



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 472

January Session, 2015

Substitute House Bill No. 6822

House of Representatives, April 7, 2015

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. GUERRERA of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING TECHNICAL AND MINOR CHANGES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES AND THE ISSUANCE OF TEMPORARY LICENSES, OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND A STUDY OF THE LIMITED LICENSE PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 14-11b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2015*):

4 (a) There shall be within the Department of Rehabilitation Services a
5 unit for the purpose of evaluating and training persons with
6 disabilities in the operation of motor vehicles. There shall be assigned
7 to the driver training unit for persons with disabilities such staff as is
8 necessary for the orderly administration of the driver training program
9 for persons with disabilities. The personnel assigned to the driver
10 training unit for persons with disabilities shall, while engaged in the
11 evaluation or instruction of a person with disabilities, have the

12 authority and immunities with respect to such activities as are granted
13 under the general statutes to motor vehicle inspectors. The
14 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may permit a person whose license
15 has been withdrawn as a result of a condition that makes such person
16 eligible for evaluation and training under this section to operate a
17 motor vehicle while accompanied by personnel assigned to the driver
18 training unit for persons with disabilities. When a person with
19 disabilities has successfully completed the driver training program for
20 persons with disabilities, the [department] Department of
21 Rehabilitation Services shall certify such completion in writing to the
22 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and shall recommend any license
23 restrictions or limitations to be placed on the license of such person.
24 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may accept such certification in
25 lieu of the driving skills portion of the examination prescribed under
26 subsection (e) of section 14-36. If such person with disabilities has met
27 all other requirements for obtaining a license, the Commissioner of
28 Motor Vehicles shall issue a license with such restrictions
29 recommended by the [department] Department of Rehabilitation
30 Services.

31 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 14-15 of the general statutes is
32 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
33 *1, 2015*):

34 (b) Each person, firm or corporation licensed under the provisions
35 of subsection (a) of this section that in the opinion of the commissioner
36 is qualified and holds a current registration certificate for a motor
37 vehicle used in connection with its business may issue a sixty-day
38 temporary transfer of such registration to any other vehicle used in
39 connection with its business, [with an official stamp issued by the
40 commissioner to such licensee.] The licensee, within five days from the
41 issuance of such temporary registration, shall submit to the
42 commissioner an application together with all necessary documents
43 for a permanent registration for the vehicle transferred. The
44 commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the
45 provisions of chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this

46 subsection.

47 Sec. 3. Section 14-36a of the general statutes is repealed and the
48 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

49 (a) A commercial driver's license issued in accordance with section
50 14-44c, as amended by this act, shall be designated as class A, B or C, in
51 accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 14-44d. All
52 other operators' licenses shall be designated as class D. A license of any
53 class that also authorizes the operation of a motorcycle shall contain
54 the designation "M".

55 (b) [A commercial driver's license which contains the endorsement
56 "S" evidences that the holder meets the requirements of section 14-44 to
57 operate a school bus or any vehicle described in subsection (c) of this
58 section.] A commercial driver's license may contain any of the
59 following [additional] endorsements:

60 "P"- authorizes the operation of commercial motor vehicles designed
61 to carry passengers;

62 "S"- in combination with "P", authorizes the operation of a school
63 bus or any vehicle described in subsection (c) of this section;

64 "H"- authorizes the operation of vehicles transporting hazardous
65 materials;

66 "N"- authorizes the operation of tank vehicles;

67 "X"- authorizes both hazardous materials and tank vehicles; and

68 "T"- authorizes the operation of vehicles with up to three trailing,
69 nonpower units.

70 The commissioner may establish one or more restrictions on
71 commercial driver's licenses of any class, in regulations adopted in
72 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. Subject to the provisions
73 of subsection (b) of section 14-44d, a commercial driver's license of any
74 class authorizes the holder of such license to operate any motor vehicle

75 that may be operated by the holder of a class D operator's license.

76 (c) A commercial driver's license or a class D license that contains
77 any of the following public passenger endorsements, as defined in
78 section 14-1, evidences that the holder meets the requirements of
79 section 14-44, as amended by this act:

80 "V"- authorizes the transportation of passengers in a student
81 transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212, or any vehicle that
82 requires an "A" or "F" endorsement;

83 "A"- authorizes the transportation of passengers in an activity
84 vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, or any vehicle that requires an "F"
85 endorsement; and

86 "F"- authorizes the transportation of passengers in a taxicab, motor
87 vehicle in livery service, service bus or motor bus.

88 The commissioner may establish one or more endorsements or
89 restrictions on class D licenses, in accordance with regulations adopted
90 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

91 (d) A license of any class that contains the designation "Q" indicates
92 eligibility to operate fire apparatus. A "Q" endorsement shall signify
93 that the holder has been trained to operate fire apparatus in
94 accordance with standards established by the Commission on Fire
95 Prevention and Control. No such endorsement shall be issued to any
96 person until he or she demonstrates personally to the commissioner, or
97 the commissioner's designee, including the Connecticut Fire Academy,
98 any regional fire school or the chief local fire official of any
99 municipality as defined in section 7-323j, by means of testing in a
100 representative vehicle that such person possesses the skills necessary
101 for operation of fire apparatus.

102 (e) No person shall operate a motor vehicle in violation of the
103 classification of the license issued to such person.

104 (f) No employer shall knowingly require or permit an employee

105 who is acting within the scope of such employee's employment to
106 operate a motor vehicle in violation of the classification of such
107 employee's license.

108 (g) (1) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (e) of
109 this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an
110 infraction and be fined fifty dollars and, for a subsequent offense, be
111 guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

112 (2) Any employer who violates subsection (f) of this section shall be
113 subject to a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars for a
114 first violation and not more than two thousand five hundred dollars
115 for a second or subsequent violation.

116 (h) The revocation, suspension or withdrawal of, or refusal to issue
117 or renew an "S" endorsement, or any endorsement described in
118 subsection (c) of this section, shall prohibit the licensee from operating
119 any public service passenger vehicle for which a public passenger
120 endorsement is required under this section. During the period of such
121 revocation, suspension or withdrawal of, or after a refusal to issue or
122 renew an "S" endorsement, or any endorsement described in
123 subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner shall not issue any
124 other public passenger endorsement to such licensee.

125 Sec. 4. Section 14-36d of the general statutes is repealed and the
126 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

127 (a) The commissioner may acquire, by lease or purchase, and install
128 at offices of the Department of Motor Vehicles and at such other
129 locations where operator's licenses are issued or renewed, such
130 equipment as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this
131 chapter.

132 (b) The commissioner may provide for the renewal of any motor
133 vehicle operator's license, commercial driver's license or identity card
134 without personal appearance of the license or card holder, in
135 circumstances where the holder is a member of the armed forces, is

136 temporarily residing outside of this state for business or educational
137 purposes, or in other circumstances where, in the judgment of the
138 commissioner, such personal appearance would be impractical or pose
139 a significant hardship. The commissioner shall decline to issue any
140 such renewal without personal appearance if the commissioner is not
141 satisfied as to the reasons why the applicant cannot personally appear,
142 if the commissioner does not have the applicant's color photograph or
143 digital image on file, if satisfactory evidence of the identity of the
144 applicant has not been presented, or if the commissioner has reason to
145 believe that the applicant is no longer a legal resident of this state.

146 (c) The commissioner may issue or renew any license, any
147 instruction permit or an identity card issued or renewed pursuant to
148 this title or section 1-1h by any method that the commissioner deems
149 to be secure and efficient. If the commissioner determines that an
150 applicant has met all conditions for such issuance or renewal, the
151 commissioner may require that such license, instruction permit or
152 identity card be produced at a centralized location and mailed to the
153 applicant. The commissioner may issue a temporary license,
154 instruction permit or identity card for use by the applicant for the
155 period prior to the applicant's receipt of the permanent license,
156 instruction permit or identity card. Such temporary license, instruction
157 permit or identity card shall have an expiration date not later than
158 thirty days after the date of issuance and shall remain valid until the
159 earlier of such expiration date or the date the applicant receives such
160 license, instruction permit or identity card.

161 [(c)] (d) The commissioner may adopt regulations to provide for the
162 renewal of the motor vehicle operator's license, commercial driver's
163 license or identity card of any person not identified in subsection (b) of
164 this section by mail or by electronic communication with the
165 Department of Motor Vehicles.

