



Substitute Senate Bill No. 1542

Public Act No. 25-163

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF HANDCUFFS ON YOUNG CHILDREN.

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

Section 1. Section 46b-122a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) There shall be a presumption in juvenile proceedings that all mechanical restraints shall be removed from a preadjudicated detained [juvenile] child prior to and throughout the detainee's appearance in court. In juvenile proceedings, in-court use of mechanical restraints on preadjudicated detainees shall be by order of the court and pursuant to Judicial Branch written policy. The Judicial Branch shall keep statistics on the use of mechanical restraints on [juveniles] a child during proceedings and, notwithstanding any provision of section 46b-124, shall provide such statistics to any member of the public upon request, provided any identifying information concerning a juvenile is redacted.

(b) Beginning at the point of initial contact with a police officer, no preadjudicated child known by the police officer to be under fourteen years of age may be restrained using handcuffs, except as provided in subsection (a) of this section or when necessary for purposes of public safety or because the child is using or threatening to use physical force

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on a police officer who is engaging with such child.

Governor's Action:
Approved July 8, 2025