



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**Raised Bill No. 5455**

LCO No. 1857

\*01857\_\_\_\_\_TRA\*

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:  
(TRA)

**AN ACT UPDATING THE MASTER TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND  
THE EXISTING TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES ASSESSMENT  
REPORT.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 13b-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The commissioner shall develop and revise biennially a  
4 comprehensive, [long-range,] master transportation plan designed to  
5 fulfill the present and future needs of the state and to assure the  
6 development and maintenance of an adequate, safe and efficient  
7 transportation system. In developing the plan, the commissioner shall  
8 [investigate and study all existing transportation facilities and services  
9 in the state and shall examine the feasibility of planning a long-term  
10 commercial transportation system, with the goal of coordinating all  
11 transportation services, including airports, seaports, rail, freight and  
12 transit systems] consider the department's statutory responsibilities,  
13 the guiding principles and transportation strategies adopted by the  
14 Governor and the General Assembly, the state's current conservation  
15 and development policies plan, the federally mandated factors

16 specified in the current federal surface transportation authorization  
17 legislation, and the department's assessment of existing transportation  
18 facilities carried out under section 13b-16, as amended by this act. The  
19 commissioner shall also give [particular] consideration to: [reports] (1)  
20 Reports and studies [prepared under the auspices of the Connecticut  
21 interregional planning program] relating to the planning and  
22 development of the state; [and] (2) any existing reports, surveys, plans  
23 or studies relating to transportation prepared for or by any agency,  
24 board or commission of the state; and (3) regional long-range  
25 transportation plans prepared by regional planning organizations in  
26 this state.

27 (b) In such master transportation plan the commissioner shall: (1)  
28 Set forth the commissioner's recommendations for planning,  
29 engineering, acquisition of rights-of-way, construction and  
30 reconstruction and rehabilitation and modernization of transportation  
31 facilities; (2) consider, among other things, federal air quality  
32 standards, conservation and cost of energy supplies, present and  
33 projected travel volumes, reduction in travel volumes due to the  
34 implementation of transportation management programs, safety,  
35 maintenance costs and other sufficiency factors where appropriate, as  
36 well as long-range land use, environmental impact, energy impact and  
37 economic development patterns of the state; (3) indicate the order of  
38 priority of need for improvements within each mode of transportation,  
39 according to the commissioner's judgment; and (4) indicate the  
40 priorities for the next [two and five-year periods] five-year period,  
41 both by need and by fiscal capability, [in the area of public  
42 transportation] for each mode of transportation. The indication of such  
43 priorities [for public transportation] shall include an individual  
44 accounting of the amount and source of all funding for each potential  
45 program and an approximate timetable, including the starting and  
46 completion dates for each potential program.

47 (c) The commissioner shall, relative to the [Transportation Equity  
48 Act for the 21st Century] current federal surface transportation

49 authorization legislation: (1) Identify the funds to be received annually  
50 in the [following categories: Interstate construction, interstate  
51 maintenance, national highway system, bridge, surface transportation  
52 program, interstate transfer, congestion mitigation and air quality,  
53 metropolitan planning, special projects and any other category  
54 designation under the act] federal program funding categories; (2)  
55 identify the projects to be funded annually through each funding  
56 category; (3) identify the projects to be funded annually through each  
57 category continued or established by such legislation, as a result of the  
58 change in formulas and new flexibility allowed under the  
59 [Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century] current federal  
60 surface transportation authorization legislation; (4) identify which  
61 projects will require the expenditure of state funds to leverage federal  
62 funds; (5) identify the amount and percentage of state funds that must  
63 be expended for each project in order to leverage federal funds; (6)  
64 identify the amount of federal funds that may be expended annually to  
65 repair local bridges identified as being in poor condition; (7) identify  
66 the economic impact of the federal funds allocated to the state in terms  
67 of job creation or retention; (8) identify the mass transit projects to be  
68 funded; and (9) identify the manner in which the department intends  
69 to comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended by  
70 P.L. 101-549, and how the department intends to expend any funds  
71 allocated to the department to achieve the goals of the act. [; and (10)  
72 identify with specificity the expenditures to be made from funds  
73 received in the congestion mitigation and air quality grant in relation  
74 to the needs identified by employers in their compliance plans  
75 submitted pursuant to substitute house bill 5659 of the February, 1992,  
76 regular session\*.]

77 (d) In such plan the commissioner shall identify the amount of  
78 funds and projects to be undertaken pursuant to the Americans with  
79 Disabilities Act of 1990.

80 (e) The plan shall be completed and submitted biennially to the  
81 Governor on or before January thirty-first of each odd-numbered year.

82 The commissioner shall, biennially, on or before January thirty-first of  
83 each odd-numbered year, notify all members of the General Assembly  
84 of the availability of the plan. The commissioner shall send a written  
85 copy or electronic storage media of the plan to any member requesting  
86 the plan.

87 (f) In developing and revising the plan, the commissioner may: (1)  
88 Conduct public hearings; (2) consult and cooperate with officials and  
89 representatives of the federal government, neighboring states,  
90 interstate commissions and authorities, local agencies and authorities,  
91 interested corporations and other organizations concerning problems  
92 affecting transportation in the state; (3) request and receive from any  
93 agency or other unit of the government of the state or of any political  
94 subdivision of the state, or from any public authority, such assistance  
95 and data as may be necessary to enable the commissioner to carry out  
96 the commissioner's responsibilities under this section; (4) to the extent  
97 the commissioner may deem appropriate, make use of, and  
98 incorporate in the plan, any existing long-range transportation plan,  
99 survey or report developed by any public or private agency or person;  
100 and (5) employ consultants.

101 (g) Copies of the plan, as revised, shall be kept on file as a public  
102 record in the office of the commissioner.

103 Sec. 2. Section 13b-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
104 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

105 (a) On or before September first [annually] in the even-numbered  
106 year of each biennium, the commissioner shall conduct and complete  
107 an [investigation and study] assessment of the several modes of  
108 transportation in the state, in which the commissioner shall evaluate  
109 the adequacy of the facilities and services connected with each such  
110 mode and shall determine the needs of the state transportation system.  
111 The commissioner shall [consult with the Connecticut Public  
112 Transportation Commission which shall advise the commissioner in  
113 matters pertaining to rail and motor carrier facilities and services]

114 consider the plans and recommendations prepared by the various  
115 boards, councils and commissions that have statutory responsibilities  
116 pertaining to the various modes of transportation in Connecticut. The  
117 commissioner shall also consider reports, studies, findings and  
118 recommendations presented in reports, plans, surveys, and studies  
119 relating to transportation prepared for or by any state agency or for or  
120 by the state's regional planning organizations. The studies shall be  
121 used in the biennial revision of the department's comprehensive [long-  
122 range] master transportation plan.

123 (b) The commissioner may engage in experimental projects relating  
124 to any available or future mode of transportation, including but not  
125 limited to, high speed rail service, the development of heliports and  
126 any means of improving existing transportation facilities and services.  
127 The commissioner may be assisted by the [commission] boards,  
128 councils, commissions, state agencies and regional planning  
129 organizations referred to in subsection (a) of this section, in connection  
130 with any such project.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	13b-15
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	13b-16

**Statement of Purpose:**

To update sections 13b-15 and 13b-16 of the general statutes to reflect changes in state and federal laws.

*[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.]*