



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 7618



Offered by:

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To: House Bill No. **6442**

File No. 55

Cal. No. 63

"AN ACT CONCERNING MILITARY AFFAIRS IN CONNECTICUT."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the general statutes is
4 amended by adding subdivision (118) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

5 (NEW) (118) The Governor shall proclaim the month of November of
6 each year to be Veterans' Month in recognition of the service and
7 sacrifice of individuals who have served in the armed forces to protect
8 the United States and the state of Connecticut. Suitable exercises may be
9 held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for
10 the observance of the month.

11 Sec. 2. Section 14-20b of the general statutes is repealed and the
12 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

13 (a) (1) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, at the request of any
14 veteran or member of the armed forces or the surviving spouse of such
15 veteran or member, shall register any motor vehicle owned or leased for
16 a period of at least one year by such person and shall issue a special
17 certificate of registration and a set of number plates commemorating
18 such veteran's or member's military service for each such motor vehicle,
19 including a special certificate of registration and a set of number plates
20 for any motor vehicle used exclusively for farming purposes by any
21 such veteran or member of the armed forces, or the surviving spouse of
22 such veteran or member, who is engaged in agricultural production as
23 a trade or business.

24 (2) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, at the request of any woman
25 veteran or woman member of the armed forces, shall register any motor
26 vehicle owned or leased for a period of at least one year by such person
27 and shall issue a special certificate of registration and a set of number
28 plates commemorating such woman veteran's or woman member's
29 military service for each such motor vehicle, including a special
30 certificate of registration and a set of number plates for any motor
31 vehicle used exclusively for farming purposes by any such woman
32 veteran or woman member of the armed forces who is engaged in
33 agricultural production as a trade or business.

34 (3) The plates provided for under this subsection shall expire and be
35 renewed as provided in section 14-22. The commissioner shall charge a
36 fee for such plates, which fee shall cover the entire cost of making such
37 plates and shall be in addition to the fee for registration of such motor
38 vehicle. The commissioner shall charge a fee of fifteen dollars to replace
39 such plates that become mutilated or illegible. Any such member of the
40 armed forces who is dishonorably discharged shall return such plates to
41 the commissioner not later than thirty days after such discharge. The
42 commissioner shall not renew such plates for any motor vehicle owned
43 or leased by any such member of the armed forces who is dishonorably
44 discharged.

45 (b) (1) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, at the request of any

46 person who was a member of the Hmong Laotian special guerilla units,
47 which units served in the United States secret war in the Kingdom of
48 Laos during the Vietnam War, or any person who is an eligible former
49 reservist, or the surviving spouse of any such person, and after
50 verification from the Department of Veterans Affairs as provided under
51 subdivision (2) or (3) [as applicable,] of this subsection, as applicable,
52 shall register any motor vehicle owned or leased for a period of at least
53 one year by such person and shall issue a special certificate of
54 registration and a set of number plates commemorating such person's
55 military service for each such motor vehicle, including a special
56 certificate of registration and a set of number plates for any motor
57 vehicle used exclusively for farming purposes by any such person, or
58 the surviving spouse of such person, who is engaged in agricultural
59 production as a trade or business. The plates shall expire and be
60 renewed as provided in section 14-22. The commissioner shall charge a
61 fee for such plates, which fee shall cover the entire cost of making such
62 plates and shall be in addition to the fee for registration of such motor
63 vehicle.

64 (2) Any person who was a member of the Hmong Laotian special
65 guerilla units, or the surviving spouse of such person, may submit a
66 request to the Department of Veterans Affairs to be listed as a veteran,
67 based on such person's service during the Vietnam War, for the purpose
68 of obtaining a special certificate of registration and a set of number
69 plates under subdivision (1) of this subsection. Such person, or the
70 surviving spouse of such person, shall provide to said department (A)
71 an affidavit stating (i) when such person served, (ii) where such person
72 served, (iii) the unit in which such person served, and (iv) the capacity
73 in which such person served; (B) any available corroborating witness
74 affidavits; (C) any available official documentation of service; and (D)
75 any other documents supporting such person's or such surviving
76 spouse's affidavit. Said department shall, not later than thirty days after
77 receipt of such request, verify whether such person was a member of the
78 Hmong Laotian special guerilla units and, if so verified, notify the
79 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of such request and verification.

