



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 7255***

LCO No. 6842



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING JUDICIAL BRANCH OPERATIONS AND  
PROCEDURES AND THE DUTIES OF JUDICIAL BRANCH  
PERSONNEL.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

2 (1) "Public agency" or "agency" has the same meaning as provided in  
3 section 1-200 of the general statutes.

4 (2) "Personal information" means: (A) A home address of a primary  
5 residence; (B) a home telephone number; (C) a mobile telephone  
6 number; (D) a personal electronic mail address; (E) a Social Security  
7 number; (F) a driver's license number; (G) a federal tax identification  
8 number; (H) a license plate number or unique identifier of a vehicle; (I)  
9 a birth or marital record; or (J) a child's name. "Personal information"  
10 does not include information that has been publicly displayed that the  
11 protected individual has not requested to be removed, or information  
12 that is relevant to and displayed as part of a news story, commentary,  
13 an editorial or any other speech on a matter of public concern.

14 (3) "Protected individual" means: (A) A justice or judge of a court  
15 established under article XX of the State Constitution; (B) a senior judge  
16 appointed pursuant to section 51-50i of the general statutes; (C) a state  
17 referee appointed pursuant to section 52-434 of the general statutes, as  
18 amended by this act; (D) a family support magistrate appointed  
19 pursuant to section 46b-231 of the general statutes; (E) a family support  
20 referee appointed pursuant to section 46b-236 of the general statutes;  
21 and (F) a spouse, a child or a dependent who resides in the same  
22 household as an individual described in subparagraphs (A) to (E),  
23 inclusive, of this subdivision.

24 (4) "Publish" means to post or otherwise make available to the public  
25 on the Internet, social media or social networks.

26 (b) There is established an Office of Information Privacy within the  
27 Judicial Branch.

28 (c) The Office of Information Privacy shall have the following powers  
29 and duties:

30 (1) Certify that a person requesting to have personal information  
31 removed from the Internet, social media or social network or to not  
32 publish personal information on the Internet, social media or social  
33 networks is a protected individual.

34 (2) After certifying that a requestor is a protected individual, direct  
35 any public agency to (A) take steps reasonably necessary to ensure that  
36 any specific personal information identified by the protected individual  
37 is not published; or (B) if such specific personal information is already  
38 published, remove the personal information as quickly as practicable.

39 (3) Take any other actions necessary to fulfill the purposes of this  
40 section.

41 (d) A protected individual may request that the Office of Information  
42 Privacy direct a public agency to: (1) Not publish any specific personal

43 information identified by the protected individual; or (2) remove such  
44 specific personal information that has already been published.

45 (e) Upon receipt of a request pursuant to (c) of this section, a public  
46 agency shall promptly acknowledge receipt of the request by electronic  
47 mail and: (1) Take steps reasonably necessary to ensure that any specific  
48 personal information identified by the protected individual is not  
49 published; or (2) if such specific personal information is already  
50 published, remove the personal information identified as quickly as  
51 practicable after receipt of the request.

52 (f) No employee of a public agency shall be held civilly liable for any  
53 damages or injuries that occur as a result of the failure to remove  
54 requested personal information of a protected individual from the  
55 Internet, social media or social networks, provided the employee acted  
56 in good faith and in accordance with the laws governing the handling  
57 of such information.

58 (g) For purposes of this section, employees shall be deemed to have  
59 acted in good faith if the employees (1) reasonably believed that their  
60 actions were in compliance with applicable laws concerning the  
61 protection of personal information, and (2) did not engage in gross  
62 negligence, wilful misconduct or intentional wrongdoing.

63 Sec. 2. Subsection (g) of section 17a-28 of the general statutes is  
64 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
65 *passage*):

66 (g) The department shall disclose records, subject to subsections (b)  
67 and (c) of this section, without the consent of the person who is the  
68 subject of the record, to:

69 (1) The person named in the record or such person's authorized  
70 representative, provided such disclosure shall be limited to information  
71 (A) contained in the record about such person or about such person's  
72 biological or adoptive minor child, if such person's parental rights to

73 such child have not been terminated; and (B) identifying an individual  
74 who reported abuse or neglect of the person, including any tape  
75 recording of an oral report pursuant to section 17a-103, if a court  
76 determines that there is reasonable cause to believe the reporter  
77 knowingly made a false report or that the interests of justice require  
78 disclosure;

79 (2) An employee of the department for any purpose reasonably  
80 related to the performance of such employee's duties;

81 (3) A guardian ad litem or attorney appointed to represent a child or  
82 youth in litigation affecting the best interests of the child or youth;

83 (4) An attorney representing a parent, guardian or child in a petition  
84 filed in the Superior Court pursuant to section 17a-112 or 46b-129,  
85 provided (A) if such records do not pertain to such attorney's client or  
86 such client's child, such records shall not be further disclosed to another  
87 individual or entity by such attorney except pursuant to the order of a  
88 court of competent jurisdiction, (B) if such records are confidential  
89 pursuant to federal law, such records shall not be disclosed to such  
90 attorney or such attorney's client unless such attorney or such attorney's  
91 client is otherwise entitled to such records, and (C) nothing in this  
92 subdivision shall limit the disclosure of records under subdivision (3) of  
93 this subsection;

94 (5) The Attorney General, any assistant attorney general or any other  
95 legal counsel retained to represent the department during the course of  
96 a legal proceeding involving the department or an employee of the  
97 department;

98 (6) The Child Advocate or the Child Advocate's designee;

99 (7) The Chief Public Defender or the Chief Public Defender's designee  
100 for purposes of ensuring competent representation by the attorneys  
101 with whom the Chief Public Defender contracts to provide legal and  
102 guardian ad litem services to the subjects of such records and for

103 ensuring accurate payments for services rendered by such attorneys;

104 (8) The Chief State's Attorney or the Chief State's Attorney's designee  
105 for purposes of investigating or prosecuting (A) an allegation related to  
106 child abuse or neglect, (B) an allegation that an individual made a false  
107 report of suspected child abuse or neglect, (C) an allegation that a  
108 mandated reporter failed to report suspected child abuse or neglect in  
109 accordance with section 17a-101a, provided such prosecuting authority  
110 shall have access to records of a child charged with the commission of a  
111 delinquent act, who is not being charged with an offense related to child  
112 abuse, only while the case is being prosecuted and after obtaining a  
113 release, or (D) an allegation of fraud in the receipt of public or private  
114 benefits, provided no information identifying the subject of the record  
115 is disclosed unless such information is essential to such investigation or  
116 prosecution;

117 (9) A state or federal law enforcement officer, including a military law  
118 enforcement authority under the United States Department of Defense,  
119 for purposes of investigating (A) an allegation related to child abuse or  
120 neglect, (B) an allegation that an individual made a false report of  
121 suspected child abuse or neglect, or (C) an allegation that a mandated  
122 reporter failed to report suspected child abuse or neglect in accordance  
123 with section 17a-101a;

124 (10) A foster or prospective adoptive parent, if the records pertain to  
125 a child or youth currently placed with the foster or prospective adoptive  
126 parent, or a child or youth being considered for placement with the  
127 foster or prospective adoptive parent, and the records are necessary to  
128 address the social, medical, psychological or educational needs of the  
129 child or youth, provided no information identifying a biological parent  
130 is disclosed without the permission of such biological parent;

131 (11) The Governor, when requested in writing in the course of the  
132 Governor's official functions, the joint standing committee of the  
133 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human

134 services, the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
135 cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary or the joint standing  
136 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
137 relating to children, when requested in writing by any of such  
138 committees in the course of such committee's official functions, and  
139 upon a majority vote of such committee, provided no name or other  
140 identifying information is disclosed unless such information is essential  
141 to the gubernatorial or legislative purpose;

142 (12) The Office of Early Childhood for the purpose of (A) determining  
143 the suitability of a person to care for children in a facility licensed  
144 pursuant to section 19a-77, 19a-80, 19a-87b or 19a-421; (B) determining  
145 the suitability of such person for licensure; (C) determining the  
146 suitability of a person to provide child care services to a child and  
147 receive a child care subsidy pursuant to section 17b-749k; (D) an  
148 investigation conducted pursuant to section 19a-80f; (E) notifying the  
149 office when the Department of Children and Families places an  
150 individual licensed or certified by the office on the child abuse and  
151 neglect registry pursuant to section 17a-101k; or (F) notifying the office  
152 when the Department of Children and Families possesses information  
153 regarding an office regulatory violation committed by an individual  
154 licensed or certified by the office;

155 (13) The Department of Developmental Services, to allow said  
156 department to determine eligibility, facilitate enrollment and plan for  
157 the provision of services to a child who is a client of said department  
158 and who is applying to enroll in or is enrolled in said department's  
159 behavioral services program. At the time that a parent or guardian  
160 completes an application for enrollment of a child in the Department of  
161 Developmental Services' behavioral services program, or at the time that  
162 said department updates a child's annual individualized plan of care,  
163 said department shall notify such parent or guardian that the  
164 Department of Children and Families may provide records to the  
165 Department of Developmental Services for the purposes specified in this  
166 subdivision without the consent of such parent or guardian;

167 (14) Any individual or entity for the purposes of identifying resources  
168 that will promote the permanency plan of a child or youth approved by  
169 the court pursuant to sections 17a-11, 17a-111b and 46b-129;

170 (15) A state agency that licenses or certifies a person to educate, care  
171 for or provide services to children or youths;

172 (16) A judge or employee of a Probate Court who requires access to  
173 such records in order to perform such judge's or employee's official  
174 duties;

175 (17) A judge of the Superior Court for purposes of determining the  
176 appropriate disposition of a child adjudicated as delinquent;

177 (18) A judge of the Superior Court in a criminal prosecution for  
178 purposes of in camera inspection whenever (A) the court has ordered  
179 that the record be provided to the court; or (B) a party to the proceeding  
180 has issued a subpoena for the record;

181 (19) A judge of the Superior Court and all necessary parties in a  
182 family violence proceeding when such records concern family violence  
183 with respect to the child who is the subject of the proceeding or the  
184 parent of such child who is the subject of the proceeding;

185 (20) The Auditors of Public Accounts, or their representative,  
186 provided no information identifying the subject of the record is  
187 disclosed unless such information is essential to an audit conducted  
188 pursuant to section 2-90;

189 (21) A local or regional board of education, provided the records are  
190 limited to educational records created or obtained by the state or  
191 Connecticut Unified School District #2, established pursuant to section  
192 17a-37;

193 (22) The superintendent of schools for any school district for the  
194 purpose of determining the suitability of a person to be employed by  
195 the local or regional board of education for such school district pursuant

196 to subsection (a) of section 10-221d;

197 (23) The Department of Motor Vehicles for the purpose of criminal  
198 history records checks pursuant to subsection (e) of section 14-44,  
199 provided information disclosed pursuant to this subdivision shall be  
200 limited to information included on the Department of Children and  
201 Families child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to section  
202 17a-101k, subject to the provisions of sections 17a-101g and 17a-101k  
203 concerning the nondisclosure of findings of responsibility for abuse and  
204 neglect;

