



General Assembly

## ***Substitute Bill No. 1375***

*January Session, 2025*



### ***AN ACT CONCERNING HIGHWAY, PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST SAFETY.***

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

1       Section 1. Section 14-300 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2       following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3       (a) The traffic authority may designate, by appropriate official traffic  
4       control devices, as defined in section 14-297, or markers, or by lines  
5       upon the surface of the highway, such crosswalks and intersections as,  
6       in its opinion, constitute a danger to pedestrians crossing the highway  
7       including, but not limited to, specially marked crosswalks in the vicinity  
8       of schools, which crosswalks shall have distinctive markings, in  
9       accordance with the regulations of the Office of the State Traffic  
10      Administration, to denote use of such crosswalks by school children;  
11      and may maintain suitable signs located at intervals along highways,  
12      particularly where there are no sidewalks, directing pedestrians to walk  
13      facing vehicular traffic.

14      (b) At any intersection where special pedestrian-control signals  
15      bearing the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" or the image of a walking  
16      person symbolizing "Walk" or an upraised hand symbolizing "Don't  
17      Walk" are placed, pedestrians may cross the highway only as indicated  
18      by the signal. At any intersection where traffic is controlled by other

19 traffic control signals or by police officers, pedestrians shall not cross the  
20 highway against a red or "Stop" signal and shall not cross at any place  
21 not a marked or unmarked crosswalk. A pedestrian started or starting  
22 across the highway or on any such crosswalk shall have the right-of-  
23 way over all vehicles, including those making turns, until such  
24 pedestrian has reached the opposite curb or safety zone.

25 (c) Except as provided in subsection (c) of section 14-300c, at any  
26 crosswalk marked as provided in subsection (a) of this section or any  
27 unmarked crosswalk, provided such crosswalks are not controlled by  
28 police officers or traffic control signals, each operator of a vehicle shall  
29 grant the right-of-way, and slow or stop such vehicle if necessary to so  
30 grant the right-of-way, to any pedestrian crossing the roadway within  
31 such crosswalk. For the purposes of this subsection, a pedestrian is  
32 "crossing the roadway within such crosswalk" when the pedestrian (1)  
33 is within any portion of the crosswalk, (2) steps to the curb at the  
34 entrance to the crosswalk and indicates his or her intent to cross the  
35 roadway by raising his or her hand and arm toward oncoming traffic,  
36 or (3) indicates his or her intent to cross the roadway by moving any  
37 part of his or her body or an extension thereof, including, but not limited  
38 to, a wheelchair, cane, walking stick, crutch, bicycle, electric bicycle,  
39 stroller, carriage, cart or leashed or harnessed dog, into the crosswalk at  
40 the entrance to the crosswalk. No operator of a vehicle approaching  
41 from the rear shall overtake and pass any vehicle, the operator of which  
42 has stopped at any crosswalk marked as provided in subsection (a) of  
43 this section or any unmarked crosswalk to permit a pedestrian to cross  
44 the roadway. The operator of any vehicle crossing a sidewalk shall yield  
45 the right-of-way to each pedestrian and all other traffic upon such  
46 sidewalk.

47 (d) The operator of a motor vehicle who approaches or comes into the  
48 immediate vicinity of a pedestrian who is blind, as defined in subsection  
49 (a) of section 1-1f, carrying a white cane or a white cane tipped with red,  
50 or a pedestrian being guided by a service animal, shall reduce speed or  
51 stop, if necessary, to yield the right-of-way to such pedestrian. No  
52 person, except one who is blind, shall carry or use on any street or

53 highway, or in any other public place, a cane or walking stick which is  
54 white in color or white, tipped with red. For the purposes of this  
55 subsection, "service animal" has the same meaning as provided in  
56 section 22-345.

57 (e) Any crosswalk designated by a traffic authority on or after  
58 October 1, 2010, pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be  
59 required by such authority to have markings, signage, or any control  
60 signals deemed necessary by such authority to provide sufficient time  
61 for the safe crossing of pedestrians.

62 (f) The operator of any motor vehicle who violates this section shall  
63 be fined not more than [five hundred] seven hundred fifty dollars.

64 (g) In any civil action arising under subsection (c) or (d) of this section  
65 or sections 14-300b to 14-300d, inclusive, the doctrine of negligence per  
66 se shall not apply.

