



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 9121



Offered by:

REP. BERGER-GIRVALO, 111<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. COHEN, 12<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. HWANG, 28<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7162

File No. 568

Cal. No. 354

**"AN ACT REFORMING THE MOTOR VEHICLE TOWING  
STATUTES."**

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

3 "Section 1. Section 14-145 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

5 [(a) (1) An owner or lessee of private property, or his or her agent,  
6 may remove or cause to be removed , or may use a wheel-locking device  
7 to render immovable, any motor vehicle left without authorization on  
8 such property in accordance with the provisions of this section and  
9 sections 14-145a to 14-145c, inclusive, provided any owner or lessee of  
10 private commercial property, or his or her agent, shall install  
11 conspicuous signage stating that motor vehicles left without  
12 authorization on such private commercial property may be removed or  
13 rendered immovable and indicating where such motor vehicle will be

14 stored, how the vehicle may be redeemed and any costs or fees that may  
15 be charged.

16 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
17 subsection, an owner or lessee of private commercial property or such  
18 owner or lessee's agent may tow any motor vehicle left without  
19 authorization on such property and no signage warning of such towing  
20 shall be required to be installed by such owner or lessee if such motor  
21 vehicle]

22 (a) For the purposes of this section, "motor vehicle" does not include  
23 an authorized emergency vehicle.

24 (b) (1) An owner or lessee of private property, or such owner or  
25 lessee's agent, may utilize a wrecker service to tow any motor vehicle  
26 left without authorization on such private property in accordance with  
27 the provisions of this section, sections 14-145a and 14-145c, as amended  
28 by this act, and section 3 of this act, provided such owner or lessee, or  
29 such owner or lessee's agent, signs or electronically signs a written  
30 authorization form for each such tow. Such written authorization form  
31 shall be prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and shall  
32 include, but need not be limited to, (A) the make, model, vehicle  
33 identification number and number plate of the motor vehicle to be  
34 towed, (B) the reason for the tow, (C) the name, job title, residential or  
35 business address and telephone number of the owner, lessee or agent  
36 authorizing the tow, (D) the date and time that such authorization to  
37 tow was given, (E) confirmation that conspicuous signage, if required  
38 pursuant to the provisions of section 3 of this act, is installed, (F) in cases  
39 where (i) a wrecker service, acting as an agent on behalf of the owner or  
40 lessee of private property pursuant to a written contract, signs or  
41 electronically signs the written authorization form to tow a motor  
42 vehicle, and (ii) the reason for such tow is a violation of a parking rule  
43 established by such owner or lessee and listed in such contract, a copy  
44 of the portion of such contract that lists each parking rule established,  
45 and (G) a certification, signed under penalty of false statement pursuant  
46 to section 53a-157b, that the statements made are true and correct to the

47 best of such person's knowledge, information and belief.

48 (2) No owner or lessee of private property, or such owner or lessee's  
49 agent, shall (A) issue a parking citation by written warning, posted  
50 signage or other means to impose a monetary sanction on an owner of a  
51 motor vehicle parked on such private property, or (B) render a motor  
52 vehicle on such private property immovable through the use of a wheel-  
53 locking device. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to an  
54 independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a)  
55 of section 10a-173, or a private secondary school.

56 (c) (1) No wrecker service may act as an agent of the owner or lessee  
57 of a private property with the authority to sign or electronically sign the  
58 written authorization form to tow a motor vehicle from such private  
59 property, unless such wrecker service and the owner or lessee have  
60 executed a written contract concerning the provision of general towing  
61 services on such private property. If any such contract is executed, a  
62 wrecker service may sign or electrically sign the written authorization  
63 form to tow a motor vehicle from such private property that is left (A)  
64 in a space reserved, as required in section 14-253a, for exclusive use by  
65 persons who are blind and persons with disabilities and such vehicle  
66 does not bear a removable windshield placard or special license plate,  
67 as defined in section 14-253a, (B) in an area reserved for authorized  
68 emergency vehicles, (C) within ten feet of a fire hydrant, as provided in  
69 section 14-251, (D) blocking building access, (E) blocking entry to or exit  
70 from such property or a parking space on such property, [or] (F) [for  
71 forty-eight or more hours] in or obstructing a vehicular traffic aisle, or  
72 (G) leaking a fluid that presents a hazard or threat. Any such contract  
73 may also permit the wrecker service to tow a motor vehicle from such  
74 private property for violating specific parking rules established by the  
75 owner or lessee, provided (i) such parking rules are listed in the  
76 contract, and (ii) the purpose of any such parking rule is to promote the  
77 convenience, safety or welfare of motor vehicle operators on the private  
78 property, preserve the private property from abuse or make a fair  
79 distribution of parking resources.

80 [(3) A lending institution may repossess any motor vehicle, in  
81 accordance with the provisions of section 36a-785, by contracting with a  
82 wrecker licensed under section 14-66 or an entity exempt from such  
83 licensure, as provided in subsection (f) of section 14-66, to tow or  
84 otherwise remove such motor vehicle in accordance with the provisions  
85 of this section and sections 14-145a to 14-145c, inclusive. In the case of a  
86 repossession, no signage as described in subdivision (1) of this  
87 subsection shall be required.

88 (4) This section shall not apply to law enforcement, fire-fighting,  
89 rescue, ambulance or emergency vehicles which are marked as such, or  
90 to motor vehicles left without authorization on property leased by any  
91 governmental agency.]

92 (2) No owner or lessee of a parking facility or residential parking  
93 facility, as such terms are defined in section 3 of this act, or such owner  
94 or lessee's agent, shall authorize the towing of a motor vehicle in such  
95 parking facility or residential parking facility solely because the vehicle  
96 has an expired registration in violation of section 14-12, unless such  
97 owner, lessee or agent affixes a written notice to such motor vehicle at  
98 least fourteen days prior to towing such vehicle. Any such notice shall  
99 (A) state that the motor vehicle has an expired registration in violation  
100 of section 14-12, (B) state that the motor vehicle will be towed from the  
101 parking facility or residential parking facility without the consent of the  
102 owner or operator of the motor vehicle if the motor vehicle remains at  
103 or returns to the parking facility or residential parking facility not later  
104 than fourteen days after the day the notice was affixed to the motor  
105 vehicle and such motor vehicle still has an expired registration, (C)  
106 indicate the time and date after which the motor vehicle may be towed  
107 from such private property if the motor vehicle still has an expired  
108 registration, (D) indicate the time and date when the notice is affixed to  
109 the motor vehicle, and (E) be affixed to the motor vehicle at a  
110 conspicuous location on the windshield nearest the operator's side.

111 (3) No owner or lessee of a residential parking facility, or such owner  
112 or lessee's agent, shall authorize the towing of a motor vehicle on such

113 residential parking facility solely because the permit to park at such  
114 residential parking facility issued by such owner, lessee or agent has  
115 expired, unless such owner, lessee or agent affixes a written notice to  
116 such motor vehicle at least seventy-two hours prior to towing such  
117 vehicle. Any such notice shall (A) state that the permit to park at such  
118 residential parking facility issued by the owner, lessee or agent has  
119 expired, (B) state that the motor vehicle will be towed from the  
120 residential parking facility without the consent of the owner or operator  
121 of the motor vehicle if the motor vehicle remains at or returns to the  
122 residential parking facility without a valid permit issued by the owner,  
123 lessee or agent not later than seventy-two hours after the time the notice  
124 was affixed to the motor vehicle, (C) indicate the time after which the  
125 motor vehicle may be towed from such private property if the motor  
126 vehicle does not have a valid permit, (D) indicate the time when the  
127 notice is affixed to the motor vehicle, and (E) be affixed to the motor  
128 vehicle at a conspicuous location on the windshield nearest the  
129 operator's side. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to a  
130 motor vehicle with a temporary or visitor permit to park at such  
131 residential parking facility issued by such owner, lessee or agent,  
132 provided any such temporary or visitor permit clearly states the  
133 expiration of such permit.

134 (d) (1) Before a wrecker service connects a wrecker to a motor vehicle  
135 without the consent of the motor vehicle's owner or operator, the  
136 wrecker service shall take at least two photographs of the motor vehicle  
137 that are of sufficient resolution to clearly show the reason for towing  
138 such motor vehicle and the condition of such motor vehicle.

139 (2) (A) Upon request by the owner or operator of a towed motor  
140 vehicle, or such owner or operator's agent, the lienholder of the towed  
141 motor vehicle or the insurance company acting on behalf of the owner  
142 of the towed motor vehicle, the wrecker service shall provide, at no cost,  
143 (i) a copy of the written authorization form described in subsection (b)  
144 of this section, and (ii) copies of the photographs taken pursuant to  
145 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

146        (B) A rebuttable presumption that a wrecker service did not have  
147 authorization to tow is created by evidence that the wrecker service  
148 failed to provide a copy of such written authorization form. A rebuttable  
149 presumption that a wrecker service damaged a motor vehicle is created  
150 by evidence that the wrecker service failed to provide photographs of  
151 the motor vehicle's condition upon request by such owner, operator,  
152 agent, lienholder or insurance company and the motor vehicle has  
153 suffered damage. A rebuttable presumption that the tow was performed  
154 in violation of the provisions of this section is created by evidence that  
155 a wrecker service failed to provide a photograph that shows the reason  
156 for towing such motor vehicle.

157        (e) (1) If the owner or operator of a motor vehicle returns to the motor  
158 vehicle that has not yet been connected to a wrecker, the wrecker service  
159 shall stop preparations to tow the motor vehicle and inform the owner  
160 or operator that if such owner or operator moves the motor vehicle or  
161 rectifies the reason for the tow, the wrecker service will not tow such  
162 motor vehicle and will not charge a fee to the owner or operator.

163        (2) If the owner or operator of a motor vehicle returns to the motor  
164 vehicle that has been connected to a wrecker, but has not yet been  
165 removed from the private property, the wrecker service shall stop  
166 preparations to tow the motor vehicle and inform the owner or operator  
167 that the wrecker service will release the motor vehicle upon payment of  
168 a drop fee, as established by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in  
169 accordance with section 7 of this act. The wrecker service shall accept  
170 payment of such drop fee by cash or credit or debit card, provide a  
171 receipt to such owner or operator and immediately release the motor  
172 vehicle upon receipt of such payment. If such owner or operator does  
173 not pay such drop fee, the wrecker service shall proceed with the tow  
174 and provide a copy of the consumer bill of rights regarding towing  
175 developed pursuant to section 5 of this act to such owner or operator.

176        [(b)] (f) (1) (A) [When] Not later than two hours after an unauthorized  
177 motor vehicle is towed or otherwise removed by a wrecker [licensed  
178 under section 14-66] service, or a repossessed motor vehicle is towed or

179 otherwise removed by a wrecker service or an exempt entity, as  
180 described in subsection (g) of section 14-66, as amended by this act, the  
181 [licensee or operator of the] wrecker service or the exempt entity shall  
182 notify the local police department [of the tow or removal within two  
183 hours] or resident state trooper serving the municipality where the tow  
184 or removal was conducted and specify the time the motor vehicle was  
185 towed or removed, the location from which the vehicle was removed  
186 and the location at which the vehicle is stored. Such notification shall be  
187 submitted, in writing, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail and  
188 the record of such notification shall be retained by such [licensee,  
189 operator] wrecker service or exempt entity in accordance with the  
190 provisions of section 14-66b, as amended by this act. [(B)] No such  
191 [licensee, operator] wrecker service or exempt entity may charge a  
192 storage fee for an unauthorized or repossessed motor vehicle for the  
193 time it is stored prior to notification of the local police department or  
194 resident state trooper by the [licensee, operator] wrecker service or  
195 exempt entity.

196 (B) If such motor vehicle [is not claimed within] remains unclaimed  
197 forty-eight hours after the notification pursuant to subparagraph (A) of  
198 this subdivision, the [licensee or operator of the] wrecker service or  
199 owner of the garage where such motor vehicle is stored or the exempt  
200 entity shall immediately complete a notice of such tow, on a form  
201 prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, and mail a copy of  
202 such form by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and  
203 all lienholders of record. If the motor vehicle is not claimed by its owner  
204 within the time [period] periods specified in subsection [(e) of section  
205 14-150, the licensee or operator of the wrecker or] (b) of section 14 of this  
206 act, the wrecker service or owner of the garage where such motor vehicle  
207 is stored or the exempt entity may dispose of such motor vehicle in  
208 accordance with the provisions of [subsection (e) and subsections (g) to  
209 (j), inclusive, of section 14-150] section 14 of this act.

