

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 26-100—sHB 5222
General Law Committee
Judiciary Committee

**AN ACT CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION, CANNABIS, DATA
PRIVACY, FIRE INSPECTIONS, CRIMINAL MISCHIEF AND
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

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Eliminates the requirement under PA 26-15, § 33, that DCP enter into a MOU with each independent verification organization applicant to ensure compliance with state laws on AI and data privacy and instead requires the applicant to perform substantially similar functions; modifies certain program application requirements; and lengthens the pilot program duration and delays the start date

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OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

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Eliminates a provision in PA 26-8 that exempted CBN, CBG, CBC, or any other minor cannabinoid derived from hemp as being cannabis

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Modifies a provision in PA 26-8 by (1) making a review mandatory, once requested; (2) allowing, after the review, the council to refer an equity joint venture to DCP for enforcement action; and (3) changing certain deadlines; also adds provisions that (1) prohibit social equity applicants from entering into certain agreements that may limit control and (2) require annual reporting and recordkeeping by certain cannabis establishments that get approval from the council

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Requires cannabis testing laboratories to perform real-time uploads to the prescription drug monitoring program and makes a conforming change

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Makes several clarifying, conforming, and technical changes to implement PA 26-8

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Modifies the “streaming video services” definition to apply it to a person (individual or entity) who provides programming or content, rather than a service, as under PA 26-64, § 20

§ 59 — 30-DAY CREDIT LIMIT

Prohibits a cannabis establishment from borrowing money or receiving credit, directly or indirectly in any form, for more than 30 days from a cannabis testing laboratory

§§ 60 & 61 — RISK-BASED RESIDENTIAL FIRE INSPECTION PILOT PROGRAM AND WORKING GROUP

Requires the state fire marshal to create a two-year risk-based residential fire inspection pilot program to improve the scheduling, documentation, and prioritization of fire inspections of residential buildings designed to be occupied by more than two families; creates a working group to advise her on developing and implementing the pilot program

§ 62 — JUICE BAR RESTRICTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Imposes new restrictions on juice bars and requirements on cafe permittees, including allowing local ordinances to prohibit or regulate juice bar operations

§§ 63 & 64 — CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR INTENTIONAL DAMAGE TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Expands the crimes of 1st and 2nd degree criminal mischief to broadly include intentionally damaging certain tangible property of others, including public services and systems

§ 65 — REGISTRATION AND COMPLIANCE BY HOTEL AND MOTEL OPERATORS

Requires up to \$250,000 appropriated to the attorney general for FY 27 be transferred to DCP for the costs of registering and ensuring compliance by hotel and motel operators, among others

SUMMARY: This act makes various changes, as described in the section-by-section analysis below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Various, see below.

§§ 1 & 8 — INTERIOR DESIGNER CONTINUING EDUCATION

Eliminates registered interior designer continuing education requirements

The act eliminates (1) the requirement that registered interior designers complete four hours of continuing education every three years on the state building and fire safety codes and (2) related recordkeeping provisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 2-4 — LICENSING PERIOD AND FEES FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

Extends the licensing period for professional engineers and land surveyors from one to two years and correspondingly increases licensing fees; eliminates the renewal category for retired professionals

The act extends the licensing period for professional engineers and land surveyors from one to two years. Correspondingly, it increases the (1) initial licensing fee for one of these licenses or a combined license from \$220 to \$440 and (2) license renewal fee from \$285 to \$570. The act eliminates the option for licensees aged 65 and over who no longer practice the profession to renew their license for a \$60 annual fee.

The act also increases the reciprocal licensing fee for a professional engineer, land surveyor, or combined license for a person with a comparable license from another jurisdiction from \$190 to \$380.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§ 5 — COMPLETING REAL ESTATE LICENSURE EXAM

Generally requires applicants for a real estate broker or salesperson license to successfully complete the required final exam for the license within two years of applying for the license

The act requires applicants for a real estate broker or salesperson license to successfully complete the required final exam for the license within two years of applying for the license unless the Real Estate Commission grants a hardship extension on the applicant's written request.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§ 6 — SCOPE OF PLUMBING AND PIPING WORK

Expands the definition of plumbing and piping work to include work related to alternative fuels and petroleum-based products

For purposes of licensing, the act expands what is considered plumbing and piping work. Under existing law, among other things, this work includes installing, repairing, replacing, altering, maintaining, inspecting, or testing gas, water, and associated fixtures, tubing, and piping mains and certain branch lines. The act also includes these activities related to alternative fuels and petroleum-based products.
EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 7 — TRADE BUSINESSES DESIGNATING A CONTRACTOR OF RECORD

Requires a business that provides certain trade services to designate someone to serve as its contractor of record

The act requires a business that provides certain trade services to designate someone to serve as its contractor of record. This applies to businesses such as those providing services requiring licensed electricians; plumbers; solar, heating, piping, and cooling contractors and journeymen; elevator and fire protection sprinkler craftsmen; irrigation contractors and journeymen; gas hearth installer contractors and journeymen; and residential stair lift technicians.

Under the act, the contractor of record must be:

1. licensed and in good standing to perform work or services provided by the business;
2. one of the business's owners or direct employees (someone whose work is subject to the business's control; has compensation reported on a federal Form W-2; and is not an independent contractor, subcontractor, or consultant);
3. regularly engaged in the business when it is providing work or services requiring licensure; and
4. responsible for acting on the business's behalf to get building permits for the business.

A person who is a direct employee can only serve as a contractor of record for one business at a time.

The business must, in a way set by the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP), inform DCP about (1) the designated contractor's name, phone number, and email address and (2) any change to this information or to who is the designated contractor of record, within 10 days after the change.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 9 — HOMEMAKER COMPANION AGENCY EMPLOYEE BACKGROUND CHECKS

Specifies that a state and national, rather than local and national, criminal records check is required for homemaker companion agency employees

OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

The act specifies that a state and national, rather than local and national, criminal records check is required for homemaker companion agency employees.
EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 10 — ADULTERATED OR MISBRANDED FOOD

Broadly extends to establishments certain provisions on adulterated or misbranded food in vending machines and specifically allows DCP to prohibit establishments from selling adulterated or misbranded food until the conditions are remedied

The act extends to establishments the prohibitions that currently apply to vending machines on selling adulterated or misbranded food, beverages, or ingredients (the law already prohibits sale of adulterated or misbranded foods under the state uniform food, drug, and cosmetic act). The act specifies that the definition of “adulterated” in the state uniform food, drug, and cosmetic act applies to this provision.

Prior law allowed DCP to impound and forbid the sale of adulterated or misbranded food or beverages in a vending machine after written notice. The act allows these actions if they protect public health and safety, applies them to establishments, and permits DCP to prohibit an establishment from selling or offering adulterated or misbranded food or beverages until the conditions that caused the issue and are likely to do so in the future are remedied.

Under existing law, after a hearing, DCP can have food or beverages from a vending machine destroyed or released for relabeling if that would correct the problem. The act also applies these provisions to establishments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§ 11 — DONATION BIN LABELS

Requires donation bins in public places that are for charities to include the charity’s DCP registration number

By law, the label on a charitable donation bin that collects clothing or other articles in a public place must have a label stating (1) the name of the nonprofit organization that benefits from the donation, (2) the name and contact information of its owner, and (3) that the public can contact DCP for more information. The act also requires the label to include the charity’s DCP registration number.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§§ 12 & 69 — APARTMENT LISTING SERVICES

Eliminates provisions on apartment listing services

The act eliminates provisions on apartment listing services, which are services that, for a fee, let customers use a listing of apartments for rent (it appears that no one holds this credential). Among other things, it eliminates requirements for

registration, notice to customers, listing contents, and prohibited conduct.
EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 13-21 & 69 — GUARANTY FUNDS

Transfers responsibility for the Real Estate Guaranty Fund to DCP; specifies when interest accrues on awards from various funds; requires an applicant for an award from the Home Improvement Guaranty Fund to state that he or she made a good faith effort to collect what is owed before receiving a fund payment

The act makes a number of changes to various guaranty funds, including:

1. transferring, from the Real Estate Commission to DCP, responsibility for maintaining and operating the Real Estate Guaranty Fund, and making conforming and technical changes to fund procedures (§§ 13-18 & 69);
2. specifying that the interest charged to a person who caused harm resulting in an award from the Real Estate Guaranty Fund, New Home Construction Guaranty Fund, Home Improvement Guaranty Fund, or Health Club Guaranty Fund accrues until DCP refers the unpaid amount to the Department of Administrative Services for collection (under existing law, interest generally begins accruing when a fund makes a payment) (§§ 16 & 19-21); and
3. requiring an applicant for an award from the Home Improvement Guaranty Fund to submit a signed, sworn statement that he or she made a good faith effort to collect what is owed before receiving a payment from the fund and changes some of the provisions on repayments to the fund (§ 20).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

Real Estate Guaranty Fund Conforming Changes (§§ 15 & 18)

PA 25- 111, § 5, allowed someone to apply to the Real Estate Guaranty Fund based on an arbitration decision, administrative decision, or a court order or decree, in addition to a court judgment, which was already allowed. This act makes conforming changes to require, as with court judgments under existing law, that someone applying to the fund based on a binding arbitration decision or court order or decree apply within (1) two years after the final determination or (2) the end of the time to appeal. The act also makes similar changes regarding the fund's ability to recover payments based on each of these events, and not just judgments.

