



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 304**

February Session, 2026

Senate Bill No. 406

*Senate, April 1, 2026*

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. GASTON of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISPLAY OF LIGHTED LAMPS ON BICYCLES, ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 14-288 of the 2026 supplement to  
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4 (a) Each bicycle, electric bicycle or electric scooter operated upon the  
5 public highway [, during the times or under the conditions as provided  
6 in subsection (a) of section 14-96a,] shall display a lighted lamp upon  
7 the forward part of such bicycle, electric bicycle or electric scooter (1) at  
8 any time from a half-hour before sunset to a half-hour after sunrise, (2)  
9 at any time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric  
10 conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly  
11 discernible at a distance of five hundred feet ahead, and (3) at any time  
12 during periods of precipitation, including, but not limited to, periods of  
13 snow, rain or fog. Such lamp shall, when lighted, emit a white light  
14 which in clear weather shall be visible at a distance of not less than five

15 hundred feet in the direction in which such bicycle, electric bicycle or  
 16 electric scooter is proceeding. Each bicycle, electric bicycle or electric  
 17 scooter shall also, at all times, be equipped with a reflector or reflecting  
 18 tail light lens, which reflector or lens shall be attached to the rear of such  
 19 bicycle, electric bicycle or electric scooter in such manner as to reflect  
 20 rays of light thrown upon the same, and such reflector or reflecting tail  
 21 shall be visible at a distance of not less than six hundred feet from the  
 22 rear when illuminated by the head lamps of a motor vehicle. Such  
 23 bicycle, electric bicycle or electric scooter shall also be equipped with  
 24 reflective material so placed and of sufficient size and reflectivity to be  
 25 visible from both sides of such bicycle, electric bicycle or electric scooter  
 26 at a distance of not less than six hundred feet when illuminated by the  
 27 head lamps of a motor vehicle. Each bicycle, electric bicycle or electric  
 28 scooter shall also, at all times, be equipped with a braking device  
 29 sufficient to enable the operator thereof to stop within twenty-five feet  
 30 on dry, level and clean pavement when moving at a speed of ten miles  
 31 per hour. No person shall equip a bicycle, an electric bicycle or an  
 32 electric scooter with a siren or device which emits a whistle or use a siren  
 33 or device which emits a whistle while operating a bicycle, an electric  
 34 bicycle or an electric scooter.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	14-288(a)

**PS**      *Joint Favorable*

*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.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
State Resources	GF&TF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF&TF=General Fund & Transportation Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill, which requires certain small vehicles to display a lighted lamp when operating on public highways at certain times, results in a minimal potential revenue gain to the extent new offenses are committed and fines are collected.<sup>1</sup>

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of offenses and fines collected.

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<sup>1</sup> Between FY 22 and FY 25, 17 offenses were recorded under CGS § 14-288 and \$368 in fines was collected.

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 406*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISPLAY OF LIGHTED LAMPS ON BICYCLES, ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill lengthens the time period when bicycles, electric bicycles, and electric scooters operated on a public road must display a lighted lamp on the front of the vehicle. Current law requires their display at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise. The bill instead requires it at any time from a half-hour before sunset to a half-hour after sunrise.

Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, these vehicles must also display the light:

1. when, due to poor light or weather conditions, riders cannot see people and vehicles on the road at 500 feet ahead of them and
2. during precipitation, including snow, rain, or fog.

By law and under the bill, a violation of these provisions is an infraction (CGS § 14-288(b)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

**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.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/17/2026)