The acquisition of a certificate of title for any motor vehicle older than twenty model years old shall not be required. The commissioner shall issue a certificate of title for a motor vehicle older than twenty model years old at the request of the owner and charge such owner any fees required by section 14-192.**]**

[(c)**]** (b) Part III of this chapter does not apply to: (1) A vehicle moved solely by animal power; (2) an implement of husbandry; (3) special mobile equipment; (4) a self-propelled wheel chair or invalid tricycle; and (5) any trailer having a gross weight not in excess of three thousand pounds.

Sec. 13. Section 15-133 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) The rules prescribed by this section shall apply on all state and federal waters.

(b) No person shall use a vessel in a manner that unreasonably or unnecessarily interferes with free and proper navigation. Anchoring under a bridge, in a narrow channel or in a congested water not designated as an anchorage area is such interference, except in case of emergency.

(c) No person shall alter, deface or remove any capacity information label affixed to any vessel.

(d) No person shall operate a vessel: (1) While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or both, or (2) while such person has an elevated blood alcohol content. For the purposes of this section and sections 15-140*l* and 15-140n, "elevated blood alcohol content" means: (A) A ratio of alcohol in the blood of such person that is eight-hundredths of one per cent or more of alcohol, by weight, or (B) if such person is under twenty-one years of age, a ratio of alcohol in the blood of such person that is two-hundredths of one per cent or more of alcohol, by weight. For the purposes of this section and sections 15-132a, 15-140*l*, 15-140n, 15-140o and 15-140q, as amended by this act, "operate" means that the vessel is underway or aground and not moored, anchored or docked.

(e) In any prosecution for a violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section, evidence concerning the amount of alcohol in the defendant's blood or urine at the time of the alleged offense, as shown by a chemical analysis of the defendant's blood, breath or urine, otherwise admissible under subsection (a) of section 15-140r, shall be admissible only at the request of the defendant.

(f) No person shall operate a vessel or engage in any activity contrary to the regulations adopted by the commissioner.

(g) No person shall moor a vessel to, obstruct, remove, damage or

destroy any navigation aid or any device used to mark a restricted area.

(h) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (d) of this section shall:

(1) For conviction of a first violation, (A) be fined not less than five hundred dollars or more than one thousand dollars, and (B) be (i) imprisoned not more than six months, forty-eight consecutive hours of which may not be suspended or reduced in any manner, or (ii) imprisoned not more than six months, with the execution of such sentence of imprisonment suspended entirely and a period of probation imposed requiring as a condition of such probation that such person perform one hundred hours of community service, as defined in section 14-227e, and (C) (i) have such person's safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, or right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation suspended for one year, and (ii) have such person's motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege suspended in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (C)(ii) of subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 14-227a, as amended by this act;

(2) **[**for**]** For conviction of a second violation not later than ten years after a prior conviction for the same offense, (A) be fined not less than one thousand dollars or more than four thousand dollars, (B) be imprisoned not more than two years, one hundred twenty consecutive days of which may not be suspended or reduced in any manner, and sentenced to a period of probation requiring as a condition of such probation that such person perform one hundred hours of community service, as defined in section 14-227e, and (C) (i) have such person's safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, or right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation suspended for three years or until the date of such person's twenty-first birthday, whichever is longer, and (ii) have such person's motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege suspended in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (C)(ii) of

subdivision (2) of subsection (g) of section 14-227a, as amended by this act; and

(3) **[**for**]** For conviction of a third and subsequent violation not later than ten years after a prior conviction for the same offense, (A) be fined not less than two thousand dollars or more than eight thousand dollars, (B) be imprisoned not more than three years, one year of which may not be suspended or reduced in any manner, and sentenced to a period of probation requiring as a condition of such probation that such person perform one hundred hours of community service, as defined in section 14-227e, and (C) (i) have such person's safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, or right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation permanently revoked upon such third offense, and (ii) have such person's motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege permanently revoked in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (C)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (g) of section 14-227a, as amended by this act. For purposes of the imposition of penalties under subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection, a conviction under the provisions of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (d) of this section or subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-227a shall constitute a prior conviction of the same offense.

