



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 568

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 7162

House of Representatives, April 7, 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 REFORMING THE MOTOR VEHICLE TOWING STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-145 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 [(a) (1) An owner or lessee of private property, or his or her agent,
4 may remove or cause to be removed , or may use a wheel-locking device
5 to render immovable, any motor vehicle left without authorization on
6 such property in accordance with the provisions of this section and
7 sections 14-145a to 14-145c, inclusive, provided any owner or lessee of
8 private commercial property, or his or her agent, shall install
9 conspicuous signage stating that motor vehicles left without
10 authorization on such private commercial property may be removed or
11 rendered immovable and indicating where such motor vehicle will be
12 stored, how the vehicle may be redeemed and any costs or fees that may
13 be charged.

14 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
15 subsection, an owner or lessee of private commercial property or such
16 owner or lessee's agent may tow any motor vehicle left without
17 authorization on such property and no signage warning of such towing
18 shall be required to be installed by such owner or lessee]

19 (a) For the purposes of this section, "motor vehicle" does not include
20 an authorized emergency vehicle or a motor vehicle that is reasonably
21 identifiable as leased by a governmental agency.

22 (b) (1) An owner or lessee of private property, or such owner or
23 lessee's agent, may utilize a wrecker service to tow any motor vehicle
24 left without authorization on such private property in accordance with
25 the provisions of this section, sections 14-145a to 14-145c, inclusive, as
26 amended by this act, and sections 3 and 4 of this act.

27 (2) No owner or lessee of private property, or such owner or lessee's
28 agent, shall (A) issue a parking citation by written warning, posted
29 signage or other means to impose a monetary sanction on an owner of a
30 motor vehicle parked on such private property, or (B) render a motor
31 vehicle on such private property immovable through the use of a wheel-
32 locking device. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to an
33 independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a)
34 of section 10a-173, or a private secondary school.

35 (c) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, no
36 wrecker service shall tow motor vehicles from private property, unless
37 such wrecker service obtains a written or electronically transmitted
38 authorization to tow each such motor vehicle from the owner or lessee
39 of the private property, or such owner or lessee's agent. Any owner or
40 lessee of the private property may enter into a written contract with a
41 wrecker service to perform general towing services on such private
42 property, provided such wrecker service obtains specific written or
43 electronically transmitted authorization as required by the provisions of
44 this section prior to towing a motor vehicle on such private property.
45 For the purposes of this section, (A) a wrecker service cannot be an agent
46 of such owner or lessee with the authority to provide the written or

47 electronically transmitted authorization described in this subsection,
48 and (B) a person assigned a reserved parking space by the owner or
49 lessee of a residential parking facility, as defined in section 4 of this act,
50 may be an agent of such owner or lessee with the authority to provide
51 such authorization to tow a motor vehicle in such reserved parking
52 space. A violation of the provisions of this subdivision shall be a class C
53 misdemeanor.

54 (2) The owner or lessee of private property, or such owner or lessee's
55 agent, shall provide a written or electronically transmitted authorization
56 to a wrecker service to perform a tow of a motor vehicle on such private
57 property. Such authorization shall be on a form prescribed by the
58 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and include, but need not be limited
59 to, (A) the make, model, vehicle identification number and number plate
60 of the motor vehicle to be towed, (B) the reason for the tow, (C) the
61 name, job title, residential or business address and telephone number of
62 the owner, lessee or agent authorizing the tow, and (D) the date and
63 time that such authorization to tow was given. Such owner, lessee or
64 agent shall (i) verify the reason for the tow by being physically present
65 on the private property, viewing photographs of the vehicle or viewing
66 the vehicle electronically with simultaneous sight and sound, and (ii)
67 sign or electronically sign such authorization under penalty of false
68 statement pursuant to section 53a-157b.

69 (3) A written or electronically transmitted authorization to tow a
70 motor vehicle from private property is not required if such motor
71 vehicle is left (A) in a space reserved, as required in section 14-253a, for
72 exclusive use by persons who are blind and persons with disabilities
73 and such vehicle does not bear a removable windshield placard or
74 special license plate, as defined in section 14-253a, (B) in an area
75 reserved for authorized emergency vehicles, (C) within ten feet of a fire
76 hydrant, as provided in section 14-251, (D) blocking [building] access to
77 a building or parking space, (E) [blocking entry or exit from such
78 property, or (F) for forty-eight or more hours] in or obstructing a
79 vehicular traffic aisle, entry or exit from such property or parking space,
80 or (F) on such private property and is leaking a fluid that presents

81 hazard or threat.

82 [(3) A lending institution may repossess any motor vehicle, in
83 accordance with the provisions of section 36a-785, by contracting with a
84 wrecker licensed under section 14-66 or an entity exempt from such
85 licensure, as provided in subsection (f) of section 14-66, to tow or
86 otherwise remove such motor vehicle in accordance with the provisions
87 of this section and sections 14-145a to 14-145c, inclusive. In the case of a
88 repossession, no signage as described in subdivision (1) of this
89 subsection shall be required.

90 (4) This section shall not apply to law enforcement, fire-fighting,
91 rescue, ambulance or emergency vehicles which are marked as such, or
92 to motor vehicles left without authorization on property leased by any
93 governmental agency.]

94 (4) No owner or lessee of a parking facility, as defined in section 3 of
95 this act, or residential parking facility, as defined in section 4 of this act,
96 or such owner or lessee's agent, shall authorize the towing of a motor
97 vehicle in such parking facility or residential parking facility solely
98 because the vehicle is unregistered or has an expired registration in
99 violation of section 14-12, unless such owner, lessee or agent affixes a
100 written notice to such motor vehicle at least fourteen days prior to
101 towing such vehicle. Any such notice shall (A) state that the motor
102 vehicle is unregistered or has an expired registration in violation of
103 section 14-12, (B) state that the motor vehicle will be towed from the
104 parking facility or residential parking facility without the consent of the
105 owner or operator of the motor vehicle if the motor vehicle remains
106 parked at the parking facility or residential parking facility without
107 being registered pursuant to section 14-12, (C) indicate the time and date
108 when the motor vehicle will be removed, which shall not be earlier than
109 fourteen days after the day when the notice was affixed to the motor
110 vehicle, (D) indicate the time and date when the notice is affixed to the
111 motor vehicle, and (E) be affixed to the motor vehicle at a conspicuous
112 location on the windshield nearest the operator's side.

113 (5) No owner or lessee of a residential parking facility, as defined in

114 section 4 of this act, or such owner or lessee's agent, shall authorize the
115 towing of a motor vehicle on such residential parking facility solely
116 because the permit to park at such residential parking facility issued by
117 such owner, lessee or agent has expired, unless such owner, lessee or
118 agent affixes a written notice to such motor vehicle at least seventy-two
119 hours prior to towing such vehicle. Any such notice shall (A) state that
120 the permit to park at such residential parking facility issued by the
121 owner, lessee or agent has expired, (B) state that the motor vehicle will
122 be towed from the residential parking facility without the consent of the
123 owner or operator of the motor vehicle if the motor vehicle remains
124 parked at the residential parking facility without a valid permit issued
125 by the owner, lessee or agent, (C) indicate the time when the motor
126 vehicle will be removed, which shall not be earlier than seventy-two
127 hours after the time the notice was affixed to the motor vehicle, (D)
128 indicate the time when the notice is affixed to the motor vehicle, and (E)
129 be affixed to the motor vehicle at a conspicuous location on the
130 windshield nearest the operator's side.

131 (d) (1) Before a wrecker service connects a wrecker to a motor vehicle
132 without the consent of the motor vehicle's owner or operator, the
133 wrecker service shall document the condition of the motor vehicle and
134 the reason for the tow by:

135 (A) Taking at least four photographs of the motor vehicle, with at
136 least one photograph taken from the front, the rear, the operator's side
137 and the passenger's side of the motor vehicle. Each such photograph
138 shall (i) show the entire motor vehicle from the required angle, (ii) have
139 the motor vehicle fill at least three-fourths of the photograph, measured
140 from side to side, and (iii) be rendered in a resolution of at least two
141 thousand pixels by at least two thousand pixels; and

142 (B) Taking a photograph that shows the reasons for the motor vehicle
143 being towed. Such photograph shall (i) show the position of the motor
144 vehicle in relation to the reason, including any signage, that the motor
145 vehicle was towed, and (ii) be rendered in a resolution of at least two
146 thousand pixels by at least two thousand pixels.

147 (2) (A) Upon request by the owner or operator of a towed motor
148 vehicle, or such owner or operator's agent, the lienholder of the towed
149 motor vehicle or the insurance company acting on behalf of the owner
150 of the towed motor vehicle, the wrecker service shall provide (i) a copy
151 of the written or electronically transmitted authorization described in
152 subsection (c) of this section, if applicable, and (ii) copies of the
153 photographs taken pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

154 (B) A rebuttable presumption that a wrecker service did not obtain
155 written or electronically transmitted authorization when required
156 pursuant to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section is created by
157 evidence that the wrecker service failed to provide a copy of the written
158 or electronically transmitted authorization. A rebuttable presumption
159 that a wrecker service damaged a motor vehicle is created by evidence
160 that the wrecker service failed to provide photographs of the motor
161 vehicle's condition upon request by such owner, operator, agent,
162 lienholder or insurance company and the motor vehicle has suffered
163 damage. A rebuttable presumption that the tow was performed in
164 violation of this section is created by evidence that a wrecker service
165 failed to provide a photograph that shows the reason for the tow.

166 (e) (1) If the owner or operator of a motor vehicle returns to the motor
167 vehicle that has not yet been connected to a wrecker, the wrecker service
168 shall stop preparations to tow the motor vehicle and inform the owner
169 or operator that if such owner or operator moves the motor vehicle or
170 rectifies the reason for the tow, the wrecker service will not tow such
171 motor vehicle and will not charge a fee to the owner or operator.

172 (2) If the owner or operator of a motor vehicle returns to the motor
173 vehicle that has been connected to a wrecker, but has not yet been
174 removed from the private property, the wrecker service shall stop
175 preparations to tow the motor vehicle and inform the owner or operator
176 that the wrecker service will release the motor vehicle for a fee
177 established by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles pursuant to
178 subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 14-66, as amended by this act.
179 The wrecker shall accept payment of such fee by cash or credit card and

180 immediately release the motor vehicle upon receipt of such payment. If
181 such owner or operator does not pay such fee, the wrecker service shall
182 proceed with the tow and provide a copy of the consumer bill of rights
183 regarding towing developed pursuant to section 5 of this act to such
184 owner or operator.

185 ~~[(b)]~~ (f) (1) (A) ~~[When]~~ Not later than two hours after an unauthorized
186 motor vehicle is towed or otherwise removed by a wrecker ~~[licensed~~
187 under section 14-66] service, or a repossessed motor vehicle is towed or
188 otherwise removed by a wrecker service or an exempt entity, as
189 described in subsection (g) of section 14-66, as amended by this act, the
190 [licensee or operator of the] wrecker service or the exempt entity shall
191 notify the local police department [of the tow or removal within two
192 hours] or resident state trooper serving the municipality where the tow
193 or removal was conducted and specify the time the motor vehicle was
194 towed or removed, the location from which the vehicle was removed
195 and the location at which the vehicle is stored. Such notification shall be
196 submitted, in writing, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail and
197 the record of such notification shall be retained by such ~~[licensee,~~
198 operator] wrecker service or exempt entity in accordance with the
199 provisions of section 14-66b, as amended by this act. ~~[(B)]~~ No such
200 ~~[licensee, operator]~~ wrecker service or exempt entity may charge a
201 storage fee for an unauthorized or repossessed motor vehicle for the
202 time it is stored prior to notification of the local police department or
203 resident state trooper by the ~~[licensee, operator]~~ wrecker service or
204 exempt entity.

205 ~~(B)~~ If such motor vehicle ~~[is not claimed within]~~ remains unclaimed
206 forty-eight hours after the notification pursuant to subparagraph (A) of
207 this subdivision, the ~~[licensee or operator of the]~~ wrecker service or
208 owner of the garage where such motor vehicle is stored or the exempt
209 entity shall immediately complete a notice of such tow, on a form
210 prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, and mail a copy of
211 such form by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and
212 all lienholders of record. If the motor vehicle is not claimed by its owner
213 within the time period specified in subsection ~~[(e)]~~ of section 14-150, the

214 licensee or operator of the wrecker or] (b) of section 11 of this act, the
215 wrecker service or owner of the garage where such motor vehicle is
216 stored or the exempt entity may dispose of such motor vehicle in
217 accordance with the provisions of [subsection (e) and subsections (g) to
218 (j), inclusive, of section 14-150] section 11 of this act.

219 [(2) (A) When an unauthorized motor vehicle is rendered immovable
220 through use of a wheel-locking device by an owner or lessee of private
221 property or his or her agent, such owner, lessee or agent shall notify the
222 local police department of such action within two hours. Such
223 notification shall be submitted in writing or transmitted by facsimile or
224 electronic mail. The record of such notification shall be retained by such
225 owner, lessee or agent at the private property upon which such action
226 took place, for a period of not less than six months and shall be available
227 for inspection during regular business hours by any sworn member of
228 the local police department or law enforcement officer or inspector
229 designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

230 (B) No owner, lessee or agent may charge a fee to remove a wheel-
231 locking device prior to notification of the local police department. The
232 fee charged to remove a wheel-locking device may not be more than
233 fifty dollars. The person claiming the motor vehicle may choose to pay
234 such fee in cash, by check or by debit or credit card. Ten per cent of such
235 fee shall be remitted to the local police department by the owner, lessee
236 or agent. If such motor vehicle is not claimed within forty-eight hours
237 after being rendered immovable, the owner, lessee or agent shall
238 immediately complete a notice that such motor vehicle has been
239 rendered immovable, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, and
240 mail a copy of such form by certified mail, return receipt requested, to
241 the owner of such motor vehicle and all lienholders of record. If the
242 motor vehicle is not claimed by its owner within the time period
243 specified in subsection (e) of section 14-150, the owner, lessee or agent
244 may dispose of such motor vehicle in accordance with the provisions of
245 subsection (e) and subsections (g) to (j), inclusive, of section 14-150.]

246 [(3)] (2) The local police department or resident state trooper, not later

247 than forty-eight hours after receiving notification of a tow or removal of
248 an unauthorized motor vehicle pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
249 subsection, [or use of a wheel-locking device pursuant to subdivision (2)
250 of this subsection,] shall enter the vehicle identification number into the
251 National Crime Information Center database and the Connecticut On-
252 Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing System to
253 determine whether such motor vehicle has been reported as stolen. If
254 such motor vehicle has been reported as stolen, the local police
255 department or resident state trooper shall immediately notify the
256 department that reported the vehicle as stolen.

257 [(c)] (g) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with
258 the provisions of chapter 54, (1) specifying the circumstances under
259 which title to any motor vehicle towed or stored, or both, [or rendered
260 immovable] under this section may be transferred to any wrecker
261 service or person, firm or corporation [towing,] storing [or rendering
262 immovable] such vehicle, and (2) establishing the procedure whereby
263 such wrecker service or person, firm or corporation may obtain title to
264 such motor vehicle.

265 [(d) No owner or lessee of private property, or his or her agent, shall
266 issue a parking citation by written warning, posted signage or other
267 means to impose a monetary sanction on an owner of a motor vehicle
268 parked on such property. The provisions of this subsection shall not
269 apply to an independent institution of higher education, as defined in
270 subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or a private secondary school.]

271 [(e) Any] (h) Except as provided in subdivisions (1) and (2) of
272 subsection (c) of this section, any person who violates any provision of
273 this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an
274 infraction and be fined fifty dollars, and, for each subsequent offense,
275 shall be fined not less than fifty dollars and not more than one hundred
276 dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or be both fined and
277 imprisoned.

278 (i) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, the provisions
279 of this section shall not apply to an exempt entity described in

280 subsection (g) of section 14-66, as amended by this act.

281 (j) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the right of a
282 municipality or the state to remove an abandoned motor vehicle in
283 accordance with the provisions of section 14-150, as amended by this
284 act.

285 Sec. 2. Section 14-145a of the general statutes is repealed and the
286 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

287 [(a) No vehicle shall be towed or removed from private property
288 except (1) upon express instruction of the owner or lessee, or his or her
289 agent, of the property upon which the vehicle is trespassing, or (2) for
290 the purpose of repossession of the motor vehicle by a lending
291 institution. No vehicle shall be rendered immovable on private property
292 through the use of a wheel-locking device except upon express
293 instruction of the owner or lessee, or his or her agent. Nothing in this
294 subsection shall be construed to limit the right of a municipality or the
295 state to remove an abandoned motor vehicle in accordance with the
296 provisions of section 14-150.

297 (b) No person or firm that tows or removes] No wrecker service that
298 tows a motor vehicle from private property [or renders a motor vehicle
299 immovable on private property] shall rebate or pay any money or other
300 valuable consideration to the owner or lessee, or [his or her] such owner
301 or lessee's agent, of the property from which the motor vehicle is towed,
302 [or removed or on which the vehicle is rendered immovable,] or to a
303 lending institution, for the privilege of towing [, removing or rendering
304 immovable] such motor vehicle.

305 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this
306 section, "parking facility" means one or more lots, garages, parking
307 terminals or other structures and accommodations located on private
308 property for the parking of motor vehicles off of any highway.

309 (b) (1) Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, no
310 owner or lessee of a parking facility, or such owner or lessee's agent,

311 may utilize a wrecker service to tow any motor vehicle left without
312 authorization at such parking facility pursuant to the provisions of
313 section 14-145 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, unless
314 such owner, lessee or agent installs conspicuous signage as required
315 pursuant to the provisions of this section at such parking facility.

316 (2) Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, no
317 wrecker service shall tow a motor vehicle from a parking facility
318 pursuant to the provisions of section 14-145 of the general statutes, as
319 amended by this act, unless such wrecker service verifies conspicuous
320 signage, as required pursuant to the provisions of this section, is
321 installed at such parking facility.

322 (c) (1) The owner, lessee or agent of a parking facility shall install
323 conspicuous signage at all entryways to the parking facility. Such
324 conspicuous signage shall (A) bear the international symbol for towing,
325 (B) be at least eighteen inches long and twenty-four inches wide with
326 letters not less than one inch in height, (C) state that motor vehicles left
327 without authorization at such parking facility may be removed at the
328 expense of the owner of the motor vehicle, (D) state any costs or fees that
329 may be charged, and (E) provide the name, address and telephone
330 number for the wrecker service performing the tow or, alternatively, a
331 telephone number in order for the motor vehicle owner or operator to
332 locate where such motor vehicle has been stored and obtain information
333 regarding how to redeem such motor vehicle.

334 (2) If such owner, lessee or agent designates one or more spaces as
335 restricted parking spaces and the parking facility is otherwise
336 unrestricted, such owner, lessee or agent may, instead of installing at all
337 entryways to such parking facility, install such conspicuous signage that
338 prohibits unauthorized vehicles from parking in such designated spaces
339 at (A) the right or left side of each entrance to a designated area or group
340 of parking spaces located on the restricted portion of the parking facility,
341 or (B) the end of a restricted parking space so that the sign is in front of
342 a vehicle that is parking in the space.

343 (3) If such owner, lessee or agent imposes further specific parking

344 restrictions in an area to which conspicuous signs are installed for
345 individual restricted parking spaces and any such sign is in front of a
346 vehicle that is parked in the space, such conspicuous signage shall also
347 indicate that the space is reserved for a particular unit number, person
348 or type of person.

349 (d) Conspicuous signage, as described in subsection (c) of this section,
350 is not required to be installed at a parking facility if a motor vehicle is
351 left (1) in a space reserved, as required in section 14-253a of the general
352 statutes, for exclusive use by persons who are blind and persons with
353 disabilities, and such motor vehicle does not bear a removable
354 windshield placard or special license plate, as defined in section 14-253a
355 of the general statutes; (2) in an area reserved for authorized emergency
356 vehicles; (3) within ten feet of a fire hydrant, as provided in section 14-
357 251 of the general statutes; (4) blocking access to a building or reserved
358 parking area; (5) in or obstructing a vehicular traffic aisle, entry or exit
359 of the parking facility; (6) in such parking facility and is leaking a fluid
360 that presents a hazard or threat; or (7) in an area not designed for the
361 parking of motor vehicles.

362 (e) The owner or lessee of a parking facility, or such owner or lessee's
363 agent, may utilize the services of a wrecker service to tow a motor
364 vehicle left without authorization at such parking facility without
365 installing such conspicuous signage, provided such owner, lessee or
366 agent affixes a written notice to such motor vehicle at least forty-eight
367 hours prior to towing such vehicle. Any such notice shall (1) state that
368 the motor vehicle will be towed from the parking facility without the
369 consent of the owner or operator of the motor vehicle if the motor
370 vehicle remains parked in the same location at the parking facility, (2)
371 indicate the time when the motor vehicle will be removed, which shall
372 not be earlier than forty-eight hours after the time the notice was affixed
373 to the motor vehicle, (3) indicate the time when the notice is affixed to
374 the motor vehicle, and (4) be affixed to the motor vehicle at a
375 conspicuous location on the windshield nearest the operator's side. The
376 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a residential parking
377 facility, as defined in section 4 of this act.

378 (f) Any person who violates any provision of this subsection shall be
379 deemed to have committed an infraction.

380 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this
381 section, (1) "residential parking facility" means a parking facility, as
382 defined in section 3 of this act, that is located at a multifamily dwelling
383 consisting of five or more units, a condominium or a common interest
384 community; (2) "condominium" has the same meaning as provided in
385 section 47-68a of the general statutes; and (3) "common interest
386 community" has the same meaning as provided in section 47-202 of the
387 general statutes.

388 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the owner or
389 lessee of a residential parking facility, or such owner or lessee's agent,
390 may utilize a wrecker service to tow any motor vehicle left without
391 authorization at such residential parking facility pursuant to the
392 provisions of section 14-145 of the general statutes, as amended by this
393 act, provided such owner, lessee or agent (1) obtains written or
394 electronically transmitted authorization as required pursuant to
395 subsection (c) of section 14-145 of the general statutes, as amended by
396 this act, (2) installs conspicuous signage pursuant to the provisions of
397 section 3 of this act, (3) installs conspicuous signage that lists the
398 violations that would cause a motor vehicle to be towed from such
399 residential parking facility, and (4) affixes a written notice to such motor
400 vehicle at least twenty-four hours prior to towing such motor vehicle.
401 Any such notice shall (A) state that the motor vehicle will be towed from
402 the residential parking facility without the consent of the owner or
403 operator of the motor vehicle if the motor vehicle remains parked in the
404 same location at the residential parking facility, (B) describe the reason
405 the motor vehicle will be towed, (C) indicate the time when the motor
406 vehicle will be towed, which shall be not earlier than twenty-four hours
407 after the time the notice was affixed to the motor vehicle, (D) indicate
408 the time when the notice is affixed to the motor vehicle, and (E) be
409 affixed to the motor vehicle at a conspicuous location on the windshield
410 nearest the operator's side. A wrecker service may be an agent of the
411 owner or lessee of the residential parking facility with the authority to

412 install conspicuous signage pursuant to the provisions of subdivisions
413 (2) and (3) of this subsection and affix a written notice pursuant to the
414 provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection.

415 (c) The owner or lessee of a residential parking facility, or such owner
416 or lessee's agent, may utilize the services of a wrecker service to tow a
417 motor vehicle left without authorization at the residential parking
418 facility without installing conspicuous signage, as described in
419 subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (b) of this section, and affixing a
420 written notice, as described in subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this
421 section, if such motor vehicle is left:

422 (1) In a space reserved, as required in section 14-253a of the general
423 statutes, for exclusive use by persons who are blind and persons with
424 disabilities and such motor vehicle does not bear a removable
425 windshield placard or special license plate, as defined in section 14-253a
426 of the general statutes;

427 (2) In an area reserved for authorized emergency vehicles;

428 (3) Within ten feet of a fire hydrant, as provided in section 14-251 of
429 the general statutes;

430 (4) Blocking access to a building or reserved parking area;

431 (5) In or obstructing a vehicular traffic aisle, entry or exit of the
432 parking facility;

433 (6) In such parking facility and is leaking a fluid that presents a
434 hazard or threat;

435 (7) In an area not designated for the parking of motor vehicles; and

436 (8) In violation of a parking ban to facilitate the removal of snow and
437 ice, provided such owner, lessee or agent (A) posts notice of such
438 parking ban in conspicuous places in the building or buildings, as
439 applicable, and residential parking facility, (B) communicates such
440 parking ban directly by telephone, electronic mail or text message at

441 least four hours before enacting such parking ban, and (C)
442 notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of
443 section 14-145 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, provides
444 written or electronically transmitted authorization to such wrecker
445 service to tow any vehicle from such residential parking facility that is
446 in violation of such parking ban and signs or electronically signs such
447 authorization under penalty of false statement pursuant to section 53a-
448 157b of the general statutes that such owner, lessee or agent complied
449 with the provisions of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision.