210 [(2) (A) When an unauthorized motor vehicle is rendered immovable  
211 through use of a wheel-locking device by an owner or lessee of private

212 property or his or her agent, such owner, lessee or agent shall notify the  
213 local police department of such action within two hours. Such  
214 notification shall be submitted in writing or transmitted by facsimile or  
215 electronic mail. The record of such notification shall be retained by such  
216 owner, lessee or agent at the private property upon which such action  
217 took place, for a period of not less than six months and shall be available  
218 for inspection during regular business hours by any sworn member of  
219 the local police department or law enforcement officer or inspector  
220 designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

221 (B) No owner, lessee or agent may charge a fee to remove a wheel-  
222 locking device prior to notification of the local police department. The  
223 fee charged to remove a wheel-locking device may not be more than  
224 fifty dollars. The person claiming the motor vehicle may choose to pay  
225 such fee in cash, by check or by debit or credit card. Ten per cent of such  
226 fee shall be remitted to the local police department by the owner, lessee  
227 or agent. If such motor vehicle is not claimed within forty-eight hours  
228 after being rendered immovable, the owner, lessee or agent shall  
229 immediately complete a notice that such motor vehicle has been  
230 rendered immovable, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, and  
231 mail a copy of such form by certified mail, return receipt requested, to  
232 the owner of such motor vehicle and all lienholders of record. If the  
233 motor vehicle is not claimed by its owner within the time period  
234 specified in subsection (e) of section 14-150, the owner, lessee or agent  
235 may dispose of such motor vehicle in accordance with the provisions of  
236 subsection (e) and subsections (g) to (j), inclusive, of section 14-150.]

237 [(3)] (2) The local police department or resident state trooper, not later  
238 than forty-eight hours after receiving notification of a tow or removal of  
239 an unauthorized motor vehicle pursuant to subdivision (1) of this  
240 subsection, [or use of a wheel-locking device pursuant to subdivision (2)  
241 of this subsection,] shall enter the vehicle identification number into the  
242 National Crime Information Center database and the Connecticut On-  
243 Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing System to  
244 determine whether such motor vehicle has been reported as stolen. If



245 such motor vehicle has been reported as stolen, the local police  
246 department or resident state trooper shall immediately notify the  
247 department that reported the vehicle as stolen.

248 ~~[(c)]~~ (g) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with  
249 the provisions of chapter 54, (1) specifying the circumstances under  
250 which title to any motor vehicle towed or stored, or both, [or rendered  
251 immovable] under this section may be transferred to any wrecker  
252 service or person, firm or corporation [towing,] storing [or rendering  
253 immovable] such vehicle, and (2) establishing the procedure whereby  
254 such wrecker service or person, firm or corporation may obtain title to  
255 such motor vehicle.

256 [(d) No owner or lessee of private property, or his or her agent, shall  
257 issue a parking citation by written warning, posted signage or other  
258 means to impose a monetary sanction on an owner of a motor vehicle  
259 parked on such property. The provisions of this subsection shall not  
260 apply to an independent institution of higher education, as defined in  
261 subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or a private secondary school.]

262 [(e)] (h) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall,  
263 for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction and be  
264 fined fifty dollars, and, for each subsequent offense, shall be fined not  
265 less than fifty dollars and not more than one hundred dollars or  
266 imprisoned not more than thirty days or be both fined and imprisoned.

267 (i) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, the provisions  
268 of this section shall not apply to (1) a motor vehicle towed with the  
269 consent of the owner or operator, or (2) a motor vehicle subject to  
270 repossession.

271 (j) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the right of a  
272 municipality or the state to remove an abandoned motor vehicle in  
273 accordance with the provisions of section 14-150, as amended by this  
274 act.

275 Sec. 2. Section 14-145a of the general statutes is repealed and the

276 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

277 [(a) No vehicle shall be towed or removed from private property  
278 except (1) upon express instruction of the owner or lessee, or his or her  
279 agent, of the property upon which the vehicle is trespassing, or (2) for  
280 the purpose of repossession of the motor vehicle by a lending  
281 institution. No vehicle shall be rendered immovable on private property  
282 through the use of a wheel-locking device except upon express  
283 instruction of the owner or lessee, or his or her agent. Nothing in this  
284 subsection shall be construed to limit the right of a municipality or the  
285 state to remove an abandoned motor vehicle in accordance with the  
286 provisions of section 14-150.

287 (b) No person or firm that tows or removes] No wrecker service that  
288 tows a motor vehicle from private property [or renders a motor vehicle  
289 immovable on private property] shall rebate or pay any money or other  
290 valuable consideration to the owner or lessee, or [his or her] such owner  
291 or lessee's agent, of the property from which the motor vehicle is towed,  
292 [or removed or on which the vehicle is rendered immovable,] or to a  
293 lending institution, for the privilege of towing [, removing or rendering  
294 immovable] such motor vehicle.

295 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this  
296 section:

297 (1) "Parking facility" means one or more lots, garages, parking  
298 terminals or other structures and accommodations located on private  
299 property for the parking of motor vehicles off of any highway;

300 (2) "Residential parking facility" means a parking facility that is  
301 located at a multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, a  
302 condominium or a common interest community;

303 (3) "Condominium" has the same meaning as provided in section 47-  
304 68a of the general statutes; and

305 (4) "Common interest community" has the same meaning as provided

306 in section 47-202 of the general statutes.

307 (b) (1) Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, no  
308 owner or lessee of a parking facility or residential parking facility, or  
309 such owner or lessee's agent, may utilize a wrecker service to tow any  
310 motor vehicle left without authorization at such parking facility  
311 pursuant to the provisions of section 14-145 of the general statutes, as  
312 amended by this act, unless such owner, lessee or agent installs  
313 conspicuous signage as required pursuant to the provisions of this  
314 section at such parking facility at least forty-eight hours before a motor  
315 vehicle may be towed from such facility.

316 (2) Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, no  
317 wrecker service shall tow a motor vehicle from a parking facility or  
318 residential parking facility pursuant to the provisions of section 14-145  
319 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, unless such wrecker  
320 service verifies conspicuous signage, as required pursuant to the  
321 provisions of this section, is installed at such parking facility.

322 (c) (1) The owner, lessee or agent of a parking facility or residential  
323 parking facility shall install conspicuous signage at all entryways to  
324 such facility. Such conspicuous signage shall (A) bear the international  
325 symbol for towing, (B) be at least twelve inches long and eighteen inches  
326 wide with letters not less than one inch in height, (C) state that motor  
327 vehicles left without authorization at such facility may be removed at  
328 the expense of the owner of the motor vehicle, (D) state any costs or fees  
329 that may be charged, and (E) provide the name, address and telephone  
330 number for the wrecker service performing the tow or, alternatively, a  
331 telephone number in order for the motor vehicle owner or operator to  
332 locate where such motor vehicle has been stored and obtain information  
333 regarding how to redeem such motor vehicle.

334 (2) If such owner, lessee or agent designates one or more spaces as  
335 restricted parking spaces and the parking facility or residential parking  
336 facility is otherwise unrestricted, such owner, lessee or agent shall,  
337 instead of installing at all entryways to such facility, install such

338 conspicuous signage that prohibits unauthorized vehicles from parking  
339 in such designated spaces at (A) the right or left side of each entrance to  
340 a designated area or group of parking spaces located on the restricted  
341 portion of the facility, or (B) the end of a restricted parking space so that  
342 the sign is in front of a vehicle that is parking in the space.

343 (3) If such owner, lessee or agent imposes further specific parking  
344 restrictions in an area to which conspicuous signs are installed for  
345 individual restricted parking spaces and any such sign is in front of a  
346 vehicle that is parked in the space, the conspicuous signage shall also  
347 indicate that the space is reserved for a particular unit number, person  
348 or type of person, such as a resident.

349 (4) The owner or lessee of a parking facility or residential parking  
350 facility, or such owner or lessee's agent, shall also install conspicuous  
351 signage that lists the parking rules of such facility which if violated  
352 would cause a motor vehicle to be towed from such facility. The purpose  
353 of any such parking rule shall be to promote the convenience, safety or  
354 welfare of motor vehicle operators on the facility, preserve the facility  
355 from abuse or make a fair distribution of parking resources at the  
356 facility.

357 (d) Conspicuous signage, as described in subsection (c) of this section,  
358 is not required to be installed at a parking facility or residential parking  
359 facility if a motor vehicle is left (1) in a space reserved, as required in  
360 section 14-253a of the general statutes, for exclusive use by persons who  
361 are blind and persons with disabilities, and such motor vehicle does not  
362 bear a removable windshield placard or special license plate, as defined  
363 in section 14-253a of the general statutes; (2) in an area reserved for  
364 authorized emergency vehicles; (3) within ten feet of a fire hydrant, as  
365 provided in section 14-251 of the general statutes; (4) blocking building  
366 access; (5) blocking entry to or exit from such property or a parking  
367 space on such facility; (6) in or obstructing a vehicular traffic aisle; (7) in  
368 such facility and is leaking a fluid that presents a hazard or threat; or (8)  
369 in an area not designated for the parking of motor vehicles.

370 (e) The owner or lessee of a parking facility, or such owner or lessee's  
371 agent, may utilize the services of a wrecker service to tow a motor  
372 vehicle left without authorization at such parking facility without  
373 installing such conspicuous signage, provided such owner, lessee or  
374 agent affixes a written notice to such motor vehicle at least forty-eight  
375 hours prior to towing such vehicle. Any such notice shall (1) state that  
376 the motor vehicle will be towed from the parking facility without the  
377 consent of the owner or operator of the motor vehicle if the motor  
378 vehicle remains parked at the parking facility, (2) indicate the time when  
379 the motor vehicle will be removed, which shall not be earlier than forty-  
380 eight hours after the time the notice was affixed to the motor vehicle, (3)  
381 indicate the time when the notice is affixed to the motor vehicle, and (4)  
382 be affixed to the motor vehicle at a conspicuous location on the  
383 windshield nearest the operator's side. The provisions of this subsection  
384 shall not apply to a residential parking facility.

385 (f) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall, for a  
386 first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction and be fined  
387 fifty dollars, and, for each subsequent offense, shall be fined not less  
388 than fifty dollars and not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned  
389 not more than thirty days or be both fined and imprisoned.

390 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this  
391 section, (1) "wrecker service" has the same meaning as provided in  
392 section 14-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2)  
393 "nonconsensual towing or transporting" has the same meaning as  
394 provided in section 14-66 of the general statutes, as amended by this act,  
395 and (3) "parking facility" and "residential parking facility" have the same  
396 meanings as provided in section 3 of this act.

397 (b) A municipality may, by ordinance of its legislative body, regulate  
398 the provision of motor vehicle towing or transporting and storage of  
399 motor vehicles by wrecker services within such municipality, except  
400 motor vehicle towing or transporting performed with the prior consent  
401 or authorization of the owner or operator of the motor vehicle or  
402 performed due to the repossession of motor vehicles. Any such

403 ordinance may regulate, in a manner not inconsistent with the general  
404 statutes, the provision of nonconsensual towing or transporting and the  
405 management of parking facilities and residential parking facilities. In  
406 the event a motor vehicle is towed from a municipality that adopted an  
407 ordinance pursuant to the provisions of this section and subsequently  
408 stored at a motor vehicle storage facility located in another municipality  
409 that adopted an ordinance, the provisions of the ordinance adopted by  
410 the municipality where the motor vehicle is towed from shall control.

411       Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than September 1,  
412 2025, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the  
413 Attorney General, shall develop, and thereafter revise as necessary, a  
414 consumer bill of rights regarding towing that includes, but is not limited  
415 to, (1) a summary of the rights and responsibilities of a motor vehicle  
416 owner or operator if such motor vehicle is subject to nonconsensual  
417 towing or transporting, as defined in section 14-66 of the general  
418 statutes, as amended by this act; (2) when a wrecker service shall be  
419 available for the purpose of vehicle redemption and removing any  
420 personal property from within a stored motor vehicle; (3) the schedule  
421 of rates and charges that a wrecker service may charge for private-  
422 property trespass towing, as defined in section 7 of this act, police-  
423 ordered towing, as defined in section 8 of this act, and storage; (4) a  
424 description of the records and photographs that an owner or operator  
425 may request from the wrecker service pursuant to the provisions of  
426 section 14-145 of the general statutes, as amended by this act; (5) a  
427 warning that a wrecker service may sell towed vehicles pursuant to  
428 section 14 of this act; and (6) information on filing a customer complaint  
429 with the commissioner pursuant to section 14-63 of the general statutes,  
430 as amended by this act. The commissioner shall, at a minimum, revise  
431 the consumer bill of rights each time the commissioner publishes a  
432 schedule of rates and charges for the provision of private-property  
433 trespass towing in accordance with section 7 of this act or police-ordered  
434 towing in accordance with section 8 of this act. The commissioner shall  
435 publish the consumer bill of rights in English and Spanish and make the  
436 consumer bill of rights available for public dissemination.

