



Senate

File No. 981

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

(Reprint of File No. 732)

Senate Bill No. 1284
As Amended by Senate Amendment
Schedule "A"
and House Amendment
Schedule "B"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 29, 2025

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ILLEGAL USE OF CERTAIN VEHICLES AND STREET TAKEOVERS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-390 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (a) Any municipality may, by ordinance, regulate the operation and
4 use, including hours and zones of use, of snowmobiles and all-terrain
5 vehicles in a manner not inconsistent with the provisions of this section
6 and sections 14-379 to 14-389, inclusive, or any regulations adopted
7 pursuant thereto, and may (1) prescribe a penalty for violation of such
8 ordinance in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars for a first
9 violation, in an amount not to exceed one thousand five hundred dollars
10 for a second violation, and in an amount not to exceed two thousand
11 dollars for a third or subsequent violation, and (2) provide for the

12 seizure and forfeiture to the municipality of such all-terrain vehicle for
13 a violation of such ordinance, subject to any bona fide lien, lease or
14 security interest in the all-terrain vehicle, including, but not limited to,
15 a lien under section 14-66c.

16 (b) No all-terrain vehicle shall be forfeited under an ordinance
17 adopted pursuant to this section to the extent of the interest of an owner
18 or lienholder by reason of any act or omission committed by another
19 person if such owner or lienholder did not know and could not have
20 reasonably known that such all-terrain vehicle was being used or was
21 intended to be used in violation of a municipal ordinance, and such
22 owner or lienholder collects such all-terrain vehicle not later than ninety
23 days after the date, whichever is later, that the municipality (1) posts
24 notice on the municipality's Internet web site indicating that such all-
25 terrain vehicle shall be forfeited if not collected within such ninety-day
26 period, and (2) mails such notice to such owner or lienholder.

27 (c) Any all-terrain vehicle ordered forfeited pursuant to such an
28 ordinance shall be sold at public auction conducted by the municipality
29 or destroyed by the municipality. The proceeds of such sale shall be paid
30 to the treasurer of the municipality, who shall deposit such proceeds
31 into the general fund of the municipality.

32 Sec. 2. Section 14-390m of the general statutes is repealed and the
33 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

34 (a) Any municipality that adopts an ordinance pursuant to section 7-
35 148 to regulate the operation and use on public property, including
36 hours of use, of dirt bikes or mini-motorcycles may (1) prescribe a
37 penalty for violation of such ordinance [(1)] in an amount not to exceed
38 one thousand dollars for a first violation, in an amount not to exceed
39 one thousand five hundred dollars for a second violation and in an
40 amount not to exceed two thousand dollars for a third or subsequent
41 violation, and (2) [in the case of a municipality with a population of
42 twenty thousand or more, to] provide for the seizure and forfeiture to
43 the municipality of such dirt bike or mini-motorcycle for violation of

44 such ordinance, subject to any bona fide lien, lease or security interest
45 in the dirt bike or mini-motorcycle, including, but not limited to, a lien
46 under section 14-66c.

47 (b) No dirt bike or mini-motorcycle shall be forfeited under an
48 ordinance adopted pursuant to this section to the extent of the interest
49 of an owner or lienholder by reason of any act or omission committed
50 by another person if such owner or lienholder did not know and could
51 not have reasonably known that such dirt bike or mini-motorcycle was
52 being used or was intended to be used in violation of a municipal
53 ordinance, and such owner or lienholder collects such dirt bike or mini-
54 motorcycle not later than ninety days after the date, whichever is later,
55 that the municipality (1) posts notice on the municipality's Internet web
56 site indicating that such dirt bike or mini-motorcycle shall be forfeited if
57 not collected within such ninety-day period, and (2) mails such notice
58 to such owner or lienholder.

59 (c) Any dirt bike or mini-motorcycle ordered forfeited pursuant to
60 such an ordinance shall be sold at public auction conducted by the
61 municipality or destroyed by the municipality. The proceeds of such
62 sale shall be paid to the treasurer of the municipality, who shall deposit
63 such proceeds into the general fund of the municipality.

64 (d) For the purposes of this section and section 7-148, (1) "dirt bike"
65 means a two-wheeled motorized recreational vehicle designed to travel
66 over unimproved terrain and not designed for travel on a highway, as
67 defined in section 14-1. "Dirt bike" does not include an all-terrain
68 vehicle, as defined in section 14-379, or a motor-driven cycle, as defined
69 in section 14-1, and (2) "mini-motorcycle" has the same meaning as
70 provided in section 14-289j.