450 (d) If the owner or lessee of the residential parking facility, or such
451 owner or lessee's agent, designated one or more spaces as restricted
452 parking spaces at such residential parking facility and reserved for a
453 particular unit number, person or type of person, such owner, lessee or
454 agent may tow a motor vehicle left without authorization in such
455 restricted parking spaces without affixing a notice, as described in
456 subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section, provided (1) written or
457 electronically transmitted authorization is obtained pursuant to
458 subsection (c) of section 14-145 of the general statutes, as amended by
459 this act, and (2) conspicuous signage as described in subdivision (3) of
460 subsection (c) of section 3 of this act is installed.

461 (e) If a motor vehicle remains at the residential parking facility a third
462 or subsequent time in the same manner that caused the motor vehicle to
463 be subject to previous written notices as described in subsection (c) of
464 this section, the owner, lessee or agent of such residential parking
465 facility need not affix a written notice to such motor vehicle before
466 utilizing the services of a wrecker service to tow the motor vehicle
467 pursuant to the provisions of section 14-145 of the general statutes, as
468 amended by this act.

469 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than September 1,
470 2025, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the
471 Attorney General, shall develop, and thereafter revise as necessary, a
472 consumer bill of rights regarding towing that includes, but need not be
473 limited to, (1) a summary of the rights and responsibilities of a motor

474 vehicle owner or operator if such motor vehicle is subject to
475 nonconsensual towing or transporting, as defined in section 14-66 of the
476 general statutes, as amended by this act; (2) the rates and charges that a
477 wrecker service may charge for (A) nonconsensual towing or
478 transporting, (B) storage, and (C) release of a motor vehicle that has been
479 connected to a wrecker but not yet towed; (3) a description of the records
480 and photographs that an owner or operator may request from the
481 wrecker service pursuant to the provisions of section 14-145 of the
482 general statutes, as amended by this act; (4) a warning that a wrecker
483 service may sell towed vehicles pursuant to section 11 of this act; and (5)
484 information on filing a customer complaint with the commissioner
485 pursuant to section 14-63 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.
486 The commissioner shall publish the consumer bill of rights in English
487 and Spanish and make the consumer bill of rights available for public
488 dissemination.

489 (b) On and after October 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
490 shall post the consumer bill of rights regarding towing on the Internet
491 web site of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Attorney General
492 shall post such bill of rights on the Attorney General's Internet web site.

493 (c) On and after October 1, 2025, a wrecker service shall post the
494 consumer bill of rights at the wrecker service's place of business and
495 make copies of such bill of rights available for distribution to customers
496 who visit such place of business. If a wrecker service maintains an
497 Internet web site for its business, the wrecker service shall prominently
498 post such bill of rights on such Internet web site. A violation of the
499 provisions of this subsection shall be deemed to be an unfair or
500 deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b of the
501 general statutes.

502 Sec. 6. Section 14-66 of the general statutes is repealed and the
503 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

504 (a) For the purposes of this section:

505 (1) "Nonconsensual towing or transporting" means the towing or

506 transporting and recovery of a motor vehicle without the prior consent
507 or authorization of the owner or operator of the motor vehicle
508 performed (A) in accordance with the provisions of section 14-145, as
509 amended by this act, or (B) pursuant to an order of a police officer or
510 traffic authority;

511 (2) "Police officer" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-
512 294a;

513 (3) "Traffic authority" has the same meaning as provided in section
514 14-297; and

515 (4) "Recovery" means winching, hoisting, uprighting or other similar
516 function performed by a wrecker service to return a motor vehicle to a
517 position where the nonconsensual towing or transporting may be
518 initiated.

519 [(a)] (b) (1) No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the
520 business of operating a wrecker for the purpose of towing or
521 transporting motor vehicles, including motor vehicles which are
522 disabled, inoperative or wrecked or are being removed in accordance
523 with the provisions of section 14-145, as amended by this act, 14-150, as
524 amended by this act, or 14-307, unless such person, firm or corporation
525 is a motor vehicle dealer or repairer licensed under the provisions of
526 [subpart (D) of this part] section 14-52.

527 (2) [The] On or before January 1, 2026, the commissioner shall
528 establish and publish a schedule of uniform rates and charges for the
529 nonconsensual towing and transporting of motor vehicles and for the
530 storage of motor vehicles which shall be just and reasonable [. Upon
531 petition of any person, firm or corporation licensed in accordance with
532 the provisions of this section, but not more frequently than once every
533 two years,] and reflect the reasonable operating costs of wrecker services
534 that perform nonconsensual towing or transporting and storage. On or
535 before January 1, 2029, and every three years thereafter, the
536 commissioner shall reconsider the established rates and charges and
537 shall amend such rates and charges if the commissioner, after

538 consideration of the factors stated in this subdivision, determines that
539 such rates and charges are no longer just and reasonable and reflect the
540 reasonable operating costs of wrecker services that perform
541 nonconsensual towing or transporting and storage. In establishing and
542 amending such rates and charges, the commissioner [may] shall
543 consider factors, including, but not limited to, the Consumer Price
544 Index, rates set by other jurisdictions [, charges for towing and
545 transporting services provided pursuant to a contract with an
546 automobile club or automobile association licensed under the
547 provisions of section 14-67 and rates published in standard service
548 manuals] and the cost of fuel, wreckers, heavy-duty wreckers, motor
549 vehicle parts, equipment, personnel, workers' compensation insurance,
550 unemployment compensation, insurance premiums and processing
551 fees.

552 (3) Such schedule shall include a (A) rate for nonconsensual towing
553 or transporting that does not occur at the scene of an accident and
554 includes all services and equipment involved in towing or transporting
555 a vehicle, except for mileage, and (B) rate for nonconsensual towing or
556 transporting that occurs at the scene of an accident and includes all
557 services generally required at such scene and considers the equipment
558 and labor required by regulations adopted pursuant to section 29-23a,
559 as amended by this act. Such schedule shall also permit a wrecker
560 service to charge for additional necessary services not generally
561 required at the scene of an accident, provided (i) such charge does not
562 exceed an amount equal to the hourly rate for labor and a reasonable
563 charge for the use of the equipment, and (ii) such services are itemized,
564 reasonable and necessary to perform the nonconsensual towing or
565 transporting of a motor vehicle. The commissioner shall hold a public
566 hearing for the purpose of obtaining additional information concerning
567 such schedule of uniform rates and charges.

568 [(3)] (4) With respect to the nonconsensual towing or transporting
569 and the storage of motor vehicles, no [such person, firm or corporation]
570 wrecker service shall charge more than the rates and charges published
571 by the commissioner.

572 (5) Any person aggrieved by any action of the commissioner under
573 the provisions of this section may [take an] appeal therefrom in
574 accordance with section 4-183, except venue for such appeal shall be in
575 the judicial district of New Britain.

576 [(b)] (c) (1) The commissioner, or an inspector authorized by the
577 commissioner, shall examine each wrecker, including its number,
578 equipment and identification, and shall determine the mechanical
579 condition of such wrecker and whether or not it is properly equipped to
580 do the work intended. A wrecker shall be deemed properly equipped if
581 there are flashing yellow lights installed and mounted on such wrecker
582 that [(1)] (A) show in all directions at all times, and [(2)] (B) are as close
583 to the back of the cab of such wrecker as practicable. Such lights shall be
584 in operation when such wrecker is towing a vehicle and when such
585 wrecker is at the scene of an accident or the location of a disabled motor
586 vehicle. In addition, each wrecker shall be equipped with a spot light
587 mounted so that its beam of light is directed toward the hoisting
588 equipment in the rear of such wrecker. The hoisting equipment of each
589 wrecker shall be of sufficient capacity to perform the service intended
590 and shall be securely mounted to the frame of such vehicle. A fire
591 extinguisher shall be carried at all times on each wrecker which shall be
592 in proper working condition, mounted in a permanent bracket on each
593 wrecker and have a minimum rating of eight bc. A set of three flares in
594 operating condition shall be carried at all times on each wrecker and
595 shall be used between the periods of one-half hour after sunset and one-
596 half hour before sunrise when the wrecker is parked on a highway while
597 making emergency repairs or preparing to pick up a disabled vehicle to
598 remove it from a highway or adjoining property.

599 (2) No [registrant or operator of any] wrecker service shall offer to
600 give any gratuities or inducements of any kind to any police officer or
601 other person in order to obtain towing business or recommendations for
602 towing or storage of, or estimating repairs to, disabled vehicles.

603 (3) No [licensee] wrecker service shall require the owner of a disabled
604 vehicle to sign a contract for the repair or storage of such owner's

605 [damaged] disabled vehicle as part of the [towing] consideration for
606 towing such vehicle or to sign an order for the repair of, or authorization
607 for estimating repairs to such vehicle, until the tow job has been
608 completed. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prohibit
609 the wrecker service and owner of the disabled vehicle from entering into
610 an agreement for the repair or storage of such vehicle upon the
611 completion of the tow.

612 (4) No [licensee] wrecker service shall tow a vehicle in such a
613 negligent manner as to cause further damage to the vehicle being towed.

614 (5) No [licensee] wrecker service shall knowingly permit any person
615 to occupy a vehicle while the vehicle is being towed. [Nothing in this
616 subsection shall be construed to prohibit the licensee and owner of the
617 damaged vehicle from entering into an agreement for the repair or
618 storage of such vehicle upon the completion of the tow job.]

619 [(c)] (d) Each wrecker used for towing or transporting motor vehicles
620 shall be registered as a wrecker by the commissioner for a fee of one
621 hundred twenty-five dollars. Each such registration shall be renewed
622 biennially according to renewal schedules established by the
623 commissioner so as to effect staggered renewal of all such registrations.
624 If the adoption of a staggered system results in the expiration of any
625 registration more or less than two years from its issuance, the
626 commissioner may charge a prorated amount for such registration fee.

627 [(d)] (e) An owner of a wrecker may apply to the commissioner for a
628 general distinguishing number and number plate for the purpose of
629 displaying such number plate on a motor vehicle temporarily in the
630 custody of such owner and being towed or transported by such owner.
631 The commissioner shall issue such number and number plate to an
632 owner of a wrecker (1) who has complied with the requirements of this
633 section, and (2) whose wrecker is equipped in accordance with the
634 provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection [(b)] (c) of this section. The
635 commissioner shall charge a fee to cover the cost of issuance and
636 renewal of such number plates.

637 [(e)] (f) With respect to the nonconsensual towing or transporting of
638 a motor vehicle, no [licensee] wrecker service may tow or transport a
639 vehicle to the premises of any person, firm or corporation engaged in
640 the storage of vehicles for compensation unless such person, firm or
641 corporation adheres to the storage charges published by the
642 commissioner pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

643 [(f)] (g) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person,
644 firm, corporation or association: (1) Towing or transporting a motor
645 vehicle, provided such person, firm, corporation or association is
646 licensed as a motor vehicle dealer [pursuant to] under the provisions of
647 [subpart (D) of this part] section 14-52 and does not offer direct towing
648 or transporting to the public or engage in nonconsensual towing or
649 transporting; (2) operating as an automobile club or automobile
650 association licensed under section 14-67; (3) operating as a motor vehicle
651 recycler licensed under section 14-67l or any contractor of such recycler,
652 provided such recycler or its contractor does not offer towing or
653 transporting to the public or engage in nonconsensual towing or
654 transporting; (4) engaging in the business of repossession of motor
655 vehicles for lending institutions, provided it does not offer direct towing
656 or transporting unless licensed as a motor vehicle dealer under the
657 provisions of [subpart (D) of this part] section 14-52; (5) towing motor
658 vehicles owned or leased by such person, firm, association or
659 corporation; (6) towing or transporting motor vehicles for hire, with the
660 appropriate operating authority, as defined in 49 CFR 390.5, as amended
661 from time to time, provided such person, firm, corporation or
662 association does not offer towing or transporting to the public or engage
663 in nonconsensual towing or transporting; or (7) towing motor vehicles
664 to or from an auction conducted by a motor vehicle dealer licensed
665 [pursuant to] under the provisions of [subpart (D) of this part] section
666 14-52, provided such person, firm, corporation or association does not
667 offer direct towing or transporting to the public or engage in
668 nonconsensual towing or transporting.

669 [(g)] (h) Any [law enforcement] police officer or traffic authority [, as
670 defined in section 14-297,] may determine that a vehicle blocking a

671 travel lane on a limited access highway constitutes an emergency and a
672 threat to public safety. Upon such determination, such [law
673 enforcement] officer or traffic authority may direct the [operator of a]
674 wrecker service to remove such vehicle. Any such [operator of a]
675 wrecker service shall be held harmless from liability or causes of action
676 for property damages incurred to such vehicle or to its contents or the
677 surrounding area caused by such emergency removal, provided such
678 removal measures are taken under the direction of such officer or
679 authority and all reasonable care is taken by the [operator of the]
680 wrecker service to limit any further damage to such vehicle, such
681 vehicle's contents or the surrounding area.

682 [(h) For the purposes of this section, "nonconsensual towing or
683 transporting" means the towing or transporting of a motor vehicle in
684 accordance with the provisions of section 14-145 or for which
685 arrangements are made by order of a law enforcement officer or traffic
686 authority, as defined in section 14-297.]

687 (i) Any police officer or traffic authority who orders the removal of a
688 vehicle may also specify that the wrecker service performing such
689 removal use certain equipment and labor, provided any such equipment
690 and labor are required by regulations adopted pursuant to section 29-
691 23a, as amended by this act. Any wrecker service that performs any such
692 removal at the direction of such officer or traffic authority may charge
693 the liable party for the services rendered.

694 [(i)] (j) Any person, firm, corporation or association that violates the
695 provisions of this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have
696 committed an infraction and for a second or subsequent offense, shall
697 be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

698 Sec. 7. Section 14-63 of the general statutes is repealed and the
699 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

700 (a) The [commissioner may make, alter or repeal] Commissioner of
701 Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations governing the administration of
702 all statutes relating to the license and business of dealers and repairers,

703 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

704 (b) (1) For the purposes of this section, "nonconsensual towing or
705 transporting" has the same meaning as provided in section 14-66, as
706 amended by this act.

707 [(b)] (2) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall [adopt
708 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,
709 establishing (1) a procedure whereby] receive, process and investigate
710 complaints from customers of dealers and repairers [may file
711 complaints with the Department of Motor Vehicles] concerning the
712 operations of and services provided by any such [licensees, and (2) a
713 procedure specifying the circumstances under which a licensee may
714 stipulate to a complaint and waive such licensee's right to an
715 administrative hearing. Such regulations shall provide for the
716 commissioner to contact each licensee that is the subject of a complaint
717 in order to notify such licensee of the complaint and to relate to such
718 licensee the particular matters alleged by the complainant. If the
719 commissioner determines that the facts as alleged give rise to one or
720 more violations of law related to the licensee's business, the
721 commissioner may attempt to mediate a voluntary resolution of the
722 complaint acceptable to the complainant and the licensee. Such
723 regulations shall also provide that, if an acceptable resolution to the
724 complaint is not achieved, the commissioner shall complete the
725 commissioner's investigation of the facts and shall, if the commissioner
726 has reason to believe that the licensee has violated any provision of
727 section 14-64, proceed to take any action authorized under the
728 provisions of section 14-64. If, after such an investigation, the
729 commissioner elects not to take action against the licensee, the
730 commissioner shall notify both the complainant and the licensee in
731 writing.] dealer or repairer, including the provision of nonconsensual
732 towing or transporting, recovery or storage of motor vehicles. The
733 commissioner may permit a dealer or repairer to stipulate to a complaint
734 and waive such dealer or repairer's right to an administrative hearing
735 under the provisions of chapter 54.

736 (3) Any complaint filed with the commissioner pursuant to the
737 provisions of this subsection shall (A) be in writing, on a form provided
738 by or acceptable to the commissioner, (B) contain a statement of the facts
739 that form the basis of the claim against such dealer or repairer, (C)
740 include the dealer's or repairer's name, the customer's name and
741 address, the date on which the transaction with the dealer or repairer
742 occurred and, if applicable, the description of any vehicle that is the
743 subject of a complaint, (D) be accompanied by any supporting
744 documentation that pertains to the complaint, including, but not limited
745 to, invoices, repair orders and evidence of payment, and (E) be mailed
746 to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

747 (4) Not later than fourteen days from the date of receiving a customer
748 complaint, the commissioner shall notify the customer and the dealer or
749 repairer that is the subject of the complaint that the complaint (A) was
750 received and of the particular matters alleged by the customer, and (B)
751 will be subject to further investigation. Such investigation shall consist
752 of a determination of (i) whether the complaint is complete and all
753 relevant documents were received, and (ii) whether the complaint states
754 facts which, if true, would give rise to one or more violations of sections
755 14-51 to 14-66c, inclusive, as amended by this act, or sections 14-145 to
756 14-145b, inclusive, as amended by this act, section 14-150, as amended
757 by this act, section 3 of this act, or any regulation adopted pursuant to
758 said sections, or section 12 of this act.

759 (5) In the event that the complaint is incomplete, the commissioner
760 shall notify the customer, in writing, of what deficiencies exist in the
761 complaint and provide the date by which the customer is required to
762 submit documentation to address such deficiencies. In the event that
763 such deficiencies are not addressed by the specified date, no action shall
764 be taken on the complaint and the commissioner shall notify the
765 customer and the dealer or repairer in writing that no further action will
766 be taken. The commissioner shall maintain a written record of all
767 conversations with the customer and include such record with the
768 complaint in the records of the department.

769 (6) In the event that the complaint does not state facts that give rise to
770 a violation of sections 14-51 to 14-66c, inclusive, as amended by this act,
771 or sections 14-145 to 14-145b, inclusive, as amended by this act, or any
772 regulation adopted pursuant to said sections, the commissioner shall
773 notify the customer and the dealer or repairer, in writing, that the
774 commissioner will not proceed with the complaint. Such notice shall
775 include a brief statement of the reasons why the commissioner has taken
776 no action. [The commissioner shall also inform the complainant and the
777 licensee that an unresolved complaint exists and that, unless the
778 commissioner has determined that the allegations, even if true, fail to
779 state a violation of applicable statutory or regulatory standards, the
780 same shall be recorded in the records of the department pertaining to
781 such licensee until such time as the licensee submits to the commissioner
782 satisfactory evidence, signed by the complainant or the complainant's
783 attorney, that the claim has been resolved by agreement with the
784 complainant or submits to the department satisfactory evidence of final
785 adjudication in favor of such licensee.]

786 (7) If, after the investigation, the commissioner determines that a
787 complaint is complete and states one or more violations of sections 14-
788 51 to 14-66c, inclusive, as amended by this act, or sections 14-145 to 14-
789 145b, inclusive, as amended by this act, or any regulation adopted
790 pursuant to said sections, the commissioner shall notify the customer
791 and the dealer or repairer of such determination. The notification shall
792 relate the particular matters involved in the complaint and inform the
793 dealer or repairer that such dealer or repairer is required to respond to
794 the matters alleged in the complaint not later than ten days after the date
795 of the notification. Upon receipt of the dealer or repairer's response, the
796 commissioner may (A) mediate a voluntary resolution of the complaint
797 that is acceptable to the customer and the dealer or repairer, (B) proceed
798 with an administrative hearing under chapter 54, or (C) determine that
799 no action is to be taken and notify the customer and the dealer or
800 repairer, in writing, of the reason for that determination.

801 (8) If the complaint is resolved through voluntary mediation, the
802 dealer or repairer shall waive its right to an administrative hearing

803 under chapter 54. If the dealer or repairer enters into a stipulated
804 agreement, settlement agreement or consent order, and fails to comply
805 with the terms of such agreement or order, the dealer or repairer's
806 license shall be suspended in accordance with the terms of such
807 agreement or order. An agreement between the [licensee and the
808 complainant] customer and the dealer or repairer shall not preclude the
809 commissioner from proceeding to take action if the commissioner has
810 reason to believe that the [licensee] dealer or repairer has violated any
811 provision of section 14-64, as amended by this act.

812 (9) If the commissioner determines that there is one or more probable
813 violations of sections 14-51 to 14-66c, inclusive, as amended by this act,
814 or sections 14-145 to 14-145b, inclusive, as amended by this act, or any
815 regulation adopted pursuant to said sections and that the department
816 will take action, the department shall notify the customer and dealer or
817 repairer of such determination and proceed with a hearing in
818 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, regardless of whether the
819 matter has or has not been settled between the customer and the dealer
820 or repairer. The commissioner may proceed to take any action
821 authorized under the provisions of section 14-64, as amended by this
822 act, and, in the case of medium-duty or heavy-duty towing, recommend
823 to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection that
824 such dealer or repairer be removed from the rotational system
825 maintained pursuant to section 29-23a, as amended by this act.

826 (10) A decision by the commissioner not to take action against the
827 [licensee] dealer or repairer pursuant to the provisions of this subsection
828 shall be without prejudice to the claim of the customer; and neither the
829 fact that the [department] commissioner has determined not to proceed
830 nor the notice furnished to the parties, in accordance with this
831 subsection, shall be admissible in any civil action.

832 (11) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations, in
833 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the
834 provisions of this subsection.

835 Sec. 8. Section 14-145b of the general statutes is repealed and the

836 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

837 (a) [(1) Any] A wrecker service towing a vehicle [towed or removed]
838 from private property pursuant to sections 14-145 to 14-145c, inclusive,
839 as amended by this act, and sections 3 and 4 of this act shall [be stored]
840 store such vehicle at the site of the [towing company's] wrecker service's
841 business in a secured storage lot, [The site shall be open during the
842 hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and be
843 reasonably available on Saturday, Sunday and holidays, for the purpose
844 of vehicle redemption] provided the site of such lot is located within a
845 ten-mile radius of the private property from which the vehicle was
846 towed. If the site of such lot is not located within such ten-mile radius,
847 the wrecker service shall store such vehicle at the storage facility nearest
848 the private property from which the vehicle was towed. Such wrecker
849 service shall comply with the provisions of section 14-66a, as amended
850 by this act.

851 [(2) No vehicle shall be rendered immovable on private property
852 through use of a wheel-locking device pursuant to sections 14-145 to 14-
853 145c, inclusive, unless the vehicle is located in a secure place on such
854 property that is reasonably accessible for the purpose of vehicle
855 redemption. Personnel to provide for vehicle redemption shall be on
856 such property for not less than eight hours after a vehicle has been
857 rendered immovable. Additionally, signage shall describe the hours for
858 vehicle redemption when the eight-hour deadline has passed. If the
859 vehicle is towed or removed from such property, all provisions of
860 sections 14-145 to 14-145c, inclusive, relating to the towing or removal
861 of a vehicle shall be applicable.

862 (b) When a vehicle has been towed or removed pursuant to sections
863 14-145 to 14-145c, inclusive, it shall be released to its owner, a lending
864 institution or a person authorized by the owner or lending institution to
865 regain possession, upon demand, provided the demand is made
866 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday
867 or at a reasonable time on Saturday, Sunday or holidays and the owner
868 or authorized person presents proof of registration and pays the costs of

869 towing or removal and of storage.

870 (c) Any vehicle owner, lending institution or agent of the owner or
871 lending institution, shall have the right to inspect the vehicle before
872 accepting its return or removal of a wheel-locking device. No general
873 release of any kind that would release the person or firm towing,
874 removing or storing the vehicle or rendering the vehicle immovable
875 from liability for damages or from liability for any claim that the vehicle
876 was towed or rendered immovable without justification may be
877 required from any vehicle owner, lending institution or agent of the
878 owner or lending institution, as a condition of release of the vehicle. A
879 receipt showing the name of the person or firm towing or removing the
880 vehicle or rendering the vehicle immovable and an itemization of the
881 charges shall be provided to the person paying the towing or removal
882 and storage costs or the charge for removal of a wheel-locking device at
883 the time of payment.]

