



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 408

LCO No. 2478



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING LIQUOR PERMITS, FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION INSPECTIONS, THE REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION AND VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO JUICE BARS.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 30-39 of the 2026
2 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4 (b) (1) Any person desiring a liquor permit or a renewal of such a
5 permit shall make an affirmed application therefor to the Department of
6 Consumer Protection, upon forms to be furnished by the department,
7 showing the name and address of the applicant and of the applicant's
8 backer, if any, the location of the club or place of business which is to be
9 operated under such permit and a financial statement setting forth all
10 elements and details of any business transactions connected with the
11 application. Such application shall include a detailed description of the
12 type of live entertainment that is to be provided. A club or place of
13 business shall be exempt from providing such detailed description if the
14 club or place of business (A) was issued a liquor permit prior to October

15 1, 1993, and (B) has not altered the type of entertainment provided. The
16 application shall also indicate any crimes of which the applicant or the
17 applicant's backer may have been convicted. The department shall not
18 review an initial application until the applicant has submitted all
19 documents necessary to establish that state and local building, fire and
20 zoning requirements and local ordinances concerning hours and days
21 of sale will be met, except that local building and zoning requirements
22 and local ordinances concerning hours and days of sale shall not apply
23 to a cafe permit issued under subsection (d) or (h) of section 30-22a. If
24 the applicant does not submit all such documents within the thirty-day
25 period beginning on the date on which the department receives the
26 initial application, or if such documents are not fully executed by the
27 appropriate authorities, such initial application shall be deemed
28 withdrawn and invalid. The State Fire Marshal or the marshal's certified
29 designee shall be responsible for approving compliance with the State
30 Fire Code at Bradley International Airport. Any person desiring a
31 permit provided for in section 30-33b shall file a copy of such person's
32 license with such application if such license was issued by the
33 Department of Consumer Protection. The department may, at its
34 discretion, conduct an investigation to determine (i) whether a permit
35 shall be issued to an applicant or the applicant's backer, or (ii) the
36 suitability of the proposed permit premises. [Completion of an
37 inspection pursuant to subsection (f) of section 29-305 shall not be
38 deemed to constitute a precondition to renewal of a permit that is
39 subject to subsection (f) of section 29-305.]

40 Sec. 2. Section 29-305 of the general statutes is repealed and the
41 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

42 (a) Each local fire marshal and the State Fire Marshal, for the purpose
43 of satisfying themselves that all pertinent statutes and regulations are
44 complied with, may inspect in the interests of public safety all buildings,
45 facilities, processes, equipment, systems and other areas regulated by
46 the Fire Safety Code and the State Fire Prevention Code within their
47 respective jurisdictions.

48 (b) Each local fire marshal shall inspect, or cause to be inspected by a
49 sworn member of the local fire department or a qualified third party
50 designated by the local fire marshal, at least once [each] every two
51 calendar [year] years or as often as prescribed by the State Fire Marshal
52 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, in the interests of public safety,
53 all buildings and facilities of public service and all occupancies
54 regulated by the Fire Safety Code or State Fire Prevention Code within
55 the local fire marshal's jurisdiction, except residential buildings
56 designed to be occupied by one or two families which shall be inspected,
57 upon complaint or request of an owner or occupant, only for the
58 purpose of determining whether the requirements specified in said
59 codes relative to smoke detection and warning equipment have been
60 satisfied. In the case of a school building, each local fire marshal shall
61 submit a written report to the local or regional board of education
62 documenting each such inspection.

63 (c) Upon receipt by the State Fire Marshal of information from an
64 authentic source that any other building or facility within the State Fire
65 Marshal's jurisdiction is hazardous to life safety from fire, the State Fire
66 Marshal shall inspect such building or facility.

67 (d) Upon receipt by the local fire marshal of information from an
68 authentic source that any other building or facility within the local fire
69 marshal's jurisdiction is hazardous to life safety from fire, the local fire
70 marshal shall inspect such building or facility or cause such building or
71 facility to be inspected by a sworn member of the local fire department
72 or a qualified third party designated by the local fire marshal. In each
73 case in which the local fire marshal or designee conducts an inspection,
74 the local fire marshal or designee shall be satisfied that all pertinent
75 statutes and regulations are complied with, and shall keep a record of
76 such investigations. Such local fire marshal or [a] designee shall have
77 the right of entry at all reasonable hours into or upon any premises
78 within the local fire marshal's jurisdiction for the performance of the fire
79 marshal's duties except that occupied dwellings and habitations,
80 exclusive of common use passageways and rooms in tenement houses,

81 hotels and rooming houses, may only be entered for inspections
82 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except in the event of any
83 emergency requiring immediate attention for life safety, or in the
84 interests of public safety. Each local fire marshal shall make a monthly
85 report to the authority which appointed the local fire marshal and shall
86 be paid for such local fire marshal's services in making such inspections
87 of buildings, facilities, processes, equipment, systems and other areas,
88 in accordance with the compensation agreed upon with such appointing
89 authority.