(i) The suspension of a safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation or right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation imposed under subsection (h) of this section shall take effect immediately upon expiration of any period in which an appeal of any conviction under subsection (d) of this section may be taken, provided if an appeal is taken, the suspension shall be stayed during the pendency of such appeal. If the suspension or revocation takes effect, the defendant shall return, not later than the second business day after the suspension or revocation takes effect, by personal delivery or first class mail, the safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation issued to the defendant.

(j) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (c) or (g) of this section shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars and not more than five hundred dollars. Any person who violates any of the provisions of subsection (f) of this section shall have committed an infraction.

(k) (1) A record shall be kept by the Superior Court of any conviction relating to the operation of a vessel. A summary of such record, with a statement of the number of the operator's safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation shall, not later than five days after such conviction, forfeiture or any other disposition or nolle, be transmitted to the commissioner by such court. Each court shall report each conviction under subsection (d) of this section to the **[**commissioner. The commissioner**]** Commissioners of Energy and Environmental Protection and Motor Vehicles. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall suspend the safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation of the person reported as convicted for the period of time required by subsection (h) of this section. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall suspend the motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege, if any, of the person reported as convicted for the period of time required by subsection (g) of section 14-227a, as amended by this act.

(2) The safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation of a person found guilty under subsection (d) of this section who is under eighteen years of age shall be suspended by the **[**commissioner**]** Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection for the period of time set forth in subsection (h) of this section, or until such person attains the age of eighteen years, whichever period is longer.

Sec. 14. Subsections (g) and (h) of section 14-227a of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof

(*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(g) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (a) of this section shall:

(1) For conviction of a first violation, (A) be fined not less than five hundred dollars or more than one thousand dollars, and (B) be (i) imprisoned not more than six months, forty-eight consecutive hours of which may not be suspended or reduced in any manner, or (ii) imprisoned not more than six months, with the execution of such sentence of imprisonment suspended entirely and a period of probation imposed requiring as a condition of such probation that such person perform one hundred hours of community service, as defined in section 14-227e, and (C) (i) have such person's motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege suspended for forty-five days and, as a condition for the restoration of such license, be required to install an ignition interlock device on each motor vehicle owned or operated by such person and, upon such restoration, be prohibited for the one-year period following such restoration from operating a motor vehicle unless such motor vehicle is equipped with a functioning, approved ignition interlock device, as defined in section 14-227j, and (ii) have such person's safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, or right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation suspended for the period of time specified in subparagraph (C)(i) of subdivision (1) of subsection (h) of section 15-133, as amended by this act;

(2) **[**for**]** For conviction of a second violation within ten years after a prior conviction for the same offense, (A) be fined not less than one thousand dollars or more than four thousand dollars, (B) be imprisoned not more than two years, one hundred twenty consecutive days of which may not be suspended or reduced in any manner, and sentenced to a period of probation requiring as a condition of such probation that such person: (i) Perform one hundred hours of community service, as defined in section 14-227e, (ii) submit to an assessment through the

Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch of the degree of such person's alcohol or drug abuse, and (iii) undergo a treatment program if so ordered, and (C) (i) have such person's motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege suspended for forty-five days and, as a condition for the restoration of such license, be required to install an ignition interlock device on each motor vehicle owned or operated by such person and, upon such restoration, be prohibited for the three-year period following such restoration from operating a motor vehicle unless such motor vehicle is equipped with a functioning, approved ignition interlock device, as defined in section 14-227j, except that for the first year of such three-year period, such person's operation of a motor vehicle shall be limited to such person's transportation to or from work or school, an alcohol or drug abuse treatment program, an ignition interlock device service center or an appointment with a probation officer, and (ii) have such person's safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, or right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation suspended for the period of time specified in subparagraph (C)(i) of subdivision (2) of subsection (h) of section 15-133, as amended by this act; and

