



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4701



Offered by:

REP. FISHBEIN, 90th Dist.

REP. HOWARD, 43rd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 397

File No. 399

Cal. No. 455

(As Amended)

**"AN ACT CONCERNING DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTABILITY."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 54-33o of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5 (a) [(1) No] A law enforcement official may ask an operator of a motor
6 vehicle to conduct a search of a motor vehicle or the contents of the
7 motor vehicle that is stopped by a law enforcement official, [solely for a
8 motor vehicle violation] provided the law enforcement official has
9 reasonable and articulable suspicion that weapons, contraband or other
10 evidence of a crime is contained within the vehicle. A law enforcement
11 official who solicits consent to search a motor vehicle shall, whether or
12 not the consent is granted, complete a police report not later than forty-

13 eight hours after such solicitation, documenting the reasonable and
14 articulable suspicion for the solicitation of consent.

15 [(2) Any search by a law enforcement official of a motor vehicle or the
16 contents of the motor vehicle that is stopped by a law enforcement
17 official solely for a motor vehicle violation shall be (A) based on
18 probable cause, or (B) after having received the unsolicited consent to
19 such search from the operator of the motor vehicle in written form or
20 recorded by body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera,
21 each as defined in section 29-6d.]

22 (b) No law enforcement official may ask an operator of a motor
23 vehicle to provide any documentation or identification other than an
24 operator's license, motor vehicle registration, insurance identity card or
25 other documentation or identification directly related to the stop, when
26 the motor vehicle has been stopped solely for a motor vehicle violation,
27 unless there exists [probable cause] reasonable suspicion to believe that
28 a felony or misdemeanor offense has been committed or the operator
29 has failed to produce a valid operator's license."

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Sec. 501 | October 1, 2026 | 54-33o |