166 Sec. 5. Section 14-44 of the general statutes is repealed and the
167 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

168 (a) (1) No person shall operate a commercial motor vehicle used for

169 passenger transportation on any public highway of this state until such
170 person has obtained a commercial driver's license with a public
171 passenger endorsement, as defined in section 14-1, from the
172 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, except a nonresident who holds such
173 license with such endorsement issued by another state. (2) No person
174 shall operate a school bus until such person has obtained a commercial
175 driver's license with a school bus endorsement, except that a person
176 who holds such a license without such endorsements may operate a
177 school bus without passengers for the purpose of road testing or
178 moving the vehicle. (3) No person shall operate a student
179 transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212, taxicab, motor
180 vehicle in livery service, motor bus or service bus until such person has
181 obtained an operator's license of the proper classification bearing an
182 appropriate public passenger endorsement from the Commissioner of
183 Motor Vehicles, issued in accordance with the provisions of this
184 section and section 14-36a, as amended by this act, except that a person
185 who holds an operator's license without such endorsement may
186 operate any such vehicle without passengers for the purpose of road
187 testing or moving the vehicle.

188 (b) No operator's license bearing [an] a public passenger
189 endorsement shall be issued or renewed in accordance with the
190 provisions of this section or section 14-36a, as amended by this act,
191 until the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or the commissioner's
192 authorized representative, is satisfied that the applicant is a proper
193 person to receive such an operator's license bearing an endorsement,
194 holds a valid motor vehicle operator's license, or, if necessary for the
195 class of vehicle operated, a commercial driver's license and is at least
196 eighteen years of age. Each applicant for an operator's license bearing
197 [an] a public passenger endorsement or the renewal of such a license
198 shall furnish the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or the
199 commissioner's authorized representative, with satisfactory evidence,
200 under oath, to prove that such person has no criminal record and has
201 not been convicted of a violation of subsection (a) of section 14-227a
202 within five years of the date of application and that no reason exists for
203 a refusal to grant or renew such an operator's license bearing [an] a

204 public passenger endorsement. Each applicant for such an operator's
205 license bearing [an] a public passenger endorsement shall submit with
206 the application proof satisfactory to the Commissioner of Motor
207 Vehicles that such applicant has passed a physical examination
208 administered not more than ninety days prior to the date of
209 application, and which is in compliance with safety regulations
210 established from time to time by the United States Department of
211 Transportation. Each applicant for renewal of such license shall
212 present evidence that such applicant is in compliance with the medical
213 qualifications established in 49 CFR 391, as amended, provided an
214 applicant for a Class D operator's license bearing an endorsement
215 described in subsection (c) of section 14-36a, as amended by this act,
216 shall be deemed medically qualified if such applicant (1) controls with
217 medication, as certified by a licensed physician, a medical condition
218 that would otherwise deem such applicant not medically qualified,
219 and (2) would qualify for a waiver or exemption under 49 CFR 391, as
220 amended. Each applicant for such an operator's license bearing [an] a
221 public passenger endorsement shall be fingerprinted before the license
222 bearing [an] a public passenger endorsement is issued.

223 (c) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may issue, withhold,
224 renew, suspend, cancel or revoke any public passenger endorsement
225 required to operate a motor vehicle that transports passengers, as
226 provided in subsection (c) of section 14-36a, as amended by this act.
227 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may, in making his or her
228 decision, consider the age, accident and criminal record, moral
229 character and physical condition of any such applicant or public
230 passenger endorsement holder and such other matters as the
231 commissioner may determine. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
232 may require any such applicant or public passenger endorsement
233 holder to furnish the statements of two or more reputable citizens,
234 which may be required to be under oath, vouching for the good
235 character or other qualifications of the applicant or public passenger
236 endorsement holder.

237 (d) Upon the arrest of any person who holds an operator's license

238 bearing a public passenger endorsement, as defined in section 14-1,
239 and who is charged with a felony or violation of section 53a-73a, the
240 arresting officer or department, within forty-eight hours, shall cause a
241 report of such arrest to be made to the Commissioner of Motor
242 Vehicles. The report shall be made on a form approved by said
243 commissioner containing such information as the commissioner
244 prescribes. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt
245 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the
246 provisions of this subsection.

247 (e) Prior to issuing an operator's license bearing a school
248 endorsement or bearing the appropriate type of public passenger
249 endorsement for operation of a student transportation vehicle
250 pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section, the
251 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall require each applicant to submit
252 to state and national criminal history records checks, conducted in
253 accordance with section 29-17a, and a check of the state child abuse
254 and neglect registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k. The
255 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall
256 complete such state and national criminal history records checks
257 required pursuant to this section within sixty days of receiving such a
258 request for a check of such records. If notice of a state or national
259 criminal history record is received, the Commissioner of Motor
260 Vehicles may, subject to the provisions of section 46a-80, refuse to issue
261 an operator's license bearing such public passenger endorsement and,
262 in such case, shall immediately notify the applicant, in writing, of such
263 refusal. If notification that the applicant is listed as a perpetrator of
264 abuse on the state child abuse and neglect registry established
265 pursuant to section 17a-101k is received, the Commissioner of Motor
266 Vehicles may refuse to issue an operator's license bearing such [an]
267 public passenger endorsement and, in such case, shall immediately
268 notify the applicant, in writing, of such refusal. The Commissioner of
269 Motor Vehicles shall not issue a temporary operator's license bearing a
270 school endorsement or bearing the appropriate type of public
271 passenger endorsement for operation of a student transportation
272 vehicle.

273 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the
274 commissioner shall not issue an operator's license bearing [an] a public
275 passenger endorsement to transport passengers who are students, and
276 shall suspend any such public passenger endorsement that has been
277 issued, to any person who has been convicted of a serious criminal
278 offense, as determined by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or
279 convicted of any provision of federal law or the law of any other state,
280 the violation of which involves conduct that is substantially similar to
281 a violation determined by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to be a
282 serious criminal offense, if any part of the sentence of such conviction
283 has not been completed, or has been completed during the preceding
284 five years. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt
285 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the
286 provisions of this subsection.

287 (g) Any applicant who is refused an operator's license bearing [an] a
288 public passenger endorsement or the renewal of such a license, or
289 whose operator's license bearing [an] a public passenger endorsement
290 or the renewal of such a license is withdrawn or revoked on account of
291 a criminal record, shall be entitled to a hearing if requested in writing
292 within twenty days. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance
293 with the requirements of chapter 54 and the applicant may appeal
294 from the final decision rendered therein in accordance with section 4-
295 183.

296 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-10, the
297 commissioner shall furnish to any board of education or to any public
298 or private organization that is actively engaged in providing public
299 transportation, including the transportation of school children, a report
300 containing the names and motor vehicle operator license numbers of
301 each person who has been issued an operator's license with one or
302 more public passenger endorsements, authorizing such person to
303 transport passengers in accordance with the provisions of section 14-
304 36a, as amended by this act, but whose license or any such public
305 passenger endorsement has been withdrawn, suspended or revoked
306 by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in accordance with the

307 provisions of this section, or any other provision of this title. The
308 report shall be issued and updated periodically in accordance with a
309 schedule to be established by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.
310 Such report may be transmitted or otherwise made available to
311 authorized recipients by electronic means.

312 (i) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an infraction.

313 Sec. 6. Section 14-44c of the general statutes is repealed and the
314 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

315 (a) The application for a commercial driver's license or commercial
316 driver's instruction permit, shall include the following:

317 (1) The full name and current mailing and residence address of the
318 person;

319 (2) A physical description of the person, including sex, height and
320 eye color;

321 (3) Date of birth;

322 (4) The applicant's Social Security number;

323 (5) The person's statement, under oath, that [he] such person meets
324 the requirements for qualification contained in 49 CFR 391, as
325 amended, or does not expect to operate in interstate or foreign
326 commerce;

327 (6) The person's statement, under oath, that the type of vehicle in
328 which the person has taken or intends to take the driving skills test is
329 representative of the type of motor vehicle the person operates or
330 intends to operate;

331 (7) The person's statement, under oath, that [he] such person is not
332 subject to disqualification, suspension, revocation or cancellation of
333 operating privileges in any state, and that he or she does not hold an
334 operator's license in any other state;

335 (8) The person's identification of all states in which such person has
336 been licensed to drive any type of motor vehicle during the last ten
337 years, and the person's statement, under oath that he or she does not
338 hold an operator's license in any other state; and

339 (9) The person's signature, and certification of the accuracy and
340 completeness of the application, subject to the penalties of false
341 statement under section 53a-157b. The application shall be
342 accompanied by the fee prescribed in section 14-44h.