(3) **[**for**]** For conviction of a third and subsequent violation within ten years after a prior conviction for the same offense, (A) be fined not less than two thousand dollars or more than eight thousand dollars, (B) be imprisoned not more than three years, one year of which may not be suspended or reduced in any manner, and sentenced to a period of probation requiring as a condition of such probation that such person: (i) Perform one hundred hours of community service, as defined in section 14-227e, (ii) submit to an assessment through the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch of the degree of such person's alcohol or drug abuse, and (iii) undergo a treatment program if so ordered, and (C) (i) have such person's motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege permanently revoked upon such third offense, except that if such person's revocation is reversed or

reduced pursuant to subsection (i) of section 14-111, such person shall be prohibited from operating a motor vehicle unless such motor vehicle is equipped with a functioning, approved ignition interlock device, as defined in section 14-227j, for the time period prescribed in subdivision (2) of subsection (i) of section 14-111, and (ii) have such person's safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, or right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation permanently revoked in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (C)(i) of subdivision (3) of subsection (h) of section 15-133, as amended by this act. For purposes of the imposition of penalties for a second or third and subsequent offense pursuant to this subsection, a conviction under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section in effect on October 1, 1981, or as amended thereafter, a conviction under the provisions of **[**either**]** subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section, a conviction under the provisions of section 14-227m, a conviction under the provisions of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-227n, a conviction under the provisions of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (d) of section 15-133, as amended by this act, a conviction under the provision of section 15-140*l* or 15-140n, a conviction under the provisions of section 53a-56b or 53a-60d or a conviction in any other state of any offense the essential elements of which are determined by the court to be substantially the same as subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section, section 14-227m, subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-227n, subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (d) of section 15-133, as amended by this act, section 15-140*l* or 15-140n or section 53a-56b or 53a-60d, shall constitute a prior conviction for the same offense.

(h) (1) Each court shall report each conviction under subsection (a) of this section to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in accordance with the provisions of section 14-141, **[**. The commissioner**]** and to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall suspend the motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege of the person

reported as convicted for the period of time required by subsection (g) of this section. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall suspend the safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operations, if any, or right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation of the person reported as convicted for the period of time required pursuant to subsection (h) of section 15-133, as amended by this act. The **[**commissioner**]** Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall determine the period of time required by subsection (g) of this section for suspension of the motor vehicle's license or nonresident operating privilege based on the number of convictions such person has had within the specified time period according to such person's driving history record, notwithstanding the sentence imposed by the court for such conviction. (2) The motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege of a person found guilty under subsection (a) of this section who, at the time of the offense, was operating a motor vehicle in accordance with a special operator's permit issued pursuant to section 14-37a shall be suspended by the commissioner for twice the period of time set forth in subsection (g) of this section. (3) If an appeal of any conviction under subsection (a) of this section is taken, the suspension of the motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege by the commissioner, in accordance with this subsection, shall be stayed during the pendency of such appeal.

Sec. 15. Subsection (i) of section 15-140q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(i) The commissioner shall suspend the operator's safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation of a person who does not contact the department to schedule a hearing under subsection (e) of this section, who fails to appear at such hearing, or against whom, after a hearing, the commissioner holds pursuant to subsection (g) of this section. Such suspension shall be as of the effective

date contained in the suspension notice or the date the commissioner renders a decision, whichever is later, for a period of:

(1) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, ninety days if such person submitted to a test and the results of such test indicated that at the time of the alleged offense that such person had an elevated blood alcohol content, or such person was found to have been operating a vessel under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or both, based on a report filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, or (B) one hundred twenty days if such person submitted to a test and the results of such test indicated that the ratio of alcohol in the blood of such person was sixteen-hundredths of one per cent or more of alcohol, by weight, or (C) six months if such person refused to submit to such test;

