



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4975



Offered by:

REP. BOYD, 50th Dist.

REP. DIGIOVANCARLO, 74th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **5460**

File No. 331

Cal. No. 251

"AN ACT CONCERNING STATE-WIDE FIRE PROTECTION."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Entity" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-474 of the
5 general statutes;

6 (2) "Fire protection" means the prevention and suppression of fires,
7 the investigation of the origin and cause of fires, the response to
8 hazardous materials incidents and technical rescues;

9 (3) "Municipality" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-148
10 of the general statutes;

11 (4) "District or subdivision" includes any entity or subdivision of a
12 municipality with a responsibility for fire protection services pursuant
13 to statute, charter or ordinance; and

14 (5) "National Emergency Response Information System" means the
15 national data system developed or designated by the United States Fire
16 Administration, or its successor system, for the collection, reporting and
17 analysis of fire and emergency incident data.

18 (b) On or before July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, each fire
19 protection entity responsible for providing fire protection services
20 within one or more of the geographic areas of a municipality shall
21 register with such municipality. Such registration shall include, but
22 need not be limited to, the demographic information of the geographic
23 area served by such entity and the name and contact information of such
24 entity. Such entity shall file amendments to the registration reporting
25 any material change to the information contained in such registration
26 not later than thirty days after the entity knows or should know of such
27 material change.

28 (c) Each municipality shall enter such registration and the
29 demographic and contact information related to such entities in the
30 National Emergency Response Information System. The municipality
31 shall maintain and review such demographic and contact information
32 not less than annually.

33 (d) On or before July 1, 2027, each municipality shall establish a local
34 fire protection plan and submit such plan to the chief elected officer,
35 legislative body and emergency management director of such
36 municipality. Each municipality may submit such plan to the State Fire
37 Administrator, unless the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control
38 requires the submission of such plan to the State Fire Administrator
39 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 7-323*l*, in which case such plan shall
40 be submitted in the form and manner specified by the commission. Such
41 plan shall include, but need not be limited to:

42 (1) A general statement of how fire protection services are provided
43 within the municipality;

44 (2) A disclosure of the districts or subdivisions responsible for fire

45 protection services throughout all geographic areas within the
46 municipality;

47 (3) The name of each fire protection entity responsible for providing
48 fire protection services within one or more of the geographic areas of
49 such municipality;

50 (4) A description of any written agreements or contracts between the
51 municipality and the entities that provide fire protection services to the
52 municipality;

53 (5) An identification of the specific geographic boundaries of the
54 areas within the municipality that are served by each entity that
55 provides fire protection services to the municipality;

56 (6) The name of the person, including, but not limited to, the fire chief,
57 responsible for each fire protection entity that provides fire protection
58 services to the municipality;

59 (7) A description of the fire protection performance standards to
60 which the municipality adheres, including, but not limited to, response
61 times, minimum fireground staffing levels and apparatus requirements;

62 (8) A description of the process used for collecting and tracking
63 personnel and response data, including, but not limited to, any software
64 used; and

65 (9) A description of any mutual aid agreements to which the
66 municipality is a party.

67 (e) If, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of section 7-323l of
68 the general statutes, as amended by this act, the Commission on Fire
69 Prevention and Control establishes a standardized protocol, the State
70 Fire Administrator shall, not less than once every five years, review and
71 assign a rating to each local fire protection plan submitted to the State
72 Fire Administrator pursuant to subsection (c) of this section in
73 accordance with such standardized protocol. The State Fire

74 Administrator (1) may require any municipality whose local fire
75 protection plan is assigned an unsatisfactory rating to submit a
76 performance improvement plan not later than ninety days after the
77 assignment of such unsatisfactory rating, and (2) shall assist such
78 municipality with the development of such performance improvement
79 plan.

80 (f) On and after July 1, 2032, and every five years thereafter, each
81 municipality shall review, and revise as needed, its local fire protection
82 plan and may communicate any substantial changes to such plan to the
83 State Fire Administrator.

