# **House of Representatives**



General Assembly

File No. 451

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 5766

House of Representatives, April 2, 2025

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. BERGER-GIRVALO of the 111th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

# AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES OF PARKING IN FRONT OF A FIRE HYDRANT.

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

- Section 1. Section 14-251 of the general statutes is repealed and the
   following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
- 3 (a) No vehicle shall be permitted to remain stationary within ten feet 4 of any fire hydrant, or upon the traveled portion of any highway except 5 upon the right-hand side of such highway in the direction in which such 6 vehicle is headed; and, if such highway is curbed, such vehicle shall be 7 so placed that its right-hand wheels, when stationary, shall, when safety 8 will permit, be within a distance of twelve inches from the curb, except 9 if a bikeway, as defined in section 13a-153f, or such bikeway's buffer 10 area, as described in the [federal] Federal Highway Administration's 11 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, 12 as amended from time to time, is in place between the parking lane and 13 the curb, such vehicle shall be so placed that its right-hand wheels, when

stationary, shall, when safety will permit, be within a distance of twelveinches from the edge of such bikeway or buffer area.

16 (b) No vehicle shall be permitted to remain parked within twenty-17 five feet of an intersection or an approach to a marked crosswalk, except 18 (1) within ten feet of such intersection or marked crosswalk if such 19 intersection or marked crosswalk has a curb extension treatment with a 20 width equal to or greater than the width of the parking lane, or (2) if 21 there is an available parking space that was established on or before 22 October 1, 2022. No vehicle shall be permitted to remain parked within 23 twenty-five feet of a stop sign caused to be erected by the traffic 24 authority in accordance with the provisions of section 14-301, except 25 where permitted by the traffic authority of the city of New Haven at the 26 intersection of one-way streets located in and comprised entirely of 27 highways under the jurisdiction of the city of New Haven.

28 (c) (1) No vehicle shall be permitted to remain stationary upon the 29 traveled portion of any highway at any curve or turn or at the top of any 30 grade where a clear view of such vehicle may not be had from a distance 31 of at least one hundred fifty feet in either direction. The Commissioner 32 of Transportation may post signs upon any highway at any place where 33 the keeping of a vehicle stationary is dangerous to traffic, and the 34 keeping of any vehicle stationary contrary to the directions of such signs 35 shall be a violation of this section.

36 (2) No vehicle shall be permitted to remain stationary upon the 37 traveled portion of any highway within fifty feet of the point where 38 another vehicle, which had previously stopped, continues to remain 39 stationary on the opposite side of the traveled portion of the same 40 highway.

41 (3) No vehicle shall be permitted to remain stationary within the 42 limits of a public highway in such a manner as to constitute a traffic 43 hazard or obstruct the free movement of traffic thereon, provided a 44 vehicle which has become disabled to such an extent that it is impossible 45 or impracticable to remove it may be permitted to so remain for a 46 reasonable time for the purpose of making repairs thereto or of 47 obtaining sufficient assistance to remove it.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to emergency
vehicles and to maintenance vehicles displaying flashing lights or to
prohibit a vehicle from stopping, or being held stationary by any officer,
in an emergency to avoid accident or to give a right-of-way to any
vehicle or pedestrian as provided in this chapter, or from stopping on
any highway within the limits of an incorporated city, town or borough
where the parking of vehicles is regulated by local ordinances.

(e) [Violation of] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this
subsection, any person who violates any provision of this section shall
be deemed to have committed an infraction.

58 (2) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this

59 section with regard to permitting a vehicle to remain stationary within

60 <u>ten feet of any fire hydrant for a second or subsequent time shall be fined</u>

61 <u>not more than two hundred dollars.</u>

Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 51-164n of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2025):

65 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person 66 who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the provisions of 67 section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 2-71h, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35 or 7-41, subsection (c) 68 of section 7-66, section 7-83, 7-147h, 7-148, 7-283, 7-325, 7-393, 8-12, 8-25, 69 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-185, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 10-230, 10-251, 10-70 254, 10a-35, 12-52, 12-54, 12-129b or 12-170aa, subdivision (3) of 71 subsection (e) of section 12-286, section 12-286a, 12-292, 12-314b or 12-72 326g, subdivision (4) of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of 73 section 12-411, section 12-435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-476c, 12-487,13a-74 26b, 13a-71, 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-115, 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-75 124, 13a-139, 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-253, 13a-263 or 13b-39f, subsection 76 (f) of section 13b-42, section 13b-90 or 13b-100, subsection (a) of section 77 13b-108, section 13b-221 or 13b-292, subsection (a) or (b) of section 13b-78 324, section 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c,

