
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1367 (File 774, as amended by Senate "A")*

AN ACT PROHIBITING A BAIL BONDSMAN OR AGENT FROM APPREHENDING A PRINCIPAL ON A BOND ON THE PREMISES, GROUNDS OR CAMPUS OF ANY HEALTH CARE FACILITY, SCHOOL, INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR HOUSE OF WORSHIP.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits professional bail bondsmen or surety bail bond or bail enforcement agents from taking or trying to take the principal on a bond into custody on the premises, grounds, or campus of any:

1. state-operated or Department of Public Health (DPH)-licensed health care facility or institution, or office of a DPH-licensed health care provider;
2. school or higher education institution; or
3. house of worship.

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, requires these individuals, before taking the person into custody, to notify the applicable law enforcement where the person is believed to be.

The bill also expands the scope of the law requiring the court to vacate an order forfeiting a bond and release the professional bondsman, surety bail bond agent, and insurer so it applies when the principal on the bond is at a health care facility, institution, or provider office described above. Currently, a court may generally only do this when the principal is detained or incarcerated outside of Connecticut, there is proof of the detention or incarceration, and the prosecutor declines to extradite.

*Senate Amendment "A" requires the court to vacate an order forfeiting a bond and release the bondsman, agent, and insurer

whenever the principal is at the facility, institution, or provider office, rather than only at these locations when receiving in-patient care.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Bondsmen and Agents

A professional bondsman is in the business of providing bail in five or more criminal cases in a year, whether for compensation or free (CGS § 29-144). He or she puts up personal assets as bond security. A bail enforcement agent is engaged in the business of taking or attempting to take into custody people on bond who fail to appear in court and for whom a rearrest warrant or a capias was issued (CGS § 29-152e). The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection licenses these individuals.

A surety bail bond agent is approved by the insurance commissioner and appointed by an insurer by power of attorney to execute or countersign bail bonds for the insurer in connection with judicial proceedings (CGS § 38a-660).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 11 (04/10/2025)