71 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For purposes of this
72 section, "street takeover" has the same meaning as provided in section
73 14-224 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

74 (b) Any municipality may, by ordinance, prohibit a person from
75 organizing, participating in or gathering with intent to observe and

76 actually observing a street takeover. Such ordinance may (1) prescribe a
77 penalty for violation of such ordinance in an amount not to exceed one
78 thousand dollars for a first violation, in an amount not to exceed one
79 thousand five hundred dollars for a second violation and in an amount
80 not to exceed two thousand dollars for a third or subsequent violation,
81 and (2) provide for the impoundment of any vehicle used in violation of
82 this section until any fine imposed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
83 subsection is paid, any related charges, including, but not limited to,
84 towing fees, are paid and any overdue property taxes on such vehicle
85 imposed pursuant to chapter 203 of the general statutes are paid. The
86 ordinance may provide that the vehicle is deemed forfeited to the
87 municipality if, after six months following such impoundment, the
88 owner or lienholder of such impounded vehicle has failed to pay such
89 fines and related charges pursuant to this subsection.

90 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 14-111 of the general statutes is
91 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
92 *1, 2025*):

93 (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection,
94 whenever the holder of any motor vehicle operator's license has been
95 convicted or has forfeited any bond taken or has received a suspended
96 judgment or sentence for any of the following violations, the
97 commissioner shall, without hearing, suspend such person's operator's
98 license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state as follows:
99 For a first violation of subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b)
100 of section 14-224 or section 14-110, 14-215 or 53a-119b, for a period of
101 not less than one year and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a
102 period of not less than two years; for a violation of subsection (a) of
103 section 14-222, [or subsection (c) of section 14-224,] for a period of not
104 less than thirty days or more than ninety days and, for a subsequent
105 violation thereof, for a period of not less than ninety days; for a violation
106 of subdivision (2) or (3) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, for a period
107 of not less than ninety days and for a subsequent violation thereof, for a
108 period of not less than one year; for a first or second violation of
109 subsection (c) of section 14-224, for a period of forty-five days and for a

110 subsequent violation thereof, for a period of two years; for a first
111 violation of subsection (b), (d) or (e) of section 14-147, for a period of not
112 less than ninety days and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a
113 period of not less than five years; for a first violation of subsection (c) of
114 section 14-147, for a period of not less than thirty days and, for a
115 subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than one year.

116 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-111b and except as
117 provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, whenever the holder of
118 any motor vehicle operator's license or youth instruction permit who is
119 less than eighteen years of age or whenever a person who does not hold
120 an operator's license who is less than eighteen years of age has been
121 convicted or has forfeited any bond taken or has received a suspended
122 judgment or sentence for any of the following violations, the
123 commissioner shall suspend such person's operator's license or
124 privilege to obtain an operator's license as follows: For a first violation
125 of subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 14-219 or subdivision (4)
126 of subsection (b) of section 14-219, for a period of sixty days and, for a
127 second violation thereof, for a period of ninety days and, for a third or
128 subsequent violation thereof, for a period of six months; for a first
129 violation of subsection (a) of section 14-222, for a period of six months
130 and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of one year; for a
131 violation of subsection (c) of section 14-224, for a period of six months
132 and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of one year; for a
133 first violation of section 14-296aa, for a period of thirty days and, for a
134 second violation thereof, for a period of ninety days and, for a third or
135 subsequent violation thereof, for a period of six months.

136 (3) The commissioner shall suspend the motor vehicle operator's
137 license of any youth adjudged a youthful offender for a violation of
138 section 14-215 or 14-222, subsection (b) of section 14-223 or subdivision
139 (2) or (3) of subsection (b) or subsection (c) of section 14-224 for six
140 months for a first offense and one year for a second or subsequent
141 offense.

142 (4) Whenever any person who has not been issued a motor vehicle

143 operator's license under section 14-36 is convicted of a second or
144 subsequent violation of subsection (a) of section 14-36: (A) The
145 commissioner shall suspend such person's privilege to operate a motor
146 vehicle, (B) such suspension shall remain in effect for a period of ninety
147 days, and (C) the commissioner shall not issue an operator's license to
148 such person under section 14-36 until such period of suspension has
149 expired and all applicable requirements for such license have been
150 satisfied by such person.