343 (b) No person who has been a resident of this state for thirty days
344 may drive a commercial motor vehicle under the authority of a
345 commercial driver's license issued by another jurisdiction.

346 (c) At the time of application for a commercial driver's license, the
347 applicant shall make the applicable certification, as required by 49 CFR
348 383.71(b), regarding the type of commerce in which such person shall
349 engage. No commercial driver's license shall be issued to a person who
350 fails to make such certification.

351 [(c)] (d) In addition to other penalties provided by law, any person
352 who knowingly falsifies information or certifications required under
353 subsection (a) of this section shall have [his] such person's operator's
354 license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state suspended
355 for sixty days.

356 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 14-44e of the general statutes is
357 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
358 *1, 2015*):

359 (b) The commissioner shall not issue a commercial driver's license or
360 a commercial driver's instruction permit to any [person who has a
361 physical or psychobehavioral impairment that affects such person's
362 ability to operate a commercial motor vehicle safely. In determining
363 whether to issue a commercial driver's license in any individual case,
364 the commissioner shall apply the standards set forth in 49 CFR 391.41,
365 as amended.] applicant who is not physically qualified and medically

366 certified in accordance with the standards in 49 CFR 391.41. As
367 required by 49 CFR 383.71(h), each applicant for a commercial driver's
368 license or commercial driver's instruction permit shall provide to the
369 commissioner a copy of a medical examiner's certificate, prepared by a
370 medical examiner, as defined in 49 CFR 390.5, indicating that such
371 applicant is medically certified to operate a commercial motor vehicle.
372 For each applicant who has submitted such medical certification and
373 who has also certified, in accordance with 49 CFR 383.71(b) and
374 subsection (c) of section 14-44c, as amended by this act, that such
375 applicant operates in nonexcepted interstate commerce, the
376 commissioner shall post a medical certification status of "certified" on
377 the Commercial Driver's License Information System driver record for
378 such applicant. The holder of a commercial driver's license who has
379 not been examined and certified as qualified to operate a commercial
380 motor vehicle during the preceding twenty-four months, or a shorter
381 period as indicated by the medical examiner submitting such
382 certificate, shall be required to submit a new medical certificate. The
383 commissioner shall not issue a commercial driver's license or
384 commercial driver's instruction permit to any applicant or holder who
385 fails to submit the medical certification required by this section. If the
386 holder of a commercial driver's license or commercial driver's
387 instruction permit fails to submit a new medical examiner's certificate
388 before the expiration of twenty-four months or the period specified by
389 the medical examiner, whichever is shorter, the commissioner shall,
390 not later than sixty days after the date that such holder's medical status
391 becomes uncertified: (1) Downgrade the commercial driver's license to
392 a Class D operator's license; or (2) cancel the commercial driver's
393 instruction permit. Any [person] applicant or holder who is denied a
394 commercial driver's license or a commercial driver's instruction
395 permit, or whose license or permit is disqualified, suspended, revoked
396 or cancelled pursuant to this subsection shall be granted an
397 opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the provisions of chapter
398 54.

399 Sec. 8. Subsection (h) of section 14-44e of the general statutes is
400 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*

401 1, 2015):

402 (h) (1) The commissioner shall deny or disqualify for a period of
403 sixty days a commercial driver's instruction permit or commercial
404 driver's license if it is determined that an applicant or holder has
405 provided false information on any certification the applicant or holder
406 is required to give relative to such permit or license application.

407 (2) If an applicant or holder is suspected of fraud related to the
408 issuance of a commercial driver's instruction permit or commercial
409 driver's license, such applicant or holder shall be required to schedule
410 the commercial driver's license knowledge test and driving skills test
411 not later than thirty days after notification by the commissioner of the
412 suspected fraud. Failure to schedule both such tests or failure to pass
413 both such tests shall result in disqualification of such permit or license
414 and the applicant or holder shall be required to reapply for the permit
415 or license.

416 (3) Any applicant or holder convicted of fraud related to the
417 issuance of a commercial driver's instruction permit or commercial
418 driver's license shall have such applicant's or holder's permit or license
419 disqualified for one year from the date of conviction and shall be
420 required to retake such tests.

421 Sec. 9. Subsection (d) of section 14-44g of the general statutes is
422 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
423 *1, 2015*):

424 (d) Each person applying for the renewal of a commercial driver's
425 license shall complete a renewal application form providing an update
426 and, if necessary, corrections to the information required on the
427 original application, pursuant to section 14-44c, as amended by this
428 act. If an applicant for renewal wishes to retain a hazardous materials
429 endorsement, he or she must pass the written test for such
430 endorsement, and must meet the requirements of subsection (d) of
431 section 14-44e. Upon renewal of a commercial driver's license, and at
432 such other times as required in 49 CFR 383.71, the holder of a

433 commercial driver's license shall make the applicable certification, as
434 required by 49 CFR 383.71(b), regarding the type of commerce in
435 which such holder is engaged. The commissioner shall refuse to renew
436 the commercial driver's license of any holder who fails to make such
437 certification, and shall downgrade the commercial driver's license to a
438 Class D operator's license not later than sixty days after the failure of
439 such holder to so certify.

440 Sec. 10. Section 14-46b of the general statutes is repealed and the
441 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

442 (a) There is established within the department a Motor Vehicle
443 Operator's License Medical Advisory Board which shall advise the
444 commissioner on the medical aspects and concerns of licensing
445 operators of motor vehicles. The board shall consist of not less than
446 eight members or more than fifteen members appointed by the
447 commissioner from a list of nominees submitted by the Connecticut
448 State Medical Society, [and] the Connecticut Association of
449 Optometrists, and such other professional medical associations or
450 organizations that have as members physician assistants or advanced
451 practice registered nurses. The Connecticut State Medical Society and
452 such other organizations shall submit nominees representing the
453 specialties of (1) general medicine or surgery, (2) internal medicine, (3)
454 cardiovascular medicine, (4) neurology or neurological surgery, (5)
455 ophthalmology, (6) orthopedics, [and] (7) psychiatry, and (8)
456 occupational medicine. The Connecticut Association of Optometrists
457 shall submit nominees representing the specialty of optometry.

458 (b) Initially, three members shall be appointed for a two-year term,
459 three members for a three-year term and the remainder of the
460 members for a four-year term. Appointments thereafter shall be for
461 four-year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled by the commissioner for
462 the unexpired portion of a term. The commissioner shall designate the
463 chairman of the board.

464 (c) Board members shall serve without compensation but shall be
465 reimbursed for necessary expenses or services incurred in performing

466 their duties, including the giving of testimony at any administrative
467 hearing when requested by the commissioner. [Physicians] Medical
468 professionals who are not members of the board and conduct
469 examinations at the request of the board shall be compensated for
470 these examinations.

471 (d) The board shall meet at the call of the commissioner at least
472 [twice a year] annually. Special meetings may be held to fulfill the
473 responsibilities specified in section 14-46c, as amended by this act.

474 (e) Any meeting of the board in which the medical condition of any
475 individual is discussed for purposes of making a recommendation on
476 his or her fitness to operate a motor vehicle shall be held in executive
477 session.

478 (f) As used in this section and section 14-46c, as amended by this act,
479 "medical professional" means a licensed physician, physician assistant,
480 advanced practice registered nurse or optometrist.

481 Sec. 11. Section 14-46c of the general statutes is repealed and the
482 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

483 The board shall have the following responsibilities: (1) To advise the
484 commissioner on health standards relating to the safe operation of
485 motor vehicles; (2) to recommend to the commissioner procedures and
486 guidelines for licensing individuals with impaired health; (3) to assist
487 in developing medically acceptable standardized report forms; (4) to
488 recommend a training course for motor vehicle examiners on the
489 medical aspects of operator licensure; (5) to undertake any programs
490 and activities the commissioner may request relating to the medical
491 aspects of motor vehicle operator licensure; and (6) to make
492 recommendations and offer advice on individual health problem cases
493 referred by the commissioner not later than sixty days from the date of
494 such reference and to establish guidelines for dealing with such
495 individual cases. In making such recommendations, the board may
496 rely on medical or optometric records and reports, personally
497 interview such individual or require a physical examination of such

498 individual and a written medical report by a [physician or a report by
499 an optometrist] medical professional, as defined in section 14-46b, as
500 amended by this act, designated by the board who shall not be a
501 member of the board. Such individual may obtain a medical report by
502 a [physician or a report by an optometrist of his choice, licensed to
503 practice in this state] licensed medical professional of such individual's
504 choice, which shall be given due consideration by the board in making
505 any such recommendations.