884 (b) A violation of the provisions of this section shall be deemed to be
885 an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-
886 110b.

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

889 (a) Each wrecker service that stores a motor vehicle that has been
890 subject to nonconsensual towing or transporting, as defined in section
891 14-66, as amended by this act, shall store such vehicle at the site of the
892 wrecker service's business in a secured lot. The site shall be open during
893 the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and be
894 reasonably available on Saturday, Sunday and holidays, for the purpose
895 of vehicle redemption and removing any personal property from within
896 a stored motor vehicle. For the purposes of this section, a wrecker
897 service is deemed to be reasonably available on Saturday, Sunday and
898 holidays if (1) the wrecker service is open for at least four hours on
899 Saturday, Sunday and holidays, or (2) the wrecker service has an
900 advertised telephone number to take requests for the release of a stored
901 motor vehicle and for access to personal property within a stored motor

902 vehicle and such wrecker service responds to such requests not later
903 than four hours from the time of such request.

904 (b) Any such wrecker service does not have a lien upon the personal
905 property within a motor vehicle stored at such wrecker service's secured
906 storage lot and shall permit the owner of the motor vehicle or a person
907 authorized by such owner to access such motor vehicle and remove any
908 personal property from within such motor vehicle during any hours that
909 such wrecker service is available to redeem a motor vehicle.

910 (c) If a wrecker service performs towing for compensation outside its
911 hours of operation, contracts to perform towing for compensation
912 outside its hours of operation or advertises to the public that it is
913 available to perform towing for compensation outside of its hours of
914 operation, the wrecker service shall permit, at any time, including times
915 outside its hours of operation, (1) the motor vehicle owner, a lending
916 institution or person authorized by the owner or lending institution to
917 redeem a stored motor vehicle, or (2) the motor vehicle owner or person
918 authorized by the owner to remove personal property from within the
919 stored motor vehicle. The wrecker service shall release the motor vehicle
920 to such owner, lending institution or authorized person, or permit
921 access to personal property within the motor vehicle, within a
922 reasonable time after the request for release or request for access is
923 made. For the purposes of this section, a person is deemed to have made
924 a request for the release of a stored motor vehicle, or access to personal
925 property within a stored motor vehicle, by appearing in person at the
926 wrecker service's place of business or by placing a telephone call to the
927 wrecker service at its advertised telephone number.

928 (d) No wrecker service shall charge for vehicle storage on a day when
929 such wrecker service does not make the vehicle available for
930 redemption. The wrecker service may charge a separate fee established
931 by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles pursuant to the provisions of
932 subsection (b) of section 14-66, as amended by this act, if the wrecker
933 service releases a motor vehicle outside its hours of operation or on a
934 day when such wrecker service is not available to perform towing for

935 compensation outside its hours of operation.

936 (e) The wrecker service shall release a motor vehicle to its owner, a
937 lending institution or a person authorized by the owner or lending
938 institution to regain possession, upon demand, provided the owner,
939 lending institution or authorized person (1) presents proof of
940 registration, the certificate of title, the bill of sale, the lease for the motor
941 vehicle or other reasonable proof of ownership, and (2) pays the costs of
942 towing or removal and of storage. The wrecker service shall release the
943 motor vehicle even if the address on the proof of registration, certificate
944 of title, bill of sale, lease for the motor vehicle or other reasonable proof
945 of ownership is different from the current address of the owner or
946 authorized person redeeming the motor vehicle.

947 (f) The wrecker service shall accept such payment by cash or credit
948 card and maintain sufficient cash at the office of such wrecker service to
949 provide change to the owner or authorized person at the time of
950 payment. Such wrecker service may charge the owner or authorized
951 person a service fee for any such payment made by a credit card,
952 provided such service fee shall not exceed any charge by the credit card
953 issuer, including any discount rate.

954 (g) Any vehicle owner, lending institution or authorized person shall
955 have the right to inspect the vehicle before accepting its return. No
956 general release of any kind that would release the wrecker service from
957 liability for damages or from liability for any claim that the vehicle was
958 towed without justification may be required from any vehicle owner,
959 lending institution or authorized person, as a condition of release of the
960 vehicle. A receipt showing the name of the wrecker service and an
961 itemization of the charges shall be provided to the person paying the
962 towing or removal and storage costs at the time of payment.

963 (h) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
964 provisions of chapter 54, requiring all wreckers to display either the
965 name and address or name and telephone number of the licensed
966 registrant of such wrecker.

967 (i) A violation of the provisions of this section shall be deemed to be
968 an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-
969 110b.

970 Sec. 10. Section 14-150 of the general statutes is repealed and the
971 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

972 (a) Any person who abandons any motor vehicle within the limits of
973 any highway or upon property other than such person's own without
974 the consent of the owner thereof for a period longer than twenty-four
975 hours shall have committed an infraction and shall be fined not less than
976 eighty-five dollars. The last owner of record of a motor vehicle found
977 abandoned, as shown by the files of the Department of Motor Vehicles,
978 shall be deemed prima facie to have been the owner of such motor
979 vehicle at the time it was abandoned and the person who abandoned
980 the same or caused or procured its abandonment.

981 (b) Any inspector of the Department of Motor Vehicles, any officer
982 attached to an organized police department, any enforcement officer of
983 a parking authority authorized under an ordinance adopted pursuant
984 to section 7-204a to enforce parking regulations in the municipality in
985 which it is located or any state police officer upon discovery of any
986 motor vehicle, whether situated within or without any highway of this
987 state, which such inspector or officer determines is a menace to traffic or
988 public health or safety, shall take such motor vehicle into such
989 inspector's or officer's custody and cause the same to be taken to and
990 stored in a suitable place.

991 (c) Any inspector of the Department of Motor Vehicles, any officer
992 attached to an organized police department, any enforcement officer of
993 a parking authority authorized under an ordinance adopted pursuant
994 to section 7-204a to enforce parking regulations in the municipality in
995 which it is located or any state police officer, upon discovery of any
996 motor vehicle which such inspector or officer determines to be
997 apparently abandoned or a motor vehicle without proper registration,
998 whether situated within or without any highway of this state, shall affix
999 to such motor vehicle a notification sticker in a manner so as to be

1000 readily visible. This notification sticker shall contain the following
1001 information: (1) The date and time the notification sticker was affixed to
1002 the motor vehicle; (2) a statement that pursuant to this section, if the
1003 motor vehicle is not removed within twenty-four hours of the time the
1004 sticker was affixed, it shall be taken into custody and stored at the
1005 owner's expense; (3) the location and telephone number where
1006 additional information may be obtained; and (4) the identity of the
1007 affixing officer. If the motor vehicle is not removed within such twenty-
1008 four-hour period, the affixing department or parking authority shall
1009 take such motor vehicle into its custody and cause the same to be stored
1010 in a suitable place, except that such department or parking authority
1011 shall make a reasonable attempt to notify the owner of any such motor
1012 vehicle which is determined to be stolen prior to taking such vehicle into
1013 its custody and shall allow such owner to make arrangements for
1014 removal of such vehicle.

1015 (d) If the motor vehicle has no registration marker plates or invalid
1016 registration marker plates, and if such inspector or officer makes a
1017 determination in good faith that (1) the motor vehicle is apparently
1018 abandoned, (2) the retail market value of such motor vehicle in its
1019 current condition, as stated in the most recent edition of the National
1020 Automobile Dealers Association Used Car Guide, Eastern Edition, is
1021 five hundred dollars or less, and (3) the motor vehicle is so vandalized,
1022 damaged, or in disrepair as to be unusable as a motor vehicle, title to
1023 such motor vehicle shall, upon taking custody of such motor vehicle,
1024 immediately vest in the municipality in which the motor vehicle was
1025 discovered. Within forty-eight hours of the time that such motor vehicle
1026 is taken into custody, the affixing department or parking authority shall
1027 notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in writing, of the vehicle
1028 identification number and a description of the motor vehicle and
1029 thereafter shall immediately sell or transfer such motor vehicle to a
1030 recycler licensed in accordance with section 14-67l. Upon sale or other
1031 disposition of the motor vehicle, the affixing department or parking
1032 authority shall give written notice by certified mail, return receipt
1033 requested, to the person who was the owner of such motor vehicle at the
1034 time of abandonment, if known, which notice shall state that the motor

1035 vehicle has been sold or otherwise disposed of. The proceeds of the sale
1036 or disposition, or the fair market value of the motor vehicle in its current
1037 condition, whichever is greater, less the towing and sale or disposal
1038 expenses and the amount of any fines due, shall be paid to such person
1039 or such person's representatives, if claimed by such person or such
1040 person's representatives within one year from the date of sale. If such
1041 balance is not claimed within such period, it shall escheat to the
1042 municipality. If the expenses incurred by the municipality for towing
1043 and the sale or disposition of such motor vehicle and any such fines
1044 exceed the proceeds of such sale or disposition, such person shall be
1045 liable to such municipality for such excess amount.

1046 (e) Within forty-eight hours of the time that a motor vehicle is taken
1047 into custody and stored pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) of this section,
1048 the affixing department or parking authority shall give written notice
1049 by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and any
1050 lienholders of such motor vehicle, if such motor vehicle appears on the
1051 records of the Department of Motor Vehicles. The notice shall state: (1)
1052 That the motor vehicle has been taken into custody and stored, (2) the
1053 location of storage of the motor vehicle, (3) that, unless title has already
1054 vested in the municipality pursuant to subsection (d) of this section,
1055 such motor vehicle may be sold [after (A) fifteen days if the market value
1056 of such motor vehicle does not exceed one thousand five hundred
1057 dollars, or (B) forty-five days if the value of such motor vehicle exceeds
1058 one thousand five hundred dollars] pursuant to section 11 of this act,
1059 and (4) that the owner has a right to contest the validity of such taking
1060 by application, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor
1061 Vehicles, to the hearing officer named in such notice within ten days
1062 from the date of such notice. Such application forms shall be made
1063 readily available to the public at all offices and on the Internet web site
1064 of the Department of Motor Vehicles, parking authorities authorized
1065 under an ordinance adopted pursuant to section 7-204a to enforce
1066 parking regulations and state and local police departments.

1067 (f) (1) The chief executive officer of each town shall appoint a suitable
1068 person, who shall not be a member of any state or local police

1069 department, to be a hearing officer to hear applications to determine
1070 whether or not the towing within such municipality of such motor
1071 vehicle was authorized under the provisions of this section. Two or
1072 more towns may join in appointing such hearing officer; provided any
1073 such hearing shall be held at a location which is as near to the town
1074 within which such motor vehicle was towed as is reasonable and
1075 practicable. The commissioner shall [establish by regulation] adopt
1076 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish
1077 the qualifications necessary for hearing officers and procedures for the
1078 holding of such hearings. If it is determined at such hearing that the
1079 vehicle was not a menace to traffic, abandoned or unregistered, as the
1080 case may be, the owner of such motor vehicle shall not be liable for any
1081 expenses incurred as a result of the taking and storage of such motor
1082 vehicle, the lien provisions of this section shall not apply to such owner,
1083 and the department which took and stored such motor vehicle shall be
1084 liable for such expenses. If the owner, prior to such determination, pays
1085 such expenses and the storage charges of such motor vehicle, and it is
1086 determined at such hearing that the motor vehicle was not a menace to
1087 traffic, abandoned or unregistered, as the case may be, the department
1088 or parking authority which took such motor vehicle shall be liable to
1089 such owner for the amount paid by such owner. Any person aggrieved
1090 by the decision of such hearing officer may, within fifteen days of the
1091 notice of such decision, appeal to the superior court for the judicial
1092 district wherein such hearing was held.

1093 (2) The chief executive officer of each municipality shall designate a
1094 suitable person who shall be responsible for the collection of data
1095 concerning abandoned motor vehicles within such municipality and the
1096 preparation and submission of periodic reports to the Commissioner of
1097 Motor Vehicles which shall contain such information as the
1098 commissioner may require.

1099 [(g) The owner or keeper of any garage or other place where such
1100 motor vehicle is stored shall have a lien upon such motor vehicle for
1101 such owner's or keeper's towing or storage charges, or both, that result
1102 from towing or storage under this section.

1103 (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, if the current
1104 market value of such motor vehicle as determined in good faith by such
1105 owner or keeper does not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars and
1106 such motor vehicle has been stored for a period of not less than fifteen
1107 days, such owner or keeper shall, unless an application filed by the
1108 owner pursuant to subsection (e) of this section is pending and the
1109 owner of such motor vehicle has notified such owner or keeper that such
1110 application for hearing has been filed, send a notice of intent to sell that
1111 complies with subsection (h) of this section to the commissioner, the
1112 owner of such motor vehicle and any known lienholder of record of
1113 such motor vehicle within such period. Upon approval by the
1114 commissioner of the notice of intent to sell, the commissioner shall issue
1115 such owner or keeper an affidavit of compliance. Such owner or keeper
1116 shall sell such motor vehicle not less than five business days after the
1117 mailing date of the notice of intent to sell, and apply the proceeds of the
1118 sale toward such owner's or keeper's towing and storage charges.

1119 (2) If the current market value of such motor vehicle as determined
1120 in good faith by such owner or keeper exceeds one thousand five
1121 hundred dollars and if such motor vehicle has been stored for a period
1122 of not less than forty-five days, such owner or keeper shall, unless an
1123 application filed by the owner pursuant to subsection (e) of this section
1124 is pending and the owner of such motor vehicle has notified such owner
1125 or keeper that such application for hearing has been filed, send a notice
1126 of intent to sell that complies with subsection (h) of this section to the
1127 commissioner, the owner of such motor vehicle and any known
1128 lienholder of record of such motor vehicle within such period. Upon
1129 approval by the commissioner of the notice of intent to sell, the
1130 commissioner shall issue such owner or keeper an affidavit of
1131 compliance. Such owner or keeper shall sell such motor vehicle at public
1132 auction for cash, at such owner's or keeper's place of business not less
1133 than five business days after the mailing date of the notice of intent to
1134 sell. Such owner or keeper shall apply the proceeds of such sale toward
1135 the payment of such owner's or keeper's towing and storage charges and
1136 the payment of any debt or obligation incurred by the officer who placed
1137 such motor vehicle in storage. At any public auction held pursuant to

1138 this subsection, such owner or keeper may set a minimum bid equal to
1139 the amount of such owner's or keeper's charges and obligations with
1140 respect to the tow and storage of the motor vehicle. If no such bid is
1141 made, such owner or keeper may sell or dispose of such vehicle.

1142 (h) The notice of intent to sell described in subsection (g) of this
1143 section shall include the make, model and vehicle identification number
1144 of such motor vehicle, the date such motor vehicle was left with the
1145 owner or keeper of the garage for storage and by whom and the
1146 registration number thereof if any number plates are on such motor
1147 vehicle, and shall be placed on file by the commissioner and subject to
1148 public inspection. The notice of intent to sell shall be accompanied by a
1149 statement to the owner and known lienholder of such motor vehicle
1150 indicating the date, time and place of the sale of such motor vehicle, and
1151 the manner of the sale, as specified in subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection
1152 (g) of this section. Such owner or keeper shall give such notice and
1153 accompanying statement to such motor vehicle owner and lienholder
1154 by certified mail, return receipt requested. Such statement shall indicate
1155 that any proceeds in excess of such owner's or keeper's charges and
1156 obligations may be claimed by the owner of such motor vehicle within
1157 one year from the date of such sale. The fee for filing such notice of intent
1158 and accompanying statement shall be ten dollars. Any sale under the
1159 provisions of this section shall be void, unless such owner or keeper
1160 provides the notice required by this section.

1161 (i) At the time of a sale conducted under subsection (g) of this section,
1162 such owner or keeper shall provide the purchaser of such motor vehicle
1163 with the affidavit of compliance issued by the commissioner. Except for
1164 a thirty-day period immediately following the date such motor vehicle
1165 was placed in storage under subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of this
1166 section, or a sixty-day period immediately following the date such
1167 motor vehicle was placed in storage under subdivision (2) of subsection
1168 (g) of this section, the commissioner may limit the number of days that
1169 such owner or keeper may charge for storage of the motor vehicle prior
1170 to the time such motor vehicle was sold unless such owner or keeper
1171 provides evidence to the commissioner that the storage charges accrued

1172 as a result of such owner or keeper's reliance upon statements or
1173 representations made by the owner or lienholder of the motor vehicle or
1174 as a result of such owner's or keeper's good faith effort to negotiate the
1175 return of such motor vehicle to such owner or lienholder.

1176 (j) The owner or keeper of such garage shall report the sales price,
1177 storing, towing and repair charges, if any; buyer's name and address;
1178 identification of the vehicle and such other information as may be
1179 required in regulations adopted pursuant to this section, to the
1180 commissioner within fifteen days after the sale of the motor vehicle. The
1181 proceeds of such sale, after deducting the amount due such owner or
1182 keeper and all expenses connected with such sale, including the
1183 expenses of the officer who placed such motor vehicle in storage, shall
1184 be paid to the owner of such motor vehicle or such owner's legal
1185 representatives, if claimed by such owner or such owner's legal
1186 representatives at any time within one year from the date of such sale.
1187 If such balance is not claimed within said period, it shall escheat to the
1188 state.

1189 (k) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in
1190 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes
1191 of this section. The regulations shall (1) specify the circumstances under
1192 which title to any motor vehicle abandoned within the limits of any
1193 highway may be transferred to any person, firm or corporation towing
1194 such vehicle, (2) establish the procedure whereby such person, firm or
1195 corporation may obtain title to such motor vehicle, and (3) specify the
1196 circumstances under which the owner of a campground may dispose of
1197 a motor home or recreational vehicle abandoned on such owner's
1198 property and establishing procedures governing such disposal.]

1199 Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Whenever a motor vehicle
1200 is taken into custody and stored pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) of
1201 section 14-150 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or is
1202 subject to nonconsensual towing or transporting, as defined in section
1203 14-66 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the wrecker service,
1204 bailee for hire or owner or keeper of any garage, storage facility or other

1205 place where such motor vehicle is stored shall have a lien upon such
1206 motor vehicle for towing or storage charges, or both, imposed by such
1207 wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper that result from
1208 towing or storing a motor vehicle.

1209 (b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of section 14-150 of the
1210 general statutes, as amended by this act, if such wrecker service, bailee
1211 for hire or owner or keeper makes a determination in good faith that the
1212 retail market value of the stored motor vehicle does not exceed one
1213 thousand five hundred dollars, as stated in the most recent edition of
1214 the National Automobile Dealers Association Used Car Guide, Eastern
1215 Edition, and such stored motor vehicle has been stored for a period of
1216 not less than fifteen days, such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner
1217 or keeper shall, unless an application filed by the owner of such motor
1218 vehicle pursuant to subsection (f) of section 14-150 of the general
1219 statutes, as amended by this act, is pending, send a notice of intent to
1220 sell that complies with subsection (c) of this section to the owner of such
1221 motor vehicle and any known lienholder of record of such motor vehicle
1222 at the end of such fifteen-day period.

1223 (2) If the retail market value of such motor vehicle as determined in
1224 good faith by such owner or keeper exceeds one thousand five hundred
1225 dollars and if such motor vehicle has been stored for a period of not less
1226 than forty-five days, such owner or keeper shall, unless an application
1227 filed by the owner pursuant to subsection (f) of section 14-150 of the
1228 general statutes, as amended by this act, is pending and the owner of
1229 such motor vehicle has notified such wrecker service, bailee for hire or
1230 owner or keeper that such application for a hearing has been filed, send
1231 a notice of intent to sell that complies with subsection (c) of this section
1232 to the owner of such motor vehicle and any known lienholder of record
1233 of such motor vehicle at the end of such forty-five-day period.

1234 (3) When determining the retail market value of the stored motor
1235 vehicle, such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper shall
1236 presume a stored motor vehicle to be in good working order, unless
1237 such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper submits

1238 evidence to the commissioner demonstrating that such motor vehicle is
1239 not in good working order. Lack of access to a key to such stored motor
1240 vehicle shall not be considered evidence that a motor vehicle is not in
1241 good working order.

1242 (c) (1) The notice of intent to sell described in subsection (b) of this
1243 section shall include, but need not be limited to, (A) the make, model
1244 and vehicle identification number of the stored motor vehicle, (B) the
1245 date such motor vehicle was left with such wrecker service, bailee for
1246 hire or owner or keeper and by whom, (C) the registration number if
1247 any number plates are on such motor vehicle, (D) the retail market value
1248 of such motor vehicle as determined by the wrecker service, bailee for
1249 hire or owner or keeper, and (E) a statement to the owner and known
1250 lienholder that (i) the stored motor vehicle will be sold at a public
1251 auction if not redeemed in a timely manner, (ii) such motor vehicle may
1252 be redeemed until the point-of-sale at the public auction, and (iii) any
1253 proceeds of such sale, after deducting the amount due to such wrecker
1254 service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper and all expenses connected
1255 with such sale, will be mailed after such sale. Such wrecker service,
1256 bailee for hire or owner or keeper shall provide such notice and a copy
1257 of the consumer bill of rights regarding towing, developed pursuant to
1258 section 5 of this act, to the motor vehicle owner and lienholder by
1259 certified mail, return receipt requested.

1260 (2) Such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper shall also
1261 provide a copy of the notice of intent to sell to the Commissioner of
1262 Motor Vehicles, in a form and manner determined by the commissioner.
1263 Such notice shall be accompanied by a filing fee of ten dollars and any
1264 other information, such as photographs of the stored motor vehicle, that
1265 the commissioner may prescribe. Such notice of intent shall be subject
1266 to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in
1267 section 1-200 of the general statutes. The commissioner may send a copy
1268 of such notice electronically to the owner or lienholder of such motor
1269 vehicle.

1270 (3) Any sale of a stored motor vehicle under the provisions of this

1271 section shall be void, unless such wrecker service, bailee for hire or
1272 owner or keeper provides the notices required by this subsection.

1273 (d) Upon receipt of a notice of intent to sell, the commissioner shall
1274 review such notice and determine if the owner of the motor vehicle has
1275 filed a customer complaint concerning such wrecker service, bailee for
1276 hire or owner or keeper pursuant to section 14-63 of the general statutes,
1277 as amended by this act. The commissioner shall not approve such
1278 proposed sale until any such customer complaint is resolved. If the
1279 commissioner approves such proposed sale, the commissioner shall
1280 issue such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper an
1281 affidavit of compliance.

1282 (e) Upon receipt of an affidavit of compliance by the commissioner,
1283 such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper shall (1) mail a
1284 notice of proposed sale to the motor vehicle owner and known
1285 lienholder by certified mail, return receipt requested, that indicates the
1286 date, time and place of the proposed sale of such motor vehicle, and (2)
1287 advertise the sale of such motor vehicle in a commercially reasonable
1288 manner. For the purposes of this subdivision, an advertisement is
1289 deemed commercially reasonable if at least three bids are received at the
1290 public auction or the successful bid at the public auction is equal to the
1291 retail market value of such motor vehicle as stated in the most recent
1292 edition of the National Automobile Dealers Association Used Car
1293 Guide, Eastern Edition.

1294 (f) Not less than five business days after the mailing date of the notice
1295 of proposed sale, such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or
1296 keeper may sell such motor vehicle at public auction for cash at the place
1297 of business of such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper.
1298 Such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper shall apply the
1299 proceeds of such sale toward the payment of such wrecker service,
1300 bailee for hire or owner or keeper's towing and storage charges. At any
1301 public auction held pursuant to this subsection, such wrecker service,
1302 bailee for hire or owner or keeper may set a minimum bid equal to the
1303 amount of such towing and storage charges.

1304 (g) At the time of a sale conducted under subsection (f) of this section,
1305 such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper shall provide
1306 the purchaser of such motor vehicle with the affidavit of compliance
1307 issued by the commissioner. Except for a thirty-day period immediately
1308 following the date such motor vehicle was placed in storage under
1309 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, or a sixty-day period
1310 immediately following the date such motor vehicle was placed in
1311 storage under subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, the
1312 commissioner may limit the number of days that such wrecker service,
1313 bailee for hire or owner or keeper may charge for storage of the motor
1314 vehicle prior to the time such motor vehicle was sold unless such
1315 wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper provides evidence to
1316 the commissioner that the storage charges accrued as a result of such
1317 wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper's reliance upon
1318 statements or representations made by the owner or lienholder of the
1319 motor vehicle or as a result of a good faith effort by such wrecker service,
1320 bailee for hire or owner or keeper to negotiate the return of such motor
1321 vehicle to such owner or lienholder.