80 (3) (A) Any person who is an eligible former reservist, or the
81 surviving spouse of such person, may submit a request to the
82 Department of Veterans Affairs to be listed as a veteran, based on such
83 person's service in a reserve component of the armed forces, for the
84 purpose of obtaining a special certificate of registration and a set of
85 number plates under subdivision (1) of this subsection. Such person, or
86 the surviving spouse of such person, shall provide to said department
87 all available official documentation of such service. Said department
88 shall, not later than thirty days after receipt of such request, verify such
89 person's service and, if so verified, notify the Commissioner of Motor
90 Vehicles of such request and verification.

91 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
92 subsection or subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, neither the issuance
93 of such registration and number plates to a person by the Commissioner
94 of Motor Vehicles nor the listing of such person as a veteran by the
95 Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall constitute proof of such person's
96 eligibility for any other benefit available to veterans.

97 (c) As used in this section, "eligible former reservist" means any
98 person honorably discharged from, released under honorable
99 conditions from or released with an other than honorable discharge
100 based on a qualifying condition from, the United States Army Reserve,
101 Army National Guard, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast
102 Guard Reserve, Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard; and "veteran",
103 "armed forces" and "qualifying condition" have the same meanings as
104 provided in section 27-103.

105 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2026*) (a) On and after January 1,
106 2026, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue commemorative
107 number plates in recognition of the primarily Puerto Rican members of
108 the Sixty-Fifth Infantry Regiment of the United States Army who served
109 with distinction and were known as "The Borinqueneers". The design of
110 the number plates shall be determined by the Commissioner of Motor
111 Vehicles in consultation with Hispanic-American Veterans of
112 Connecticut, Inc. No use shall be made of such plates, except as official

113 registration marker plates.

114 (b) A fee of sixty dollars shall be charged for "The Borinqueneers"
115 commemorative number plates, in addition to the regular fee or fees
116 prescribed for the registration of a motor vehicle. Fifteen dollars of such
117 fee shall be deposited in an account controlled by the Department of
118 Motor Vehicles to be used for the cost of producing, issuing, renewing
119 and replacing such number plates, and forty-five dollars of such fee
120 shall be deposited in an account to be used by Hispanic-American
121 Veterans of Connecticut, Inc. for the purposes of subsection (c) of this
122 section. No additional fee shall be charged in connection with the
123 renewal of such number plates. No transfer fee shall be charged for the
124 transfer of an existing registration to or from a registration with "The
125 Borinqueneers" commemorative number plates. Such number plates
126 shall have letters and numbers selected by the Commissioner of Motor
127 Vehicles. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may establish a higher
128 fee for number plates: (1) Which contain the numbers and letters from a
129 previously issued number plate; (2) which contain letters in place of
130 numbers, as authorized by section 14-49 of the general statutes, in
131 addition to the fee or fees prescribed for registration under said section;
132 and (3) which are low number plates, issued in accordance with section
133 14-160 of the general statutes, in addition to the fee or fees prescribed
134 for registration under said section. All fees established and collected
135 pursuant to this section, except the amount deposited in the account
136 controlled by the Department of Motor Vehicles, shall be deposited in
137 the "Hispanic-American Veterans of Connecticut" commemorative
138 account, established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. The
139 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations, in accordance
140 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to establish
141 standards and procedures for the issuance, renewal and replacement of
142 "The Borinqueneers" commemorative number plates.

143 (c) There is established the "Hispanic-American Veterans of
144 Connecticut" commemorative account which shall be a separate,
145 nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain

146 any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. The funds
147 in said account shall be used by Hispanic-American Veterans of
148 Connecticut, Inc. to provide bilingual services and assistance to
149 Connecticut veterans and members of the armed forces. Hispanic-
150 American Veterans of Connecticut, Inc. may receive private donations
151 to said account and any such donations shall be deposited in said
152 account.

