



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 169

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 116

Senate, March 25, 2026

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. MARONEY of the 14th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Not later than November
2 15, 2026, and the fifteenth day of each calendar month thereafter, the
3 Commissioner of Revenue Services shall disclose, in a publicly
4 accessible location on the Department of Revenue Services' Internet web
5 site, the name and address of each operator of a hotel, lodging house or
6 bed and breakfast establishment who remitted the use tax imposed
7 under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of section 12-411 of the
8 general statutes during the most recently completed calendar month.

9 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section,
10 "municipality" means any town, city, borough, consolidated town and
11 city or consolidated town and borough.

12 (b) The chief executive official of a municipality, or such official's
13 designee, shall:

14 (1) Have the power to examine, copy and audit, as such official or
15 designee deems necessary and proper, the records maintained by the
16 operator of a hotel, motel, inn or similar lodging within the municipality
17 to ensure that such operator is in compliance with the provisions of
18 sections 44-4 to 44-6, inclusive, of the general statutes and subsection (a)
19 of section 54-234a of the general statutes; and

20 (2) Have access to, and may enter and inspect, at all reasonable hours,
21 a hotel, motel, inn or similar lodging within the municipality, and each
22 location where records relating thereto are kept, as may be necessary for
23 such official or designee to exercise such official's or designee's powers
24 under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

25 (c) (1) A municipality may, by ordinance adopted by its legislative
26 body or, where the legislative body is a town meeting, by the board of
27 selectmen:

28 (A) Authorize the chief executive official of the municipality, or such
29 official's designee, to issue an order prohibiting the operation of any
30 hotel, motel, inn or similar lodging within such municipality that is
31 found to be in violation of any provision of sections 44-4 to 44-6,
32 inclusive, of the general statutes or subsection (a) of section 54-234a of
33 the general statutes; and

34 (B) Establish a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars
35 per violation of any provision of sections 44-4 to 44-6, inclusive, of the
36 general statutes or subsection (a) of section 54-234a of the general
37 statutes.

38 (2) Any ordinance adopted under subdivision (1) of this subsection
39 shall provide for notice and an opportunity for a hearing prior to the
40 issuance of an order, or imposition of a civil penalty, under such
41 ordinance.

42 (3) Any person who is aggrieved by an order issued, or assessed a
43 civil penalty imposed, under an ordinance adopted under subdivision
44 (1) of this subsection may appeal therefrom to the superior court for the

45 judicial district in which the municipality is located.

46 (4) The remedies and penalties authorized under subdivision (1) of
47 this subsection shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to any other
48 penalties and remedies available at law, or in equity, to any person.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | October 1, 2026 | New section |
| Sec. 2 | October 1, 2026 | New section |

GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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: None

Municipal Impact:

| Municipalities | Effect | FY 27 \$ | FY 28 \$ |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| All Municipalities | Potential Revenue Gain | See Below | See Below |

Explanation

The bill (1) requires the Department of Revenue Services (DRS) to disclose certain information on its website monthly and (2) allows municipalities to regulate lodging facilities, including an optional \$5,000 civil penalty for the violation of certain laws.

The bill may result in a potential revenue gain to municipalities beginning in FY 27 to the extent a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 is set for violating an ordinance that requires certain hotels and inns to perform record-keeping, training, and other activities aimed at preventing human trafficking. Any revenue gain is dependent on if a municipality adopts an ordinance with a civil penalty, the amount the penalty is set for, and the number of violations.

The bill also allows certain municipal employees to examine various lodging records which is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to municipalities.

The requirement that DRS disclose the names and addresses of hotel, lodging house, and bed and breakfast operators that paid state use taxes during the last completed calendar month does not result in any fiscal

impact as the amount of use taxes paid by such facilities is low.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject the amount and number of civil penalties.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 116****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.****SUMMARY**

This bill makes three changes related to the prevention of human trafficking. It:

1. requires the Department of Revenue Services to disclose on its website by the 15th of each month, beginning by November 15, 2026, the names and addresses of hotel, lodging house, and bed and breakfast operators that paid state use taxes during the last completed calendar month;
2. authorizes a municipality's chief executive officer (CEO), or the CEO's designee, to (a) examine, copy, and audit hotel, motel, inn, or lodging records to ensure compliance with certain laws, and (b) enter locations to access the records; and
3. permits a municipality to adopt an ordinance that (a) authorizes its CEO to issue an order prohibiting a hotel, motel, inn, or lodging from operating due to a violation of these same laws and (b) sets a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for these violations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

MUNICIPAL CEO ACCESS TO RECORDS

The bill authorizes a municipality's CEO, or the CEO's designee, to examine, copy, and audit hotel, motel, inn, or lodging records to ensure compliance with:

1. record-keeping requirements for guest transactions and receipts (CGS § 44-4),
2. requirements for training new employees and providing them

with ongoing awareness campaigns about recognizing potential human trafficking victims and activities commonly associated with human trafficking (operators must certify that employees received this training in their personnel files) (CGS § 44-5),

- 3. the law prohibiting financial discounts or benefits based on an hourly rate or occupancy for up to 12 hours (CGS § 44-6), and
- 4. the requirement to post a notice in a conspicuous location about services for human trafficking victims and anti-trafficking telephone hotlines (CGS § 54-234a(a)).

The bill permits the municipal CEO to enter and inspect the premises and other locations where relevant records may be kept at reasonable hours as necessary for this purpose.

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE

The bill permits a municipality to adopt an ordinance that:

- 1. allows its CEO, or the CEO’s designee, to issue an order prohibiting a hotel, motel, inn, or lodging from operating due to a violation of one the laws described above;
- 2. sets a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for these violations; and
- 3. requires notice and a hearing before imposing one of these orders or civil penalties.

The bill allows a person to appeal an order or civil penalty under this ordinance to court. It provides that the ordinance’s provisions are in addition to any other penalties and remedies that may be available to anyone.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
 Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/11/2026)