205 (24) The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for the  
206 purpose of treatment planning for young adults who have transitioned  
207 from the care of the Department of Children and Families;

208 (25) The superintendent of a public school district or the executive  
209 director or other head of a public or private institution for children  
210 providing care for children or a private school (A) pursuant to sections  
211 17a-11, 17a-101b, 17a-101c, 17a-101i, 17a-111b and 46b-129, or (B) when  
212 the Department of Children and Families places an individual  
213 employed by such institution or school on the child abuse and neglect  
214 registry pursuant to section 17a-101k;

215 (26) The Department of Social Services for the purpose of (A)  
216 determining the suitability of a person for payment from the  
217 Department of Social Services for providing child care; (B) promoting  
218 the health, safety and welfare of a child or youth receiving services from  
219 either department; or (C) investigating allegations of fraud provided no  
220 information identifying the subject of the record is disclosed unless such  
221 information is essential to any such investigation;

222 (27) The Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch, [to  
223 allow the division to determine] for the purpose of (A) determining the  
224 supervision and treatment needs of a child or youth or any other person,  
225 and provide appropriate supervision and treatment services to such  
226 child or youth [, provided such disclosure shall be limited to



227 information that identifies the child or youth, or a member of such  
228 child's or youth's immediate family, as being or having been (A)  
229 committed to the custody of the Commissioner of Children and Families  
230 as delinquent, (B) under the supervision of the Commissioner of  
231 Children and Families, or (C) enrolled in the voluntary services program  
232 operated by the Department of Children and Families;

233 (28) The Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch for  
234 the purpose of] or any other person, or (B) sharing common case records  
235 to track recidivism of juvenile offenders;

236 (29) The birth-to-three program's referral intake office for the purpose  
237 of (A) determining eligibility of, (B) facilitating enrollment for, and (C)  
238 providing services to (i) substantiated victims of child abuse and neglect  
239 with suspected developmental delays, and (ii) newborns impacted by  
240 withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure;

241 (30) The Department of Public Health for (A) the purpose of  
242 notification when the Commissioner of Children and Families places an  
243 individual licensed or certified by the Department of Public Health on  
244 the child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to section 17a-  
245 101k, and (B) purposes relating to the licensure of the Albert J. Solnit  
246 Children's Center and the administration of licensing requirements  
247 established pursuant to or set forth in sections 19a-134 and 19a-498;

248 (31) The Department of Correction, for the purpose of determining  
249 the supervision and treatment needs of a child or youth, and providing  
250 appropriate supervision and treatment services to such child or youth;

251 (32) Any child placing agency subject to licensure by the Department  
252 of Children and Families, for the purpose of determining the suitability  
253 of a person (A) for employment by such agency, or (B) to adopt or  
254 provide foster care pursuant to sections 17a-114 and 17a-151;

255 (33) The Department of Administrative Services, for the purpose of  
256 determining whether an applicant for employment with the state, who

257 would have contact with children in the course of such employment,  
258 appears on the child abuse or neglect registry maintained pursuant to  
259 section 17a-101k; and

260 (34) Any individual, upon the request of such individual, when the  
261 information concerns an incident of abuse or neglect that resulted in the  
262 fatality or near fatality of a child or youth, provided (A) such disclosure  
263 shall be limited to (i) the cause and circumstances of such fatality or near  
264 fatality, (ii) the age and gender of such child or youth, (iii) a description  
265 of any previous reports of or investigations into child abuse or neglect  
266 that are relevant to the child abuse or neglect that led to such fatality or  
267 near fatality, (iv) the findings of any such investigations, and (v) a  
268 description of any services provided and actions taken by the state on  
269 behalf of such child or youth that are relevant to the child abuse or  
270 neglect that led to such fatality or near fatality, and (B) the department  
271 shall not make any disclosure that is prohibited by the provisions of any  
272 relevant federal law, including, but not limited to, Titles IV-B and IV-E  
273 of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time. The  
274 department may withhold the disclosure of any records described in  
275 this subdivision if the commissioner determines that such disclosure  
276 may (i) result in harm to the safety or well-being of the child or youth  
277 who is the subject of such records, the family of such child or youth, or  
278 any individual who made a report of abuse or neglect pertaining to such  
279 child or youth, or (ii) interfere with a pending criminal investigation.

280 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 29-32b of the general statutes is  
281 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
282 *2025*):

283 (a) There is established a Board of Firearms Permit Examiners, within  
284 the Office of Governmental Accountability established under section 1-  
285 300, to be comprised of [nine] eight members [, eight of whom] who shall  
286 be appointed by the Governor to serve during the Governor's term and  
287 until such members' successors are appointed and qualify. [, and one of  
288 whom shall be a retired judge of the Superior Court appointed by the

289 Chief Court Administrator.] With the exception of two public members,  
290 the members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed from  
291 nominees of the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public  
292 Protection, the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services,  
293 the Connecticut State Association of Chiefs of Police, the Commissioner  
294 of Energy and Environmental Protection, The Connecticut State Rifle  
295 and Revolver Association, Inc., and Ye Connecticut Gun Guild, Inc., and  
296 each of said organizations shall be entitled to representation on the  
297 board. At least one member of the board appointed by the Governor  
298 shall be a lawyer licensed to practice in this state who shall act as  
299 chairman of the board during the hearing of appeals brought under this  
300 section.

301 Sec. 4. Subsection (f) of section 42a-9-518 of the general statutes is  
302 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
303 *2025*):

304 (f) (1) A person identified in any record filed pursuant to sections 42a-  
305 9-501 to 42a-9-526, inclusive, may petition the Tax and Administrative  
306 Appeals Session of the Superior Court to invalidate a record, when such  
307 record was falsely filed or amended. The court shall review such  
308 petition and determine whether cause exists to doubt the validity of  
309 such record. Upon a determination that such cause exists, the court  
310 [shall] may, not later than sixty days after the date of such  
311 determination, hold a hearing to determine whether to invalidate such  
312 record or grant any other relief deemed appropriate by the court. The  
313 court's finding may be made solely on a review of the documentation  
314 attached to the petition and the responses, if any, of the person named  
315 as a secured party in the financing statement record and without  
316 hearing any oral testimony if none is offered by the secured party. There  
317 shall be no fee to petition for a hearing under this section. The person  
318 petitioning the court to invalidate a record shall send a copy of the  
319 petition to all parties named in such record.

320 (2) A person who files a petition under subdivision (1) of this

321 subsection shall include, as part of such petition, a certified copy of the  
322 record that such person seeks to invalidate.

323 (3) In determining whether cause exists to doubt the validity of a  
324 record under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the court may consider  
325 factors that include, but are not limited to, whether (A) the record is  
326 related to a valid existing commercial or financial transaction, or a  
327 potential commercial or financial transaction, or a judgment of a court  
328 of competent jurisdiction; (B) the same individual is named as both  
329 debtor and creditor; (C) an individual is named as a transmitting utility;  
330 and (D) the record has been filed with the intent to defraud, deceive,  
331 injure or harass a person, business or governmental entity.

332 (4) If the court determines [after a hearing] that a record identified in  
333 a petition filed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection is not valid,  
334 the court shall render a judgment that such record is void in its entirety  
335 and shall direct the custodian of such record, when feasible, to note that  
336 such record is not valid. The court may grant such other relief as it  
337 deems appropriate. The petitioner under subdivision (1) of this  
338 subsection shall provide a copy of the petition and the judgment of the  
339 court granting such petition to the custodian of the record adjudged  
340 invalid by the court.

341 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 46b-3 of the general statutes is  
342 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
343 *passage*):

344 (a) The Chief Court Administrator shall appoint such family relations  
345 personnel as the Chief Court Administrator deems necessary for the  
346 proper operation of the family relations sessions. The salaries and duties  
347 of such [officers] personnel shall be determined by the judges of the  
348 Supreme Court in accordance with the compensation plan established  
349 under section 51-12. For the purposes of any investigation or pretrial  
350 conference the judge presiding at any family relations session may  
351 employ the services of any probation officer, including those under the

352 direction of Adult Probation Services, physician, psychologist,  
353 psychiatrist or family counselor. The Chief Court Administrator may  
354 assign, reassign and modify the assignments of such family relations  
355 personnel as such administrator deems necessary to be in the best  
356 interest of the disposition of family relations matters.

357 Sec. 6. Subsection (d) of section 46b-124 of the general statutes is  
358 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
359 *2025*):

360 (d) Records of cases of juvenile matters involving delinquency  
361 proceedings shall be available to (1) Judicial Branch employees who, in  
362 the performance of their duties, require access to such records, (2) judges  
363 and employees of the Probate Court who, in the performance of their  
364 duties, require access to such records, and (3) employees and authorized  
365 agents of municipal, state or federal agencies involved in (A) the  
366 delinquency proceedings, (B) the provision of services directly to the  
367 child, (C) the delivery of court diversionary programs, or (D) the  
368 evaluation of a proposed transfer of a firearm to a person under the age  
369 of twenty-one in this state or any other state, as required by Title II,  
370 Section 12001 of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, Public Law 117-  
371 159, as amended from time to time. Such employees and authorized  
372 agents include, but are not limited to, law enforcement officials,  
373 community-based youth service bureau officials, state and federal  
374 prosecutorial officials, school officials in accordance with section 10-  
375 233h, court officials including officials of both the regular criminal  
376 docket and the docket for juvenile matters and officials of the Division  
377 of Criminal Justice, the Division of Public Defender Services, the  
378 Department of Children and Families, if the child is under the oversight  
379 of the department's administrative unit pursuant to section 17a-3b,  
380 provided such disclosure shall be limited to information that identifies  
381 the child as residing in a justice facility or incarcerated, or, if the child is  
382 [committed pursuant to section 46b-129] receiving services from the  
383 department, provided such disclosure shall be limited to (i) information  
384 that identifies the child as the subject of the delinquency petition, or (ii)

385 the records of the delinquency proceedings, when the [juvenile court  
386 orders the] department [to provide] is providing services to said child,  
387 the Court Support Services Division and agencies under contract with  
388 the Judicial Branch. Such records shall also be available to (I) the  
389 attorney representing the child, including the Division of Public  
390 Defender Services, in any proceeding in which such records are  
391 relevant, (II) the parents or guardian of the child, until such time as the  
392 subject of the record reaches the age of majority, (III) the subject of the  
393 record, upon submission of satisfactory proof of the subject's identity,  
394 pursuant to guidelines prescribed by the Office of the Chief Court  
395 Administrator, provided the subject has reached the age of majority,  
396 (IV) law enforcement officials and prosecutorial officials conducting  
397 legitimate criminal investigations, as provided in subsection (o) of this  
398 section or orders to detain pursuant to section 46b-133, (V) a state or  
399 federal agency providing services related to the collection of moneys  
400 due or funding to support the service needs of eligible juveniles,  
401 provided such disclosure shall be limited to that information necessary  
402 for the collection of and application for such moneys, (VI) members and  
403 employees of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and employees of the  
404 Department of Correction who, in the performance of their duties,  
405 require access to such records, provided the subject of the record has  
406 been charged with or has been convicted of a crime in the regular  
407 criminal docket of the Superior Court and such records are relevant to  
408 the performance of a risk and needs assessment of such person while  
409 such person is incarcerated, the determination of such person's  
410 suitability for release from [incarceration] the department's custody or  
411 for a pardon, or the determination of the supervision and treatment  
412 needs of such person while on parole or other supervised release, and  
413 (VII) members and employees of the Judicial Review Council who, in  
414 the performance of their duties related to said council, require access to  
415 such records. Records disclosed pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
416 further disclosed, except that information contained in such records  
417 may be disclosed in connection with bail or sentencing reports in open  
418 court during criminal proceedings involving the subject of such

419 information, or as otherwise provided by law.