1322 (h) Not later than fifteen days after the sale of a motor vehicle
1323 pursuant to the provisions of this section, such wrecker service, bailee
1324 for hire or owner or keeper of such garage shall (1) report the sale price,
1325 storing, towing and repair charges, if any, the buyer's name and address,
1326 identification of the vehicle and such other information as may be
1327 required in regulations adopted pursuant to section 12 of this act, to the
1328 commissioner, and (2) send by certified mail, return receipt requested,
1329 the proceeds of such sale, after deducting the amount due to such
1330 wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper and all expenses
1331 connected with such sale, to the owner of such motor vehicle, unless the
1332 owner or such owner's legal representative has retrieved the proceeds
1333 in person or the known lienholder has provided evidence of an
1334 entitlement to part or all of such sale proceeds. If such wrecker service,
1335 bailee for hire or owner or keeper received a notification from the post
1336 office that any prior notices to the owner of the motor vehicle were
1337 unable to be delivered, such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or
1338 keeper shall confirm the owner's address with the commissioner prior

1339 to mailing such sale proceeds. Such wrecker service, bailee for hire or
1340 owner or keeper shall provide notice to the commissioner, in a form and
1341 manner determined by the commissioner, that such sale proceeds have
1342 been mailed. If such sale proceeds are not claimed within one year from
1343 the date of such sale, such sale proceeds shall escheat to the state as
1344 unclaimed property and the wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or
1345 keeper shall be subject to the requirements of part III of chapter 32 of the
1346 general statutes, including all obligations of a holder of unclaimed
1347 property. Not later than ten days after filing any report and paying any
1348 funds to the Treasurer as required by part III of chapter 32 of the general
1349 statutes, such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or keeper shall
1350 provide evidence to the commissioner, in a form and manner
1351 determined by the commissioner, that such report was submitted and
1352 funds have escheated.

1353 (i) In no event shall such wrecker service, bailee for hire or owner or
1354 keeper sell a motor vehicle that has not been (1) stored for at least thirty
1355 days if the retail market value of such motor vehicle does not exceed one
1356 thousand five hundred dollars, as stated in the most recent edition of
1357 the National Automobile Dealers Association Used Car Guide, Eastern
1358 Edition, or (2) stored for at least sixty days if the retail market value of
1359 such motor vehicle exceeds one thousand five hundred dollars, as stated
1360 in such used car guide. A violation of the provisions of this subdivision
1361 shall be a class B misdemeanor.

1362 (j) Except as provided in subsection (i) of this section, a violation of
1363 the provisions of this section shall be deemed to be an unfair or
1364 deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b of the
1365 general statutes.

1366 Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) The Commissioner of Motor
1367 Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of
1368 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the purposes of section
1369 14-150 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and section 11 of
1370 this act. The regulations shall (1) specify the circumstances under which
1371 title to any motor vehicle abandoned within the limits of any highway

1372 may be transferred to the wrecker service, (2) establish the procedure
1373 whereby such wrecker service may obtain title to such motor vehicle,
1374 and (3) specify the circumstances under which the owner of a
1375 campground may dispose of a motor home or recreational vehicle
1376 abandoned on such owner's property and establishing procedures
1377 governing such disposal.

1378 Sec. 13. Section 29-23a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1379 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1380 (a) The Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency
1381 Services and Public Protection [may] shall establish, within its patrol
1382 jurisdiction, a rotational system for summoning [licensed wrecker
1383 operators] wrecker services for the purpose of towing or transporting
1384 motor vehicles which are disabled, inoperative or wrecked in the event
1385 the owners or operators of such vehicles are incapacitated, unavailable
1386 or leave the procurement of wrecker service to the officer at the scene of
1387 an accident or the location of a disabled vehicle. Any such [licensee]
1388 wrecker service may participate in such system, provided (1) [his
1389 operators fulfill] such wrecker service fulfills certain qualifications,
1390 including certification by the Towing and Recovery Association of
1391 America or a certification program approved by the Commissioner of
1392 Emergency Services and Public Protection, and [his] the wrecker
1393 service's equipment meets safety and mechanical standards established
1394 by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and
1395 the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, and (2) [his] the wrecker service's
1396 business is located so as to provide prompt and efficient service.

1397 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
1398 shall grant variations or exemptions from, or approve equivalent or
1399 alternate compliance with, the provisions of this section where strict
1400 compliance with such provisions would entail practical difficulty or
1401 unnecessary hardship or is otherwise adjudged unwarranted, provided
1402 any such variation, exemption, approved equivalent or alternate
1403 compliance shall, in the opinion of said commissioner, secure the public
1404 safety.

1405 (c) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
1406 shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54
1407 concerning the operation of such rotational system and the removal
1408 from the system of wrecker services which fail to comply with the
1409 requirements specified in such regulations or any provision of the
1410 general statutes or a regulation concerning the operation of a motor
1411 vehicle repair, towing or storage facility or the operation of a motor
1412 vehicle.

1413 Sec. 14. Subsection (b) of section 14-66c of the general statutes is
1414 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1415 *1, 2025*):

1416 (b) If any motorized personal property is towed or otherwise
1417 removed by a wrecker [licensed under section 14-66] service, at the
1418 direction of an officer attached to an organized police department or an
1419 owner of real property where such personal property has been
1420 abandoned, such property shall be taken to and stored in a suitable
1421 place. Within forty-eight hours following the time that such property is
1422 taken into custody, the [licensee or operator of the] wrecker service shall
1423 give written notice by certified mail to the owner, if known, (1) that such
1424 property has been taken and stored, and (2) of the location of such
1425 property. Such [licensee or operator] wrecker service shall have a lien
1426 upon the same for towing or removal charges and storage charges. If
1427 such owner does not claim such property, or if the owner of such
1428 property is not known, the [licensee or operator of the] wrecker service
1429 may sell or dispose of such property after thirty days, subject to any
1430 provision of the general statutes, or any regulation adopted thereunder,
1431 concerning the sale or disposal of such property.

1432 Sec. 15. Section 14-145c of the general statutes is repealed and the
1433 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1434 Whenever an owner or lessee of private property or a lending
1435 institution, or such owner's, lessee's or institution's agent, improperly
1436 causes a motor vehicle to be towed or removed from such property, [or
1437 rendered immovable on such property,] the owner or lessee of the

1438 property or the lending institution shall be liable to the owner of the
1439 vehicle for the costs of towing or removal and of storage of the vehicle
1440 [or for fees charged for removing a wheel-locking device,] and for
1441 reasonable attorney's fees and court costs, if applicable.

1442 Sec. 16. Section 14-145d of the general statutes is repealed and the
1443 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1444 (a) Any person, firm or corporation that engages in rendering motor
1445 vehicles immovable through the use of wheel-locking or similar devices
1446 and is hired by an [owner or lessee of private property] independent
1447 institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section
1448 10a-173, or a private secondary school to render unauthorized motor
1449 vehicles immovable on such [owner or lessee's] institution or school's
1450 private property shall, five business days prior to taking such action
1451 within a municipality, notify the chief of police of the local police
1452 department of such municipality of such activities. Such notification
1453 shall be in the form and manner directed by the chief of police.

1454 (b) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall, for a
1455 first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction and be fined
1456 fifty dollars and, for each subsequent offense, shall be fined not less than
1457 fifty dollars and not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned for
1458 not more than thirty days or be both fined and imprisoned.

1459 Sec. 17. Section 14-66b of the general statutes is repealed and the
1460 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1461 (a) Each owner of a wrecker registered pursuant to subsection [(c)]
1462 (d) of section 14-66, as amended by this act, shall keep and maintain a
1463 record stating the following information: (1) The registration number of
1464 each motor vehicle towed or transported and the registration number of
1465 each wrecker used to tow or transport such motor vehicle; (2) the date
1466 and time the tow commenced and was completed; (3) the location from
1467 which the disabled motor vehicle was towed and the destination of such
1468 tow; (4) the mileage of the wrecker at the commencement and
1469 completion of the tow; (5) the charge for tow service and any other

1470 charges incurred for services related to such tow; (6) the name and
1471 address of the person requesting tow service; (7) the written or
1472 electronically transmitted authorization to tow the motor vehicle as
1473 described in subsection (c) of section 14-145a, as amended by this act; (8)
1474 photographs of the motor vehicle taken pursuant to subsection (d) of
1475 section 14-145a, as amended by this act; and [(7)] (9) any other
1476 information the commissioner deems necessary, and specified in
1477 regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.
1478 Such records shall be retained at the place of business of the wrecker
1479 service for a period of [two] three years and shall be available for
1480 inspection during regular business hours by any law enforcement
1481 officer or inspector designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

1482 (b) Each owner of a wrecker shall also keep and maintain copies of
1483 any written contracts with owners or lessees of property authorizing the
1484 towing or removal of motor vehicles from the property of such owner
1485 or lessee, or with lending institutions repossessing any motor vehicles,
1486 as provided in section 14-145, as amended by this act, and such contracts
1487 shall be available for inspection by motor vehicle owners, agents of the
1488 owners, or lending institutions, upon request.

1489 (c) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may permit any licensed
1490 motor vehicle dealer or repairer who operates a wrecker service to
1491 maintain, in an electronic format prescribed by the commissioner, all
1492 records, photographs, documents and forms required by the
1493 Department of Motor Vehicles. Such records, photographs, documents
1494 and forms shall be produced in written format, upon request by the
1495 department, during the licensee's business hours on the same day of
1496 such request.

1497 (d) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be
1498 deemed to have committed an infraction.

1499 Sec. 18. Section 14-51a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1500 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1501 The commissioner may, after notice and hearing, impose a civil

1502 penalty of not more than [one] five thousand dollars on any person, firm
1503 or corporation who violates any provision of sections 14-54 to 14-67a,
1504 inclusive, or of not more than two thousand dollars on any person, firm
1505 or corporation who violates section 14-52.

1506 Sec. 19. Section 14-64 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1507 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1508 The commissioner may suspend or revoke the license or licenses of
1509 any licensee or impose a civil penalty of not more than [one] five
1510 thousand dollars for each violation on any licensee or both, when, after
1511 notice and hearing, the commissioner finds that the licensee (1) has
1512 violated any provision of any statute or regulation of any state or any
1513 federal statute or regulation pertaining to its business as a licensee or
1514 has failed to comply with the terms of a final decision and order of any
1515 state department or federal agency concerning any such provision; [or]
1516 (2) has failed to maintain such records of transactions concerning the
1517 purchase, sale or repair of motor vehicles or major component parts, as
1518 required by such regulations as shall be adopted by the commissioner,
1519 for a period of two years after such purchase, sale or repairs, provided
1520 the records shall include the vehicle identification number and the name
1521 and address of the person from whom each vehicle or part was
1522 purchased and to whom each vehicle or part was sold, if a sale occurred;
1523 [or] (3) has failed to allow inspection of such records by the
1524 commissioner or the commissioner's representative during normal
1525 business hours, provided written notice stating the purpose of the
1526 inspection is furnished to the licensee, or has failed to allow inspection
1527 of such records by any representative of the Division of State Police
1528 within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or
1529 any organized local police department, which inspection may include
1530 examination of the premises to determine the accuracy of such records;
1531 [or] (4) has made a false statement as to the condition, prior ownership
1532 or prior use of any motor vehicle sold, exchanged, transferred, offered
1533 for sale or repaired if the licensee knew or should have known that such
1534 statement was false; [or] (5) is not qualified to conduct the licensed
1535 business, applying the standards of section 14-51 and the applicable

1536 regulations; [or] (6) has violated any provision of sections 42-221 to 42-
1537 226, inclusive; [or] (7) has failed to fully execute or provide the buyer
1538 with (A) an order as described in section 14-62, (B) the properly assigned
1539 certificate of title, or (C) a temporary transfer or new issue of
1540 registration; [or] (8) has failed to deliver a motor vehicle free and clear
1541 of all liens, unless written notification is given to the buyer stating such
1542 motor vehicle shall be purchased subject to a lien; [or] (9) has violated
1543 any provision of sections 14-65f to 14-65j, inclusive, and section 14-65l;
1544 [or] (10) has used registration number plates issued by the
1545 commissioner, in violation of the provisions and standards set forth in
1546 sections 14-59 and 14-60 and the applicable regulations; [or] (11) has
1547 failed to secure or to account for or surrender to the commissioner on
1548 demand official registration plates or any other official materials in its
1549 custody; or (12) has been convicted, or if the licensee is a firm or
1550 corporation, an officer or major stockholder has been convicted, of a
1551 violation of any provision of laws pertaining to the business of a motor
1552 vehicle dealer or repairer including a motor vehicle recycler, or of any
1553 violation involving fraud, larceny or deprivation or misappropriation of
1554 property, in the courts of the United States or of any state, or has failed
1555 to make full disclosure of any such conviction. In addition to, or in lieu
1556 of, the imposition of any other penalties authorized by this section, the
1557 commissioner may order any such licensee to make restitution to any
1558 aggrieved customer.

1559 Sec. 20. Section 14-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1560 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1561 Terms used in this chapter shall be construed as follows, unless
1562 another construction is clearly apparent from the language or context in
1563 which the term is used or unless the construction is inconsistent with
1564 the manifest intention of the General Assembly:

1565 (1) "Activity vehicle" means a student transportation vehicle that is
1566 used to transport students in connection with school-sponsored events
1567 and activities, but is not used to transport students to and from school;

1568 (2) "Agricultural tractor" means a tractor or other form of

1569 nonmuscular motive power used for transporting, hauling, plowing,
1570 cultivating, planting, harvesting, reaping or other agricultural purposes
1571 on any farm or other private property, or used for the purpose of
1572 transporting, from one farm to another, agricultural implements and
1573 farm products, provided the agricultural tractor is not used on any
1574 highway for transporting a pay load or for some other commercial
1575 purpose;

1576 (3) "Antique, rare or special interest motor vehicle" means a motor
1577 vehicle twenty years old or older which is being preserved because of
1578 historic interest and which is not altered or modified from the original
1579 manufacturer's specifications;

1580 (4) "Apparent candle power" means an illumination equal to the
1581 normal illumination in foot candles produced by any lamp or lamps,
1582 divided by the square of the distance in feet between the lamp or lamps
1583 and the point at which the measurement is made;

1584 (5) "Authorized emergency vehicle" means (A) a fire department
1585 vehicle, (B) a police vehicle, or (C) an authorized emergency medical
1586 services vehicle, as defined in section 19a-175;

1587 (6) "Autocycle" means a motor vehicle that meets the requirements of
1588 a motorcycle under 49 CFR Part 571, and (A) does not have more than
1589 three wheels in contact with the ground, (B) is designed to be controlled
1590 with a steering mechanism and foot pedals for acceleration, braking or
1591 shifting, (C) has a seat or seats that are fully or partially enclosed and in
1592 which the occupants sit with their legs forward, and (D) is equipped
1593 with safety belts, in accordance with section 14-100a, for all occupants;

1594 (7) "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on
1595 a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the general illumination
1596 in front of a motor vehicle provided by the motor vehicle's head lamps;

1597 (8) "Bulb" means a light source consisting of a glass bulb containing a
1598 filament or substance capable of being electrically maintained at
1599 incandescence;

1600 (9) "Camp trailer" includes any trailer designed for living or sleeping
1601 purposes and used exclusively for camping or recreational purposes;

1602 (10) "Camp trailer registration" means the type of registration issued
1603 to any trailer that is for nonbusiness use and is limited to camp trailers
1604 and utility trailers;

1605 (11) "Camp vehicle" means any motor vehicle that is regularly used
1606 to transport persons under eighteen years of age in connection with the
1607 activities of any youth camp, as defined in section 19a-420;

1608 (12) "Camper" means any motor vehicle designed or permanently
1609 altered in such a way as to provide temporary living quarters for travel,
1610 camping or recreational purposes;

1611 (13) "Class 1 electric bicycle" means an electric bicycle equipped with
1612 a motor that engages only when the rider operates the electric bicycle's
1613 foot pedals, and disengages when the rider stops pedaling or such
1614 electric bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per hour;

1615 (14) "Class 2 electric bicycle" means an electric bicycle equipped with
1616 a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the electric bicycle, and
1617 disengages when the brakes are applied or such electric bicycle reaches
1618 the speed of twenty miles per hour;

1619 (15) "Class 3 electric bicycle" means an electric bicycle equipped with
1620 a motor that engages only when the rider operates the electric bicycle's
1621 foot pedals, and disengages when the rider stops pedaling or such
1622 electric bicycle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles per hour;

1623 (16) "Combination registration" means the type of registration issued
1624 to a motor vehicle used for both private passenger and commercial
1625 purposes if such vehicle does not have a gross vehicle weight rating in
1626 excess of twelve thousand five hundred pounds;

1627 (17) "Commercial driver's license" or "CDL" means a license issued to
1628 an individual in accordance with the provisions of sections 14-44a to 14-
1629 44m, inclusive, which authorizes such individual to drive a commercial

1630 motor vehicle;

1631 (18) "Commercial driver's license information system" or "CDLIS"
1632 means the national database of holders of commercial driver's licenses
1633 established by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
1634 pursuant to Section 12007 of the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act
1635 of 1986;

1636 (19) "Commercial motor vehicle" means a vehicle designed or used to
1637 transport passengers or property, except a vehicle used for farming
1638 purposes in accordance with 49 CFR 383.3(d), fire fighting apparatus or
1639 an emergency vehicle, as defined in section 14-283, or a recreational
1640 vehicle in private use, which (A) has a gross vehicle weight rating of
1641 twenty-six thousand and one pounds or more, or a gross combination
1642 weight rating of twenty-six thousand and one pounds or more, inclusive
1643 of a towed unit or units with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than
1644 ten thousand pounds; (B) is designed to transport sixteen or more
1645 passengers, including the driver, or is designed to transport more than
1646 ten passengers, including the driver, and is used to transport students
1647 under the age of twenty-one years to and from school; or (C) is
1648 transporting hazardous materials and is required to be placarded in
1649 accordance with 49 CFR 172, Subpart F, as amended, or any quantity of
1650 a material listed as a select agent or toxin in 42 CFR Part 73;

1651 (20) "Commercial registration" means the type of registration
1652 required for any motor vehicle designed or used to transport
1653 merchandise, freight or persons in connection with any business
1654 enterprise, unless a more specific type of registration is authorized and
1655 issued by the commissioner for such class of vehicle;

1656 (21) "Commercial trailer" means a trailer used in the conduct of a
1657 business to transport freight, materials or equipment whether or not
1658 permanently affixed to the bed of the trailer;

1659 (22) "Commercial trailer registration" means the type of registration
1660 issued to any commercial trailer;

1661 (23) "Commissioner" includes the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
1662 and any assistant to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles who is
1663 designated and authorized by, and who is acting for, the Commissioner
1664 of Motor Vehicles under a designation; except that the deputy
1665 commissioners of motor vehicles and the Attorney General are deemed,
1666 unless the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles otherwise provides, to be
1667 designated and authorized by, and acting for, the Commissioner of
1668 Motor Vehicles under a designation;

1669 (24) "Controlled substance" has the same meaning as provided in
1670 section 21a-240 and the federal laws and regulations incorporated in
1671 chapter 420b;

1672 (25) "Conviction" means an unvacated adjudication of guilt, or a
1673 determination that a person has violated or failed to comply with the
1674 law in a court of original jurisdiction or an authorized administrative
1675 tribunal, an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure
1676 the person's appearance in court, the payment of a fine or court cost, or
1677 violation of a condition of release without bail, regardless of whether or
1678 not the penalty is rebated, suspended or probated;

1679 (26) "Dealer" includes any person actively engaged in buying, selling
1680 or exchanging motor vehicles or trailers who has an established place of
1681 business in this state and who may, incidental to such business, repair
1682 motor vehicles or trailers, or cause them to be repaired by persons in his
1683 or her employ;

1684 (27) "Disqualification" means a withdrawal of the privilege to drive a
1685 commercial motor vehicle, which occurs as a result of (A) any
1686 suspension, revocation, or cancellation by the commissioner of the
1687 privilege to operate a motor vehicle; (B) a determination by the Federal
1688 Highway Administration, under the rules of practice for motor carrier
1689 safety contained in 49 CFR 386, as amended from time to time, that a
1690 person is no longer qualified to operate a commercial motor vehicle
1691 under the standards set forth in 49 CFR 391, as amended from time to
1692 time; or (C) the loss of qualification which follows any of the convictions
1693 or administrative actions specified in section 14-44k;

1694 (28) "Drive" means to drive, operate or be in physical control of a
1695 motor vehicle, including a motor vehicle being towed by another;

1696 (29) "Driver" means any person who drives, operates or is in physical
1697 control of a commercial motor vehicle, or who is required to hold a
1698 commercial driver's license;

1699 (30) "Driver's license" or "operator's license" means a valid
1700 Connecticut motor vehicle operator's license or a license issued by
1701 another state or foreign jurisdiction authorizing the holder thereof to
1702 operate a motor vehicle on the highways;

1703 (31) "Electric bicycle" means a bicycle equipped with operable foot
1704 pedals and an electric motor of fewer than seven hundred fifty watts of
1705 power that is either a class 1, class 2 or class 3 bicycle. "Electric bicycle"
1706 does not include a dirt bike or an all-terrain vehicle;

1707 (32) "Electric foot scooter" means a device (A) that weighs not more
1708 than seventy-five pounds, (B) that has two or three wheels, handlebars
1709 and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, (C) that is
1710 powered by an electric motor and human power, and (D) whose
1711 maximum speed, with or without human propulsion on a paved level
1712 surface, is not more than twenty miles per hour;

1713 (33) "Employee" means any operator of a commercial motor vehicle,
1714 including full-time, regularly employed drivers, casual, intermittent or
1715 occasional drivers, drivers under contract and independent owner-
1716 operator contractors, who, while in the course of operating a commercial
1717 motor vehicle, are either directly employed by, or are under contract to,
1718 an employer;

1719 (34) "Employer" means any person, including the United States, a
1720 state or any political subdivision thereof, who owns or leases a
1721 commercial motor vehicle, or assigns a person to drive a commercial
1722 motor vehicle;

1723 (35) "Farm implement" means a vehicle designed and adapted
1724 exclusively for agricultural, horticultural or livestock-raising operations

1725 and which is not operated on a highway for transporting a pay load or
1726 for any other commercial purpose;

1727 (36) "Felony" means any offense, as defined in section 53a-25 and
1728 includes any offense designated as a felony under federal law;

1729 (37) "Fatality" means the death of a person as a result of a motor
1730 vehicle accident;

1731 (38) "Foreign jurisdiction" means any jurisdiction other than a state of
1732 the United States;

1733 (39) "Fuels" means (A) all products commonly or commercially
1734 known or sold as gasoline, including casinghead and absorption or
1735 natural gasoline, regardless of their classification or uses, (B) any liquid
1736 prepared, advertised, offered for sale or sold for use, or commonly and
1737 commercially used, as a fuel in internal combustion engines, which,
1738 when subjected to distillation in accordance with the standard method
1739 of test for distillation of gasoline, naphtha, kerosene and similar
1740 petroleum products by "American Society for Testing Materials Method
1741 D-86", shows not less than ten per cent distilled (recovered) below 347°
1742 Fahrenheit (175° Centigrade) and not less than ninety-five per cent
1743 distilled (recovered) below 464° Fahrenheit (240° Centigrade); provided
1744 the term "fuels" does not include commercial solvents or naphthas
1745 which distill, by "American Society for Testing Materials Method D-86",
1746 not more than nine per cent at 176° Fahrenheit and which have a
1747 distillation range of 150° Fahrenheit, or less, or liquefied gases which
1748 would not exist as liquids at a temperature of 60° Fahrenheit and a
1749 pressure of 14.7 pounds per square inch absolute, and (C) any liquid
1750 commonly referred to as "gasohol" which is prepared, advertised,
1751 offered for sale or sold for use, or commonly and commercially used, as
1752 a fuel in internal combustion engines, consisting of a blend of gasoline
1753 and a minimum of ten per cent by volume of ethyl or methyl alcohol;

1754 (40) "Garage" includes every place of business where motor vehicles
1755 are, for compensation, received for housing, storage or repair;