67 Sec. 2. Section 14-230a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
68 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

69 (a) On any divided limited access highway [which] ~~that~~ provides  
70 more than two lanes for traffic proceeding in the same direction, no  
71 operator of any motor vehicle with a commercial registration, motor  
72 bus, vehicle with trailer or school bus shall drive in the extreme left lane  
73 where the Office of the State Traffic Administration so designates,  
74 except (1) on the direction of a police officer, or [except] (2) when access  
75 to or egress from such highway is provided on the left, in which latter  
76 case such operator shall drive in such left lane only for such period as is  
77 reasonably necessary to enter or leave such highway safely.

78 (b) On any divided limited access highway that provides more than  
79 two lanes for traffic proceeding in the same direction, no operator of a  
80 motor vehicle, other than a motor vehicle subject to the provisions of  
81 subsection (a) of this section, shall drive in the extreme left lane, except  
82 (1) when overtaking and passing another vehicle, (2) on the direction of  
83 a police officer, (3) when access to or egress from such highway is

84 provided on the left, in which latter case such operator shall drive in  
85 such left lane only for such period as is reasonably necessary to enter or  
86 leave such highway safely, (4) if such motor vehicle is an emergency  
87 vehicle operating pursuant to section 14-283, (5) if the operator is  
88 engaged in the maintenance, repair or construction of such highway, or  
89 (6) when traffic congestion makes driving in the extreme left lane  
90 necessary.

91 (c) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall have  
92 committed an infraction and shall be fined eighty-eight dollars.

93 Sec. 3. Section 14-289g of the general statutes is repealed and the  
94 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

95 (a) No person under [eighteen] twenty-one years of age may (1)  
96 operate a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle, as defined in section 14-1,  
97 or (2) be a passenger on a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle, unless such  
98 operator or passenger is wearing protective headgear [of a type which]  
99 that conforms to the minimum specifications established in 49 CFR  
100 571.218, as amended from time to time. Any person who violates this  
101 section shall have committed an infraction and shall be fined not less  
102 than ninety dollars.

103 (b) As used in this section, the term "motorcycle" [shall] does not  
104 include "autocycle".

105 Sec. 4. Section 14-296aa of the general statutes is repealed and the  
106 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

107 (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the  
108 following meanings:

109 (1) "Mobile telephone" means a cellular, analog, wireless or digital  
110 telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone communications  
111 without an access line for service.

112 (2) "Using" or "use" means (A) holding a hand-held mobile telephone  
113 to, or in the immediate proximity of, the user's ear, or (B) watching or

114 playing a video on a mobile electronic device that is in full view of the  
115 operator in a normal driving position.

116 (3) "Hand-held mobile telephone" means a mobile telephone with  
117 which a user engages in a call using at least one hand.

118 (4) "Hands-free accessory" means an attachment, add-on, built-in  
119 feature, or addition to a mobile telephone, whether or not permanently  
120 installed in a motor vehicle, that, when used, allows the vehicle operator  
121 to maintain both hands on the steering wheel.

122 (5) "Hands-free mobile telephone" means a hand-held mobile  
123 telephone that has an internal feature or function, or that is equipped  
124 with an attachment or addition, whether or not permanently part of  
125 such hand-held mobile telephone, by which a user engages in a call  
126 without the use of either hand, whether or not the use of either hand is  
127 necessary to activate, deactivate or initiate a function of such telephone.

128 (6) "Engage in a call" means talking into or listening on a hand-held  
129 mobile telephone, but does not include holding a hand-held mobile  
130 telephone to activate, deactivate or initiate a function of such telephone.

131 (7) "Immediate proximity" means the distance that permits the  
132 operator of a hand-held mobile telephone to hear telecommunications  
133 transmitted over such hand-held mobile telephone, but does not require  
134 physical contact with such operator's ear.

135 (8) "Mobile electronic device" means (A) any hand-held or other  
136 portable electronic equipment capable of providing data  
137 communication between two or more persons, including a text  
138 messaging device, a paging device, a personal digital assistant [,] or a  
139 laptop computer, (B) any equipment that is capable of playing a video  
140 game or a digital video disk, [or] (C) any equipment on which digital  
141 photographs are taken or transmitted, (D) any installed screen, video  
142 monitor or other means of providing a visual display, or (E) any  
143 combination thereof. [, but] "Mobile electronic device" does not include  
144 any audio equipment or any equipment installed in a motor vehicle for

145 the purpose of providing (i) navigation, (ii) emergency assistance to the  
146 operator of such motor vehicle, or (iii) video entertainment to the  
147 passengers in the rear seats of such motor vehicle that is not in full view  
148 of the operator in a normal driving position.