420 Sec. 7. Subsection (f) of section 46b-124 of the general statutes is  
421 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
422 *2025*):

423 (f) Information concerning a child who is the subject of an order to  
424 take such child into custody or other process that has been entered into  
425 a central computer system pursuant to subsection (i) of section 46b-133  
426 may be disclosed to employees and authorized agents of the Judicial  
427 Branch, law enforcement agencies and the Department of Children and  
428 Families, provided the information is limited to a child who [has been  
429 committed pursuant to section 46b-129] is receiving services from the  
430 department, in accordance with policies and procedures established by  
431 the Chief Court Administrator.

432 Sec. 8. Section 47a-26e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
433 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

434 If an order of payments is in effect on the date of judgment in the trial  
435 court and an appeal is taken by any party, the order shall remain in  
436 effect and compliance with the order shall constitute satisfactory  
437 compliance with [the bond requirement] subsection (a) of section 47a-  
438 35a, as amended by this act.

439 Sec. 9. Section 47a-35a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
440 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

441 (a) When any appeal is taken by the defendant occupying a dwelling  
442 unit in an action of summary process, the chief clerk of the Appellate  
443 Court, or the chief clerk's designee, shall transmit notice of the pendency  
444 of the appeal to the Superior Court that rendered the judgment that is  
445 the subject of the appeal. Upon receipt of the notice of the pendency of  
446 such appeal, the Superior Court shall schedule and conduct a hearing to  
447 guarantee payment for all rents that may accrue during the pendency of  
448 such appeal. The Superior Court shall schedule and conduct such

449 hearing not later than fourteen days after the date of receiving notice of  
450 the pendency of such appeal. After conducting such hearing the  
451 Superior Court may order the defendant to deposit with the court (1) an  
452 amount equal to the defendant's portion of the last-agreed upon rent, or  
453 (2) where no lease had existed, an amount equal to the reasonable value  
454 for such use and occupancy that may so accrue. After hearing thereon,  
455 the court shall order the defendant to deposit with the court payments  
456 for the reasonable fair rental value of the use and occupancy of the  
457 premises during the pendency of such appeal accruing from the date of  
458 such order. Such order shall permit the payment of such amount in  
459 monthly installments, as it becomes due. If all or a portion of the  
460 defendant's rent is being paid to the plaintiff by a housing authority,  
461 municipality, state agency or similar entity, this requirement shall be  
462 satisfied if the defendant deposits with the court an amount equal to the  
463 defendant's portion of the rent.

464 (b) In any other appeal the [court] Superior Court on its own motion  
465 or on motion of the parties, may fix a sufficient bond with surety to the  
466 adverse party in such amount as it may determine.

467 (c) When any appeal is taken by a plaintiff in an action of summary  
468 process, the [court] Superior Court, upon motion of the plaintiff and  
469 after a hearing thereon, shall order the defendant to deposit with the  
470 court payments in monthly installments, as each payment becomes due,  
471 for the reasonable fair rental value of the use and occupancy of the  
472 premises during the pendency of the appeal accruing from the date of  
473 such order.

474 Sec. 10. Subsection (b) of section 51-5c of the general statutes is  
475 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
476 *passage*):

477 (b) (1) The following information contained in the registry of  
478 protective orders shall not be subject to disclosure and may be accessed  
479 only in accordance with this section, unless otherwise ordered by the



480 court: (A) Any information that would identify a person protected by an  
481 order contained in the registry; (B) any information that is confidential  
482 pursuant to state or federal law, including, but not limited to, any  
483 information that is confidential pursuant to a court order; and (C) any  
484 information entered in the registry pursuant to an ex parte order prior  
485 to a hearing by a court having jurisdiction over the parties and the  
486 subject matter.

487 (2) Any judge of the Superior Court or any employee of the Judicial  
488 [Department] Branch who is authorized by policies and procedures  
489 adopted by the Chief Court Administrator pursuant to subsection (a) of  
490 this section shall have access to such information. The Chief Court  
491 Administrator may grant access to such information to personnel of the  
492 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the  
493 Department of Correction, the Department of Children and Families, the  
494 Board of Pardons and Paroles, the Psychiatric Security Review Board,  
495 the Division of Criminal Justice, any municipal or tribal police  
496 department within this state or any other agency, organization or person  
497 determined by the Chief Court Administrator, pursuant to policies and  
498 procedures adopted by the Chief Court Administrator, to have a  
499 legitimate interest in the information contained in the registry. Any  
500 person who obtains such information pursuant to this subdivision may  
501 use and disclose the information only in the performance of such  
502 person's duties.

503 (3) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the  
504 information contained in the registry shall be provided to and may be  
505 accessed through the Connecticut on-line law enforcement  
506 communications teleprocessing system maintained by the Department  
507 of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Nothing in this section  
508 shall be construed to permit public access to the Connecticut on-line law  
509 enforcement communications teleprocessing system.

510 Sec. 11. Subsection (c) of section 51-47 of the general statutes is  
511 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

512 *passage*):

513 (c) Each such judge shall be an elector and a resident of this state,  
514 shall be a member of the bar of the state of Connecticut and shall not  
515 engage in private practice, nor on or after July 1, 1985, be a member of  
516 any board of directors or of any advisory board of any state bank and  
517 trust company, state bank or savings and loan association, national  
518 banking association or federal savings bank or savings and loan  
519 association. [Nothing in this subsection shall preclude a senior judge  
520 from participating in any alternative dispute resolution program  
521 approved by STA-FED ADR, Inc.]

522 Sec. 12. Section 51-50c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
523 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

524 (a) (1) Any senior judge of the Supreme Court may be designated and  
525 assigned by the Chief Justice or the Chief Court Administrator to  
526 perform such judicial duties in the Supreme Court or by the Chief Court  
527 Administrator to perform such judicial duties in the Superior Court, as  
528 such senior judge is willing to undertake; (2) any senior judge of the  
529 Appellate Court may be designated by the Chief Judge of the Appellate  
530 Court or the Chief Court Administrator to perform such judicial duties  
531 in the Appellate Court or by the Chief Court Administrator to perform  
532 such judicial duties in the Superior Court, as such senior judge is willing  
533 to undertake.

534 (b) Any senior judge of the Superior Court may be designated and  
535 assigned by the Chief Court Administrator to perform such judicial  
536 duties in the Superior Court as such senior judge is willing to undertake.

537 (c) A senior judge shall not perform judicial duties unless such senior  
538 judge is so designated and assigned except as a state referee in the  
539 manner prescribed by law.

540 (d) The Chief Court Administrator may designate, assign or summon  
541 any senior judge, in any matter in which the Chief Court Administrator

542 may designate, assign or summon a judge or judges, to sit or act in any  
543 judicial capacity.

544 (e) The Chief Court Administrator may make new designations and  
545 assignments in accordance with the provisions of this section and may  
546 revoke designations and assignments previously made by the Chief  
547 Court Administrator.

548 [(f) A senior judge may participate in an alternative dispute  
549 resolution program approved by STA-FED ADR, Inc. in any year  
550 commencing July first provided such judge performed the duties of a  
551 senior judge for at least seventy-five days during the preceding year,  
552 except that (1) for the year commencing July 1, 1993, a senior judge may  
553 participate in said alternative dispute resolution program without  
554 having performed the duties of a senior judge for seventy-five days  
555 during the preceding year and (2) a senior judge may participate in said  
556 alternative dispute resolution program from the date such judge  
557 assumes the status of a senior judge, through the completion of the year  
558 commencing July first following such date, without having satisfied the  
559 seventy-five-day requirement.]

560 Sec. 13. Section 51-50k of the general statutes is repealed and the  
561 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

562 Each retired justice or judge who is designated and assigned by the  
563 Chief Justice or the Chief Court Administrator to perform judicial duties  
564 shall be an elector and a resident of this state, shall be a member of the  
565 bar of the state of Connecticut and shall not engage in private practice.  
566 [Participation in an alternative dispute resolution program approved by  
567 STA-FED ADR, Inc. shall not be considered the private practice of law.]

568 Sec. 14. Section 51-197f of the general statutes is repealed and the  
569 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

570 Upon final determination of any appeal by the Appellate Court or  
571 upon the Appellate Court's denial of a motion to file a late appeal, there

572 shall be no right to further review except the Supreme Court shall have  
573 the power to certify cases for its review upon petition by an aggrieved  
574 party or by the appellate panel which heard the matter. A vote of three  
575 judges of the Supreme Court shall be required to certify a case for review  
576 by the Supreme Court, except that if fewer than six judges of said court  
577 are available to consider a petition, a vote of two judges of said court  
578 shall be required to certify a case, under such other rules as the justices  
579 of said court shall establish. The procedure on appeal from the  
580 Appellate Court to the Supreme Court shall, except as otherwise  
581 provided, be in accordance with the procedure provided by rule or law  
582 for the appeal of judgments rendered by the Superior Court, unless  
583 modified by rule of the justices of the Supreme Court.

