

## Public Safety and Security Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** SB-366 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

**Title:** AN ACT CONCERNING THE UNIFORM INVESTIGATION OF ACCIDENT REPORT AND CERTAIN REPORTS BY PEACE OFFICERS.

**Vote Date:** 3/17/2026

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 3/5/2026

**File No.:**

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Public Safety and Security Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill would require a motor vehicle accident report to be made available no later than 30 days after the completion of the investigation. The bill would also require a peace officer to provide, upon request, a report describing any matter in which a person experiences an emergency medical condition while in direct contact with a peace officer. This bill was raised in order to better improve reporting of medical incidents relating to peace officers and to allow for better accumulation of data for motor vehicle accidents.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

#### [Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services:](#)

Commissioner Navarretta submitted testimony in opposition of the bill. She states that the DMHAS is a health care agency with the mission of promoting the wellness of adult persons, and it is also a division of safety services, which comprises police force building and grounds patrol officers, and dispatchers. She states that Section 2 of this bill adds a subsection to CGS 7-294pp that requires a peace officer to complete a report no later than five days for any matter in which a person experiences a medical emergency.

She expressed concerns about subsection (e) stating it makes it unclear if what is laid out in subsections (c) and (d) only applies to instances where an immediate request for emergency services was made or every circumstance in which a peace officer encounters these

individuals. She adds that subsections (c) and (d) are critical for an officer to perform their jobs properly.

**Ronnell A. Higgins, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection:** Commissioner Higgins wrote in testimony in opposition of the bill. He expressed concern over the proposed five-day requirement for completing and producing reports. He stated that with the current volume of calls for service and the staffing shortage this will place a strain on law enforcement agencies. He also adds that additional reporting deadlines under these conditions increases the likelihood of delays or compliance issues. He stated that when EMS is present, law enforcement serves in a support role, and reports are not routinely required. He specifically expressed concern with subsection (g) of section 29-6d which prevents a law enforcement officer from recording a person undergoing a medical or psychological evaluation unless responding to a call involving a suspect to a crime. Commissioner Higgins states that a body camera is an important component of police reporting and would impact the quality of reporting.

#### **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

**Martin M. Looney, Senate President Pro Tempore, Connecticut General Assembly:** Senator Looney submitted testimony in support of the bill. He states that Public Act 23-192 requires the provision of emergency medical services to a person who is medically unstable while in contact with law enforcement. He adds that Section 2(e) of this bill requires reporting of these incidents, which will allow tracking of how often these instances occur.

**Ronald Arky, Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School:** Mr. Arky testified in support of the bill. He states that the bill could lead to uniform reporting and facilitate a study of the implementation of Senate Bill 1062, enacted in 2023. He claims that throughout his time as a teacher he has seen several times where delayed emergency care for persons in custody led to poor medical outcomes. He adds that for many years there was a lack of clarity regarding the duty of a peace officer when a person experiences a medical crisis.

**Frederick Brown, Honorable, Medical Civil Rights Initiative:** Mr. Brown is in support of the bill. He states that in 2024 the New England Journal of Medicine regarding the limits in data reporting requirements in all U.S. jurisdictions was published. He adds that these limitations disallow a study of the implementation of Senate Bill 1062 and rely almost exclusively on mortality data. He states that this bill will resolve these limits.

**Deborah H. Dluhy, Medical Civil Rights Initiative:** Ms. Dluhy is in support of the bill. She states the bill will require the uniform reporting of medical emergencies during law enforcement interactions, both in the field and in correctional settings. She claims the bill will ensure that there is objective reporting around the handling of medical emergencies during law enforcement interactions. She states Connecticut would be the first state to do so. She adds it could allow for the implementation of Senate Bill 1062.

**Leonore A. Dluhy, Executive Director, Medical Civil Rights Initiative:** Ms. Dluhy is in support of the bill. She states that the bill would require uniform reporting regarding the timing and handling of medical crises and would allow for the implementation of Senate Bill 1062. She adds that Connecticut would be the first state to do this. She claims that the bill along with Senate Bill 1062 would prevent deaths and poor medical outcomes and increase trust in

law enforcement. She adds that according to the New England Journal of Medicine, little is known about emergency medical care that people receive during law enforcement contact because it cannot be studied. She claims that if reporting were required, along with an expansion of the National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS) data dictionary, the medical crises could be studied.

**Barbara Donnellan, Board Member, Medical Civil Rights Initiative:** Ms. Donnellan wrote in testimony in support of the bill. She states that data regarding medical emergencies during law enforcement interactions cannot be easily studied, which is why she believes that this bill is important. She adds that the bill also allows for amendments to the EMS data dictionary.

**Erica Swan:** Ms. Swan is in support of the bill. She states that there have been many cases in which individuals in custody have died during medical emergencies and there has been no explanation for it. She draws from her own personal experience and shares that her cousin died while in police custody and they never got answers. She claims that the bill is an important step towards ensuring that incidents involving peace officers are properly documented and investigated.

**Lane Magwood:** Ms. Magwood is in support of the bill. She claims that standardized reporting is essential for transparency, accountability, and accurate data collection. She adds that it also improves investigations and makes for better decision-making. She also believes that it will reduce confusion between jurisdictions and will create consistency because it ensures similar incidents are documented in the same manner across departments.

**Dinetta Robinson Scott:** Ms. Scott is in support of the bill. She states that her son experienced a medical emergency while in police custody and still today the details are unclear. She believes that his death is one of many deaths that could have been prevented. She states that she believes that the study proposed in S.B. 1062 and the requirements in S.B. 366 will allow the public to better understand the nature of the handling of these medical emergencies and allow better policy to be made around it.

**Stephen Wright, Harvard Med School:** Mr. Wright is in support of the bill. He states that Connecticut would be the first state to enact legislation like this. He believes that uniform reporting is important. He adds that he thinks the data could lead to reasoned, data-driven decisions.

#### **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None Expressed.

#### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

**Joshua Kelly, CEO, CT Yankee National Party:** Mr. Kelly provided testimony for reasons unrelated to the bill.

**Naomi Jo Taylor:** Ms. Taylor wrote testimony for reasons unrelated to the bill.

**Reported by:** Emma Rybacki, Clerk  
Olivia Buczak, Assist. Clerk

**Date:** 3/26/26