

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 6484

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 3501



Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by: (TRA) 3501

AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

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

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (h) of section 13a-73 of the general statutes is
- 2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from
- 3 passage):
- 4 (h) All sales or exchanges of surplus property by the Department of
- 5 Transportation and matters dealing with the initial acquisition of any
- 6 existing mass transit system or the purchase or sale of real properties
- 7 acquired in connection with any state highway system or mass transit
- 8 system shall be subject to review and approval of the State Properties
- 9 Review Board except that those acquisitions and administrative
- 10 settlements relating to such properties which involve sums not in excess
- 11 of [five] ten thousand dollars shall be reported to the board by the
- 12 Commissioner of Transportation but shall not be subject to such review
- and approval. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
- shall be informed for inventory purposes of any transfer effectuated in
- 15 connection with this section. The State Properties Review Board shall

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- 16 not grant such approval if the Department of Transportation has failed
- 17 to comply with any applicable statutes in connection with the proposed
- 18 action.

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- Sec. 2. Section 13a-151 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 21 (a) The [crossing or attempted crossing of] owner of a motor vehicle 22 that crosses or attempts to cross any bridge posted with a maximum 23 weight limit notice, as required by section 13a-121, [by a vehicle having] 24 when such vehicle has a gross weight in excess of the [stated maximum 25 safe load shall constitute reckless driving by the operator of such vehicle 26 and the owner of such vehicle] posted weight limit shall be liable to the 27 authority bound to maintain such bridge for any damage to the 28 structure resulting from the passage or attempted passage of such 29 vehicle.
 - (b) The authority having control of any bridge shall be responsible for any damage sustained by reason of the passage of any vehicle having a gross weight not in excess of the maximum weight prescribed in the notice provided for in section 13a-121, provided such vehicle shall not be operated at a speed in excess of the posted speed limit for such bridge while crossing such bridge.
- Sec. 3. Section 14-298a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- (a) No person shall operate or move a motor vehicle over, on, through, or under any bridge or structure on any highway (1) if the height of such vehicle or the load exceeds the height of the posted clearance or load, as shown by an official traffic control device, as defined in section 14-297, or (2) if the weight of such vehicle or vehicle and load exceeds the weight of the posted weight limit.
 - (b) Any person violating any provision of this section shall, (1) for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction and be fined not more than one thousand five hundred dollars, and (2) for a

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- 47 subsequent offense, be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
- Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 51-164n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2021):
- 51 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person 52 who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the provisions of 53 section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35, 7-41, 7-83, 7-283, 7-325, 7-54 393, 8-12, 8-25, 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 10-230, 10-55 251, 10-254, 12-52, 12-170aa, 12-292, 12-314b or 12-326g, subdivision (4) 56 of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of section 12-411, section 12-57 435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-487, 13a-71, 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-115, 58 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-124, 13a-139, 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-247 or 13a-59 253, subsection (f) of section 13b-42, section 13b-90, 13b-221, 13b-292, 60 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c, subsection 61 (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414, subsection (d) of section 62 14-12, section 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (f) of section 14-34a, 63 subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-49, 14-50a or 14-58, 64 subsection (b) of section 14-66, section 14-66a or 14-67a, subsection (g) 65 of section 14-80, subsection (f) of section 14-80h, section 14-97a, 14-100b, 66 14-103a, 14-106a, 14-106c, 14-146, 14-152, 14-153 or 14-163b, a first 67 violation as specified in subsection (f) of section 14-164i, section 14-219 68 as specified in subsection (e) of said section, subdivision (1) of section 69 14-223a, section 14-240, 14-250 or 14-253a, subsection (a) of section 14-70 261a, section 14-262, 14-264, 14-267a, 14-269, 14-270, 14-275a, 14-278 or 71 14-279, subsection (e) or (h) of section 14-283, section 14-291, 14-293b, 14-72 296aa, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-298a, as amended 73 by this act, 14-300, 14-300d, 14-319, 14-320, 14-321, 14-325a, 14-326, 14-74 330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of section 14-386a, section 15-75 25 or 15-33, subdivision (1) of section 15-97, subsection (a) of section 15-76 115, section 16-44, 16-256e, 16a-15 or 16a-22, subsection (a) or (b) of 77 section 16a-22h, section 17a-24, 17a-145, 17a-149, 17a-152, 17a-465, 17b-78 124, 17b-131, 17b-137, 19a-30, 19a-33, 19a-39 or 19a-87, subsection (b) of 79 section 19a-87a, section 19a-91, 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-113, 19a-215, 19a-80 219, 19a-222, 19a-224, 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-