149 (9) "Operating a motor vehicle" means operating a motor vehicle on  
150 any highway, [as defined in section 14-1,] including being temporarily  
151 stationary due to traffic, road conditions or a traffic control sign or  
152 signal, but not including being parked on the side or shoulder of any  
153 highway where such vehicle is safely able to remain stationary.

154 (10) "Highway", "commercial motor vehicle" and "authorized  
155 emergency vehicle" have the same meanings as provided in section 14-  
156 1.

157 (b) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and  
158 subsections (c) and (d) of this section, no person shall operate a motor  
159 vehicle upon a highway [, as defined in section 14-1,] while using a  
160 hand-held mobile telephone to engage in a call or while using a mobile  
161 electronic device. An operator of a motor vehicle who types, sends or  
162 reads a text message with a hand-held mobile telephone or mobile  
163 electronic device while operating a motor vehicle shall be in violation of  
164 this section, except that if such operator is driving a commercial motor  
165 vehicle, [as defined in section 14-1,] such operator shall be charged with  
166 a violation of subsection (e) of this section.

167 (2) An operator of a motor vehicle who holds a hand-held mobile  
168 telephone to, or in the immediate proximity of, his or her ear while  
169 operating a motor vehicle is presumed to be engaging in a call within  
170 the meaning of this section. The presumption established by this  
171 subdivision is rebuttable by evidence tending to show that the operator  
172 was not engaged in a call.

173 (3) The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed as  
174 authorizing the seizure or forfeiture of a hand-held mobile telephone or  
175 a mobile electronic device, unless otherwise provided by law.

176       (4) Subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply to: (A) The use  
177 of a hand-held mobile telephone for the sole purpose of communicating  
178 with any of the following regarding an emergency situation: An  
179 emergency response operator; a hospital, physician's office or health  
180 clinic; an ambulance company; a fire department; or a police  
181 department, [or] (B) any of the following persons while in the  
182 performance of their official duties and within the scope of their  
183 employment: A peace officer, as defined in subdivision (9) of section  
184 53a-3, a firefighter or an operator of an ambulance or authorized  
185 emergency vehicle [, as defined in section 14-1,] or a member of the  
186 armed forces of the United States, as defined in section 27-103, while  
187 operating a military vehicle, [or] (C) the use of a hand-held radio by a  
188 person with an amateur radio station license issued by the Federal  
189 Communications Commission in emergency situations for emergency  
190 purposes only, or (D) the use of a hands-free mobile telephone.

191       (c) No person shall use a hand-held mobile telephone or other  
192 electronic device, including those with hands-free accessories, or a  
193 mobile electronic device, while operating a school bus that is carrying  
194 passengers, except that this subsection shall not apply when such  
195 person: (1) Places an emergency call to school officials; (2) uses a hand-  
196 held mobile telephone as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision  
197 (4) of subsection (b) of this section; (3) uses a hand-held mobile  
198 telephone or mobile electronic device in a manner similar to a two-way  
199 radio to allow real-time communication with a school official, an  
200 emergency response operator, a hospital, physician's office or health  
201 clinic, an ambulance company, a fire department or a police department;  
202 or (4) uses a mobile electronic device with a video display, provided  
203 such device (A) is used as a global positioning system or to provide  
204 navigation, (B) is securely attached inside the school bus near such  
205 person, and (C) has been approved for such use by the Department of  
206 Motor Vehicles.

207       (d) No person under eighteen years of age shall use any hand-held  
208 mobile telephone, including one with a hands-free accessory, or a  
209 mobile electronic device while operating a motor vehicle on a public

210 highway, except as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (4) of  
211 subsection (b) of this section.

212 (e) No person shall use a hand-held mobile telephone or other  
213 electronic device or type, read or send text or a text message with or  
214 from a mobile telephone or mobile electronic device while operating a  
215 commercial motor vehicle, [as defined in section 14-1,] except for the  
216 purpose of communicating with any of the following regarding an  
217 emergency situation: An emergency response operator; a hospital;  
218 physician's office or health clinic; an ambulance company; a fire  
219 department or a police department.