Home Improvement Guaranty Fund (§ 20)

The act requires an applicant for an award from the Home Improvement Guaranty Fund to provide a signed, sworn statement that he or she made a good faith effort to collect what the home improvement contractor or proprietor (an owner of a business that is or was a registered home improvement contractor) owes using court procedures. This does not apply when the application is based on a small claims court judgment, order, or decree against the contractor or proprietor. The act specifies that a good faith effort can include a writ of execution if the

application includes a statement from the officer executing a writ of execution indicating:

1. that the officer could not find sufficient funds in a contractor's or proprietor's bank account or from levying their personal property to satisfy the actual damages under the court ruling and
2. the amount collected and the amount remaining due.

Under prior law, after payment from the fund based on a decision or court ruling against a proprietor, the proprietor and the business entity that is or was registered were both liable to repay the fund. The act instead makes either an individual or a business entity that is or was registered liable based on a decision or court ruling against that individual or entity.

Under existing law, if the DCP commissioner revokes a contractor's registration after making a payment from the fund based on a claim against the contractor, DCP cannot issue the contractor a registration until the contractor repays the fund with interest. The act also prohibits registering an individual with an ownership interest in a business entity that has or had a registration until the contractor or individual repays the fund with interest.

Background — Guaranty Funds

The law establishes certain funds, such as the Real Estate Guaranty Fund, New Home Construction Guaranty Fund, Home Improvement Guaranty Fund, and Health Club Guaranty Fund, to pay consumers harmed by certain licensees' or permittees' conduct. Consumers can generally apply to one of these funds to recover damages awarded in an arbitration decision or a court proceeding against the licensee or permittee that the consumer has been unable to recover from the licensee or permittee. Generally, the licensee or permittee must pay back the fund for the amount the fund pays the consumer plus interest.

§ 22 — OUT-OF-STATE SHIPPERS' PERMITS

Defines "retailer" for the purposes of certain out-of-state shippers' permits

By law, certain out-of-state retailers may get an out-of-state retailer shipper's permit for wine to sell and ship directly to a Connecticut consumer, with various requirements (for example, certain labeling and age verification requirements and shipment limits).

The act defines "retailer" for purposes of certain out-of-state shippers' permits as any business entity that (1) primarily sells alcoholic liquor in sealed bottles or other containers for off-premises consumption and (2) holds a retailer permit issued by the alcohol beverage authority in its home state.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§§ 23 & 24 — PLACARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN LIQUOR PERMITTEES

OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

Limits the requirement that certain alcoholic liquor permit applications describe the live entertainment provided to those allowing on-premises consumption; makes a clarifying change related to amending existing entertainment; exempts café permits in airports from the placarding requirements

Live Entertainment

The act limits the requirement that alcoholic liquor permit applicants include in their applications a detailed description of their live entertainment to only those applying for permits for on-premises serving or consumption.

Prior law required alcoholic liquor permittees seeking to amend the entertainment type they provide to follow the same placarding requirements that applied to applicants for certain liquor permits. The act specifies that this placarding requirement only applies to permittees seeking to amend the live entertainment they provide. As under existing law, this filing or request requires municipal zoning approval.

Cafe Permits in Airports

The act also exempts cafe permits in airports from the placarding requirements but removes the \$100 initial application filing fee exemption.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§ 25 — AGE STATEMENT FORM RELIEVING PERMITTEE OF CERTAIN LIABILITY

Requires alcoholic liquor permittees or backers who get an age statement form from a customer whose age is in question to have acted reasonably in serving or providing alcohol to the person in order to not be liable for serving a minor

By law, if alcoholic liquor permittees are unsure of a person's age, they must have the person fill out and sign an age statement form in which the customer states that he or she (1) is over age 21, (2) knows that the law prohibits alcohol sales to someone younger, and (3) knows the penalty for willful age misrepresentation. Getting this form relieves the permittee of liability for serving to a minor if the permittee is later charged, and (1) introduces the statement in the proceedings and (2) shows that the proof of age evidence the permittee was given would convince a reasonable person of the purchaser's age.

The act additionally requires the (1) permittee or backer to have otherwise acted reasonably in serving or giving alcohol to the minor to have this relief from liability and (2) statement the person fills out to include the city and state where the person was born.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

§ 26 — BABY FOOD PRODUCTS

Beginning January 1, 2028, prohibits making, selling, or distributing a baby food product containing toxic heavy metal amounts above FDA limits; requires product testing and labeling

OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

The act, beginning January 1, 2028:

1. prohibits making, selling, or distributing a baby food product containing a toxic heavy metal (such as arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury) in an amount exceeding a limit set by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA);
2. requires manufacturers to (a) have laboratories test baby food product samples monthly for toxic heavy metals and (b) publish on their websites information about the amount of each toxic heavy metal found in their baby food products and a link to FDA information on these metals; and
3. requires manufacturers of baby food products tested for a toxic heavy metal that has an FDA action level, regulatory limit, or tolerance to display on the product container (see *Background — FDA's Closer to Zero Program*) a way to access a webpage with test results and a link to FDA information on these metals.

Under the act, a “baby food product” is a food, other than water or infant formula, made, packaged, labeled, and sold in a container for children under age two.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

Testing

The act requires baby food product manufacturers that make or intend to sell or distribute these products in the state to have a laboratory test them for toxic heavy metals at least monthly. The lab must (1) be accredited under certain standards of the International Organization for Standardization or International Electrotechnical Commission, (2) use analytical methods that satisfy the FDA’s “Elemental Analysis Manual for Food and Related Products,” and (3) be able to quantify each toxic heavy metal concentration to at least six micrograms out of a kilogram of food using certain scientific and statistical methods.

The lab must test a representative sample of each final product’s production aggregate, which is an amount of the product made under a master manufacturing order and intended to be uniform in composition, character, and quality. The lab can perform the test before packaging the product for distribution or sale.

The act requires manufacturers to keep test results for at least 36 months.

Manufacturer’s Required Website Posting

The act requires baby food product manufacturers to post the following on their websites until 30 days after a product’s shelf life expires:

1. the name and amount of any toxic heavy metal in the product found through testing;
2. information that allows a reasonable customer to identify the product, such as its name, universal product code, or lot or batch number; and
3. a link to the FDA’s webpage with information and guidance on how toxic heavy metals affect children’s health.

Product Containers

The act requires the manufacturer of a baby food product tested for a toxic heavy metal to include the following on the product container if it is subject to an FDA action level, regulatory limit, or tolerance or another standard set by federal regulations:

1. a quick response (QR) or other machine-readable code directing consumers to a page on the manufacturer’s website or the product information page with the testing results and a link to the FDA’s webpage for information and guidance on how toxic heavy metals affect children’s health and
2. in a clear, legible, and conspicuous way: “For Information About Toxic Element Testing On This Product, Scan the QR Code.”

Background — FDA’s Closer to Zero Program

The FDA’s Closer to Zero program examines exposure to contaminants in food eaten by babies and young children. FDA research, evaluation, and regulatory processes on lead, arsenic, cadmium, and mercury in these foods are ongoing.