437 (b) On and after October 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles  
438 shall post the consumer bill of rights regarding towing on the Internet  
439 web site of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Attorney General  
440 shall post such bill of rights on the Internet web site of the Attorney  
441 General.

442 (c) On and after October 1, 2025, a wrecker service shall post the  
443 consumer bill of rights at the wrecker service's place of business and  
444 make copies of such bill of rights available for distribution to customers  
445 who visit such place of business. If a wrecker service maintains an  
446 Internet web site for its business, the wrecker service shall prominently  
447 post such bill of rights on such Internet web site.

448 Sec. 6. Section 14-66 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
449 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

450 (a) For the purposes of this section:

451 (1) "Nonconsensual towing or transporting" means the towing or  
452 transporting and recovery of a motor vehicle without the prior consent  
453 or authorization of the owner or operator of the motor vehicle  
454 performed (A) in accordance with the provisions of section 14-145, as  
455 amended by this act, or (B) pursuant to an order of a police officer or  
456 traffic authority;

457 (2) "Police officer" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-  
458 294a;

459 (3) "Traffic authority" has the same meaning as provided in section  
460 14-297; and

461 (4) "Recovery" means winching, hoisting, uprighting or other similar  
462 function performed by a wrecker service to return a motor vehicle to a  
463 position where the towing or transporting may be initiated.

464 [(a) (1)] (b) No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the  
465 business of operating a wrecker for the purpose of towing or

466 transporting motor vehicles, including motor vehicles which are  
467 disabled, inoperative or wrecked or are being removed in accordance  
468 with the provisions of section 14-145, as amended by this act, 14-150, as  
469 amended by this act, or 14-307, unless such person, firm or corporation  
470 is a motor vehicle dealer or repairer licensed ~~[under]~~ pursuant to the  
471 provisions of [subpart (D) of this part. (2) The commissioner shall  
472 establish and publish a schedule of uniform rates and charges for the  
473 nonconsensual towing and transporting of motor vehicles and for the  
474 storage of motor vehicles which shall be just and reasonable. Upon  
475 petition of any person, firm or corporation licensed in accordance with  
476 the provisions of this section, but not more frequently than once every  
477 two years, the commissioner shall reconsider the established rates and  
478 charges and shall amend such rates and charges if the commissioner,  
479 after consideration of the factors stated in this subdivision, determines  
480 that such rates and charges are no longer just and reasonable. In  
481 establishing and amending such rates and charges, the commissioner  
482 may consider factors, including, but not limited to, the Consumer Price  
483 Index, rates set by other jurisdictions, charges for towing and  
484 transporting services provided pursuant to a contract with an  
485 automobile club or automobile association licensed under the  
486 provisions of section 14-67 and rates published in standard service  
487 manuals. The commissioner shall hold a public hearing for the purpose  
488 of obtaining additional information concerning such rates and charges.  
489 (3) With respect to the nonconsensual towing or transporting and the  
490 storage of motor vehicles, no such person, firm or corporation shall  
491 charge more than the rates and charges published by the commissioner]  
492 section 14-52. Any person aggrieved by any action of the commissioner  
493 under the provisions of this section may [take an] appeal therefrom in  
494 accordance with section 4-183, except venue for such appeal shall be in  
495 the judicial district of New Britain.

496 (c) Each wrecker used for towing or transporting motor vehicles shall  
497 be registered as a wrecker by the commissioner for a fee of one hundred  
498 twenty-five dollars. Each such registration shall be renewed biennially  
499 according to renewal schedules established by the commissioner so as



500 to effect staggered renewal of all such registrations. If the adoption of a  
501 staggered system results in the expiration of any registration more or  
502 less than two years from its issuance, the commissioner may charge a  
503 prorated amount for such registration fee.

504 (d) An owner of a wrecker may apply to the commissioner for a  
505 general distinguishing number and number plate for the purpose of  
506 displaying such number plate on a motor vehicle temporarily in the  
507 custody of such owner and being towed or transported by such owner.  
508 The commissioner shall issue such number and number plate to an  
509 owner of a wrecker (1) who has complied with the requirements of this  
510 section, and (2) whose wrecker is equipped in accordance with  
511 subsection (e) of this section. The commissioner shall charge a fee to  
512 cover the cost of issuance and renewal of such number plates.

513 ~~[(b)]~~ (e) (1) The commissioner, or an inspector authorized by the  
514 commissioner, shall examine each wrecker, including its number,  
515 equipment and identification, and shall determine the mechanical  
516 condition of such wrecker and whether or not it is properly equipped to  
517 do the work intended. A wrecker shall be deemed properly equipped if  
518 there are flashing yellow lights installed and mounted on such wrecker  
519 that ~~[(1)]~~ (A) show in all directions at all times, and ~~[(2)]~~ (B) are as close  
520 to the back of the cab of such wrecker as practicable. Such lights shall be  
521 in operation when such wrecker is towing a vehicle and when such  
522 wrecker is at the scene of an accident or the location of a disabled motor  
523 vehicle. In addition, each wrecker shall be equipped with a spot light  
524 mounted so that its beam of light is directed toward the hoisting  
525 equipment in the rear of such wrecker. The hoisting equipment of each  
526 wrecker shall be of sufficient capacity to perform the service intended  
527 and shall be securely mounted to the frame of such vehicle. A fire  
528 extinguisher shall be carried at all times on each wrecker which shall be  
529 in proper working condition, mounted in a permanent bracket on each  
530 wrecker and have a minimum rating of eight bc. A set of three flares in  
531 operating condition shall be carried at all times on each wrecker and  
532 shall be used between the periods of one-half hour after sunset and one-

533 half hour before sunrise when the wrecker is parked on a highway while  
534 making emergency repairs or preparing to pick up a disabled vehicle to  
535 remove it from a highway or adjoining property.

536 (2) No [registrant or operator of any] wrecker service shall offer to  
537 give any gratuities or inducements of any kind to any police officer or  
538 other person in order to obtain towing business or recommendations for  
539 towing or storage of, or estimating repairs to, disabled vehicles.

540 (3) No [licensee] wrecker service shall require the owner of a disabled  
541 vehicle to sign a contract for the repair or storage of such owner's  
542 [damaged] disabled vehicle as part of the [towing] consideration for  
543 towing such vehicle or to sign an order for the repair of, or authorization  
544 for estimating repairs to such vehicle, until the tow job has been  
545 completed. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prohibit  
546 the wrecker service and owner of the disabled vehicle from entering into  
547 an agreement for the repair or storage of such vehicle upon the  
548 completion of the tow.

549 (4) No [licensee] wrecker service shall tow a vehicle in such a  
550 negligent manner as to cause further damage to the vehicle being towed.

551 (5) No [licensee] wrecker service shall knowingly permit any person  
552 to occupy a vehicle while the vehicle is being towed. [Nothing in this  
553 subsection shall be construed to prohibit the licensee and owner of the  
554 damaged vehicle from entering into an agreement for the repair or  
555 storage of such vehicle upon the completion of the tow job.

556 (c) Each wrecker used for towing or transporting motor vehicles shall  
557 be registered as a wrecker by the commissioner for a fee of one hundred  
558 twenty-five dollars. Each such registration shall be renewed biennially  
559 according to renewal schedules established by the commissioner so as  
560 to effect staggered renewal of all such registrations. If the adoption of a  
561 staggered system results in the expiration of any registration more or  
562 less than two years from its issuance, the commissioner may charge a  
563 prorated amount for such registration fee.

564 (d) An owner of a wrecker may apply to the commissioner for a  
565 general distinguishing number and number plate for the purpose of  
566 displaying such number plate on a motor vehicle temporarily in the  
567 custody of such owner and being towed or transported by such owner.  
568 The commissioner shall issue such number and number plate to an  
569 owner of a wrecker (1) who has complied with the requirements of this  
570 section, and (2) whose wrecker is equipped in accordance with  
571 subsection (b) of this section. The commissioner shall charge a fee to  
572 cover the cost of issuance and renewal of such number plates.]

573 [(e)] (f) With respect to the nonconsensual towing or transporting of  
574 a motor vehicle, no [licensee] wrecker service may tow or transport a  
575 vehicle to the premises of any person, firm or corporation engaged in  
576 the storage of vehicles for compensation unless such person, firm or  
577 corporation adheres to the storage charges published by the  
578 commissioner in accordance with section 7 of this act.

579 [(f)] (g) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person,  
580 firm, corporation or association: (1) Towing or transporting a motor  
581 vehicle, provided such person, firm, corporation or association is  
582 licensed as a motor vehicle dealer pursuant to the provisions of [subpart  
583 (D) of this part] section 14-52 and does not offer direct towing or  
584 transporting to the public or engage in nonconsensual towing or  
585 transporting; (2) operating as an automobile club or automobile  
586 association licensed under section 14-67; (3) operating as a motor vehicle  
587 recycler licensed under section 14-67l or any contractor of such recycler,  
588 provided such recycler or its contractor does not offer towing or  
589 transporting to the public or engage in nonconsensual towing or  
590 transporting; (4) engaging in the business of repossession of motor  
591 vehicles for lending institutions, provided it does not offer direct towing  
592 or transporting unless licensed as a motor vehicle dealer [under the  
593 provisions of subpart (D) of this part] pursuant to the provisions of  
594 section 14-52; (5) towing motor vehicles owned or leased by such  
595 person, firm, association or corporation; (6) towing or transporting  
596 motor vehicles for hire, with the appropriate operating authority, as

597 defined in 49 CFR 390.5, as amended from time to time, provided such  
598 person, firm, corporation or association does not offer towing or  
599 transporting to the public or engage in nonconsensual towing or  
600 transporting; or (7) towing motor vehicles to or from an auction  
601 conducted by a motor vehicle dealer licensed pursuant to the provisions  
602 of [subpart (D) of this part] section 14-52, provided such person, firm,  
603 corporation or association does not offer direct towing or transporting  
604 to the public or engage in nonconsensual towing or transporting.

605 [(g)] (h) Any [law enforcement] police officer or traffic authority [, as  
606 defined in section 14-297,] may determine that a vehicle blocking a  
607 travel lane on a limited access highway constitutes an emergency and a  
608 threat to public safety. Upon such determination, such [law  
609 enforcement] officer or traffic authority may direct the [operator of a]  
610 wrecker service to remove such vehicle. Any such [operator of a]  
611 wrecker service shall be held harmless from liability or causes of action  
612 for property damages incurred to such vehicle or to its contents or the  
613 surrounding area caused by such emergency removal, provided such  
614 removal measures are taken under the direction of such officer or  
615 authority and all reasonable care is taken by the [operator of the]  
616 wrecker service to limit any further damage to such vehicle, such  
617 vehicle's contents or the surrounding area.

618 [(h) For the purposes of this section, "nonconsensual towing or  
619 transporting" means the towing or transporting of a motor vehicle in  
620 accordance with the provisions of section 14-145 or for which  
621 arrangements are made by order of a law enforcement officer or traffic  
622 authority, as defined in section 14-297.]

623 (i) Any person, firm, corporation or association that violates the  
624 provisions of this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have  
625 committed an infraction and for a second or subsequent offense, shall  
626 be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

627 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this  
628 section:

629 (1) "Private-property trespass towing" means the towing or  
630 transporting of a motor vehicle without the prior consent or  
631 authorization of the owner or operator of the motor vehicle performed  
632 in accordance with the provisions of section 14-145 of the general  
633 statutes, as amended by this act;

634 (2) "Light-duty motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle with a gross  
635 vehicle weight rating of less than ten thousand pounds;

636 (3) "Medium-duty motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle, including  
637 any cargo, with a gross vehicle weight rating of ten thousand pounds or  
638 more but not more than twenty-six thousand pounds;

639 (4) "Heavy-duty motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle, including any  
640 cargo, with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than twenty-six  
641 thousand pounds;

642 (5) "Drop fee" means the fee payable for the release of a motor vehicle  
643 that has been connected to a wrecker but not yet removed from private  
644 property from which such motor vehicle is to be towed;

645 (6) "After-hours redemption fee" means the fee payable for  
646 redeeming a motor vehicle from a motor vehicle storage facility outside  
647 the wrecker service's hours of operation; and

648 (7) "Nonconsensual towing or transporting" has the same meaning as  
649 provided in section 14-66 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

650 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall establish and publish  
651 a schedule of rates and charges for the provision of private-property  
652 trespass towing and the storage of motor vehicles. Such schedule shall  
653 be effective on January 1, 2026, and shall include (1) flat rates for towing  
654 services provided to light-duty, medium-duty and heavy-duty motor  
655 vehicles, (2) a fee for additional labor, (3) a drop fee, (4) a mileage fee,  
656 (5) storage rates, and (6) an after-hours redemption fee. Not later than  
657 November 1, 2025, the commissioner shall hold one public hearing for  
658 the purpose of obtaining information to establish the schedule.