220 (f) Except as provided in subsections (b) to (e), inclusive, of this  
221 section, no person shall engage in any activity not related to the actual  
222 operation of a motor vehicle in a manner that interferes with the safe  
223 operation of such vehicle on any highway. [, as defined in section 14-1.]

224 (g) Any law enforcement officer who issues a summons for a  
225 violation of this section shall record on such summons the specific  
226 nature of any distracted driving behavior observed by such officer.

227 (h) Any person who violates this section shall be fined two hundred  
228 dollars for a first violation, three hundred seventy-five dollars for a  
229 second violation and six hundred twenty-five dollars for a third or  
230 subsequent violation.

231 (i) An operator of a motor vehicle who commits a moving violation,  
232 as defined in subsection (a) of section 14-111g, as amended by this act,  
233 while engaged in any activity prohibited by this section shall be fined in  
234 accordance with subsection (h) of this section, in addition to any penalty  
235 or fine imposed for the moving violation.

236 (j) The state shall remit to a municipality twenty-five per cent of the  
237 fine amount received for a violation of this section with respect to each  
238 summons issued by such municipality. Each clerk of the Superior Court  
239 or the Chief Court Administrator, or any other official of the Superior  
240 Court designated by the Chief Court Administrator, shall, on or before



241 the thirtieth day of January, April, July and October in each year, certify  
242 to the Comptroller the amount due for the previous quarter under this  
243 subsection to each municipality served by the office of the clerk or  
244 official.

245 (k) A record of any violation of this section shall appear on the  
246 driving history record or motor vehicle record, as defined in section 14-  
247 10, of any person who commits such violation, and the record of such  
248 violation shall be available to any motor vehicle insurer in accordance  
249 with the provisions of section 14-10.

250 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this  
251 section:

252 (1) "Alcoholic beverage" has the same meaning as provided in section  
253 30-1 of the general statutes;

254 (2) "Highway", "motor bus" and "recreational vehicle" have the same  
255 meanings as provided in section 14-1 of the general statutes;

256 (3) "Motor vehicle" has the same meaning as provided in section 14-  
257 212 of the general statutes;

258 (4) "Motor vehicle in livery service" has the same meaning as  
259 provided in section 13b-101 of the general statutes;

260 (5) "Open alcoholic beverage container" means a bottle, a can or other  
261 receptacle (A) that contains any amount of an alcoholic beverage, and  
262 (B) (i) that is open or has a broken seal, or (ii) the contents of which are  
263 partially removed;

264 (6) "Passenger" means any occupant of a motor vehicle other than the  
265 operator;

266 (7) "Passenger area" means (A) the area designed to seat the operator  
267 of, and any passenger in, a motor vehicle while such vehicle is being  
268 operated on a highway, or (B) any area that is readily accessible to such  
269 operator or passenger while such person is in such person's seated

270 position. "Passenger area" does not include (i) a locked container, such  
271 as a locked glove compartment or console, (ii) the trunk, or (iii) in a  
272 motor vehicle that is not equipped with a trunk, the area behind the last  
273 upright seat or any area not normally occupied by the operator or a  
274 passenger; and

275 (8) "Taxicab" has the same meaning as described in section 13b-95 of  
276 the general statutes.

277 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, no person shall  
278 consume or possess an open alcoholic beverage container within the  
279 passenger area of a motor vehicle while such motor vehicle is on any  
280 highway in this state.

281 (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to:  
282 (1) A passenger in a motor vehicle designed, maintained and primarily  
283 used for the transportation of passengers for hire, including, but not  
284 limited to, a taxicab, motor bus or motor vehicle in livery service, or (2)  
285 a passenger in the living quarters of a recreational vehicle.

286 (d) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this  
287 section shall have committed an infraction.

288 Sec. 6. Section 14-286d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
289 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

290 (a) For the purposes of this section and section 14-286e, "bicycle"  
291 means any vehicle propelled by the person riding the same by foot or  
292 hand power.

293 (b) No child [fifteen] seventeen years of age or under shall operate a  
294 bicycle, electric bicycle, nonmotorized scooter, skateboard or electric  
295 foot scooter or wear roller skates or in-line skates on the traveled portion  
296 of any highway, at a skateboarding park or any park unless such child  
297 is wearing properly fitted and fastened protective headgear which  
298 conforms to the minimum specifications established by the American  
299 National Standards Institute, the United States Consumer Product

300 Safety Commission, the American Society for Testing and Materials or  
301 the Snell Memorial Foundation's Standard for Protective Headgear for  
302 Use in Bicycling, as amended from time to time. Failure to comply with  
303 this section shall not be a violation or an offense. Failure to wear  
304 protective headgear as required by this subsection shall not be  
305 considered to be contributory negligence on the part of the parent or the  
306 child nor shall such failure be admissible in any civil action.