584       Sec. 15. Section 51-344 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
585 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

586       For purposes of establishing venue, the Superior Court shall consist  
587 of the following judicial districts:

588       (1) The judicial district of Ansonia-Milford, consisting of the towns of  
589 Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Derby, Milford, Orange, Oxford, Seymour,  
590 Shelton and West Haven;

591       (2) The judicial district of Danbury, consisting of the towns of Bethel,  
592 Brookfield, Danbury, New Fairfield, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield  
593 and Sherman;

594       (3) The judicial district of Bridgeport, consisting of the towns of  
595 Bridgeport, Easton, Fairfield, Monroe, Stratford and Trumbull;

596       (4) The judicial district of Hartford, consisting of the towns of [Avon,]  
597 Bloomfield, [Canton,] East Granby, East Hartford, East Windsor,  
598 Enfield, [Farmington,] Glastonbury, [Granby,] Hartford, Manchester,  
599 Marlborough, [Simsbury,] South Windsor, Suffield, West Hartford,  
600 Windsor and Windsor Locks;

601       (5) The judicial district of Litchfield, consisting of the towns of Avon,  
602       Barkhamsted, Bethlehem, Bridgewater, Burlington, Canaan, Canton,  
603       Colebrook, Cornwall, Farmington, Goshen, Granby, Hartland,  
604       Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, New Hartford, New Milford,  
605       Norfolk, North Canaan, Roxbury, Salisbury, Sharon, Simsbury,  
606       Thomaston, Torrington, Warren, Washington and Winchester;

607       (6) The judicial district of Middlesex, consisting of the towns of  
608       Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East  
609       Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Middlefield, Middletown, Old  
610       Saybrook, Portland and Westbrook;

611       (7) The judicial district of New Britain, consisting of the towns of  
612       Berlin, Bristol, [Burlington,] New Britain, Newington, Plainville,  
613       Plymouth, Rocky Hill, Southington and Wethersfield;

614       (8) The judicial district of New Haven, consisting of the towns of  
615       Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, East Haven, Guilford, Hamden, Madison,  
616       Meriden, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Wallingford and  
617       Woodbridge;

618       (9) The judicial district of New London, consisting of the towns of  
619       Bozrah, Colchester, East Lyme, Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Lebanon,  
620       Ledyard, Lisbon, Lyme, Montville, New London, North Stonington,  
621       Norwich, Old Lyme, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Stonington, Voluntown  
622       and Waterford;

623       (10) The judicial district of Stamford-Norwalk, consisting of the  
624       towns of Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston,  
625       Westport and Wilton;

626       (11) The judicial district of Tolland, consisting of the towns of  
627       Andover, Bolton, Columbia, Coventry, Ellington, Hebron, Mansfield,  
628       Somers, Stafford, Tolland, Union, Vernon and Willington;

629       (12) The judicial district of Waterbury, consisting of the towns of

630 Middlebury, Naugatuck, Prospect, Southbury, Waterbury, Watertown,  
631 Wolcott and Woodbury; and

632 (13) The judicial district of Windham, consisting of the towns of  
633 Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly,  
634 Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Windham  
635 and Woodstock.

636 Sec. 16. Section 51-345 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
637 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

638 (a) Except as provided in section 51-348 and subsections (b) to (h),  
639 inclusive, of this section, all civil process shall be made returnable to a  
640 judicial district, as follows:

641 (1) If all of the parties reside outside this state, to the judicial district  
642 where (A) the injury occurred, (B) the transaction occurred, or (C) the  
643 property is located or lawfully attached.

644 (2) If the defendant is not a resident, to the judicial district where the  
645 attached property is located.

646 (3) If either or both the plaintiff or the defendant are residents of this  
647 state, to the judicial district where either the plaintiff or the defendant  
648 resides, except:

649 (A) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
650 Manchester, East Windsor, South Windsor or Enfield, the action may be  
651 made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district  
652 of Hartford or the judicial district of Tolland.

653 (B) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
654 Plymouth, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
655 plaintiff to either the judicial district of New Britain or the judicial  
656 district of Waterbury.

657 (C) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of

658 Bethany, Milford, West Haven or Woodbridge, the action may be made  
659 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
660 New Haven or the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford.

661 (D) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
662 Southbury, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
663 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford or the judicial  
664 district of Waterbury.

665 (E) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
666 Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston,  
667 Westport or Wilton, the action may be made returnable at the option of  
668 the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Stamford-Norwalk or the  
669 judicial district of Bridgeport.

670 (F) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
671 Watertown or Woodbury, the action may be made returnable at the  
672 option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Waterbury or the  
673 judicial district of Litchfield.

674 [(G) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
675 Avon, Canton, Farmington or Simsbury, the action may be made  
676 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
677 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain.]

678 [(H)] (G) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
679 Newington, Rocky Hill or Wethersfield, the action may be made  
680 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
681 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain, except for actions where  
682 venue is in the geographical area as provided in section 51-348 or in  
683 rules of court.

684 [(I)] (H) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
685 Cromwell, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
686 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Hartford or the judicial district  
687 of Middlesex.

688        [(J)] (I) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
689 New Milford, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
690 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Danbury or the judicial district  
691 of Litchfield.

692        [(K)] (I) If either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
693 Windham or Ashford, the action may be made returnable at the option  
694 of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Windham or the judicial  
695 district of Tolland.

696        (b) In all actions involving the title to land, for trespass to land and to  
697 foreclose or redeem mortgages or liens upon real property, civil process  
698 shall be made returnable to the judicial district where the real property  
699 is located, either entirely or in part, except:

700        (1) If the land is located in the town of Manchester, East Windsor,  
701 South Windsor or Enfield and either the plaintiff or the defendant  
702 resides in the town of Manchester, East Windsor, South Windsor or  
703 Enfield, the action may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff  
704 to either the judicial district of Hartford or the judicial district of  
705 Tolland.

706        (2) If the land is located in the town of Plymouth and either the  
707 plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of Plymouth, the action  
708 may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial  
709 district of New Britain or the judicial district of Waterbury.

710        (3) If the land is located in the town of Bethany, Milford, West Haven  
711 or Woodbridge and either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the  
712 town of Bethany, Milford, West Haven or Woodbridge, the action may  
713 be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial  
714 district of New Haven or the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford.

715        (4) If the land is located in the town of Southbury and either the  
716 plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of Southbury, the action  
717 may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial



718 district of Ansonia-Milford or the judicial district of Waterbury.

719 (5) If the land is located in the town of Weston, Westport or Wilton  
720 and either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in any one of these  
721 towns, the action may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff  
722 to either the judicial district of Stamford-Norwalk or the judicial district  
723 of Bridgeport.

724 (6) If the land is located in the town of Watertown or Woodbury and  
725 either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of Watertown or  
726 Woodbury, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
727 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Waterbury or the judicial district  
728 of Litchfield.

729 [(7) If the land is located in the town of Avon, Canton, Farmington or  
730 Simsbury and either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of  
731 Avon, Canton, Farmington or Simsbury, the action may be made  
732 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
733 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain.]

734 [(8)] (7) If the land is located in the town of Newington, Rocky Hill or  
735 Wethersfield and either the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town  
736 of Newington, Rocky Hill or Wethersfield, the action may be made  
737 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
738 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain, except for actions where  
739 venue is in the geographical area as provided in section 51-348 or in  
740 rules of court.

741 [(9)] (8) If the land is located in the town of New Milford and either  
742 the plaintiff or the defendant resides in the town of New Milford, the  
743 action may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the  
744 judicial district of Danbury or the judicial district of Litchfield.

745 (c) In all actions by a domestic or foreign business organization,  
746 except actions made returnable under subsection (b), (d) or (g) of this  
747 section, civil process shall be made returnable as follows:

748 (1) If the plaintiff is a domestic business organization and the  
749 defendant is a resident, either (A) to the judicial district where the  
750 plaintiff has an office or place of business, or (B) to the judicial district  
751 where the defendant resides, except:

752 (i) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
753 Manchester, East Windsor, South Windsor or Enfield, the action may be  
754 made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district  
755 of Hartford or the judicial district of Tolland.

756 (ii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
757 Plymouth, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
758 plaintiff to either the judicial district of New Britain or the judicial  
759 district of Waterbury.

760 (iii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
761 Bethany, Milford, West Haven or Woodbridge, the action may be made  
762 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
763 New Haven or the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford.

764 (iv) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
765 Southbury, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
766 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford or the judicial  
767 district of Waterbury.

768 (v) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
769 Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston,  
770 Westport or Wilton, the action may be made returnable at the option of  
771 the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Stamford-Norwalk or the  
772 judicial district of Bridgeport.

773 (vi) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
774 Watertown or Woodbury, the action may be made returnable at the  
775 option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Waterbury or the  
776 judicial district of Litchfield.

777 (vii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
778 Avon, Canton, Farmington or Simsbury, the action may be made  
779 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
780 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain.

781 (viii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
782 Newington, Rocky Hill or Wethersfield, the action may be made  
783 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
784 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain, except for actions where  
785 venue is in the geographical area as provided in section 51-348 or in  
786 rules of court.

787 (ix) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
788 Cromwell, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
789 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Hartford or the judicial district  
790 of Middlesex.

791 (x) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of New  
792 Milford, the action may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff  
793 to either the judicial district of Danbury or the judicial district of  
794 Litchfield.

795 (xi) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
796 Windham or Ashford, the action may be made returnable at the option  
797 of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Windham or the judicial  
798 district of Tolland.

799 (2) If the plaintiff is a domestic business organization and the  
800 defendant is a domestic or foreign business organization, to the judicial  
801 district where (A) the plaintiff has an office or place of business, (B) the  
802 injury occurred, (C) the transaction occurred, or (D) the property is  
803 located or lawfully attached, except:

804 (i) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
805 Manchester, East Windsor, South Windsor or Enfield, the action may be  
806 made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district

807 of Hartford or the judicial district of Tolland.

808 (ii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
809 Plymouth, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
810 plaintiff to either the judicial district of New Britain or the judicial  
811 district of Waterbury.

812 (iii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
813 Bethany, Milford, West Haven or Woodbridge, the action may be made  
814 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
815 New Haven or the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford.

816 (iv) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
817 Southbury, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
818 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Ansonia-Milford or the judicial  
819 district of Waterbury.

820 (v) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
821 Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston,  
822 Westport or Wilton, the action may be made returnable at the option of  
823 the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Stamford-Norwalk or the  
824 judicial district of Bridgeport.

825 (vi) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
826 Watertown or Woodbury, the action may be made returnable at the  
827 option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Waterbury or the  
828 judicial district of Litchfield.

829 (vii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
830 Avon, Canton, Farmington or Simsbury, the action may be made  
831 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of  
832 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain.

833 (viii) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
834 Newington, Rocky Hill or Wethersfield, the action may be made  
835 returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of

836 Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain, except for actions where  
837 venue is in the geographical area as provided in section 51-348 or in  
838 rules of court.

839 (ix) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
840 Cromwell, the action may be made returnable at the option of the  
841 plaintiff to either the judicial district of Hartford or the judicial district  
842 of Middlesex.

843 (x) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of New  
844 Milford, the action may be made returnable at the option of the plaintiff  
845 to either the judicial district of Danbury or the judicial district of  
846 Litchfield.

847 (xi) If the plaintiff has an office or place of business in the town of  
848 Windham or Ashford, the action may be made returnable at the option  
849 of the plaintiff to either the judicial district of Windham or the judicial  
850 district of Tolland.

851 (3) If the plaintiff is a foreign business organization and the defendant  
852 is a resident, to the judicial district where the defendant resides.