506 Sec. 12. Section 14-46e of the general statutes is repealed and the
507 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

508 (a) The commissioner shall give due consideration to any
509 recommendations of the board and to any reports, records or opinions
510 submitted pursuant to sections 14-46a to 14-46g, inclusive, but such
511 recommendations, reports, records or opinions shall be merely
512 advisory and not binding on the commissioner.

513 (b) The commissioner may authorize a person whose license is
514 withdrawn under sections 14-46a to 14-46g, inclusive, to operate a
515 motor vehicle on a limited basis provided the following conditions are
516 met: (1) The commissioner, after a hearing held in accordance with
517 chapter 54, determines that such person does not have a health
518 problem that affects such person's ability to safely operate a motor
519 vehicle and has ordered that such person submit to and pass a road
520 skills test as a condition of license reinstatement; and (2) such
521 operation occurs only while the person is under the instruction of and
522 accompanied by a driving instructor licensed under section 14-73, or is
523 in a vehicle with a motor vehicle testing agent who is administering a
524 road skills test.

525 [(b)] (c) Any person who is the subject of any inquiry under sections
526 14-46a to 14-46g, inclusive, who refuses to submit to a physical
527 examination or provide other information requested by the
528 commissioner or board shall be considered unfit to operate a motor
529 vehicle until he or she complies with such request.

530 Sec. 13. Subsection (a) of section 14-47 of the general statutes is
531 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
532 *1, 2015*):

533 (a) The commissioner shall determine the gross weight of each
534 motor vehicle which is eligible for commercial registration, including
535 each tractor equipped with rubber tires and, for the purpose of
536 computing fees, gross weight shall be the weight of the vehicle in
537 pounds plus the rated load capacity in pounds as determined by the
538 commissioner. [, provided, in the case of a tractor restricted for use
539 with a trailer, registered as a heavy duty trailer, the fee shall be based
540 on the gross weight of the tractor which shall be the light weight of
541 such tractor; and said] The commissioner shall collect fees for
542 registration based on such gross weight, as follows: When all surfaces
543 in contact with the ground are equipped with pneumatic tires, the fee
544 for such motor vehicle or tractor of gross weight not exceeding twenty
545 thousand pounds shall be eleven dollars and sixty cents, for each one
546 thousand pounds or fraction thereof; from twenty thousand one
547 pounds up to and including thirty thousand pounds, fourteen dollars
548 and twenty cents, for each one thousand pounds or fraction thereof;
549 from thirty thousand one pounds up to and including seventy-three
550 thousand pounds, seventeen dollars and seventy cents, for each one
551 thousand pounds or fraction thereof; and seventy-three thousand one
552 pounds or more, nineteen dollars and twenty cents, for each one
553 thousand pounds or fraction thereof. In addition to any other fee
554 required under this subsection, a fee of ten dollars shall be collected for
555 the registration of each motor vehicle subject to this subsection.

556 Sec. 14. Subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of section 14-50a of the
557 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
558 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

559 (9) Certified transcripts of hearing held and transcribed by the
560 commissioner, three dollars and fifty cents per page with a minimum
561 charge of twenty dollars.

562 Sec. 15. Subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of section 14-52 of the

563 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
564 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

565 (5) The commissioner shall assess [a] an administrative fee of fifty
566 dollars against any licensee for failing to [continuously maintain the
567 bond requirements of this subsection] provide proof of bond renewal
568 or replacement on or before the date of the expiration of the existing
569 bond. Such fee shall be in addition to the license suspension or
570 revocation penalties and the civil penalties to which the licensee is
571 subject pursuant to section 14-64.

572 Sec. 16. Subsection (c) of section 14-58 of the general statutes is
573 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
574 *1, 2015*):

575 (c) Registration certificates issued under the provisions of this
576 section shall not be required to be carried upon such motor vehicles
577 when upon the public highways as required under subsection (a) of
578 section 14-13, except that the licensee shall issue to each person driving
579 such motor vehicle a document indicating that such person is validly
580 entrusted with such vehicle which document shall be carried in the
581 motor vehicle. The commissioner shall determine the form and
582 contents of this document. Legible photostatic copies of such
583 registration certificates may be carried in such vehicles as proof of
584 ownership. The licensee shall furnish financial responsibility
585 satisfactory to the commissioner as defined in section 14-112, as
586 amended by this act, provided such financial responsibility shall not be
587 required from a licensee when the commissioner finds that the licensee
588 is of sufficient financial responsibility to meet such legal liability. The
589 commissioner may issue such license upon presentation of evidence of
590 such financial responsibility satisfactory to the commissioner. The
591 commissioner shall assess [a] an administrative fee of fifty dollars
592 against any licensee for failing to [continuously maintain the financial
593 responsibility requirements of this subsection] provide proof of policy
594 or bond renewal or replacement on or before the expiration date of the
595 existing policy or bond. Such fee shall be in addition to the license

596 suspension or revocation penalties and the civil penalties to which the
597 licensee is subject pursuant to section 14-64.

598 Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 14-61 of the general statutes is
599 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
600 *1, 2015*):

601 (a) Any dealer licensed under the provisions of this subpart who in
602 the opinion of the commissioner is qualified and sells or trades a
603 passenger motor vehicle, motorcycle, camper, camp trailer, commercial
604 trailer, service bus, school bus or truck to a transferee who holds a
605 current registration certificate for a passenger motor vehicle,
606 motorcycle, camper, camp trailer, commercial trailer, service bus,
607 school bus or truck registered in this state may issue a sixty-day
608 temporary transfer of such registration to the vehicle transferred, [with
609 an official stamp issued by the commissioner, under regulations
610 adopted by the commissioner, to such dealer.] The commissioner shall
611 charge such dealer a fee of ten dollars for each new temporary dealer
612 transfer form furnished for the purposes of this section. No dealer may
613 make such temporary transfer of a registration unless the transferee
614 surrenders the current registration certificate to the dealer indicating
615 the disposition of the vehicle described thereon in the space provided
616 on the reverse side of such certificate and unless the transferee is
617 eighteen years of age or older. The dealer shall, within five days from
618 the issuance of such temporary registration, submit to the
619 commissioner an application together with all necessary documents
620 for a permanent registration for the vehicle transferred. No such
621 temporary registration may be issued if (1) the transferred passenger
622 motor vehicle, motorcycle, camper, camp trailer, commercial trailer,
623 service bus, school bus or truck is used and was not previously
624 registered in this state, unless the inspection requirements of section
625 14-12 have been met, (2) such motor vehicle is ten or more years old,
626 unless the inspection requirements of section 14-16a have been met, or
627 (3) such motor vehicle has been declared a total loss by an insurance
628 company, unless the inspection requirements of section 14-103a have
629 been met.

630 Sec. 18. Section 14-96p of the general statutes is repealed and the
631 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

632 [(a) (1) No person shall display upon any motor vehicle any light
633 visible from the front thereof other than white, yellow or amber, or any
634 light other than red, yellow, amber or white visible from the rear
635 thereof, except a light used with any school bus, without a special
636 permit from the commissioner, in accordance with the provisions of
637 subsection (c) of section 14-96q. Notwithstanding this subsection, no
638 permit shall be required for motor vehicles that are (A) equipped with
639 lights in accordance with this section and section 14-96q, (B) owned or
640 leased by the federal government, the state of Connecticut or a
641 Connecticut municipality, (C) registered to such governmental entity,
642 and (D) displaying government plates.

643 (2) Any vehicle accommodating fifteen or fewer students with
644 disabilities may use a flashing red light or lights during the time such
645 vehicle is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging such
646 students with disabilities, any motor bus may carry a purple light or
647 lights, any interstate public service vehicle may carry a green light or
648 lights, any taxicab may carry a lunar white light or lights, and any
649 interstate commercial motor vehicle may display green identification
650 lights, in front thereof, as the commissioner may permit.