84 Sec. 2. Section 7-323l of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is
85 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
86 *1, 2026*):

87 (a) The commission shall:

88 (1) Recommend minimum standards of education and physical
89 condition for candidates for any firefighter position;

90 (2) Recommend minimum standards for firefighter safety and
91 emergency response protocols. Such standards and protocols shall
92 address, but need not be limited to, operational safety strategies used
93 during fire suppression operations, hazardous materials mitigation and
94 technical rescue operations and methods for ensuring the health and
95 wellness of fire service personnel;

96 [(2)] (3) Establish standards for fire service training and education
97 programs, and develop and conduct an examination program to certify
98 those fire service personnel who satisfactorily demonstrate their ability
99 to meet the requirements of the fire service training and education
100 program standards;

101 [(3)] (4) Establish an optional fire service training and education
102 program that provides information relative to the blue envelopes
103 designed pursuant to section 14-11j and yellow envelopes designed

104 pursuant to section 14-111 and techniques for the handling of incidents,
105 such as wandering, that involve juveniles and adults with autism
106 spectrum disorder, cognitive impairment or nonverbal learning
107 disorder, provided the curriculum for such techniques is made available
108 at no cost from (A) institutions of higher education, health care
109 professionals or advocacy organizations that are concerned with
110 juveniles and adults with autism spectrum disorder, cognitive
111 impairment or nonverbal learning disorder, or (B) collaborations of such
112 institutions, professionals or organizations;

113 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Conduct fire fighting training and education programs
114 designed to assist firefighters in developing and maintaining their skills
115 and keeping abreast of technological advances in fire suppression, fire
116 protection, fire prevention and related fields;

117 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Recommend standards for promotion to the various ranks of
118 fire departments;

119 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) Be authorized, with the approval of the Commissioner of
120 Emergency Services and Public Protection, to apply for, receive and
121 distribute any state, federal or private funds or contributions available
122 for training and education of fire fighting personnel;

123 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) Recommend that the Commissioner of Emergency Services
124 and Public Protection approve or reject the establishment of, or, when
125 appropriate, suspend or revoke the approval of, regional fire schools in
126 accordance with section 7-323u;

127 ~~[(8)]~~ (9) Advise the Division of Fire Services Administration within
128 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection on the
129 management of the Statewide Fire Service Disaster Response Plan;

130 ~~[(9)]~~ (10) Implement the recommendations of the study of the fire
131 service authorized pursuant to subdivision (36) of subsection (b) of
132 section 41 of public act 23-204; and

133 ~~[(10)]~~ (11) Submit to the Governor, the joint standing committee of the

134 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety
135 and security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, and the
136 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection an annual
137 report (A) relating to the activities, recommendations and
138 accomplishments of the commission, and (B) making recommendations
139 on the funding necessary for the operation of, the maintenance of and
140 capital improvements to the state fire school and regional fire schools.

141 (b) The commission may:

142 (1) [~~recommend~~] Recommend, and the Commissioner of Emergency
143 Services and Public Protection may adopt, regulations in accordance
144 with the provisions of chapter 54 as necessary to implement the
145 provisions of this section;

146 (2) Require municipalities to submit local fire protection plans, and
147 any revisions to such plans, to the State Fire Administrator;

148 (3) Establish, in coordination with the State Fire Administrator, a (A)
149 standardized protocol by which the State Fire Administrator shall
150 review, not less than once every five years, local fire protection plans
151 and assign a rating to such plan based on such standardized protocol,
152 and (B) standardized classification system by which the State Fire
153 Administrator may evaluate and grade the operational performance of
154 the fire protection services provided by each municipality or fire district.
155 In establishing such standardized classification system, the commission
156 shall consider nationally recognized standards, including, but not
157 limited to, standards developed by the National Fire Protection
158 Association and the Center for Public Safety Excellence; and

159 (4) Require the submission of operational data by each fire protection
160 entity in the state and specify the form and manner of such submission.
161 The commissioner shall submit such requirement to the State Fire
162 Administrator for adoption.

163 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section,
164 "municipality" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-148 of the

165 general statutes.

166 (b) In the event fire protection services in a municipality are
167 discontinued or interrupted, including, but not limited to, the
168 dissolution or cessation of operations of any fire department, fire district
169 or fire company, the municipality shall take such actions as necessary to
170 ensure the continuation and uninterrupted provision of fire protection
171 services within its territorial limits, except as otherwise provided by
172 special act or municipal charter. Such actions may include, but need not
173 be limited to, the establishment or operation of a municipal fire
174 department, the entering into of contracts or agreements for fire
175 protection services, the designation of a temporary or permanent
176 provider or participation in a mutual aid or regional fire service
177 arrangement.

178 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section and
179 sections 5 and 6 of this act:

180 (1) "Fire protection" has the same meaning as provided in section 1 of
181 this act; and

182 (2) "Municipality" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-148
183 of the general statutes.

