



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 1229***

LCO No. 3789



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT  
ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING FEES FOR COPYING, REVIEWING AND  
REDACTING RECORDS CREATED BY POLICE BODY-WORN  
RECORDING EQUIPMENT AND DASHBOARD CAMERAS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 29-6d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 (a) For purposes of this section, [and] section 2 of this act and section  
4 7-277b:

5 (1) "Law enforcement unit" has the same meaning as provided in  
6 section 7-294a;

7 (2) "Police officer" means a sworn member of a law enforcement unit  
8 or any member of a law enforcement unit who performs police duties;

9 (3) "Body-worn recording equipment" means an electronic recording  
10 device that is capable of recording audio and video;

11 (4) "Dashboard camera" means a dashboard camera with a remote

12 recorder, as defined in section 7-277b;

13 (5) "Digital data storage device or service" means a device or service  
14 that retains the data from the recordings made by body-worn recording  
15 equipment using computer data storage; [and]

16 (6) "Police patrol vehicle" means any state or local police vehicle other  
17 than an administrative vehicle in which an occupant is wearing body-  
18 worn camera equipment, a bicycle, a motor scooter, an all-terrain  
19 vehicle, an electric personal assistive mobility device, as defined in  
20 subsection (a) of section 14-289h, or an animal control vehicle;

21 (7) "Freedom of Information Act" has the same meaning as provided  
22 in section 1-200;

23 (8) "Requesting party" means the person requesting a record created  
24 using body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera pursuant  
25 to the Freedom of Information Act;

26 (9) "Involved person" means (A) any individual depicted in the  
27 record created using body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard  
28 camera, (B) any individual directly involved in the incident that led to  
29 the police officer being called to respond, or (C) any police officer  
30 responding to such incident, including the police officer whose body-  
31 worn recording equipment or dashboard camera created the record; and

32 (10) "Redact" means to obscure, pixelate or mute any portion of a  
33 record created using body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard  
34 camera.

35 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection  
36 and the Police Officer Standards and Training Council shall jointly  
37 evaluate and approve the minimal technical specifications of body-worn  
38 recording equipment that shall be worn by police officers pursuant to  
39 this section, dashboard cameras that shall be used in each police patrol  
40 vehicle and digital data storage devices or services that shall be used by  
41 a law enforcement unit to retain the data from the recordings made by

42 such equipment. The commissioner and council shall make such  
43 minimal technical specifications available to each law enforcement unit  
44 in a manner determined by the commissioner and council. The  
45 commissioner and council may revise the minimal technical  
46 specifications when the commissioner and council determine that  
47 revisions to such specifications are necessary.

48 (c) (1) Each police officer shall use body-worn recording equipment  
49 while interacting with the public in such sworn member's law  
50 enforcement capacity, except as provided in subsection (g) of this  
51 section, or in the case of a municipal police department, in accordance  
52 with the department's policy adopted by the department and based on  
53 guidelines maintained pursuant to subsection (j) of this section,  
54 concerning the use of body-worn recording equipment.

55 (2) Each police officer shall wear body-worn recording equipment on  
56 such officer's outer-most garment and shall position such equipment  
57 above the midline of such officer's torso when using such equipment.

58 (3) Body-worn recording equipment used pursuant to this section  
59 shall conform to the minimal technical specifications approved  
60 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, except that a police officer may  
61 use body-worn recording equipment that does not conform to the  
62 minimal technical specifications approved pursuant to subsection (b) of  
63 this section, if such equipment was purchased prior to January 1, 2016,  
64 by the law enforcement unit employing such officer.

65 (4) Each law enforcement unit shall require usage of a dashboard  
66 camera in each police patrol vehicle used by any police officer employed  
67 by such unit in accordance with the unit's policy adopted by the unit  
68 and based on guidelines maintained pursuant to subsection (j) of this  
69 section, concerning dashboard cameras.

70 (d) Except as required by state or federal law, no person employed by  
71 a law enforcement unit shall edit, erase, copy, share or otherwise alter  
72 or distribute in any manner any recording made by body-worn  
73 recording equipment or a dashboard camera or the data from such

74 recording.

75 (e) A police officer may review a recording from his or her body-worn  
76 recording equipment or a dashboard camera in order to assist such  
77 officer with the preparation of a report or otherwise in the performance  
78 of his or her duties.

