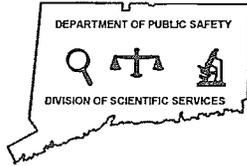




STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III  
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion  
Chief of Staff

Rep. Christopher L. Caruso, Co-Chairman  
Sen. Gayle S. Slossberg, Co-Chairman  
Government Administration and Elections Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

March 16, 2007

**HB 6250 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE FLEET**

*The Department of Public Safety requests a change in the current exemption language if this bill goes forward.*

This bill currently has exemption language intended to address the particular public safety needs of this agency which states as follows:

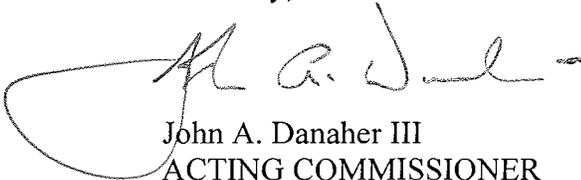
“[(b)] (c) The provisions of [subsection (a)] subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall not apply to [cars or light duty trucks purchased for law enforcement or other special use purposes as designated by the Department of Administrative Services] state police vehicles used in the immediate pursuit of actual or suspected violators of the law.”

The Department of Public Safety believes that the exemption language currently in this bill is too restrictive to meet the needs of the agency in carrying out its specific statutory duties and overall mission. All of the agency’s sworn personnel are duty bound to respond to emergencies and most of the agency’s vehicles for sworn members are equipped with emergency lights and sirens.

It should also be noted that a majority of our Emergency Services Unit, State Fire Marshal, CTS, and Traffic personnel require SUV’s to carry their required equipment or to have the ability to tow heavy equipment. The language limiting the exemption to those vehicles used in the immediate pursuit of actual or suspected law violators would not cover these vehicles.

The agency requests that the current language be changed to “those state police vehicles determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety and approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services that are necessary for the Department of Public Safety to carry out its mission.” This would enable the agency to work with the Department of Administrative Services to determine which vehicle assignments are appropriate and necessary to meet the goal of this bill without hampering the agency’s ability to carry out its statutory duties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Danaher III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a horizontal line at the end.

John A. Danaher III  
ACTING COMMISSIONER  
Department of Public Safety