In January 2025, the FDA issued industry guidance and the following action levels for lead in processed food for babies and young children:

1. 10 parts per billion (ppb) for fruits, vegetables (excluding single-ingredient root vegetables), mixtures (including grain- and meat-based mixtures), yogurts, custards, puddings, and single-ingredient meats and
2. 20 ppb for single-ingredient root vegetables and dry infant cereals.

The FDA states that (1) action levels are a level of contamination where food may be considered adulterated and (2) it considers these levels, along with other factors, when deciding whether to bring an enforcement action.

§§ 27 & 28 — USED MOTOR VEHICLE WARRANTIES

Extends the statutory used vehicle warranty requirements to all vehicles that are less than 10 years old, regardless of price, rather than those that cost \$3,000 or more or are less than seven years old; requires these vehicles to have the required express warranty for at least 60 days or 3,000 miles, whichever ends first

The act extends the statutory used vehicle warranty requirements to all vehicles that are less than 10 years old, regardless of price, rather than those that cost \$3,000 or more or are less than seven years old. The act also requires these vehicles to have the required express warranty for at least 60 days or 3,000 miles, whichever ends first. Under prior law, the express warranty had to cover a used vehicle for (1) at least 30 days or 1,500 miles, whichever ended first, if it cost between \$3,000 and \$5,000, and (2) at least 60 days or 3,000 miles, whichever ends first, if it cost \$5,000 or more.

As under prior law, dealers may not exclude, modify, disclaim, or limit implied warranties on these vehicles, and they must include an express warranty in each sales contract for these vehicles that covers the full cost of both parts and labor for

repairs during the required time or mileage, excluding damage from an accident or consumer misuse.

Prior law also only allowed used car dealers to sell a used car “as is” if its cash purchase price was less than \$3,000 or if the car was seven years or older. The act eliminates the purchase price option and increases the minimum age to 10 years.

As under existing law, dealers violating the warranty provisions may have their license suspended by the motor vehicles commissioner and be subject to a fine of up to \$5,000 per violation (CGS § 42-226a).

The act also makes minor, technical, and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§ 29 — TASK FORCE ON DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS AND OVER-THE-COUNTER DIET PILLS

Establishes a task force to study the sale of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building and over-the-counter diet pills

The act establishes an 11-person task force to study the sale of dietary supplements for weight loss or muscle building and over-the-counter diet pills. The study must address:

1. dietary supplements labeled, marketed, or represented as achieving weight loss or muscle building, but not (a) protein powders or drinks or (b) foods marketed as having protein, unless the powder, food, or drink has another ingredient that, on its own, is a dietary supplement for weight loss or muscle building, and
2. over-the-counter diet pills that are (a) drugs labeled, marketed, or represented as achieving weight loss or muscle building and (b) available over the counter with or without a prescription under federal law.

The act requires the task force to consist of:

1. the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity’s executive director, who serves as task force chairperson;
2. the commissioners of consumer protection and public health, or their designees;
3. two members appointed by the House speaker, one with expertise in the safety of applicable dietary supplements and one with expertise in the safety of applicable over-the-counter pills;
4. two members appointed by the Senate president pro tempore; and
5. one each appointed by the House and Senate majority and minority leaders.

The act allows appointed members to be legislators, requires appointments to be made by July 2, 2026, and directs the appointing authorities to fill vacancies.

The chairperson must schedule and hold the first meeting by August 1, 2026, and the General Law Committee’s administrative staff serves as the task force’s administrative staff.

The act requires the task force to report to the General Law Committee by January 1, 2027. The report must include research on the safety of these items by user age, whether their sale to minors should be restricted, and other states’ best practices for regulating them.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 30-32 — ENTERTAINMENT EVENT TICKETS

Makes numerous changes related to entertainment event ticketing

The act makes a number of changes related to entertainment event tickets, including:

1. prohibiting a ticket reseller from offering or engaging in a ticket resale unless the reseller has (a) actual or constructive possession of the ticket or (b) a written contract with the entertainment venue operator to get the ticket from the operator (specific provisions apply to sports season or series tickets or performing arts subscriptions);
2. making minor and technical changes to the types of tickets subject to the total ticket price disclosure requirements and adjusting the timing of when a price disclosure is required and when a ticket price may not increase;
3. requiring ticket sellers and resellers to refund the total price of a ticket to a cancelled live event;
4. unless authorized, generally prohibiting advertising or facilitating the sale or resale of entertainment event tickets on a website domain or subdomain that contains the venue's, event's, or performer's name, or a substantially similar name; and
5. making violations of these provisions a Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA) violation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2027

Ticket Resales (§ 30)

The act prohibits a ticket reseller from offering or engaging in any sale of a ticket after its initial sale unless the reseller has (1) actual or constructive possession of the ticket or (2) a written contract with the entertainment venue operator to get the ticket from the operator.

These provisions apply to tickets to entertainment (1) events (including artistic performances, sporting events, and places of amusement, but not movies) and (2) venues (such as an arena, hall, place of amusement, stadium, or theater, but not a movie theater).

Under the act, a “ticket reseller” is an individual or business entity that makes a ticket available for resale, including an authorized agent or employee acting within their authority. It does not include:

1. an entertainment venue operator, which is an individual or entity that owns, operates, or controls an entertainment venue, and their authorized agents and employees acting within their authority or
2. a ticket seller, which is an individual or entity who makes a ticket available for its initial sale (the first sale to a purchaser or ticket reseller), including their authorized agents and employees acting within their authority and entertainment venue operators.

Season, Series, and Subscription Tickets. The act permits the initial purchaser

of sports season or series tickets (including professional and intercollegiate competitions) to resell a ticket to an individual event that is part of the season or series if the individual or entity:

1. is not in the business of selling or reselling entertainment event tickets;
2. has actual or constructive possession of the ticket; and
3. discloses to the purchaser, before the purchase, the identity and date of the event and where the ticket entitles the person to sit or stand during the event.

The act permits an individual or entity, such as an entertainment venue operator, to offer and sell to subscribers:

1. tickets to a season or series of artistic performances (such as concerts, operas, and theater, but not movies) that are not individually priced when initially sold or
2. the right to purchase tickets to a set number of artistic performances during a season or series (but one of these tickets cannot be resold until it is issued to the initial purchaser or assigned for a performance, date, and seating or standing location).

Websites Used by Entertainment Event Ticket Sellers and Resellers (§ 31)

The act prohibits anyone from advertising or facilitating the sale or resale of an entertainment event ticket on a website with a domain or subdomain that contains the:

1. venue's name or a substantially similar one, except a venue operator or someone with the operator's express written consent to use the name;
2. event's name or a substantially similar one, except an individual or entity (a) responsible for organizing financing or publicity for the event, or their authorized agents or employees acting within their authority, or (b) with the express written consent of the individual, entity, agent, or employee to use the name; or
3. name of an individual or group scheduled for the event, or a substantially similar name, except (a) the individual, group, or their agents or employees acting within their authority, or (b) someone with the express written consent of the individual, group, agent, or employee to use the name.

Ticket Price Disclosures and Price Changes (§ 32)

Generally, the law requires an advertisement of ticket prices to conspicuously disclose the total price for each ticket and the dollar amount that represents a service charge (an administrative fee, service fee, surcharge, or other fee or charge using substantially similar terms). Individuals and entities facilitating the sale or resale of a ticket must also disclose the total price, as well as the amount of any included service charges.

The act requires that the price disclosure be made when the ticket is initially offered for sale or resale to a purchaser, instead of when the ticket is selected for purchase.

The law also prohibits increasing a ticket price during a specified period of time.

Previously, the total price could not increase between when a ticket was selected for purchase and when it was purchased. The act instead begins this period when the ticket is initially offered for sale or resale to a purchaser.

Online Ticket Resales. The act requires anyone that advertises or facilitates the resale of an entertainment event ticket on a website or online platform primarily intended for reselling these tickets to clearly and conspicuously disclose that (1) the ticket is being resold and (2) its price may differ from the price of the ticket from the event presenter.

The act requires this disclosure when the ticket is initially offered for sale to a purchaser and the price cannot increase after the initial offer and until the ticket is purchased. As under existing law, a reasonable service charge is allowed for delivery of a nonelectronic ticket.