(2) **[**if**]** If such person has previously had such person's safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation suspended under this section, (A) except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, nine months if such person submitted to a test and the results of such test indicated that at the time of the alleged offense that such person had an elevated blood alcohol content, or such person was found to have been operating a vessel under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or both, based on a report filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, (B) ten months if such person submitted to a test and the results of such test indicated that the ratio of alcohol in the blood of such person was sixteen-hundredths of one per cent or more of alcohol, by weight, and (C) one year if such person refused to submit to such test; and

(3) **[**if**]** If such person has two or more times previously had such person's safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation suspended under this section, (A) except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, two years if such person

submitted to a test and the results of such test indicated that at the time of the alleged offense that such person had an elevated blood alcohol content, or such person was found to have been operating a vessel under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or both, based on a report filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, (B) two and one-half years if such person submitted to a test and the results of such test indicated that the ratio of alcohol in the blood of such person was sixteen-hundredths of one per cent or more of alcohol, by weight, and (C) three years if such person refused to submit to such test. For purposes of the suspension of the safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation of a person under subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection, the suspension under subsection (i) or (j) of section 14-227b, as amended by this act, of the motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege, if any, of such person shall constitute a previous suspension under this section. Whenever the commissioner suspends the safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation of a person under this subsection, the commissioner shall mail or electronically transmit a copy of the suspension notice, together with personal identifying information for such person, to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles who shall suspend the motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege, if any, of such person as specified in subsection (i) of section 14-227b, as amended by this act.

Sec. 16. Subsection (i) of section 14-227b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(i) (1) The commissioner shall suspend the operator's license or operating privilege of a person who did not contact the department to schedule a hearing, who failed to appear at a hearing, or against whom a decision was issued, after a hearing, pursuant to subsection (h) of this section, as of the effective date contained in the suspension notice, for a

period of forty-five days. As a condition for the restoration of such operator's license or operating privilege, such person shall be required to install an ignition interlock device on each motor vehicle owned or operated by such person and, upon such restoration, be prohibited from operating a motor vehicle unless such motor vehicle is equipped with a functioning, approved ignition interlock device, as defined in section 14-227j, for the longer of either (A) the period prescribed in subdivision (2) of this subsection for the present arrest and suspension, or (B) the period prescribed in subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (g) of section 14-227a, as amended by this act, or subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (c) of section 14-227m or subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (c) of section 14-227n for the present arrest and conviction, if any.

(2) (A) A person twenty-one years of age or older at the time of the arrest who submitted to a test and the results of such test indicated that such person had an elevated blood alcohol content, or was found to have been operating a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or both based on a report filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, shall install and maintain an ignition interlock device for the following periods: (i) For a first suspension under this section, six months; (ii) for a second suspension under this section, one year; and (iii) for a third or subsequent suspension under this section, two years; (B) a person under twenty-one years of age at the time of the arrest who submitted to a test and the results of such test indicated that such person had an elevated blood alcohol content, or was found to have been operating a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or both based on a report filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, shall install and maintain an ignition interlock device for the following periods: (i) For a first suspension under this section, one year; (ii) for a second suspension under this section, two years; and (iii) for a third or subsequent suspension under this section, three years; and (C) a person, regardless of age, who refused to submit to a test or nontestimonial portion of a drug influence evaluation shall install and maintain an ignition interlock device for the

following periods: (i) For a first suspension under this section, one year; (ii) for a second suspension under this section, two years; and (iii) for a third or subsequent suspension, under this section, three years. For purposes of the suspension of the motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege of a person under subparagraph (A)(ii) or (A)(iii) of this subsection, subparagraph (B)(ii) or (B)(iii) of this section or subparagraph (C)(ii) or (C)(iii) of this section, the suspension under subsection (i) of section 15-140q, as amended by this act, of the safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, of such person shall constitute a previous suspension of such person's operator's license or nonresident operating privilege under this subsection. Whenever the commissioner suspends the motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege of a person under this subsection, the commissioner shall mail or electronically transmit a copy of the suspension notice, together with personal identifying information for such person, to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection who shall suspend the safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, of such person as specified in subsection (i) of section 15-140q, as amended by this act.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, a person whose motor vehicle operator's license or operating privilege has been permanently revoked upon a third offense pursuant to subsection (g) of section 14-227a, as amended by this act, or subsection (c) of section 14-227m shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in subdivision (2) of subsection (i) of section 14-111.

Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 15-140e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) No resident of the state, person owning real property in the state

or person owning a vessel in the state shall operate on the waters of the state a vessel which is required to be registered or numbered pursuant to this chapter unless such person has a valid vessel operator license issued by the United States Coast Guard or has obtained a safe boating certificate issued by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection. No owner of a vessel shall knowingly authorize or permit a person who is less than sixteen years of age who is required by this section to obtain a safe boating certificate issued by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection to operate such vessel on the waters of the state without a safe boating certificate, unless such person is under the direct onboard supervision of a person who is at least eighteen years of age who has been issued a safe boating certificate and who has held such certificate for at least two years. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall not issue a safe boating certificate or temporary safe boating certificate to any person whose motor vehicle operator's license or nonresident operating privilege is suspended or revoked, or is subject to any pending action by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles that may result in a suspension or revocation, due to a violation of section 14-227a, as amended by this act, 14-227g, 14-227m or 14-227n. A safe boating certificate may be suspended or revoked, pursuant to section 15-132a, 15-133, as amended by this act, 15-140*l* or 15-140n, and shall be valid for the life of the person to whom it is issued unless otherwise suspended or revoked. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person who, between one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset, operates a vessel propelled exclusively by an electric motor that is rated at one hundred six pounds of thrust or less on the inland waters of this state upon which motor powered vessels exceeding ten horsepower are prohibited.

Sec. 18. Subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 14-36 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(e) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued until (A) the applicant signs and submits to the commissioner, in such manner as the

commissioner directs, an application under oath, or made subject to penalties for false statement in accordance with section 53a-157b, **[**and**]** (B) the commissioner is satisfied that the applicant is sixteen years of age or older and is a suitable person to receive the license, and (C) the applicant's safe boating certificate, right to operate a vessel that requires a safe boating certificate for operation or certificate of personal watercraft operation, if any, is not suspended or revoked, or is not subject to any pending action by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection that may result in a suspension or revocation, due to a violation of subsection (d) of section 15-133, as amended by this act, or section 15-140*l* or 15-140n.

Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Any person who is not a used car dealer, as defined in section 14-51 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and sells a motor vehicle to another person shall provide notice of such sale to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in such form and manner as the commissioner prescribes, not later than ten days following the date of such sale. Any such notice shall include, but need not be limited to, the bill of sale or other record that to the satisfaction of the commissioner identifies the seller and purchaser and the name, contact information and signature of the seller and purchaser.

(b) Failure to give the notice required by this section shall be an infraction.

Sec. 20. Subsection (b) of section 15-144 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(b) (1) The owner shall pay a fee to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for deposit with the State Treasurer for each vessel so numbered or registered in accordance with the following schedule and subdivisions of this subsection:

T1 Overall Length Overall Length

	at least (feet)	less than (feet)	fee	at least (feet)	less than (feet)	fee
		12	$ 7.50	40	41	$270.00
	12	13	11.25	41	42	292.50
	13	14	15.00	42	43	315.00
	14	15	18.75	43	44	322.50
	15	16	22.50	44	45	330.00
	16	17	30.00	45	46	337.50
	17	18	37.50	46	47	345.00
	18	19	45.00	47	48	352.50
	19	20	52.50	48	49	360.00
	20	21	60.00	49	50	367.50
	21	22	67.50	50	51	375.00
	22	23	75.00	51	52	382.50
	23	24	82.50	52	53	390.00
	24	25	90.00	53	54	397.50
	25	26	97.50	54	55	405.00
	26	27	105.00	55	56	412.50
	27	28	112.50	56	57	420.00
	28	29	120.00	57	58	427.50
	29	30	127.50	58	59	435.00
	30	31	135.00	59	60	442.50
	31	32	142.50	60	61	450.00
	32	33	150.00	61	62	457.50
	33	34	157.50	62	63	465.00
	34	35	165.00	63	64	472.50
	35	36	172.50	64	65	480.00
	36	37	180.00	65 and over		525.00
	37	38	202.50			
	38	39	225.00			
	39	40	247.50			