659 (c) Such flat rates shall include the first two miles of transportation  
660 performed by such wrecker service. No wrecker service may charge a  
661 mileage fee for more than thirteen additional miles of transportation  
662 provided to a motor vehicle subject to private-property trespass towing.

663 (d) Such storage rates and the after-hours redemption fee shall apply  
664 to the storage of light-duty, medium-duty and heavy-duty motor  
665 vehicles subject to nonconsensual towing or transporting.

666 (e) The schedule of rates and charges established pursuant to the  
667 provisions of this section shall be just and reasonable and reflect the  
668 reasonable operating costs of wrecker services that perform private-  
669 property trespass towing and store motor vehicles. In establishing such  
670 rates and charges, the commissioner shall consider factors, including,  
671 but not limited to, the most recent transportation producer price index  
672 published by the United States Department of Transportation, rates set  
673 by other jurisdictions and the cost of fuel, wreckers, motor vehicle parts,  
674 equipment, personnel, workers' compensation insurance,  
675 unemployment compensation and insurance premiums.

676 (f) In the period of time between July 1, 2028, and October 1, 2028,  
677 inclusive, and every three years thereafter, the commissioner shall hold  
678 one public hearing for the purpose of reconsidering the schedule of rates  
679 and charges established pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of  
680 this section. The commissioner may amend such established schedule if,  
681 after consideration of the factors set forth in subsection (e) of this section  
682 and the testimony received at the public hearing, the commissioner  
683 determines that such established schedule is no longer just and  
684 reasonable and does not reflect the reasonable operating costs of  
685 wrecker services that perform private-property trespass towing. If the  
686 commissioner amends such schedule, such amended schedule shall be  
687 effective the January first following each public hearing held pursuant  
688 to the provisions of this subsection.

689 (g) Upon the publication of a schedule pursuant to the provisions of  
690 this section, no wrecker service shall (1) charge more than the rates and

691 charges contained in such schedule, or (2) charge for services that are  
692 not included in such schedule.

693 (h) The uniform rates and charges for the nonconsensual towing or  
694 transporting and storage of motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight  
695 rating of less than ten thousand pounds established and published by  
696 the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles pursuant to section 14-66 of the  
697 general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2025, shall  
698 continue to be effective on and after October 1, 2025, until December 31,  
699 2025, inclusive, and no wrecker service shall charge more than such  
700 published rates and charges during such period.

701 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this  
702 section:

703 (1) "Police-ordered towing" means towing or transporting and  
704 recovery of a motor vehicle without the prior consent of authorization  
705 of the owner or operator of the motor vehicle performed pursuant to the  
706 provisions of section 14-150 of the general statutes, as amended by this  
707 act, section 14-307 of the general statutes or any other order of a police  
708 officer or traffic authority;

709 (2) "Oversize or overweight motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle,  
710 combination of motor vehicle and trailer or commercial vehicle  
711 combination, including each such motor vehicle's load, whose  
712 dimensions or weight does not conform to the provisions of sections 14-  
713 262 of the general statutes, 14-262a of the general statutes, 14-264 of the  
714 general statutes, 14-267a of the general statutes and 14-269 of the general  
715 statutes or any other requirement specified in the general statutes;

716 (3) "Winching" means the process of moving a motor vehicle by the  
717 use of chains, nylon slings or additional lengths of winch cable from a  
718 position that is not accessible for direct hookup for towing a motor  
719 vehicle;

720 (4) "Nonconsensual towing or transporting" and "recovery" have the  
721 same meanings as provided in section 14-66 of the general statutes, as

722 amended by this act; and

723 (5) "Light-duty motor vehicle", "medium-duty motor vehicle" and  
724 "heavy-duty motor vehicle" have the same meanings as provided in  
725 section 7 of this act.

726 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall establish and publish  
727 a schedule of rates and charges for the provision of police-ordered  
728 towing that includes:

729 (1) A base hourly rate that may be charged for towing or transporting  
730 services provided to (A) a light-duty motor vehicle, (B) a medium-duty  
731 motor vehicle, (C) a heavy-duty motor vehicle, and (D) an oversize or  
732 overweight motor vehicle. The commissioner shall identify the services  
733 and equipment involved in the provision of such towing or transporting  
734 services that are included in such base hourly rate;

735 (2) An hourly rate for winching services, provided such winching  
736 service is performed on a vehicle that is located off a paved portion of a  
737 highway;

738 (3) Hourly rates or charges for each type of specialized equipment  
739 used in connection with the provision of police-ordered towing that are  
740 not included in the base hourly rate established pursuant to subdivision  
741 (1) of this subsection. Such rates or charges shall account for the cost of  
742 each such type of specialized equipment and a reasonable profit margin;

743 (4) Hourly rates for labor that is not included in such base hourly rate;  
744 and

745 (5) A charge for necessary administrative services.

746 (c) The schedule of rates and charges established pursuant to the  
747 provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall be just and reasonable  
748 and reflect the reasonable operating costs of wrecker services that  
749 perform police-ordered towing. In establishing such rates and charges,  
750 the commissioner shall consider factors, including, but not limited to,



751 the most recent transportation producer price index published by the  
752 United States Department of Transportation, rates set by other  
753 jurisdictions, rates for consensual towing of motor vehicles, the cost of  
754 equipment required by regulations adopted pursuant to section 29-23a  
755 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and the cost of workers'  
756 compensation insurance, unemployment compensation and insurance  
757 premiums.

758 (d) Not later than ninety days after receipt of a proposed schedule of  
759 rates and charges and any supporting documentation from the Police-  
760 Ordered Towing Council pursuant to section 9 of this act, the  
761 commissioner shall (1) hold a public hearing for the purpose of  
762 obtaining additional information concerning such proposed schedule,  
763 and (2) establish and publish a schedule of rates and charges for the  
764 provision of police-ordered towing. If the commissioner amends the  
765 proposed schedule, the commissioner shall provide a written  
766 explanation to the council of the reason for such amendment.

767 (e) Upon the publication of a schedule pursuant to the provisions of  
768 this section, no wrecker service shall (1) charge more than the rates and  
769 charges contained in such schedule, or (2) charge for services that are  
770 not included in such schedule.

771 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this  
772 section:

773 (1) "Police-ordered towing" and "oversize or overweight motor  
774 vehicle" have the same meanings as provided in section 8 of this act; and

775 (2) "Light-duty motor vehicle", "medium-duty motor vehicle" and  
776 "heavy-duty motor vehicle" have the same meanings as provided in  
777 section 7 of this act.

778 (b) There is established a Police-Ordered Towing Council within the  
779 Department of Motor Vehicles for administrative purposes only. Such  
780 council shall (1) advise the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles concerning  
781 policies affecting police-ordered towing, and (2) develop a proposed

782 schedule of rates and charges for the provision of police-ordered towing  
783 of light-duty, medium-duty, heavy-duty and oversize or overweight  
784 motor vehicles.

785 (c) The council shall consist of the following members: (1) Three  
786 representatives of an organization in the state that represents towing  
787 and recovery professionals, appointed by the Governor; (2) two  
788 representatives of an organization in the state that represents the  
789 commercial trucking industry, appointed by the Governor; (3) one  
790 representative of an association of police chiefs in the state, appointed  
791 by the Governor; (4) one representative of an association of fire chiefs in  
792 the state, appointed by the Governor; (5) one representative of the  
793 insurance industry, appointed by the Governor; and (6) the  
794 Commissioners of Transportation, Emergency Services and Public  
795 Protection and Energy and Environmental Protection and the Insurance  
796 Commissioner, or their designees.

797 (d) Appointments to the council shall be made not later than August  
798 1, 2025. Each member appointed shall serve for a term of three years and  
799 may serve until such member's successor is appointed. Any vacancy  
800 shall be filled by the Governor not later than thirty days after the date  
801 of such vacancy. The chairperson of the council shall be appointed by  
802 the Governor and shall convene the first meeting of the council not later  
803 than September 15, 2025.

804 (e) The council shall (1) on or before January 1, 2026, consider the  
805 factors set forth in subsection (c) of section 8 of this act and submit to the  
806 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles a proposed schedule of rates and  
807 charges for the provision of police-ordered towing of light-duty,  
808 medium-duty, heavy-duty and oversize or overweight motor vehicles;  
809 (2) in the period of time between June 1, 2028, and September 1, 2028,  
810 inclusive, and every three years thereafter, review and consider  
811 adjustments to the rates and charges published in accordance with  
812 section 8 of this act and submit such recommended adjustments, if any,  
813 to the commissioner; (3) recommend specific procedures for  
814 determining whether a service performed by a wrecker service in the

815 provision of police-ordered towing was required; (4) request  
816 information from other parties to assist with the work of the council and,  
817 in the discretion of the council, hold public hearings for the purpose of  
818 obtaining information; and (5) make any additional recommendations  
819 to the Department of Motor Vehicles that the council deems  
820 appropriate.

821 Sec. 10. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this section:

822 (1) "Wrecker service", "nonconsensual towing or transporting" and  
823 "recovery" have the same meanings as provided in section 14-66 of the  
824 general statutes, as amended by this act;

825 (2) "Private-property trespass towing", "medium-duty motor vehicle"  
826 and "heavy-duty motor vehicle" have the same meanings as provided in  
827 section 7 of this act;

828 (3) "Police-ordered towing" and "oversize or overweight motor  
829 vehicle" have the same meanings as provided in section 8 of this act;

830 (4) "Rotator" means a wrecker that (A) consists of a rotating  
831 superstructure, adjusting boom, operating machinery and one or more  
832 operator's stations mounted on a frame attached to a truck chassis, and  
833 (B) has the ability to lift, lower and swing loads; and

834 (5) "Exceptional services" means the use of special equipment, such  
835 as cutting torches, air compressors and other equipment not generally  
836 required for the performance of nonconsensual towing or transporting  
837 at the scene of an accident.

838 (b) On and after July 1, 2025, the uniform rates and charges for the  
839 nonconsensual towing or transporting and recovery of motor vehicles  
840 with a gross vehicle weight rating of ten thousand pounds or more, but  
841 not more than twenty-six thousand pounds, and motor vehicles with a  
842 gross vehicle weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds  
843 established and published by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles  
844 pursuant to section 14-66 of the general statutes, revision of 1958,

845 revised to January 1, 2025, shall cease to be effective.

846 (c) On and after July 1, 2025, and until the date the commissioner  
847 publishes a schedule of rates and charges for private-property trespass  
848 towing in accordance with section 7 of this act or police-ordered towing  
849 in accordance with section 8 of this act, as applicable, the maximum  
850 hourly rate that may be charged for the nonconsensual towing or  
851 transporting and recovery and calculated in accordance with  
852 regulations adopted pursuant to section 14-63 of the general statutes, as  
853 amended by this act, shall be as follows: (1) For medium-duty motor  
854 vehicles, four hundred dollars; (2) for heavy-duty motor vehicles, seven  
855 hundred dollars; (3) for oversize or overweight motor vehicles, one  
856 thousand five hundred dollars; and (4) for the use of a rotator and one  
857 laborer, one thousand two hundred seventy-five dollars.

858 (d) Services included in such maximum hourly rate include (1) the  
859 services reasonably necessary to restore the site of the nonconsensual  
860 towing or transporting to its original condition, or to restore such site as  
861 directed by a police officer, traffic authority or local fire official if such  
862 services are completed in less than fifteen minutes; (2) the time spent at  
863 the site by a wrecker service waiting to perform any portion of the  
864 nonconsensual towing or transporting procedures due to an order of a  
865 police officer or traffic authority if such time is less than fifteen minutes;  
866 (3) hand tools, wrenches and sockets used in the towing or recovery of  
867 a motor vehicle; (4) timbers used in such towing or recovery; (5) air  
868 fittings and hoses used in such towing or recovery under one hundred  
869 feet; (6) pry bars; (7) reflectors; (8) disconnecting batteries; (9) wheel  
870 chocks or scotch blocks; (10) not more than two snatch blocks; (11) cargo  
871 retraining straps; (12) chain and binders used in conjunction with  
872 wrecker cables; and (13) preparing a motor vehicle for towing.

873 (e) A wrecker service may charge additional fees for exceptional  
874 services, which may include the hourly charge for labor and the use of  
875 equipment to perform such exceptional services, provided such  
876 exceptional services are itemized, reasonable and necessary for the  
877 nonconsensual towing or transporting of a motor vehicle.