Permitted Price Changes. The act specifies that it does not prohibit a ticket price change after someone times out of a transaction without making a purchase. It also does not prohibit dynamic pricing (using an algorithmic model to adjust prices in real time), as long as the price does not increase after the ticket is initially offered to the purchaser and before the person makes a purchase or times out of the transaction, whichever occurs first.

Live Event Ticket Refunds. For live entertainment events that are cancelled, the act requires ticket sellers and resellers to refund purchasers their total ticket price within 30 days of the cancellation (excluding any reasonable service charge allowed by law for delivering a nonelectronic ticket). It requires ticket sellers and resellers to clearly and conspicuously disclose this refund requirement to purchasers of live entertainment event tickets before a purchase, in a way set by DCP.

Regulations. The act allows DCP to adopt regulations to implement these provisions.

Background — Federal Regulations

Federal regulations make it an unfair and deceptive practice to offer, display, or advertise the price of a live event ticket (or short-term lodging) without clearly and conspicuously disclosing the maximum total price. The total price includes all fees, charges, and required ancillary goods or services, but does not include government charges, shipping charges, and optional ancillary goods or services.

The federal regulation does not affect state law except to the extent a state law is inconsistent. A state law is not inconsistent if it provides greater consumer protections (16 C.F.R. § 464).

§ 33 — ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS

Expands the requirements for e-cigarette dealer registrations and the circumstances in which DCP may deny a registration; authorizes the DCP commissioner to impose a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each ENDS or vapor product sold in violation of the dealer registration law, requires these products to be deemed a common nuisance, and subjects them to seizure by police

The act expands the registration requirements for businesses that sell electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) or vapor products, commonly known as e-

cigarette dealers. By law, e-cigarette dealers must have a dealer registration for each of their business locations and renew it annually. Among other things, the act:

1. expands the individual owners who must provide their contact information and a third-party background check as part of a dealer's application;
2. expands the information dealer registration applicants must provide;
3. generally expands the circumstances under which DCP may deny a dealer's registration or take other enforcement actions;
4. authorizes the DCP commissioner to impose a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each ENDS or vapor product sold in violation of the dealer registration law, requires these products to be deemed a common nuisance, and subjects them to seizure by police;
5. specifies that registered e-cigarette dealers are deemed to have constructive notice of communications the DCP commissioner sends to an email address they provided;
6. makes violations of the dealer registration law a CUTPA violation; and
7. makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2027

Individual Owners

Existing law generally requires anyone applying for an initial or renewal e-cigarette dealer registration to provide the name and contact information of, and a third-party background check for, the business's individual owners (those with a direct or indirect financial interest in the applicant). The act expands this requirement to cover anyone with at least 5%, rather than 10%, ownership or interest rights in the business. As under prior law, this includes the total financial interest held by the individual owner and his or her spouse, parents, and children.

As under existing law, applicants do not need to provide this information if they are a publicly traded company listed on a national stock exchange.

Grounds for Denying an Initial or Renewal Dealer Registration

Under prior law, the DCP commissioner had to issue a dealer registration within 30 days of the application unless he made certain findings. The act extends the same timeframe and reasons for denying a dealer registration to renewals and expands the reasons for a denial to include the following:

1. if an individual owner named in the application made materially false or misleading statements in a DCP application, rather than just the applicant;
2. if the business owner's or named designee's criminal background check is sufficient for denying the registration under the existing law that prohibits state-issued credentials because of a prior criminal conviction, rather than if the commissioner finds that the applicant has a criminal history sufficient to disqualify him or her for a state-issued credential under this law; and
3. if the applicant, its authorized owner, or any entity owned or managed by any individual owner named in the application (a) committed multiple violations of the e-cigarette dealer law, (b) is subject to a delinquency

assessment by the Department of Revenue Services, or (c) is the subject of any other adverse determination by a government agency, rather than if the applicant violated any other provision of the e-cigarette dealer law.

The act also adds to the grounds for DCP to deny initial registrations (but not renewals) submitted on or after January 1, 2027, to include when the proposed business is located in a municipality that already has one dealer for every 2,500 residents based on the most recently completed decennial census.

Dealers That Primarily Sell Certain Nicotine Products

The act adds to the reasons for DCP to deny an initial or renewal dealer registration to include when the applicant (1) has over 50% of annual gross revenue from sales of certain nicotine-related products and (2) uses more than 25% of its retail sales area for selling these products.

Under the act, for initial registrations, the applicant must certify that no more than (1) 50% of the applicant's annual gross revenue at the location will come from sales of cigarettes, drug paraphernalia, ENDS, nicotine products, synthetic nicotine, tobacco products, and vapor products and (2) 25% of the total floor area dedicated to sales at the location will be dedicated to sales of these products. For applicants who initially register on or after January 1, 2027, at renewal they must submit the information DCP requires to determine whether they exceeded these thresholds in the prior registration period, and the act specifically requires DCP to deny the renewal if they did.

The act also requires these dealers to maintain the floor space information, subject to DCP inspection and copying, including floor plans showing the total floor area dedicated to sales and the portion dedicated to sales of the products listed above.

Registration Requirements

The act expands the information applicants for an initial or renewal e-cigarette dealer registration must provide to include a certification that the ENDS and vapor products they offer for sale comply with federal and state law, including the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act's requirement for tobacco products.

Sufficient Cause for DCP Enforcement Actions

Existing law allows the DCP commissioner to take certain actions against an e-cigarette dealer for sufficient cause, including suspending, revoking, or refusing to grant or renew their registration. By law, sufficient cause includes illegally possessing, offering, or selling any illegal or controlled substance. The act specifies that this applies to the registrant, its owner, or anyone with a financial interest in the registrant.

The act also makes any failure to maintain records or to make them immediately available to DCP sufficient cause for enforcement action.

Reapplication Prohibition

Prior law prohibited anyone whose dealer registration was revoked, including the registrant's owners, from applying for a dealer registration for one year after the revocation date. The act (1) extends this reapplication prohibition to anyone with a financial interest in the registrant and (2) bars anyone whose dealer registration was revoked from having a financial interest in another applicant for one year after the revocation date.

Civil Penalty

The act authorizes the DCP commissioner to impose a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each ENDS and vapor product sold, offered for sale, or marketed in violation of the dealer registration law. Each of these products is a separate violation.

Seizure of Products in Violation of the Law

Under the act, any ENDS or vapor products sold, offered for sale, or marketed in violation of the dealer registration law, as well as any controlled substance or cannabis sold, offered for sale, or marketed by a dealer in violation of state law, are a common nuisance and subject to immediate seizure by state or local police.

The officers must hold the products subject to confiscation and destruction by a court order and the seller or marketer is liable for all seizure, confiscation, and destruction costs.

§§ 34-36 — MOLD REMEDIATION

Requires HICs that perform mold remediation to hold a certification and make certain attestations about training; requires them to perform mold remediation according to certain industry standards

The act prohibits DCP from issuing a home improvement contractor (HIC) registration to anyone holding themselves out to be a contractor that performs mold remediation unless the contractor makes certain attestations to DCP about their training. The attestation must satisfy the commissioner that the contractor is certified (1) in mold remediation by the Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification; (2) as a mold remediator by the National Organization of Remediators and Microbial Inspectors; or (3) to perform mold remediation by any commissioner-approved organization if the commissioner posts the approval notice and the approved organization's name on the department's website. Under the act, "mold remediation" is the removal, cleaning, sanitizing, demolition, or other treatment of mold or mold-contaminated matter in a building.

The act requires contractors to perform mold remediation in Connecticut in accordance with the ANSI/IICRC S520 "Standard for Professional Mold Remediation, Fourth Edition," or any successor or revision that the DCP commissioner approves, if he posts the approval notice and the name of the

approved successor or revision on the department's website.
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§ 37 — INFORMATION ON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AFTER CATASTROPHIC LOSS

Requires DCP, within available appropriations, to make information available online for homeowners who have suffered catastrophic loss and are seeking professional help

The act requires DCP, within available appropriations, to make information (presumably, about available assistance) available on the department's website for homeowners who have suffered a catastrophic loss due to fire or water damage and are seeking to hire professionals.
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§ 38 — THIRD-PARTY FINANCING VETERINARY SERVICES

Clarifies when veterinary providers can offer third-party financing in service areas of their facilities

PA 26-6 generally prohibits health care and veterinary care providers from advertising, marketing, soliciting, promoting, or offering third-party financing to consumers when they are in a part of a facility used to provide health care or veterinary services (such as an exam or operating room).