90 (e) The State Fire Marshal may adopt amendments to the Fire Safety
91 Code and the State Fire Prevention Code regarding requirements for the
92 frequency of inspections of different building uses regulated by the
93 codes and set forth a schedule of inspections [, except for inspections of
94 residential buildings designed to be occupied by three or more families,]
95 that are less frequent than [yearly] once every two calendar years if the
96 interests of public safety can be met by less frequent inspections.

97 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (e), inclusive,
98 of this section, a local fire marshal, deputy fire marshal, fire inspector or
99 other fire code inspector or fire investigator holding office in a
100 municipality shall, at least once per calendar year, inspect all premises
101 that are (1) located in the municipality, and (2) operating under a permit
102 issued pursuant to chapter 545 that allows for on-premises consumption
103 of alcoholic liquor.

104 Sec. 3. Section 47a-6a of the general statutes is repealed and the
105 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

106 (a) As used in this section: [,]

107 (1) ["address"] "Address" means a location as described by the full
108 street number, if any, the street name, the city or town, and the state,
109 and not a mailing address such as a post office box; [,]

110 (2) ["dwelling unit"] "Dwelling unit" means any house or building, or

111 portion thereof, which is rented, leased or hired out to be occupied, or
112 is arranged or designed to be occupied, or is occupied, as the home or
113 residence of one or more persons, living independently of each other,
114 and doing their cooking upon the premises, and having a common right
115 in the halls, stairways or yards; [,]

116 (3) ["agent in charge"] "Agent in charge" or "agent" means [one] an
117 individual who manages real [estate] property, including, but not
118 limited to, the collection of rents and supervision and maintenance of
119 such property, including for the purpose of compliance with state law
120 and local codes;

121 (4) ["controlling participant"] "Controlling participant" means an
122 individual [that] who exercises day-to-day financial or operational
123 control; [, and]

124 (5) ["project-based housing provider"] "Project-based housing
125 provider" means a property owner who contracts with the United States
126 Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide housing to
127 tenants under the federal Housing Choice Voucher Program, 42 USC
128 1437f(o);

129 (6) "Identifying information" means proof of an individual's name,
130 date of birth, current residential address, motor vehicle operator's
131 license number or other identification number issued by any
132 government agency or entity;

133 (7) "Nonresident owner" means an individual, corporation,
134 partnership, trust or other legally recognized entity who does not reside
135 at rental real property and who is (A) an owner, as defined in section
136 47a-1, of such real property, or (B) the controlling participant of the
137 entity that owns such real property; and

138 (8) "Population" means the number of persons according to the most
139 recent federal decennial census.

140 (b) Any municipality with a population of twenty thousand or more
141 shall, and any municipality may, require the nonresident owner or
142 project-based housing provider of occupied or vacant rental real
143 property to report to the tax assessor, or other municipal [office] officer
144 designated by the municipality, the current residential address of the
145 nonresident owner or project-based housing provider of such property,
146 if the nonresident owner or project-based housing provider is an
147 individual, or the current residential address of the agent in charge of
148 the building, if the nonresident owner or project-based housing
149 provider is a corporation, partnership, trust or other legally recognized
150 entity owning rental real property in the state. If the nonresident
151 [owners] owner or project-based housing [providers are] provider is a
152 corporation, partnership, trust or other legally recognized entity owning
153 rental real property in the state, such report shall also include
154 identifying information and the current residential address of each
155 controlling participant associated with the property. If such residential
156 address changes, notice of the new residential address shall be provided
157 by such nonresident owner, project-based housing provider or agent in
158 charge of the building to the office of the tax assessor or other designated
159 municipal office not more than twenty-one days after the date that the
160 address change occurred. If the nonresident owner, project-based
161 housing provider or agent fails to file an address under this section, the
162 address to which the municipality mails property tax bills for the rental
163 real property shall be deemed to be the nonresident owner, project-
164 based housing provider or agent's current address. Such address may
165 be used for compliance with the provisions of subsection [(c)] (d) of this
166 section.

167 (c) In addition to the residential address required pursuant to
168 subsection (b) of this section, any municipality with a population of
169 twenty thousand or more shall require the nonresident owner, project-
170 based housing provider or agent in charge, as applicable, to report to
171 the tax assessor, or other municipal officer designated by the
172 municipality, (1) accurate identifying information concerning such

173 nonresident owner, project-based housing provider or agent in charge,
174 and (2) at least two telephone numbers that are accessible on a twenty-
175 four-hour basis for emergency response purposes.

176 [(c)] (d) Service of state or municipal orders relating to maintenance
177 of such rental real property or compliance with state law and local codes
178 concerning such real property directed to the nonresident owner,
179 project-based housing provider or agent at the address on file, or
180 deemed to be on file in accordance with the provisions of this section,
181 shall be sufficient proof of service of notice of such orders in any
182 subsequent criminal or civil action against the owner, project-based
183 housing provider or agent for failure to comply with the orders. The
184 provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the validity of
185 any other means of giving notice of such orders that may be used by the
186 state or [such] a municipality.

187 [(d)] (e) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall
188 have committed [an infraction] a violation and shall be fined not less
189 than two hundred fifty dollars nor more than one thousand dollars.

