



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 408**

February Session, 2026



**AN ACT CONCERNING LIQUOR PERMITS, FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION INSPECTIONS, THE REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION AND 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2 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is  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28 withdrawn and invalid.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, as amended by  
38 this act, shall not be deemed to constitute a precondition to renewal of a  
39 permit that is subject to subsection (f) of section 29-305, as amended by  
40 this act, but each applicant for the renewal of such permit shall certify  
41 on the renewal application that such inspection has occurred or will  
42 occur within the calendar year.

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 Section 29-305 of the general statutes is repealed and the  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

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

51 (b) Each local fire marshal shall inspect, or cause to be inspected by a

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

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

70 (d) Upon receipt by the local fire marshal of information from an  
71 authentic source that any other building or facility within the local fire  
72 marshal's jurisdiction is hazardous to life safety from fire, the local fire  
73 marshal shall inspect such building or facility or cause such building or  
74 facility to be inspected by a member of the local fire department or a  
75 qualified third party designated by the local fire marshal. In each case  
76 in which the local fire marshal or designee conducts an inspection, the  
77 local fire marshal or designee shall be satisfied that all pertinent statutes  
78 and regulations are complied with, and shall keep a record of such  
79 investigations. Such local fire marshal or [a] designee shall have the  
80 right of entry at all reasonable hours into or upon any premises within  
81 the local fire marshal's jurisdiction for the performance of the fire  
82 marshal's duties except that occupied dwellings and habitations,  
83 exclusive of common use passageways and rooms in tenement houses,  
84 hotels and rooming houses, may only be entered for inspections  
85 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except in the event of any

86 emergency requiring immediate attention for life safety, or in the  
87 interests of public safety. Each local fire marshal shall make a monthly  
88 report to the authority which appointed the local fire marshal and shall  
89 be paid for such local fire marshal's services in making such inspections  
90 of buildings, facilities, processes, equipment, systems and other areas,  
91 in accordance with the compensation agreed upon with such appointing  
92 authority.

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

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

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

109 (a) As used in this section: [.]

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

113 (2) ["dwelling unit"] "Dwelling unit" means any house or building, or  
114 portion thereof, which is rented, leased or hired out to be occupied, or  
115 is arranged or designed to be occupied, or is occupied, as the home or  
116 residence of one or more persons, living independently of each other,

117 and doing their cooking upon the premises, and having a common right  
118 in the halls, stairways or yards; [ ]

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

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

127 (5) ["project-based housing provider"] "Project-based housing  
128 provider" means a property owner who contracts with the United States  
129 Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide housing to  
130 tenants under the federal Housing Choice Voucher Program, 42 USC  
131 1437f(o);

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

136 (7) "Nonresident owner" means an individual, corporation,  
137 partnership, trust or other legally recognized entity who does not reside  
138 at rental real property and who is (A) an owner, as defined in section  
139 47a-1, of such real property, or (B) the controlling participant of the  
140 entity that owns such real property; and

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

143 (b) Any municipality with a population of twenty thousand or more  
144 shall, and any municipality with a population of less than twenty  
145 thousand may, require the nonresident owner or project-based housing  
146 provider of occupied or vacant rental real property to report to the tax

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

170 (c) In addition to the residential address required pursuant to  
171 subsection (b) of this section, any municipality with a population of  
172 twenty thousand or more shall require the nonresident owner, project-  
173 based housing provider or agent in charge, as applicable, to report to  
174 the tax assessor, or other municipal officer designated by the  
175 municipality, (1) accurate identifying information concerning such  
176 nonresident owner, project-based housing provider or agent in charge,  
177 and (2) at least two telephone numbers that are accessible on a twenty-  
178 four-hour basis for emergency response purposes.

179 [(c)] (d) Service of state or municipal orders relating to maintenance  
180 of such rental real property or compliance with state law and local codes

181 concerning such real property directed to the nonresident owner,  
182 project-based housing provider or agent at the address on file, or  
183 deemed to be on file in accordance with the provisions of this section,  
184 shall be sufficient proof of service of notice of such orders in any  
185 subsequent criminal or civil action against the owner, project-based  
186 housing provider or agent for failure to comply with the orders. The  
187 provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the validity of  
188 any other means of giving notice of such orders that may be used by the  
189 state or [such] a municipality.

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

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

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

198 (a) As used in this section:

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

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

204 (b) The holder of a cafe permit issued under subsection (c) of section  
205 30-22a or a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under section 30-  
206 22g may operate a juice bar or similar facility at permit premises if the  
207 juice bar or similar facility is limited to a room or rooms or separate area  
208 within the permit premises wherein there is no sale, consumption,  
209 dispensing or presence of alcoholic liquor. The holder of a cafe permit,  
210 at all times when a portion of the permit premises is being operated as

211 a juice bar, shall limit the number of patrons in the portion of the permit  
212 premises being operated as a juice bar to no more than ten per cent of  
213 the total building occupant load established by the Fire Marshal under  
214 the Fire Safety Code.

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

218 ~~[(c)]~~ (2) The holder of a cafe permit issued under subsection (c) of  
219 section 30-22a or a cafe permit for wine, beer and cider issued under  
220 section 30-22g shall provide advance written notice to the chief law  
221 enforcement officer of the town in which the permit premises is located  
222 of the specific dates and hours of any scheduled event at which such  
223 permit premises, or any portion thereof, will be used to operate a juice  
224 bar or similar facility. Such notice shall be sent [(1)] (A) by certified mail,  
225 or by electronic mail to the designated electronic mail address for the  
226 chief law enforcement officer, and [(2)] (B) in a manner so that such  
227 notice is received by such chief law enforcement officer not less than five  
228 days, and not more than thirty days, prior to the date of such scheduled  
229 event. The chief law enforcement officer of the town in which such  
230 permit premises is located may designate one or more law enforcement  
231 officers to attend any such scheduled event at the cost of such permit  
232 holder. If, at any time prior to or during such scheduled event, the chief  
233 law enforcement officer of the town, or such officer's designee,  
234 determines that there is insufficient police capacity to properly and  
235 safely monitor the event or enforce any applicable law related to such  
236 scheduled event or the permit premises or that the event may, or has,  
237 become a danger to public safety, such officer or designee may, in such  
238 officer's or designee's sole discretion, reject such scheduled event or  
239 order such scheduled event to be terminated.

240 (d) Nothing in this section shall exempt the holder of a cafe permit  
241 issued under subsection (c) of section 30-22a or a cafe permit for wine,  
242 beer and cider issued under section 30-22g from compliance with any  
243 other provisions of the general statutes or regulations of Connecticut

244 state agencies concerning minors, including, but not limited to, the  
245 prohibition against the sale of alcoholic liquor to minors. The presence  
246 of alcoholic liquor or the sale or dispensing to or consumption of  
247 alcoholic liquor by a minor at a juice bar or similar facility is prohibited.

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

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

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

267 (2) Any permittee who is convicted of a violation of any provision of  
268 this section shall immediately report such conviction to the Liquor  
269 Control Commission, which may suspend such permittee's permit on  
270 the basis of the conviction.

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

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

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Sections 2(b) and 2(d), "sworn member" was changed to "member" for accuracy, in Section 3(b), "and any municipality may" was changed to "and any municipality with a population of less than twenty thousand may" for clarity and in Section 4, "The holder of a cafe permit, at all times when a portion of the permit premises is being operated as a juice bar, shall limit the number of patrons in the portion of the permit premises being operated as a juice bar to no more than ten per cent of the total building occupant load established by the Fire Marshal under the Fire Safety Code." was moved from Subsec. (c)(2) to Subsec. (b) for clarity.

**PS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*