1756 (41) "Gross vehicle weight rating" or "GVWR" means the value
1757 specified by the manufacturer as the maximum loaded weight of a
1758 single or a combination (articulated) vehicle. The GVWR of a
1759 combination (articulated) vehicle commonly referred to as the "gross
1760 combination weight rating" or GCWR is the GVWR of the power unit
1761 plus the GVWR of the towed unit or units;

1762 (42) "Gross weight" means the light weight of a vehicle plus the
1763 weight of any load on the vehicle, provided, in the case of a tractor-
1764 trailer unit, "gross weight" means the light weight of the tractor plus the
1765 light weight of the trailer or semitrailer plus the weight of the load on
1766 the vehicle;

1767 (43) "Hazardous materials" has the same meaning as provided in 49
1768 CFR 383.5;

1769 (44) "Head lamp" means a lighting device affixed to the front of a
1770 motor vehicle projecting a high intensity beam which lights the road in
1771 front of the vehicle so that it can proceed safely during the hours of
1772 darkness;

1773 (45) "High-mileage vehicle" means a motor vehicle having the
1774 following characteristics: (A) Not less than three wheels in contact with
1775 the ground; (B) a completely enclosed seat on which the driver sits; (C)
1776 a single or two cylinder, gasoline or diesel engine or an electric-powered
1777 engine; and (D) efficient fuel consumption;

1778 (46) "Highway" includes any state or other public highway, road,
1779 street, avenue, alley, driveway, parkway, place or dedicated roadway
1780 for bus rapid transit service, under the control of the state or any
1781 political subdivision of the state, dedicated, appropriated or opened to
1782 public travel or other use;

1783 (47) "Imminent hazard" means the existence of a condition that
1784 presents a substantial likelihood that death, serious illness, severe
1785 personal injury or a substantial endangerment to health, property, or the
1786 environment may occur before the reasonably foreseeable completion

1787 date of a formal proceeding begun to lessen the risk of that death, illness,
1788 injury or endangerment;

1789 (48) "Intersecting highway" includes any public highway which joins
1790 another at an angle whether or not it crosses the other;

1791 (49) "Light weight" means the weight of an unloaded motor vehicle
1792 as ordinarily equipped and ready for use, exclusive of the weight of the
1793 operator of the motor vehicle;

1794 (50) "Limited access highway" means a state highway so designated
1795 under the provisions of section 13b-27;

1796 (51) "Local authorities" includes the board of aldermen, common
1797 council, chief of police, warden and burgesses, board of selectmen or
1798 other officials having authority for the enactment or enforcement of
1799 traffic regulations within their respective towns, cities or boroughs;

1800 (52) "Low-speed vehicle" has the same meaning as provided in 49
1801 CFR 571.3, as amended from time to time;

1802 (53) "Maintenance vehicle" means any vehicle in use by the state or
1803 by any town, city, borough or district, any state bridge or parkway
1804 authority or any public service company, as defined in section 16-1, in
1805 the maintenance of public highways or bridges and facilities located
1806 within the limits of public highways or bridges;

1807 (54) "Manufacturer" means (A) a person, whether a resident or
1808 nonresident, engaged in the business of constructing or assembling new
1809 motor vehicles of a type required to be registered by the commissioner,
1810 for operation upon any highway, except a utility trailer, which are
1811 offered for sale in this state, or (B) a person who distributes new motor
1812 vehicles to new car dealers licensed in this state;

1813 (55) "Median divider" means an intervening space or physical barrier
1814 or clearly indicated dividing section separating traffic lanes provided
1815 for vehicles proceeding in opposite directions;

1816 (56) "Modified antique motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle twenty
1817 years old or older which has been modified for safe road use, including,
1818 but not limited to, modifications to the drive train, suspension, braking
1819 system and safety or comfort apparatus;

1820 (57) "Motor bus" includes any motor vehicle, except a taxicab, as
1821 defined in section 13b-95, operated in whole or in part on any street or
1822 highway in a manner affording a means of transportation by
1823 indiscriminately receiving or discharging passengers, or running on a
1824 regular route or over any portion of a regular route or between fixed
1825 termini;

1826 (58) "Motor home" means a vehicular unit designed to provide living
1827 quarters and necessary amenities which are built into an integral part
1828 of, or permanently attached to, a truck or van chassis;

1829 (59) "Motor-driven cycle" means any of the following vehicles that
1830 have a seat height of not less than twenty-six inches and a motor having
1831 a capacity of less than fifty cubic centimeters piston displacement: (A) A
1832 motorcycle, other than an autocycle; (B) a motor scooter; or (C) a bicycle
1833 with attached motor, except an electric bicycle;

1834 (60) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by any
1835 nonmuscular power, including a low-speed vehicle. "Motor vehicle"
1836 does not include aircraft, motor boats, road rollers, baggage trucks used
1837 about railroad stations or other mass transit facilities, electric battery-
1838 operated wheel chairs when operated by persons with physical
1839 disabilities at speeds not exceeding fifteen miles per hour, golf carts
1840 operated on highways solely for the purpose of crossing from one part
1841 of the golf course to another, golf-cart-type vehicles operated on roads
1842 or highways on the grounds of state institutions by state employees,
1843 agricultural tractors, farm implements, such vehicles as run only on rails
1844 or tracks, self-propelled snow plows, snow blowers and lawn mowers,
1845 when used for the purposes for which they were designed and operated
1846 at speeds not exceeding four miles per hour, whether or not the operator
1847 rides on or walks behind such equipment, motor-driven cycles, as
1848 defined in section 14-286, special mobile equipment, as defined in

1849 section 14-165, mini-motorcycles, as defined in section 14-289j, electric
1850 bicycles, electric foot scooters and any other vehicle not suitable for
1851 operation on a highway;

1852 (61) "Motorcycle" means (A) an autocycle, as defined in this section,
1853 or (B) a motor vehicle, with or without a side car, that has (i) not more
1854 than three wheels in contact with the ground, (ii) a saddle or seat which
1855 the rider straddles or a platform on which the rider stands, and (iii)
1856 handlebars with which the rider controls the movement of the vehicle.
1857 "Motorcycle" does not include a motor-driven cycle, an electric bicycle
1858 or an electric foot scooter;

1859 (62) "National Driver Registry" or "NDR" means the licensing
1860 information system and database operated by the National Highway
1861 Traffic Safety Administration and established pursuant to the National
1862 Driver Registry Act of 1982, as amended;

1863 (63) "New motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle, the equitable or
1864 legal title to which has never been transferred by a manufacturer,
1865 distributor or dealer to an ultimate consumer;

1866 (64) "Nonresident" means any person whose legal residence is in a
1867 state other than Connecticut or in a foreign country;

1868 (65) "Nonresident commercial driver's license" or "nonresident CDL"
1869 means a commercial driver's license issued by a state to an individual
1870 who resides in a foreign jurisdiction;

1871 (66) "Nonskid device" means any device applied to the tires, wheels,
1872 axles or frame of a motor vehicle for the purpose of increasing the
1873 traction of the motor vehicle;

1874 (67) "Number plate" means any sign or marker furnished by the
1875 commissioner on which is displayed the registration number assigned
1876 to a motor vehicle by the commissioner;

1877 (68) "Officer" includes any constable, state marshal, inspector of
1878 motor vehicles, state policeman or other official authorized to make

1879 arrests or to serve process, provided the officer is in uniform or displays
1880 the officer's badge of office in a conspicuous place when making an
1881 arrest;

1882 (69) "Operator" means any person who operates a motor vehicle or
1883 who steers or directs the course of a motor vehicle being towed by
1884 another motor vehicle and includes a driver;

1885 (70) "Out-of-service order" means an order (A) issued by a person
1886 having inspection authority, as defined in regulations adopted by the
1887 commissioner pursuant to section 14-163c, or by an authorized official
1888 of the United States Department of Transportation Federal Motor
1889 Carrier Safety Administration pursuant to any provision of federal law,
1890 to prohibit any motor vehicle specified in subsection (a) of section 14-
1891 163c from being operated on any highway, or to prohibit a driver from
1892 operating any such motor vehicle, or (B) issued by the United States
1893 Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety
1894 Administration, pursuant to any provision of federal law, to prohibit
1895 any motor carrier, as defined in Section 386.2 of Title 49 of the Code of
1896 Federal Regulations, from engaging in commercial motor vehicle
1897 operations;

1898 (71) "Owner" means any person holding title to a motor vehicle, or
1899 having the legal right to register the same, including purchasers under
1900 conditional bills of sale;

1901 (72) "Parked vehicle" means a motor vehicle in a stationary position
1902 within the limits of a public highway;

1903 (73) "Passenger and commercial motor vehicle" means a motor
1904 vehicle used for private passenger and commercial purposes which is
1905 eligible for combination registration;

1906 (74) "Passenger motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle used for the
1907 private transportation of persons and their personal belongings,
1908 designed to carry occupants in comfort and safety, with a capacity of
1909 carrying not more than ten passengers including the operator thereof;

1910 (75) "Passenger registration" means the type of registration issued to
1911 a passenger motor vehicle unless a more specific type of registration is
1912 authorized and issued by the commissioner for such class of vehicle;

1913 (76) "Person" includes any individual, corporation, limited liability
1914 company, association, copartnership, company, firm, business trust or
1915 other aggregation of individuals but does not include the state or any
1916 political subdivision thereof, unless the context clearly states or
1917 requires;

1918 (77) "Pick-up truck" means a motor vehicle with an enclosed forward
1919 passenger compartment and an open rearward compartment used for
1920 the transportation of property;

1921 (78) "Pneumatic tires" means tires inflated or inflatable with air;

1922 (79) "Pole trailer" means a trailer which is (A) intended for
1923 transporting long or irregularly shaped loads such as poles, logs, pipes
1924 or structural members, which loads are capable of sustaining
1925 themselves as beams between supporting connections, and (B) designed
1926 to be drawn by a motor vehicle and attached or secured directly to the
1927 motor vehicle by any means including a reach, pole or boom;

1928 (80) "Public passenger endorsement" means an endorsement issued
1929 to an individual, which authorizes such individual to transport
1930 passengers, including, but not limited to, passengers who are students
1931 in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) of section 14-36a;

1932 (81) "Recreational vehicle" includes the camper, camp trailer and
1933 motor home classes of vehicles;

1934 (82) "Registration" includes the certificate of motor vehicle
1935 registration and the number plate or plates used in connection with such
1936 registration;

1937 (83) "Registration number" means the identifying number or letters,
1938 or both, assigned by the commissioner to a motor vehicle;

1939 (84) "Resident", for the purpose of registering motor vehicles,
1940 includes any person who is a legal resident of this state, as the
1941 commissioner may presume from the fact that such person occupies a
1942 place of dwelling in this state for more than six months in a year, or any
1943 person, firm or corporation owning or leasing a motor vehicle used or
1944 operated in intrastate business in this state, or a firm or corporation
1945 having its principal office or place of business in this state;

1946 (85) "School bus" means any school bus, as defined in section 14-275,
1947 including a commercial motor vehicle used to transport preschool,
1948 elementary school or secondary school students from home to school,
1949 from school to home, or to and from school-sponsored events, but does
1950 not include a bus used as a common carrier;

1951 (86) "Second" violation or "subsequent" violation means an offense
1952 committed not more than three years after the date of an arrest which
1953 resulted in a previous conviction for a violation of the same statutory
1954 provision, except in the case of a violation of section 14-215, 14-224, 14-
1955 227a or 14-227m, "second" violation or "subsequent" violation means an
1956 offense committed not more than ten years after the date of an arrest
1957 which resulted in a previous conviction for a violation of the same
1958 statutory provision;

1959 (87) "Semitrailer" means any trailer type vehicle designed and used
1960 in conjunction with a motor vehicle so that some part of its own weight
1961 and load rests on or is carried by another vehicle;

1962 (88) "Serious traffic violation" means a conviction of any of the
1963 following offenses: (A) Excessive speeding, involving a single offense in
1964 which the speed is fifteen miles per hour or more above the posted
1965 speed limit, in violation of section 14-218a or 14-219; (B) reckless driving
1966 in violation of section 14-222; (C) following too closely in violation of
1967 section 14-240 or 14-240a; (D) improper or erratic lane changes, in
1968 violation of section 14-236; (E) using a hand-held mobile telephone or
1969 other electronic device or typing, reading or sending text or a text
1970 message with or from a mobile telephone or mobile electronic device in
1971 violation of subsection (e) of section 14-296aa while operating a

1972 commercial motor vehicle; (F) driving a commercial motor vehicle
1973 without a valid commercial driver's license in violation of section 14-36a
1974 or 14-44a; (G) failure to carry a commercial driver's license in violation
1975 of section 14-44a; (H) failure to have the proper class of license or
1976 endorsement, or violation of a license restriction in violation of section
1977 14-44a; or (I) a violation of any provision of chapter 248, by an operator
1978 who holds a commercial driver's license or learner's permit that results
1979 in the death of another person;

1980 (89) "Service bus" includes any vehicle except a vanpool vehicle or a
1981 school bus designed and regularly used to carry ten or more passengers
1982 when used in private service for the transportation of persons without
1983 charge to the individual;

1984 (90) "Service car" means any motor vehicle used by a manufacturer,
1985 dealer or repairer for emergency motor vehicle repairs on the highways
1986 of this state, for towing or for the transportation of necessary persons,
1987 tools and materials to and from the scene of such emergency repairs or
1988 towing;

1989 (91) "Shoulder" means that portion of a highway immediately
1990 adjacent and contiguous to the travel lanes or main traveled portion of
1991 the roadway;

1992 (92) "Solid tires" means tires of rubber, or other elastic material
1993 approved by the Commissioner of Transportation, which do not depend
1994 on confined air for the support of the load;

1995 (93) "Spot lamp" or "spot light" means a lighting device projecting a
1996 high intensity beam, the direction of which can be readily controlled for
1997 special or emergency lighting as distinguished from ordinary road
1998 illumination;

1999 (94) "State" means any state of the United States and the District of
2000 Columbia unless the context indicates a more specific reference to the
2001 state of Connecticut;

2002 (95) "Stop" means complete cessation of movement;

2003 (96) "Student" means any person under the age of twenty-one years
2004 who is attending a preprimary, primary or secondary school program
2005 of education;

2006 (97) "Tail lamp" means a lighting device affixed to the rear of a motor
2007 vehicle showing a red light to the rear and indicating the presence of the
2008 motor vehicle when viewed from behind;

2009 (98) "Tank vehicle" means any commercial motor vehicle designed to
2010 transport any liquid or gaseous material within a tank that is either
2011 permanently or temporarily attached to the vehicle or its chassis, which
2012 includes, but is not limited to, a cargo tank and portable tank, as defined
2013 in 49 CFR 383.5, as amended, provided it does not include a portable
2014 tank with a rated capacity not to exceed one thousand gallons;

2015 (99) "Tractor" or "truck tractor" means a motor vehicle designed and
2016 used for drawing a semitrailer;

2017 (100) "Tractor-trailer unit" means a combination of a tractor and a
2018 trailer or a combination of a tractor and a semitrailer;

2019 (101) "Trailer" means any rubber-tired vehicle without motive power
2020 drawn or propelled by a motor vehicle;

2021 (102) "Truck" means a motor vehicle designed, used or maintained
2022 primarily for the transportation of property;

2023 (103) "Ultimate consumer" means, with respect to a motor vehicle, the
2024 first person, other than a dealer, who in good faith purchases the motor
2025 vehicle for purposes other than resale;

2026 (104) "United States" means the fifty states and the District of
2027 Columbia;

2028 (105) "Used motor vehicle" includes any motor vehicle which has
2029 been previously separately registered by an ultimate consumer;

2030 (106) "Utility trailer" means a trailer designed and used to transport
2031 personal property, materials or equipment, whether or not permanently

2032 affixed to the bed of the trailer;

2033 (107) "Vanpool vehicle" includes all motor vehicles, the primary
2034 purpose of which is the daily transportation, on a prearranged nonprofit
2035 basis, of individuals between home and work, and which: (A) If owned
2036 by or leased to a person, or to an employee of the person, or to an
2037 employee of a local, state or federal government unit or agency located
2038 in Connecticut, are manufactured and equipped in such manner as to
2039 provide a seating capacity of at least seven but not more than fifteen
2040 individuals, or (B) if owned by or leased to a regional ride-sharing
2041 organization in the state recognized by the Commissioner of
2042 Transportation, are manufactured and equipped in such manner as to
2043 provide a seating capacity of at least six but not more than nineteen
2044 individuals;

2045 (108) "Vehicle" includes any device suitable for the conveyance,
2046 drawing or other transportation of persons or property, whether
2047 operated on wheels, runners, a cushion of air or by any other means.
2048 The term does not include devices propelled or drawn by human power
2049 or devices used exclusively on tracks;

2050 (109) "Vehicle identification number" or "VIN" means a series of
2051 Arabic numbers and Roman letters that is assigned to each new motor
2052 vehicle that is manufactured within or imported into the United States,
2053 in accordance with the provisions of 49 CFR 565, unless another
2054 sequence of numbers and letters has been assigned to a motor vehicle
2055 by the commissioner, in accordance with the provisions of section 14-
2056 149;

2057 (110) "Wrecker" means a vehicle which is registered, designed,
2058 equipped and used for the purposes of towing or transporting wrecked
2059 or disabled motor vehicles for compensation or for related purposes by
2060 a person, firm or corporation licensed in accordance with the provisions
2061 of subpart (D) of part III of this chapter or a vehicle contracted for the
2062 consensual towing or transporting of one or more motor vehicles to or
2063 from a place of sale, purchase, salvage or repair; and

2064 (111) "Wrecker service" means any person, firm or corporation
2065 engaged in the business of operating a wrecker for the purpose of
2066 towing a motor vehicle.

2067 Sec. 21. Subsection (f) of section 13b-59 of the general statutes is
2068 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2069 *1, 2025*):

2070 (f) "Motor vehicle receipts" means all fees and other charges required
2071 by or levied pursuant to subsection (c) of section 14-12, section 14-15,
2072 subsection (a) of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection (b) of section
2073 14-35, subsection (a) of section 14-41, sections 14-41a, 14-47 and 14-48b,
2074 subsection (a) of section 14-49, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of
2075 section 14-49, except as provided under subdivision (2) of subsection (b)
2076 of said section, subsections (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o),
2077 (p), (q), (s), (t), (x) and (y) of section 14-49, section 14-49a, subsection (a)
2078 of section 14-50, subdivisions (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) and (10) of
2079 subsection (a) of section 14-50a, sections 14-59, 14-61 and 14-65,
2080 subsection [(c)] (d) of section 14-66, as amended by this act, subsection
2081 (e) of section 14-67, sections 14-67a, 14-67d, 14-160 and 14-381, and
2082 subsection (c) of section 14-382;

2083 Sec. 22. Subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of section 13b-76 of the
2084 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
2085 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2086 (a) Bonds and bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to sections
2087 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act, are hereby
2088 determined to be issued for valid public purposes in exercise of essential
2089 governmental functions. Such bonds and bond anticipation notes shall
2090 be special obligations of the state and shall not be payable from or
2091 charged upon any funds other than the pledged revenues or other
2092 receipts, funds or moneys pledged therefor as provided in sections 3-
2093 21a, 3-27a, 3-27f, 12-458 and 12-458d, subsection (c) of section 13a-80a,
2094 sections 13a-175p to 13a-175u, inclusive, subsection (f) of section 13b-42,
2095 sections 13b-59, as amended by this act, 13b-61, 13b-69, 13b-71, 13b-74 to
2096 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 13b-80, subsection (a) of

2097 section 13b-97, subsection (a) of section 14-12, except for subdivision (2)
2098 of said subsection (a), sections 14-15, 14-16a and 14-21c, subsection (a)
2099 of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection (b) of section 14-35,
2100 subsection (a) of section 14-41, section 14-41a, subsection (a) of section
2101 14-44, sections 14-47, 14-48b, 14-49 and 14-50, subsection (a) of section
2102 14-50a, sections 14-52 and 14-58, subsection [(c)] (d) of section 14-66, as
2103 amended by this act, subsection (e) of section 14-67, sections 14-67a, 14-
2104 67d, 14-67l and 14-69, subsection (e) of section 14-73, subsection (c) of
2105 section 14-96q, sections 14-103a and 14-160, subsection (a) of section 14-
2106 164a, subsection (a) of section 14-192, sections 14-319, 14-320 and 14-381,
2107 subsection (b) of section 14-382 and sections 15-14 and 16-299, nor shall
2108 the state or any political subdivision thereof be subject to any liability
2109 thereon, except to the extent of such pledged revenues or other receipts,
2110 funds or moneys pledged therefor as provided in said sections. As part
2111 of the contract of the state with the owners of said bonds and bond
2112 anticipation notes, all amounts necessary for punctual payment of the
2113 debt service requirements with respect to such bonds and bond
2114 anticipation notes shall be deemed to be appropriated, but only from the
2115 sources pledged pursuant to said sections, upon the authorization of
2116 issuance of such bonds and bond anticipation notes by the State Bond
2117 Commission, or the filing of a certificate of determination by the
2118 Treasurer in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, and the
2119 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same shall accrue,
2120 but only from such sources. The issuance of bonds or bond anticipation
2121 notes issued under sections 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by
2122 this act, shall not directly or indirectly or contingently obligate the state
2123 or any political subdivision thereof to levy or to pledge any form of
2124 taxation whatever therefor, except for taxes included in the pledged
2125 revenues, or to make any additional appropriation for their payment.
2126 Such bonds and bond anticipation notes shall not constitute a charge,
2127 lien or encumbrance, legal or equitable, upon any property of the state
2128 or of any political subdivision thereof other than the pledged revenues
2129 or other receipts, funds or moneys pledged therefor as provided in
2130 sections 3-21a, 3-27a, 3-27f, 12-458 and 12-458d, subsection (c) of section
2131 13a-80a, sections 13a-175p to 13a-175u, inclusive, subsection (f) of

2132 section 13b-42, sections 13b-59, as amended by this act, 13b-61, 13b-69,
2133 13b-71, 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 13b-80,
2134 subsection (a) of section 13b-97, subsection (a) of section 14-12, except
2135 for subdivision (2) of said subsection (a), sections 14-15, 14-16a and 14-
2136 21c, subsection (a) of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection (b) of
2137 section 14-35, subsection (a) of section 14-41, section 14-41a, subsection
2138 (a) of section 14-44, sections 14-47, 14-48b, 14-49 and 14-50, subsection
2139 (a) of section 14-50a, sections 14-52 and 14-58, subsection [(c)] (d) of
2140 section 14-66, as amended by this act, subsection (e) of section 14-67,
2141 sections 14-67a, 14-67d, 14-67l and 14-69, subsection (e) of section 14-73,
2142 subsection (c) of section 14-96q, sections 14-103a and 14-160, subsection
2143 (a) of section 14-164a, subsection (a) of section 14-192, sections 14-319,
2144 14-320 and 14-381, subsection (b) of section 14-382 and section 15-14, and
2145 the substance of such limitation shall be plainly stated on the face of each
2146 such bond and bond anticipation note. Bonds and bond anticipation
2147 notes issued pursuant to sections 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as
2148 amended by this act, shall not be subject to any statutory limitation on
2149 the indebtedness of the state, and, when issued, shall not be included in
2150 computing the aggregate indebtedness of the state in respect to and to
2151 the extent of any such limitation.