853 (4) If the plaintiff is a foreign business organization and the defendant  
854 is a domestic or foreign business organization, to the judicial district  
855 where (A) the injury occurred, (B) the transaction occurred, or (C) the  
856 property is located or lawfully attached.

857 (d) In all actions involving consumer transactions, civil process shall  
858 be made returnable to the judicial district where the consumer resides  
859 or where the transaction occurred. For the purposes of this subsection,  
860 "consumer transaction" means a transaction in which a natural person  
861 obligates himself or herself to pay for goods sold or leased, services  
862 rendered or moneys loaned for personal, family or household purposes.

863 (e) In all actions for the partition or sale of any property, civil process  
864 shall be made returnable to the judicial district where the parties, or one

865 of them, reside; but, if none of them resides in this state, then to the  
866 judicial district where all or a part of the property is located.

867 (f) In all actions by a nonresident executor, trustee under a will or  
868 administrator, civil process shall be made returnable to the same judicial  
869 district as would be proper if the plaintiff resided in the town where the  
870 Probate Court which granted administration is held.

871 (g) Venue for small claims matters shall be at Superior Court facilities  
872 designated by the Chief Court Administrator to hear such matters. In  
873 small claims matters, civil process shall be made returnable to the  
874 Superior Court facility designated by the Chief Court Administrator to  
875 serve the small claims area where the plaintiff resides, where the  
876 defendant resides or is doing business or where the transaction or injury  
877 occurred. If the plaintiff is a domestic or foreign business organization,  
878 civil process shall be made returnable to a Superior Court facility  
879 designated by the Chief Court Administrator to serve the small claims  
880 area where the defendant resides or is doing business or where the  
881 transaction or injury occurred.

882 (h) (1) In all actions involving housing matters, as defined in section  
883 47a-68, civil process shall be made returnable to the judicial district  
884 where the premises are located, except that actions described in  
885 subdivision (6) of section 47a-68 shall be heard in the geographical area  
886 where the premises are located unless otherwise provided in subsection  
887 (d) of section 51-348.

888 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
889 subsection concerning the judicial district to which civil process shall be  
890 made returnable:

891 (A) If the premises are located in [Avon, Canton, Farmington,]  
892 Newington, Rocky Hill [, Simsbury] or Wethersfield, the action may be  
893 made returnable at the option of the plaintiff to either the judicial district  
894 of Hartford or the judicial district of New Britain.

895 (B) If the premises are located in Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Derby,  
896 Oxford, Seymour or Shelton, the action shall be made returnable to the  
897 judicial district of Ansonia-Milford. After the filing of the action, the  
898 plaintiff or the defendant may request a change in venue to the judicial  
899 district of New Haven or the judicial district of Waterbury.

900 (C) If the premises are located in Milford, Orange or West Haven, the  
901 action shall be made returnable to the judicial district of New Haven.

902 Sec. 17. Section 52-434 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
903 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

904 (a) (1) Each judge of the Supreme Court, each judge of the Appellate  
905 Court, each judge of the Superior Court and each judge of the Court of  
906 Common Pleas who ceases or has ceased to hold office because of  
907 retirement other than under the provisions of section 51-49 and who is  
908 an elector and a resident of this state shall be a state referee for the  
909 remainder of such judge's term of office as a judge and shall be eligible  
910 for appointment as a state referee during the remainder of such judge's  
911 life in the manner prescribed by law for the appointment of a judge of  
912 the court of which such judge is a member. The Superior Court may  
913 refer any civil, nonjury case or with the written consent of the parties or  
914 their attorneys, any civil jury case pending before the court in which the  
915 issues have been closed to a judge trial referee who shall have and  
916 exercise the powers of the Superior Court in respect to trial, judgment  
917 and appeal in the case, and any proceeding resulting from a demand for  
918 a trial de novo pursuant to subsection (e) of section 52-549z may be  
919 referred without the consent of the parties to a judge trial referee who  
920 has been specifically designated to hear such proceedings pursuant to  
921 subsection (b) of this section. The Superior Court may, with the consent  
922 of the parties or their attorneys, refer any criminal case to a judge trial  
923 referee who shall have and exercise the powers of the Superior Court in  
924 respect to trial, judgment, sentencing and appeal in the case, except that  
925 the Superior Court may, without the consent of the parties or their  
926 attorneys, (A) refer any criminal case, other than a criminal jury trial, to

927 a judge trial referee assigned to a geographical area criminal court  
928 session, and (B) refer any criminal case, other than a class A or B felony  
929 or capital felony under the provisions of section 53a-54b in effect prior  
930 to April 25, 2012, to a judge trial referee to preside over the jury selection  
931 process and any voir dire examination conducted in such case, unless  
932 good cause is shown not to refer.

933 (2) Each judge of the Circuit Court who has ceased to hold office  
934 because of retirement other than under the provisions of section 51-49  
935 and who is an elector and a resident of this state shall be a state referee  
936 for the remainder of such judge's term of office as a judge and shall be  
937 eligible for appointment as a state referee during the remainder of such  
938 judge's life in the manner prescribed by law for the appointment of a  
939 judge of the court of which such judge is a member, to whom the  
940 Superior Court may, with the written consent of the parties or their  
941 attorneys, refer any case pending in court in which the issues have been  
942 closed and which the judges of the Superior Court may establish by rule  
943 to be the kind of case which may be heard by such referees who have  
944 been appointed judge trial referees pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
945 section. The judge trial referee shall hear any such case so referred and  
946 report the facts to the court by which the case was referred.

947 (3) Each judge of the Juvenile Court who ceases or has ceased to hold  
948 office because of retirement other than under the provisions of section  
949 51-49 and who is an elector and a resident of this state shall be a state  
950 referee for the remainder of such judge's term of office as a judge and  
951 shall be eligible for appointment as a state referee during the remainder  
952 of such judge's life in the manner prescribed by law for the appointment  
953 of a judge of the court of which such judge is a member, to whom a judge  
954 before whom any juvenile matter is pending may, with the written  
955 consent of the child concerned, either of such child's parents, or such  
956 child's guardian or attorney, refer any juvenile matter pending,  
957 provided such referee has been appointed a judge trial referee  
958 specifically designated to hear juvenile cases pursuant to subsection (b)  
959 of this section. The judge trial referee shall hear any matter so referred



960 and report the facts to the court for the district from which the matter  
961 was referred.

962 (4) In addition to the judge trial referees who are appointed pursuant  
963 to subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection, the Chief Justice may  
964 appoint, from qualified members of the bar of the state, who are electors  
965 and residents of this state, as many state referees as the Chief Justice may  
966 from time to time deem advisable or necessary. No appointment of a  
967 member of the bar may be for a term of more than three years.  
968 Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, state  
969 referees appointed by the Chief Justice from members of the bar shall  
970 receive such reasonable compensation and expenses as may be  
971 determined by the Chief Justice. The Superior Court may appoint a state  
972 referee pursuant to this subdivision to take such evidence as it directs in  
973 any civil, nonjury case including, but not limited to, appeals under  
974 section 8-8. Any such state referee shall report on such evidence to the  
975 court with any findings of fact. The report shall constitute a part of the  
976 proceeding upon which the determination of the court shall be made.

977 (b) The Chief Justice may designate, from among the state referees,  
978 judge trial referees to whom criminal and civil cases and juvenile  
979 matters may be referred. Criminal cases and civil cases of an adversary  
980 nature shall be referred only to state referees who are designated as  
981 judge trial referees, and proceedings resulting from a demand for a trial  
982 de novo pursuant to subsection (e) of section 52-549z shall be referred  
983 only to judge trial referees who are specifically designated to hear such  
984 proceedings. On or before October first of each year, the Chief Court  
985 Administrator shall publish the list of the judge trial referees specifically  
986 designated to hear such proceedings. Juvenile matters shall be referred  
987 only to judge trial referees who are specifically designated to hear  
988 juvenile cases. No designation pursuant to this subsection may be for a  
989 term of more than one year.

990 (c) Each hearing by a judge trial referee shall be held in a suitable  
991 room, to be provided by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, in

992 a courthouse in the judicial district where the case is pending unless the  
993 parties or their attorneys stipulate in writing that the hearing may be  
994 held elsewhere.

995 (d) Each judge trial referee may have the attendance of a judicial  
996 marshal at any hearing before such trial referee. The judicial marshal  
997 shall receive the same compensation provided for attendance at regular  
998 sessions of the court from which the case was referred and such  
999 compensation shall be taxed by the state referee in the same manner as  
1000 similar costs are taxed by the judges of the court.

1001 (e) Each judge trial referee may compel the attendance of any witness  
1002 summoned to appear before such trial referee at any hearing, in the  
1003 same manner as the attendance of any witness may be compelled in the  
1004 Superior Court, and may punish for any act of contempt committed in  
1005 such trial referee's presence while engaged in the hearing in the same  
1006 manner and to the same extent as judges of the Superior Court.

1007 (f) Each judge trial referee shall receive, for acting as a referee or as a  
1008 single auditor or committee of any court or for performing duties  
1009 assigned by the Chief Court Administrator with the approval of the  
1010 Chief Justice, for each day the judge trial referee is so engaged, in  
1011 addition to the retirement salary: (1) (A) on and after July 1, 2022, the  
1012 sum of two hundred eighty-five dollars, (B) on and after July 1, 2023, the  
1013 sum of two hundred ninety-four dollars, and (C) on and after July 1,  
1014 2024, the sum of three hundred two dollars; and (2) expenses, including  
1015 mileage. Such amounts shall be taxed by the court making the reference  
1016 in the same manner as other court expenses.

1017 [(g) A judge trial referee may participate in an alternative dispute  
1018 resolution program approved by STA-FED ADR, Inc. in any year  
1019 commencing July first provided such referee performed the duties of a  
1020 judge trial referee or a senior judge for at least seventy-five days during  
1021 the preceding year, except that (1) for the year commencing July 1, 1993,  
1022 a judge trial referee may participate in said alternative dispute

1023 resolution program without having performed the duties of a judge trial  
1024 referee or senior judge for seventy-five days during the preceding year,  
1025 and (2) a judge trial referee may participate in said alternative dispute  
1026 resolution program from the date such referee assumes such status,  
1027 through the completion of the year commencing July first following  
1028 such date without having satisfied the seventy-five-day requirement.  
1029 Any judge trial referee who participates in said alternative dispute  
1030 resolution program pursuant to subsection (f) of section 51-50c without  
1031 having satisfied the seventy-five-day requirement set forth in said  
1032 subsection shall not be eligible to participate in said program pursuant  
1033 to this subsection without having satisfied the seventy-five-day  
1034 requirement set forth in this subsection.]