The act clarifies a provision that permits a veterinary provider to take these actions related to third-party financing in the service area if relocating the consumer to a separate area would pose a risk of harm to the consumer's animal that is receiving care.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2027

§§ 39-43 — DATA BROKERS

Replaces the provisions in PA 26-64 with substantially similar provisions, but eliminates the data service provider requirements; makes minor changes to the deletion mechanism program; adds additional exemptions; and specifies the civil penalty is per consumer

PA 26-64, among other things, requires data brokers to register with DCP and establishes a deletion mechanism program for consumers to request that data brokers delete their personal data. Among other things, this act:

1. removes data service providers (those who maintain personal data on a registered data broker's behalf) from the requirements PA 26-64 imposes,
2. specifies certain languages the deletion mechanism program must include,
3. allows a consumer to give the commissioner information other than their driver's license number to verify their deletion request,
4. adds additional exemptions, and
5. specifies the \$200 civil penalty is per consumer.

The act makes various other minor and conforming changes.
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

Deletion Mechanism

PA 26-64 requires the DCP commissioner, by July 1, 2028, to establish an accessible deletion mechanism program. The program must have an accessible deletion mechanism that allows a consumer to submit a deletion request in any language a consumer speaks. This act specifies that the program must allow a consumer to submit a deletion request in English and Spanish in addition to any other language the consumer speaks at home that is also spoken by at least 1% of the state's population based on the most recent decennial census. Correspondingly, this act also requires the allowable updates to the deletion request to be made in these languages.

Verification. PA 26-64 also required the program to allow consumers to securely submit their driver's license number to verify their deletion request. This act instead allows a consumer to give the commissioner information sufficient to establish that the consumer is a Connecticut resident.

Under PA 26-64, if a consumer submits his or her driver's license number to verify the request or update, the commissioner must only use the number for that purpose and cannot share, store, or retain it. This act removes the restriction against sharing, storing, or retaining the number.

Under PA 26-64, beginning October 1, 2028, for any verified deletion request or update that does not specifically exclude the data broker, the broker must generally delete any personal data it maintains on the consumer. However, this act requires the data broker to maintain the personal data to the extent that maintaining it is needed to comply with the act's provisions. If the broker maintains the data for this purpose, it must not use the data for any other reason.

Exemptions

PA 26-4, § 7, allows various exemptions to its data broker provisions. This act additionally exempts (1) personal data collected, processed, sold, or disclosed in compliance with the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994 (18 U.S.C. § 2721 et seq.) and (2) protected health information under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA; P.L. 104-191).

Penalty

PA 26-64, § 10, allows the DCP commissioner, after giving notice and holding a hearing, to impose a civil penalty of up to \$200 per day for each violation of the act's data broker provisions. This act specifies that the civil penalty is \$200 per day per consumer. As under the original act, any civil penalty collected must be deposited into the data broker registration account.

§§ 44 & 66 — SURVEILLANCE PRICING

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Generally prohibits retailers and third-party delivery services from using surveillance pricing for in-person transactions; requires online businesses that use surveillance pricing to increase the price of consumer goods or services to specifically disclose that; deems violations CUTPA violations

PA 26-64, § 11, among other things, generally (1) prohibits retailers or third-party delivery services from using surveillance pricing and (2) sets disclosure requirements on the use of price setting devices. This act replaces them with similar provisions with changes to the definitions, exemptions, and requirements. As under the original act, this act still makes a violation of these provisions a CUTPA violation solely enforced by the attorney general (and not by a private right of action or class action).

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 2027, except the repeal of provisions in PA 26-64, § 11, is effective upon passage. (PA 26-130, § 11, delays this provision's effective date until July 1, 2027, but maintains the repeal's effective date.)

Retail and Third-Party Delivery Surveillance Pricing Prohibited

The act generally prohibits the use of surveillance pricing by third-party delivery services and retailers making in-person sales of tangible personal property. (PA 26-130, § 11, removes the in-person restriction, thus making all retail sales of tangible personal property subject to these provisions.)

A “third-party delivery service” is a company, organization, or entity, outside of a retail food establishment’s business operation, that facilitates delivery or online ordering services to retail food establishment customers. A “retail seller” is a retailer subject to the sales and use tax when making in-person sales of tangible personal property, including a retail food establishment. (As discussed above, PA 26-130, § 11, modifies this definition by eliminating the “in-person” requirement.)

“Surveillance pricing” is the practice of setting a customized price for a consumer good or service that is specific to a consumer or group of consumers based on their personal data collected:

1. through any technology or technological method, system, or tool, including any biometric monitoring, camera, device tracking, or sensor, that is used to gather personal data and
2. by the person establishing the customized price by gathering, purchasing, or acquiring the personal data from a third party.

It does not include establishing for, or offering:

1. a consumer a discounted price for a consumer good or service to retain or re-establish a consumer as a customer, attract a consumer as a new customer, cross-sell an item to a consumer, or re-engage a lapsed customer;
2. different consumers different prices for the same consumer good or service due to justifiable (a) differences in the costs incurred in providing the good or service, including differences in consumers’ physical locations, consumer selections, delivery distances, or delivery times, or (b) temporal differences, including those due to price fluctuations based on supply and demand; or
3. a consumer or group of consumers a discounted price for a consumer good

or service (a) based on publicly disclosed discounted prices and uniform terms and conditions that may be satisfied by any consumer, including by signing up for a mailing list, registering for promotional communications, or participating in a promotional event; (b) that is available to all consumers who are members of a broadly defined group, including veterans or armed forces members, senior citizens, students, teachers, or residents of a specific area, based on publicly disclosed discounts and uniform terms and conditions; or (c) through a loyalty, membership, or rewards program in which consumers choose to enroll.

Surveillance pricing also does not include correcting a price from a pricing error or resetting a price after a system or network outage.

For discounted prices, the retail seller or third-party delivery service must prominently post the discount and discounted price, and the uniform terms and conditions for the discount and discounted price, on the retail seller's or third-party delivery service's website in readily understandable language for an average consumer.

Surveillance Pricing Disclosure

Additionally, the act generally requires anyone doing business in the state, other than retailers (who are prohibited), who engages in surveillance pricing and advertises or promotes a consumer good or service online with its price to include in the online advertisement, promotion, label, statement, display, image, offer, or announcement the following disclosure, or a substantially similar disclosure: "THIS PRICE WAS INCREASED USING YOUR PERSONAL DATA." This disclosure must be readily visible to the average consumer.

Any person required to make this disclosure must also disclose to consumers their rights under the CTDPA, such as their right to opt out of certain consumer data processing.

This requirement does not apply (1) to those using surveillance pricing to establish a discounted price for a consumer good or service for an online transaction and (2) if the advertised, promoted, labeled, or published price is the bona fide market price (advertised price to the public on a regular basis for a reasonably substantial time period).

Exemptions

The act specifies that the disclosure and surveillance pricing provisions do not apply to:

1. anyone who is or must be licensed, authorized to operate, or registered under the state's insurance laws or
2. any person who can demonstrate that any refusal to extend credit, the terms, rates, or pricing on which any credit or financial services are extended or any refusal to enter into a transaction with a specific consumer is based on data (a) provided in a consumer report covered by the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.) or (b) reflecting factors a creditor

may consider under the federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act (15 U.S.C. § 1691 et seq.) and its regulations.

§§ 45 & 66 — FACIAL RECOGNITION

Exempts controllers or consumer health data controllers from the facial recognition requirements in PA 26-64, § 16, if a consumer consents to the use of facial recognition technology in a commercial transaction

PA 26-64, § 16, among other things, limits the use of facial recognition technology to matching still images or video to a database and requires certain signage, among other requirements. This act exempts controllers or consumer health data controllers from these requirements for a consumer who has consented to using facial recognition technology in a commercial transaction.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except the repeal of provisions in PA 26-64, § 16, is effective upon passage.