651 (3) A vehicle being operated by the chief executive officer of an
652 emergency medical service organization, as defined in section 19a-175,
653 the first or second deputies, or if there are no deputies, the first or
654 second assistants, of such an organization that is a municipal or
655 volunteer or licensed organization, an ambulance, as defined in section
656 19a-175, a vehicle being operated by a local fire marshal or a local
657 director of emergency management may use a flashing red light or
658 lights or flashing white head lamps and a flashing amber light while
659 on the way to the scene of an emergency, except that an ambulance
660 may use flashing lights of other colors specified by federal
661 requirements for the manufacture of such vehicle. The chief executive
662 officer of each such organization shall provide annually during the

663 month of January, on forms provided by the commissioner, such
664 officer's name and address and the registration number on the number
665 plate or plates of the vehicle on which the authorized red light is or
666 white head lamps and amber light are to be used. A vehicle being
667 operated by a member of a volunteer fire department or company or a
668 volunteer emergency medical technician may use flashing white head
669 lamps, provided such member or emergency medical technician is on
670 the way to the scene of a fire or medical emergency and has received
671 written authorization from the chief law enforcement officer of the
672 municipality to use such head lamps. Such head lamps shall only be
673 used within the municipality granting such authorization or from a
674 personal residence or place of employment, if located in an adjoining
675 municipality. Such authorization may be revoked for use of such head
676 lamps in violation of this subdivision.

677 (4) Flashing or revolving white lights may not be displayed upon a
678 motor vehicle except (A) on fire emergency apparatus, (B) on motor
679 vehicles of paid fire chiefs and their deputies and assistants, up to a
680 total of five individuals per department, and may be displayed in
681 combination with flashing or revolving red lights, (C) on motor
682 vehicles of volunteer fire chiefs and their deputies and assistants, up to
683 a total of five individuals per department, and may be displayed in
684 combination with flashing or revolving red lights, (D) as a means of
685 indicating a right or left turn, (E) in conjunction with flashing red
686 lights on an ambulance responding to an emergency call, or (F) on the
687 top rear of any school bus. For the purpose of this subsection, the term
688 "students with disabilities" means students who have intellectual
689 disability, autism spectrum disorder, mental disability, visual
690 impairment, blindness, hearing impairment, deafness, speech
691 impairment, orthopedic impairment, or another health-impairment,
692 who by reason thereof, require special education and related services;
693 and the term "flashing white lights" shall not include the simultaneous
694 flashing of head lamps.

695 (b) A blue light may not be illuminated upon a motor vehicle, except
696 that a vehicle being operated by an active member of a volunteer fire

697 department or company or an active member of an organized civil
698 preparedness auxiliary fire company who has been authorized in
699 writing by the chief executive officer of such department or company
700 may use such a light, including a flashing blue light, while on the way
701 to the scene of a fire or other emergency requiring his or her services.
702 Such authorization may be revoked by such officer or his or her
703 successor. The chief executive officer of each volunteer fire department
704 or company or organized civil preparedness auxiliary fire company
705 shall certify annually during the month of January, on forms provided
706 by the commissioner, the names and addresses of members whom he
707 or she has authorized to use a blue light as provided in this subsection.
708 Such listing shall also designate the registration number on the
709 number plate or plates of the vehicle on which the authorized blue
710 light is to be used.

711 (c) A flashing green light may not be used upon a motor vehicle,
712 except that a vehicle being operated by an active member of a
713 volunteer ambulance association or company who has been authorized
714 in writing by the chief executive officer of such association or company
715 may use such a light while on the way to the scene of an emergency
716 requiring his or her services. Such authorization may be revoked by
717 such officer or his or her successor. The chief executive officer of each
718 volunteer ambulance association or company shall certify annually
719 during the month of January, on forms provided by the commissioner,
720 the names and addresses of members whom he or she has authorized
721 to use a green light as provided in this subsection. Such listing shall
722 also designate the registration number on the number plate or plates of
723 the vehicle on which the authorized green light is to be used.

724 (d) Use of lights except as authorized by this section shall be an
725 infraction.]

726 (a) Except as provided in section 14-96q, as amended by this act, no
727 person shall display upon any motor vehicle or equipment: (1) Any
728 light visible from the front of such motor vehicle or equipment other
729 than white, yellow or amber; (2) any light visible from the rear of such

730 motor vehicle or equipment other than red, yellow, amber or white; or
731 (3) any red light visible from directly in front of the center of such
732 motor vehicle or equipment. Notwithstanding the provisions of this
733 subsection, a taxicab shall display the dome light or lights required by
734 regulations that have been adopted by the Commissioner of
735 Transportation under the authority of section 13b-96.

736 (b) Except as provided in section 14-96q, as amended by this act,
737 flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, except: (1) Red and
738 yellow lights when used for the purpose of receiving or discharging
739 students on school buses; (2) white lights that are located on the top
740 rear of school buses; (3) when such lights are used as a means for
741 indicating a right or left turn; or (4) when such lights are used in any
742 manner to indicate (A) a disabled vehicle that is stopped in a
743 hazardous location on the highway, or in close proximity thereto, (B) a
744 motor vehicle that is unable to maintain the minimum speed of forty
745 miles per hour on a limited access divided highway because of the
746 grade of such highway, (C) a motor vehicle that is operating at such
747 slow speed as to obstruct or endanger following traffic on any
748 highway, or (D) a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section
749 14-212, accommodating fifteen or fewer students with disabilities that
750 is receiving or discharging such students. For the purpose of this
751 subsection, the term "students with disabilities" means students who
752 have intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorder, mental
753 disability, visual impairment, blindness, hearing impairment, deafness,
754 speech impairment, orthopedic impairment or another health
755 impairment who, by reason thereof, require special education and
756 related services.

757 (c) Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle,
758 other than head lamps, spot lamps or auxiliary driving lamps, that
759 projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than three hundred
760 candle power shall be so directed that no part of the beam strikes the
761 level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more
762 than seventy-five feet from the vehicle.

763 (d) Use of lights except as authorized by this section shall be an
764 infraction.

765 Sec. 19. Section 14-96q of the general statutes is repealed and the
766 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

767 [(a) Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle,
768 other than head lamps, spot lamps or auxiliary driving lamps, which
769 projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than three hundred
770 candle power shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike
771 the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of
772 more than seventy-five feet from the vehicle.

773 (b) No person shall drive or move any vehicle or equipment upon
774 any highway with any lamp or device thereon displaying a red light
775 visible from directly in front of the center thereof. The provisions of
776 this subsection and subsection (c) shall not apply to authorized
777 emergency and maintenance vehicles.

778 (c) Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles other than
779 school buses, except (1) as a means for indicating a right or left turn, (2)
780 flashing blue lights used by members of volunteer or civil
781 preparedness fire companies, as provided by subsection (b) of section
782 14-96p, (3) on certain emergency and maintenance vehicles by special
783 permit from the commissioner, (4) flashing or revolving yellow lights
784 on (A) wreckers registered pursuant to section 14-66, or (B) vehicles of
785 carriers in rural mail-delivery service or vehicles transporting or
786 escorting any vehicle or load or combinations of vehicles or vehicles
787 and load which is or are either oversize or overweight, or both, and
788 operated or traveling under a permit issued by the Commissioner of
789 Transportation pursuant to section 14-270, (5) flashing red lights (A) on
790 a motor vehicle accommodating fifteen or fewer handicapped students
791 used only during the time such vehicle is stopped for the purpose of
792 receiving or discharging such handicapped students, (B) used by
793 members of the fire police on a stationary vehicle as a warning signal
794 during traffic directing operations at the scene of a fire, (C) on rescue
795 vehicles, (D) used by chief executive officers of emergency medical

