



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Substitute Bill No. 5050

* _____HB05050GAE____031516_____*

AN ACT MODERNIZING THE SYMBOL OF ACCESS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1,
2 2017, the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall promulgate a
3 policy and adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of
4 chapter 54 of the general statutes, designating the symbol of access to
5 be used on signage indicating access for persons with disabilities. Such
6 symbol shall depict a logo with a dynamic character leaning forward
7 with a sense of movement, be readily identifiable and be simply
8 designed with no secondary meaning. Such symbol shall signify
9 equivalent facilitation and accessibility as the previously used
10 international symbol of access.

11 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Beginning January 1, 2017, any
12 reference to the international symbol of accessibility in the State
13 Building Code shall be deemed to mean the symbol of access, as
14 defined in subsection (a) of section 14-253a of the general statutes, as
15 amended by this act. The symbol of access shall be used for all
16 buildings and structures constructed, substantially renovated or
17 expanded on or after January 1, 2017.

18 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 14-253a of the 2016 supplement to
19 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
20 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2017*):

21 (a) For the purposes of this section:

22 (1) "Special license plate" means a license plate displaying the
23 [international] symbol of access in a size identical to that of the letters
24 or numerals on the plate and in a color that contrasts with the
25 background color of the plate;

26 (2) "Removable windshield placard" means a two-sided, hanger-
27 style placard which bears on both of its sides: (A) The [international]
28 symbol of access in a height of three inches or more centered on such
29 placard and colored white on a blue background; (B) a unique
30 identification number; (C) a date of expiration; and (D) a statement
31 indicating that the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles issued
32 such placard;

33 (3) "Temporary removable windshield placard" means a placard
34 that is the same as a removable windshield placard except that the
35 [international] symbol of access appears on a red background; [and]

36 (4) "Person with disabilities" means a person with disabilities which
37 limit or impair the ability to walk, as defined in 23 CFR Section 1235.2;
38 and

39 (5) "Symbol of access" means the symbol designated by the
40 Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to section 1 of this
41 act used to indicate access for persons with disabilities.

42 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 14-253a of the 2016 supplement to
43 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
44 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2017*):

45 (c) Any person who meets the requirements to obtain a removable
46 windshield placard pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and who
47 has a motorcycle registered in such person's name shall be issued,
48 upon approval of the application, number plates in accordance with
49 the provisions of subsection (a) of section 14-21b, which shall bear
50 letters or numerals or any combination thereof followed by the

51 [international access] symbol of access. The registration of any
52 motorcycle for which a special license plate is issued shall expire and
53 be renewed as provided in section 14-22 and be subject to the fee
54 provisions of section 14-49. No person shall be issued such number
55 plates for the registration of more than two motorcycles. Any person
56 eligible to obtain a special license plate pursuant to this section who
57 transfers the expired registration of a motorcycle owned by such
58 person and replaces such number plate with a special license plate
59 shall be exempt from payment of any fee for such transfer or
60 replacement. A person who obtains a special plate or plates under this
61 subsection may also obtain a removable windshield placard in
62 accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

63 Sec. 5. Subsection (h) of section 14-253a of the 2016 supplement to
64 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
65 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2017*):

66 (h) Parking spaces designated for persons who are blind and
67 persons with disabilities on or after October 1, 1979, and prior to
68 October 1, 2004, shall be as near as possible to a building entrance or
69 walkway and shall be fifteen feet wide including three feet of cross
70 hatch, or parallel to a sidewalk on a public highway. On and after
71 October 1, 2004, parking spaces for passenger motor vehicles
72 designated for persons who are blind and persons with disabilities
73 shall be as near as possible to a building entrance or walkway and
74 shall be fifteen feet wide including five feet of cross hatch. On and after
75 October 1, 2004, parking spaces for passenger vans designated for
76 persons who are blind and persons with disabilities shall be as near as
77 possible to a building entrance or walkway and shall be sixteen feet
78 wide including eight feet of cross hatch. Such spaces shall be
79 designated by above grade signs with white lettering against a blue
80 background and shall bear the words "handicapped parking permit
81 required" and "violators will be fined". Such sign shall also bear the
82 international symbol of access. [When] On and after January 1, 2017,
83 whenever such a sign is replaced, repaired or erected it shall bear the

84 words "reserved parking permit required" and "violators will be
 85 fined", bear the symbol of access and indicate the minimum fine for a
 86 violation of subsection (f) of this section. Such indicator may be in the
 87 form of a notice affixed to such a sign.

88 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 14-325b of the 2016 supplement to
 89 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
 90 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2017*):

91 (a) Each retail dealer as defined in section 14-318 that offers self-
 92 service and full-service facilities for the sale of gasoline or motor fuel
 93 shall provide, at a self-service pump, upon request, refueling service to
 94 a handicapped driver of a vehicle that bears a special [international
 95 symbol of access] license plate or a removable windshield placard
 96 issued pursuant to section 14-253a, as amended by this act, at a price
 97 no greater than that which such dealer would charge the public to
 98 purchase gasoline or motor fuel without any refueling service.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	14-253a(a)
Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	14-253a(c)
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	14-253a(h)
Sec. 6	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	14-325b(a)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1, "propose" was changed to "adopt" for accuracy, ", in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes," was added for consistency, and "provide for the" was changed to "signify" for clarity.

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*