

# Senate

General Assembly

*File No. 388* 

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1493

Senate, April 1, 2025

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. GASTON of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

# AN ACT CONCERNING THE UNIFORM INVESTIGATION OF ACCIDENT REPORT AND CERTAIN REPORTS BY PEACE OFFICERS.

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, "Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria" means a voluntary guideline developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that represents a minimum, standardized set of data variables to describe motor vehicle accidents.

6 (b) The Commissioner of Transportation shall conduct a study of any 7 changes necessary to conform to the uniform investigation of accident 8 report prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 14-108a of 9 the general statutes to the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria. Not 10 later than July 1, 2026, the commissioner shall submit a report, in 11 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, 12 on the results of the study and any recommendations for legislation as 13 a result of such study to the joint standing committees of the General 14 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation and

15 public safety and security.

16 Sec. 2. Section 7-294pp of the general statutes is repealed and the 17 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2025):

18 (a) As used in this section:

19 (1) "Emergency medical condition" means a medical condition, 20 whether physical, behavioral or related to a substance use disorder or 21 mental health disorder, that manifests itself by symptoms of sufficient 22 severity, including severe pain, that in the absence of prompt medical 23 attention could reasonably be expected by a prudent layperson who 24 possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine to result in 25 placing the health of the person in serious jeopardy, serious impairment 26 to body function or serious dysfunction of any body organ or part;

(2) "Medically unstable" means any condition, whether physical,
behavioral or related to a substance use disorder or mental health
disorder, that manifests in an unstable medical or mental health status,
which could reasonably be understood by a prudent layperson who
possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine to lead to an
emergency medical condition; and

33 (3) "Peace officer" has the same meaning as provided in section 53a-34 3.

(b) Any person who experiences an emergency medical condition or
is medically unstable while in direct audio or visual contact with, or
under the custody or control of, a peace officer shall have the right to be
provided with emergency medical services.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a peace officer shall immediately request emergency medical services for any person who is under such officer's custody or control or otherwise in direct audio or visual contact with the peace officer when such person: (1) Has communicated to the peace officer that the person is (A) experiencing an emergency medical condition, or (B) medically unstable, or (2) has been observed by the peace officer to be (A) experiencing an emergency 46 medical condition, or (B) medically unstable.

47 (d) A peace officer shall not be required to request emergency 48 medical services when such officer (1) has made a reasonable 49 determination that the person is not (A) experiencing an emergency 50 medical condition, or (B) medically unstable, and (2) knows that such 51 person has been seen by a medical professional within the previous 52 twenty-four hours and was released from such medical professional's 53 care after a determination that such person was not (A) experiencing an 54 emergency medical condition, or (B) medically unstable.

- 55 (e) For any matter in which a person experiences an emergency 56 medical condition or is medically unstable while in direct audio or
- 57 visual contact with, or under the custody or control of, a peace officer,
- 58 the peace officer shall prepare a report describing the matter. Upon
- 59 request by such person, the peace officer shall provide such person with
- 60 <u>a copy of the report.</u>

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2025	7-294pp

### Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(a), "which may be used to identify traffic safety problems and design countermeasures to improve traffic safety nationally and in each state" was deleted as unnecessary.

PS Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO

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

#### **OFA Fiscal Note**

State Impact: None Municipal Impact: None

#### Explanation

The bill does not result in a fiscal impact, as explained below.

**Section 1** requires the Department of Transportation to study any changes needed to conform the existing uniform investigation of accident reports to a federal standard, which is within the department's current expertise.

Section 2 requires peace officers to prepare reports for situations when a person has an emergency medical condition or is medically unstable, and is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to state or municipal agencies that employ peace officers.

The Out Years

State Impact: None Municipal Impact: None

# OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1493

#### AN ACT CONCERNING THE UNIFORM INVESTIGATION OF ACCIDENT REPORT AND CERTAIN REPORTS BY PEACE OFFICERS.

#### SUMMARY

This bill requires a peace officer to prepare a report describing the situation when a person has an emergency medical condition or is medically unstable while in the officer's direct audio or visual contact or under his or her custody or control. It also requires the officer to give the person who experienced the medical condition a copy of the report if he or she requests it.

The bill also requires the Department of Transportation commissioner to study any changes needed to conform existing law's uniform investigation of accident report to the federal Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC). By July 1, 2026, the commissioner must submit a report of the study's results and any related legislative recommendations to the Public Safety and Security and Transportation committees. (The MMUCC is a voluntary guideline developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that represents a minimum, standardized set of data variables to describe motor vehicle accidents.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025, except the DOT report provision is effective upon passage.

#### BACKGROUND

#### **Peace Officers**

By law, the following individuals are designated peace officers: state and local police, Division of Criminal Justice inspectors, state marshals exercising statutory powers, judicial marshals performing their duties, conservation or special conservation officers, constables who perform criminal law enforcement duties, appointed special police officers, adult probation officers, Department of Correction officials authorized to make arrests in a correctional institution or facility, investigators in the State Treasurer's Office, certified Department of Motor Vehicles inspectors, U.S. marshals and deputy marshals, U.S. special agents authorized to enforce federal food and drug laws, and certified police officers of a law enforcement unit created and governed under a statetribal memorandum (CGS § 53a-3(9)).

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 18 Nay 11 (03/18/2025)