307 (c) A law enforcement officer may issue a verbal warning to the  
308 parent or guardian of a child that such child has failed to comply with  
309 the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

310 (d) A person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of renting  
311 bicycles, electric bicycles or electric foot scooters shall provide  
312 protective headgear conforming to the minimum specifications  
313 established by the American National Standards Institute, the United  
314 States Consumer Product Safety Commission, the American Society for  
315 Testing and Materials or the Snell Memorial Foundation's Standard for  
316 Protective Headgear for Use in Bicycling, as amended from time to time,  
317 to any person [under sixteen] seventeen years of age or under who will  
318 operate the bicycle, electric bicycle or electric foot scooter if such person  
319 does not have protective headgear in his or her possession. A fee may  
320 be charged for the protective headgear rental. Violation of any of the  
321 provisions of this subsection shall be an infraction.

322 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall post on the  
323 Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site information  
324 concerning the dangers of riding bicycles, electric bicycles or electric  
325 foot scooters, skateboarding, roller skating and in-line skating without  
326 protective headgear and promoting the use of protective headgear while  
327 riding bicycles, electric bicycles or electric foot scooters, skateboarding,  
328 roller skating and in-line skating.

329 Sec. 7. Section 13b-10 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
330 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

331 (a) The commissioner may, subject to the provisions of chapter 67,

332 employ such agents, assistants and employees as [he] the commissioner  
333 deems necessary to carry out [his] the commissioner's duties and  
334 responsibilities. [He] The commissioner may retain and employ other  
335 consultants and assistants on a contract or other basis for rendering  
336 legal, financial, technical or other assistance and advice.

337 (b) The commissioner shall assign employees to support the adoption  
338 and implementation of Complete Streets standards or policies, as  
339 described in section 11206 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act,  
340 P. L. 117-58, as amended from time to time, throughout the state. Such  
341 support shall include administering grants and providing incentives to  
342 municipalities in order to finalize a project or prioritization plan that  
343 incorporates Complete Streets standards or policies.

344 Sec. 8. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this section,  
345 "intelligent speed assistance device" means a device designed to be  
346 installed within a motor vehicle to actively monitor and limit the speed  
347 at which a motor vehicle is capable of traveling based on the applicable  
348 speed limit where such motor vehicle is being operated.

349 (b) The Vision Zero Council, established under section 13b-23b of the  
350 general statutes, and the Chief State's Attorney shall jointly study and  
351 make recommendations concerning the feasibility of leveraging  
352 intelligent speed assistance devices to address speeding and reckless  
353 driving in the state. The Vision Zero Council and Chief State's Attorney  
354 may partner with an institution of higher education or national  
355 transportation research entity to perform such study. Such study shall,  
356 at a minimum, (1) examine whether sufficient evidence exists to show  
357 that the use of intelligent speed assistance devices changes driving  
358 behavior and improves road safety, (2) consider the different types and  
359 availability of such devices, (3) estimate the costs associated with the  
360 installation and maintenance of such devices to the motor vehicle  
361 operator and the state, (4) examine whether such devices work  
362 accurately and reliably in unsupervised environments and whether  
363 such devices are capable of producing evidence showing such device  
364 has not been bypassed, circumvented or tampered with, and (5) if

365 recommending the use of such devices in the state, (A) identify if the  
366 installation of such device would be in lieu of, or in addition to, a  
367 prescribed penalty or suspension of a motor vehicle operator's license  
368 and if such installation would be mandatory or discretionary, (B)  
369 identify the types and number of traffic violations that would require or  
370 permit the installation of such devices, (C) discuss if any such  
371 requirement to install an intelligent speed assistance device should  
372 apply differently to motor vehicle operators based upon the age or  
373 driving history of the operator, and (D) discuss necessary components  
374 of a regulatory framework that would be necessary to ensure the proper  
375 and accurate use of such devices.