2152 (b) Bonds issued pursuant to sections 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as
2153 amended by this act, may be executed and delivered at such time or
2154 times and shall be dated, bear interest at such rate or rates, including
2155 variable rates to be determined in such manner as set forth in the
2156 proceedings authorizing the issuance of the bonds, provide for payment
2157 of interest on such dates, whether before or at maturity, be issued at,
2158 above or below par, mature at such time or times not exceeding thirty
2159 years from their date, have such rank or priority, be payable in such
2160 medium of payment, be issued in such form, including without
2161 limitation registered or book-entry form, carry such registration and
2162 transfer privileges and be made subject to purchase or redemption
2163 before maturity at such price or prices and under such terms and
2164 conditions, including the condition that such bonds be subject to
2165 purchase or redemption on the demand of the owner thereof, all as may
2166 be provided by the State Bond Commission. The State Bond

Commission shall determine the form of the bonds, the manner of execution of the bonds, the denomination or denominations of the bonds and the manner of payment of principal and interest. Prior to the preparation of definitive bonds, the State Bond Commission may, under like restrictions, authorize the issuance of interim receipts or temporary bonds, exchangeable for definitive bonds when such bonds have been executed and are available for delivery. If any of the officers whose signatures appear on the bonds cease to be officers before the delivery of any such bonds, such signatures shall, nevertheless, be valid and sufficient for all purposes, the same as if such officers had remained in office until delivery. Nothing [herein] in this section shall prevent any series of bonds issued under sections 3-21a, 3-27a, 3-27f, 12-458 and 12-458d, subsection (c) of section 13a-80a, sections 13a-175p to 13a-175u, inclusive, subsection (f) of section 13b-42, sections 13b-59, as amended by this act, 13b-61, 13b-69, 13b-71, 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 13b-80, subsection (a) of section 13b-97, subsection (a) of section 14-12, except for subdivision (2) of said subsection (a), sections 14-15, 14-16a and 14-21c, subsection (a) of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection (b) of section 14-35, subsection (a) of section 14-41, section 14-41a, subsection (a) of section 14-44, sections 14-47, 14-48b, 14-49 and 14-50, subsection (a) of section 14-50a, sections 14-52 and 14-58, subsection [(c)] (d) of section 14-66, as amended by this act, subsection (e) of section 14-67, sections 14-67a, 14-67d, 14-67l and 14-69, subsection (e) of section 14-73, subsection (c) of section 14-96q, sections 14-103a and 14-160, subsection (a) of section 14-164a, subsection (a) of section 14-192, sections 14-319, 14-320 and 14-381, subsection (b) of section 14-382 and sections 15-14 and 16-299 from being issued in coupon form, in which case references to the bonds herein also shall refer to the coupons attached thereto where appropriate, and references to owners of bonds shall include holders of such bonds where appropriate.

(c) Any bonds issued pursuant to sections 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act, may be sold at public sale on sealed proposals or by negotiation in such manner, at such price or prices, at such time or times and on such other terms and conditions of such bonds and the

2202 issuance and sale thereof as the State Bond Commission may determine
2203 to be in the best interests of the state, or the State Bond Commission may
2204 delegate to the Treasurer all or any part of the foregoing powers in
2205 which event the Treasurer shall exercise such powers unless the State
2206 Bond Commission, by adoption of a resolution prior to the exercise of
2207 such powers by the Treasurer, shall elect to reassume the same. Such
2208 powers shall be exercised from time to time in such manner as the
2209 Treasurer shall determine to be in the best interests of the state and he
2210 shall file a certificate of determination setting forth the details thereof
2211 with the secretary of the State Bond Commission on or before the date
2212 of delivery of such bonds, the details of which were determined by him
2213 in accordance with such delegation.

2214 (d) The debt service requirements with respect to any bonds and
2215 bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to sections 13b-74 to 13b-77,
2216 inclusive, as amended by this act, shall be secured by (1) a first call upon
2217 the pledged revenues as they are received by the state and credited to
2218 the Special Transportation Fund established under section 13b-68, and
2219 (2) a lien upon any and all amounts held to the credit of said Special
2220 Transportation Fund from time to time, provided [said] such lien shall
2221 not extend to amounts held to the credit of such Special Transportation
2222 Fund which represent (A) amounts borrowed by the Treasurer in
2223 anticipation of state revenues pursuant to section 3-16, or (B)
2224 transportation-related federal revenues of the state. Any obligation of
2225 the state secured by [said] such lien to pay the unrefunded principal of
2226 bond anticipation notes, including for this purpose any obligation of the
2227 state under a reimbursement agreement entered into in connection with
2228 a credit facility providing for payment of the unrefunded principal of
2229 bond anticipation notes, shall be subordinate to any obligation of the
2230 state secured by [said] such lien to pay (i) the debt service requirements
2231 with respect to bonds, or (ii) any debt service requirements with respect
2232 to bond anticipation notes other than debt service requirements relating
2233 to unrefunded principal of bond anticipation notes or to obligations
2234 under a credit facility for the payment of such unrefunded principal.
2235 The debt service requirements with respect to bonds and bond
2236 anticipation notes also may be secured by a pledge of reserves, sinking

2237 funds and any other funds and accounts, including proceeds from
2238 investment of any of the foregoing, established pursuant to sections 3-
2239 21a, 3-27a, 3-27f, 12-458 and 12-458d, subsection (c) of section 13a-80a,
2240 sections 13a-175p to 13a-175u, inclusive, subsection (f) of section 13b-42,
2241 sections 13b-59, as amended by this act, 13b-61, 13b-69, 13b-71, 13b-74 to
2242 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 13b-80, subsection (a) of
2243 section 13b-97, subsection (a) of section 14-12, except for subdivision (2)
2244 of said subsection (a), sections 14-15, 14-16a and 14-21c, subsection (a)
2245 of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection (b) of section 14-35,
2246 subsection (a) of section 14-41, section 14-41a, subsection (a) of section
2247 14-44, sections 14-47, 14-48b, 14-49 and 14-50, subsection (a) of section
2248 14-50a, sections 14-52 and 14-58, subsection [(c)] (d) of section 14-66, as
2249 amended by this act, subsection (e) of section 14-67, sections 14-67a, 14-
2250 67d, 14-67l and 14-69, subsection (e) of section 14-73, subsection (c) of
2251 section 14-96q, sections 14-103a and 14-160, subsection (a) of section 14-
2252 164a, subsection (a) of section 14-192, sections 14-319, 14-320 and 14-381,
2253 subsection (b) of section 14-382 and sections 15-14 and 16-299 or the
2254 proceedings authorizing the issuance of such bonds, and by moneys
2255 paid under a credit facility, including, but not limited to, a letter of credit
2256 or policy of bond insurance, issued by a financial institution pursuant to
2257 an agreement authorized by such proceedings.

2258 (e) The proceedings under which bonds are authorized to be issued
2259 may, subject to the provisions of the general statutes, contain any or all
2260 of the following: (1) Provisions respecting custody of the proceeds from
2261 the sale of the bonds and any bond anticipation notes, including any
2262 requirements that such proceeds be held separate from or not be
2263 commingled with other funds of the state; (2) provisions for the
2264 investment and reinvestment of bond proceeds until used to pay
2265 transportation costs and for the disposition of any excess bond proceeds
2266 or investment earnings thereon; (3) provisions for the execution of
2267 reimbursement agreements or similar agreements in connection with
2268 credit facilities, including, but not limited to, letters of credit or policies
2269 of bond insurance, remarketing agreements and agreements for the
2270 purpose of moderating interest rate fluctuations, and of such other
2271 agreements entered into pursuant to section 3-20a; (4) provisions for the

2272 collection, custody, investment, reinvestment and use of the pledged
2273 revenues or other receipts, funds or moneys pledged therefor as
2274 provided in sections 3-21a, 3-27a, 3-27f, 12-458 and 12-458d, subsection
2275 (c) of section 13a-80a, sections 13a-175p to 13a-175u, inclusive,
2276 subsection (f) of section 13b-42, sections 13b-59, as amended by this act,
2277 13b-61, 13b-69, 13b-71, 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this
2278 act, and 13b-80, subsection (a) of section 13b-97, subsection (a) of section
2279 14-12, except for subdivision (2) of said subsection (a), sections 14-15, 14-
2280 16a and 14-21c, subsection (a) of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection
2281 (b) of section 14-35, subsection (a) of section 14-41, section 14-41a,
2282 subsection (a) of section 14-44, sections 14-47, 14-48b, 14-49 and 14-50,
2283 subsection (a) of section 14-50a, sections 14-52 and 14-58, subsection [(c)]
2284 (d) of section 14-66, as amended by this act, subsection (e) of section 14-
2285 67, sections 14-67a, 14-67d, 14-67l and 14-69, subsection (e) of section 14-
2286 73, subsection (c) of section 14-96q, sections 14-103a and 14-160,
2287 subsection (a) of section 14-164a, subsection (a) of section 14-192,
2288 sections 14-319, 14-320 and 14-381, subsection (b) of section 14-382 and
2289 sections 15-14 and 16-299; (5) provisions regarding the establishment
2290 and maintenance of reserves, sinking funds and any other funds and
2291 accounts as shall be approved by the State Bond Commission in such
2292 amounts as may be established by the State Bond Commission, and the
2293 regulation and disposition thereof, including requirements that any
2294 such funds and accounts be held separate from or not be commingled
2295 with other funds of the state; (6) covenants for the establishment of
2296 pledged revenue coverage requirements for the bonds and bond
2297 anticipation notes, provided that no such covenant shall obligate the
2298 state to provide coverage in any year with respect to any bonds or bond
2299 anticipation notes in excess of four times the aggregate debt service on
2300 bonds and bond anticipation notes, as described in subparagraph (A) of
2301 subdivision (3) of section 13b-75, during such year; (7) covenants for the
2302 establishment of maintenance requirements with respect to state
2303 transportation facilities and properties; (8) provisions for the issuance of
2304 additional bonds on a parity with bonds theretofore issued, including
2305 establishment of coverage requirements with respect thereto as herein
2306 provided; (9) provisions regarding the rights and remedies available in

2307 case of a default to the bondowners, noteowners or any trustee under
2308 any contract, loan agreement, document, instrument or trust indenture,
2309 including the right to appoint a trustee to represent their interests upon
2310 occurrence of an event of default, as defined in said proceedings,
2311 provided that if any bonds or bond anticipation notes shall be secured
2312 by a trust indenture, the respective owners of such bonds or notes shall
2313 have no authority except as set forth in such trust indenture to appoint
2314 a separate trustee to represent them; and (10) provisions or covenants of
2315 like or different character from the foregoing which are consistent with
2316 sections 3-21a, 3-27a, 3-27f, 12-458 and 12-458d, subsection (c) of section
2317 13a-80a, sections 13a-175p to 13a-175u, inclusive, subsection (f) of
2318 section 13b-42, sections 13b-59, as amended by this act, 13b-61, 13b-69,
2319 13b-71, 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 13b-80,
2320 subsection (a) of section 13b-97, subsection (a) of section 14-12, except
2321 for subdivision (2) of said subsection (a), sections 14-15, 14-16a and 14-
2322 21c, subsection (a) of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection (b) of
2323 section 14-35, subsection (a) of section 14-41, section 14-41a, subsection
2324 (a) of section 14-44, sections 14-47, 14-48b, 14-49 and 14-50, subsection
2325 (a) of section 14-50a, sections 14-52 and 14-58, subsection [(c)] (d) of
2326 section 14-66, as amended by this act, subsection (e) of section 14-67,
2327 sections 14-67a, 14-67d, 14-67l and 14-69, subsection (e) of section 14-73,
2328 subsection (c) of section 14-96q, sections 14-103a and 14-160, subsection
2329 (a) of section 14-164a, subsection (a) of section 14-192, sections 14-319,
2330 14-320 and 14-381, subsection (b) of section 14-382 and sections 15-14
2331 and 16-299 and which the State Bond Commission determines in such
2332 proceedings are necessary, convenient or desirable in order to better
2333 secure the bonds or bond anticipation notes, or will tend to make the
2334 bonds or bond anticipation notes more marketable, and which are in the
2335 best interests of the state. Any provision which may be included in
2336 proceedings authorizing the issuance of bonds [hereunder] under this
2337 section may be included in an indenture of trust duly approved in
2338 accordance with subsection (g) of this section which secures the bonds
2339 and any notes issued in anticipation thereof, and in such case the
2340 provisions of such indenture shall be deemed to be a part of such
2341 proceedings as though they were expressly included therein.

2342 (f) Any pledge made by the state shall be valid and binding from the
2343 time when the pledge is made, and any revenues or other receipts, funds
2344 or moneys so pledged and thereafter received by the state shall be
2345 subject immediately to the lien of such pledge without any physical
2346 delivery thereof or further act. The lien of any such pledge shall be valid
2347 and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort,
2348 contract, or otherwise against the state, irrespective of whether such
2349 parties have notice thereof. Neither the resolution nor any other
2350 instrument by which a pledge is created need be recorded.

2351 (g) In the discretion of the State Bond Commission, bonds issued
2352 pursuant to sections 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act,
2353 including for this purpose any bond anticipation notes, may be secured
2354 by a trust indenture by and between the state and a corporate trustee,
2355 which may be any trust company or bank having the powers of a trust
2356 company within or without the state. Such trust indenture may contain
2357 such provisions for protecting and enforcing the rights and remedies of
2358 the bondowners and noteowners as may be reasonable and proper and
2359 not in violation of law, including covenants setting forth the duties of
2360 the state in relation to the exercise of its powers pursuant to sections 3-
2361 21a, 3-27a, 3-27f, 12-458 and 12-458d, subsection (c) of section 13a-80a,
2362 sections 13a-175p to 13a-175u, inclusive, subsection (f) of section 13b-42,
2363 sections 13b-59, as amended by this act, 13b-61, 13b-69, 13b-71, 13b-74 to
2364 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 13b-80, subsection (a) of
2365 section 13b-97, subsection (a) of section 14-12, except for subdivision (2)
2366 of said subsection (a), sections 14-15, 14-16a and 14-21c, subsection (a)
2367 of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection (b) of section 14-35,
2368 subsection (a) of section 14-41, section 14-41a, subsection (a) of section
2369 14-44, sections 14-47, 14-48b, 14-49 and 14-50, subsection (a) of section
2370 14-50a, sections 14-52 and 14-58, subsection [(c)] (d) of section 14-66, as
2371 amended by this act, subsection (e) of section 14-67, sections 14-67a, 14-
2372 67d, 14-67l and 14-69, subsection (e) of section 14-73, subsection (c) of
2373 section 14-96q, sections 14-103a and 14-160, subsection (a) of section 14-
2374 164a, subsection (a) of section 14-192, sections 14-319, 14-320 and 14-381,
2375 subsection (b) of section 14-382 and sections 15-14 and 16-299 and the
2376 custody, safeguarding and application of all moneys. The state may

2377 provide by such trust indenture for the payment of the pledged
2378 revenues or other receipts, funds or moneys to the trustee under such
2379 trust indenture or to any other depository, and for the method of
2380 disbursement thereof, with such safeguards and restrictions as it may
2381 determine. All expenses incurred in carrying out such trust indenture
2382 may be treated as transportation costs, as defined in section 13b-75.

2383 Sec. 23. Subsection (c) of section 13b-77 of the general statutes is
2384 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2385 *1, 2025*):

2386 (c) The state covenants with the purchasers and all subsequent
2387 owners and transferees of bonds and bond anticipation notes issued by
2388 the state pursuant to sections 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by
2389 this act, in consideration of the acceptance of the payment for the bonds
2390 and bond anticipation notes, until such bonds and bond anticipation
2391 notes, together with the interest thereon, with interest on any unpaid
2392 installment of interest and all costs and expenses in connection with any
2393 action or proceeding on behalf of such owners, are fully met and
2394 discharged, or unless expressly permitted or otherwise authorized by
2395 the terms of each contract and agreement made or entered into by or on
2396 behalf of the state with or for the benefit of such owners, that the state
2397 will impose, charge, raise, levy, collect and apply the pledged revenues
2398 and other receipts, funds or moneys pledged for the payment of debt
2399 service requirements as provided in sections 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive,
2400 as amended by this act, in such amounts as may be necessary to pay
2401 such debt service requirements in each year in which bonds or bond
2402 anticipation notes are outstanding and further, that the state (1) will not
2403 limit or alter the duties imposed on the Treasurer and other officers of
2404 the state by sections 3-21a, 3-27a, 3-27f, 12-458 and 12-458d, subsection
2405 (c) of section 13a-80a, sections 13a-175p to 13a-175u, inclusive,
2406 subsection (f) of section 13b-42, sections 13b-59, as amended by this act,
2407 13b-61, 13b-69, 13b-71, 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, as amended by this
2408 act, and 13b-80, subsection (a) of section 13b-97, subsection (a) of section
2409 14-12, except for subdivision (2) of said subsection (a), sections 14-15, 14-
2410 16a and 14-21c, subsection (a) of section 14-25a, section 14-28, subsection

2411 (b) of section 14-35, subsection (a) of section 14-41, section 14-41a,
2412 subsection (a) of section 14-44, sections 14-47, 14-48b, 14-49 and 14-50,
2413 subsection (a) of section 14-50a, sections 14-52 and 14-58, subsection [(c)]
2414 (d) of section 14-66, as amended by this act, subsection (e) of section 14-
2415 67, sections 14-67a, 14-67d, 14-67l and 14-69, subsection (e) of section 14-
2416 73, subsection (c) of section 14-96q, sections 14-103a and 14-160,
2417 subsection (a) of section 14-164a, subsection (a) of section 14-192,
2418 sections 14-319, 14-320 and 14-381, subsection (b) of section 14-382 and
2419 section 15-14 and by the proceedings authorizing the issuance of bonds
2420 with respect to application of pledged revenues or other receipts, funds
2421 or moneys pledged for the payment of debt service requirements as
2422 provided in said sections; (2) will not issue any bonds, notes or other
2423 evidences of indebtedness, other than the bonds and bond anticipation
2424 notes, having any rights arising out of said sections or secured by any
2425 pledge of or other lien or charge on the pledged revenues or other
2426 receipts, funds or moneys pledged for the payment of debt service
2427 requirements as provided in said sections; (3) will not create or cause to
2428 be created any lien or charge on such pledged amounts, other than a lien
2429 or pledge created thereon pursuant to said sections, provided nothing
2430 in this subsection shall prevent the state from issuing evidences of
2431 indebtedness (A) which are secured by a pledge or lien which is and
2432 shall on the face thereof be expressly subordinate and junior in all
2433 respects to every lien and pledge created by or pursuant to said sections;
2434 or (B) for which the full faith and credit of the state is pledged and which
2435 are not expressly secured by any specific lien or charge on such pledged
2436 amounts; or (C) which are secured by a pledge of or lien on moneys or
2437 funds derived on or after such date as every pledge or lien thereon
2438 created by or pursuant to said sections shall be discharged and satisfied;
2439 (4) will carry out and perform, or cause to be carried out and performed,
2440 each and every promise, covenant, agreement or contract made or
2441 entered into by the state or on its behalf with the owners of any bonds
2442 or bond anticipation notes; (5) will not in any way impair the rights,
2443 exemptions or remedies of such owners; and (6) will not limit, modify,
2444 rescind, repeal or otherwise alter the rights or obligations of the
2445 appropriate officers of the state to impose, maintain, charge or collect

2446 the taxes, fees, charges and other receipts constituting the pledged
2447 revenues as may be necessary to produce sufficient revenues to fulfill
2448 the terms of the proceedings authorizing the issuance of the bonds,
2449 including pledged revenue coverage requirements, and provided
2450 nothing herein shall preclude the state from exercising its power,
2451 through a change in law, to limit, modify, rescind, repeal or otherwise
2452 alter the character or amount of such pledged revenues or to substitute
2453 like or different sources of taxes, fees, charges or other receipts as
2454 pledged revenues if, for the ensuing fiscal year, as evidenced by the
2455 proposed or adopted budget of the state with respect to the Special
2456 Transportation Fund, the projected revenues meet or exceed the
2457 estimated expenses of the Special Transportation Fund including
2458 accumulated deficits, if any, debt service requirements and any pledged
2459 revenue coverage requirement. The State Bond Commission is
2460 authorized to include this covenant of the state in any agreement with
2461 the owner of any such bonds or bond anticipation notes.

2462 Sec. 24. Subsection (b) of section 51-164n of the general statutes is
2463 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2464 *1, 2025*):

2465 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person
2466 who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the provisions of
2467 section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 2-71h, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35 or 7-41, subsection (c)
2468 of section 7-66, section 7-83, 7-147h, 7-148, 7-283, 7-325, 7-393, 8-12, 8-25,
2469 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-185, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 10-230, 10-251, 10-
2470 254, 10a-35, 12-52, 12-54, 12-129b or 12-170aa, subdivision (3) of
2471 subsection (e) of section 12-286, section 12-286a, 12-292, 12-314b or 12-
2472 326g, subdivision (4) of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of
2473 section 12-411, section 12-435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-476c, 12-487, 13a-
2474 26b, 13a-71, 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-115, 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-
2475 124, 13a-139, 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-253, 13a-263 or 13b-39f, subsection
2476 (f) of section 13b-42, section 13b-90 or 13b-100, subsection (a) of section
2477 13b-108, section 13b-221 or 13b-292, subsection (a) or (b) of section 13b-
2478 324, section 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c,
2479 subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414 or 14-4,

2480 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-12, subsection (d) of
2481 section 14-12, subsection (f) of section 14-12a, subsection (a) of section
2482 14-15a, section 14-16c, 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (f) of section 14-34a,
2483 subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-44j, 14-49, 14-50a, 14-58
2484 or 14-62a, subsection [(b)] (c) of section 14-66, as amended by this act,
2485 section 14-66a, as amended by this act, or 14-67a, subsection (g) of
2486 section 14-80, subsection (f) or (i) of section 14-80h, section 14-97a or 14-
2487 98, subsection (a), (b) or (d) of section 14-100a, section 14-100b, 14-103a,
2488 14-106a, 14-106c, 14-145a, as amended by this act, 14-146, 14-152, 14-153,
2489 14-161 or 14-163b, subsection (f) of section 14-164i, section 14-213b or 14-
2490 219, subdivision (1) of section 14-223a, subsection (d) of section 14-224,
2491 section 14-240, 14-250, 14-253a, 14-261a, 14-262, 14-264, 14-266, 14-267a,
2492 14-269, 14-270, 14-272b, 14-274, 14-275 or 14-275a, subsection (c) of
2493 section 14-275c, section 14-276, subsection (a) or (b) of section 14-277,
2494 section 14-278, 14-279 or 14-280, subsection (b), (e) or (h) of section 14-
2495 283, section 14-283d, 14-283e, 14-283f, 14-283g, 14-291, 14-293b, 14-296aa,
2496 14-298a, 14-300, 14-300d, 14-300f, 14-319, 14-320, 14-321, 14-325a, 14-326,
2497 14-330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of section 14-386a, section
2498 15-15e, 15-25 or 15-33, subdivision (1) of section 15-97, subsection (a) of
2499 section 15-115, section 16-15, 16-16, 16-44, 16-256e, 16-278 or 16a-15,
2500 subsection (a) of section 16a-21, section 16a-22, subsection (a) or (b) of
2501 section 16a-22h, section 16a-106, 17a-24, 17a-145, 17a-149 or 17a-152,
2502 subsection (b) of section 17a-227, section 17a-465, subsection (c) of
2503 section 17a-488, section 17b-124, 17b-131, 17b-137, 19a-33, 19a-39 or 19a-
2504 87, subsection (b) of section 19a-87a, section 19a-91, 19a-102a, 19a-102b,
2505 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-113, 19a-215, 19a-216a, 19a-219, 19a-222, 19a-224,
2506 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-335, 19a-336, 19a-338,
2507 19a-339, 19a-340, 19a-425, 19a-442, 19a-502, 19a-565, 20-7a, 20-14, 20-
2508 153a, 20-158, 20-231, 20-233, 20-249, 20-257, 20-265, 20-324e, 20-329c or
2509 20-329g, subsection (b) of section 20-334, section 20-341l, 20-366, 20-482,
2510 20-597, 20-608, 20-610, 20-623, 21-1, 21-38, 21-39, 21-43, 21-47, 21-48 or
2511 21-63, subsection (d) of section 21-71, section 21-76a or 21-100,
2512 subsection (c) of section 21a-2, subdivision (1) of section 21a-19, section
2513 21a-20 or 21a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 21a-25,
2514 section 21a-26, subsection (a) of section 21a-37, section 21a-46, 21a-61,