79 (f) (1) If a police officer is giving a formal statement about the use of  
80 force or if a police officer is the subject of a disciplinary investigation in  
81 which a recording from body-worn recording equipment or a  
82 dashboard camera is being considered as part of a review of an incident,  
83 the officer shall have the right to review (A) such recording in the  
84 presence of the officer's attorney or labor representative, and (B)  
85 recordings from other body-worn recording equipment capturing the  
86 officer's image or voice during the incident. Not later than forty-eight  
87 hours following an officer's review of a recording under subparagraph  
88 (A) of this subdivision, or if the officer does not review the recording,  
89 not later than ninety-six hours following the initiation of such  
90 disciplinary investigation, whichever is earlier, such recording shall be  
91 disclosed, upon request, to the public, subject to the provisions of  
92 subsection (g) of this section. Public disclosure may be delayed if the  
93 officer, due to a medical or physical response or an acute psychological  
94 stress response to the incident, is not reasonably able to review a  
95 recording under this subdivision, but in no event shall disclosure be  
96 delayed more than one hundred forty-four hours following the  
97 recorded event.

98 (2) If a request is made for public disclosure of a recording from body-  
99 worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera of an incident about  
100 which (A) a police officer has not been asked to give a formal statement  
101 about the alleged use of force, or (B) a disciplinary investigation has not  
102 been initiated, any police officer whose image or voice is captured on  
103 the recording shall have the right to review such recording in the  
104 presence of the officer's attorney or labor representative. Not later than  
105 forty-eight hours following an officer's review of a recording under this  
106 subdivision, or if the officer does not review the recording, not later than

107 ninety-six hours following the request for disclosure, whichever is  
 108 earlier, such recording shall be disclosed to the public, subject to the  
 109 provisions of subsection (g) of this section. Public disclosure may be  
 110 delayed if the officer, due to a medical or physical response or an acute  
 111 psychological stress response to the incident, is not reasonably able to  
 112 review a recording under this subdivision, but in no event shall  
 113 disclosure be delayed more than one hundred forty-four hours  
 114 following the recorded event.

115 (g) (1) Except as otherwise provided by any agreement between a law  
 116 enforcement unit and the federal government, no police officer shall use  
 117 body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera, if applicable,  
 118 to intentionally record (A) a communication with other law enforcement  
 119 unit personnel, except that which may be recorded as the officer  
 120 performs his or her duties, (B) an encounter with an undercover officer  
 121 or informant or an officer performing detective work described in  
 122 guidelines developed pursuant to subsection (j) of this section, (C) when  
 123 an officer is on break or is otherwise engaged in a personal activity, (D)  
 124 a person undergoing a medical or psychological evaluation, procedure  
 125 or treatment, (E) any person other than a suspect to a crime if an officer  
 126 is wearing such equipment in a hospital or other medical facility setting,  
 127 or (F) in a mental health facility, unless responding to a call involving a  
 128 suspect to a crime who is thought to be present in the facility.

129 (2) No record created using body-worn recording equipment or a  
 130 dashboard camera of (A) an occurrence or situation described in  
 131 subparagraphs (A) to (F), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of this subsection,  
 132 (B) a scene of an incident that involves (i) a victim of domestic or sexual  
 133 abuse, (ii) a victim of homicide or suicide, or (iii) a deceased victim of an  
 134 accident, if disclosure could reasonably be expected to constitute an  
 135 unwarranted invasion of personal privacy in the case of any such victim  
 136 described in this subparagraph, or (C) a minor, shall be subject to  
 137 disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, [as defined in section  
 138 1-200,] and any such record shall be confidential and redacted in  
 139 accordance with section 2 of this act, except that (i) a record of an  
 140 involved person or the requesting party undergoing a medical or

141 psychological evaluation, procedure or treatment shall be disclosed to  
 142 such involved person or the requesting party, and (ii) a record of a minor  
 143 shall be disclosed if [(i)] (I) the minor and the parent or guardian of such  
 144 minor consent to the disclosure of such record, [(ii)] or, if the minor is  
 145 an involved person, the minor's parent or guardian is the requesting  
 146 party or an involved person, (II) a police officer is the subject of an  
 147 allegation of misconduct made by such minor or the parent or guardian  
 148 of such minor, and the person representing such officer in an  
 149 investigation of such alleged misconduct requests disclosure of such  
 150 record for the sole purpose of preparing a defense to such allegation, or  
 151 [(iii)] (III) a person is charged with a crime and defense counsel for such  
 152 person requests disclosure of such record for the sole purpose of  
 153 assisting in such person's defense and the discovery of such record as  
 154 evidence is otherwise discoverable.

155 (h) No police officer shall use body-worn recording equipment prior  
 156 to being trained in accordance with section 7-294s in the use of such  
 157 equipment and in the retention of data created by such equipment. A  
 158 law enforcement unit shall ensure that each police officer such unit  
 159 employs receives such training at least annually and is trained on the  
 160 proper care and maintenance of such equipment.

