



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 5566**

LCO No. 3105



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

**AN ACT CONCERNING ACCELERATED REHABILITATION IN THE  
CASE OF ANIMAL CRUELTY.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 54-56e of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (c) This section shall not be applicable: (1) To any person charged  
5 with (A) a class A felony, (B) a class B felony, except a violation of  
6 subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-122 that does not  
7 involve the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force  
8 against another person, or a violation of subdivision (3) of subsection (a)  
9 of section 53a-122 that does not involve the use, attempted use or  
10 threatened use of physical force against another person and does not  
11 involve a violation by a person who is a public official, as defined in  
12 section 1-110, or a state or municipal employee, as defined in section 1-  
13 110, or (C) a violation of section 53a-70b of the general statutes, revision  
14 of 1958, revised to January 1, 2019, or section 14-227a or 14-227m,  
15 subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-227n, subdivision (2)

16 of subsection (a) of section 53-21 or section 53a-56b, 53a-60d, 53a-70, 53a-  
17 70a, 53a-71, except as provided in subdivision (5) of this subsection, 53a-  
18 72a, 53a-72b, 53a-90a, 53a-196e or 53a-196f, (2) to any person charged  
19 with a crime or motor vehicle violation who, as a result of the  
20 commission of such crime or motor vehicle violation, causes the death  
21 of another person, (3) to any person accused of a family violence crime  
22 as defined in section 46b-38a who (A) is eligible for the pretrial family  
23 violence education program established under section 46b-38c, or (B)  
24 has previously had the pretrial family violence education program  
25 invoked in such person's behalf, (4) to any person charged with a  
26 violation of section 21a-267, 21a-279 or 21a-279a, who (A) is eligible for  
27 the pretrial drug education and community service program established  
28 under section 54-56i or the pretrial drug intervention and community  
29 service program established under section 54-56q, or (B) has previously  
30 had (i) the pretrial drug education program, (ii) the pretrial drug  
31 education and community service program established under the  
32 provisions of section 54-56i, or (iii) the pretrial drug intervention and  
33 community service program established under section 54-56q, invoked  
34 on such person's behalf, (5) unless good cause is shown, to (A) any  
35 person charged with a class C felony, or (B) any person charged with  
36 committing a violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 53a-  
37 71 while such person was less than four years older than the other  
38 person, (6) to any person charged with a violation of section 9-359 or 9-  
39 359a, (7) to any person charged with a motor vehicle violation (A) while  
40 operating a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, or (B)  
41 who holds a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit  
42 at the time of the violation, (8) to any person charged with a violation of  
43 subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 53a-60, (9) to a health care  
44 provider or vendor participating in the state's Medicaid program  
45 charged with a violation of section 53a-122 or subdivision (3) of  
46 subsection (a) of section 53a-123, [or] (10) to any person charged with a  
47 violation of section 15-132a, 15-133 or 15-140n, or (11) to any person  
48 charged with a violation of section 22-329 or 53-247 who has previously  
49 participated in the program pursuant to this section, unless fifteen or

50 more years have passed since the date that any charge or charges for  
51 which the program was invoked on the defendant's behalf were  
52 dismissed by the court.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |  |  |
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| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 54-56e(c) |
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***Statement of Purpose:***

To restrict the availability of accelerated rehabilitation for certain crimes involving animal cruelty.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*