2515 21a-63, 21a-70b or 21a-77, subsection (b) or (c) of section 21a-79, section
2516 21a-85 or 21a-154, subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-159,
2517 section 21a-278b, subsection (c), (d) or (e) of section 21a-279a, section
2518 21a-415a, 21a-421eee, 21a-421fff or 21a-421hhh, subsection (a) of section
2519 21a-430, section 22-12b, 22-13, 22-14, 22-15, 22-16, 22-26g, 22-30, 22-34,
2520 22-35, 22-36, 22-38, 22-39, 22-39f, 22-49, 22-54, 22-61j or 22-61l,
2521 subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of section 22-61l, subsection (f) of
2522 section 22-61m, subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 22-61m,
2523 section 22-84, 22-89, 22-90, 22-96, 22-98, 22-99, 22-100 or 22-111o,
2524 subsection (d) of section 22-118l, section 22-167, subsection (c) of section
2525 22-277, section 22-278, 22-279, 22-280a, 22-318a, 22-320h, 22-324a or 22-
2526 326, subsection (b), subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (e) or subsection
2527 (g) of section 22-344, subsection (a) or (b) of section 22-344b, subsection
2528 (d) of section 22-344d, section 22-344f, 22-350a, 22-354, 22-359, 22-366,
2529 22-391, 22-413, 22-414, 22-415, 22-415c, 22a-66a or 22a-246, subsection (a)
2530 of section 22a-250, section 22a-256g, subsection (e) of section 22a-256h,
2531 section 22a-363 or 22a-381d, subsections (c) and (d) of section 22a-381e,
2532 section 22a-449, 22a-450, 22a-461, 23-4b, 23-38, 23-45, 23-46 or 23-61b,
2533 subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 23-65, section
2534 25-37 or 25-40, subsection (a) of section 25-43, section 25-43d, 25-135, 26-
2535 18, 26-19, 26-21, 26-31, 26-40, 26-40a, 26-42, 26-43, 26-49, 26-54, 26-55, 26-
2536 56, 26-58 or 26-59, subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 26-61,
2537 section 26-64, subdivision (1) of section 26-76, section 26-79, 26-87, 26-89,
2538 26-91, 26-94, 26-97, 26-98, 26-104, 26-105, 26-107, 26-114a, 26-117,
2539 subsection (b) of section 26-127, 26-128, 26-128a, 26-131, 26-132, 26-138,
2540 26-139 or 26-141, subdivision (1) of section 26-186, section 26-207, 26-215,
2541 26-217 or 26-224a, subdivision (1) of section 26-226, section 26-227, 26-
2542 230, 26-231, 26-232, 26-244, 26-257a, 26-260, 26-276, 26-280, 26-284, 26-
2543 285, 26-286, 26-287, 26-288, 26-290, 26-291a, 26-292, 26-294, 27-107, 28-13,
2544 29-6a, 29-16, 29-17, 29-25, 29-143o, 29-143z or 29-156a, subsection (b), (d),
2545 (e), (g) or (h) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y or 29-161z, subdivision
2546 (1) of section 29-198, section 29-210, 29-243 or 29-277, subsection (c) of
2547 section 29-291c, section 29-316 or 29-318, subsection (b) of section 29-
2548 335a, section 29-381, 30-19f, 30-48a or 30-86a, subsection (b) of section
2549 30-89, subsection (c) or (d) of section 30-117, section 31-3, 31-10, 31-11,

2550 31-12, 31-13, 31-14, 31-15, 31-16, 31-18, 31-23, 31-24, 31-25, 31-32, 31-36,
 2551 31-47 or 31-48, subsection (b) of section 31-48b, section 31-51, 31-51g, 31-
 2552 52, 31-52a, 31-53 or 31-54, subsection (a) or (c) of section 31-69, section
 2553 31-70, 31-74, 31-75, 31-76, 31-76a, 31-89b or 31-134, subsection (i) of
 2554 section 31-273, section 31-288, 31-348, 33-624, 33-1017, 34-13d or 34-412,
 2555 subdivision (1) of section 35-20, subsection (a) of section 36a-57,
 2556 subsection (b) of section 36a-665, section 36a-699, 36a-739, 36a-787, 38a-
 2557 2 or 38a-140, subsection (a) or (b) of section 38a-278, section 38a-479qq,
 2558 38a-479rr, 38a-506, 38a-548, 38a-626, 38a-680, 38a-713, 38a-733, 38a-764,
 2559 38a-786, 38a-828, 38a-829, 38a-885, 42-133hh, 42-230, 42-470 or 42-480,
 2560 subsection (a) or (c) of section 43-16q, section 45a-283, 45a-450, 45a-634
 2561 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 46a-54, section 46a-59, 46a-
 2562 81b, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 46b-38d, 47-34a, 47-47 or 47-53, subsection
 2563 (i) of section 47a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (k) of section 47a-21,
 2564 section 49-2a, 49-8a, 49-16, 52-143 or 52-289, subsection (j) of section 52-
 2565 362, section 53-133, 53-199, 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-264, 53-280, 53-
 2566 290a, 53-302a, 53-303e, 53-311a, 53-314, 53-321, 53-322, 53-323 or 53-331,
 2567 subsection (b) of section 53-343a, section 53-344, subsection (b) or (c) of
 2568 section 53-344b, subsection (b) of section 53-345a, section 53-377, 53-422
 2569 or 53-450 or subsection (i) of section 54-36a, or (2) a violation under the
 2570 provisions of chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any regulation adopted in
 2571 accordance with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 13b-410, or
 2572 (4) a violation of any ordinance, regulation or bylaw of any town, city or
 2573 borough, except violations of building codes and the health code, for
 2574 which the penalty exceeds ninety dollars but does not exceed two
 2575 hundred fifty dollars, unless such town, city or borough has established
 2576 a payment and hearing procedure for such violation pursuant to section
 2577 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	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-145
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-145a
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Sec. 6	October 1, 2025	14-66
Sec. 7	October 1, 2025	14-63
Sec. 8	October 1, 2025	14-145b
Sec. 9	October 1, 2025	14-66a
Sec. 10	October 1, 2025	14-150
Sec. 11	October 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 12	October 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 13	October 1, 2025	29-23a
Sec. 14	October 1, 2025	14-66c(b)
Sec. 15	October 1, 2025	14-145c
Sec. 16	October 1, 2025	14-145d
Sec. 17	October 1, 2025	14-66b
Sec. 18	October 1, 2025	14-51a
Sec. 19	October 1, 2025	14-64
Sec. 20	October 1, 2025	14-1
Sec. 21	October 1, 2025	13b-59(f)
Sec. 22	October 1, 2025	13b-76(a) to (g)
Sec. 23	October 1, 2025	13b-77(c)
Sec. 24	October 1, 2025	51-164n(b)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Sections 1, 3 and 4, references to "parking facilities" and "residential parking facilities" were changed to "parking facility" and "residential parking facility" for consistency with standard drafting conventions; in Section 1(c)(4), designators (1) to (5), inclusive, were changed to (A) to (E), inclusive, for accuracy; in Section 1(c)(4)(B) and (5), "in the same location" was deleted for accuracy; in Section 1(d)(2)(A), "towing company" was changed to "wrecker service" for internal consistency; in Section 3(e), Subpara. designators (A) to (D), inclusive, were changed to Subdivs. (1) to (4), inclusive, for accuracy; Section 4(a)(1) was rewritten for consistency with Section 3; in Section 7(b)(5), "that no further action will be taken" was inserted after "in writing" for clarity and the first sentence of Section 7(b)(9) was rewritten for clarity; in Section 9(g), references to "agent" were changed to "authorized person" for consistency; in Section 10(d)(2), "most recent edition of the" was inserted before "National Automobile Dealers Association Used Car Guide" for clarity; Section 11(a) was rewritten for consistency with the changes being made in Sections 1 and 10; in Section 11(b)(1), "within such period" was changed to "at the end of such fifteen-day period" for clarity; in Section 11(b)(1), (e) and (i), "most recent edition of the" was inserted before "National Automobile Dealers Association Used Car Guide" for clarity; in Section 11(b)(2), "current market value" was changed to "retail

market value" for internal consistency and "within such period" was changed to "at the end of such forty-five-day period" for clarity; Section 11(d) was rewritten for accuracy; in Section 11(e) and (f), "notice of sale date" was changed to "notice of proposed sale" for clarity and the last sentence of Section 11(h) was rewritten for accuracy.

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Cost	199,252	252,669
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	73,788	98,383
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Cost	68,804	85,738
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ²	TF - Cost	26,178	34,904
Department of Revenue Services	Various - Revenue Impact	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal
Judicial Dpt (Probation)	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue Gain	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund; TF=Transportation Fund; Various=Various

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes several changes to motor vehicle towing and related statutes and results in the following fiscal impacts as described further below: state agency costs, potential sales tax revenue, and judicial and related enforcement impacts.

State Agency Costs

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

²The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

The bill creates various requirements regarding motor vehicle towing and makes violations an unfair trade practice violation resulting in a cost to the state. To meet the requirements of the bill the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) will have to hire three additional employees for a salary and other expenses cost of \$199,252 in FY 26³ and \$252,669 in FY 27, along with corresponding fringe benefit costs of \$73,788 in FY 26 and \$98,383 in FY 27. The bill requires DCP to have additional oversight over this marketplace and is expected to generate a significant number of complaints and investigations.

Additionally, it is expected that the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will require an additional staff attorney with a salary and other expenses cost of \$68,804 in FY 26 and \$85,738 in FY 27, along with corresponding fringe benefit costs of \$26,178 in FY 26 and \$34,904 in FY 27. The bill is expected to generate a significant number of complaints for DMV and imposes other requirements for the agency related to licensing and the vehicle disposal process.

Potential Sales Tax Impacts

The bill (Section 6) results in a potential minimal revenue impact to the state by requiring DMV to modify the rates charges for nonconsensual towing, transporting and storage of motor vehicles. The actual rate increase will depend upon the uniform rates adopted by the DMV. Towing services are subject to the state's sales tax.⁴

Enforcement Penalties and Fines

The bill (Sections 1 and 11) creates new misdemeanors⁵ resulting in a potential cost to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential

³FY 26 costs for both DCP and DMV reflect nine months of expenditures due to these sections having a 10/1/25 effective date.

⁴ By statue, 0.5 percentage points of the 6.35 percent rate (or 7.87% of collections) is deposited into the Special Transportation Fund and Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund (0.5 percentage points each). The remaining 5.35 percentage points (or 84.25%) is deposited into the General Fund.

⁵ Section 1 creates a class C misdemeanor for not having written authorization to tow a specific vehicle, and Section 11 creates a class B misdemeanor for selling a vehicle before the holding period has passed.

revenue gain to the General Fund from fines. On average, the marginal cost to the state for supervision in the community is less than \$600⁶ each year for adults.

The bill also (Section 18) increases civil penalties that DMV may impose for violating the motor vehicle dealer and repairer laws from up to \$1,000 to up to \$5,000, resulting in potential revenue gain to the extent that fines are imposed.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to any rate adjustments, the actual number of offenses, or as otherwise described.

⁶ Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 7162*****AN ACT REFORMING THE MOTOR VEHICLE TOWING STATUTES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill makes numerous changes to the state's towing laws and abandoned vehicle disposal process. Some of the bill's changes affect only towing authorized by a property owner or lessee without the vehicle owner's consent (private property tows), but some apply more broadly to all "nonconsensual towing," which is towing that occurs without the vehicle owner or operator's consent, whether ordered by private property owners or lessees, police officers, or traffic authorities.

The bill's major changes related to towing include:

1. generally requiring specific written authorization from a property owner or lessee (or their agent) before a wrecker service (towing company) performs a private property tow, rather than allowing property owners or lessees to give towing companies broad authorization to tow unauthorized vehicles;
2. setting rules specific to towing from residential parking facilities, including generally requiring 24 hours' written notice before a vehicle may be towed, with certain exceptions (e.g., for assigned spaces or vehicles obstructing traffic);
3. directing the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) commissioner to set a new nonconsensual towing rate schedule by January 1, 2026, that reflects the reasonable operating costs of towing companies that perform nonconsensual towing and storage and meets the bill's other requirements;
4. requiring DMV, in consultation with the attorney general, to

develop a consumer bill of rights regarding towing (“towing bill of rights”), which towing companies must post and distribute as the bill requires;

5. requiring towing companies, for all nonconsensual tows, to take credit cards and make change, allow vehicle owners to retrieve personal property stored in a towed vehicle, and accept additional forms of proof of ownership; and
6. imposing penalties for violations of the towing laws, including deeming certain ones violations under the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA).

Regarding the abandoned vehicle disposal process, the bill does the following, among other things:

1. extends the minimum amount of time that a garage owner (including a towing company) must hold a vehicle before selling it from (1) 15 to 30 days for vehicles valued \$1,500 or less and (2) 45 to 60 days for vehicles valued above that;
2. requires DMV to check for consumer complaints pertaining to the towed vehicle before approving a garage owner’s request to sell it;
3. requires garage owners to sell all vehicles at public auction (not just those valued above \$1,500) and to advertise the sale in a commercially reasonable manner; and
4. generally requiring garage owners to mail remaining proceeds, after deducting their charges, to the vehicle owner, rather than holding them at their place of business for the owner to claim.

The bill also (1) codifies DMV regulations on dealer and repairer complaints; (2) requires, rather than allows, the State Police to establish a rotational system for summoning tow trucks within its patrol jurisdiction (tow rotation list) (§ 13), which they already do in practice; (3) bans booting on private property; (4) extends towing company

record retention timeframes; and (5) increases the civil penalties DMV may impose.

Lastly, the bill makes minor, technical, and conforming changes throughout (including in §§ 14 & 20–24).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025, except the towing bill of rights provision is effective upon passage.

§§ 1, 2, 8 & 17 —PRIVATE PROPERTY TOWING

Overview

By law, private property owners and lessees may use a towing company to have unauthorized vehicles towed from their property without the vehicle owner’s or operator’s consent. The bill modifies the current conditions under which they may do so and adds new conditions and requirements.

The bill specifies that these provisions on towing from private property do not apply to entities that are exempt from wrecker licensure requirements (e.g., automobile clubs and entities repossessing vehicles on behalf of lending institutions).

Written Authorization

Current law generally prohibits a vehicle from being towed from private property unless the property’s owner or lessee, or their agent, expressly authorizes the tow. Property owners and lessees may enter into contracts giving towing companies broad authorization to tow unauthorized vehicles from their property.

The bill instead generally requires towing companies to get written or electronically transmitted authorization (written authorization) from a property owner or lessee, or their agent, before each tow performed on private property. Property owners and lessees may still contract with towing companies to perform general towing services on their property, but the towing company must get this written authorization for each specific vehicle before it can tow the vehicle. The bill prohibits towing companies from acting as a property owner’s or lessee’s agent for the

purpose of providing written authorization to tow.

Before a vehicle may be towed from private property, the bill generally requires property owners or lessees, or their agents, to verify the reason for the tow either by being physically present on the property, viewing photos of the vehicle, or viewing the vehicle electronically with simultaneous sight and sound. The bill requires property owners or lessees, or their agents, to give the written authorization on a DMV-prescribed form and sign it under penalty of false statement. The form must include the following information:

1. the vehicle's make, model, vehicle identification number, and license plate number;
2. the reason for the tow;
3. the authorizing owner's, lessee's, or agent's name, job title, residential or business address, and phone number; and
4. the date and time the authorization was given.

Under the bill, a towing company's violation of the bill's written authorization requirement is a class C misdemeanor, punishable by up to a \$500 fine, up to 30 days in prison, or both.

The bill also requires towing companies to retain these written authorization forms for at least three years after the tow.

Exceptions. Under the bill, written authorization is not required for towing from private property for vehicles that are:

1. illegally parked in an accessible parking space for people with disabilities;
2. in an area reserved for authorized emergency vehicles;
3. within 10 feet of a fire hydrant;
4. blocking access to a building or parking space;

5. in or obstructing a vehicular traffic aisle, or entry or exit from the property or parking space; or
6. leaking fluid that presents a hazard or threat.

Unregistered Vehicles

The bill generally requires 14 days' notice before parking facility (including residential parking facility) owners and lessees, or their agents, may authorize towing a vehicle from the parking facility solely due to the vehicle being unregistered or having an expired registration. The notice must be placed in a clearly visible spot on the vehicle's driver-side windshield and include the following information:

1. statements that the vehicle (a) is unregistered or has an expired registration and (b) will be towed from the parking facility without the owner's consent if it remains parked in the same spot without being properly registered; and
2. the time the (a) notice was affixed to the vehicle and (b) vehicle will be towed, which must be at least 14 days after the notice is placed on the vehicle.

Photo Documentation by Towing Companies

Before connecting a vehicle to a tow truck without the vehicle owner's or operator's consent, the bill requires the towing company to document the vehicle's condition and the reason for towing it. The towing company must do so by taking at least five photos, one from each side of the vehicle and one that shows the reason for the tow.

The photos must have a resolution of at least 2,000 pixels by 2,000 pixels. For the photos of each side of the vehicle, the photo must show the entire vehicle from the required angle, and the vehicle must fill up at least three-fourths of the photo, measured from side-to-side. Photos documenting the reason for the tow must show the motor vehicle's position in relation to the reason that the vehicle was towed, including any signage.

The bill requires towing companies to retain these photos for at least three years after the tow.

Rebuttable Presumptions of Vehicle Damage or Improper Towing

Under the bill, vehicle owners or operators (or their agents), lienholders, and insurance companies acting on the owner's behalf may ask for copies of the (1) written authorization to tow a vehicle and (2) photos the bill requires towing companies to take.

The bill creates several rebuttable presumptions if a towing company fails to produce the written authorization or photos required. Specifically, it is a rebuttable presumption that the towing company:

1. did not get the required authorization from a property owner or lessee, if the towing company fails to produce a copy of the written authorization;
2. damaged the vehicle, if the (a) towing company fails to produce the required photos documenting the vehicle's condition and (b) vehicle is damaged; and
3. towed the vehicle in violation of the laws on towing from private property, if the towing company does not produce a photo documenting the reason for the tow.

Release for Incomplete Tow and Drop Fee

If a motor vehicle owner or operator returns before the vehicle is connected to the tow truck, a towing company must stop preparing the vehicle for towing and tell the person that he or she may move the vehicle to avoid the tow.

If a motor vehicle owner or operator returns after the vehicle is connected to the tow truck but before it is taken from the property, a towing company must stop and inform the person that the vehicle may be released for a fee (a drop fee) established by DMV (see § 6 below). The towing company must take payment in cash or by credit card and immediately release the vehicle upon payment. If the vehicle owner or

operator does not pay the fee, the towing company can proceed with the tow but must give the owner or operator a copy of the towing consumer bill of rights (see § 5 below).

Towing Distance

Current law requires towing companies that tow vehicles from private property to store the towed vehicles at their place of business in a secure storage lot. The bill requires them to store towed vehicles at these lots only if they are located within a 10-mile radius from the property from which the vehicle was towed. If the company's lot is outside this radius, it must store the vehicle at the storage facility closest to the property from which the vehicle was towed. (The bill does not define storage facility.)

The bill specifies that towing companies must comply with the bill's provisions on the storage and release of vehicles subject to nonconsensual towing, which include a requirement that towing companies store vehicles that were subject to nonconsensual towing at the towing company's place of business, without exception (see COMMENT).

The bill deems violations of these towing distance requirements to be an unfair or deceptive trade practice under CUTPA (see BACKGROUND).

Notification to Police

By law, a towing company must notify the local police department within two hours after towing a vehicle from private property or for the purpose of repossession. The bill specifies that the towing company may alternatively inform the resident state trooper serving the municipality.

The bill also requires towing companies to tell the local police department or resident state trooper where (1) and what time the tow occurred and (2) the vehicle is stored.

Penalty

As under current law, unless otherwise specified, a first offense of the

above private property towing provisions is an infraction (see BACKGROUND) with a \$50 fine, and second or subsequent offenses are misdemeanors, subject to a fine of \$50 to \$100, up to 30 days in prison, or both.

§§ 1 & 3 — WARNING SIGNS AT PARKING FACILITIES

General Requirements

Current law requires conspicuous signs warning that unauthorized vehicles may be towed to be posted on private commercial properties before property owners or lessees, or their agents, can have unauthorized vehicles towed from there.

The bill expands the properties that must have these signs posted to include lots, garages, parking terminals, and other parking structures or accommodations located on private property (i.e. “parking facilities”), rather than just private commercial properties. It also specifically requires towing companies to verify that signage meeting the bill’s requirement, as described below, is present before they tow a vehicle from a parking facility on a property owner’s or lessee’s behalf.

Sign Contents and Specifications

Under existing law, these signs must state that unauthorized vehicles may be towed and indicate any costs that might be charged. The bill additionally requires signs to (1) bear the international towing symbol, (2) state that towing is at the owner’s expense, and (3) be at least 18 inches long and 24 inches wide. The bill eliminates current law’s requirement that the signs indicate where a towed vehicle will be stored and how it can be redeemed and instead requires the signs to include (1) the name, address, and phone number for the towing company that performs the towing or (2) a phone number that a motor vehicle owner or operator can call to locate their vehicle and get information on how to redeem it.

Sign Locations

Generally, the bill requires these warning signs to be placed at the parking facility’s entrances. But in cases where certain areas are

restricted in an otherwise unrestricted parking facility, the signs must be placed either (1) on the right or left side of each entrance to a designated area or group of restricted parking spaces or (2) at the end of each restricted parking space so that the sign faces the front of the vehicle in the space. If the property owner or lessee, or their agent, imposes additional restrictions on individually signed spots, the signs must indicate that the space is reserved for a specific unit number, person, or type of person.

Exceptions

Current law makes exceptions to the signage requirements, allowing property owners or lessees to have vehicles towed without installing signage if they are left in the following locations or ways:

1. illegally parked in an accessible parking space for people with disabilities,
2. in an area reserved for authorized emergency vehicles,
3. within 10 feet of a fire hydrant, or
4. blocking building access or entry or exit from the property.

The bill adds additional exceptions for vehicles (1) blocking access to reserved parking areas, (2) obstructing vehicular traffic aisles, (3) leaking fluid that presents a hazard or a threat, or (4) parked in an area not designed for parking.

Current law also allows property owners or lessees to have an unauthorized vehicle towed without having installed signage if the vehicle is left for more than 48 hours. The bill eliminates this exception and replaces it with one that allows towing without signage after 48 hours' notice. Under the bill, parking facility owners or lessees, or their agents, may place a written notice on a vehicle stating (1) that the vehicle will be towed if it is not moved; (2) the time the notice was placed; and (3) the time the vehicle will be towed, which must be at least 48 hours after the notice is placed. The notice must be placed in a conspicuous

location on the windshield near the driver's side. This exception does not apply in the case of residential parking facilities (see below).

Penalties

Under current law, a first offense of the signage requirement is an infraction with a \$50 fine, and second or subsequent offenses are misdemeanors, subject to a fine of \$50 to \$100, up to 30 days in prison, or both. The bill eliminates the (1) specific \$50 fine and (2) misdemeanor penalty for subsequent offenses.

§§ 1 & 4 — RULES FOR TOWING AT RESIDENTIAL PARKING FACILITIES

The bill establishes additional rules specific to towing from residential parking facilities (i.e. parking facilities located at multifamily dwellings with five or more units and condominiums or other common interest communities).

Written Authorization

The bill's requirement that towing companies receive a property owner's or lessee's written authorization for each vehicle they tow applies to residential parking facilities as well. If a residential parking facility owner or lessee has assigned reserved spots, the bill allows the person assigned a reserved spot to provide written authorization to tow a vehicle from his or her assigned spot.

Required Signage

In addition to the general parking facility signage requirements they must follow (see § 3, above), the bill requires residential parking facility owners or lessees, or their agents, to post conspicuous signs listing the violations that would cause a vehicle to be towed from the parking facility.

Under the bill, the same exceptions that apply to the general signage requirement apply at residential facilities (except for the 48 hour notice exception). It adds an exception to the signage requirements for towing to allow for snow removal, subject to the bill's notice requirements (see below).

24 Hours' Notice

The bill generally requires residential parking facility owners or lessees, or their agents, to give 24 hours' notice to unauthorized vehicles left on their property before towing them, with certain exceptions (see below).

Under the bill, complex owners or lessees, or their agents, must put a written notice on unauthorized vehicles subject to towing at least 24 hours before towing them. The notice must be placed in a clearly visible spot on the vehicle's driver-side windshield and include the following:

1. a statement that the vehicle will be towed from the complex without the owner's consent if it remains parked in the same spot;
2. a description of the reason for the tow; and
3. the time the (a) notice was placed on the vehicle and (b) vehicle will be towed, which may not be earlier than 24 hours after the notice was placed on the vehicle.