161 (i) If a police officer is aware that any body-worn recording  
 162 equipment or dashboard camera is lost, damaged or malfunctioning,  
 163 such officer shall inform such officer's supervisor in writing as soon as  
 164 is practicable. Upon receiving such information, the supervisor shall  
 165 ensure that the body-worn recording equipment or dashboard camera  
 166 is inspected and repaired or replaced, as necessary. Each police officer  
 167 shall inspect and test body-worn recording equipment prior to each shift  
 168 to verify proper functioning, and shall notify such officer's supervisor  
 169 of any problems with such equipment.

170 (j) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection  
 171 and the Police Officer Standards and Training Council shall jointly  
 172 maintain guidelines pertaining to the use of body-worn recording  
 173 equipment and dashboard cameras, including the type of detective

174 work an officer might engage in that should not be recorded, retention  
175 of data created by such equipment and dashboard cameras and methods  
176 for safe and secure storage of such data. On and after October 1, 2024,  
177 such guidelines shall contain provisions concerning under which  
178 circumstances an officer shall not pause recording on such equipment.  
179 The guidelines shall not require a law enforcement unit to store such  
180 data for a period longer than one year, except in the case where the unit  
181 knows the data is pertinent to any ongoing civil, criminal or  
182 administrative matter. Each law enforcement unit and any police officer  
183 and any other employee of such unit who may have access to such data  
184 shall adhere to such guidelines. The commissioner and council may  
185 update and reissue such guidelines, as the commissioner and council  
186 determine necessary. The commissioner and council shall, upon  
187 issuance of such guidelines or any update to such guidelines, submit  
188 such guidelines in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a to the  
189 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance  
190 of matters relating to the judiciary and public safety.

191 (k) (1) Not later than October 1, 2023, the Police Officer Standards and  
192 Training Council, in consultation with the Institute for Municipal and  
193 Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut, shall prescribe a form  
194 to be used by law enforcement units to report each unit's compliance  
195 with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. Such form shall  
196 require the compilation of information including, but not limited to, (A)  
197 the number of body-worn recording devices in operation in a law  
198 enforcement unit, (B) the number of dashboard cameras in operation in  
199 a law enforcement unit, (C) the number of police patrol vehicles not  
200 equipped with a dashboard camera in a law enforcement unit and the  
201 reasons such vehicles are not so equipped, (D) information regarding  
202 any incidents in which a police officer of a law enforcement unit was  
203 found in an internal investigation conducted by such unit to have  
204 violated such unit's policy regarding the use of body-worn recording  
205 equipment or dashboard cameras, and (E) any other information  
206 deemed necessary.

207 (2) Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, each law

208 enforcement unit shall submit a report on the form prescribed pursuant  
209 to subdivision (1) of this subsection concerning the unit's compliance  
210 with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section to the Institute for  
211 Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut. The  
212 institute shall post such reports on the institute's Internet web site.

213 (3) Not later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Institute  
214 for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut  
215 shall, within available appropriations, review the reports submitted  
216 pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, and report the results of  
217 such review and any recommendations as a result of such review to the  
218 Governor, the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, the  
219 Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division within the Office of Policy  
220 and Management and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-  
221 4a, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
222 cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and public safety and  
223 security.

224 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Except as provided in  
225 subsections (b) and (c) of this section, any public agency, as defined in  
226 section 1-200 of the general statutes, that maintains a copy of a record  
227 created using body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera  
228 pursuant to section 29-6d of the general statutes, as amended by this act,  
229 may charge the requesting party a redaction fee for any such record that  
230 requires redaction in accordance with the provisions of this section.  
231 Such fee shall compensate the public agency for the time spent redacting  
232 any portion of the requested record as required or authorized by state  
233 or federal law, including, but not limited to, the provisions of subsection  
234 (g) of section 29-6d of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Such  
235 fee shall be calculated as follows:

236 (1) The public agency shall not charge the requesting party for the  
237 time spent searching for the applicable record that is responsive to the  
238 request.

239 (2) The first four hours of labor costs incurred by the public agency in



240 redacting the requested record shall not be charged to the requesting  
241 party.

242 (3) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, any additional  
243 labor costs associated with any time necessary to redact the requested  
244 record beyond the time set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection  
245 may be charged to the requesting party at a rate not to exceed the hourly  
246 wage of the lowest-paid employee with the requisite training for  
247 redacting the responsive record. For purposes of this subdivision, the  
248 hourly wage of an employee shall be based upon the employee's base  
249 salary and shall not include benefits. The responding agency shall not  
250 charge the requesting party for the services of any attorney hired by the  
251 responding agency to conduct a second review of the requested record  
252 or any company providing digital management services to the  
253 responding agency.

254 (4) Any fee charged to a requesting party under this subsection shall  
255 not exceed one hundred dollars per hour of the actual length of time of  
256 the record requested. In calculating the fee under this subsection, the  
257 public agency may round up the actual length of time of the record  
258 requested to the nearest half hour at a rate of fifty dollars per half hour.

