



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

**Governor's Bill No. 1018**

LCO No. 3543

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Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:

SEN. WILLIAMS, 29<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. DONOVAN, 84<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. SHARKEY, 88<sup>th</sup> Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR WEIGH STATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRONIC RENEWAL NOTICES AND THE ELIMINATION OF VISION SCREENING TESTS FOR MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-270c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

3 (a) The [Commissioners of Public Safety and] Commissioner of  
4 Motor Vehicles shall staff, and coordinate coverage and hours of  
5 operation of, the official weighing areas as follows:

6 (1) Greenwich: Eight work shifts in each seven-day period from  
7 Sunday through Saturday. No such shifts shall be worked  
8 consecutively, except that two shifts may be worked consecutively on  
9 not more than three days;

10 (2) Danbury: The [Department of Public Safety shall staff three work  
11 shifts in each seven-day period from Sunday through Saturday and  
12 the] Department of Motor Vehicles shall staff [three] six work shifts in  
13 each seven-day period from Sunday through Saturday. The  
14 Commissioner of [Public Safety] Motor Vehicles shall, whenever  
15 possible, coordinate coverage between this official weighing area and  
16 the official weighing area in Greenwich in order to ensure concurrent  
17 coverage;

18 (3) Union: Between five and eight work shifts in each seven-day  
19 period from Sunday through Saturday; [The Commissioner of Motor  
20 Vehicles shall coordinate the hours of operation of this official  
21 weighing area;] and

22 (4) Portable scale locations: Ten shifts in each seven-day period from  
23 Sunday through Saturday which shall be staggered throughout the  
24 four geographical areas established by the Commissioner of [Public  
25 Safety] Motor Vehicles with concentration in areas that have fewer  
26 hours of operation for the permanent weighing areas.

27 (b) The [Commissioners of Public Safety and] Commissioner of  
28 Motor Vehicles shall adjust the work shifts required in subsection (a)  
29 of this section on a daily basis in order to effectuate an unpredictable  
30 schedule.

31 (c) The Commissioner of [Public Safety] Motor Vehicles may assign  
32 [any remaining] personnel [in the traffic unit] to the permanent  
33 weighing areas in Waterford and Middletown or to the portable scale  
34 operations.

35 (d) The Commissioner of Public Safety, at the request of the  
36 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, shall assign [personnel from the  
37 traffic unit to work between nine and twelve shifts] one trooper to each  
38 working shift in each seven-day period from Sunday through Saturday  
39 to patrol and enforce laws relative to the safe movement of all vehicles  
40 on the highways of the state.

41 [(e) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Commissioner of  
42 Public Safety from reassigning personnel in the traffic unit as he deems  
43 necessary in order to ensure public safety.]

44 Sec. 2. Section 14-270d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
45 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

46 The Commercial Vehicle Safety Division [of State Police] within the  
47 Department of [Public Safety] Motor Vehicles shall temporarily close  
48 any weigh station located within the state that develops a backlog of  
49 traffic entering said weigh station and therefore creates a traffic  
50 hazard.

51 Sec. 3. Section 14-270e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
52 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

53 On or before January 1, [2004] 2012, the Commissioner of  
54 Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety  
55 and the Department of Motor Vehicles, shall establish a program to  
56 implement regularly scheduled and enforced hours of operation for  
57 weigh stations. Not later than October 1, [2004] 2012, and annually  
58 thereafter, the commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with  
59 section 11-4a, on the planned program to the joint standing committee  
60 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
61 transportation.

62 Sec. 4. Section 14-270f of the general statutes is repealed and the  
63 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

64 (a) On and after January 1, 2008, logs shall be maintained for each  
65 shift at all weigh stations located in the state. Each log shall contain the  
66 following information with respect to each weigh station: (1) The  
67 location, date and hours of each shift, (2) the hours the "OPEN" sign is  
68 illuminated, (3) the number of Department of Motor Vehicles and  
69 Department of Public Safety officers or civilian technicians for each  
70 shift, (4) the number and weight of all vehicles inspected, (5) the type

71 of vehicle inspections, (6) the number and types of citations issued, (7)  
72 the amount of fines that may be imposed for overweight or other  
73 violations, (8) the operating costs for each shift, and (9) the number of  
74 vehicles that pass through the weigh station during each shift. Each log  
75 shall be submitted to the Commissioner of [Public Safety] Motor  
76 Vehicles. Not later than December 15, [2007] 2011, the Commissioner  
77 of [Public Safety, in consultation with the Commissioner of] Motor  
78 Vehicles [.] shall develop and distribute a form for the recording of  
79 such information.

80 (b) Not later than January 1, [2008] 2012, and semiannually  
81 thereafter, the Commissioner of [Public Safety] Motor Vehicles shall  
82 submit, in accordance with section 11-4a, a written report that contains  
83 a summary of the information specified in subsection (a) of this section  
84 for the preceding six-month period to the joint standing committee of  
85 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
86 transportation. Such report shall also be posted on the Internet web  
87 site of the [Departments] Department of Motor Vehicles. [and Public  
88 Safety.]