§§ 46 & 67 — PREREQUISITES FOR GENERATIVE AI SYSTEM SUBSCRIPTIONS

Requires subscription-based providers of generative AI systems with more than a million monthly users, rather than AI technology, to give consumers a written notice of the subscription's key terms and conditions before entering or renewing a subscription

PA 26-15, § 1, among other things, prohibits subscription-based providers of certain artificial intelligence (AI) technology subscriptions from entering or renewing a subscription with certain consumers, or collecting fees or other compensation from them, unless they give the consumer a written notice disclosing the subscription's key terms and conditions and the consumer accepts them in writing. This act repeals those provisions and substitutes substantially similar provisions that narrow the disclosure requirements to subscription-based providers of publicly accessible generative AI systems for personal use with more than a million monthly users.

In so doing, the act defines a “subscription-based provider” as anyone (other than a government agency) doing business in the state who:

1. creates, codes, or produces a generative AI system that (a) has more than a million monthly users and (b) is publicly accessible to consumers for personal use; and
2. provides, or offers to provide, the generative AI system to a consumer under a subscription.

“Generative AI” is any technology that uses machine learning to generate images, audio, or video, including any system using deep learning, natural language processing, or other computational processing techniques of similar or greater complexity.

The act also specifies that, a “consumer” does not include anyone acting (1) in a commercial or employment context or (2) as an employee, owner, director, officer, or contractor of a company, partnership, sole proprietorship, nonprofit, or

government agency whose communications or transactions with the person or entity that controls the data (controller) occur solely within the context of that person's role with the entity.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except the repealer is effective upon passage.

§§ 47 & 67 — DCP PILOT PROGRAM FOR ASSESSING AI MODELS USING INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION PROGRAMS

Eliminates the requirement under PA 26-15, § 33, that DCP enter into a MOU with each independent verification organization applicant to ensure compliance with state laws on AI and data privacy and instead requires the applicant to perform substantially similar functions; modifies certain program application requirements; and lengthens the pilot program duration and delays the start date

PA 26-15, § 33, among other things, requires DCP to, within available appropriations, develop and administer a pilot program to evaluate the use of independent third-party verification programs for assessing whether AI models adhere to standards reflecting best practices for preventing personal injury, property damage, data privacy harms, and other harms. This act repeals those provisions and substitutes substantially similar provisions except it:

1. eliminates the requirement that DCP enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with each applicant and instead requires the applicant to perform substantially similar functions, except the organization no longer is required to define the program's scope and the specific harms or risks the program will prevent or mitigate;
2. modifies certain application requirements; and
3. lengthens the pilot program duration and delays the start date.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2027, except the repealer is effective upon passage.

Application

The act modifies the application description requirements to require a description of the scope of the entity's program rather than the risks the entity intends to evaluate. But the scope must describe the harms to be prevented or mitigated and the risks against which the entity intends to evaluate in order to verify that AI models' mitigation measures are sufficient to achieve acceptable levels of risk.

PA 26-15, § 33, required the application to have a detailed explanation of the applicant's evaluation and verification process, including how the entity determines whether a person participating in the program is using industry best practices. This act instead requires the entity to determine whether a person participating in an AI model is using industry best practices.

Pilot Program Duration

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Finally, the act lengthens the pilot program by six months and delays the start date. It does so by delaying the effective date from July 1, 2027, to October 1, 2027, and the program's end date from June 30, 2030, to March 31, 2031.

§ 48 — STATEWIDE CANNABIS, HEMP AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ENFORCEMENT BOARD

Amends PA 26-8 by adding back the Social Equity Council's executive director to the Statewide Cannabis, Hemp, and Controlled Substances Enforcement Board and allowing the board to discuss certain enforcement actions in executive session and exempting those records from FOIA

PA 26-8, § 13, among other things, (1) renames the Statewide Cannabis and Hemp Enforcement Policy Board, as the "Statewide Cannabis, Hemp and Controlled Substances Enforcement Board," and (2) reduces board membership by removing the public health commissioner and the Social Equity Council's executive director (or their designees). This act adds back the Social Equity Council's executive director, or his designee, to the board.

As under existing law, the board still includes the attorney general, the chief state's attorney, and the DCP, emergency services and public protection, mental health and addiction services, and revenue services commissioners, or their designees.

PA 26-8, § 13, also exempted the board's quarterly meeting and related records from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). This act instead allows the board's discussion of identified areas of need and enforcement opportunities about illegal cannabis and controlled substance sales to be held in an executive session. It also exempts executive session records from FOIA disclosure and specifies that the board may convene an executive session for any other purposes state law allows.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§§ 49 & 56 — "CANNABIS" DEFINITION

Eliminates a provision in PA 26-8 that exempted CBN, CBG, CBC, or any other minor cannabinoid derived from hemp as being cannabis

PA 26-8, among other things, specifically exempted from the "cannabis" definition: cannabinol (CBN), cannabigerol (CBG), cannabichromene (CBC), or any other minor cannabinoid derived from hemp. This act eliminates these exemptions and reverts back to existing law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except the conforming changes are effective upon passage.

§§ 50-52 & 68 — CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OR CONTROL

Modifies a provision in PA 26-8 by (1) making a review mandatory, once requested; (2) allowing, after the review, the council to refer an equity joint venture to DCP for enforcement action; and (3) changing certain deadlines; also adds provisions that (1) prohibit social equity applicants

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from entering into certain agreements that may limit control and (2) require annual reporting and recordkeeping by certain cannabis establishments that get approval from the council

Existing law generally prohibits cultivators, producers, dispensary facilities, and micro-cultivators from increasing their ownership in an equity joint venture by more than 50% for seven years after receiving final licensure. The law also requires the Social Equity Council to develop criteria for evaluating ownership and control changes of any equity joint venture.

PA 26-8, among other things, allows a change in ownership or control in an equity joint venture after five years of final licensure under certain requirements. Among others, at least 90 days before the change, the equity joint venture must (1) submit certain written notices disclosing the intention of the change and (2) send written notice to the social equity applicant disclosing that he or she may, within 60 days before the change is effective, submit a written request for the council to do an optional nonfinancial review of the change. This act modifies these requirements, as described below.

The act also makes minor and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except certain conforming changes are effective October 1, 2026 (§ 51).

Review of Changes and Timeline

PA 26-8 required the council to complete the review to determine whether, among other things, the social equity applicant (1) has retained legal counsel to advise him or her on the change; (2) understands the structure and implications; (3) understands the financial terms; (4) has engaged with his or her business partners, if any, to ensure that the change is appropriate; and (5) consents to the change free of any coercion or undue pressure.

This act makes minor and conforming changes to the review timeline, such as specifying that the reviews are based on the proposed effective date of the change and not the actual effective date. It also gives the council more time to complete the review and send its findings to the social equity applicant. It does so by requiring the review and notification to be done at least 15, rather than 30, days before the change's proposed effective date.

Delay or Rejection Due to Review

This act eliminates the provision in PA 26-8 that specified that (1) it does not allow the council to delay or reject any change because of the results of the review and (2) changes made in violation of the act's relevant provisions are void and have no effect.

Instead, under this act, if the council concludes in its review that there was coercion or undue pressure, or that the proposed change does not comply with the venture's organizational documents, the council may refer the venture to DCP for administrative enforcement action, which may result in a fine of up to \$10 million or action against the license.

Prohibition on Social Equity Council Making Certain Approvals

The act explicitly prohibits the council from approving the following, if they violate the law's relevant requirements related to ownership and control: (1) any equity joint venture or (2) any transfer, assignment, sale, or acquisition of an ownership or financial interest in a cannabis establishment. It also requires any conflicting arrangements to be corrected.

Prohibited Agreements That May Limit Control

Beginning on November 1, 2026, it prohibits any social equity applicant from entering into any agreement, including a consulting agreement or similar contractual arrangement, if the agreement:

1. transfers or delegates any operational control of the cannabis establishment to a person who does not meet the social equity applicant criteria;
2. grants any authority or ability to control, direct, determine, or materially influence (directly or indirectly) decisions concerning the cannabis establishment, including decisions on hiring, pricing, purchasing, inventory management, or day-to-day operations (regardless of if the individual retains nominal approval rights);
3. results in the individual serving as the cannabis establishment's nominal or passive owner; or
4. impairs the individual's (a) final decision-making authority over the cannabis establishment's management, policies, and operations, or (b) authority to hire, terminate, and supervise the cannabis establishment's executive management and key personnel.