796 service organizations as provided in subsection (a) of section 14-96p,
797 (E) ambulances, as defined in section 19a-175, or (F) used by local fire
798 marshals or directors of emergency management, (6) flashing green
799 lights used by members of volunteer ambulance associations or
800 companies as provided in subsection (c) of section 14-96p, or (7)
801 flashing white lights or flashing lights of other colors specified by
802 federal requirements for the manufacture of an ambulance used in
803 conjunction with flashing red lights or flashing head lamps and a
804 flashing amber light on an ambulance responding to an emergency
805 call. The prohibitions in this section shall not prevent the operator of a
806 motor vehicle who while traveling on a limited access divided
807 highway, because of the grade, is unable to maintain the minimum
808 speed of forty miles per hour, or who while traveling on any other
809 highway is operating such motor vehicle at such slow speed as to
810 obstruct or endanger following traffic, or the operator of a disabled
811 vehicle stopped on a hazardous location on the highway, or in close
812 proximity thereto, from flashing lights, installed on the vehicle
813 primarily for other purposes, in any manner that the operator selects
814 so as to indicate that such vehicle is traveling slowly, obstructing
815 traffic or is disabled and is a hazard to be avoided. The commissioner
816 is authorized, at such commissioner's discretion, to issue special
817 permits for the use of flashing or revolving lights on emergency
818 vehicles, on escort vehicles, on maintenance vehicles and on other
819 vehicles that display lights for which a permit is required, in
820 accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 14-96p,
821 provided any person, firm or corporation other than the state or any
822 metropolitan district, town, city or borough shall pay an annual permit
823 fee for each such vehicle, provided vehicles not registered in this state
824 used for transporting or escorting any vehicle or load or combinations
825 of vehicles or vehicles and load which is or are either oversize or
826 overweight, or both, when operating under a permit issued by the
827 Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to section 14-270, shall not
828 require such permit. Such annual permit fee shall be twenty dollars. If
829 the commissioner issues a special permit to any ambulance, such
830 permit shall be issued at the time of registration and of each renewal of

831 registration.

832 (d) Use of lamps and flashing lights except as authorized by this
833 section shall be an infraction.]

834 (a) A permit is required for the use of colored or flashing lights on
835 all motor vehicles or equipment specified in this section except: (1)
836 Motor vehicles not registered in this state used for transporting or
837 escorting any vehicle or load, or combinations thereof, which is either
838 oversize or overweight, or both, when operating under a permit issued
839 by the Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to section 14-270; or
840 (2) motor vehicles or equipment that are (A) equipped with lights in
841 accordance with this section, (B) owned or leased by the federal
842 government, the state of Connecticut, or any other state,
843 commonwealth or local municipality, and (C) registered to such
844 governmental entity. When used in this section the term "flashing"
845 shall be considered to include the term "revolving".

846 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or such other person
847 specifically identified in this section, is authorized to issue permits for
848 the use of colored or flashing lights on vehicles in accordance with this
849 section, at the commissioner's or such person's discretion. Any person,
850 firm or corporation other than the state or any metropolitan district,
851 town, city or borough shall pay an annual permit fee of twenty dollars
852 to the commissioner for each such vehicle.

853 (c) A blue light or lights, including flashing blue lights, may be used
854 on a motor vehicle operated by an active member of a volunteer fire
855 department or company or an active member of an organized civil
856 preparedness auxiliary fire company who has been issued a permit by
857 the chief executive officer of such department or company to use such
858 a light while on the way to or at the scene of a fire or other emergency
859 requiring such member's services. Such permit shall be on a form
860 provided by the commissioner and may be revoked by such chief
861 executive officer or successor. The chief executive officer of each
862 volunteer fire department or company or organized civil preparedness
863 auxiliary fire company shall keep on file the forms provided by the

864 commissioner, the names and addresses of members who have been
865 authorized to use flashing blue lights as provided in this subsection.
866 Such listing shall also designate the registration number of the motor
867 vehicle on which authorized flashing blue lights are to be used.

868 (d) A green light or lights, including flashing green lights, may be
869 used on a motor vehicle operated by an active member of a volunteer
870 ambulance association or company who has been issued a permit by
871 the chief executive officer of such association or company to use such a
872 light, while on the way to or at the scene of an emergency requiring
873 such member's services. Such permit shall be on a form provided by
874 the commissioner and may be revoked by such chief executive officer
875 or successor. The chief executive officer of each volunteer ambulance
876 association or company shall keep on file on forms provided by the
877 commissioner, the names and addresses of members who have been
878 authorized to use flashing green lights as provided in this subsection.
879 Such listing shall also designate the registration number of the vehicle
880 on which the authorized flashing green lights are to be used.

881 (e) The commissioner may issue a permit for a red light or lights,
882 including flashing red lights, which may be used on a motor vehicle or
883 equipment (1) used by paid fire chiefs and their deputies and
884 assistants, up to a total of five individuals per department, (2) used by
885 volunteer fire chiefs and their deputies and assistants, up to a total of
886 five individuals per department, (3) used by members of the fire police
887 on a stationary vehicle as a warning signal during traffic directing
888 operations at the scene of a fire or emergency, (4) used by chief
889 executive officers of emergency medical service organizations, as
890 defined in section 19a-175, the first or second deputies, or if there are
891 no deputies, the first or second assistants, of such an organization that
892 is a municipal or volunteer or licensed organization, (5) used by local
893 fire marshals, or (6) used by directors of emergency management.

894 (f) The commissioner may issue a permit for a yellow or amber light
895 or lights, including flashing yellow or amber lights, which may be
896 used on motor vehicles or equipment that are (1) specified in

897 subsection (e) of this section, (2) maintenance vehicles as defined in
898 section 14-1, or (3) vehicles transporting or escorting any vehicle or
899 load or combinations thereof, which is or are either oversize or
900 overweight, or both, and being operated or traveling under a permit
901 issued by the Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to section 14-
902 270. A yellow or amber light or lights, including flashing yellow or
903 amber lights, may be used without obtaining a permit from the
904 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles on wreckers registered pursuant to
905 section 14-66, or on vehicles of carriers in rural mail delivery service.

906 (g) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may issue a permit for a
907 white light or lights, including flashing white lights, which may be
908 used on a motor vehicle or equipment as specified in subdivision (1),
909 (2), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (e) of this section. A vehicle being
910 operated by a member of a volunteer fire department or company or a
911 volunteer emergency medical technician may use flashing white head
912 lamps, provided such member or emergency medical technician is on
913 the way to the scene of a fire or medical emergency and has received
914 written authorization from the chief law enforcement officer of the
915 municipality to use such head lamps. Such head lamps shall only be
916 used within the municipality granting such authorization or from a
917 personal residence or place of employment, if located in an adjoining
918 municipality. Such authorization may be revoked for use of such head
919 lamps in violation of this subdivision. For the purposes of this
920 subsection, the term "flashing white lights" shall not include the
921 simultaneous flashing of head lamps.

922 (h) The commissioner may issue a permit for emergency vehicles, as
923 defined in subsection (a) of section 14-283, to use a blue, red, yellow, or
924 white light or lights, including flashing lights or any combination
925 thereof.

926 (i) The commissioner may issue a permit for ambulances, as defined
927 in section 19a-175, which may, in addition to the flashing lights
928 allowed in subsection (h) of this section, use flashing lights of other
929 colors specified by federal requirements for the manufacture of an

930 ambulance. If the commissioner issues a permit for any ambulance,
931 such permit shall be issued at the time of registration and upon each
932 renewal of such registration.

933 (j) Use of colored and flashing lights except as authorized by this
934 section shall be an infraction.

935 Sec. 20. Subsection (f) of section 14-112 of the general statutes is
936 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
937 *1, 2015*):

938 (f) Any operator or any registrant whose operator's license or
939 certificate of registration has been suspended as herein provided or
940 whose policy of liability insurance or surety bond has been cancelled
941 or who fails to furnish additional evidence of financial responsibility
942 upon request of the commissioner, shall immediately return to the
943 commissioner [his operator's license or] such operator's certificate of
944 registration and the number plate or plates issued thereunder. [If any
945 person fails to return to the commissioner the operator's license or
946 certificate of registration and the number plate or plates issued
947 thereunder as provided herein, the commissioner shall forthwith direct
948 any motor vehicle inspector, state policeman or other police officer to
949 secure possession thereof and to return the same to the office of the
950 commissioner.] Failure to return such [operator's license or such]
951 certificate and such number plate or plates shall be an infraction.

952 Sec. 21. Section 14-178 of the general statutes is repealed and the
953 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

954 (a) If a certificate of title is lost, stolen, mutilated or destroyed or
955 becomes illegible, the first lienholder or, if none, the owner or legal
956 representative of the owner named in the certificate, as shown by the
957 records of the commissioner, shall promptly make application for and
958 may obtain a replacement upon furnishing information, including
959 personal identification acceptable and satisfactory to the
960 commissioner. The replacement certificate of title shall contain the
961 legend "This is a replacement [certificate] title and may be subject to

962 the rights of a person under the original certificate." Except as
963 provided in subsection (b) of section 14-175, the commissioner shall
964 present or mail the replacement certificate to the first lienholder named
965 in the replacement certificate or, if none, to the owner.