153 (d) The funds in the account shall be distributed quarterly by the
154 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to Hispanic-American
155 Veterans of Connecticut, Inc.

156 Sec. 4. Section 14-19a of the general statutes is repealed and the
157 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

158 (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations in
159 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to establish (1) standards
160 for the issuance of a special certificate of registration and special number
161 plates to a member of an organization which qualifies for issuance, (2)
162 qualifications of organizations whose members wish to apply for such
163 special registrations, (3) procedures for application for such special
164 registration, and (4) a fee for such special number plates which shall
165 cover at least the entire cost of making the plates and which shall be in
166 addition to the fee for registration of the motor vehicle. The regulations
167 shall provide that a labor union shall be a qualifying organization.

168 (b) The Department of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the Board
169 of Regents for Higher Education, shall adopt regulations, in accordance
170 with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish standards for the issuance
171 and renewal of collegiate special number plates with the logos or
172 emblems of Connecticut public and independent institutions of higher
173 education.

174 (c) On or after July 1, 2004, the commissioner may issue special
175 certificates of registration and special number plates in accordance with
176 the regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section provided

177 the commissioner may not issue a set of special number plates bearing
178 the same numerals as any other plate issued by the department. The
179 commissioner may discontinue the issuance of any such special number
180 plates issued for a qualified organization, or special plates issued in
181 accordance with the provisions of sections 14-19b and 14-21f to 14-21p,
182 inclusive, at any time, upon written notice to the organization if, in the
183 opinion of the commissioner, the demand for such plates is insufficient
184 to support the costs of production.

185 (d) Any veteran or member of the armed forces, as those terms are
186 defined in section 27-103, who is issued, on or after July 1, 2025, a
187 number plate recognizing the Military Order of the Purple Heart
188 pursuant to any regulation adopted under subsection (a) of this section,
189 and who paid a charge to join as a member of a chapter of the Military
190 Order of the Purple Heart in order to obtain such number plate, may
191 apply to the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, in a form and a manner
192 prescribed by said commissioner, for reimbursement of such
193 membership charge from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Not later
194 than sixty days after receipt of any such application, said commissioner
195 shall notify such veteran or member of the armed forces of a decision on
196 such application and, if approved, provide such reimbursement.

197 Sec. 5. Section 14-11k of the general statutes is repealed and the
198 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

199 (a) As used in this section, "veteran" means a veteran, as defined in
200 section 14-36h, who has verification from the Department of Veteran
201 Affairs that such person or member is a veteran.

202 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 1-1h,
203 subsection (a) of section 14-41 and subsection (a) of section 14-50a
204 concerning fees, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles [may] shall waive
205 the fee for a motor vehicle operator's license or an identity card renewal
206 or duplication for any applicant who is a veteran while attending a one-
207 day event that offers services, supplies or assistance to veterans and is
208 hosted by the Department of Veteran Affairs. For any such renewal

209 application made earlier than six months prior to the date on which an
210 applicant's motor vehicle operator's license or identity card expires, the
211 commissioner shall issue to such applicant a voucher entitling such
212 applicant to renewal of such applicant's motor vehicle operator's license
213 or identity card, free of charge, during such six-month period.

214 Sec. 6. Section 27-20 of the general statutes is repealed and the
215 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

216 (a) The Adjutant General shall make such returns and reports to such
217 officers as may be prescribed by the United States Department of
218 Defense in regulations pertaining to the National Guard, at such times
219 and in such form as prescribed. The Adjutant General shall (1) keep the
220 service records of all officers and enlisted personnel, (2) issue authorized
221 service medals, ribbons and documents, including under subsection (h)
222 of this section and part VII of this chapter, (3) (A) generate and maintain
223 all records and documents required by state law or regulations
224 thereunder, and (B) process requests for such records pursuant to the
225 state Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and (4)
226 (A) generate and maintain all records and documents required by
227 federal law or regulations thereunder, and (B) process requests for such
228 records pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act of 1976, 5
229 USC 552, as amended from time to time.