878 (f) The provisions of this section shall cease to be effective upon the  
879 date the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles establishes and publishes a  
880 schedule of rates and charges for the provision of police-ordered towing  
881 in accordance with section 8 of this act.

882 Sec. 11. Section 14-63 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
883 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

884 (a) The [commissioner may make, alter or repeal] Commissioner of  
885 Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations governing the administration of  
886 all statutes relating to the license and business of dealers and repairers,  
887 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

888 (b) (1) For the purposes of this subsection, (A) "nonconsensual towing  
889 or transporting" and "recovery" have the same meanings as provided in  
890 section 14-66, as amended by this act, and (B) "police-ordered towing"  
891 has the same meaning as provided in section 8 of this act.

892 [(b)] (2) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall [adopt  
893 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,  
894 establishing (1) a procedure whereby] receive, process and investigate  
895 complaints from customers of dealers and repairers [may file  
896 complaints with the Department of Motor Vehicles] concerning the  
897 operations of and services provided by any such [licensees, and (2) a  
898 procedure specifying the circumstances under which a licensee may  
899 stipulate to a complaint and waive such licensee's right to an  
900 administrative hearing. Such regulations shall provide for the  
901 commissioner to contact each licensee that is the subject of a complaint  
902 in order to notify such licensee of the complaint and to relate to such  
903 licensee the particular matters alleged by the complainant. If the  
904 commissioner determines that the facts as alleged give rise to one or  
905 more violations of law related to the licensee's business, the  
906 commissioner may attempt to mediate a voluntary resolution of the  
907 complaint acceptable to the complainant and the licensee. Such  
908 regulations shall also provide that, if an acceptable resolution to the  
909 complaint is not achieved, the commissioner shall complete the

910 commissioner's investigation of the facts and shall, if the commissioner  
911 has reason to believe that the licensee has violated any provision of  
912 section 14-64, proceed to take any action authorized under the  
913 provisions of section 14-64. If, after such an investigation, the  
914 commissioner elects not to take action against the licensee, the  
915 commissioner shall notify both the complainant and the licensee in  
916 writing.] dealer or repairer, including the provision of nonconsensual  
917 towing or transporting, recovery or storage of motor vehicles. The  
918 commissioner may permit a dealer or repairer to stipulate to a complaint  
919 and waive such dealer or repairer's right to an administrative hearing  
920 under the provisions of chapter 54.

921 (3) Any complaint filed with the commissioner pursuant to the  
922 provisions of this subsection shall (A) be in writing, on a form provided  
923 by or acceptable to the commissioner, (B) contain a statement of the facts  
924 that form the basis of the claim against such dealer or repairer, (C)  
925 include the dealer's or repairer's name, the customer's name and  
926 address, the date on which the transaction with the dealer or repairer  
927 occurred and, if applicable, the description of any vehicle that is the  
928 subject of a complaint, (D) be accompanied by any supporting  
929 documentation that pertains to the complaint, including, but not limited  
930 to, the written authorization form described in subsection (b) of section  
931 14-145, as amended by this act, photographs, invoices, repair orders and  
932 evidence of payment, and (E) be mailed or otherwise transmitted to the  
933 Department of Motor Vehicles.

934 (4) Not later than fourteen days from the date of receiving a customer  
935 complaint, the commissioner shall notify the customer and the dealer or  
936 repairer that is the subject of the complaint that the complaint (A) was  
937 received and of the particular matters alleged by the customer, and (B)  
938 will be subject to further investigation. Such investigation shall consist  
939 of a determination of (i) whether the complaint is complete and all  
940 relevant documents were received, and (ii) whether the complaint states  
941 facts which, if true, would give rise to one or more violations of sections  
942 14-51 to 14-66c, inclusive, as amended by this act, sections 14-145, as

943 amended by this act, 14-145a, as amended by this act, and 14-150, as  
944 amended by this act, section 3 of this act or any regulation adopted  
945 pursuant to said sections or section 16 of this act.

946 (5) In the event that the complaint is incomplete, the commissioner  
947 shall notify the customer, in writing, of what deficiencies exist in the  
948 complaint and provide the date by which the customer is required to  
949 submit documentation to address such deficiencies. In the event that  
950 such deficiencies are not addressed by the specified date, no action shall  
951 be taken on the complaint and the commissioner shall notify the  
952 customer and the dealer or repairer, in writing, that no further action  
953 will be taken. The commissioner shall maintain a written record of all  
954 conversations with the customer and include such record with the  
955 complaint in the records of the department.

956 (6) In the event that the complaint does not state facts that give rise to  
957 a violation of sections 14-51 to 14-66c, inclusive, as amended by this act,  
958 sections 14-145, as amended by this act, 14-145a, as amended by this act,  
959 and 14-150, as amended by this act, section 3 of this act or any regulation  
960 adopted pursuant to said sections or section 16 of this act, the  
961 commissioner shall notify the customer and the dealer or repairer, in  
962 writing, that the commissioner will not proceed with the complaint.  
963 Such notice shall include a brief statement of the reasons why the  
964 commissioner has taken no action. [The commissioner shall also inform  
965 the complainant and the licensee that an unresolved complaint exists  
966 and that, unless the commissioner has determined that the allegations,  
967 even if true, fail to state a violation of applicable statutory or regulatory  
968 standards, the same shall be recorded in the records of the department  
969 pertaining to such licensee until such time as the licensee submits to the  
970 commissioner satisfactory evidence, signed by the complainant or the  
971 complainant's attorney, that the claim has been resolved by agreement  
972 with the complainant or submits to the department satisfactory  
973 evidence of final adjudication in favor of such licensee.]

974 (7) If, after the investigation, the commissioner determines that a  
975 complaint is complete and determines one or more violations of sections

14-51 to 14-66c, inclusive, as amended by this act, sections 14-145, as amended by this act, 14-145a, as amended by this act, and 14-150, as amended by this act, section 3 of this act or any regulation adopted pursuant to said sections or section 16 of this act, the commissioner shall notify the customer and the dealer or repairer of such determination. The notification shall relate the particular matters involved in the complaint and inform the dealer or repairer that such dealer or repairer is required to respond to the matters alleged in the complaint not later than ten days after the date of the notification. Upon receipt of the dealer or repairer's response, the commissioner may (A) mediate a voluntary resolution of the complaint that is acceptable to the customer and the dealer or repairer, (B) proceed with an administrative hearing under chapter 54, or (C) determine that no action is to be taken and notify the customer and the dealer or repairer, in writing, of the reason for that determination.

(8) If the complaint is resolved through voluntary mediation, the dealer or repairer shall waive its right to an administrative hearing under chapter 54. If the dealer or repairer enters into a stipulated agreement, settlement agreement or consent order and fails to comply with the terms of such agreement or order, the dealer or repairer's license shall be suspended in accordance with the terms of such agreement or order. An agreement between the [licensee and the complainant] customer and the dealer or repairer shall not preclude the commissioner from proceeding to take action if the commissioner has reason to believe that the [licensee] dealer or repairer has violated any provision of section 14-64, as amended by this act.

(9) If the commissioner determines that there is one or more probable violations of sections 14-51 to 14-66c, inclusive, as amended by this act, sections 14-145, as amended by this act, 14-145a, as amended by this act, and 14-150, as amended by this act, section 3 of this act or any regulation adopted pursuant to said sections or section 16 of this act and that the department will take action, the department shall notify the customer and dealer or repairer of such determination and proceed with a hearing



1009 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, regardless of whether  
1010 the matter has or has not been settled between the customer and the  
1011 dealer or repairer. The commissioner may proceed to take any action  
1012 authorized under the provisions of section 14-64, as amended by this  
1013 act, and, in the case of police-ordered towing, recommend to the  
1014 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection that such  
1015 dealer or repairer be removed from the rotational system maintained  
1016 pursuant to section 29-23a, as amended by this act.

1017 (10) A decision by the commissioner not to take action against the  
1018 [licensee] dealer or repairer pursuant to the provisions of this subsection  
1019 shall be without prejudice to the claim of the customer; and neither the  
1020 fact that the [department] commissioner has determined not to proceed  
1021 nor the notice furnished to the parties, in accordance with this  
1022 subsection, shall be admissible in any civil action.

1023 (11) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations, in  
1024 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the  
1025 provisions of this subsection.

1026 Sec. 12. Section 14-66a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1027 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1028 (a) Each wrecker service that stores a motor vehicle that has been  
1029 subject to nonconsensual towing or transporting, as defined in section  
1030 14-66, as amended by this act, shall store such vehicle at the site of the  
1031 wrecker service's business in a secured lot. The site shall be open during  
1032 the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The wrecker  
1033 service shall (1) maintain an advertised telephone number to take  
1034 requests twenty-four hours a day from a motor vehicle owner or person  
1035 authorized by such owner seeking to redeem a stored motor vehicle or  
1036 remove any personal property within such stored motor vehicle, and (2)  
1037 if such request is not made during the wrecker service's hours of  
1038 operation, provide for such redemption or access to personal property  
1039 not later than four hours after such request. A lending institution or  
1040 person authorized by such lending institution may only redeem a stored

1041 motor vehicle during the wrecker service's hours of operation.

1042 (b) Any such wrecker service does not have a lien upon the personal  
1043 property within a motor vehicle stored at such wrecker service's secured  
1044 storage lot and shall permit the owner of the motor vehicle or a person  
1045 authorized by such owner to access such motor vehicle and remove any  
1046 personal property from within such motor vehicle during such wrecker  
1047 service's hours of operation or, if not open, not later than four hours after  
1048 receiving a request to remove such personal property.

1049 (c) No wrecker service shall charge for vehicle storage on a day when  
1050 such wrecker service does not make the vehicle available for  
1051 redemption. The wrecker service may charge an after-hours redemption  
1052 fee established by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in accordance  
1053 with section 7 of this act if the wrecker service releases a motor vehicle  
1054 outside its hours of operation.

1055 (d) The wrecker service shall release a motor vehicle to its owner, a  
1056 lending institution or a person authorized by the owner or lending  
1057 institution to regain possession, upon demand, provided the owner,  
1058 lending institution or authorized person (1) presents proof of  
1059 registration, the certificate of title, the bill of sale, the lease for the motor  
1060 vehicle or other reasonable proof of ownership, and (2) pays the costs of  
1061 towing and storage. The wrecker service shall release the motor vehicle  
1062 even if the address on the proof of registration, certificate of title, bill of  
1063 sale, lease for the motor vehicle or other reasonable proof of ownership  
1064 is different from the current address of the owner or authorized person  
1065 redeeming the motor vehicle.

1066 (e) The wrecker service shall accept such payment by cash or credit  
1067 or debit card and maintain sufficient cash at the office of such wrecker  
1068 service to provide change to the owner or authorized person at the time  
1069 of payment. If such payment is made by credit or debit card, the holder  
1070 of such credit or debit card shall appear at the office of such wrecker  
1071 service and sign the credit or debit card receipt.

1072       (f) Any vehicle owner, lending institution or authorized person shall  
1073 have the right to inspect the vehicle before redeeming the vehicle. No  
1074 general release of any kind that would release the wrecker service from  
1075 liability for damages or from liability for any claim that the vehicle was  
1076 towed without justification may be required from any vehicle owner,  
1077 lending institution or authorized person, as a condition of release of the  
1078 vehicle. A receipt showing the name of the wrecker service and an  
1079 itemization of the charges shall be provided to the person paying the  
1080 towing and storage costs at the time of payment.

1081       (g) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the  
1082 provisions of chapter 54, requiring all wreckers to display either the  
1083 name and address or name and telephone number of the licensed  
1084 registrant of such wrecker.

1085       (h) Any person, firm, corporation or association that violates the  
1086 provisions of this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have  
1087 committed an infraction and for a second or subsequent offense, shall  
1088 be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

1089       Sec. 13. Section 14-150 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1090 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1091       (a) Any person who abandons any motor vehicle within the limits of  
1092 any highway or upon property other than such person's own without  
1093 the consent of the owner thereof for a period longer than twenty-four  
1094 hours shall have committed an infraction and shall be fined not less than  
1095 eighty-five dollars. The last owner of record of a motor vehicle found  
1096 abandoned, as shown by the files of the Department of Motor Vehicles,  
1097 shall be deemed prima facie to have been the owner of such motor  
1098 vehicle at the time it was abandoned and the person who abandoned  
1099 the same or caused or procured its abandonment.