190 [(e)] (f) Any report provided to a tax assessor pursuant to subsection
191 (b) or (c) of this section [on or after October 1, 2023,] shall be confidential
192 and shall not be disclosed under chapter 14.

193 Sec. 4. Section 30-22c of the general statutes is repealed and the
194 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

195 (a) As used in this section:

196 (1) "Juice bar or similar facility" means an area within permit premises
197 in which nonalcoholic beverages are served to minors; and

198 (2) "Permit premises" means the premises operated under (A) a cafe
199 permit issued under subsection (c) of section 30-22a, or (B) a cafe permit
200 for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-22g.

201 (b) The holder of a cafe permit issued under subsection (c) of section

202 30-22a or a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-
203 22g may operate a juice bar or similar facility at permit premises if the
204 juice bar or similar facility is limited to a room or rooms or separate area
205 within the permit premises wherein there is no sale, consumption,
206 dispensing or presence of alcoholic liquor.

207 (c) (1) Any town may provide by ordinance the hours during which
208 a juice bar may operate, but in no event shall a juice bar be permitted to
209 operate as such after ten o'clock p.m.

210 ~~[(c)]~~ (2) The holder of a cafe permit issued under subsection (c) of
211 section 30-22a or a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under
212 section 30-22g shall provide advance written notice to the chief law
213 enforcement officer of the town in which the permit premises is located
214 of the specific dates and hours of any scheduled event at which such
215 permit premises, or any portion thereof, will be used to operate a juice
216 bar or similar facility. Such notice shall be sent [(1)] (A) by certified mail,
217 or by electronic mail to the designated electronic mail address for the
218 chief law enforcement officer, and [(2)] (B) in a manner so that such
219 notice is received by such chief law enforcement officer not less than five
220 days, and not more than thirty days, prior to the date of such scheduled
221 event. The chief law enforcement officer of the town in which such
222 permit premises is located may designate one or more law enforcement
223 officers to attend any such scheduled event at the cost of such permit
224 holder. If, at any time prior to or during such scheduled event, the chief
225 law enforcement officer of the town, or such officer's designee,
226 determines that there is insufficient police capacity to properly and
227 safely monitor the event or enforce any applicable law related to such
228 scheduled event or the permit premises or that the event may, or has,
229 become a danger to public safety, such officer or designee may, in such
230 officer's or designee's sole discretion, reject such scheduled event or
231 order such scheduled event to be terminated. The holder of a cafe
232 permit, at all times when a portion of the permit premises is being
233 operated as a juice bar, shall limit the number of patrons in the portion
234 of the permit premises being operated as a juice bar to no more than ten

235 per cent of the total building occupant load established by the Fire
236 Marshal under the Fire Safety Code.

237 (d) Nothing in this section shall exempt the holder of a cafe permit
238 issued under subsection (c) of section 30-22a or a cafe permit for wine,
239 beer and cider issued under section 30-22g from compliance with any
240 other provisions of the general statutes or regulations of Connecticut
241 state agencies concerning minors, including, but not limited to, the
242 prohibition against the sale of alcoholic liquor to minors. The presence
243 of alcoholic liquor or the sale or dispensing to or consumption of
244 alcoholic liquor by a minor at a juice bar or similar facility is prohibited.

245 (e) (1) A permittee or agent or employee of a permittee who operates
246 a juice bar or similar facility at a permit premises may serve alcoholic
247 liquor during the hours of operation of such juice bar or similar facility
248 only to a person who is twenty-one years of age or older and who is
249 wearing a conspicuous wristband that has been issued to the person
250 wearing it by the permittee or agent or employee of the permittee to
251 indicate that the permittee or agent or employee of the permittee has
252 verified that such person is twenty-one years of age or older.

253 (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, any town or
254 municipality may, by ordinance, prohibit the sale of alcoholic liquor on
255 any permit premises while a juice bar is in operation.

256 (f) (1) Any permittee or agent or employee of a permittee convicted
257 of a violation of any provision of this section shall [(1)] (A) (i) for a first
258 offense, be fined not more than two thousand five hundred dollars, [(B)]
259 (ii) for a second offense, be fined not more than five thousand dollars,
260 and [(C)] (iii) for a third or subsequent offense, be fined not more than
261 ten thousand dollars, or [(2)] (B) be imprisoned not more than one year
262 for a first, second, third or subsequent offense, or [(3)] (C) be both fined
263 and imprisoned.

264 (2) Any permittee who is convicted of a violation of any provision of
265 this section shall immediately report such conviction to the Liquor

266 Control Commission, which may suspend such permittee's permit on
267 the basis of the conviction.

268 (g) Any town or municipality may, by ordinance, prohibit the
269 operation of juice bars within the town or municipality.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	30-39(b)(1)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	29-305
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	47a-6a
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	30-22c

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) delete a provision regarding certain inspections not being deemed to constitute a precondition to renewal of a liquor permit, (2) modify certain requirements relating to fire safety and prevention inspections, (3) require certain nonresident owners, project-based housing providers or agents in charge to register certain information, and (4) establish various requirements relating to juice bars.

[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.]