For these contracts, when a person who does not meet the social equity applicant criteria provides personnel, staffing, operational systems, or vendor relationships, it is considered evidence of control if it results in operational dependence by a social equity applicant. It is also considered evidence of control if the applicant does not have authority to override decisions made by the person.

The act specifies that its limitations on contracts and similar arrangements that may infringe on control do not prohibit an individual who meets the social equity applicant criteria from:

1. engaging any third-party vendor or consultant to provide bona fide advisory, technical, or support services, provided the services do not confer any control described above; or
2. delegating any operational or management functions, provided the individual retains final decision-making authority.

Reporting and Recordkeeping by Establishments That Receive Approval

The act requires each cannabis establishment the council approves to:

1. annually, starting by January 15, 2027, submit to the council a signed statement certifying that either (a) no material change occurred in the cannabis establishment's ownership, control, or financing arrangements

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- during the preceding calendar year, or (b) a material change occurred and providing the nature of the material change; and
2. maintain records sufficient to demonstrate ongoing compliance with the ownership and control requirements for at least five years.

§ 53 — PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

Requires cannabis testing laboratories to perform real-time uploads to the prescription drug monitoring program and makes a conforming change

The act requires cannabis testing laboratories to perform real-time uploads to the prescription drug monitoring program. As under existing law as amended by PA 26-8, any cannabis or medical cannabis product sold must be recorded into the program.

The act also makes a conforming change to implement a provision of PA 26-8.
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§§ 54 & 68 — CANNABIS FLOWER THC LIMIT

Reverts back to existing law by eliminating a provision in PA 26-8 that eliminated the cap on THC for cannabis flower

PA 26-8, § 79, among other things, lifts the cap on THC (measured on a dry-weight-basis) for cannabis flower and prohibits DCP from limiting cannabis flower dosage, potency, or concentration. The act eliminates these provisions and reverts back to existing law where cannabis flower is capped at 35% THC on a dry-weight basis.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except the repealer is effective upon passage.

§§ 55 & 57 — CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL CHANGES

Makes several clarifying, conforming, and technical changes to implement PA 26-8

The act makes several clarifying, conforming, and technical changes to implement PA 26-8.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the conforming changes on the infused beverage manufacturers are effective October 1, 2026.

§ 58 — ADVERTISEMENT VOLUME WHEN STREAMING

Modifies the “streaming video services” definition to apply it to a person (individual or entity) who provides programming or content, rather than a service, as under PA 26-64, § 20

PA 26-64, § 20, among other things, prohibits a streaming video service from transmitting to a consumer commercial advertising audio that is louder than the video it accompanies, consistent with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations, and makes violations a CUTPA violation.

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This act primarily modifies the “streaming video services” subject to this prohibition to apply to a person (individual or entity) who provides programming or content rather than a service as under PA 26-64, § 20. This act also specifies that these services do not include (1) a television broadcast station, cable operator, or other multichannel video programming distributor, or (2) any person that serves video programming or video content without commercial advertisements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§ 59 — 30-DAY CREDIT LIMIT

Prohibits a cannabis establishment from borrowing money or receiving credit, directly or indirectly in any form, for more than 30 days from a cannabis testing laboratory

The act prohibits a cannabis establishment from borrowing money or receiving credit, directly or indirectly in any form, for more than 30 days from a cannabis testing laboratory.

By law, a “cannabis establishment” is a cannabis producer, dispensary facility, cultivator, micro-cultivator, retailer, hybrid retailer, food and beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer or packager, delivery service, or transporter.

PA 26-8, § 49, prohibits retailers, hybrid retailers, and dispensary facilities from borrowing money or receiving credit, directly or indirectly in any form, for more than 30 days from any cultivator, micro-cultivator, or producer.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

§§ 60 & 61 — RISK-BASED RESIDENTIAL FIRE INSPECTION PILOT PROGRAM AND WORKING GROUP

Requires the state fire marshal to create a two-year risk-based residential fire inspection pilot program to improve the scheduling, documentation, and prioritization of fire inspections of residential buildings designed to be occupied by more than two families; creates a working group to advise her on developing and implementing the pilot program

The act requires the state fire marshal to create, within available appropriations, a two-year risk-based residential fire inspection pilot program and creates a working group to advise her on developing and implementing it.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the pilot program provision is effective July 1, 2026.

Working Group Formation and End Date (§ 61)

The act’s working group has 12 members, consisting of the state fire marshal (or her designee) and the 11 others shown in the table below.

Working Group’s Appointed Members

Appointing Authority	Number of Appointments	Appointee Qualifications
State fire marshal	Two	Each must be a representative from a municipality participating in

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Appointing Authority	Number of Appointments	Appointee Qualifications
		the risk-based residential fire inspection pilot program
Connecticut Fire Marshals Association	Four	All must be local fire marshals; one must represent a municipality participating in the risk-based residential fire inspection pilot program
Joint Council of Connecticut Fire Services Organizations	Two	Members of appointing organization
Public Safety and Security Committee's chairpersons and ranking members (jointly)	Two	Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee
Connecticut Conference of Municipalities	One	Representative of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities

All initial appointments must be made by July 2, 2026, except the state fire marshal's appointments must be appointed as soon as practical after she selects the pilot program's participating municipalities. Any vacancy must be filled by the appointing authority. Members appointed by the Public Safety and Security Committee's leadership may make designees.

The Public Safety and Security Committee's chairpersons must select the working group's chairpersons from among the working group's members. The working group's chairpersons must schedule the group's first meeting, which must be held by August 1, 2026. The Public Safety and Security Committee's administrative staff must serve as the working group's administrative staff.

The act establishes several duties and reporting requirements for the working group and requires it to end when it submits its final report or February 1, 2029, whichever is later.

Working Group Duties and Reporting (§ 61)

The act requires the working group to advise the state fire marshal on:

1. the pilot program's design and implementation,
2. any data collection required by the pilot program and an assessment of participating municipalities' capacity to report the data,
3. the pilot program's progress and any data quality issues, and
4. any modifications to the pilot program's reporting requirements.

By December 1, 2026, and then annually until December 1, 2028, the working group must submit to the state fire marshal its evaluation of and recommendations for implementing the pilot program, including an evaluation of the pilot program's effectiveness in improving statutory inspection compliance, reducing inspection backlog, identifying and correcting high severity life safety hazards, improving

firefighter operational safety through better hazard intelligence, reducing repeat violations, supporting consistent enforcement actions, and assessing fiscal and staffing impacts. This effectiveness evaluation must compare the fire inspection activity in each participating municipality before and after participating in the pilot program and, where practicable, against similarly situated nonparticipating municipalities.

Additionally, by December 1, 2026, the working group's report must:

1. designate the type of data required to set a baseline of residential fire inspection activity in a municipality based on a two-year history or, when this data is unavailable, based on predictive data;
2. identify the gaps in the availability of this data for each participating municipality;
3. determine initial inspection volumes and timelines;
4. develop a plan for data collection and quality assurance during the pilot program;
5. develop a standardized scoring method for violations based on the severity of life-safety hazards, grading system for residential buildings based on fire prevention and construction features, pre-inspection checklist for owners of residential buildings, and standardized documentation system for fire inspection findings; and
6. recommend any adjustments to the program's implementation.

By December 1, 2027, the working group's report must:

1. determine any adjustment to inspection volumes and timelines,
2. aggregate violations by severity and changes from initial baseline data for each participating municipality,
3. identify any trends in voluntary hazard correction due to the pre-inspection checklist developed for the program,
4. assess the use of the data system designated by the program and the quality of the data, and
5. include an overview of the pilot program's results.

By December 1, 2028, the working group's report must include its recommendations for:

1. legislation required to continue or alter the inspection schedule developed during the pilot program for each participating municipality;
2. state-wide implementation, other expansion, modification, or termination of the pilot program; and
3. any statutory, regulatory, staffing, funding, or technological changes required for broader implementation of the pilot program.