1100       (b) Any inspector of the Department of Motor Vehicles, any officer  
1101 attached to an organized police department, any enforcement officer of  
1102 a parking authority authorized under an ordinance adopted pursuant

1103 to section 7-204a to enforce parking regulations in the municipality in  
1104 which it is located or any state police officer upon discovery of any  
1105 motor vehicle, whether situated within or without any highway of this  
1106 state, which such inspector or officer determines is a menace to traffic or  
1107 public health or safety, shall take such motor vehicle into such  
1108 inspector's or officer's custody and cause the same to be taken to and  
1109 stored in a suitable place.

1110 (c) Any inspector of the Department of Motor Vehicles, any officer  
1111 attached to an organized police department, any enforcement officer of  
1112 a parking authority authorized under an ordinance adopted pursuant  
1113 to section 7-204a to enforce parking regulations in the municipality in  
1114 which it is located or any state police officer, upon discovery of any  
1115 motor vehicle which such inspector or officer determines to be  
1116 apparently abandoned or a motor vehicle without proper registration,  
1117 whether situated within or without any highway of this state, shall affix  
1118 to such motor vehicle a notification sticker in a manner so as to be  
1119 readily visible. This notification sticker shall contain the following  
1120 information: (1) The date and time the notification sticker was affixed to  
1121 the motor vehicle; (2) a statement that pursuant to this section, if the  
1122 motor vehicle is not removed within twenty-four hours of the time the  
1123 sticker was affixed, it shall be taken into custody and stored at the  
1124 owner's expense; (3) the location and telephone number where  
1125 additional information may be obtained; and (4) the identity of the  
1126 affixing officer. If the motor vehicle is not removed within such twenty-  
1127 four-hour period, the affixing department or parking authority shall  
1128 take such motor vehicle into its custody and cause the same to be stored  
1129 in a suitable place, except that such department or parking authority  
1130 shall make a reasonable attempt to notify the owner of any such motor  
1131 vehicle which is determined to be stolen prior to taking such vehicle into  
1132 its custody and shall allow such owner to make arrangements for  
1133 removal of such vehicle.

1134 (d) If the motor vehicle has no registration marker plates or invalid  
1135 registration marker plates, and if such inspector or officer makes a

determination in good faith that (1) the motor vehicle is apparently abandoned, (2) the market value of such motor vehicle in its current condition is five hundred dollars or less, and (3) the motor vehicle is so vandalized, damaged, or in disrepair as to be unusable as a motor vehicle, title to such motor vehicle shall, upon taking custody of such motor vehicle, immediately vest in the municipality in which the motor vehicle was discovered. Within forty-eight hours of the time that such motor vehicle is taken into custody, the affixing department or parking authority shall notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in writing, of the vehicle identification number and a description of the motor vehicle and thereafter shall immediately sell or transfer such motor vehicle to a recycler licensed in accordance with section 14-67l. Upon sale or other disposition of the motor vehicle, the affixing department or parking authority shall give written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the person who was the owner of such motor vehicle at the time of abandonment, if known, which notice shall state that the motor vehicle has been sold or otherwise disposed of. The proceeds of the sale or disposition, or the fair market value of the motor vehicle in its current condition, whichever is greater, less the towing and sale or disposal expenses and the amount of any fines due, shall be paid to such person or such person's representatives, if claimed by such person or such person's representatives within one year from the date of sale. If such balance is not claimed within such period, it shall escheat to the municipality. If the expenses incurred by the municipality for towing and the sale or disposition of such motor vehicle and any such fines exceed the proceeds of such sale or disposition, such person shall be liable to such municipality for such excess amount.

(e) Within forty-eight hours of the time that a motor vehicle is taken into custody and stored pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the affixing department or parking authority shall give written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and any lienholders of such motor vehicle, if such motor vehicle appears on the records of the Department of Motor Vehicles. The wrecker service that took such motor vehicle into custody shall make a reasonable effort to

1170 identify the owner or lienholders of such motor vehicle and send written  
1171 notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and any  
1172 lienholders of such motor vehicle. The notice provided by the affixing  
1173 department, parking authority and wrecker service shall state: (1) That  
1174 the motor vehicle has been taken into custody and stored, (2) the  
1175 location of storage of the motor vehicle, (3) that, unless title has already  
1176 vested in the municipality pursuant to subsection (d) of this section,  
1177 such motor vehicle may be sold [after (A) fifteen days if the market value  
1178 of such motor vehicle does not exceed one thousand five hundred  
1179 dollars, or (B) forty-five days if the value of such motor vehicle exceeds  
1180 one thousand five hundred dollars] in accordance with section 14 of this  
1181 act, and (4) that the owner has a right to contest the validity of such  
1182 taking by application, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of  
1183 Motor Vehicles, to the hearing officer named in such notice within ten  
1184 days from the date of such notice. Such application forms shall be made  
1185 readily available to the public at all offices and on the Internet web site  
1186 of the Department of Motor Vehicles, parking authorities authorized  
1187 under an ordinance adopted pursuant to section 7-204a to enforce  
1188 parking regulations and state and local police departments.

1189 (f) (1) The chief executive officer of each town shall appoint a suitable  
1190 person, who shall not be a member of any state or local police  
1191 department, to be a hearing officer to hear applications to determine  
1192 whether or not the towing within such municipality of such motor  
1193 vehicle was authorized under the provisions of this section. Two or  
1194 more towns may join in appointing such hearing officer; provided any  
1195 such hearing shall be held at a location which is as near to the town  
1196 within which such motor vehicle was towed as is reasonable and  
1197 practicable. The commissioner shall [establish by regulation] adopt  
1198 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish  
1199 the qualifications necessary for hearing officers and procedures for the  
1200 holding of such hearings. If it is determined at such hearing that the  
1201 vehicle was not a menace to traffic, abandoned or unregistered, as the  
1202 case may be, the owner of such motor vehicle shall not be liable for any  
1203 expenses incurred as a result of the taking and storage of such motor

1204 vehicle, the lien provisions of this section shall not apply to such owner,  
1205 and the department which took and stored such motor vehicle shall be  
1206 liable for such expenses. If the owner, prior to such determination, pays  
1207 such expenses and the storage charges of such motor vehicle, and it is  
1208 determined at such hearing that the motor vehicle was not a menace to  
1209 traffic, abandoned or unregistered, as the case may be, the department  
1210 or parking authority which took such motor vehicle shall be liable to  
1211 such owner for the amount paid by such owner. Any person aggrieved  
1212 by the decision of such hearing officer may, within fifteen days of the  
1213 notice of such decision, appeal to the superior court for the judicial  
1214 district wherein such hearing was held.

1215 (2) The chief executive officer of each municipality shall designate a  
1216 suitable person who shall be responsible for the collection of data  
1217 concerning abandoned motor vehicles within such municipality and the  
1218 preparation and submission of periodic reports to the Commissioner of  
1219 Motor Vehicles which shall contain such information as the  
1220 commissioner may require.

1221 [(g) The owner or keeper of any garage or other place where such  
1222 motor vehicle is stored shall have a lien upon such motor vehicle for  
1223 such owner's or keeper's towing or storage charges, or both, that result  
1224 from towing or storage under this section.

1225 (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, if the current  
1226 market value of such motor vehicle as determined in good faith by such  
1227 owner or keeper does not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars and  
1228 such motor vehicle has been stored for a period of not less than fifteen  
1229 days, such owner or keeper shall, unless an application filed by the  
1230 owner pursuant to subsection (e) of this section is pending and the  
1231 owner of such motor vehicle has notified such owner or keeper that such  
1232 application for hearing has been filed, send a notice of intent to sell that  
1233 complies with subsection (h) of this section to the commissioner, the  
1234 owner of such motor vehicle and any known lienholder of record of  
1235 such motor vehicle within such period. Upon approval by the  
1236 commissioner of the notice of intent to sell, the commissioner shall issue

1237 such owner or keeper an affidavit of compliance. Such owner or keeper  
1238 shall sell such motor vehicle not less than five business days after the  
1239 mailing date of the notice of intent to sell, and apply the proceeds of the  
1240 sale toward such owner's or keeper's towing and storage charges.

1241 (2) If the current market value of such motor vehicle as determined  
1242 in good faith by such owner or keeper exceeds one thousand five  
1243 hundred dollars and if such motor vehicle has been stored for a period  
1244 of not less than forty-five days, such owner or keeper shall, unless an  
1245 application filed by the owner pursuant to subsection (e) of this section  
1246 is pending and the owner of such motor vehicle has notified such owner  
1247 or keeper that such application for hearing has been filed, send a notice  
1248 of intent to sell that complies with subsection (h) of this section to the  
1249 commissioner, the owner of such motor vehicle and any known  
1250 lienholder of record of such motor vehicle within such period. Upon  
1251 approval by the commissioner of the notice of intent to sell, the  
1252 commissioner shall issue such owner or keeper an affidavit of  
1253 compliance. Such owner or keeper shall sell such motor vehicle at public  
1254 auction for cash, at such owner's or keeper's place of business not less  
1255 than five business days after the mailing date of the notice of intent to  
1256 sell. Such owner or keeper shall apply the proceeds of such sale toward  
1257 the payment of such owner's or keeper's towing and storage charges and  
1258 the payment of any debt or obligation incurred by the officer who placed  
1259 such motor vehicle in storage. At any public auction held pursuant to  
1260 this subsection, such owner or keeper may set a minimum bid equal to  
1261 the amount of such owner's or keeper's charges and obligations with  
1262 respect to the tow and storage of the motor vehicle. If no such bid is  
1263 made, such owner or keeper may sell or dispose of such vehicle.

1264 (h) The notice of intent to sell described in subsection (g) of this  
1265 section shall include the make, model and vehicle identification number  
1266 of such motor vehicle, the date such motor vehicle was left with the  
1267 owner or keeper of the garage for storage and by whom and the  
1268 registration number thereof if any number plates are on such motor  
1269 vehicle, and shall be placed on file by the commissioner and subject to



1270 public inspection. The notice of intent to sell shall be accompanied by a  
1271 statement to the owner and known lienholder of such motor vehicle  
1272 indicating the date, time and place of the sale of such motor vehicle, and  
1273 the manner of the sale, as specified in subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection  
1274 (g) of this section. Such owner or keeper shall give such notice and  
1275 accompanying statement to such motor vehicle owner and lienholder  
1276 by certified mail, return receipt requested. Such statement shall indicate  
1277 that any proceeds in excess of such owner's or keeper's charges and  
1278 obligations may be claimed by the owner of such motor vehicle within  
1279 one year from the date of such sale. The fee for filing such notice of intent  
1280 and accompanying statement shall be ten dollars. Any sale under the  
1281 provisions of this section shall be void, unless such owner or keeper  
1282 provides the notice required by this section.

1283 (i) At the time of a sale conducted under subsection (g) of this section,  
1284 such owner or keeper shall provide the purchaser of such motor vehicle  
1285 with the affidavit of compliance issued by the commissioner. Except for  
1286 a thirty-day period immediately following the date such motor vehicle  
1287 was placed in storage under subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of this  
1288 section, or a sixty-day period immediately following the date such  
1289 motor vehicle was placed in storage under subdivision (2) of subsection  
1290 (g) of this section, the commissioner may limit the number of days that  
1291 such owner or keeper may charge for storage of the motor vehicle prior  
1292 to the time such motor vehicle was sold unless such owner or keeper  
1293 provides evidence to the commissioner that the storage charges accrued  
1294 as a result of such owner or keeper's reliance upon statements or  
1295 representations made by the owner or lienholder of the motor vehicle or  
1296 as a result of such owner's or keeper's good faith effort to negotiate the  
1297 return of such motor vehicle to such owner or lienholder.

1298 (j) The owner or keeper of such garage shall report the sales price,  
1299 storing, towing and repair charges, if any; buyer's name and address;  
1300 identification of the vehicle and such other information as may be  
1301 required in regulations adopted pursuant to this section, to the  
1302 commissioner within fifteen days after the sale of the motor vehicle. The

1303 proceeds of such sale, after deducting the amount due such owner or  
1304 keeper and all expenses connected with such sale, including the  
1305 expenses of the officer who placed such motor vehicle in storage, shall  
1306 be paid to the owner of such motor vehicle or such owner's legal  
1307 representatives, if claimed by such owner or such owner's legal  
1308 representatives at any time within one year from the date of such sale.  
1309 If such balance is not claimed within said period, it shall escheat to the  
1310 state.

1311 (k) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in  
1312 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes  
1313 of this section. The regulations shall (1) specify the circumstances under  
1314 which title to any motor vehicle abandoned within the limits of any  
1315 highway may be transferred to any person, firm or corporation towing  
1316 such vehicle, (2) establish the procedure whereby such person, firm or  
1317 corporation may obtain title to such motor vehicle, and (3) specify the  
1318 circumstances under which the owner of a campground may dispose of  
1319 a motor home or recreational vehicle abandoned on such owner's  
1320 property and establishing procedures governing such disposal.]