151 Sec. 5. Subsection (g) of section 14-224 of the general statutes is
152 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
153 *1, 2025*):

154 (g) (1) Any person who violates the provisions of subdivision (2) of
155 subsection (b) of this section shall be guilty of a class D felony.

156 (2) Any person who violates the provisions of subdivision (3) of
157 subsection (b) of this section or subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this
158 section shall be guilty of a (A) class A misdemeanor for a first offense,
159 and (B) class D felony for any subsequent offense, for which the court
160 shall impose a fine of at least two thousand dollars.

161 (3) Any person who violates the provisions of subdivision (2) of
162 subsection (c) of this section shall be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

163 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 51-164n of the general statutes is
164 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
165 *1, 2025*):

166 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person
167 who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the provisions of
168 section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 2-71h, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35 or 7-41, subsection (c)
169 of section 7-66, section 7-83, 7-147h, 7-148, 7-283, 7-325, 7-393, 8-12, 8-25,
170 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-185, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 10-230, 10-251, 10-
171 254, 10a-35, 12-52, 12-54, 12-129b or 12-170aa, subdivision (3) of
172 subsection (e) of section 12-286, section 12-286a, 12-292, 12-314b or 12-
173 326g, subdivision (4) of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of

174 section 12-411, section 12-435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-476c, 12-487, 13a-
175 26b, 13a-71, 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-115, 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-
176 124, 13a-139, 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-253, 13a-263 or 13b-39f, subsection
177 (f) of section 13b-42, section 13b-90 or 13b-100, subsection (a) of section
178 13b-108, section 13b-221 or 13b-292, subsection (a) or (b) of section 13b-
179 324, section 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c,
180 subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414 or 14-4,
181 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-12, subsection (d) of
182 section 14-12, subsection (f) of section 14-12a, subsection (a) of section
183 14-15a, section 14-16c, 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (f) of section 14-34a,
184 subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-44j, 14-49, 14-50a, 14-58
185 or 14-62a, subsection (b) of section 14-66, section 14-66a or 14-67a,
186 subsection (g) of section 14-80, subsection (f) or (i) of section 14-80h,
187 section 14-97a or 14-98, subsection (a), (b) or (d) of section 14-100a,
188 section 14-100b, 14-103a, 14-106a, 14-106c, 14-145a, 14-146, 14-152, 14-
189 153, 14-161 or 14-163b, subsection (f) of section 14-164i, section 14-213b
190 or 14-219, subdivision (1) of section 14-223a, subsection (d) of section 14-
191 224, section 14-240, 14-250, 14-253a, 14-261a, 14-262, 14-264, 14-266, 14-
192 267a, 14-269, 14-270, 14-272b, 14-274, 14-275 or 14-275a, subsection (c) of
193 section 14-275c, section 14-276, subsection (a) or (b) of section 14-277,
194 section 14-278, 14-279 or 14-280, subsection (b), (e) or (h) of section 14-
195 283, section 14-283d, 14-283e, 14-283f, 14-283g, 14-291, 14-293b, 14-296aa,
196 14-298a, 14-300, 14-300d, 14-300f, 14-319, 14-320, 14-321, 14-325a, 14-326,
197 14-330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of section 14-386a, section
198 15-15e, 15-25 or 15-33, subdivision (1) of section 15-97, subsection (a) of
199 section 15-115, section 16-15, 16-16, 16-44, 16-256e, 16-278 or 16a-15,
200 subsection (a) of section 16a-21, section 16a-22, subsection (a) or (b) of
201 section 16a-22h, section 16a-106, 17a-24, 17a-145, 17a-149 or 17a-152,
202 subsection (b) of section 17a-227, section 17a-465, subsection (c) of
203 section 17a-488, section 17b-124, 17b-131, 17b-137, 19a-33, 19a-39 or 19a-
204 87, subsection (b) of section 19a-87a, section 19a-91, 19a-102a, 19a-102b,
205 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-113, 19a-215, 19a-216a, 19a-219, 19a-222, 19a-224,
206 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-335, 19a-336, 19a-338,
207 19a-339, 19a-340, 19a-425, 19a-442, 19a-502, 19a-565, 20-7a, 20-14, 20-
208 153a, 20-158, 20-231, 20-233, 20-249, 20-257, 20-265, 20-324e, 20-329c or

