



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1296

January Session, 2007

* _____SB01296JUD__041307_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING AMUSEMENT PATRONS' SAFETY.

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

1 Section 1. Section 29-136 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

3 (a) Upon receipt of an application for an amusement license, the
4 Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee shall
5 investigate and, in accordance with the frequency schedule adopted in
6 regulations by the commissioner pursuant to subsection (e) of this
7 section, inspect in full the location, equipment, paraphernalia,
8 mechanical amusement rides and devices in respect to such
9 amusement and all other matters relating thereto and shall determine
10 whether or not such amusement will be reasonably safe for public
11 attendance and may make reasonable orders concerning alterations,
12 additions or betterments to the equipment, paraphernalia, mechanical
13 amusement rides and devices, and concerning the character and
14 arrangement of the seating, means of egress, lighting, fire-fighting
15 appliances, fire and police protection and such other provisions as
16 shall make the amusement reasonably safe against both fire and
17 casualty hazards.

18 (b) When any serious physical injury, as defined in subdivision (4)
19 of section 53a-3, or death occurs in connection with the operation of
20 any amusement ride or device, the owner of such ride or device shall,

21 within four hours after such occurrence, report the injury or death to
22 the commissioner or the commissioner's designee. Not later than four
23 hours after receipt of any such report, the commissioner or the
24 commissioner's designee shall cause an investigation of the occurrence
25 and an inspection of the ride or device to determine the cause of such
26 serious physical injury or death. The commissioner or the
27 commissioner's designee may enter into any place or upon any
28 premises so licensed in furtherance of such investigation and
29 inspection. Unless otherwise authorized by the commissioner, no
30 amusement ride or device subject to the provisions of this chapter may
31 be operated or altered nor shall it be removed from the location where
32 such injury or death occurred for seventy-two hours after the time of
33 the receipt of the report.

34 (c) The owner of an amusement ride or device shall display signs, in
35 accordance with the patron safety regulations adopted by the
36 commissioner pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, on which is
37 written, at a minimum, the following statement, in letters at least two
38 inches in height: "State law requires patrons to obey all posted signs,
39 warnings and instructions and to behave in a manner that will not
40 cause or contribute to the injury of themselves or others. Patrons must
41 report all injuries to management before leaving. Failure to comply is
42 punishable by up to a five hundred dollar fine and up to three months
43 imprisonment." Such signs shall be posted in accordance with the
44 patron safety regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to
45 subsection (e) of this section and at any station for reporting an injury,
46 any first aid station and either (1) the entrance or exit to or from the
47 premises designated for patrons, or (2) any area or structure where
48 patrons may purchase admission or receive authorization to use an
49 amusement ride or device.

50 [(c)] (d) The Commissioner of Public Safety may grant variations
51 from, or approve equivalent or alternate compliance with, particular
52 provisions of this section or any regulation adopted under the
53 provisions of subsection [(d)] (e) of this section where strict compliance
54 with such provisions would result in exceptional practical difficulty or

55 undue hardship provided any such variation or approved equivalent
56 or alternate compliance shall, in the opinion of the Commissioner of
57 Public Safety, secure the public safety.

58 [(d)] (e) The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance
59 with the provisions of chapter 54 to carry out the provisions of this
60 section.

61 Sec. 2. (NEW) (a) A patron of an amusement, as defined in section
62 29-133 of the general statutes, shall obey the patron safety regulations
63 adopted by the Commissioner of Public Safety pursuant to subsection
64 (e) of section 29-136 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

65 (b) A security guard or law enforcement officer may detain a patron
66 of an amusement for a reasonable time for the purpose of conducting
67 an investigation if such guard or officer has reasonable cause to believe
68 that the patron has violated the patron safety regulations adopted by
69 the commissioner pursuant to subsection (e) of section 29-136 of the
70 general statutes, as amended by this act.

71 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting or
72 otherwise affecting the liability of the owner of an amusement or
73 relieving the owner's responsibility to provide reasonable supervision
74 of patrons.

75 Sec. 3. Section 53a-182 of the general statutes is repealed and the
76 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

77 (a) A person is guilty of disorderly conduct when, with intent to
78 cause inconvenience, annoyance or alarm, or recklessly creating a risk
79 thereof, such person: (1) Engages in fighting or in violent, tumultuous
80 or threatening behavior; or (2) by offensive or disorderly conduct,
81 annoys or interferes with another person; or (3) makes unreasonable
82 noise; or (4) without lawful authority, disturbs any lawful assembly or
83 meeting of persons; or (5) obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic; or
84 (6) congregates with other persons in a public place and refuses to
85 comply with a reasonable official request or order to disperse; or (7)

