



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 426

January Session, 2021

Substitute Senate Bill No. 983

Senate, April 13, 2021

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. HASKELL of the 26th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING SLOWING DOWN FOR SERVICE VEHICLES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section, "service vehicle" means (1) a commercial motor vehicle
3 equipped with a garbage compactor, a detachable container or a
4 curbside recycling body, (2) a tank vehicle, (3) a vehicle authorized by
5 the United States government to carry mail, or (4) a vehicle operated by
6 an express delivery carrier.

7 (b) Except as provided in sections 14-233 and 14-234 of the general
8 statutes, the driver of a vehicle overtaking and proceeding in the same
9 direction of a service vehicle that is stationary or traveling significantly
10 below the posted speed limit shall immediately reduce speed to a
11 reasonable level below the posted speed limit and pass to the left of such
12 service vehicle at a safe distance. The driver shall not again drive to the
13 right side of the highway until safely clear of such service vehicle.

14 (c) (1) On and after October 1, 2021, and until June 30, 2022, any

15 person who violates any provision of this section shall receive a
16 warning. (2) On and after July 1, 2022, any person who violates any
17 provision of this section shall have committed an infraction.

18 Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of section 14-212 of the general statutes is
19 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
20 *1, 2021*):

21 (1) The following terms shall be construed as they are defined in
22 section 14-1: "Authorized emergency vehicle", "class 1 electric bicycle",
23 "class 2 electric bicycle", "class 3 electric bicycle", "commissioner",
24 "driver", "electric bicycle", "electric foot scooter", "fuels", "gross weight",
25 "head lamp", "high-mileage vehicle", "highway", "light weight", "limited
26 access highway", "maintenance vehicle", "motor bus", "motorcycle",
27 "motor vehicle registration", "nonresident", "nonskid device", "number
28 plate", "officer", "operator", "owner", "passenger motor vehicle",
29 "passenger and commercial motor vehicle", "person", "pneumatic tires",
30 "pole trailer", "registration", "registration number", "second offense",
31 "semitrailer", "shoulder", "solid tires", "stop", "subsequent offense", "tail
32 lamp", "tank vehicle", "tractor", "tractor-trailer unit", "trailer", "truck"
33 and "vanpool vehicle";

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	14-212(1)

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 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	None	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill creates a new infraction, effective July 1, 2022, for failing to reduce speed and pass to the left when overtaking a service vehicle as described in the bill. To the extent that violations occur, and offenders are fined, the bill results in potential minimal revenue to the General Fund.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of violations.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 983****AN ACT CONCERNING SLOWING DOWN FOR SERVICE VEHICLES.****SUMMARY**

Existing law generally requires a driver of a vehicle passing another vehicle traveling in the same direction to (1) pass on the left at a safe distance and (2) not move right until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle (CGS § 14-232). This bill requires drivers passing a stationary or slow-moving service vehicle to also immediately reduce their vehicles' speed to a reasonable level below the posted speed limit. Under the bill, these requirements do not apply in situations when the driver is lawfully passing on the right or in a no-passing zone (CGS §§ 14-233 & 14-234).

Under the bill, drivers must be issued a warning for violations of the bill's requirements occurring within the first nine months after the bill takes effect (until June 30, 2022); violations occurring after that date are an infraction.

The bill defines a "service vehicle" as a (1) commercial motor vehicle equipped with a garbage compactor, detachable container, or curbside recycling body; (2) tank vehicle; (3) vehicle authorized by the U.S. government to carry mail; or (4) vehicle operated by an express delivery carrier. By law, a "tank vehicle" is a commercial motor vehicle with a permanently or temporarily attached tank designed to transport liquid or gaseous material, but not a vehicle with a portable tank that has a rated capacity of 1,000 gallons or less (CGS § 14-1(97)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/24/2021)