209 20-329g, subsection (b) of section 20-334, section 20-341l, 20-366, 20-482,
210 20-597, 20-608, 20-610, 20-623, 21-1, 21-38, 21-39, 21-43, 21-47, 21-48 or
211 21-63, subsection (d) of section 21-71, section 21-76a or 21-100,
212 subsection (c) of section 21a-2, subdivision (1) of section 21a-19, section
213 21a-20 or 21a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 21a-25,
214 section 21a-26, subsection (a) of section 21a-37, section 21a-46, 21a-61,
215 21a-63, 21a-70b or 21a-77, subsection (b) or (c) of section 21a-79, section
216 21a-85 or 21a-154, subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-159,
217 section 21a-278b, subsection (c), (d) or (e) of section 21a-279a, section
218 21a-415a, 21a-421eee, 21a-421fff or 21a-421hhh, subsection (a) of section
219 21a-430, section 22-12b, 22-13, 22-14, 22-15, 22-16, 22-26g, 22-30, 22-34,
220 22-35, 22-36, 22-38, 22-39, 22-39f, 22-49, 22-54, 22-61j or 22-61l,
221 subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of section 22-61l, subsection (f) of
222 section 22-61m, subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 22-61m,
223 section 22-84, 22-89, 22-90, 22-96, 22-98, 22-99, 22-100 or 22-111o,
224 subsection (d) of section 22-118l, section 22-167, subsection (c) of section
225 22-277, section 22-278, 22-279, 22-280a, 22-318a, 22-320h, 22-324a or 22-
226 326, subsection (b), subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (e) or subsection
227 (g) of section 22-344, subsection (a) or (b) of section 22-344b, subsection
228 (d) of section 22-344d, section 22-344f, 22-350a, 22-354, 22-359, 22-366,
229 22-391, 22-413, 22-414, 22-415, 22-415c, 22a-66a or 22a-246, subsection (a)
230 of section 22a-250, section 22a-256g, subsection (e) of section 22a-256h,
231 section 22a-363 or 22a-381d, subsections (c) and (d) of section 22a-381e,
232 section 22a-449, 22a-450, 22a-461, 23-4b, 23-38, 23-45, 23-46 or 23-61b,
233 subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 23-65, section
234 25-37 or 25-40, subsection (a) of section 25-43, section 25-43d, 25-135, 26-
235 18, 26-19, 26-21, 26-31, 26-40, 26-40a, 26-42, 26-43, 26-49, 26-54, 26-55, 26-
236 56, 26-58 or 26-59, subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 26-61,
237 section 26-64, subdivision (1) of section 26-76, section 26-79, 26-87, 26-89,
238 26-91, 26-94, 26-97, 26-98, 26-104, 26-105, 26-107, 26-114a, 26-117,
239 subsection (b) of section 26-127, 26-128, 26-128a, 26-131, 26-132, 26-138,
240 26-139 or 26-141, subdivision (1) of section 26-186, section 26-207, 26-215,
241 26-217 or 26-224a, subdivision (1) of section 26-226, section 26-227, 26-
242 230, 26-231, 26-232, 26-244, 26-257a, 26-260, 26-276, 26-280, 26-284, 26-
243 285, 26-286, 26-287, 26-288, 26-290, 26-291a, 26-292, 26-294, 27-107, 28-13,