Exceptions. The bill allows residential parking facility owners or lessees, or their agents, to have an unauthorized vehicle towed without giving 24 hours' notice if it is:

1. parked in a parking space reserved for a particular unit, person, or type of person, as long as the space is properly signed;
2. illegally parked in an accessible parking space for people with disabilities;
3. in an area reserved for authorized emergency vehicles;
4. within 10 feet of a fire hydrant;
5. blocking access to a building or reserved parking area;
6. in or obstructing a parking facility traffic aisle, entry, or exit;

7. leaking fluid that presents a hazard or a threat;
8. in an area not designated for parking vehicles; or
9. violating a properly noticed parking ban for snow removal (see below).

The bill also makes an exception in the case of repeat violators. It allows residential parking facility owners or lessees, or their agents, to have a vehicle towed without giving 24 hours' notice if it is left at the facility for a third or subsequent time in the same way that previously caused the vehicle to receive a notice.

Parking Bans for Snow Removal

The bill allows residential parking facility owners or lessees, or their agents, to impose a parking ban to allow for snow removal and have vehicles towed without posting signage or giving 24 hours' notice, as long as the owner, lessee, or agent:

1. posts a notice about the ban in conspicuous places in the building or buildings and the residential parking facilities and
2. communicates the ban through phone, e-mail, or text message at least four hours before the ban takes effect.

In the case of towing due to a snow ban, parking facility owners, lessees, or agents may provide written authorization to tow any vehicle, rather than providing the authorization for each specific vehicle.

Expired Parking Permits

The bill requires 72 hours' notice before residential parking facility owners and lessees, or their agents, may authorize the towing of a vehicle at the parking facility solely due to an expired parking permit. The notice must be placed in a clearly visible spot on the vehicle's driver-side windshield and include the following information:

1. statements that the (a) vehicle's parking permit has expired and (b) vehicle will be towed from the complex without the owner's

consent if it remains parked in the same spot without a valid permit; and

2. the time the (a) notice was affixed to the vehicle and (b) vehicle will be towed, which must be at least 72 hours after the notice is placed on the vehicle.

Towing Company as Agent

The bill expressly allows residential parking facility owners or lessees to authorize towing companies to install required signage and place 24 hour notices on their behalf.

§ 5 — TOWING BILL OF RIGHTS

By September 1, 2025, the bill requires the DMV commissioner, in consultation with the attorney general, to develop a consumer bill of rights regarding towing (“towing bill of rights”) in both English and Spanish and make it available for public dissemination.

The towing bill of rights must include at least the following:

1. a summary of a vehicle owner’s or operator’s rights and responsibilities if his or her vehicle is towed,
2. the towing and storage rates and the drop fee (see above) that towing companies may charge,
3. a description of the records and photos a vehicle owner or operator may request from the towing company,
4. a warning that towing companies may sell unclaimed towed vehicles under the law’s vehicle disposal process (see below), and
5. information on filing a consumer complaint with DMV.

Starting October 1, 2025, the bill requires DMV and the attorney general to include the towing bill of rights on their respective websites.

Under the bill, starting October 1, 2025, towing companies must post the towing bill of rights at their places of business and make copies

available to distribute to customers who visit there. It also requires towing companies that maintain a website to post the bill of rights on the website starting on the same date. The bill deems violations of these requirements to be an unfair or deceptive trade practice under CUTPA (see BACKGROUND).

§ 6 — NONCONSENSUAL TOWING RATES

Overview

By law, the DMV commissioner must establish a schedule of uniform rates and charges (“rate schedule”) for nonconsensual towing and transporting and for motor vehicle storage, and those rates must be just and reasonable. The bill modifies the rate setting requirements and requires the commissioner to set a new schedule of rates and charges meeting the bill’s requirements by January 1, 2026.

Under the bill, “nonconsensual towing or transporting” means towing (including recovery) or transporting a motor vehicle without the owner’s or operator’s prior consent or authorization that is ordered by (1) police officers or traffic authorities or (2) private property owners or lessees in accordance with state law. The bill’s definition is generally the same as the one under current law, except that it explicitly includes recovery (i.e. winching, hoisting, uprighting, and other similar functions a wrecker performs to return a vehicle to a position where it may be towed).

Rate Structure

Current law does not specify the structure of the rate schedule, and the commissioner has discretion over which rates and charges are included in it. In practice, the commissioner sets (1) a flat tow charge for light-duty vehicles, plus a mileage charge for transporting; (2) an hourly rate for medium- and heavy-duty towing, which includes any transporting; and (3) a schedule of storage charges, with rates that vary based on vehicle length and the type of facility (e.g., whether it is inside or outside). The towing rates apply to all kinds of nonconsensual towing, including towing performed at accident scenes.

DMV regulations also allow towing companies to charge additional fees for reasonable and necessary “exceptional services,” which means the use of special equipment not generally required for nonconsensual towing at an accident scene (Conn. Agencies Regs., § 14-63-36b). The regulations require that these charges be itemized in accordance with the company’s approved hourly labor charge; the Appellate Court recently held that exceptional service charges may be based only on the hourly labor rate and cannot include an equipment charge (see BACKGROUND).

The bill requires the new rate schedule to include separate rates for towing (1) at accident scenes (accident towing) and (2) that does not occur at accident scenes (non-accident towing). For non-accident towing, the rate must include all services and equipment involved in towing and transporting, except for mileage. For accident towing, the rate must include all services generally required at accident scenes and must take into account the equipment and labor that towing companies must have in order to be included on the State Police tow rotation list.

The new schedule must also allow a towing company to charge for exceptional services rendered at the scene of an accident, as long as the (1) charge does not exceed the hourly charge for labor and a reasonable charge for equipment use and (2) services are itemized, reasonable, and necessary to towing or transporting the vehicle.

Factors Considered in Rates and Commissioner’s Discretion

Under current law, the commissioner has discretion over which factors he considers and incorporates into the rates and charges he sets. The law specifies that he may consider, but is not limited to, the following factors when setting and amending the rates and charges: (1) the consumer price index, (2) rates set by other jurisdictions, (3) charges for towing and transportation services provided through automobile clubs, and (4) rates published in standard service manuals. DMV regulations also allow the commissioner to consider the towing and recovery industry’s operating costs but do not list specific costs that may be considered (Conn. Agencies Regs., § 14-63-36a). In a 2021 decision,

the Appellate Court affirmed the commissioner's discretion to weigh these factors as he sees fit (see BACKGROUND).

The bill limits this discretion by (1) requiring that the rate schedule reflect the reasonable operating costs of towing companies that perform nonconsensual towing and storage; (2) requiring, rather than allowing, the commissioner to consider specified factors when setting the rates; and (3) modifying those factors.

Under the bill, the commissioner must, at a minimum, consider (1) the consumer price index; (2) rates set by other jurisdictions; and (3) the cost of fuel, wreckers, heavy duty wreckers, motor vehicle parts, equipment, personnel, workers' compensation insurance, unemployment compensation, insurance premiums, and processing fees.

Public Hearings and Appeals

As under existing law, DMV must hold a public hearing to get more information before determining the rates and charges. Anyone aggrieved by the commissioner's decision may appeal under the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act.

Rate Reconsideration and Adjustment

Under current law, the commissioner must reconsider the rate schedule upon a licensed towing company's petition (but no more often than once every two years) and amend it if he determines, after considering the factors specified in law, that the rates are no longer just and reasonable. The bill instead requires the commissioner to reconsider the schedule by January 1, 2029, and every three years after that and to amend the rates and charges if, after considering the specified factors, he determines that the rates are no longer just and reasonable or do not reflect the reasonable operating costs for towing companies that perform nonconsensual towing and storage.

Permission to Charge for Services Rendered at the Direction of Police or a Traffic Authority

The bill explicitly allows (1) police officers or traffic authorities that

order a vehicle's removal to direct a towing company to use certain equipment and labor that is required by State Police tow rotation list regulations and (2) towing companies that remove the vehicle pursuant to police or traffic authority directions to charge the liable party for the services rendered.

§ 7 — DEALER AND REPAIRER COMPLAINT PROCESS

The bill codifies provisions that are substantially similar to existing DMV regulations on investigations of consumer complaints against dealers and repairers (see Conn. Agencies Regs., §§ 14-63-45b & -45c). (By law, towing companies must have a dealers' or repairers' license.) It also broadens the scope of violations the commissioner may investigate to explicitly include violations of towing laws.

Among other things, the bill codifies provisions in regulations that:

1. specify what must be included in a complaint, including a statement of facts accompanied by supporting evidence;
2. require DMV to notify the customer and the dealer or repairer, within 14 days after receiving the complaint, that the complaint was received, what matters it covers, and that it will be investigated; and
3. allow DMV several options to resolve substantiated complaints, including mediation or an administrative hearing under the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act.

If DMV finds a towing company violated the laws, the bill also specifically allows the DMV commissioner to recommend that the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection remove a medium- or heavy-duty towing company from the State Police tow rotational system in addition to any enforcement action currently authorized (e.g., civil penalties and restitution orders).

The bill also (1) eliminates a statutory provision that requires the DMV commissioner to retain unresolved complaints on a dealer or

repairer's records until the dealer or repairer provides evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the claim is resolved or no longer pending and (2) broadly allows the commissioner to adopt regulations to effectuate these provisions.

§ 9 — STORAGE AND RELEASE OF VEHICLES SUBJECT TO NONCONSENSUAL TOWING

Storage Location and Hours of Operation

Under current law, towing companies must store vehicles they tow from private property at their business site in a secured lot, and the site must be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and reasonably available on weekends and holidays for vehicle redemption purposes.

The bill (1) explicitly applies the location and operating hour requirements to all towing companies performing nonconsensual towing, not just those towing vehicles from private property; (2) extends the required weekday storage site operating hours to 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., rather than 5:00 p.m.; and (3) requires that the site be open for the purpose of removing any personal property stored in a vehicle in addition to vehicle redemption.

It deems a towing company reasonably available on weekends and holidays if (1) it is open for at least four hours on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays or (2) the towing company has an advertised number to take requests to release vehicles and access personal property and the towing company responds to the requests within four hours after receiving them.

The bill also specifically prohibits charging a storage fee on any day that a towing company does not make the vehicle available for redemption.

Access to Personal Property

By law and under the bill, towing companies have a lien on vehicles they tow for their towing and storage charges. The bill specifies that towing companies do not have a lien on personal property stored in a

vehicle subject to nonconsensual towing, and they must permit vehicle owners, or people the owners authorize, to access the vehicle and remove personal property during any of the hours the towing company is available to release vehicles. Current DMV regulations only require towing companies to allow retrieval of property essential to someone's health or welfare (Conn. Agencies Regs., § 14-63-37b).

Release Outside Hours of Operation

The bill codifies existing DMV regulations setting conditions under which towing companies must allow vehicle owners to redeem their vehicles outside the required hours of operation (Conn. Agencies Regs., § 14-63-37a).

Under the bill, as under existing regulations, a towing company must allow a vehicle owner, lending institution, or other authorized person to redeem a vehicle at any time if the towing company (1) performs or contracts to perform towing for compensation outside of its hours of operation or (2) advertises to the public it is available to tow outside of its hours of operation. The towing company must release the vehicle within a reasonable amount of time after someone makes a request for release, and a person is deemed to have made a request to release his or her vehicle by appearing at the business in person or by calling the towing company at its advertised phone number.

The bill extends to the release of private property the same provisions that apply to releasing vehicles outside the hours of operation. It also codifies the provision in regulations allowing towing companies to charge a fee for releasing a vehicle outside their hours of operation or on a day when the towing company is not available to tow for compensation outside the hours of operation.

Proof of Ownership

Under existing law, towing companies must release a vehicle towed from private property to its owner or another authorized person upon demand if the owner or other authorized person (1) presents proof of registration and (2) pays the towing and storage costs.

The bill expands the documentation that an owner or authorized person (including, under the bill, a lienholder) may provide to include a certificate of title, a bill of sale, a lease for the motor vehicle, or other reasonable proof of ownership. The towing company must release the vehicle even if the address on the documentation is different from the owner's or authorized person's current address.

Accepted Forms of Payment

The bill requires towing companies to (1) accept payment for nonconsensual towing and storage charges by cash and credit card and (2) keep sufficient cash at their offices to give change to a vehicle owner, or another authorized person, at the time of payment. The bill allows towing companies to charge a service fee for credit card payments, but it may not exceed the charge the company pays to the card issuer (including any discount rate).

Right to Inspect and Itemized Receipt

By law, vehicle owners and other authorized individuals have the right to inspect a vehicle towed from private property before accepting its return. Towing companies must provide an itemized receipt to the person who paid the towing and storage costs and cannot require an owner or authorized person to sign a general release of liability. The bill explicitly extends these provisions to all nonconsensual tows.

Penalties

The bill deems violations of these storage and release requirements to be an unfair or deceptive trade practice under CUTPA (see BACKGROUND).

§§ 10-12 — VEHICLE DISPOSAL PROCESS

Applicability

Current law establishes a process through which garage owners may sell or otherwise dispose of vehicles that remain unclaimed after being towed there without the owner's consent, under direction from a property owner or lessee, police officers, or traffic authorities.

The bill (1) makes a number of changes to the process; (2) specifies that the process applies to all nonconsensual towing and abandoned vehicles ordered removed by a police officer, DMV inspector, or parking authority (this is generally the case under current law); and (3) explicitly specifies that the garage owners subject to these requirements include towing companies and bailees for hire. (It is unclear whether a nonconsensual tow could create a bailment relationship, which is generally established when a property owner places his or her property in the custody and control of another, for a specific purpose, and with the understanding that it will be returned to the owner. Existing law establishes a separate vehicle disposal process, with a different timeline and requirements, for bailees for hire (CGS § 49-61).)

Timeframe for Disposal

Current law requires garage owners, before they can sell an unclaimed vehicle, to hold it for (1) 15 days, if the vehicle's market value is \$1,500 or less or (2) 45 days, if the vehicle's market value is more than \$1,500. The bill extends the minimum amount of time they must hold it to 30 days and 60 days, respectively, but allows garage owners to start the process of selling (e.g., by submitting forms to vehicle owners and DMV) after 15 or 45 days, as applicable.

Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, garage owners may not start this process if there is a pending hearing. (By law, hearings apply only to tows ordered by police or traffic authorities.)

Determining Vehicle Value

Under current DMV regulations and agency practice, a vehicle's market value is its average trade-in value in the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) used car guide, eastern edition. The bill instead requires that a vehicle's value, for the purpose of determining the applicable time period for disposal, be based on its retail market value in the same NADA guide.

The bill requires garage owners, when determining the vehicle's value, to assume it is in good working condition, unless the garage

owner submits evidence to DMV that it is not. And owners cannot use lack of a key as evidence that the vehicle is not in good working condition.

Municipal Removal of Abandoned Vehicle. Existing law sets certain circumstances under which the title to an abandoned vehicle immediately vests in the municipality where it was discovered, including if the vehicle's market value is less than \$500. The bill requires retail market value be used to make this determination.

Notice and Process for Disposal

Existing law requires garage owners to send notices to vehicle owners and lienholders at specified times and outlines the steps they must follow to sell or otherwise dispose of a vehicle. Under existing law, if a vehicle remains unclaimed 48 hours after the tow, the towing company, or the appropriate state or municipal agency in the case of police- or traffic-authority ordered tows, must send a notice of tow to the owner and all lien holders on record.

The table below compares the process under current law and the bill; additional information on some provisions is provided below.

Table: Vehicle Disposal Process, Current Law vs. Bill

<i>Procedural Step</i>	<i>Current Law</i>	<i>Bill</i>
Initiating process to sell stored vehicle (at least 15 days or 45 days after a tow, as applicable)	<p>Garage owner may initiate process to sell vehicle by sending "notice of intent to sell" to the owner and lienholder and provide a copy to DMV.</p> <p>Notice must specify the vehicle's identifying information; the time, date, and place of its sale; and that any proceeds that exceed the garage's charges will be available to claim for one year after the sale date.</p>	<p>Notice must include additional specified information on vehicle value and the vehicle disposal process (see below).</p> <p>Garage owners must include a copy of the towing bill of rights with the notice they provide to the vehicle's owner and lienholder.</p> <p>Garage owners must also provide any other information DMV requires, such as photographs of the stored vehicle.</p>
DMV approval of the sale	DMV must approve the notice of intent to sell and, if approved,	DMV may send a copy of the notice of intent to sell

Procedural Step	Current Law	Bill
	<p>issue the garage owner an affidavit of compliance.</p> <p>DMV must send an affidavit of compliance to the garage owner after approving the sale.</p>	<p>electronically to the vehicle's owner or lienholder.</p> <p>DMV must check for active consumer complaints from the vehicle owner before approving a sale and may not approve a sale or issue an affidavit of compliance if a related complaint is unresolved.</p>
After receiving DMV approval to sell	<p>Garage owner may sell vehicle, as long as five days have passed since notifying the owner of the intent to sell.</p> <p>For vehicles valued at \$1,500 or less, the manner of sale is unspecified. Vehicles valued above that amount must be sold at public auction.</p>	<p>Garage owner must (1) send notice to the vehicle owner and lienholder of the date, time, and place of sale and (2) advertise the sale in a commercially reasonable manner (as described below).</p> <p>Vehicles must be sold at public auction regardless of value.</p> <p>Five days after this notice, the garage owner may sell the vehicle as long as at least 30 or 60 days, as applicable, have passed.</p>
After selling	<p>Within 15 days after selling, garage owner must report the sale to DMV with the buyer's name and address, the sales price, and the amount of storing, towing, and repair charges. Garage owner must hold any proceeds above what it is owed for towing charges at its place of business for a year to be claimed by the owner. If the owner does not claim them, they escheat to the state.</p>	<p>In addition to reporting the sale to DMV, the bill generally requires the garage owner to (1) mail any proceeds that exceed its charges to the vehicle owner (as described below) and (2) notify DMV that it did so.</p> <p>Proceeds unclaimed one year after the sale date continue to escheat to the state.</p>

Notice of Intent to Sell

The bill requires the notice of intent to sell to also include, in addition to the information required under current law, (1) the vehicle's retail market value, as determined by the garage; (2) that the vehicle will be sold at public auction if it is not claimed in time and may still be claimed up until the point the vehicle is sold; and (3) that additional proceeds

will be mailed after the sale. The bill eliminates the requirement that this notice provide the time, date, and place of the sale, but requires a new notice with this information later in the process (see below).

The bill also explicitly subjects notices of intent to sell that are filed with the commissioner to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Method of Sale

The bill requires all unclaimed vehicles, rather than just those valued at more than \$1,500, to be sold through public auction for cash at the garage owner's place of business.

Under current law, a garage owner can set a minimum bid equal to the accumulated total of charges and obligations with respect to the tow and may sell or dispose of the vehicle if he or she does not receive this minimum. The bill retains the authorization to set a minimum bid but eliminates the provision allowing a garage owner to sell or dispose of the vehicle if the bid is not received. It is unclear, under the bill, what a garage owner may do after the auction if the bid is not received.

Garage owners must advertise the vehicle sale in a commercially reasonable manner. The bill deems an advertisement commercially reasonable if (1) at least three bids are received at the auction and (2) the successful bid equals the retail market value in the NADA guide.

Distribution of Proceeds

By law, garage owners must report the vehicle's sales price; storing, towing, and repair charges, if any; and other information on the vehicle and the buyer to DMV within 15 days after the sale.

Under current law, the garage owner must hold any sale proceeds that remain after subtracting the amount due to the garage owner and all the expenses related to the sale and give the proceeds to the vehicle's owner or representative if claimed within one year from the sale.

The bill instead requires the garage owner to mail these proceeds,

through certified mail, return receipt requested, to the vehicle owner within the 15-day timeframe, unless the (1) owner or his or her legal representative claimed them in-person or (2) known lienholder provided evidence of an entitlement to the proceeds. If the garage owner had previously received notice from the post office that any prior notices were undeliverable, the garage owner must confirm the vehicle owner's address with DMV before sending the proceeds. Under the bill, the garage owner must give DMV notice that the proceeds were mailed in the form and manner the commissioner determines.

Under the bill, as under existing law, if the vehicle sale proceeds are not claimed by an owner or a lienholder after one year from the sale date, the proceeds escheat to the state. The bill specifies that they escheat to the state as unclaimed property, and the garage owner is subject to applicable state law on escheats, including all obligations applicable to unclaimed property holders. Within 10 days after filing any required report and escheating any funds to the state, the garage owner must give evidence to the DMV commissioner that the report has been submitted and the funds have escheated.

Penalties

The bill generally deems violations of the vehicle disposal laws an unfair trade practice under CUTPA, except that selling a vehicle before the 30- or 60-day holding period, as applicable based on vehicle value, is a class B misdemeanor.

§§ 1, 15 & 16 — BOOTING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Existing law generally prohibits private property owners and lessees from issuing parking citations to or imposing monetary sanctions on vehicles parked on their property, but it allows them to render unauthorized vehicles immovable with a wheel locking device (i.e. "boot"). The bill instead bans private property owners from booting vehicles on their property. As is the case under current law for the parking ticket prohibition, private higher education institutions or secondary schools are exempt from the ban on booting.

§§ 17-19 — RECORD RETENTION AND CIVIL PENALTIES

Existing law requires towing companies to store various records pertaining to their business and the vehicles they tow. The bill extends, from two to three years, the period of time towing companies must retain required records and make them available for inspection by law enforcement or DMV.

The bill also increases, from \$1,000 to \$5,000, the maximum civil penalty that the DMV commissioner may impose on licensed dealers and repairers for violating the dealer and repairer laws. By law, towing companies must hold a dealer's or repairer's license to be able to operate.

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.

Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA)

By law, CUTPA prohibits businesses from engaging in unfair and deceptive acts or practices. It allows the DCP commissioner, under specified procedures, to issue regulations defining an unfair trade practice, investigate complaints, issue cease and desist orders, order restitution in cases involving less than \$10,000, impose civil penalties of up to \$5,000, enter into consent agreements, ask the attorney general to seek injunctive relief, and accept voluntary statements of compliance. It also allows individuals to sue. Courts may issue restraining orders; award actual and punitive damages, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees; and impose civil penalties of up to \$5,000 for willful violations and up to \$25,000 for a restraining order violation.

Exceptional Services: Modzelewski's Towing & Storage, Inc. v. DMV Commissioner

In 2024, the Appellate Court considered a DMV hearing officer's decision to impose civil penalties on a towing company and order restitution for certain violations, including improperly charging for exceptional services by including an equipment charge. The court held that the regulations only permit charging for exceptional services according to the approved hourly labor charge, and there is no support in existing DMV regulations for a towing company to include an equipment charge in its rate for exceptional services. In September 2024, the Connecticut Supreme Court granted the towing company's petition for certification (*Modzelewski's Towing & Storage, Inc. v. DMV Commissioner*, 225 Conn. App. 386 (2024), *cert. granted*, 349 Conn. 921 (2024)).

DMV Commissioner's Discretion in Rate Setting: Towing & Recovery Professionals of Connecticut, Inc. v. Department of Motor Vehicles

In 2018, DMV increased base towing rates and storage fees, generally reflecting the rise in the consumer price index (CPI) since the last increase in 2007. In determining the increases, the hearing officer considered evidence from the towing industry on vehicle costs, real estate taxes, and workers' compensation, among other things, but decided to give more weight to factors listed in statute (namely, the CPI).

In response to DMV's 2018 decision, the Towing & Recovery Professionals of Connecticut filed an administrative appeal challenging the commissioner's consideration of statutory and regulatory factors and its weighing of evidence. When the appeal reached the Appellate Court, it held that, given the inclusion of the word "may," both the statute and regulation give the commissioner discretion to consider and weigh the factors that he sees fit (*Towing and Recovery Professionals of Connecticut, Inc. v. Department of Motor Vehicles*, 205 Conn. App. 368 (2021), *cert. denied*, 338 Conn. 910 (2021)).

Related Bill

sSB 1449, favorably reported by the Transportation Committee, changes how medium- and heavy-duty towing rates are set, establishes a Medium- and Heavy-Duty Towing Council, sets temporary rates for medium- and heavy-duty towing, and makes substantially similar changes regarding the complaint process.

COMMENT

Internal Conflict Regarding Towed Vehicle Storage Site

The bill requires towing companies to store motor vehicles subject to nonconsensual towing in a secure lot at their place of business (§ 9). However, a separate provision requires them to store a towed vehicle at the storage facility closest to the property from which it was towed if their secure lot is outside of a 10-mile radius from the property (§ 8). The bill does not define storage facility.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22 Nay 12 (03/19/2025)