(2) For purposes of **[**this**]** the schedule provided in subdivision (1) of

this subsection, "overall length" is the horizontal distance between the foremost part of the stem and the aftermost part of the stern, excluding bowsprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets and similar fittings or attachments. **[**(2)**]** (3) The fee payable under this subsection with respect to any vessel used primarily for purposes of commercial fishing shall not exceed twenty-five dollars, provided in the tax year of the owner of such vessel ending immediately preceding the date of registration, not less than fifty per cent of the adjusted gross income of such owner as determined for purposes of the federal income tax is derived from commercial fishing, subject to proof satisfactory to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. **[**(3)**]** (4) The fee payable under this subsection with respect to any vessel constructed primarily of wood, the construction of which is completed not less than fifteen years prior to the date such fee is paid, shall be in an amount equal to fifty per cent of the fee otherwise payable, or if such construction is completed not less than twenty-five years prior to the date such fee is paid, such fee shall be in an amount equal to twenty-five per cent of the fee otherwise payable. **[**(4)**]** (5) Fees payable under this subsection shall not be required with respect to (A) any vessel owned by a flotilla of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary or owned by a nonprofit corporation acting on behalf of such a flotilla, provided no more than two vessels from any such flotilla or nonprofit corporation shall be granted such an exemption, and (B) any vessel built by students in an educational institution and used for the purposes of such institution, including such research as may require the use of such vessel. **[**(5) The fee payable under this subsection with respect to any pontoon boat, exclusive of any houseboat, shall be forty dollars.**]** (6) The fee payable under this subsection with respect to any canoe with a motor or any vessel owned by a nonprofit organization shall be seven dollars and fifty cents. (7) The fee payable under this subsection with respect to any vessel less than fifteen feet in length equipped with a motor the horsepower of which is less than fifteen, shall be seven dollars and fifty cents. (8) The owner of any vessel used actively, as required under this subdivision, in operational activities of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary shall

not be required to pay the applicable fee in accordance with the schedule in this subsection, provided (A) if the applicable fee under the schedule for such vessel is greater than one hundred eighty dollars, the owner shall be required to pay the amount of fee in excess of one hundred eighty dollars, and (B) the owner shall not be entitled to exemption from the applicable fee as allowed in this subdivision for any vessel registration year unless the application for registration of such vessel includes a statement, certified by an officer of the United States Coast Guard, that in the preceding year such vessel was used actively in not less than three separate operational activities of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. (9) Beginning May 4, 2011, all revenue received by the state in fees for the numbering and registration of vessels under this section shall be deposited with the Treasurer who shall deposit such revenue in the General Fund.

Sec. 21. Subsection (a) of section 14-15d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) Each electronic issuance licensee, licensed pursuant to section 14-15e, as amended by this act, shall, not later than ten days after the electronic issuance of a certificate of registration or certificate of title, submit to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles an application together with all necessary documents required to obtain a certificate of registration or certificate **[**or**]** of title for the vehicle with the Department of Motor Vehicles. If such licensee fails to provide the department with such necessary documents, the department shall not process the application and shall inform such licensee of the failure to submit a completed application.

Sec. 22. Section 14-15f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

On and after January 1, 2025, each person, firm or corporation that the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles permitted or required prior to

October 1, 2024, to file applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or a certificate of title electronically with the Department of Motor Vehicles pursuant to section 14-15d, as amended by this act, of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, **[**2024**]** 2023, or any regulation adopted thereunder, shall no longer be permitted to use the department's electronic system for filing applications for the issuance of a certificate of registration or a certificate of title unless such person, firm or corporation holds an electronic issuance license issued pursuant to section 14-15e, as amended by this act.