244 29-6a, 29-16, 29-17, 29-25, 29-143o, 29-143z or 29-156a, subsection (b), (d),
245 (e), (g) or (h) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y or 29-161z, subdivision
246 (1) of section 29-198, section 29-210, 29-243 or 29-277, subsection (c) of
247 section 29-291c, section 29-316 or 29-318, subsection (b) of section 29-
248 335a, section 29-381, 30-19f, 30-48a or 30-86a, subsection (b) of section
249 30-89, subsection (c) or (d) of section 30-117, section 31-3, 31-10, 31-11,
250 31-12, 31-13, 31-14, 31-15, 31-16, 31-18, 31-23, 31-24, 31-25, 31-32, 31-36,
251 31-47 or 31-48, subsection (b) of section 31-48b, section 31-51, 31-51g, 31-
252 52, 31-52a, 31-53 or 31-54, subsection (a) or (c) of section 31-69, section
253 31-70, 31-74, 31-75, 31-76, 31-76a, 31-89b or 31-134, subsection (i) of
254 section 31-273, section 31-288, 31-348, 33-624, 33-1017, 34-13d or 34-412,
255 subdivision (1) of section 35-20, subsection (a) of section 36a-57,
256 subsection (b) of section 36a-665, section 36a-699, 36a-739, 36a-787, 38a-
257 2 or 38a-140, subsection (a) or (b) of section 38a-278, section 38a-479qq,
258 38a-479rr, 38a-506, 38a-548, 38a-626, 38a-680, 38a-713, 38a-733, 38a-764,
259 38a-786, 38a-828, 38a-829, 38a-885, 42-133hh, 42-230, 42-470 or 42-480,
260 subsection (a) or (c) of section 43-16q, section 45a-283, 45a-450, 45a-634
261 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 46a-54, section 46a-59, 46a-
262 81b, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 46b-38d, 47-34a, 47-47 or 47-53, subsection
263 (i) of section 47a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (k) of section 47a-21,
264 section 49-2a, 49-8a, 49-16, 52-143 or 52-289, subsection (j) of section 52-
265 362, section 53-133, 53-199, 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-264, 53-280, 53-
266 290a, 53-302a, 53-303e, 53-311a, 53-314, 53-321, 53-322, 53-323 or 53-331,
267 subsection (b) of section 53-343a, section 53-344, subsection (b) or (c) of
268 section 53-344b, subsection (b) of section 53-345a, section 53-377, 53-422
269 or 53-450 or subsection (i) of section 54-36a, or (2) a violation under the
270 provisions of chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any regulation adopted in
271 accordance with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 13b-410, or
272 (4) a violation of any ordinance, regulation or bylaw of any town, city or
273 borough, except violations of building codes, [and] the health code or
274 an ordinance described in subdivision (5) of this subsection, for which
275 the penalty exceeds ninety dollars but does not exceed two hundred
276 fifty dollars, unless such town, city or borough has established a
277 payment and hearing procedure for such violation pursuant to section
278 7-152c, or (5) a violation of any ordinance adopted by a town, city or

279 borough pursuant to section 14-390, as amended by this act, section 14-
280 390m, as amended by this act, or section 3 of this act for which the
281 penalty does not exceed two thousand dollars, unless such town, city or
282 borough has established a payment and hearing procedure for such
283 violation pursuant to section 7-152c, shall follow the procedures set
284 forth in this section.

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

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	14-390
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	14-390m
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-111(b)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	14-224(g)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	51-164n(b)

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Various Municipalities	Savings	See Below	See Below
Various Municipalities	Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill results in various impacts described below.

Sections 1 and 2 allows municipalities to (1) seize certain all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) that violate a local ordinance if the municipality posts a notice on their website and mails a letter to the owner or lienholder first and (2) destroy the vehicles instead of requiring them to be stored or sold at a public auction. This may result in a potential cost to municipalities to the extent that more ATVs are seized. There is also a potential savings to municipalities to the extent they no longer have to store or auction the vehicles. These sections have no impact on municipalities that have not adopted an ordinance on the operation of ATVs.

The bill also expands a provision to include all municipalities that

allows them to seize dirt bikes and mini motorcycles for violation of an ordinance. Currently this provision only applies to municipalities with a population of 20,000 or more. This results in a potential cost to municipalities that do not currently have this ordinance to the extent they establish it and seize these vehicles.

Section 3 allows municipalities to adopt an ordinance prohibiting street takeovers and allows fines to be set for the violation of this ordinance. There is a potential revenue gain to municipalities beginning in FY 25 to the extent that the ordinance is adopted, and fines are issued for violations. The section allows fines to be set up to \$1,000 for the first violations, \$1,500 for the second violations, and \$2,000 for all subsequent violations.

The section also specifies that if fines are not paid within six months the municipality can seize the vehicles. This results in a potential cost to municipalities to the extent more vehicles are seized.

Sections 4 changes the license penalties for violating a state law against illegal street racing and street takeovers which does not result in a fiscal impact.

Section 5 requires the court to impose a fine of at least \$2,000 for some violations under CGS § 14-224 which results in a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines.¹

Section 6 adds some municipal ordinance violations to the list of offenses for which fines are payable to the Centralized Infraction Bureau (CIB). This may result in a potential revenue gain from fines to the extent that municipalities create ordinances and that violations occur.

Senate "A" strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact resulting in the impact described above.