259 (5) If the amount to be charged to the requesting party in accordance  
260 with subdivision (3) of this subsection is estimated to exceed two  
261 hundred fifty dollars, the public agency shall inform the requesting  
262 party of the estimated fee and may require prepayment of such fee prior  
263 to redacting the requested record. If the amount of prepaid fees exceeds  
264 the actual labor costs incurred by the public agency in redacting the  
265 requested record, the public agency shall reimburse the requesting  
266 party for any difference between the prepaid amount and actual cost.

267 (b) The public agency shall waive any fee authorized under this  
268 section if required under subsection (d) of section 1-212 of the general  
269 statutes.

270 (c) (1) A public agency shall not charge a fee to any requesting party  
271 who is (A) an involved person in the record requested, (B) the parent or

272 legal guardian of an involved person, or (C) an attorney representing an  
273 involved person in any civil, criminal or administrative matter.

274 (2) A public agency shall not charge a fee to any other requesting  
275 party if (A) the record depicts a police officer involved in a shooting, a  
276 police officer involved in a motor vehicle accident or a police officer  
277 giving a formal statement about the use of force, or (B) (i) there is an  
278 allegation of misconduct concerning the police officer involved, or (ii)  
279 the police officer involved is the subject of a disciplinary investigation,  
280 subject to any limitations on disclosure set forth in subsection (g) of  
281 section 29-6d of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

282 (d) The public agency shall maintain an original, unredacted copy of  
283 any requested record that is redacted for public dissemination in  
284 accordance with the provisions of this section.

285 (e) If the Freedom of Information Commission determines that a  
286 public agency has violated any provision of this section, the Freedom of  
287 Information Commission may order the public agency to refund any  
288 payment made under this section.

289 Sec. 3. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 1-212 of the general statutes  
290 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
291 *October 1, 2025*):

292 (a) Any person applying in writing shall receive, promptly upon  
293 request, a plain, facsimile, electronic or certified copy of any public  
294 record. The type of copy provided shall be within the discretion of the  
295 public agency, except (1) the agency shall provide a certified copy  
296 whenever requested, and (2) if the applicant does not have access to a  
297 computer or facsimile machine, the public agency shall not send the  
298 applicant an electronic or facsimile copy. [The] Except as provided in  
299 section 2 of this act, the fee for any copy provided in accordance with  
300 the Freedom of Information Act:

301 (A) By an executive, administrative or legislative office of the state, a  
302 state agency or a department, institution, bureau, board, commission,

303 authority or official of the state, including a committee of, or created by,  
304 such an office, agency, department, institution, bureau, board,  
305 commission, authority or official, and also including any judicial office,  
306 official or body or committee thereof but only in respect to its or their  
307 administrative functions, shall not exceed twenty-five cents per page;  
308 and

309 (B) By all other public agencies, as defined in section 1-200, shall not  
310 exceed fifty cents per page. If any copy provided in accordance with said  
311 Freedom of Information Act requires a transcription, or if any person  
312 applies for a transcription of a public record, the fee for such  
313 transcription shall not exceed the cost thereof to the public agency.

314 (b) The fee for any copy provided in accordance with subsection (a)  
315 of section 1-211 shall not exceed the cost thereof to the public agency.  
316 [In] Except as provided in section 2 of this act, in determining such costs  
317 for a copy, other than for a printout which exists at the time that the  
318 agency responds to the request for such copy, an agency may include  
319 only:

320 (1) An amount equal to the hourly salary attributed to all agency  
321 employees engaged in providing the requested computer-stored public  
322 record, including their time performing the formatting or programming  
323 functions necessary to provide the copy as requested, but not including  
324 search or retrieval costs except as provided in subdivision (4) of this  
325 subsection;

326 (2) An amount equal to the cost to the agency of engaging an outside  
327 professional electronic copying service to provide such copying  
328 services, if such service is necessary to provide the copying as requested;

329 (3) The actual cost of the storage devices or media provided to the  
330 person making the request in complying with such request; and

331 (4) The computer time charges incurred by the agency in providing  
332 the requested computer-stored public record where another agency or  
333 contractor provides the agency with computer storage and retrieval

334 services. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the fee for  
335 any copy of the names of registered voters shall not exceed three cents  
336 per name delivered or the cost thereof to the public agency, as  
337 determined pursuant to this subsection, whichever is less. The  
338 Department of Administrative Services shall provide guidelines to  
339 agencies regarding the calculation of the fees charged for copies of  
340 computer-stored public records to ensure that such fees are reasonable  
341 and consistent among agencies.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	29-6d
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-212(a) and (b)

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	29-6d
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	1-212(a) and (b)

***GAE***      *Joint Favorable*