
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5766

AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES OF PARKING IN FRONT OF A FIRE HYDRANT.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a fine of up to \$200 for subsequent violations of existing law's prohibition on vehicles remaining stationary within 10 feet of any fire hydrant (i.e. one type of "improper parking"). These violations are processed through the Centralized Infractions Bureau. First violations remain infractions (see BACKGROUND), as is the case for all violations under current law.

By law, fines, or a portion of fines, collected for certain motor vehicle violations must be remitted to the municipality in which the violation occurred (not including associated fees or surcharges). In the case of improper parking violations, the entire fine amount must be remitted to the municipality (CGS § 51-56a(b)).

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Infractions

Infractions are punishable by fines, usually set by Superior Court judges, of between \$35 and \$90, plus a \$20 or \$35 surcharge and an additional fee based on the fine's amount. There may also be other applicable charges depending on the type of infraction. For example, certain motor vehicle infractions trigger a Special Transportation Fund surcharge of 50% of the fine. An infraction is not a crime and violators can generally pay the fine by mail without making a court appearance.

By law, the minimum fine applicable to improper parking infractions is \$50 (this does not include the additional fee and surcharge).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/12/2025)