1035 Sec. 18. Section 54-1k of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1036 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1037 (a) Upon the arrest of a person for a violation of subdivision (1) or (2)  
1038 of subsection (a) of section 53-21, section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70c, 53a-  
1039 71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, or any attempt thereof, or section 53a-  
1040 181c, 53a-181d, [or] 53a-181e [,] or 53a-181f, the court may issue a  
1041 protective order pursuant to this section. Upon the arrest of a person for  
1042 a violation of section 53a-182b or 53a-183, the court may issue a  
1043 protective order pursuant to this section if it finds that such violation  
1044 caused the victim to reasonably fear for his or her physical safety. Such  
1045 order shall be an order of the court, and the clerk of the court shall cause  
1046 (1) a copy of such order, or the information contained in such order, to  
1047 be sent to the victim, and (2) a copy of such order, or the information  
1048 contained in such order, to be sent by facsimile or other means not later  
1049 than forty-eight hours after its issuance to the law enforcement agency  
1050 or agencies for the town in which the victim resides, the town in which  
1051 the victim is employed and the town in which the defendant resides. If  
1052 the victim is enrolled in a public or private elementary or secondary  
1053 school, including a technical education and career school, or an  
1054 institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-55, the clerk of  
1055 the court shall, upon the request of the victim, send, by facsimile or other

1056 means, a copy of such order, or the information contained in such order,  
1057 to such school or institution of higher education, the president of any  
1058 institution of higher education at which the victim is enrolled and the  
1059 special police force established pursuant to section 10a-156b, if any, at  
1060 the institution of higher education at which the victim is enrolled, if the  
1061 victim provides the clerk with the name and address of such school or  
1062 institution of higher education.

1063 (b) A protective order issued under this section may include  
1064 provisions necessary to protect the victim from threats, harassment,  
1065 injury or intimidation by the defendant, including but not limited to, an  
1066 order enjoining the defendant from (1) imposing any restraint upon the  
1067 person or liberty of the victim, (2) threatening, harassing, assaulting,  
1068 molesting or sexually assaulting the victim, or (3) entering the dwelling  
1069 of the victim. A protective order issued under this section may include  
1070 provisions necessary to protect any animal owned or kept by the victim  
1071 including, but not limited to, an order enjoining the defendant from  
1072 injuring or threatening to injure such animal. Such order shall be made  
1073 a condition of the bail or release of the defendant and shall contain the  
1074 following language: "In accordance with section 53a-223 of the  
1075 Connecticut general statutes, any violation of this order constitutes  
1076 criminal violation of a protective order which is punishable by a term of  
1077 imprisonment of not more than ten years, a fine of not more than ten  
1078 thousand dollars, or both. Additionally, in accordance with section 53a-  
1079 107 of the Connecticut general statutes, entering or remaining in a  
1080 building or any other premises in violation of this order constitutes  
1081 criminal trespass in the first degree which is punishable by a term of  
1082 imprisonment of not more than one year, a fine of not more than two  
1083 thousand dollars, or both. Violation of this order also violates a  
1084 condition of your bail or release and may result in raising the amount of  
1085 bail or revoking release."

1086 (c) The information contained in and concerning the issuance of any  
1087 protective order issued under this section shall be entered in the registry  
1088 of protective orders pursuant to section 51-5c, as amended by this act.

1089 Sec. 19. Subsection (f) of section 54-63d of the general statutes is  
1090 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1091 *passage*):

1092 (f) The Court Support Services Division shall establish written  
1093 procedures for the release of information contained in reports and files  
1094 of the Court Support Services Division, such procedures to be approved  
1095 by the Chief Court Administrator, or the Chief Court Administrator's  
1096 designee. Such procedures shall allow access to (1) nonidentifying  
1097 information by qualified persons for purposes of research related to the  
1098 administration of criminal justice; (2) all information provided to the  
1099 Court Support Services Division by probation officers for the purposes  
1100 of compiling presentence reports; [and] (3) all information provided to  
1101 the Court Support Services Division concerning any person convicted  
1102 of a crime and held in custody by the Department of Correction; and (4)  
1103 information concerning any person to the Department of Children and  
1104 Families, provided such person's conditions of release require  
1105 cooperating with said department.

1106 Sec. 20. Subsection (b) of section 54-76l of the general statutes is  
1107 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
1108 *passage*):

1109 (b) The records of any such youth, or any part thereof, may be  
1110 disclosed to and between individuals and agencies, and employees of  
1111 such agencies, providing services directly to the youth, including law  
1112 enforcement officials, state and federal prosecutorial officials, school  
1113 officials in accordance with section 10-233h, court officials, the Division  
1114 of Criminal Justice, the Court Support Services Division, a victim  
1115 advocate under section 54-220 for a victim of a crime committed by the  
1116 youth and the Department of Children and Families. [ if the child is  
1117 under the oversight of the department's administrative unit pursuant to  
1118 section 17a-3b, provided such disclosure shall be limited to information  
1119 that identifies the child as residing in a justice facility or incarcerated.]  
1120 Such records shall also be available to the attorney representing the

1121 youth, in any proceedings in which such records are relevant, to the  
1122 parents or guardian of such youth, until such time as the youth reaches  
1123 the age of majority or is emancipated, and to the youth upon his or her  
1124 emancipation or attainment of the age of majority, provided proof of the  
1125 identity of such youth is submitted in accordance with guidelines  
1126 prescribed by the Chief Court Administrator. Such records shall also be  
1127 available to members and employees of the Board of Pardons and  
1128 Paroles and employees of the Department of Correction who, in the  
1129 performance of their duties, require access to such records, provided the  
1130 subject of the record has been adjudged a youthful offender and  
1131 sentenced to a term of imprisonment or been convicted of a crime in the  
1132 regular criminal docket of the Superior Court, and such records are  
1133 relevant to the performance of a risk and needs assessment of such  
1134 person while such person is incarcerated, the determination of such  
1135 person's suitability for release from incarceration or for a pardon, or the  
1136 determination of the supervision and treatment needs of such person  
1137 while on parole or other supervised release. Such records shall also be  
1138 available to law enforcement officials and prosecutorial officials  
1139 conducting legitimate criminal investigations or seeking an order to  
1140 detain pursuant to section 46b-133. Such records shall also be available  
1141 to members and employees of the Judicial Review Council who, in the  
1142 performance of their duties, require access to such records. Records  
1143 disclosed pursuant to this subsection shall not be further disclosed.

1144 Sec. 21. Subsection (b) of section 54-203 of the general statutes is  
1145 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
1146 *1, 2025*):

1147 (b) The Office of Victim Services shall have the following powers and  
1148 duties:

1149 (1) To direct each hospital, whether public or private, each university  
1150 or college health services center, whether public or private, and each  
1151 community health center, as defined in section 19a-490a, to prominently  
1152 display posters in a conspicuous location giving notice of the availability

1153 of compensation and assistance to victims of crime or their dependents  
1154 pursuant to sections 54-201 to 54-218, inclusive, and to direct every law  
1155 enforcement agency of the state to inform victims of crime or their  
1156 dependents of their rights pursuant to sections 54-201 to 54-218,  
1157 inclusive;

1158 (2) To obtain from the office of the state's attorney, state police, local  
1159 police departments or any law enforcement agency such investigation  
1160 and data as will enable the Office of Victim Services to determine if in  
1161 fact the applicant was a victim of a crime or attempted crime and the  
1162 extent, if any, to which the victim or claimant was responsible for his  
1163 own injury, including, but not limited to, a request for information form  
1164 promulgated by the Office of Victim Services;

1165 (3) To request from the Department of Correction, other units of the  
1166 Judicial [Department] Branch and the Board of Pardons and Paroles  
1167 such information as will enable the Office of Victim Services to  
1168 determine if in fact a person who has requested notification pursuant to  
1169 section 54-228 was a victim of a crime;

1170 (4) To take or cause to be taken affidavits or depositions within or  
1171 without the state;

1172 (5) To apply for, receive, allocate, disburse and account for grants of  
1173 funds made available by the United States, by the state, foundations,  
1174 corporations and other businesses, agencies or individuals to implement  
1175 a program for victim services which shall assist witnesses and victims  
1176 of crimes as the Office of Victim Services deems appropriate within the  
1177 resources available and to coordinate services to victims by state and  
1178 community-based agencies, with priority given to victims of violent  
1179 crimes, by (A) assigning such victim advocates as are necessary to  
1180 provide assistance; (B) administering victim service programs; and (C)  
1181 awarding grants or purchase of service contracts to private nonprofit  
1182 organizations or local units of government for the direct delivery of  
1183 services, except that the provision of training and technical assistance of

1184 victim service providers and the development and implementation of  
1185 public education campaigns may be provided by private nonprofit or  
1186 for-profit organizations or local units of government. Such grants and  
1187 contracts shall be the predominant method by which the Office of  
1188 Victim Services shall develop, implement and operate direct service  
1189 programs and provide training and technical assistance to victim service  
1190 providers;

1191 (6) To provide each person who applies for compensation pursuant  
1192 to section 54-204, within ten days of the date of receipt of such  
1193 application, with a written list of rights of victims of crime involving  
1194 personal injury and the programs available in this state to assist such  
1195 victims. The Office of Victim Services, the state or any agent, employee  
1196 or officer thereof shall not be liable for the failure to supply such list or  
1197 any alleged inadequacies of such list. Such list shall include, but not be  
1198 limited to:

1199 (A) Subject to the provisions of sections 18-81e and 51-286e, the victim  
1200 shall have the right to be informed concerning the status of his or her  
1201 case and to be informed of the release from custody of the defendant;

1202 (B) Subject to the provisions of section 54-91c, the victim shall have  
1203 the right to present a statement of his or her losses, injuries and wishes  
1204 to the prosecutor and the court prior to the acceptance by the court of a  
1205 plea of guilty or nolo contendere made pursuant to a plea agreement  
1206 with the state; [wherein the defendant pleads to a lesser offense than the  
1207 offense with which the defendant was originally charged;]

1208 (C) Subject to the provisions of section 54-91c, prior to the imposition  
1209 of sentence upon the defendant, the victim shall have the right to submit  
1210 a statement to the prosecutor as to the extent of any injuries, financial  
1211 losses and loss of earnings directly resulting from the crime. Upon  
1212 receipt of the statement, the prosecutor shall file the statement with the  
1213 sentencing court and the statement shall be made a part of the record  
1214 and considered by the court at the sentencing hearing;



1215 (D) Subject to the provisions of section 54-126a, the victim shall have  
1216 the right to appear before a panel of the Board of Pardons and Paroles  
1217 and make a statement as to whether the defendant should be released  
1218 on parole and any terms or conditions to be imposed upon any such  
1219 release;

1220 (E) Subject to the provisions of section 54-36a, the victim shall have  
1221 the right to have any property the victim owns which was seized by  
1222 police in connection with an arrest to be returned;

1223 (F) Subject to the provisions of sections 54-56e and 54-142c, the victim  
1224 shall have the right to be notified of the application by the defendant for  
1225 the pretrial program for accelerated rehabilitation and to obtain from  
1226 the court information as to whether the criminal prosecution in the case  
1227 has been dismissed;