230 (b) The Adjutant General is charged, in all matters pertaining to the
231 command, discipline, employment and administration of the armed
232 forces of the state, with the duty of: (1) Recording, authenticating and
233 communicating to members of the armed forces of the state all orders,
234 instructions and regulations issued by order of (A) the Governor or the
235 Adjutant General as the designee of the Governor, for the armed forces
236 of the state, and (B) the Secretary of Defense for the National Guard; (2)
237 preparing and distributing commissions; (3) compiling and issuing the
238 registers of the armed forces of the state; (4) conducting internal audits
239 and investigations; (5) organizing and coordinating the participation of
240 the armed forces of the state in military and civic ceremonies; (6)
241 organizing and coordinating inaugurals; and (7) managing the

242 recruiting for the armed forces of the state.

243 (c) In event of emergency use of the armed forces of the state and with
244 the approval of the Governor, the Adjutant General may serve as the
245 disbursing officer of all funds appropriated by the General Assembly
246 for the expense of the office of the Adjutant General.

247 (d) The Adjutant General may adopt regulations pertaining to the
248 preparation and rendering of reports and returns, the care and
249 preservation of military property and the administration of military
250 personnel as in the Adjutant General's opinion the conditions demand,
251 such regulations to be operative and in force when promulgated in the
252 form of general orders, circulars or circular letters.

253 (e) The Adjutant General shall have charge and care of all state
254 military property and all United States military property issued to the
255 state, and shall keep an accurate and careful account of all receipts and
256 issues of the same. The Adjutant General shall keep a record of all public
257 property in the state in the possession of the armed forces of the state
258 and shall guard such property against injury and loss to the greatest
259 extent possible. The Adjutant General shall conduct annual inspections
260 of all public property and keep a complete inventory of such property
261 and the places where it is deposited. The Adjutant General shall require
262 each accountable and responsible officer of the armed forces of the state
263 to account for any deficiency in public property in such officer's
264 possession upon discovery of such deficiency. The Adjutant General
265 shall require each unit of the armed forces of the state to be inspected at
266 least once each calendar year. The Adjutant General shall, annually, as
267 provided in section 4-60, make a report to the Governor of the strength,
268 condition and equipment of the armed forces of the state and of the
269 expenditures of the office since the last annual report.

270 (f) The Adjutant General may adopt a seal for use in the office of the
271 Adjutant General. The Adjutant General may delegate duties to an
272 Assistant Adjutant General or to Military Department officials as the
273 Adjutant General deems necessary for the efficient operation of said

274 department.

275 (g) The Adjutant General may enter into contracts or agreements with
276 any person or agency, public or private, for goods, services or property
277 necessary for execution of the duties of the Adjutant General's office and
278 the operation of the Military Department, including the performance of
279 federal construction contracting on state property, subject to the
280 approval of the Attorney General.

281 (h) The Adjutant General may, within available appropriations, (1)
282 establish awards or ribbons for issuance to members of the armed forces
283 of the state, and (2) remove any such awards or ribbons as have been so
284 established on or after July 1, 2025. Nothing in this subsection shall be
285 construed to allow the Adjutant General to remove any state military
286 award, ribbon or other honor or decoration established by the Adjutant
287 General prior to July 1, 2025, or by the General Assembly, including
288 under part VII of this chapter.

289 Sec. 7. Subparagraph (E) of subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of
290 section 10-76d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is
291 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

292 (E) (i) Each local and regional board of education shall have in effect
293 at the beginning of each school year an educational program for each
294 child or pupil who has been identified as eligible for special education,
295 and shall provide ~~[(i)]~~ (I) the informational handout described in section
296 10-74v to each child with an individualized education program or plan
297 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and ~~[(ii)]~~ (II)
298 the Parent's Guide to Special Education in Connecticut developed by the
299 Department of Education and the rights and resources available to such
300 child in the provision of special education and related services.