89 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 1-1h of the general statutes is  
90 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
91 *1, 2011*):

92 (b) An identity card shall expire within a period not exceeding six  
93 years from the date of issuance of such card. Each such card shall  
94 indicate its date of expiration. Any person who holds an identity card  
95 shall be notified by the commissioner before its expiration and may  
96 renew such card in such manner as the commissioner shall prescribe  
97 upon payment of a fee of twenty-two dollars and fifty cents. The  
98 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall establish an electronic process  
99 for notification of the expiration of any identity card.

100 Sec. 6. Section 14-41 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
101 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

102 [(a) Except as provided in section 14-41a, each motor vehicle  
103 operator's license shall be renewed every six years or every four years  
104 on the date of the operator's birthday in accordance with a schedule to  
105 be established by the commissioner. Upon every other renewal of a  
106 motor vehicle operator's license or identity card issued pursuant to  
107 section 1-1h, the commissioner may issue such license or identity card  
108 without the personal appearance of the licensee or identity card holder  
109 if (1) such licensee or identity card holder has a digital image on file  
110 with the commissioner, and (2) such licensee or identity card holder  
111 has fulfilled all other requirements for such renewal. On and after July  
112 1, 2011, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall screen the vision of  
113 each motor vehicle operator prior to every other renewal of the  
114 operator's license of such operator in accordance with a schedule  
115 adopted by the commissioner. Such screening requirement shall apply  
116 to every other renewal following the initial screening. In lieu of the  
117 vision screening by the commissioner, such operator may submit the  
118 results of a vision screening conducted by a licensed health care  
119 professional qualified to conduct such screening on a form prescribed  
120 by the commissioner during the twelve months preceding such  
121 renewal. No motor vehicle operator's license may be renewed unless  
122 the operator passes such vision screening. The commissioner shall  
123 adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to  
124 implement the provisions of this subsection related to the  
125 administration of vision screening.]

126 [(b)] (a) An original operator's license shall expire within a period  
127 not exceeding six years following the date of the operator's next  
128 birthday. The fee for such original license shall be computed at the rate  
129 of forty-four dollars for a four-year license, sixty-six dollars for a six-  
130 year license and eleven dollars per year or any part of a year. The  
131 commissioner may authorize an automobile club or association,  
132 licensed in accordance with the provisions of section 14-67 on or before  
133 July 1, 2007, to perform license renewals, renewals of identity cards  
134 issued pursuant to section 1-1h, as amended by this act, and  
135 registration transactions at its office facilities. The commissioner may

136 authorize such automobile clubs or associations to charge a  
137 convenience fee, which shall not exceed two dollars, to each applicant  
138 for a license or identity card renewal or a registration transaction.

139 [(c)] (b) The commissioner shall, at least fifteen days before the date  
140 on which each motor vehicle operator's license expires, notify the  
141 operator of the expiration date. The commissioner shall establish an  
142 electronic process for notification of the expiration of any motor  
143 vehicle operator's license. Any previously licensed operator who  
144 operates a motor vehicle within sixty days after the expiration date of  
145 the operator's license without obtaining a renewal of the license shall  
146 be deemed to have failed to renew a motor vehicle operator's license  
147 and shall be fined in accordance with the amount designated for the  
148 infraction of failure to renew a motor vehicle operator's license. Any  
149 operator so charged shall not be prosecuted under section 14-36 for the  
150 same act constituting a violation under this section but section 14-36  
151 shall apply after the sixty-day period.

152 [(d)] (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1-3a, if the  
153 expiration date of any motor vehicle operator's license or any public  
154 passenger transportation permit falls on any day when offices of the  
155 commissioner are closed for business or are open for less than a full  
156 business day, the license or permit shall be deemed valid until  
157 midnight of the next day on which offices of the commissioner are  
158 open for a full day of business.

159 Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 14-44h of the general statutes is  
160 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
161 *1, 2011*):

162 (c) The commissioner shall, at least fifteen days before the date on  
163 which each commercial driver's license expires, notify the operator of  
164 the expiration date. The commissioner shall establish an electronic  
165 process for notification of the expiration of any commercial driver's  
166 license. Any previously licensed operator who operates a commercial  
167 motor vehicle within sixty days after the expiration date of such

168 operator license without obtaining a renewal of such license shall be  
 169 deemed to have failed to renew a motor vehicle operator's license and  
 170 shall be fined in accordance with the amount designated for the  
 171 infraction of failure to renew a motor vehicle operator's license. Any  
 172 operator so charged shall not be prosecuted under section 14-36 for the  
 173 same act constituting a violation under this section but said section 14-  
 174 36 shall apply after the sixty-day period.

175 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) Notwithstanding the provisions  
 176 of section 14-60q of the general statutes, the Department of Motor  
 177 Vehicles shall not be required to maintain a toll-free telephone line.

178 Sec. 9. Section 14-11b of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
 179 *July 1, 2011*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	14-270c
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	14-270d
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	14-270e
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	14-270f
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	1-1h(b)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	14-41
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	14-44h(c)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	Repealer section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

*[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.]*