



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 161

February Session, 2008

Substitute Senate Bill No. 298

Senate, March 26, 2008

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REMOVE SNOW AND ICE FROM MOTOR VEHICLES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective June 1, 2009*) (a) The operator of any
2 motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1 of the 2008 supplement to the
3 general statutes, shall have an affirmative duty to remove accumulated
4 ice or snow from the motor vehicle, including the hood, trunk and roof
5 of the motor vehicle, so that any ice or snow accumulated on such
6 vehicle does not pose a threat to persons or property while the vehicle
7 is being operated on any street or highway of this state.

8 (b) When the operator of a motor vehicle violates the provisions of
9 this section and snow or ice is dislodged from such vehicle and causes
10 personal injury or property damage, the operator shall be fined not
11 less than two hundred dollars but not more than one thousand dollars
12 for each offense.

13 (c) This section shall not apply to (1) any operator of a motor vehicle

- 14 operated during a period of snow, sleet or freezing rain, or (2) any
- 15 operator of a motor vehicle while such vehicle is parked.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>June 1, 2009</i>	New section

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Public Safety, Dept.	GF - None	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Municipal Police Departments	None	None	None

Explanation

The bill's fine of \$200 to \$1,000 could be imposed on any person who doesn't remove accumulated ice and snow from the person's motor vehicle if that ice/snow is dislodged from the vehicle and causes personal injury or property damage. In light of the amount of revenue generated under a broader statute currently¹, it is anticipated that this new fine would generate less than \$50,000 in revenue annually. Since the bill does not include this new fine among fines, fees, and surcharges² that must be deposited into the Special Transportation Fund³, any revenues generated under the bill would be deposited into the General Fund. Police enforcement could be accommodated within the normal course of police officers' duties and at no increased cost.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing revenue gain identified above would remain constant into the future since fine amounts are set by statute.

¹ In FY 07, revenues in the amount of \$59,000 were generated under CGS 14-271(b), Operating with an Unsecured Load. The amount due for such a violation is \$177.

² CGS 13b-59(g)

³ In accordance with CGS 13b-59(d) and 13b-61(b)(4).

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 298*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REMOVE SNOW AND ICE FROM MOTOR VEHICLES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill makes it a driver's affirmative duty to remove accumulated ice or snow from a motor vehicle so that it does not pose a threat to people or property while it is being driven. This includes the vehicle's hood, trunk, and roof. If someone violates this requirement and snow or ice is dislodged from the vehicle and causes injury or damage to property, the bill requires the driver to be fined \$200 to \$1,000.

The bill's requirements do not apply if the vehicle is being driven during a period of snow, sleet, or freezing rain, or if it is parked.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 1, 2009

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/07/2008)