301 (ii) If, after the start of a school year, a child of a member of the armed
302 forces, as defined in section 27-103, enrolls in a school under the
303 jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education, as a result of such
304 member having received military orders directing such member to the

305 state or any other documents from the armed forces indicating the
306 transfer of such member to the state, and such child enrolls with an
307 individualized education program or plan pursuant to Section 504 of the
308 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 from such child's prior school, such board
309 shall take necessary steps, including, but not limited to, the transfer of
310 any records and prior evaluations, the performance of any reevaluations
311 and, not later than thirty school days after such child's enrollment, the
312 holding of any planning and placement team meeting or meeting to
313 establish a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
314 for such child, to ensure a minimally disruptive transition to the
315 provision of comparable services.

316 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 10-186 of the general statutes is
317 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
318 *2025*):

319 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall furnish, by
320 transportation or otherwise, school accommodations so that each child
321 five years of age and over and under twenty-one years of age who is not
322 a graduate of a high school or technical education and career school may
323 attend public school, except as provided in section 10-233c and
324 subsection (d) of section 10-233d. For purposes of establishing the
325 residency of a child of a member of the armed forces, as defined in
326 section 27-103, and who is seeking enrollment in a school under the
327 jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education for a town in which
328 such child is not yet a resident, such board shall accept the military
329 orders directing such member to the state or any other documents from
330 the armed forces indicating the transfer of such member to the state as
331 proof of residency. If a child of a member of the armed forces is enrolled
332 in a school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of
333 education for a town, and such member has received military orders
334 directing such member from such town or any other documents from
335 the armed forces indicating a change of residency from such town
336 during the school year, such child may continue to be enrolled in such
337 school until the end of the school year while such member remains a

338 member of the armed forces, except that any such child in grade eleven
339 may continue to be enrolled in such school for an additional school year
340 while such member remains a member of the armed forces. Any board
341 of education which denies school accommodations, including a denial
342 based on an issue of residency, to any such child shall inform the parent
343 or guardian of such child or the child, in the case of an emancipated
344 minor, a pupil eighteen years of age or older or an unaccompanied
345 youth, as described in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time, of
346 his or her right to request a hearing by the board of education in
347 accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of
348 this section. A board of education which has denied school
349 accommodations shall advise the board of education under whose
350 jurisdiction it claims such child should be attending school of the denial.
351 For purposes of this section, (1) a "parent or guardian" shall include a
352 surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section 10-94g, and (2) a child
353 residing in a dwelling located in more than one town in this state shall
354 be considered a resident of each town in which the dwelling is located
355 and may attend school in any one of such towns. For purposes of this
356 subsection, "dwelling" means a single, two or three-family house or a
357 condominium unit.

358 Sec. 9. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Veterans Affairs
359 shall conduct an evaluation of the provision of dental services to
360 veterans in the state and identify areas for improvement in such
361 provision, including, but not limited to, opportunities to expand veteran
362 access to such dental services and increase enrollment in the dental
363 insurance program administered by the United States Department of
364 Veterans Affairs. Not later than February 1, 2026, the commissioner shall
365 prepare and submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
366 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of
367 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to veterans'
368 and military affairs with the findings of such evaluation and any
369 recommendations for legislation. As used in this section, "veteran" has
370 the same meaning as provided in section 27-103 of the general statutes.

371 Sec. 10. Section 19a-533 of the general statutes is repealed and the
372 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

373 (a) As used in this section: [(1) "nursing home"]

374 (1) "Nursing home" means any chronic and convalescent facility or
375 any rest home with nursing supervision, as defined in section 19a-521,
376 which has a provider agreement with the state to provide services to
377 recipients of funds obtained through Title XIX of the Social Security
378 Amendments of 1965; [and (2) "indigent person"]

379 (2) "Indigent person" means any person who is eligible for or who is
380 receiving medical assistance benefits from the state;

381 (3) "Federally contracted veterans nursing home" means a nursing
382 home that has a contract with the United States Department of Veterans
383 Affairs to provide care for veterans; and

384 (4) "Service-connected veteran" means a veteran who meets the
385 United States Department of Veterans Affairs service-connected
386 eligibility criteria and all applicable United States Department of
387 Veterans Affairs eligibility requirements.

