



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7218

LCO No. 4417

04417_____JUD

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING PROBABLE CAUSE TO SEARCH A MOTOR VEHICLE AND ITS CONTENTS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 54-33m of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

3 (a) The failure of an operator of, or front seat passenger in, a private
4 passenger motor vehicle or vanpool vehicle to wear a seat safety belt as
5 required by section 14-100a shall not constitute probable cause for a
6 law enforcement official to conduct a search of such vehicle and its
7 contents.

8 (b) The failure of the operator of a private passenger motor vehicle
9 or vanpool vehicle to comply with the requirements of section 14-99f,
10 as amended by this act, shall not constitute probable cause for a law
11 enforcement official to conduct a search of such vehicle and its
12 contents.

13 Sec. 2. Section 14-99f of the general statutes is repealed and the
14 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

15 (a) Each motor vehicle shall be equipped with a windshield of a
16 type prescribed by section 14-100 and a windshield cleaner or wiper in
17 effective working order located directly in front of the operator while
18 in use on the highway. The windshield shall be reasonably free of
19 defects and accumulations, inside and out, of snow, ice, condensation
20 and dirt. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a
21 motorcycle or a vehicle designed by the manufacturer for nonhighway
22 operation without a windshield.

23 (b) No person shall operate a motor vehicle required to be equipped
24 with such a windshield if the windshield is in a condition to interfere
25 with an unobstructed view of the highway.

26 (c) No article, device, sticker or ornament shall be attached or
27 affixed to or hung on or in any motor vehicle in such a manner or
28 location as to interfere with the operator's unobstructed view of the
29 highway or to distract the attention of the operator.

30 (d) Violation of any provision of this section shall not constitute
31 probable cause for a search as set forth in section 54-33m, as amended
32 by this act.

33 [(d)] (e) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an
34 infraction.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	54-33m
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	14-99f

Statement of Purpose:

To provide that a violation of the prohibition on obstruction of a motor vehicle windshield shall not constitute probable cause for a search of a motor vehicle and its contents.

[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.]