1228 (G) Subject to the provisions of section 54-85b, the victim cannot be  
1229 fired, harassed or otherwise retaliated against by an employer for  
1230 appearing under a subpoena as a witness in any criminal prosecution;

1231 (H) Subject to the provisions of section 54-86g, the parent or legal  
1232 guardian of a child twelve years of age or younger who is a victim of  
1233 child abuse or sexual assault may request special procedural  
1234 considerations to be taken during the testimony of the child;

1235 (I) Subject to the provisions of section 46b-15, the victim of assault by  
1236 a spouse or former spouse, family or household member has the right  
1237 to request the arrest of the offender, request a protective order and apply  
1238 for a restraining order;

1239 (J) Subject to the provisions of sections 52-146k, 54-86e and 54-86f, the  
1240 victim of sexual assault or domestic violence can expect certain records  
1241 to remain confidential; and

1242 (K) Subject to the provisions of section 53a-32, the victim and any  
1243 victim advocate assigned to assist the victim may receive notification

1244 from a probation officer whenever the officer has notified a police officer  
1245 that the probation officer has probable cause to believe that the offender  
1246 has violated a condition of such offender's probation;

1247 (7) Within available appropriations, to maintain a victim's assistance  
1248 center which shall (A) make available to victims information regarding  
1249 victim's rights and available services, (B) maintain a victims' notification  
1250 system pursuant to sections 54-227 to 54-230a, inclusive, and 54-235, and  
1251 (C) maintain a toll-free number for access to information regarding  
1252 victims' rights and available services;

1253 (8) To provide a telephone helpline that shall provide information on  
1254 referrals for various services for victims of crime and their families;

1255 (9) To provide staff services to a state advisory council. The council  
1256 shall consist of not more than twenty members to be appointed by the  
1257 Chief Justice and shall include the Chief Victim Compensation  
1258 Commissioner and members who represent victim populations,  
1259 including but not limited to, homicide survivors, family violence  
1260 victims, sexual assault victims, victims of gun violence, victims of drunk  
1261 drivers, and assault and robbery victims, and members who represent  
1262 the judicial branch and executive branch agencies involved with victims  
1263 of crime. The members shall serve for terms of four years. Any vacancy  
1264 in the membership shall be filled by the appointing authority for the  
1265 balance of the unexpired term. The members shall receive no  
1266 compensation for their services. The council shall meet at least four  
1267 times a year. The council shall recommend to the Office of Victim  
1268 Services program, legislative or other matters which would improve  
1269 services to victims of crime and develop and coordinate needs  
1270 assessments for both court-based and community-based victim services.  
1271 The Chief Justice shall appoint two members to serve as cochairpersons.  
1272 Not later than December fifteenth of each year, the council shall report  
1273 the results of its findings and activities to the Chief Court Administrator;

1274 (10) To utilize such voluntary and uncompensated services of private

1275 individuals, agencies and organizations as may from time to time be  
1276 offered and needed;

1277 (11) To recommend policies and make recommendations to agencies  
1278 and officers of the state and local subdivisions of government relative to  
1279 victims of crime;

1280 (12) To provide support and assistance to state-wide victim services  
1281 coalitions and groups;

1282 (13) To provide a training program for judges, prosecutors, police,  
1283 probation and parole personnel, bail commissioners, intake, assessment  
1284 and referral specialists, officers from the Department of Correction and  
1285 judicial marshals to inform them of victims' rights and available  
1286 services;

1287 (14) To (A) maintain, within available appropriations, a sexual assault  
1288 forensic examiners program that will train and make available sexual  
1289 assault forensic examiners to adolescent and adult victims of sexual  
1290 assault who are patients at participating health care facilities. In order  
1291 to maintain such program, the Office of Victim Services may apply for,  
1292 receive, allocate, disburse and account for grants of funds made  
1293 available by the United States, the state, foundations, corporations and  
1294 other businesses, agencies or individuals; or (B) establish, within  
1295 available appropriations, a training program for health care  
1296 professionals on the care of and collection of evidence from adolescent  
1297 and adult victims of sexual assault;

1298 (15) To provide victims of crime and the general public with  
1299 information detailing the process by which a victim may register to  
1300 receive notices of hearings of the Board of Pardons and Paroles; and

1301 (16) To submit to the joint standing committee of the General  
1302 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary, in  
1303 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, on or before January 15,  
1304 2000, and biennially thereafter a report of its activities under sections 54-

1305 201 to 54-235, inclusive.

1306 Sec. 22. Section 54-230 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1307 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1308 (a) Upon receipt of notice from [an inmate] a person who is  
1309 incarcerated pursuant to section 54-227, the Office of Victim Services  
1310 shall notify by standard mail or electronic mail, based on the election of  
1311 the registrant, all persons who have requested to be notified pursuant  
1312 to subsection (a) of section 54-228 and section 54-229 whenever such  
1313 [inmate] person who is incarcerated makes application for release or  
1314 sentence reduction or review. Such notice shall be in writing and notify  
1315 each person of the nature of the release or sentence reduction or review  
1316 being applied for, the address and telephone number of the board or  
1317 agency to which the application by the [inmate] person who is  
1318 incarcerated was made, and the date and place of the hearing or session,  
1319 if any, scheduled on the application.

1320 (b) Upon receipt of notice from a person pursuant to subsection (b) of  
1321 section 54-227, the Office of Victim Services shall notify by standard or  
1322 electronic mail, based on the election of the registrant, all persons who  
1323 have requested to be notified pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-  
1324 228 whenever such person files an application with the court to be  
1325 exempted from the registration requirements of section 54-251 pursuant  
1326 to subsections (b) or (c) of said section or files a petition with the court  
1327 pursuant to section 54-255 for an order restricting the dissemination of  
1328 the registration information, or removing such restriction. Such notice  
1329 shall be in writing and notify each person of the nature of the exemption  
1330 or of the restriction or removal of the restriction being applied for, the  
1331 address and telephone number of the court to which the application or  
1332 petition by the person was made, and the date and place of the hearing  
1333 or session, if any, scheduled on the application or petition.

1334 (c) Upon compliance with the notification requirements of this  
1335 section, the Office of Victim Services shall notify, on a form prescribed

1336 by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, the board, agency or  
1337 court to which the application or petition was made of such compliance.

1338 (d) Upon receipt of notice from the Department of Correction  
1339 pursuant to section 54-231, the Office of Victim Services shall notify by  
1340 standard or electronic mail, based on the election of the registrant, all  
1341 victims who have requested to be notified pursuant to section 54-228  
1342 whenever such [inmate] person who is incarcerated is scheduled to be  
1343 released from a correctional institution. Such notice shall be in writing  
1344 and notify each victim of the date of [such inmate's release] release of  
1345 such person who is incarcerated. The victim shall notify the Office of  
1346 Victim Services of his or her current mailing address, electronic mail  
1347 address, if electronic mail is requested by the registrant, and telephone  
1348 number, which shall be kept confidential and shall not be disclosed by  
1349 the Office of Victim Services. Nothing in this section shall be construed  
1350 to prohibit the Office of Victim Services, the Board of Pardons and  
1351 Paroles and the Victim Services Unit within the Department of  
1352 Correction from communicating with each other for the purpose of  
1353 facilitating notification to a victim and disclosing to each other the name,  
1354 mailing address and telephone number of the victim, provided such  
1355 information shall not be further disclosed.

1356 Sec. 23. Section 51-85a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1357 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1358 (a) As used in this section:

1359 (1) "Communication technology" means an electronic device or  
1360 process that:

1361 (A) Allows a commissioner of the Superior Court and a remotely  
1362 located individual to communicate with each other simultaneously by  
1363 sight and sound; and

1364 (B) When necessary and consistent with other applicable law,  
1365 facilitates communication between a commissioner of the Superior

1366 Court and a remotely located individual who has a vision, hearing or  
1367 speech impairment.

1368 (2) "Identity proofing" means a process or service by which a third  
1369 person provides a commissioner of the Superior Court with a means to  
1370 verify the identity of a remotely located individual by a review of  
1371 personal information from public or private data sources.

1372 (3) "Outside the United States" means a location outside the  
1373 geographic boundaries of the United States, Puerto Rico, the United  
1374 States Virgin Islands and any territory, insular possession or other  
1375 location subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

1376 (4) "Remotely located individual" means an individual who is not in  
1377 the physical presence of the commissioner of the Superior Court who  
1378 takes an acknowledgment under subsection (b) of this section.

1379 (b) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, a [document]  
1380 record may be acknowledged by an individual who is not in the physical  
1381 presence of a commissioner of the Superior Court at the time of the  
1382 acknowledgment if the following requirements are met:

1383 (1) The individual and the commissioner of the Superior Court can  
1384 communicate simultaneously, in real time, by sight and sound using  
1385 communication technology; and

1386 (2) When performing a remote acknowledgment pursuant to the  
1387 provisions of this section, the commissioner of the Superior Court  
1388 reasonably identifies the individual at the time of the acknowledgment  
1389 by one or more of the following methods:

1390 (A) Personal knowledge of the identity of the individual;

1391 (B) The individual presents a government-issued identification  
1392 document or record that has not expired and includes the individual's  
1393 photograph, name and signature. An acceptable form of government-  
1394 issued identification document or record includes, but is not limited to,

1395 a driver's license, government-issued identification card or passport;

1396 (C) Not less than two different types of identity proofing processes or  
1397 services by which a third person provides a means to verify the identity  
1398 of the individual through a review of public or private data sources; or

1399 (D) Oath or affirmation by a credible witness who:

1400 (i) Is in the physical presence of either the commissioner of the  
1401 Superior Court or the individual; or

1402 (ii) Is able to communicate in real time with the commissioner of the  
1403 Superior Court and the individual by sight and sound through an  
1404 electronic device or process at the time of the acknowledgment, if the  
1405 credible witness has personal knowledge of the identity of the  
1406 individual and has been reasonably identified by the commissioner of  
1407 the Superior Court by a method provided in this section.

1408 (c) When an individual who is physically located outside of the state  
1409 of Connecticut or outside the United States seeks a remote  
1410 acknowledgment pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the record  
1411 being acknowledged shall:

1412 (1) Be intended for filing or presentation in a matter before a court,  
1413 governmental entity, public official or other entity subject to the  
1414 jurisdiction of the state of Connecticut; or

1415 (2) Otherwise not be prohibited by law of the state of Connecticut to  
1416 be acknowledged outside the state.

1417 (d) Once the record acknowledged pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
1418 section is signed by the individual in accordance with the procedures  
1419 set forth in this section, the individual shall mail or otherwise cause to  
1420 be delivered the signed original copy of the record to the commissioner  
1421 of the Superior Court.

1422 (e) The date and time of an acknowledgment conducted pursuant to

1423 subsection (b) of this section shall be the date and time when the  
1424 commissioner of the Superior Court witnessed the signature being  
1425 performed by means of communication technology.