388 (b) A nursing home which receives payment from the state for
389 rendering care to indigent persons:

390 (1) Shall be prohibited from discriminating against indigent persons
391 who apply for admission to such facility on the basis of source of
392 payment. Except as otherwise provided by law, all applicants for
393 admission to such facility shall be admitted in the order in which such
394 applicants apply for admission as evidenced by the nursing home's
395 acceptance of a substantially completed application for admission. Each
396 nursing home shall (A) provide a receipt to each applicant who
397 substantially completes an application for admission to its facility who
398 requests placement on a waiting list stating the date and time of such
399 substantial completion and acceptance of the application by the nursing
400 home, and (B) maintain a dated list of such applications which shall be

401 available at all times to any applicant, the applicant's bona fide
402 representative, authorized personnel from the Departments of Public
403 Health and Social Services and such other state agencies or other bodies
404 established by state statute whose statutory duties necessitate access to
405 such lists. A nursing home may maintain such waiting list in electronic
406 form. On and after July 1, 2025, a nursing home shall maintain such
407 waiting list in electronic form;

408 (2) Shall provide applications for admission to prospective residents
409 by mail, electronic transmission or Internet web site posting;

410 (3) Shall develop and implement policies and procedures related to
411 the waiting list that address (A) what information is required for such
412 application to be considered substantially completed and accepted by
413 the nursing home, (B) what steps the nursing home will take to protect
414 the privacy of information submitted by a prospective resident, and (C)
415 a description of how the integrity of information in the electronic
416 waiting list will be maintained, including steps taken to ensure accuracy
417 in recording of the (i) date and time a prospective resident is placed on
418 the waiting list, and (ii) any dated notification made pursuant to
419 subsection (c) of this section. A nursing home shall not be required to
420 maintain a list of inquiries from prospective residents who have not yet
421 submitted a substantially completed application for admission accepted
422 by the nursing home, nor to provide any such person with a receipt of
423 their inquiry;

424 (4) May, no sooner than ninety days after initial placement of the
425 person's name on the waiting list, inquire by letter or electronic mail of
426 such applicant and any one person if designated by such applicant
427 whether the applicant desires continuation of the applicant's name on
428 the waiting list. If the applicant does not respond and an additional
429 thirty days pass, the nursing home may remove such applicant's name
430 from its waiting list. A nursing home may annually send a waiting list
431 placement continuation communication by letter or electronic mail to all
432 persons on the waiting list for at least ninety days to inquire as to
433 whether such person desires continuation of the person's name on the

434 waiting list, provided such communication shall also be sent to any one
435 person if designated by such applicant. If such person does not respond
436 and at least thirty days pass, the facility may remove the person's name
437 from its waiting list. Indigent persons shall be placed on any waiting list
438 for admission to a facility and shall be admitted to the facility as
439 vacancies become available, in the same manner as self-pay applicants,
440 except as provided in subsections (f) and (g) of this section;

441 (5) Shall post in a conspicuous place a notice informing applicants for
442 admission that the facility is prohibited by statute from discriminating
443 against indigent applicants for admission on the basis of source of
444 payment. Such notice shall advise applicants for admission of the
445 remedies available under this section and shall list the name, address
446 and telephone number of the ombudsman who serves the region in
447 which the facility is located;

448 (6) Shall be prohibited from requiring that an indigent person pay
449 any sum of money or furnish any other consideration, including but not
450 limited to, the furnishing of an agreement by the relative, conservator
451 or other responsible party of an indigent person which obligates such
452 party to pay for care rendered to an indigent person as a condition for
453 admission of such indigent person; and

454 (7) Shall maintain an electronic record of the number of patients who
455 are Medicare, Medicaid and private pay patients and make such
456 information available, upon request, to the state or regional
457 ombudsman.