966 [(b) The commissioner shall not issue a new certificate of title to a
967 transferee upon application made on a replacement until fifteen days
968 after receipt of the application.]

969 [(c)] (b) A person recovering an original certificate of title for which
970 a replacement has been issued shall promptly surrender the original
971 certificate to the commissioner.

972 Sec. 22. Section 14-293b of the general statutes is repealed and the
973 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

974 (a) [The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations in
975 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 specifying the
976 responsibilities of an operator of a vehicle when] When an operator of
977 a motor vehicle is approaching a person riding a horse on a public
978 highway, [which responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to,
979 the obligation to] such operator shall reduce speed appropriately or
980 [to] stop, if necessary, to avoid endangering the equestrian or
981 frightening or striking the horse.

982 (b) No operator of a motor vehicle in the vicinity of an equestrian
983 and horse may blow a horn or cause loud or unusual noises, in a
984 manner to startle or frighten the horse.

985 (c) A statement concerning such responsibilities shall be [printed in
986 the] included in the agency's instruction manual for motor vehicle
987 operation. [at the time of the next revision of such manual.]

988 Sec. 23. Section 14-300g of the general statutes is repealed and the
989 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

990 (a) The traffic authority of any city, town or borough is authorized
991 to permit the operation of golf carts, during daylight hours only, on

992 any street or highway within the limits of, and under the jurisdiction
993 of, such traffic authority, provided: (1) Each such golf cart shall be
994 equipped with an operable horn in accordance with the requirements
995 of subsection (e) of section 14-80; (2) each such golf cart shall be
996 equipped with a flag that is positioned to assist operators of motor
997 vehicles in observing the location and operation of such golf cart; (3)
998 no such authorization shall be granted for operation on any street or
999 highway the posted speed limit of which is more than twenty-five
1000 miles per hour; and (4) the operator of any such golf cart shall carry a
1001 valid [Connecticut] motor vehicle operator's license while operating
1002 such golf cart. Any person who operates a golf cart in violation of any
1003 provision of this subsection, any insurance requirement established in
1004 accordance with subsection (b) of this section, or any other conditions
1005 or limitations established by the traffic authority for the operation of
1006 golf carts shall have committed an infraction.

1007 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may establish, by
1008 regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,
1009 insurance requirements for the operation of golf carts in accordance
1010 with subsection (a) of this section.

1011 Sec. 24. (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) The Commissioner of Motor
1012 Vehicles shall conduct a review of the department's issuance of limited
1013 operator's licenses pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of
1014 section 14-36 of the general statutes. Such review shall include, but
1015 need not be limited to, consideration of the criteria used by the
1016 department to issue or renew limited licenses, compilation of data
1017 regarding the driving records of persons with limited licenses, and
1018 consideration of whether the limitations imposed ensure the safety of
1019 the public, while recognizing the needs of the limited license holders.

1020 (b) Not later than February 1, 2016, the commissioner shall report on
1021 the results of the review required pursuant to subsection (a) of this
1022 section, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
1023 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
1024 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation.

1025 Such report shall provide information about the issuance of limited
 1026 licenses, data on driving records of holders of limited licenses, and
 1027 recommendations, if any, for administrative or legislative changes to
 1028 the process of issuing limited licenses.

1029 Sec. 25. Sections 14-154a and 14-211a of the general statutes are
 1030 repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2015*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-11b(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-15(b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-36a
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-36d
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-44
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-44c
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-44e(b)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-44e(h)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-44g(d)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-46b
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-46c
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-46e
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-47(a)
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-50a(a)(9)
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-52(b)(5)
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-58(c)
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-61(a)
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-96p
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-96q
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-112(f)
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-178
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-293b
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	14-300g
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section
Sec. 25	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	Repealer section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 3(a) the phrase "except that no such designation shall be required for the operation on an autocycle" was removed as unnecessary for this bill.

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	less than 1,000	less than 1,000
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue Loss	approximately 9,000	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Section 1 allows a person who is eligible for the driver training program for persons with disabilities to operate a motor vehicle while their license is withdrawn if they are driving with an instructor from the program and has no fiscal impact.

Section 4 allows the commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue or renew a license, permit or identity card by any method that is secure and may result in a minimal cost to the DMV for postage if the licenses are mailed to the applicant.

Sections 6-9 require commercial driver license (CDL) applicants and renewals to conform to federal regulation and do not result in a fiscal impact to DMV.

Sections 10-11 expand the DMV Medical Advisory Board to include licensed physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses which have no fiscal impact.

Section 13 eliminates the registration of a tractor limited to pulling a heavy duty trailer which will result in a revenue loss of approximately \$9,000 in FY 16. Currently there are 223 commercial trailers that are registered as a heavy duty trailer. The registration fee is \$40.

Sections 14-16 clarify administrative fees for dealers which conform to current practice and have no fiscal impact.

Sections 18-19 reorganize the statute regarding the use of colored and flashing lights and eliminate the use of colored lights for certain vehicles which have no fiscal impact.

Section 20 eliminates a provision that authorizes an inspector or a law enforcement officer, at the DMV commissioner's direction, to seize possession of a license or registration that has been suspended for failing to show proof of financial responsibility and has no fiscal impact to DMV.

Section 22 provides additional regulations regarding vehicles operating near a horse. This is anticipated to result in a potential revenue gain to the General Fund of less than \$1,000. Few infractions are anticipated.

Section 25 eliminates a provision related to liability for damages caused by the operation of a rented or leased motor vehicle and does not result in a fiscal impact to the state.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6822*****AN ACT CONCERNING DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING TECHNICAL AND MINOR CHANGES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES AND THE ISSUANCE OF TEMPORARY LICENSES, OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND A STUDY OF THE LIMITED LICENSE PROGRAM.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill makes a number of changes to motor vehicle laws. Among other things, it:

1. conforms state law to federal regulations requiring commercial driver's license (CDL) or instruction permit applicants and holders to (a) self-certify the type of driving they will do and (b) have a federally-certified medical examiner perform the required medical examination (§§ 6, 7, & 9);
2. allows, under certain circumstances, people who have had their driver's licenses medically withdrawn to take driver training and regain their licenses (§§ 1 & 12);
3. allows the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) commissioner to issue or renew licenses, permits, and identity cards in any way he deems secure and efficient, including (a) producing such licenses or cards at a centralized location and (b) issuing temporary licenses (§ 4);
4. allows physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses to (a) serve on DMV's medical advisory board and (b) complete medical reports and makes other minor changes to the board (§§ 10 & 11);
5. requires DMV to study the issuance of limited licenses to people

with certain health problems (§ 24);

6. rewrites the statutes pertaining to flashing lights, clarifying the use of and process for obtaining them and removing obsolete provisions (§§ 18 & 19);
7. allows people with out-of-state licenses to drive golf carts on roads where driving golf carts is permitted (§ 23); and
8. repeals a statute that the Connecticut Supreme Court determined is preempted by federal law (§ 25).

The bill makes several additional minor changes, including repealing certain obsolete provisions (§§ 2, 17, 20, & 25), clarifying administrative fees (§§ 14-16), eliminating title waiting periods and a separate method for determining heavy duty trailer fees (§§ 13 & 21), and codifying in statute existing regulations regarding motorist behavior in the presence of a horse (§ 22). The bill also make a number of technical and conforming changes (§§ 3, 5 & 8).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

§§ 1 & 12 – DRIVER TRAINING FOR PEOPLE WITH MEDICALLY WITHDRAWN LICENSES

The bill authorizes the DMV commissioner to allow people whose licenses have been withdrawn for medical reasons to drive while being trained by a licensed driving instructor or while taking a road test with a motor vehicle testing agent. In order to do so, the commissioner, after a hearing, must (1) determine that the affected person does not have a health problem that inhibits his or her ability to drive safely, and (2) require the person to pass a road test to have his or her license reinstated.

The bill also allows the commissioner to permit people who have had their licenses withdrawn because of a physical or mental disability to drive with an instructor for the Department of Rehabilitation Services' (DORS) driver training program. By law, a person with a disability that does not make him or her incapable of driving may

receive training under the DORS program, including training with adaptive equipment. After a person successfully completes the program, the DMV commissioner may waive the road test and issue a driver's license with any restrictions recommended by DORS.