376 (c) Not later than January 15, 2026, the Vision Zero Council and the  
377 Chief State's Attorney shall submit their findings and any  
378 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the joint  
379 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
380 matters relating to transportation, in accordance with the provisions of  
381 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

382 Sec. 9. Section 14-111g of the general statutes is repealed and the  
383 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

384 (a) (1) For the purposes of this [subsection] section, "moving  
385 violation" means any violation of subsection (c) of section 14-36 or  
386 section 14-36g, 14-212d, 14-218a, 14-219, 14-222, 14-223, 14-230 to 14-249,  
387 inclusive, 14-279, 14-283, 14-289b, 14-296aa, as amended by this act, 14-  
388 299, 14-300, as amended by this act, 14-301, 14-302 or 14-303, and  
389 "suspension violation" means a violation of section 14-222a, 14-224, 14-  
390 227a, 14-227m or 14-227n, or section 53a-56b, 53a-57 or 53a-60d. [The]

391 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, the  
392 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may require any motor vehicle  
393 operator who is twenty-four years of age or less, who has been convicted  
394 of a moving violation or a suspension violation, or both, committed on  
395 two or more occasions to attend a motor vehicle operator's retraining  
396 program. [The]

397     (3) Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, the  
398 commissioner may require any motor vehicle operator over twenty-four  
399 years of age, who has been convicted of a moving violation or a  
400 suspension violation or a combination of said violations, committed on  
401 three or more occasions to attend a motor vehicle operator's retraining  
402 program.

403     (4) The commissioner shall require (A) any motor vehicle operator  
404 convicted of traveling more than seventy-five miles per hour, (B) any  
405 person operating a commercial motor vehicle convicted of traveling  
406 more than sixty-five miles per hour in a highway work zone, as defined  
407 in section 14-212d, [or] and (C) any [person] motor vehicle operator  
408 convicted of a violation of section 14-222 or subdivision (1) of subsection  
409 (c) of section 14-224, to attend a motor vehicle operator's retraining  
410 program.

411     (5) The commissioner shall notify such operator, in writing, of such  
412 requirement. A fee of not more than eighty-five dollars shall be charged  
413 for the retraining program. The commissioner, after notice and  
414 opportunity for hearing, may suspend the motor vehicle operator's  
415 license of any such operator who fails to attend or successfully complete  
416 the program until the operator successfully completes the program. The  
417 hearing shall be limited to any claim of impossibility of the operator to  
418 attend the retraining program, or to a determination of mistake or  
419 misidentification.

420     (b) (1) The retraining program shall be taught by a designee of the  
421 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or by an instructor approved by the  
422 commissioner and shall [(1)] (A) review principles of motor vehicle  
423 operation, [(2)] (B) develop alternative attitudes for those attitudes  
424 contributing to aggressive driving behavior, and [(3)] (C) emphasize the  
425 need to practice safe driving behavior.

426     (2) The retraining program shall be offered by the Department of  
427 Motor Vehicles or by any other organization certified by the  
428 commissioner to conduct such program in person in a congregate

429 setting, through distance learning or through a combination of both in-  
430 person and distance learning, provided such distance learning has  
431 interactive components such as mandatory interactions, participation or  
432 testing. Any drivers' school, as defined in section 14-68, that meets the  
433 licensure requirements of part IV of this chapter shall be eligible to seek  
434 certification to offer the motor vehicle operator's retraining program.  
435 The commissioner shall determine the number of program providers  
436 necessary to serve the needs of the public.

437     (3) Each organization or drivers' school seeking certification or  
438 recertification to conduct such retraining program shall submit an  
439 application to the department in such form as the commissioner shall  
440 require and an application fee of three hundred fifty dollars. Each such  
441 applicant shall:

442         (A) Be registered to do business in this state and continuously  
443 maintain good standing with the office of the Secretary of the State;

444         (B) ~~[file]~~ File and continuously maintain a surety bond in the amount  
445 of fifty thousand dollars. Such bond shall be conditioned upon  
446 compliance with the provisions of any state or federal law or regulation  
447 concerning the conduct of an operator retraining program and provided  
448 as indemnity for any loss or expense sustained by either the state or any  
449 person by reason of any acts or omissions of the program provider. Such  
450 bond shall be executed in the name of the State of Connecticut for the  
451 benefit of any aggrieved party, but the penalty of the bond shall not be  
452 invoked except upon order of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles after  
453 a hearing held before the commissioner in accordance with the  
454 provisions of chapter 54;

455         (C) ~~[have]~~ Have a permanent place of business in this state where all  
456 operator retraining program records shall be maintained and accessible  
457 to the commissioner during normal business hours;

458         (D) ~~[submit]~~ Submit for approval by the commissioner a detailed  
459 curriculum and lesson plan, including any changes to such curriculum  
460 and lesson plan, which shall be used in each operator retraining class;

461 and

462 (E) [electronically] Electronically transmit information concerning  
463 enrollment and class completion to the commissioner at such times and  
464 in such form as the commissioner shall prescribe.