1321 Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Whenever a motor vehicle  
1322 is taken into custody and stored pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) of  
1323 section 14-150 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or is  
1324 subject to nonconsensual towing or transporting, as defined in section  
1325 14-66 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the wrecker service  
1326 or owner or keeper of any garage, storage facility or other place where  
1327 such motor vehicle is stored shall have a lien upon such motor vehicle  
1328 for towing or storage charges, or both, imposed by such wrecker service  
1329 or owner or keeper that result from towing or storing a motor vehicle.

1330 (b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of section 14-150 of the  
1331 general statutes, as amended by this act, if such wrecker service or  
1332 owner or keeper makes a determination in good faith that the current  
1333 market value of the stored motor vehicle does not exceed one thousand  
1334 five hundred dollars and such stored motor vehicle has been stored for  
1335 a period of not less than fifteen days, such wrecker service or owner or

1336 keeper shall, unless an application filed by the owner of such motor  
1337 vehicle pursuant to subsection (e) of section 14-150 of the general  
1338 statutes, as amended by this act, is pending and the owner of such motor  
1339 vehicle has notified such wrecker service or owner or keeper that such  
1340 application for hearing has been filed, send a notice of intent to sell that  
1341 complies with subsection (c) of this section to the Commissioner of  
1342 Motor Vehicles, the owner of such motor vehicle and any known  
1343 lienholder of record of such motor vehicle at the end of such fifteen-day  
1344 period. Upon approval by the commissioner of the notice of intent to  
1345 sell, the commissioner shall issue such wrecker service or owner or  
1346 keeper an affidavit of compliance. Such wrecker service or owner or  
1347 keeper shall sell such motor vehicle not less than five business days after  
1348 the mailing date of the notice of intent and apply the proceeds of the sale  
1349 toward the towing and storage charges imposed by such wrecker  
1350 service or owner or keeper.

1351 (2) If such wrecker service or owner or keeper makes a determination  
1352 in good faith that the current market value of the stored motor vehicle  
1353 exceeds one thousand five hundred dollars and if such motor vehicle  
1354 has been stored for a period of not less than forty-five days, such  
1355 wrecker service or owner or keeper shall, unless an application filed by  
1356 the owner pursuant to subsection (e) of section 14-150 of the general  
1357 statutes, as amended by this act, is pending and the owner of such motor  
1358 vehicle has notified such wrecker service or owner or keeper that such  
1359 application for a hearing has been filed, send a notice of intent to sell  
1360 that complies with subsection (c) of this section to the Commissioner of  
1361 Motor Vehicles, the owner of such motor vehicle and any known  
1362 lienholder of record of such motor vehicle at the end of such forty-five-  
1363 day period. Upon approval by the commissioner of the notice of intent  
1364 to sell, the commissioner shall issue such wrecker service or owner or  
1365 keeper an affidavit of compliance. Such wrecker service or owner or  
1366 keeper shall sell such motor vehicle at public auction for cash, at the  
1367 place of business of such wrecker service or owner or keeper not less  
1368 than five business days after the mailing date of the notice of intent to  
1369 sell. Such owner or keeper shall apply the proceeds of such sale toward

1370 the towing and storage charges imposed by such wrecker service or  
1371 owner or keeper, the expenses related to such sale and any debt or  
1372 obligation incurred by the officer who placed such motor vehicle in  
1373 storage in accordance with section 14-150 of the general statutes, as  
1374 amended by this act.

1375 (3) In determining the current market value of the stored motor  
1376 vehicle pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (1) or (2) of this  
1377 subsection, the wrecker service may deduct for an observed defect or  
1378 missing major component part, as defined in section 14-149a of the  
1379 general statutes.

1380 (c) (1) The notice of intent to sell described in subsection (b) of this  
1381 section shall include, but need not be limited to, (A) the make, model  
1382 and vehicle identification number of the stored motor vehicle, (B) the  
1383 date such motor vehicle was left with such wrecker service or owner or  
1384 keeper and by whom, (C) the registration number if any number plates  
1385 are on such motor vehicle, (D) the retail market value of such motor  
1386 vehicle as determined by the wrecker service or owner or keeper, and  
1387 (E) a statement to the owner and known lienholder that (i) the stored  
1388 motor vehicle will be sold if not redeemed in a timely manner, (ii) such  
1389 motor vehicle may be redeemed until the point-of-sale, (iii) any  
1390 proceeds of such sale, after deducting the amount due to such wrecker  
1391 service or owner or keeper and any expenses of the officer who placed  
1392 such motor vehicle in storage, if applicable, will be held in an escrow  
1393 account and paid to the owner of such motor vehicle or such owner's  
1394 legal representatives, if claimed by such owner or legal representatives  
1395 not later than one year from the date of such sale, and (iv) if such  
1396 proceeds are not claimed within said period of time, such proceeds will  
1397 escheat to the state. Such wrecker service or owner or keeper shall  
1398 provide such notice and a copy of the consumer bill of rights regarding  
1399 towing, developed pursuant to section 5 of this act, to the motor vehicle  
1400 owner and lienholder by certified mail, return receipt requested.

1401 (2) Such wrecker service or owner or keeper shall also provide a copy  
1402 of the notice of intent to sell to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in

1403 a form and manner determined by the commissioner. Such notice of  
1404 intent to sell shall be accompanied by a filing fee of ten dollars and any  
1405 other information, such as photographs of the stored motor vehicle, that  
1406 the commissioner may prescribe. Such notice of intent to sell shall be  
1407 subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined  
1408 in section 1-200 of the general statutes. The commissioner may send a  
1409 copy of such notice of intent to sell electronically to the owner or  
1410 lienholder of such motor vehicle.

1411 (3) Any sale of a stored motor vehicle under the provisions of this  
1412 section shall be void, unless such wrecker service or owner or keeper  
1413 provides the notices required by this subsection.

1414 (d) Upon receipt of a notice of intent to sell, the commissioner shall  
1415 review such notice and determine if the owner of the motor vehicle has  
1416 filed a customer complaint concerning such wrecker service or owner or  
1417 keeper pursuant to section 14-63 of the general statutes, as amended by  
1418 this act. The commissioner shall not approve such proposed sale until  
1419 any such customer complaint is resolved. If the commissioner approves  
1420 such proposed sale, the commissioner shall issue such wrecker service  
1421 or owner or keeper an affidavit of compliance.

1422 (e) (1) Upon receipt of an affidavit of compliance by the  
1423 commissioner, such wrecker service or owner or keeper shall mail a  
1424 notice of proposed sale to the motor vehicle owner and known  
1425 lienholder by certified mail, return receipt requested, that indicates the  
1426 date, time and place of the proposed sale of such motor vehicle. Not less  
1427 than five business days after the mailing date of the notice of proposed  
1428 sale, such wrecker service or owner or keeper may proceed to sell such  
1429 motor vehicle pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (1) or (2) of  
1430 subsection (b) of this section.

1431 (2) In addition to the thirty-day period immediately following the  
1432 date such motor vehicle was placed in storage under subdivision (1) of  
1433 subsection (b) of this section, or a sixty-day period immediately  
1434 following the date such motor vehicle was placed in storage under

1435 subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, the wrecker service may  
1436 only charge up to ten additional days of storage for such motor vehicle  
1437 after receipt of the affidavit of compliance issued by the commissioner.

1438 (f) At the time of a sale conducted in accordance with the provisions  
1439 of this section, such wrecker service or owner or keeper shall provide  
1440 the purchaser of such motor vehicle with the affidavit of compliance  
1441 issued by the commissioner.

1442 (g) Not later than fifteen days after the sale of a motor vehicle in  
1443 accordance with the provisions of this section, such wrecker service or  
1444 owner or keeper of such garage shall (1) report the sale price, towing  
1445 and storage charges, repair charges, if any, expenses related to the sale,  
1446 any proceeds, the buyer's name and address, identification of the vehicle  
1447 and such other information as may be required in regulations adopted  
1448 pursuant to section 16 of this act, to the commissioner, (2) deposit the  
1449 proceeds of such sale, after deducting the amount due to such wrecker  
1450 service or owner or keeper and any expenses of the officer who placed  
1451 such motor vehicle in storage, if applicable, into an escrow account, and  
1452 (3) upon receipt of a claim by the prior owner of such motor vehicle or  
1453 such owner's legal representatives not later than one year from the date  
1454 of such sale, pay such sale proceeds to the prior owner or such owner's  
1455 legal representatives. If such sale proceeds are not claimed within said  
1456 period of time, such sale proceeds shall escheat to the state as unclaimed  
1457 property and the wrecker service or owner or keeper shall be subject to  
1458 the requirements of part III of chapter 32 of the general statutes,  
1459 including all obligations of a holder of unclaimed property. Not later  
1460 than ten days after filing any report and paying any funds to the  
1461 Treasurer as required by part III of chapter 32 of the general statutes,  
1462 such wrecker service or owner or keeper shall provide evidence to the  
1463 commissioner, in a form and manner determined by the commissioner,  
1464 that such report was submitted and funds have escheated.

1465 (h) In no event shall such wrecker service or owner or keeper sell a  
1466 motor vehicle that has not been (1) stored for at least thirty days if the  
1467 current market value of such motor vehicle does not exceed one

1468 thousand five hundred dollars, or (2) stored for at least sixty days if the  
1469 current market value of such motor vehicle exceeds one thousand five  
1470 hundred dollars.

1471       Sec. 15. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Motor  
1472 Vehicles, or the commissioner's designee, shall convene a working  
1473 group to study and make recommendations regarding the process  
1474 through which a wrecker service or owner or keeper of any garage or  
1475 storage facility may sell or dispose of a motor vehicle that remains  
1476 unclaimed after such vehicle was subject to nonconsensual towing or  
1477 transporting, as defined in section 14-66 of the general statutes, as  
1478 amended by this act. Such study shall, at a minimum, (1) consider  
1479 alternative methods for selling or disposing such unclaimed motor  
1480 vehicles that balance the interests of such wrecker service or owner or  
1481 keeper to manage the storage site, garage or storage facility with the  
1482 interests of motor vehicle owners and ensure unclaimed motor vehicles  
1483 are sold as close to the fair market value as possible; (2) consider issues  
1484 concerning a lienholder of a motor vehicle who does not redeem such  
1485 vehicle after inspection at the wrecker service's site of business; (3)  
1486 consider alternatives to the statutory time frames for disposing of  
1487 unclaimed motor vehicles and estimating the fair market value of  
1488 unclaimed motor vehicles; (4) evaluate ways to modernize and improve  
1489 the process of selling motor vehicles at auction and recommend  
1490 amendments to the general statutes or the regulations adopted pursuant  
1491 to section 14-65 of the general statutes to effectuate such modernization  
1492 and improvements; and (5) consider best practices in other states  
1493 regarding the disposal of unclaimed motor vehicles and notice to motor  
1494 vehicle owners.

1495       (b) The working group shall consist of the following members: (1) The  
1496 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or the commissioner's designee; (2)  
1497 two employees of the Department of Motor Vehicles, appointed by the  
1498 commissioner; (3) three representatives of an organization in the state  
1499 that represents towing and recovery professionals, appointed by the  
1500 commissioner; and (4) two consumer advocates, appointed by the

1501 commissioner. The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall  
1502 serve as chairperson of the working group and shall schedule the first  
1503 meeting of the council not later than September 1, 2025. The Department  
1504 of Motor Vehicles shall serve as administrative staff of the working  
1505 group. The working group may consult with any other agencies,  
1506 officials or interested parties that the working group deems appropriate  
1507 to complete such study.

1508 (c) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made by  
1509 August 1, 2025. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

1510 (d) On or before February 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a  
1511 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
1512 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
1513 relating to transportation, in accordance with the provisions of section  
1514 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the  
1515 date that it submits such report or February 1, 2026, whichever is later.

1516 Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) The Commissioner of Motor  
1517 Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of  
1518 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the purposes of section  
1519 14-150 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and section 14 of  
1520 this act. The regulations shall (1) specify the circumstances under which  
1521 title to any motor vehicle abandoned within the limits of any highway  
1522 may be transferred to the wrecker service, (2) establish the procedure  
1523 whereby such wrecker service may obtain title to such motor vehicle,  
1524 and (3) specify the circumstances under which the owner of a  
1525 campground may dispose of a motor home or recreational vehicle  
1526 abandoned on such owner's property and establishing procedures  
1527 governing such disposal.