1426 (f) Nothing in this section shall affect the authority of a commissioner  
1427 of the Superior Court to refuse to take an acknowledgment or require a  
1428 commissioner of the Superior Court to take an acknowledgment:

1429 (1) With respect to an electronic record;

1430 (2) For an individual not in the physical presence of the commissioner  
1431 of the Superior Court; or

1432 (3) Using a technology that the commissioner of the Superior Court  
1433 has not selected.

1434 (g) No record shall be acknowledged remotely pursuant to subsection  
1435 (b) of this section in (1) the making and execution of a will, codicil, trust  
1436 or trust instrument, (2) the execution of health care instructions  
1437 pursuant to section 19a-575a, (3) the execution of a designation of a  
1438 standby guardian pursuant to section 45a-624, (4) the execution of a  
1439 designation of a person for decision-making and certain rights and  
1440 obligations pursuant to section 1-56r, (5) the execution of a living will,  
1441 as defined in section 19a-570, (6) the execution of a power of attorney,  
1442 as defined in section 1-350a, (7) the execution of a self-proving affidavit  
1443 for an appointment of a health care representative or for a living will  
1444 under sections 1-56r and 19a-578, (8) the execution of a mutual  
1445 distribution agreement under section 45a-433, (9) the execution of an  
1446 agreement as to the division of an estate under section 45a-434, (10) the  
1447 execution of a disclaimer under section 45a-579 or 45a-583, or [(10)] (11)  
1448 a real estate closing, as defined in section 51-88a. The performance of  
1449 any such acknowledgment in connection with any of the acts described  
1450 in this subsection shall be ineffective for any purpose and shall  
1451 constitute a violation of section 51-88.

1452 Sec. 24. (*Effective from passage*) The Chief Court Administrator, or the



1453 administrator's designee, shall conduct a review of the habeas corpus  
 1454 procedures utilized by the federal government and the states of Rhode  
 1455 Island, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, New  
 1456 Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina  
 1457 and Georgia and, after conducting such review, make recommendations  
 1458 to the General Assembly as to best practices that could be implemented  
 1459 in this state to: (1) Ensure a timely review and adjudication of habeas  
 1460 corpus claims; (2) establish standards for the presentation of repeated  
 1461 habeas corpus claims associated with the same incident; (3) prioritize  
 1462 credible habeas corpus claims and limit the filing of repetitive or  
 1463 meritless habeas corpus claims; and (4) provide balance between  
 1464 providing public counsel in habeas corpus claims and the cost of  
 1465 litigating repetitive or meritless claims. Not later than January 15, 2026,  
 1466 the Chief Court Administrator, or the administrator's designee, shall  
 1467 report on the results of such review, in accordance with the provisions  
 1468 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee  
 1469 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the  
 1470 judiciary.

1471 Sec. 25. Section 36a-649 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
 1472 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1473 As used in this section and sections 36a-650 and 36a-651:

1474 (1) "Claim" means a right to receive payment of a credit card debt;

1475 (2) "Claimant" means an entity that has, or purports to have, a claim  
 1476 against a debtor arising from coerced debt or allegedly coerced debt,  
 1477 and includes a consumer collection agency, as defined in section 36a-  
 1478 800, to collect said debt, or such entity's successor or assignee;

1479 (3) "Coerced debt" means any debt incurred in the name of a debtor  
 1480 who is a victim of domestic violence, as defined in subsection (b) of  
 1481 section 46b-1, when such debt was incurred in response to any duress,  
 1482 intimidation, threat of force, force or undue influence used to  
 1483 specifically coerce the debtor into incurring such debt;

1484 (4) "Collection activities" means any activity of a claimant to collect  
1485 or to attempt to collect a debt owed, due or asserted to be owed or due,  
1486 including, but not limited to, commencing or proceeding with an action  
1487 in a court of competent jurisdiction;

1488 (5) "Credit rating agency" has the same meaning as provided in  
1489 section 36a-695;

1490 (6) "Debt" means an unsecured credit card debt, or any portion of an  
1491 unsecured credit card debt, incurred on or after January 1, 2025, for  
1492 personal, family or household use that [(A) was not] was not (A) subject  
1493 to a final judgment in an action for dissolution of marriage or collection  
1494 matter which occurred prior to the time when a debtor requests that the  
1495 claimant waive such debt; or (B) [was] incurred more than ten years  
1496 prior to the date of the request;

1497 (7) "Debtor" means an individual against whom a claimant asserts a  
1498 claim arising from coerced debt or allegedly coerced debt;

1499 (8) "Immediate family member" has the same meaning as provided in  
1500 section 36a-485;

1501 (9) "Negative information" has the same meaning as provided in 15  
1502 USC 1681s-2, as amended from time to time;

1503 (10) "Qualified third-party professional" means a domestic violence  
1504 counselor or sexual assault counselor, as those terms are defined in  
1505 section 52-146k, a psychiatrist licensed under chapter 370, a  
1506 psychologist licensed under chapter 383, a clinical social worker  
1507 licensed under chapter 383b, a marital and family therapist licensed  
1508 under chapter 383a and a professional counselor licensed under chapter  
1509 383c; and

1510 (11) "Requests that the claimant waive such debt" means a request  
1511 that a claimant waive, forgive, excuse, write off or not collect a debt or  
1512 portion of a debt.

1513 Sec. 26. Section 52-350f of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1514 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1515 (a) A money judgment may be enforced against any property of the  
1516 judgment debtor unless the property is exempt from application to the  
1517 satisfaction of the judgment under section 52-352a, 52-352b, 52-352d or  
1518 52-361a or any other provision of the general statutes or federal law. The  
1519 money judgment may be enforced, by execution or by foreclosure of a  
1520 real property lien, to the amount of the money judgment with (1) all  
1521 statutory costs and fees as provided by the general statutes, (2) interest  
1522 as provided by chapter 673 on the money judgment and on the costs  
1523 incurred in obtaining the judgment, and (3) any attorney's fees allowed  
1524 pursuant to section 52-400c.

1525 (b) In an action to enforce a money judgment by foreclosure of a real  
1526 property lien, the amount of the judgment lien to attach to the property  
1527 shall be calculated by taking the fair market value of the property, less  
1528 any priority liens and the amount of any applicable exempt property  
1529 under sections 52-352b and 52-352d. The Chief Court Administrator  
1530 shall ensure that any form prescribed by the Judicial Branch relating to  
1531 an action to enforce a money judgment by foreclosure of a real property  
1532 lien, including, but not limited to, the foreclosure worksheet, includes  
1533 the property that is not subject to debt collection under sections 52-352b  
1534 and 52-352d.

1535 Sec. 27. Subsection (f) of section 53a-29 of the general statutes is  
1536 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
1537 *1, 2025*):

1538 (f) The period of probation [.] (1) unless terminated sooner as  
1539 provided in section 53a-32, shall be not less than ten years or more than  
1540 thirty-five years for conviction of a violation of section 53a-70b of the  
1541 general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2019, or  
1542 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53-21 or section 53a-70, 53a-  
1543 70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b, 53a-90a or subdivision (2), (3) or (4) of

1544 subsection (a) of section 53a-189a, or section 53a-196b, 53a-196c, 53a-  
1545 196d, 53a-196e or 53a-196f, and (2) shall be five years for a violation of  
1546 section 53-247.

1547 Sec. 28. Subsection (c) of section 53a-189a of the general statutes is  
1548 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
1549 *1, 2025*):

1550 (c) Voyeurism is (1) a class D felony for a first offense, except as  
1551 provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, (2) a class C felony for any  
1552 subsequent offense, and (3) a class C felony for a first offense when (A)  
1553 such person has been previously convicted of an offense enumerated in  
1554 subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 53a-29, as amended by this  
1555 act, or (B) the intended subject of the offense is a person under sixteen  
1556 years of age.

1557 Sec. 29. Section 52-278f of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1558 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1559 In an action upon a commercial transaction, as defined in section 52-  
1560 278a, wherein the defendant has waived his right to a notice and hearing  
1561 under sections 52-278a to 52-278g, inclusive, the attorney for the plaintiff  
1562 shall issue the writ for a prejudgment remedy without securing a court  
1563 order provided that (1) the complaint shall set forth a copy of the waiver;  
1564 (2) the plaintiff shall file an affidavit sworn to by the plaintiff or any  
1565 competent affiant setting forth a statement of facts sufficient to show  
1566 that there is probable cause that a judgment in the amount of the  
1567 prejudgment remedy sought, or in an amount greater than the amount  
1568 of the prejudgment remedy sought, taking into account any known  
1569 defenses, counterclaims or set-offs, will be rendered in the matter in  
1570 favor of the plaintiff; [and] (3) the plaintiff shall include in the process  
1571 served on the defendant a notice satisfying the requirements of  
1572 subsections (b) and (c) of section 52-278e; and (4) such complaint be  
1573 made returnable twelve days, inclusive, after the earlier of (A) service of  
1574 process upon the defendant preventing the dissipation of property, or

1575 (B) service of process upon any third person holding property of the  
 1576 defendant and shall be returned to the court at least six days before the  
 1577 return date.

1578 Sec. 30. Section 52-46a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
 1579 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1580 Process in civil actions returnable to the Supreme Court shall be  
 1581 returned to its clerk at least twenty days before the return day and, if  
 1582 returnable to the Superior Court, except process in summary process  
 1583 actions, the commencement of any civil action containing the issuance  
 1584 of a prejudgment remedy when the defendant in a commercial  
 1585 transaction has waived notice and hearing as provided under chapter  
 1586 903a and petitions for parentage and support, to the clerk of such court  
 1587 at least six days before the return day.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17a-28(g)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	29-32b(a)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	42a-9-518(f)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	46b-3(a)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	46b-124(d)
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	46b-124(f)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	47a-26e
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	47a-35a
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	51-5c(b)
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	51-47(c)
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	51-50c
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	51-50k
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	51-197f
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	51-344
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	51-345
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	52-434
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	54-1k
Sec. 19	<i>from passage</i>	54-63d(f)

Sec. 20	<i>from passage</i>	54-761(b)
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	54-203(b)
Sec. 22	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	54-230
Sec. 23	<i>from passage</i>	51-85a
Sec. 24	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 25	<i>from passage</i>	36a-649
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	52-350f
Sec. 27	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	53a-29(f)
Sec. 28	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	53a-189a(c)
Sec. 29	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	52-278f
Sec. 30	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	52-46a

***Statement of Purpose:***

To: (1) Establish the Office of Information Privacy within the Judicial Branch, (2) revise statutes addressing the sharing of information between the Department of Children and Families and the Court Support Services Division, (3) eliminate obsolete statutory references to "STA-FED, ADR, Inc.", (4) revise venue provisions for certain municipalities, (5) make statutory changes needed to conform with the passage of prior public acts, (6) require the Judicial Branch to review and report on habeas corpus proceedings in other states, and (7) make statutory changes concerning the duties of certain Judicial Branch personnel.

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