184 (b) There is established within the Division of Fire Services
185 Administration within the Department of Emergency Services and
186 Public Protection a program to be known as "Connecticut Fire". The
187 purpose of the Connecticut Fire program shall be to establish a
188 framework for the state to provide administrative and operational
189 assistance to municipalities or fire authorities that choose to receive such
190 assistance. The program shall include, but not be limited to, provisions
191 for resident firefighters to staff and augment volunteer fire departments
192 and fire districts with paid personnel while preserving the local
193 autonomy and command structures of fire protection services.

194 (c) The State Fire Administrator shall oversee the Connecticut Fire
195 program. Upon approval of the framework for the Connecticut Fire

196 program by the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control pursuant
197 to section 6 of this act, the State Fire Administrator may include in a
198 budget request for the subsequent fiscal year the cost of implementing
199 such framework. Upon the inclusion of appropriations for said program
200 in an approved state budget, the State Fire Administrator shall, within
201 available appropriations, implement such framework.

202 (d) The Connecticut Fire program may utilize the facilities and
203 equipment of the Connecticut Fire Academy, the Forestry Division of
204 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the
205 regional fire schools to achieve the objectives of the program.

206 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Upon implementation of the
207 Connecticut Fire program by the State Fire Administrator pursuant to
208 the provisions of section 4 of this act, the Secretary of the Office of Policy
209 and Management shall administer a Connecticut Fire grant program.
210 Pursuant to said grant program, the secretary shall provide grants-in-
211 aid to municipalities that participate in the Connecticut Fire program to
212 incentivize the regionalization of fire protection services and the sharing
213 of fire protection resources among municipalities. A municipality may
214 submit an application for a grant under this subsection in a form and
215 manner prescribed by the secretary.

216 (b) Not later than the start of the subsequent fiscal year after
217 awarding the first grant under the Connecticut Fire grant program, the
218 secretary shall submit a report on the grant program to the joint
219 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
220 matters relating to public safety and security in accordance with the
221 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report shall
222 include, but need not be limited to, an accounting of the grants paid
223 pursuant to the program, a description of each grant awarded under the
224 program and an evaluation of the success of the program and the fire
225 protection services funded under this section.

226 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Comptroller shall establish a
227 working group to develop the administrative, operational, fiscal and

228 personnel framework for the Connecticut Fire program, established
229 pursuant to section 4 of this act.

230 (b) The working group shall include, but need not be limited to:

231 (1) The Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee;

232 (2) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
233 secretary's designee;

234 (3) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
235 or the commissioner's designee;

236 (4) The State Fire Administrator, or the administrator's designee;

237 (5) The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Commission on Fire
238 Prevention and Control, or their designees;

239 (6) Three members of the Joint Council of Connecticut Fire Service
240 Organizations, who shall be appointed by the joint council;

241 (7) The executive director of the Connecticut Conference of
242 Municipalities if such executive director agrees to participate in the
243 working group, or the executive director's designee; and

244 (8) The executive director of the Council of Small Towns if such
245 executive director agrees to participate in the working group, or the
246 executive director's designee.

247 (c) The Comptroller shall: (1) Schedule the first meeting of the
248 working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the
249 effective date of this section; and (2) select two cochairpersons from
250 among the members of the working group.

251 (d) Not later than September 1, 2027, the Comptroller shall submit the
252 recommended framework for the Connecticut Fire program developed
253 by the working group to the Commission on Fire Prevention and
254 Control. The Comptroller may terminate the working group on the date

255 that the commission approves such framework pursuant to subsection
256 (e) of this section or January 1, 2028, whichever is later.

257 (e) Not later than January 1, 2028, the Commission on Fire Prevention
258 and Control shall (1) review the working group's recommended
259 framework for the Connecticut Fire program, (2) approve such
260 framework, with or without modifications, and (3) submit the approved
261 framework to the State Fire Administrator.

262 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The State Fire Administrator
263 shall coordinate with the Division of Emergency Management and
264 Homeland Security within the Department of Emergency Services and
265 Public Protection to establish fire service regions within the state that
266 match the emergency preparedness regions established by said division.
267 The State Fire Administrator shall appoint, subject to confirmation by
268 the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, a regional fire
269 coordinator for each such region. In any region where a recognized
270 regional fire chiefs' organization exists, such organization may submit
271 to the State Fire Administrator recommendations for candidates for
272 regional fire coordinator for such region.