House "B" strikes the underlying bill as amended by Senate "A" and

¹ In FY 24, there was \$10,056 collected in revenue associated with charges under CGS § 14-224.

its associated fiscal impact resulting in the impacted described above.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, the number of vehicles seized, fines, penalties, and violations issued.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1284 (as amended by House "B" and Senate "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING THE ILLEGAL USE OF CERTAIN VEHICLES
AND STREET TAKEOVERS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill makes several changes in laws related to street takeovers and the illegal use of motor vehicles, including all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). Principally, it:

1. changes the license penalties for violating a state law against illegal street racing and street takeovers, including setting a two-year license suspension for a third or subsequent violation (§ 4);
2. authorizes municipalities to adopt ordinances that penalize street takeovers (§ 3);
3. allows municipalities to destroy ATVs, dirt bikes, and mini-motorcycles that are seized and forfeited for violating a municipal ordinance and allows all municipalities, not just those over a certain size, to adopt ordinances for the seizure and forfeiture of dirt bikes or mini-motorcycles for violations (§§ 1 & 2);
4. limits, to 90 days, current protections from forfeiture for ATVs, dirt bikes, and mini-motorcycles by requiring their owner or lienholder to pick them up within that timeframe (§§ 1 & 2);
5. sets a minimum \$2,000 fine for a subsequent offense of (a) evading responsibility in an accident causing property damage or (b) driving a vehicle for an illegal race, contest, demonstration, or street takeover (§ 5); and

6. requires violations of municipal ordinances regulating ATVs, snowmobiles, dirt bikes, mini-motorcycles, and street takeovers to be processed through the Centralized Infractions Bureau (see BACKGROUND), unless the municipality has established by ordinance a payment and hearing procedure for the violation that complies with state law (§ 6).

*Senate Amendment "A" moves up the effective date, from October 1, 2025, to July 1, 2025, for the provisions that (1) allow municipalities to destroy certain vehicles that are forfeited for violating a municipal ordinance and (2) limit to 30 days current protections related to these vehicles' forfeiture.

*House Amendment "B" makes several changes to the bill as amended in the Senate, including (1) changing the bill's license penalty for a third violation for street racing or street takeovers to a two-year suspension rather than permanent revocation; (2) allowing all municipalities, not just those over a certain size as under current law, to adopt ordinances for the seizure and forfeiture of dirt bikes or mini-motorcycles for violations; (3) giving owners or lienholders 90 days, rather than 30, to collect certain vehicles to avoid forfeiture; (4) allowing municipal ordinances for street takeovers to deem a vehicle forfeited if certain fines are not paid within six months; and (5) setting a \$2,000 minimum fine for certain subsequent offenses.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025, except as noted below.

§§ 1 & 2 — FORFEITURE OF ATVS, DIRT BIKES, AND MINI-MOTORCYCLES FOR MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

By law, municipalities may adopt ordinances on the operation and use of (1) ATVs, including hours and zones of use, and (2) dirt bikes and mini-motorcycles on public property, including hours of use. Subject to any bona fide lien, lease, or security interest in a vehicle, a municipal ordinance may allow the seizure and forfeiture of an ATV for a violation, and under current law, municipalities with a population of at least 20,000 may do the same for dirt bikes or mini-motorcycles. The bill

extends this latter provision to municipalities of any size, allowing all municipalities to adopt ordinances allowing for the seizure and forfeiture of dirt bikes or mini-motorcycles for violations.

Current law protects an owner or lienholder's interest when forfeiture is due to someone else's act or omission if the owner or lienholder did not know, and could not have reasonably known, that the ATV, dirt bike, or mini-motorcycle was used or intended to be used in violation of a municipal ordinance. The bill creates an exception by allowing the vehicle's forfeiture if the owner or lienholder does not collect it within 90 days after the later of when the municipality (1) posts notice on its website that the vehicle is subject to forfeiture if not collected within 90 days and (2) mails this notice to the owner or lienholder.

Current law also requires any ATV, dirt bike, or mini-motorcycle that is ordered to be forfeited under an ordinance to be sold at public auction. The bill adds an alternative to this, allowing the municipality to instead destroy the vehicle.

By law, an "all-terrain vehicle" is a self-propelled vehicle designed to travel over unimproved terrain that (1) has been determined by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) commissioner to be unsuitable for operation on public roads and (2) is ineligible for registration (CGS § 14-379).