458 (c) Whenever a nursing home passes over the name of an applicant
459 on its waiting list and admits another applicant, the nursing home shall
460 make a dated notation on the waiting list indicating why the applicant
461 who was passed over was not admitted. Upon the receipt of a complaint
462 concerning a violation of this section, the Department of Social Services
463 shall conduct an investigation into such complaint. A nursing home
464 shall provide access to the department and the State Ombudsman to all
465 records requested by the department or State Ombudsman for the

466 purpose of investigating a complaint by or on behalf of an applicant
467 related to the denial of an admission.

468 (d) The Department of Social Services is authorized to decrease the
469 daily reimbursement rate to a nursing home for one year for a violation
470 of this section which occurred during the twelve-month period covered
471 by the cost report upon which the per diem rate is calculated. The per
472 diem rate shall be reduced by one-quarter of one per cent for an initial
473 violation of this section and one per cent for each additional violation.

474 (e) Prior to imposing any sanction, the Department of Social Services
475 shall notify the nursing home of the alleged violation and the
476 accompanying sanction, and shall permit such facility to request an
477 administrative hearing, in accordance with sections 4-176e to 4-181a,
478 inclusive. A facility shall request such hearing within fifteen days of
479 receipt of the notice of violation from the Department of Social Services.
480 The department shall stay the imposition of any sanction pending the
481 outcome of the administrative hearing.

482 (f) A nursing home with a number of self-pay residents equal to or
483 less than thirty per cent of its total number of residents shall not be
484 required to admit an indigent person on a waiting list for admission
485 when a vacancy becomes available during the subsequent six months,
486 provided (1) no bed may be held open for more than thirty days, and (2)
487 the nursing home notifies the Commissioner of Social Services and the
488 regional nursing home ombudsman office on the date on which such
489 six-month period of waiting list exemption began and thereafter on a
490 quarterly basis if the conditions for exemption still apply.

491 (g) A nursing home shall not be required to admit an indigent person
492 on a waiting list for admission when a vacancy becomes available if the
493 vacancy is in a private room.

494 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a nursing home
495 shall, without regard to the order of its waiting list, admit an applicant
496 who (1) seeks to transfer from a nursing home that is closing, [or] (2)

497 seeks to transfer from a nursing home in which the applicant was placed
 498 following the closure of the nursing home where such applicant
 499 previously resided or, in the case of a nursing home placed in
 500 receivership, the anticipated closure of the nursing home where such
 501 applicant previously resided, provided (A) the transfer occurs not later
 502 than sixty days following the date that such applicant was transferred
 503 from the nursing home where he or she previously resided, and (B)
 504 except when the nursing home that is closing transferred the resident
 505 due to an emergency, the applicant submitted an application to the
 506 nursing home to which he or she seeks admission at the time of the
 507 applicant's transfer from the nursing home where he or she previously
 508 resided, or (3) is a service-connected veteran if such nursing home is a
 509 federally contracted veterans nursing home and such applicant is
 510 eligible for care therein. A nursing home that qualifies for a waiting list
 511 exemption pursuant to subsection (f) or (g) of this section shall not be
 512 required to admit an indigent person under this subsection except when
 513 the resident is being transferred from a nursing home that is closing due
 514 to an emergency. No nursing home shall be required to admit an
 515 applicant pursuant to the provisions of this subsection if the nursing
 516 home has determined that (i) the applicant does not have a payor source
 517 because the applicant has been denied Medicaid eligibility or the
 518 applicant has failed to pay a nursing home that is closing for the three
 519 months preceding the date of the application for admittance and has no
 520 pending application for Medicaid, (ii) the applicant is subject to a
 521 Medicaid penalty period, or (iii) the applicant does not require nursing
 522 home level of care as determined in accordance with applicable state
 523 and federal requirements."

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

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-29a(a)(118)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	14-20b
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	14-19a
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	14-11k

Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	27-20
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-76d(a)(10)(E)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10-186(a)
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	19a-533