273 (b) Each regional fire coordinator shall serve in a voluntary,
274 nonsalaried capacity as a liaison between the Division of Fire Services
275 Administration within the Department of Emergency Services and
276 Public Protection and the local fire departments within the region
277 served by such regional fire coordinator for the purposes of facilitating
278 the Connecticut Fire program established pursuant to section 4 of this
279 act and coordinating fire protection resources through such region. For
280 the purposes of this subsection, "fire protection" has the same meaning
281 as provided in section 1 of this act.

282 (c) The State Fire Administrator may submit a plan to the
283 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection to
284 transition the position of regional fire coordinator to a salaried
285 employee position. Upon approval of such plan, the commissioner may
286 include such position in the estimates of expenditure requirements in

287 accordance with the provisions of section 4-77 of the general statutes.

288 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) The Department of Emergency
289 Services and Public Protection, in coordination with the office of the
290 Comptroller, shall, within the availability of appropriations approved
291 for such purpose, establish and maintain a system for collecting
292 computer-aided dispatch data pursuant to the provisions of subsection
293 (f) of section 28-25b of the general statutes, as amended by this act. The
294 department shall aggregate such data and monitor information
295 regarding emergency services requests managed by fire departments
296 and emergency medical services providers.

297 Sec. 9. Subsection (f) of section 28-25b of the general statutes is
298 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
299 *2026*):

300 (f) [On and after January 1, 2001, each] Each public safety answering
301 point and regional emergency telecommunications center shall submit
302 to the division, on a quarterly basis, a report of all 9-1-1 calls for services
303 received through the enhanced 9-1-1 service and the next generation 9-
304 1-1 telecommunication system by the public safety answering point or
305 regional emergency telecommunications center. Such report shall
306 include, but not be limited to, the following information: (1) The number
307 of 9-1-1 calls during the reporting quarter; [and] (2) for each such call,
308 the elapsed time period from the time the call was received to the time
309 the call was answered, and the elapsed time period from the time the
310 call was answered to the time the call was transferred or terminated,
311 expressed in time ranges or fractile response times; and (3) any other
312 information requested by the division for inclusion in the system
313 established and maintained by the Department of Emergency Services
314 and Public Protection pursuant to the provisions of section 8 of this act.
315 The information required under this subsection shall be produced using
316 data generated from a computer-aided dispatch system if a public safety
317 answering point or regional emergency telecommunications center
318 utilizes such system, and may be submitted in any written or electronic
319 form selected by such public safety answering point or regional

320 emergency telecommunications center and approved by the
321 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, provided
322 the commissioner shall take into consideration the needs of such public
323 safety answering point or regional emergency telecommunications
324 center in approving such written or electronic form. On a quarterly
325 basis, the division shall make such information available to the public
326 and [shall post such information on its Internet web site] input such
327 information in the system established pursuant to section 8 of this act.

328 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The office of the
329 Comptroller, in coordination with the Department of Emergency
330 Services and Public Protection, shall study the feasibility of centralizing
331 within one state agency access to all public benefits available to
332 firefighters, including, but not limited to, claims related to the
333 firefighters cancer relief account established pursuant to section 7-313h
334 of the general statutes, claims related to the Fallen Hero Fund
335 established pursuant to section 3-122a of the general statutes, injury
336 claims, workers' compensation claims and disability claims. Such access
337 to benefits through one state agency shall include, but need not be
338 limited to, such state agency making eligibility determinations,
339 receiving applications and disseminating information for such benefits.

340 (b) Not later than July 1 2027, the Comptroller shall submit, in
341 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
342 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
343 cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security a report on
344 the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this
345 section.

346 Sec. 11. Subsection (b) of section 7-323o of the general statutes is
347 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
348 *passage*):

349 (b) The Division of Fire Services Administration shall:

350 (1) Administer federal funds and grants allocated to the fire services

- 351 of the state;
- 352 (2) Provide technical assistance and guidance to fire fighting forces of
353 any state or municipal agency;
- 354 (3) Develop a centralized information and audiovisual library
355 regarding fire prevention and control;
- 356 (4) Accumulate, disseminate and analyze fire prevention data;
- 357 (5) Recommend specifications of fire service materials and equipment
358 and assist in the purchasing thereof;
- 359 (6) Assist in mutual aid coordination;
- 360 (7) Coordinate fire programs with those of the other states;
- 361 (8) Assist in communications coordination;
- 362 (9) Establish and maintain a fire service information program;
- 363 (10) Review and approve the purchase of fire apparatus or equipment
364 at state institutions, facilities and properties;
- 365 (11) Recommend and provide reports on revisions to statutes relating
366 to firefighter training and fire prevention and control;
- 367 (12) Advise and assist the Commission on Fire Prevention and
368 Control regarding legislative proposals;
- 369 (13) Encourage the expansion and improvement of existing regional
370 firefighter training facilities in cooperation with the Commission on Fire
371 Prevention and Control;
- 372 (14) Administer the state fire school and regional fire schools;
- 373 (15) Administer certification examinations, testing procedures and
374 reciprocity recognition for credentials in the fire service disciplines;