Risk-Based Residential Fire Inspection Pilot Program (§ 60)

The act requires the state fire marshal to create a two-year risk-based residential fire inspection pilot program to improve the scheduling, documentation, and prioritization of fire inspections of residential buildings designed to be occupied by more than two families. She must do so by January 1, 2027, in consultation with the administrative services commissioner and the above working group, and within

available appropriations.

The act requires the state fire marshal to select at least three municipalities from those that apply, including two with populations of at least 100,000 and one with a population of at least 35,000 but under 100,000. In selecting participating municipalities, she must consult with the municipality's appointing authority for local fire marshals to determine its (1) volume and diversity of residential buildings designed to be occupied by more than two families, (2) availability of local resources, and (3) capability to consistently implement the pilot program. If any participating municipality withdraws or is unable to meet the pilot program's requirements, the state fire marshal may select a comparable municipality as a replacement.

Under the act, participating municipalities must:

1. implement a fire inspection schedule using a standardized scoring method that assigns scores for violations and classifies residential buildings based on fire prevention and construction features;
2. maintain timely fire inspections as required by existing law, while allocating more fire inspection resources to high-risk residential buildings;
3. comply with the program's data collection and record-keeping requirements, including using a data system designated by the state fire marshal to record fire inspection data; and
4. review the current fire inspection revenue structure and staffing allocation.

For each participating municipality, the state fire marshal must:

1. specify a standardized scoring method that assigns scores to violations identified during fire inspections based on the severity of life-safety hazards,
2. establish a grading system that classifies the subject residential buildings based on fire prevention and construction features and other risk indicators for prioritizing their annual fire inspections,
3. develop a pre-inspection checklist for building owners to encourage voluntary correction of potential hazards before a fire inspection, and
4. standardize the documentation (including photographs) of fire inspection findings to support enforcement actions and compliance follow-up.

The act also requires her to designate one or more data systems, including the National Emergency Response Information System, capable of:

1. collecting and exporting data related to, at a minimum, residential building classifications with risk-relevant construction and fire prevention features, dates and types of fire inspections, violations cited with assigned score, corrective action status, and fire inspections timelines under existing law;
2. generating residential building classifications based on data recorded into the system;
3. producing quarterly reports on fire inspection activities, including responses to complaints and outcomes of public reporting; and
4. setting a baseline of residential fire inspection activity for each municipality based on a two-year history of data collection or, when the data is unavailable, based on predictive data the state fire marshal deems sufficient to set a baseline.

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Under the act, the “National Emergency Response Information System” is the national data system developed or designated by the U.S. Fire Administration, or its successor system, for the collection, reporting, and analysis of fire and emergency incident data.

By February 1, 2027, and then annually until February 1, 2029, the state fire marshal must report to the Public Safety and Security Committee on the pilot program, whether it should be made permanent, and if the working group’s recommendations were integrated into the program.

The act ends the pilot program on January 1, 2029.

§ 62 — JUICE BAR RESTRICTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Imposes new restrictions on juice bars and requirements on cafe permittees, including allowing local ordinances to prohibit or regulate juice bar operations

The act makes several changes to the law regulating “juice bars,” which are places where nonalcoholic beverages are served to minors (under age 21) on the premises of a cafe permit holder. (Cafe permits generally allow holders to sell alcohol for on-premises consumption.) Principally, the act (1) allows towns, by ordinance, to prohibit the operation of juice bars within their borders or set the hours when they may operate and (2) authorizes towns and municipalities, by ordinance, to prohibit the sale of alcohol on any cafe permit premises while a juice bar is operating.

The act also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

Other Juice Bar Law Changes

Generally, existing law:

1. allows a cafe permittee to operate a juice bar in a room or separate area where alcohol is not sold, consumed, dispensed, or present;
2. requires cafe permittees to give advance written notice to the chief law enforcement officer of the town where the cafe is located of the specific dates and hours of any scheduled event at which the premises will be used to operate a juice bar, so that it is received between 5 and 30 days before the event;
3. allows the chief local law enforcement officer to designate one or more officers to attend the scheduled event; and
4. prohibits cafe permittees, and their agents and employees, who operate juice bars on the premises from serving alcohol to a customer without a conspicuous wristband issued by the permittee showing they have verified that the customer is of legal drinking age (at least age 21).

The act additionally requires cafe permittees, at all times when a part of the premises is being operated as a juice bar, to limit the number of patrons where the juice bar is being operated to no more than 10% of the total building occupant load set by the fire marshal under the Fire Safety Code. It also allows, at any time before or during a scheduled juice bar event, the chief law enforcement officer, or the

officer's designee, to reject the event or order it to be stopped if either, in their sole discretion, determines that (1) there is insufficient police capacity to properly and safely monitor the event or enforce the law or (2) the event may, or has, become a danger to public safety.

Under existing law and the act, violators of the juice bar laws are subject to a fine, up to one year imprisonment, or both. The maximum fines are (1) \$2,500 for a first offense; (2) \$5,000 for a second offense; and (3) \$10,000 for a third or subsequent offense.

By law, DCP and its agents may conduct any inquiry, investigation, or hearing related to the cafe permit and juice bar laws (CGS § 30-8). The department may also revoke, suspend, or place conditions on any permit or provisional permit, or impose a fine of up to \$1,000 per violation, after a hearing (CGS § 30-55). The act specifies that DCP may investigate any purported violation of the juice bar laws and, if it finds a violation, impose those existing penalties.

§§ 63 & 64 — CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR INTENTIONAL DAMAGE TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Expands the crimes of 1st and 2nd degree criminal mischief to broadly include intentionally damaging certain tangible property of others, including public services and systems

The act expands the crimes of 1st and 2nd degree criminal mischief to broadly include intentionally damaging certain tangible property of others, including public services and systems (such as utility, transportation, communications, and emergency response systems). Under existing law and the act, both crimes require the person to have acted with no reasonable grounds to believe he or she had the right to do so.

By law, 1st degree criminal mischief is a class D felony and 2nd degree criminal mischief is a class A misdemeanor (see [Table on Penalties](#)).

The act also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

1st Degree Criminal Mischief

Actual Service Interruption or Impairment. The act expands 1st degree criminal mischief to include when a person, intending to damage another's tangible property, damages or tampers with the tangible property of a utility or mode of public transportation, power, or communication and interrupts or impairs these services. Existing law already includes as 1st degree criminal mischief instances where someone intentionally interrupts or impairs these services.

Specific Services or Systems Damage. Under existing law, a person commits 1st degree criminal mischief by intentionally interrupting or impairing public services by damaging or tampering with any of the following:

1. tangible property owned by the state, a municipality, or a person for fire alarm or police alarm purposes;
2. telecommunication systems operated by the State Police or a municipal police department;

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3. emergency medical or fire service dispatching systems;
4. fire suppression equipment owned by the state, a municipality, a person, or a fire district; or
5. fire hydrants or hydrant systems owned by the state or a municipality, person, fire district, or private water company.

The act expands this crime to include instances where the person intended to damage another person's property and caused damage to the above-listed tangible property.

2nd Degree Criminal Mischief

Under existing law, a person commits 2nd degree criminal mischief when the person intentionally causes a risk of interruption or impairment of public service by damaging or tampering with tangible property of a public utility or mode of public transportation, power, or communication.

The act expands this crime to include situations where the person intended to damage another person's tangible property and caused the risk to public property and services described above.

§ 65 — REGISTRATION AND COMPLIANCE BY HOTEL AND MOTEL OPERATORS

Requires up to \$250,000 appropriated to the attorney general for FY 27 be transferred to DCP for the costs of registering and ensuring compliance by hotel and motel operators, among others

The act requires up to \$250,000 from the amount appropriated in PA 25-168, § 1, as amended by PA 26-68, to the state attorney general for personal services for FY 27, to be transferred to DCP for personal services and the costs of registering and ensuring compliance by operators of hotels, motels, inns, and similar lodgings. The state attorney general's office and DCP must enter into a memorandum of understanding for this purpose.

PA 26-98 requires these owners to annually register with DCP beginning on January 1, 2027, and gives DCP authority to investigate and impose civil penalties on them for violating certain statutes including those on record keeping, and human trafficking training and notice posting.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026