465 (4) Prior to the certification of an applicant, the commissioner shall  
466 investigate the applicant's character, driving history and criminal  
467 history. If the applicant is a business entity, such investigation shall  
468 include the principals and officers of such entity. The applicant shall  
469 submit to the commissioner any information pertaining to current or  
470 past criminal or civil actions. The certification of a program provider by  
471 the commissioner shall not be transferable and shall be valid for a two-  
472 year period. Recertification of a provider shall be at the discretion of the  
473 commissioner and in such form and manner determined by the  
474 commissioner.

475 (c) Any person who is required to attend an operator retraining  
476 program shall have such requirement and the completion date of such  
477 requirement posted on such person's driving history record maintained  
478 by the commissioner. The date of class completion shall remain on such  
479 person's driving history record until such person has attained thirty-six  
480 consecutive months without any additional moving violations or  
481 suspension violations specified in subsection (a) of this section being  
482 posted to such person's driving history record. Until the completion of  
483 such thirty-six consecutive months, the Commissioner of Motor  
484 Vehicles shall suspend such person's operator's license or operating  
485 privilege for: (1) Thirty days upon a first conviction for any specified  
486 moving violation or suspension violation; (2) sixty days upon a second  
487 conviction of any specified moving violation or suspension violation;  
488 and (3) ninety days for a third or subsequent conviction of a specified  
489 moving violation or suspension violation.

490 (d) The commissioner shall adopt regulations<sub>2</sub> in accordance with  
491 chapter 54<sub>2</sub> to implement the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this  
492 section.



493       Sec. 10. Subsection (e) of section 22a-202 of the general statutes is  
494 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
495 *2025*):

496       (e) (1) As a part of the Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric  
497 Automobile Purchase Rebate program, the Commissioner of Energy  
498 and Environmental Protection shall also establish and administer a  
499 program to provide rebates or vouchers to residents of the state who  
500 purchase an electric bicycle. The commissioner, in consultation with the  
501 advisory board, shall establish and revise, as necessary, maximum  
502 income eligibility for such rebates or vouchers. Any such rebate or  
503 voucher amount shall be in an amount not less than five hundred  
504 dollars. The rebate or voucher program shall be designed to maximize  
505 the air quality benefits associated with the deployment of electric  
506 bicycles and prioritize providing vouchers to (A) residents of  
507 environmental justice communities, (B) residents having household  
508 incomes at or below three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level,  
509 [and] (C) residents who participate in state and federal assistance  
510 programs, including, but not limited to, the state-administered federal  
511 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, state-administered federal  
512 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program [.] or a federal Head  
513 Start program, [established pursuant to section 10-16] or who receive  
514 assistance provided by Operation Fuel, Incorporated, and (D) residents  
515 with physical disabilities.

516       (2) On and after July 1, 2022, and until June 30, 2027, inclusive, an  
517 electric bicycle that is eligible for a rebate or voucher under the program  
518 shall have a base manufacturer's suggested retail price of not more than  
519 three thousand dollars. The provisions of this subdivision shall not  
520 apply to an adaptive electric bicycle to be used by a resident with a  
521 physical disability.

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

|           |                 |        |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|
| Section 1 | October 1, 2025 | 14-300 |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|

|         |                        |             |
|---------|------------------------|-------------|
| Sec. 2  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 14-230a     |
| Sec. 3  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 14-289g     |
| Sec. 4  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 14-296aa    |
| Sec. 5  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | New section |
| Sec. 6  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 14-286d     |
| Sec. 7  | <i>July 1, 2025</i>    | 13b-10      |
| Sec. 8  | <i>from passage</i>    | New section |
| Sec. 9  | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 14-111g     |
| Sec. 10 | <i>July 1, 2025</i>    | 22a-202(e)  |

***Statement of Legislative Commissioners:***

In Section 4(a)(8), clause designators were added for clarity and "that is not in full view of the operator in a normal driving position" was inserted after "rear seats of such motor vehicle" for consistency with the changes being made in Section 4(a)(2).

**TRA**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*