§§ 2 & 17 – ELIMINATING OBSOLETE STAMP PROVISIONS

The bill eliminates obsolete provisions that require an official stamp issued by the DMV commissioner for a 60-day temporary registration transfer (1) by a person or firm between one vehicle used in connection with the business and another and (2) by a dealer transferring a buyer's current registration to the vehicle sold to the buyer.

§ 4 – ISSUING AND RENEWING LICENSES

Under the bill, the DMV commissioner may issue or renew any license, permit, or identity card by any method he deems secure and efficient. These methods may include producing these documents at a centralized location and mailing them to an applicant. The bill specifically allows the commissioner to issue temporary licenses, permits, and cards to an applicant to use until he or she receives the permanent one in the mail. Under the bill, these temporary documents are valid for 30 days or until the applicant receives the permanent one, whichever is earlier.

§§ 6, 7, & 9 – CONFORMING STATE CDL LAW TO FEDERAL LAW

Under federal law, state CDL laws must be consistent with federal regulations. The bill conforms state laws to federal regulations regarding self-certification of commerce type and medical certification (49 CFR § 383.71 (b) and § 391.41).

Self-Certification

The bill requires first-time CDL and commercial instruction permit applicants and CDL holders applying for renewal to self-certify the type of commerce in which they expect to or currently engage (i.e., non-excepted interstate, excepted interstate, non-excepted intrastate, or excepted intrastate) (see BACKGROUND). The DMV commissioner cannot issue or renew a CDL to anyone who does not make the

certification, and must downgrade a CDL to a Class D operator's license within 60 days of a CDL holder's failure to self-certify.

Medical Examiner's Certificate

In conformity with federal law, the bill also requires that medical examiner's certificates be completed by a federally-certified medical examiner listed on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners. Under previous federal law, a CDL applicant or holder could have any licensed medical professional complete the required certificate.

By law, CDL and instruction permit applicants must submit a copy of a medical examiner's certificate, prepared by a federally-certified medical examiner, indicating that they are medically certified to drive a commercial vehicle. CDL holders must submit a new medical certificate every 24 months, or a shorter time period if so indicated by the medical examiner on the CDL holder's previous certificate.

By law, DMV is prohibited from issuing a license or instruction permit to anyone who has not submitted a medical examiner's certificate. If a CDL or instruction permit holder does not submit a certificate within the required timeframe, the bill requires the commissioner, within 60 days of the date the holder becomes uncertified, to downgrade the CDL to a Class D operator's license or cancel the instruction permit.

For CDL applicants and holders who have submitted a medical certificate and self-certified as engaging in non-excepted interstate commerce, the bill requires the commissioner to post a medical certification status of "certified" on the Commercial Driver's License Information System for the applicant or holder.

§§ 10 & 11 – MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSE MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD

By law, the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Medical Advisory Board advises the DMV commissioner on the medical aspects and concerns of licensing motor vehicle operators. The bill allows

physician assistants (PAs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to (1) serve on the board and (2) complete physicals and medical reports requested by the board for the purposes of licensing decisions. Under current law, only physicians and optometrists may perform these functions. The bill also allows such physicals and medical reports to be completed by medical professionals licensed outside of Connecticut.

Under current law, the Connecticut State Medical Society and the Connecticut Association of Optometrists submit nominees from the specialties the law requires to serve on the board, and the commissioner selects board members from the nominees. Under the bill, professional medical associations that have PA or APRN members may also make such recommendations. The bill also adds occupational medicine to the list of specialties required on the board. Under the bill, the board must meet at least annually, instead of at least twice a year.

§ 13 – HEAVY DUTY TRAILER REGISTRATION FEE

The bill eliminates a separate method to determine the weight, for the purpose of a registration fee, of a tractor limited to pulling a heavy duty trailer. Under the bill, registration fees for tractors that pull heavy duty trailers will be determined in the same manner as the registration fees for all other tractors.

§§ 14-16 – CLARIFYING ADMINISTRATIVE FEES

The bill clarifies that hearing transcript fees apply only to those transcribed by DMV. It also specifies that administrative fees apply to dealers and repairers that fail to provide proof of bond renewal or replacement or insurance renewal or replacement. Current law imposes the fee on dealers and repairers that fail to continuously maintain bond and insurance requirements.

§§ 18 & 19 – FLASHING LIGHTS STATUTES REVISION

The bill revises and reorganizes the statutes on the use of colored and flashing lights. Nearly all the changes are technical, but the bill makes the following substantive changes. It:

1. eliminates obsolete provisions referring to purple lights and green lights for interstate public service vehicles;
2. eliminates a provision permitting commercial motor vehicles to use green identification lights;
3. eliminates a requirement that blue and green flashing light permits, which are issued by the chief executive officer of a volunteer fire or ambulance department, be filed with DMV; and
4. allows student transportation vehicles accommodating students with disabilities to use flashing lights in colors other than red when discharging passengers.

§ 20 – ELIMINATING AN OBSOLETE PROVISION REGARDING SEIZING REGISTRATIONS AND LICENSE PLATES

The bill eliminates an obsolete provision requiring the DMV commissioner to direct a motor vehicle inspector or police officer to seize the registration or license plates of a person whose license or registration was suspended for failing to show proof of financial responsibility.

§ 21 – ELIMINATING THE WAITING PERIOD FOR DUPLICATE TITLE

The bill eliminates the requirement that the DMV commissioner wait 15 days before issuing a duplicate certificate of title.

§ 22 – REGULATIONS REGARDING VEHICLES OPERATING NEAR HORSES

The bill incorporates in statute existing regulations regarding a motorist operating near a horse or equestrian. The regulations (1) require such a motorist to reduce his or her speed or stop to avoid endangering the equestrian or frightening or striking the horse and (2) prohibit a motorist from blowing a horn or causing loud or unusual noise in a manner to startle or frighten the horse. By law, these provisions must be included in DMV's instruction manual for motor vehicle operation.

§ 23 – OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS ON ROADS BY PEOPLE WITH OUT-OF-STATE LICENSES

This bill permits people with out-of-state driver's licenses to operate a golf cart on roads where such operation is permitted. Current law restricts such operation to people licensed in Connecticut.

§ 24 – LIMITED LICENSE STUDY

The bill requires the DMV commissioner to review DMV's issuance of limited licenses. By law, the commissioner may issue a license, with any limitations he deems appropriate, to a person with a health condition that could affect his or her ability to drive, provided he or she demonstrates that he or she can drive safely.

Under the bill, the review must (1) consider the criteria used by DMV to issue or renew limited licenses, (2) compile limited license holders' driving record data, and (3) consider whether the limitations imposed ensure the safety of the public while recognizing the needs of limited license holders.

DMV must report the results of the review to the Transportation Committee by February 1, 2016. The report must provide information on the issuance of limited licenses, data on limited license holders' driving records, and any recommended administrative or legislative changes to the process of issuing limited licenses.

§ 25 – REPEAL OF MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT TASK FORCE AND FEDERALLY PREEMPTED LAW

The bill repeals provisions related to (1) the obsolete Motor Vehicle Theft Task Force and (2) liability for damage caused by the operation of a rented or leased motor vehicle.

Under state law, an individual or firm that rents or leases a vehicle to another individual or firm is liable for any damages caused by an uninsured vehicle while it is rented or leased (CGS § 14-154a). In 2010, the Connecticut Supreme Court held that this statute was preempted by the federal Graves Amendment (49 USC § 30106), which prohibits state law from holding companies that rent or lease vehicles liable for

damage caused by the operation of the vehicle when it is rented or leased (*Rodriguez v. Testa*, 196 Conn. 1 (2010)).

BACKGROUND

§§ 5 & 9 – CDL Self-Certification

Federal law requires CDL applicants and holders to self-certify the type of commerce in which they currently or plan to engage (49 CFR § 383.71). The four types of commerce are:

1. Non-excepted interstate, meaning a person operates interstate and is subject to all requirements under 49 CFR § 391;
2. Excepted interstate, meaning a person operates interstate but engages exclusively in operations exempt from all or parts of 49 CFR § 391 (e.g., state or federal transportation and certain school bus operations);
3. Non-excepted intrastate, meaning a person operates only intrastate and is subject to state driver qualification requirements; and
4. Excepted intrastate, meaning a person engages exclusively in operations excepted from state driver qualifications.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/18/2015)