



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Raised Bill No. 5920**

LCO No. 2830

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:  
(TRA)

**AN ACT CONCERNING REPLACEMENT OF THE HALES ROAD  
HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE METRO-NORTH RAILROAD  
CORPORATION IN WESTPORT.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 13b-251 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The minimum overhead clearance for any structure crossing  
4 over railroad tracks for which construction is begun on or after  
5 October 1, 1986, shall be twenty feet, six inches, except that, (1) if the  
6 construction includes only deck replacement or minor widening of the  
7 structure, and the existing piers or abutments remain in place, the  
8 minimum overhead clearance shall be the structure's existing overhead  
9 clearance; (2) the minimum overhead clearance for any structure  
10 crossing any railroad tracks on which trains are operated that are  
11 attached to or powered by means of overhead electrical wires shall be  
12 twenty-two feet, six inches; (3) the minimum overhead clearance for  
13 the structure that carries (A) Route 372 over railroad tracks in New  
14 Britain, designated state project number 131-156, (B) U.S. Route 1 over  
15 railroad tracks in Fairfield, designated state project number 50-6H05,

16 (C) Route 729 over railroad tracks in North Haven, designated state  
17 project number 100-149, (D) Grove Street over railroad tracks in  
18 Hartford, designated state project number 63-376, (E) Route 1 over  
19 railroad tracks in Milford, designated state project number 173-117, (F)  
20 Ingham Hill Road over railroad tracks in Old Saybrook, designated  
21 state project number 105-164, (G) Ellis Street over railroad tracks in  
22 New Britain, designated state project number 88-114, (H) Route 100  
23 over the railroad tracks in East Haven, bridge number 01294, and (I)  
24 Church Street Extension over certain railroad storage tracks located in  
25 the New Haven Rail Yard, designated state project number 92-526,  
26 shall be eighteen feet; (4) the minimum overhead clearance for those  
27 structures carrying (A) Fair Street, bridge number 03870, (B) Crown  
28 Street, bridge number 03871, and (C) Chapel Street, bridge number  
29 03872, over railroad tracks in New Haven shall be seventeen feet, six  
30 inches; (5) the minimum overhead clearance for the structure carrying  
31 State Street railroad station pedestrian bridge over railroad tracks in  
32 New Haven shall be nineteen feet, ten inches; [and] (6) the overhead  
33 clearance for the structure carrying Woodland Street over the Griffins  
34 Industrial Line in Hartford, designated state project number 63-501,  
35 shall be fifteen feet, nine inches, with new foundations placed at  
36 depths which may accommodate an overhead clearance to a maximum  
37 of seventeen feet, eight inches; and (7) the Department of  
38 Transportation may replace the Hales Road Highway Bridge over  
39 railroad tracks in Westport, Bridge Number 03852, with a new bridge  
40 that provides a minimum overhead clearance over the railroad tracks  
41 that shall be eighteen feet, five inches.

42 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To fulfill the state's statutory responsibility for the traffic safety and load carrying capacity with regard to the Hales Road Highway Bridge by authorizing replacement of that bridge with a new bridge that has a minimum overhead clearance at least equal to the existing overhead clearance.

*[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.]*