



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 3832



Offered by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.
SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.
SEN. GASTON, 23rd Dist.
SEN. COHEN, 12th Dist.

SEN. MCCRORY, 2nd Dist.
SEN. WINFIELD, 10th Dist.
SEN. MARONEY, 14th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 407

File No. 305

Cal. No. 215

"AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO ISSUE PERMITS ALLOWING ORGAN TRANSPORT VEHICLES TO USE CERTAIN LIGHTS."

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

3 "Section 1. Section 14-96q of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5 (a) A permit is required for the use of colored or flashing lights on all
6 motor vehicles or equipment specified in this section except: (1) Motor
7 vehicles not registered in this state used for transporting or escorting
8 any vehicle or load, or combinations thereof, which is either oversize or
9 overweight, or both, when operating under a permit issued by the
10 Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to section 14-270; or (2)
11 motor vehicles or equipment that are (A) equipped with lights in
12 accordance with this section, (B) owned or leased by the federal

13 government, the state of Connecticut, or any other state, commonwealth
14 or local municipality, and (C) registered to such governmental entity.
15 When used in this section, the term "flashing" shall be considered to
16 include the term "revolving".

17 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or such other person
18 specifically identified in this section, may issue permits for the use of
19 colored or flashing lights on vehicles in accordance with this section, at
20 the commissioner's or such person's discretion. Any person, firm or
21 corporation other than the state or any metropolitan district, town, city
22 or borough shall pay an annual permit fee of twenty dollars to the
23 commissioner for each such vehicle. Such fee shall apply only to permits
24 issued by the commissioner.

25 (c) A flashing blue light or lights may be used on a motor vehicle
26 operated by an active member of a volunteer fire department or
27 company or an active member of an organized civil preparedness
28 auxiliary fire company who has been issued a permit by the chief
29 executive officer of such department or company to use a flashing blue
30 light or lights while on the way to or at the scene of a fire or other
31 emergency requiring such member's services. Such permit shall be on a
32 form provided by the commissioner and may be revoked by such chief
33 executive officer or successor. The chief executive officer of each
34 volunteer fire department or company or organized civil preparedness
35 auxiliary fire company shall keep on file, on forms provided by the
36 commissioner, the names and addresses of members who have been
37 authorized to use a flashing blue light or lights as provided in this
38 subsection. Such listing shall also designate the registration number of
39 the motor vehicle on which authorized a flashing blue light or lights are
40 to be used.

41 (d) A flashing green or blue light or lights may be used on a motor
42 vehicle operated by an active member of a volunteer ambulance
43 association or company who has been issued a permit by the chief
44 executive officer of such association or company to use such a light or
45 lights, while on the way to or at the scene of an emergency requiring

46 such member's services. Such permit shall be on a form provided by the
47 commissioner and may be revoked by such chief executive officer or
48 successor. The chief executive officer of each volunteer ambulance
49 association or company shall keep on file, on forms provided by the
50 commissioner, the names and addresses of members who have been
51 authorized to use a flashing green or blue light or lights as provided in
52 this subsection. Such listing shall also designate the registration number
53 of the motor vehicle on which the authorized flashing green or blue light
54 or lights are to be used.

55 (e) The commissioner may issue a permit for a flashing red light or
56 lights which may be used on a motor vehicle or equipment (1) used by
57 paid fire chiefs and their deputies and assistants, up to a total of five
58 individuals per department, (2) used by volunteer fire chiefs and their
59 deputies and assistants, up to a total of five individuals per department,
60 (3) used by members of the fire police on a stationary vehicle as a
61 warning signal during traffic directing operations at the scene of a fire
62 or emergency, (4) used by chief executive officers of emergency medical
63 service organizations, as defined in section 19a-175, the first or second
64 deputies, or if there are no deputies, the first or second assistants, of such
65 an organization that is a municipal or volunteer or licensed
66 organization, (5) used by local fire marshals, (6) used by directors of
67 emergency management, or (7) used by a constable, appointed pursuant
68 to an ordinance authorized by section 9-185 or elected pursuant to
69 section 9-200, on a stationary vehicle as a warning signal during traffic
70 directing operations.

71 (f) The commissioner may issue a permit for a yellow or amber light
72 or lights, including a flashing yellow or amber light or lights, which may
73 be used on motor vehicles or equipment that are (1) specified in
74 subsection (e) of this section, (2) maintenance vehicles, or (3) vehicles
75 transporting or escorting any vehicle or load or combinations thereof,
76 which is or are either oversize or overweight, or both, and being
77 operated or traveling under a permit issued by the Commissioner of
78 Transportation pursuant to section 14-270. A yellow or amber light or

79 lights, including a flashing yellow or amber light or lights, may be used
80 without obtaining a permit from the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
81 on wreckers registered pursuant to section 14-66, on vehicles of carriers
82 in rural mail delivery service or on vehicles operated by construction
83 inspectors employed by the state of Connecticut, authorized by the
84 Commissioner of Transportation, used during the performance of
85 inspections on behalf of the state. The Commissioner of Transportation
86 shall maintain a list of such authorized construction inspectors,
87 including the name and address of each inspector and the registration
88 number for each vehicle on which the light or lights are to be used.

89 (g) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may issue a permit for a
90 white light or lights, including a flashing white light or lights, which
91 may be used on a motor vehicle or equipment as specified in subdivision
92 (1), (2), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (e) of this section. A vehicle being
93 operated by a member of a volunteer fire department or company or a
94 volunteer emergency medical technician may use flashing white head
95 lamps, provided such member or emergency medical technician is on
96 the way to the scene of a fire or medical emergency and has received
97 written authorization from the chief law enforcement officer of the
98 municipality to use such head lamps. Such head lamps shall only be
99 used within the municipality granting such authorization or from a
100 personal residence or place of employment, if located in an adjoining
101 municipality. Such authorization may be revoked for use of such head
102 lamps in violation of this subdivision. For the purposes of this
103 subsection, the term "flashing white lights" shall not include the
104 simultaneous flashing of head lamps.

105 (h) The commissioner may issue a permit for emergency vehicles, as
106 defined in subsection (a) of section 14-283, and organ transport vehicles
107 to use a blue, red, yellow [.] or white light or lights, including a flashing
108 light or lights or any combination thereof, except as provided in
109 subsection (k) of this section. For the purposes of this subsection, "organ
110 transport vehicle" means any vehicle operated by an employee of a
111 procurement organization, as defined in section 19a-289a, while

112 transporting parts, as defined in said section.

113 (i) The commissioner may issue a permit for ambulances, as defined
 114 in section 19a-175, which may, in addition to the flashing light or lights
 115 allowed in subsection (h) of this section, use flashing lights of other
 116 colors specified by federal requirements for the manufacture of an
 117 ambulance. If the commissioner issues a permit for any ambulance, such
 118 permit shall be issued at the time of registration and upon each renewal
 119 of such registration.

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

124 (k) No person, other than a police officer or inspector of the
 125 Department of Motor Vehicles operating a state or local police vehicle,
 126 shall operate a motor vehicle displaying a steady blue or steady red
 127 illuminated light or both steady blue and steady red illuminated lights
 128 that are visible externally from the front of the vehicle.

129 (l) Use of colored and flashing lights except as authorized by this
 130 section shall be an infraction.

131 (m) Nothing in this section shall be construed to confer upon the
 132 operator of any vehicle the privileges granted to the operator of an
 133 emergency vehicle under section 14-283."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	14-96q