Sec. 23. Section 14-44p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

On and after October 1, 2024, each commercial driver's instruction permit issued by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles prior to October 1, 2024, that is otherwise valid, shall remain valid, according to its terms, and shall authorize each license holder to drive a commercial motor vehicle when accompanied in such vehicle by the holder of a commercial driver's license in accordance with the provisions of section 14-44e of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes, **[**revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2024,**]** until the expiration of the commercial driver's instruction permit.

Sec. 24. Subsection (b) of section 14-253c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(b) The advisory council shall consist of (1) the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or the commissioner's designee, (2) the Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services or the commissioner's designee, (3) two members appointed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, who are licensed physicians, physician assistants or advanced practice registered nurses who certify applications for removable windshield placards while in the course of employment, (4) one member appointed by the Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services who represents an

organization that advocates on behalf of persons with physical disabilities, (5) one appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, (6) one appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, who uses accessible parking or advocates on behalf of such users, (7) one appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, who uses accessible parking or advocates on behalf of such users, (8) one appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, who is a sworn member of a municipal police department, and (9) **[**and**]** such other members as the advisory council may prescribe. All initial appointments to the advisory council shall be made not later than September 1, 2023. Each member appointed pursuant to subdivisions (3) to (9), inclusive, of this subsection shall serve for a term of two years and may serve until such member's successor is appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as chairperson of the advisory council. The advisory council shall meet at such times as it deems necessary and may establish rules governing its internal procedures.

Sec. 25. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 14-279c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(2) In the case of an alleged violation involving a motor vehicle registered in the state, the municipality, or its designated agent, shall send a copy of a citation to the owner of the motor vehicle observed in the alleged violation not later <u>than</u> thirty days after the date of the alleged violation. In the case of an alleged violation involving a motor vehicle registered in another jurisdiction, the municipality, or its

designated agent, shall send a copy of a citation to the address of the owner that is in the records of the official in the other jurisdiction issuing such registration not later than sixty days after the alleged violation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*January 1, 2026*	14-15e
Sec. 2	*January 1, 2026*	14-52a(a)
Sec. 3	*July 1, 2025*	14-36d(b)
Sec. 4	*January 1, 2026*	14-36j(a)
Sec. 5	*October 1, 2025*	14-44c(d)
Sec. 6	*October 1, 2025*	14-44e(b)
Sec. 7	*July 1, 2025*	14-58(a)
Sec. 8	*July 1, 2025*	14-64
Sec. 9	*July 1, 2025*	14-66b
Sec. 10	*July 1, 2025*	14-67*l*
Sec. 11	*July 1, 2025*	14-51
Sec. 12	*July 1, 2025*	14-166
Sec. 13	*October 1, 2025*	15-133
Sec. 14	*October 1, 2025*	14-227a(g) and (h)
Sec. 15	*October 1, 2025*	15-140q(i)
Sec. 16	*October 1, 2025*	14-227b(i)
Sec. 17	*October 1, 2025*	15-140e(a)
Sec. 18	*October 1, 2025*	14-36(e)(1)
Sec. 19	*October 1, 2025*	New section
Sec. 20	*July 1, 2025*	15-144(b)
Sec. 21	*July 1, 2025*	14-15d(a)
Sec. 22	*July 1, 2025*	14-15f
Sec. 23	*July 1, 2025*	14-44p
Sec. 24	*July 1, 2025*	14-253c(b)
Sec. 25	*July 1, 2025*	14-279c(d)(2)

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) implement the recommendations of the Department of Motor Vehicles, (2) revise the penalties for operating a motor vehicle and vessel while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, (3) require notice of casual car sales to the department, (4) charge a registration fee

for a pontoon boat based on its overall length, and (5) make technical revisions to the motor vehicle statutes.

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