375 (16) Manage the Statewide Fire Service Disaster Response Plan, with
376 the advice of the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control; [and]

377 (17) Make recommendations to the Commission on Fire Prevention
378 and Control and the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
379 Protection pertaining to the operational funding of the state fire school
380 and regional fire schools; and

381 (18) Not later than July 1, 2027, establish, and annually thereafter
382 update as needed, a registry identifying the fire chief for each
383 municipality and fire district in the state.

384 Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than July 1, 2027, the
385 office of the Comptroller, in coordination with the Department of
386 Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall establish and maintain
387 a registry of all career and volunteer firefighters in the state, for the
388 purpose of verifying such firefighters' training, credentials and benefit
389 eligibility.

390 Sec. 13. Section 14-96q of the general statutes is repealed and the
391 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

392 (a) A permit is required for the use of colored or flashing lights on all
393 motor vehicles or equipment specified in this section except: (1) Motor
394 vehicles not registered in this state used for transporting or escorting
395 any vehicle or load, or combinations thereof, which is either oversize or
396 overweight, or both, when operating under a permit issued by the
397 Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to section 14-270; or (2)
398 motor vehicles or equipment that are (A) equipped with lights in
399 accordance with this section, (B) owned or leased by the federal
400 government, the state of Connecticut, or any other state, commonwealth
401 or local municipality, and (C) registered to such governmental entity.
402 When used in this section, the term "flashing" shall be considered to
403 include the term "revolving".

404 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or such other person
405 specifically identified in this section, may issue permits for the use of

406 colored or flashing lights on vehicles in accordance with this section, at
407 the commissioner's or such person's discretion. Any person, firm or
408 corporation other than the state or any metropolitan district, town, city
409 or borough shall pay an annual permit fee of twenty dollars to the
410 commissioner for each such vehicle. Such fee shall apply only to permits
411 issued by the commissioner.

412 (c) A [flashing] blue light or lights, including flashing blue lights, may
413 be used on a motor vehicle operated by an active member of a volunteer
414 fire department or company or an active member of an organized civil
415 preparedness auxiliary fire company who has been issued a permit by
416 the chief executive officer of such department or company to use such a
417 [flashing] blue light or lights while on the way to or at the scene of a fire
418 or other emergency requiring such member's services. Such permit shall
419 be on a form provided by the commissioner and may be revoked by such
420 chief executive officer or such chief executive officer's successor. The
421 chief executive officer of each volunteer fire department or company or
422 organized civil preparedness auxiliary fire company shall keep on file,
423 on forms provided by the commissioner, the names and addresses of
424 members who have been authorized to use a [flashing] blue light or
425 lights as provided in this subsection. Such listing shall also designate the
426 registration number of the motor vehicle on which an authorized [a
427 flashing] blue light or lights are to be used.

428 (d) A flashing green or blue light or lights may be used on a motor
429 vehicle operated by an active member of a volunteer ambulance
430 association or company who has been issued a permit by the chief
431 executive officer of such association or company to use such a light or
432 lights, while on the way to or at the scene of an emergency requiring
433 such member's services. Such permit shall be on a form provided by the
434 commissioner and may be revoked by such chief executive officer or
435 such chief executive officer's successor. The chief executive officer of
436 each volunteer ambulance association or company shall keep on file, on
437 forms provided by the commissioner, the names and addresses of
438 members who have been authorized to use a flashing green or blue light

439 or lights as provided in this subsection. Such listing shall also designate
440 the registration number of the motor vehicle on which the authorized
441 flashing green or blue light or lights are to be used.