A "dirt bike" is a two-wheeled motorized recreational vehicle (excluding ATVs and motor-driven cycles) designed to travel over unimproved terrain but not public highways (including public streets and roads).

A "mini-motorcycle" is a vehicle that (1) has no more than three wheels in contact with the ground; (2) has a manufactured seat height of less than 26 inches, measured at the lowest point on top of the seat cushion without the rider; and (3) is propelled by an engine having a piston displacement of less than 50 cubic centimeters (CGS § 14-289j).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

§ 3 — MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES PROHIBITING STREET TAKEOVERS

The bill allows any municipality to adopt an ordinance prohibiting anyone from organizing, participating in, or gathering with intent to observe and actually observing a “street takeover” (that is, taking over part of a public road or off-street parking lot open to the public by blocking or impeding regular traffic flow to cause disorder or create a nuisance to other road or lot users).

The ordinance may set fines for violating it at no more than:

1. \$1,000 for the first violation;
2. \$1,500 for the second violation; and
3. \$2,000 for subsequent violations.

Additionally, the ordinance may allow the impounding of any vehicle used for violating it until any of the following are paid: (1) a fine imposed under it; (2) related charges (e.g., towing fees); and (3) overdue property taxes on the vehicle. The ordinance may provide that the vehicle is deemed forfeited to the municipality if, six months after the vehicle’s impoundment, the owner or lienholder has failed to pay these fines and related charges.

§ 4 — LICENSE PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL STREET RACING AND STREET TAKEOVERS

The bill changes the license penalties for violating a state law that prohibits driving a motor vehicle on a public road or off-street parking lot open to the public for any race, contest, or demonstration of speed or skill or street takeover (see above). This law also prohibits (1) possessing a motor vehicle under circumstances showing an intent to use it for an illegal race, contest, or demonstration or street takeover; (2) acting as a starter, timekeeper, or judge at one; (3) betting on the outcome; or (4) knowingly inciting or recruiting anyone to participate in one

beforehand in any way, including through electronic or social media.

Under current law, whenever someone is convicted or forfeits a bond taken, or receives a suspended judgment or sentence, for violating the above law, the DMV commissioner must, without a hearing, suspend the person's driver's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in Connecticut for 30 to 90 days and, for a subsequent violation, for at least 90 days. The bill instead requires a 45-day suspension for a first and second violation and a two-year suspension for a third or subsequent violation.

§ 5 — FINE FOR CERTAIN SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES

Under existing law, it is a class D felony for a subsequent offense of (1) evading responsibility in an accident causing property damage (see BACKGROUND) or (2) driving a vehicle for an illegal race, contest, demonstration, or street takeover. A class D felony is generally punishable by a prison term of up to five years, a fine of up to \$5,000, or both. The bill requires a minimum \$2,000 fine for these offenses.

By law, for either of these, a first offense is a class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in prison, a fine of up to \$2,000, or both. Also, for driving a vehicle for an illegal race, contest, demonstration, or street takeover, a court may (1) order the vehicle to be impounded for up to 30 days if it is registered to the offender or (2) if the vehicle is registered to someone else, fine the offender up to \$2,000 for a first offense and up to \$3,000 for any subsequent offense.

BACKGROUND

Centralized Infractions Bureau

The Superior Court's Centralized Infractions Bureau processes payments or not guilty pleas for committing infractions or certain violations. Generally, anyone who is alleged to have committed an infraction or certain violations may either plead not guilty or pay by mail the set fine and any other fee or cost the law prescribes.

Evading Responsibility

By law, a motor vehicle driver who is knowingly involved in an accident that causes property damage must (1) immediately stop and render any needed assistance and (2) generally give his or her name, address, and license and registration numbers to the owner of the damaged property, any officer, or witness to the accident. If the driver is unable to give this information to any of those individuals, he or she must immediately report the damage to a municipal or state police officer, constable, or motor vehicle inspector or at the nearest police precinct or station. In the report, the driver must state the accident's location and circumstances and include the information required above. (Similar provisions apply to drivers in accidents causing personal injuries.)

Related Bill

SB 1389 (File 486), favorably reported by the Public Safety and Security Committee, allows municipalities to prohibit, by ordinance, a person from organizing, participating in, or gathering with intent to observe and actually observing a street takeover, and provides for possible forfeiture of the vehicle.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 40 Nay 1 (04/08/2025)