79 subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414 or 14-4, 80 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-12, subsection (d) of 81 section 14-12, subsection (f) of section 14-12a, subsection (a) of section 14-15a, section 14-16c, 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (f) of section 14-34a, 82 83 subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-44j, 14-49, 14-50a, 14-58 84 or 14-62a, subsection (b) of section 14-66, section 14-66a or 14-67a, 85 subsection (g) of section 14-80, subsection (f) or (i) of section 14-80h, 86 section 14-97a or 14-98, subsection (a), (b) or (d) of section 14-100a, section 14-100b, 14-103a, 14-106a, 14-106c, 14-145a, 14-146, 14-152, 14-87 88 153, 14-161 or 14-163b, subsection (f) of section 14-164i, section 14-213b 89 or 14-219, subdivision (1) of section 14-223a, subsection (d) of section 14-90 224, section 14-240 [,] or 14-250, subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of 91 section 14-251, as amended by this act, section 14-253a, 14-261a, 14-262, 14-264, 14-266, 14-267a, 14-269, 14-270, 14-272b, 14-274, 14-275 or 14-92 93 275a, subsection (c) of section 14-275c, section 14-276, subsection (a) or (b) of section 14-277, section 14-278, 14-279 or 14-280, subsection (b), (e) 94 95 or (h) of section 14-283, section 14-283d, 14-283e, 14-283f, 14-283g, 14-96 291, 14-293b, 14-296aa, 14-298a, 14-300, 14-300d, 14-300f, 14-319, 14-320, 97 14-321, 14-325a, 14-326, 14-330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of 98 section 14-386a, section 15-15e, 15-25 or 15-33, subdivision (1) of section 99 15-97, subsection (a) of section 15-115, section 16-15, 16-16, 16-44, 16-256e, 16-278 or 16a-15, subsection (a) of section 16a-21, section 16a-22, 100 101 subsection (a) or (b) of section 16a-22h, section 16a-106, 17a-24, 17a-145, 102 17a-149 or 17a-152, subsection (b) of section 17a-227, section 17a-465, 103 subsection (c) of section 17a-488, section 17b-124, 17b-131, 17b-137, 19a-10433, 19a-39 or 19a-87, subsection (b) of section 19a-87a, section 19a-91, 105 19a-102a, 19a-102b, 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-113, 19a-215, 19a-216a, 19a-106 219, 19a-222, 19a-224, 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-107 335, 19a-336, 19a-338, 19a-339, 19a-340, 19a-425, 19a-442, 19a-502, 19a-108 565, 20-7a, 20-14, 20-153a, 20-158, 20-231, 20-233, 20-249, 20-257, 20-265, 109 20-324e, 20-329c or 20-329g, subsection (b) of section 20-334, section 20-110 3411, 20-366, 20-482, 20-597, 20-608, 20-610, 20-623, 21-1, 21-38, 21-39, 21-111 43, 21-47, 21-48 or 21-63, subsection (d) of section 21-71, section 21-76a 112 or 21-100, subsection (c) of section 21a-2, subdivision (1) of section 21a-113 19, section 21a-20 or 21a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 114 21a-25, section 21a-26, subsection (a) of section 21a-37, section 21a-46, 115 21a-61, 21a-63, 21a-70b or 21a-77, subsection (b) or (c) of section 21a-79, 116 section 21a-85 or 21a-154, subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-159, section 21a-278b, subsection (c), (d) or (e) of section 21a-279a, 117 118 section 21a-415a, 21a-421eee, 21a-421fff or 21a-421hhh, subsection (a) of 119 section 21a-430, section 22-12b, 22-13, 22-14, 22-15, 22-16, 22-26g, 22-30, 120 22-34, 22-35, 22-36, 22-38, 22-39, 22-39f, 22-49, 22-54, 22-61j or 22-61l, 121 subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of section 22-61l, subsection (f) of section 22-61m, subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 22-61m, 122 123 section 22-84, 22-89, 22-90, 22-96, 22-98, 22-99, 22-100 or 22-1110, 124 subsection (d) of section 22-118*l*, section 22-167, subsection (c) of section 125 22-277, section 22-278, 22-279, 22-280a, 22-318a, 22-320h, 22-324a or 22-126 326, subsection (b), subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (e) or subsection 127 (g) of section 22-344, subsection (a) or (b) of section 22-344b, subsection (d) of section 22-344d, section 22-344f, 22-350a, 22-354, 22-359, 22-366, 128 129 22-391, 22-413, 22-414, 22-415, 22-415c, 22a-66a or 22a-246, subsection (a) of section 22a-250, section 22a-256g, subsection (e) of section 22a-256h, 130 131 section 22a-363 or 22a-381d, subsections (c) and (d) of section 22a-381e, 132 section 22a-449, 22a-450, 22a-461, 23-4b, 23-38, 23-45, 23-46 or 23-61b, 133 subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 23-65, section 134 25-37 or 25-40, subsection (a) of section 25-43, section 25-43d, 25-135, 26-135 18, 26-19, 26-21, 26-31, 26-40, 26-40a, 26-42, 26-43, 26-49, 26-54, 26-55, 26-136 56, 26-58 or 26-59, subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 26-61, 137 section 26-64, subdivision (1) of section 26-76, section 26-79, 26-87, 26-89, 138 26-91, 26-94, 26-97, 26-98, 26-104, 26-105, 26-107, 26-114a, 26-117, 139 subsection (b) of section 26-127, 26-128, 26-128a, 26-131, 26-132, 26-138, 140 26-139 or 26-141, subdivision (1) of section 26-186, section 26-207, 26-215, 141 26-217 or 26-224a, subdivision (1) of section 26-226, section 26-227, 26-142 230, 26-231, 26-232, 26-244, 26-257a, 26-260, 26-276, 26-280, 26-284, 26-143 285, 26-286, 26-287, 26-288, 26-290, 26-291a, 26-292, 26-294, 27-107, 28-13, 144 29-6a, 29-16, 29-17, 29-25, 29-143o, 29-143z or 29-156a, subsection (b), (d), 145 (e), (g) or (h) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y or 29-161z, subdivision 146 (1) of section 29-198, section 29-210, 29-243 or 29-277, subsection (c) of 147 section 29-291c, section 29-316 or 29-318, subsection (b) of section 29-148 335a, section 29-381, 30-19f, 30-48a or 30-86a, subsection (b) of section 149 30-89, subsection (c) or (d) of section 30-117, section 31-3, 31-10, 31-11, 150 31-12, 31-13, 31-14, 31-15, 31-16, 31-18, 31-23, 31-24, 31-25, 31-32, 31-36, 151 31-47 or 31-48, subsection (b) of section 31-48b, section 31-51, 31-51g, 31-52, 31-52a, 31-53 or 31-54, subsection (a) or (c) of section 31-69, section 152 153 31-70, 31-74, 31-75, 31-76, 31-76a, 31-89b or 31-134, subsection (i) of 154 section 31-273, section 31-288, 31-348, 33-624, 33-1017, 34-13d or 34-412, 155 subdivision (1) of section 35-20, subsection (a) of section 36a-57, 156 subsection (b) of section 36a-665, section 36a-699, 36a-739, 36a-787, 38a-157 2 or 38a-140, subsection (a) or (b) of section 38a-278, section 38a-479qq, 158 38a-479rr, 38a-506, 38a-548, 38a-626, 38a-680, 38a-713, 38a-733, 38a-764, 159 38a-786, 38a-828, 38a-829, 38a-885, 42-133hh, 42-230, 42-470 or 42-480, 160 subsection (a) or (c) of section 43-16q, section 45a-283, 45a-450, 45a-634 161 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 46a-54, section 46a-59, 46a-162 81b, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 46b-38d, 47-34a, 47-47 or 47-53, subsection 163 (i) of section 47a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (k) of section 47a-21, 164 section 49-2a, 49-8a, 49-16, 52-143 or 52-289, subsection (j) of section 52-165 362, section 53-133, 53-199, 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-264, 53-280, 53-166 290a, 53-302a, 53-303e, 53-311a, 53-314, 53-321, 53-322, 53-323 or 53-331, 167 subsection (b) of section 53-343a, section 53-344, subsection (b) or (c) of 168 section 53-344b, subsection (b) of section 53-345a, section 53-377, 53-422 169 or 53-450 or subsection (i) of section 54-36a, or (2) a violation under the 170 provisions of chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any regulation adopted in 171 accordance with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 13b-410, or 172 (4) a violation of any ordinance, regulation or bylaw of any town, city or 173 borough, except violations of building codes and the health code, for 174which the penalty exceeds ninety dollars but does not exceed two 175 hundred fifty dollars, unless such town, city or borough has established 176 a payment and hearing procedure for such violation pursuant to section 177 7-152c, shall follow the procedures set forth in this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:				
Section 1	October 1, 2025	14-251		
Sec. 2	October 1, 2025	51-164n(b)		

# Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Section 1(e)(2) was redrafted for clarity.

**TRA** Joint Favorable Subst.

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

### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### State Impact: None

#### Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
All Municipalities	Potential	Minimal	Minimal
	Revenue		
	Gain		

#### Explanation

The bill, which increases penalties for certain repeat parking violations, results in a potential revenue gain to various municipalities.<sup>1</sup> Fines for parking violations are entirely remitted to the municipality in which the violation occurred.

#### The Out Years

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In FY 24, a total of 758 charges were recorded and \$30,728 in fines was collected under CG§ 14-251.

# OLR Bill Analysis sHB 5766

# AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES OF PARKING IN FRONT OF A FIRE HYDRANT.

# SUMMARY

This bill establishes a fine of up to \$200 for subsequent violations of existing law's prohibition on vehicles remaining stationary within 10 feet of any fire hydrant (i.e. one type of "improper parking"). These violations are processed through the Centralized Infractions Bureau. First violations remain infractions (see BACKGROUND), as is the case for all violations under current law.

By law, fines, or a portion of fines, collected for certain motor vehicle violations must be remitted to the municipality in which the violation occurred (not including associated fees or surcharges). In the case of improper parking violations, the entire fine amount must be remitted to the municipality (CGS § 51-56a(b)).

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

# BACKGROUND

# Infractions

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

# **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/12/2025)