442 (e) The commissioner may issue a permit for a [flashing] red light or
443 lights, including flashing red lights, which may be used on a motor
444 vehicle or equipment (1) used by paid fire chiefs and their deputies and
445 assistants, up to a total of five individuals per department, (2) used by
446 volunteer fire chiefs and their deputies and assistants, up to a total of
447 five individuals per department, (3) used by members of the fire police
448 on a stationary vehicle as a warning signal during traffic directing
449 operations at the scene of a fire or emergency, (4) used by chief executive
450 officers of emergency medical service organizations, as defined in
451 section 19a-175, the first or second deputies, or if there are no deputies,
452 the first or second assistants, of such an organization that is a municipal
453 or volunteer or licensed organization, (5) used by local fire marshals, (6)
454 used by directors of emergency management, including, but not limited
455 to, the deputy commissioner of the Division of Emergency Management
456 and Homeland Security within the Department of Emergency Services
457 and Public Protection and the regional coordinators for said division, or
458 (7) used by a constable, appointed pursuant to an ordinance authorized
459 by section 9-185 or elected pursuant to section 9-200, on a stationary
460 vehicle as a warning signal during traffic directing operations.

461 (f) The commissioner may issue a permit for a yellow or amber light
462 or lights, including a flashing yellow or amber light or lights, which may
463 be used on motor vehicles or equipment that are (1) specified in
464 subsection (e) of this section, (2) maintenance vehicles, or (3) vehicles
465 transporting or escorting any vehicle or load or combinations thereof,
466 which is or are either oversize or overweight, or both, and being
467 operated or traveling under a permit issued by the Commissioner of
468 Transportation pursuant to section 14-270. A yellow or amber light or
469 lights, including a flashing yellow or amber light or lights, may be used
470 without obtaining a permit from the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
471 on wreckers registered pursuant to section 14-66, on vehicles of carriers

472 in rural mail delivery service or on vehicles operated by construction
473 inspectors employed by the state of Connecticut, authorized by the
474 Commissioner of Transportation, used during the performance of
475 inspections on behalf of the state. The Commissioner of Transportation
476 shall maintain a list of such authorized construction inspectors,
477 including the name and address of each inspector and the registration
478 number for each vehicle on which the light or lights are to be used.

479 (g) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may issue a permit for a
480 white light or lights, including a flashing white light or lights, which
481 may be used on a motor vehicle or equipment as specified in subdivision
482 (1), (2), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (e) of this section. A vehicle being
483 operated by a member of a volunteer fire department or company or a
484 volunteer emergency medical technician may use flashing white head
485 lamps, provided such member or emergency medical technician is on
486 the way to the scene of a fire or medical emergency and has received
487 written authorization from the chief law enforcement officer of the
488 municipality to use such head lamps. Such head lamps shall only be
489 used within the municipality granting such authorization or from a
490 personal residence or place of employment, if located in an adjoining
491 municipality. Such authorization may be revoked for use of such head
492 lamps in violation of this subdivision. For the purposes of this
493 subsection, the term "flashing white lights" shall not include the
494 simultaneous flashing of head lamps.

495 (h) The commissioner may issue a permit for emergency vehicles, as
496 defined in subsection (a) of section 14-283, to use a blue, red, yellow, or
497 white light or lights, including a flashing light or lights or any
498 combination thereof. [, except as provided in subsection (k) of this
499 section.]

500 (i) The commissioner may issue a permit for ambulances, as defined
501 in section 19a-175, which may, in addition to the flashing light or lights
502 allowed in subsection (h) of this section, use flashing lights of other
503 colors specified by federal requirements for the manufacture of an
504 ambulance. If the commissioner issues a permit for any ambulance, such

505 permit shall be issued at the time of registration and upon each renewal
 506 of such registration.

507 (j) A green, yellow or amber light or lights, including a flashing green,
 508 yellow or amber light or lights or any combination thereof, may be used
 509 on a maintenance vehicle owned and operated by the Department of
 510 Transportation.

511 [(k) No person, other than a police officer or inspector of the
 512 Department of Motor Vehicles operating a state or local police vehicle,
 513 shall operate a motor vehicle displaying a steady blue or steady red
 514 illuminated light or both steady blue and steady red illuminated lights
 515 that are visible externally from the front of the vehicle.]

516 [(l)] (k) Use of colored and flashing lights except as authorized by this
 517 section shall be an infraction."

| | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | October 1, 2026 | New section |
| Sec. 2 | October 1, 2026 | 7-323l |
| Sec. 3 | October 1, 2026 | New section |
| Sec. 4 | from passage | New section |
| Sec. 5 | from passage | New section |
| Sec. 6 | from passage | New section |
| Sec. 7 | from passage | New section |
| Sec. 8 | July 1, 2026 | New section |
| Sec. 9 | July 1, 2026 | 28-25b(f) |
| Sec. 10 | from passage | New section |
| Sec. 11 | from passage | 7-323o(b) |
| Sec. 12 | from passage | New section |
| Sec. 13 | October 1, 2026 | 14-96q |