1528 Sec. 17. Section 29-23a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1529 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1530 (a) The Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency  
1531 Services and Public Protection [may] shall establish, within its patrol



1532 jurisdiction, a rotational system for summoning [licensed wrecker  
1533 operators] wrecker services, as defined in section 14-1, as amended by  
1534 this act, for the purpose of towing or transporting motor vehicles which  
1535 are disabled, inoperative or wrecked in the event the owners or  
1536 operators of such vehicles are incapacitated, unavailable or leave the  
1537 procurement of wrecker service to the officer at the scene of an accident  
1538 or the location of a disabled vehicle. Any such [licensee] wrecker service  
1539 may participate in such system, provided (1) [his operators fulfill] such  
1540 wrecker service fulfills certain qualifications, including certification by  
1541 the Towing and Recovery Association of America or a certification  
1542 program approved by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and  
1543 Public Protection, and [his] the wrecker service's equipment meets  
1544 safety and mechanical standards established by the Commissioner of  
1545 Emergency Services and Public Protection and the Commissioner of  
1546 Motor Vehicles, and (2) [his] the wrecker service's business is located so  
1547 as to provide prompt and efficient service.

1548 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection  
1549 shall grant variations or exemptions from, or approve equivalent or  
1550 alternate compliance with, the provisions of this section where strict  
1551 compliance with such provisions would entail practical difficulty or  
1552 unnecessary hardship or is otherwise adjudged unwarranted, provided  
1553 any such variation, exemption, approved equivalent or alternate  
1554 compliance shall, in the opinion of said commissioner, secure the public  
1555 safety.

1556 (c) If the owner or operator of a disabled vehicle is present at the scene  
1557 of an accident or the location of the disabled vehicle and is able to  
1558 respond, the state police officer shall inquire whether such owner or  
1559 operator wishes to choose a wrecker service for the purposes of towing  
1560 or transporting the disabled vehicle. If such owner or operator wishes  
1561 to do so and such chosen wrecker service is on the rotational system  
1562 maintained pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the police officer  
1563 shall notify the chosen wrecker service. If such chosen wrecker service  
1564 cannot be contacted or is unable or unwilling to respond within the time

1565 frames established pursuant to regulations adopted in accordance with  
1566 subsection (d) of this section, the police officer shall summon the next  
1567 available wrecker service on the rotational system.

1568 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public  
1569 Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of  
1570 chapter 54, concerning the operation of such rotational system and the  
1571 removal from the system of wrecker services which fail to comply with  
1572 the requirements specified in such regulations or any provision of the  
1573 general statutes or a regulation concerning the operation of a wrecker  
1574 service or motor vehicle repair [, towing] or storage facility or the  
1575 operation of a motor vehicle.

1576 Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) If the owner or operator of a  
1577 disabled vehicle is present at the scene of an accident or at the location  
1578 of the disabled vehicle and is able to respond, the municipal police  
1579 officer shall inquire whether such owner or operator wishes to choose a  
1580 wrecker service, as defined in section 14-1 of the general statutes, as  
1581 amended by this act, for the purposes of towing or transporting the  
1582 disabled vehicle. If such owner or operator wishes to do so and such  
1583 chosen wrecker service is on a rotational system maintained by the  
1584 municipality, if any, the police officer shall notify the chosen wrecker  
1585 service. If such chosen wrecker service cannot be contacted or is unable  
1586 or unwilling to respond in a timely manner as determined by the  
1587 municipal police officer, the municipal police officer shall (1) summon  
1588 the next available wrecker service on the rotational system if maintained  
1589 by the municipality, or (2) summon a wrecker service as chosen by such  
1590 municipal police officer.

1591 Sec. 19. Subsection (b) of section 14-66c of the general statutes is  
1592 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
1593 *1, 2025*):

1594 (b) If any motorized personal property is towed or otherwise  
1595 removed by a wrecker [licensed under section 14-66] service, at the  
1596 direction of an officer attached to an organized police department or an

owner of real property where such personal property has been abandoned, such property shall be taken to and stored in a suitable place. [Within] Not later than forty-eight hours [following] after the time that such property is taken into custody, the [licensee or operator of the] wrecker service shall give written notice by certified mail to the owner, if known, (1) that such property has been taken and stored, and (2) of the location of such property. Such [licensee or operator] wrecker service shall have a lien upon the same for towing or removal charges and storage charges. If such owner does not claim such property, or if the owner of such property is not known, the [licensee or operator of the] wrecker service may sell or dispose of such property after thirty days, subject to any provision of the general statutes, or any regulation adopted thereunder, concerning the sale or disposal of such property.

Sec. 20. Section 14-145c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

Whenever an owner or lessee of private property or a lending institution, or such owner's, lessee's or institution's agent, improperly causes a motor vehicle to be towed or removed from such property, [or rendered immovable on such property,] the owner or lessee of the property or the lending institution shall be liable to the owner of the vehicle for the costs of towing or removal and of storage of the vehicle [or for fees charged for removing a wheel-locking device,] and for reasonable attorney's fees and court costs, if applicable.

Sec. 21. Section 14-145d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) Any person, firm or corporation that engages in rendering motor vehicles immovable through the use of wheel-locking or similar devices and is hired by an [owner or lessee of private property] independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or a private secondary school to render unauthorized motor vehicles immovable on such [owner or lessee's] institution or school's private property shall, five business days prior to taking such action

1629 within a municipality, notify the chief of police of the local police  
1630 department of such municipality of such activities. Such notification  
1631 shall be in the form and manner directed by the chief of police.

1632 (b) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall, for a  
1633 first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction and be fined  
1634 fifty dollars and, for each subsequent offense, shall be fined not less than  
1635 fifty dollars and not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned for  
1636 not more than thirty days or be both fined and imprisoned.

1637 Sec. 22. Section 14-66b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1638 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1639 (a) Each owner of a wrecker registered pursuant to subsection (c) of  
1640 section 14-66, as amended by this act, shall keep and maintain a record  
1641 stating the following information: (1) The registration number of each  
1642 motor vehicle towed or transported and the registration number of each  
1643 wrecker used to tow or transport such motor vehicle; (2) the date and  
1644 time the tow commenced and was completed; (3) the location from  
1645 which the disabled motor vehicle was towed and the destination of such  
1646 tow; (4) the mileage of the wrecker at the commencement and  
1647 completion of the tow; (5) the charge for tow service and any other  
1648 charges incurred for services related to such tow; (6) the name and  
1649 address of the person requesting tow service; (7) the written  
1650 authorization form, as described in subsection (b) of section 14-145, as  
1651 amended by this act, for each motor vehicle towed or transported; (8)  
1652 photographs of the motor vehicle taken pursuant to subsection (d) of  
1653 section 14-145, as amended by this act; and [(7)] (9) any other  
1654 information the commissioner deems necessary [,] and specified in  
1655 regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.  
1656 Such records shall be retained at the place of business of the wrecker  
1657 service for a period of [two] three years and shall be available for  
1658 inspection during regular business hours by any law enforcement  
1659 officer or inspector designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

1660 (b) Each owner of a wrecker shall also keep and maintain copies of

1661 any written contracts with owners or lessees of property authorizing the  
1662 towing or removal of motor vehicles from the property of such owner  
1663 or lessee, or with lending institutions repossessing any motor vehicles,  
1664 as provided in section 14-145, as amended by this act, and such contracts  
1665 shall be available for inspection by motor vehicle owners, agents of the  
1666 owners, or lending institutions, upon request.

1667 (c) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may permit any licensed  
1668 motor vehicle dealer or repairer who operates a wrecker service to  
1669 maintain, in an electronic format prescribed by the commissioner, all  
1670 records, photographs, documents and forms required by the  
1671 Department of Motor Vehicles. Such records, photographs, documents  
1672 and forms shall be produced in written format, upon request by the  
1673 department, during the licensee's business hours on the same day of  
1674 such request.

1675 (d) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be  
1676 deemed to have committed an infraction.

1677 Sec. 23. Section 14-51a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1678 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1679 The commissioner may, after notice and hearing, impose a civil  
1680 penalty of not more than [one] five thousand dollars on any person, firm  
1681 or corporation who violates any provision of sections 14-54 to 14-67a,  
1682 inclusive, or of not more than two thousand dollars on any person, firm  
1683 or corporation who violates section 14-52.

1684 Sec. 24. Section 14-64 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1685 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1686 The commissioner may suspend or revoke the license or licenses of  
1687 any licensee or impose a civil penalty of not more than [one] five  
1688 thousand dollars for each violation on any licensee or both, when, after  
1689 notice and hearing, the commissioner finds that the licensee (1) has  
1690 violated any provision of any statute or regulation of any state or any  
1691 federal statute or regulation pertaining to its business as a licensee or

1692 has failed to comply with the terms of a final decision and order of any  
1693 state department or federal agency concerning any such provision; [or]  
1694 (2) has failed to maintain such records of transactions concerning the  
1695 purchase, sale or repair of motor vehicles or major component parts, as  
1696 required by such regulations as shall be adopted by the commissioner,  
1697 for a period of two years after such purchase, sale or repairs, provided  
1698 the records shall include the vehicle identification number and the name  
1699 and address of the person from whom each vehicle or part was  
1700 purchased and to whom each vehicle or part was sold, if a sale occurred;  
1701 [or] (3) has failed to allow inspection of such records by the  
1702 commissioner or the commissioner's representative during normal  
1703 business hours, provided written notice stating the purpose of the  
1704 inspection is furnished to the licensee, or has failed to allow inspection  
1705 of such records by any representative of the Division of State Police  
1706 within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or  
1707 any organized local police department, which inspection may include  
1708 examination of the premises to determine the accuracy of such records;  
1709 [or] (4) has made a false statement as to the condition, prior ownership  
1710 or prior use of any motor vehicle sold, exchanged, transferred, offered  
1711 for sale or repaired if the licensee knew or should have known that such  
1712 statement was false; [or] (5) is not qualified to conduct the licensed  
1713 business, applying the standards of section 14-51 and the applicable  
1714 regulations; [or] (6) has violated any provision of sections 42-221 to 42-  
1715 226, inclusive; [or] (7) has failed to fully execute or provide the buyer  
1716 with (A) an order as described in section 14-62, (B) the properly assigned  
1717 certificate of title, or (C) a temporary transfer or new issue of  
1718 registration; [or] (8) has failed to deliver a motor vehicle free and clear  
1719 of all liens, unless written notification is given to the buyer stating such  
1720 motor vehicle shall be purchased subject to a lien; [or] (9) has violated  
1721 any provision of sections 14-65f to 14-65j, inclusive, and section 14-65l;  
1722 [or] (10) has used registration number plates issued by the  
1723 commissioner, in violation of the provisions and standards set forth in  
1724 sections 14-59 and 14-60 and the applicable regulations; [or] (11) has  
1725 failed to secure or to account for or surrender to the commissioner on  
1726 demand official registration plates or any other official materials in its

1727 custody; or (12) has been convicted, or if the licensee is a firm or  
1728 corporation, an officer or major stockholder has been convicted, of a  
1729 violation of any provision of laws pertaining to the business of a motor  
1730 vehicle dealer or repairer including a motor vehicle recycler, or of any  
1731 violation involving fraud, larceny or deprivation or misappropriation of  
1732 property, in the courts of the United States or of any state, or has failed  
1733 to make full disclosure of any such conviction. In addition to, or in lieu  
1734 of, the imposition of any other penalties authorized by this section, the  
1735 commissioner may order any such licensee to make restitution to any  
1736 aggrieved customer.

1737 Sec. 25. Section 14-1 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
1738 subdivision (111) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1739 (NEW) (111) "Wrecker service" means any person, firm or  
1740 corporation engaged in the business of operating a wrecker for the  
1741 purpose of towing or transporting a motor vehicle.

1742 Sec. 26. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) The Police-Ordered Towing Council  
1743 shall make recommendations regarding (1) limiting the period of time a  
1744 person may file a complaint with the Department of Motor Vehicles  
1745 concerning the provision of nonconsensual towing or transporting,  
1746 recovery or storage of a motor vehicle pursuant to section 14-63 of the  
1747 general statutes, as amended by this act, and (2) ensuring a wrecker  
1748 service may charge for the use of equipment and labor specifically  
1749 requested by a police officer, traffic authority or fire official and  
1750 rendered during the provision of a police-ordered tow, as defined in  
1751 section 8 of this act, including ways to document the towing services  
1752 requested and rendered and to resolve disputes related to such charges.  
1753 On February 1, 2026, the council shall submit such recommendations to  
1754 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
1755 cognizance of matters relating to transportation.

1756 Sec. 27. Section 14-145b of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
1757 *October 1, 2025*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-145
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-145a
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-66
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-63
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-66a
Sec. 13	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-150
Sec. 14	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	29-23a
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-66c(b)
Sec. 20	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-145c
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-145d
Sec. 22	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-66b
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-51a
Sec. 24	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-64
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-1(111)
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 27	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	Repealer section