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       (b), (d), (e) or (g) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y or 29-161z,
      subdivision (1) of section 29-198, section 29-210, 29-243 or 29-277,
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116 45a-283, 45a-450, 45a-634 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 117 46a-54, section 46a-59, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 47-34a, 47-47, 49-8a, 49-16, 118 53-133, 53-199, 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-264, 53-280, 53-302a, 53-303e, 119 53-311a, 53-321, 53-322, 53-323, 53-331 or 53-344, subsection (c) of section 120 53-344b, or section 53-450, or (2) a violation under the provisions of 121 chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any regulation adopted in accordance 122 with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 13b-410, or (4) a violation 123 of any ordinance, regulation or bylaw of any town, city or borough, 124 except violations of building codes and the health code, for which the 125 penalty exceeds ninety dollars but does not exceed two hundred fifty 126 dollars, unless such town, city or borough has established a payment 127 and hearing procedure for such violation pursuant to section 7-152c, 128 shall follow the procedures set forth in this section.

Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 13b-20e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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- 132 (a) Any consultant who desires to provide consulting services to the 133 department in any calendar year shall be required to submit, not later 134 than the fifteenth day of [November] October immediately preceding 135 such calendar year, information concerning their qualifications as may 136 be required by the department. Such consultants shall provide the 137 department with additional or updated information upon request by the 138 department. The commissioner shall by January first, annually, analyze 139 the information submitted and determine those consultants qualified to 140 perform services in areas of expertise established by the department. 141 The commissioner shall publish annually, in accordance with the 142 provisions of section 13b-20g, at any time between September first to 143 October first, a notice that any person, firm or corporation which desires 144 to be listed with the department as a consultant shall submit such 145 information as required pursuant to this subsection to the department. 146 Such notice shall also list the areas of expertise likely to be needed by 147 the department during the next calendar year.
- Sec. 6. Section 13b-20f of the general statutes is repealed and the

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149 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The performance of all consultants who have active agreements with the department shall be evaluated by the supervising unit within the bureau utilizing the consultant services, at [six-month intervals] <u>least once a year</u> and upon completion of the consultant services. Each such evaluation shall be kept on file in the supervising unit and a copy filed with the permanent selection panel.

- Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 13b-34 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) (1) The commissioner shall have power, in order to aid or promote the operation, whether temporary or permanent, of any transportation service operating to, from or in the state, to contract in the name of the state with any person, including but not limited to any common carrier, any transit district formed under chapter 103a or any special act, or any political subdivision or entity, or with the United States or any other state, or any agency, instrumentality, subdivision, department or officer thereof, for purposes of initiating, continuing, developing, providing or improving any such transportation service. Such contracts may include provision for arbitration of disputed issues.
- (2) The commissioner, in order to aid or promote the operation of any transportation service operating outside the state, may contract in the name of the state with any person, including, but not limited to, any common carrier, or with the United States or any other state, or any agency, instrumentality, subdivision, department or officer thereof, for purposes of providing any transportation service in the event such assistance is required in the case of an emergency or a special event.
- (3) The state, acting by and through the commissioner, may, by itself or in concert with others, provide all or a portion of any such transportation service, share in the costs of or provide funds for such service, or furnish equipment or facilities for use in such service upon such terms and conditions as the commissioner may deem necessary or

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advisable, and any such contracts may include, without limitation thereto, arrangements under which the state shall so provide service, share costs, provide funds or furnish equipment or facilities. To these ends, the commissioner may in the name of the state acquire or obtain the use of facilities and equipment employed in providing any such service by gift, purchase, lease or other arrangements and may own and operate any such facilities and equipment and establish, charge and collect such fares and other charges or arrange for such collection for the use or services thereof as he may deem necessary, convenient or desirable.

- (4) The commissioner or any fare inspector, as defined in section 13b-2, shall have the authority to issue citations for any violation of section 13b-38i. The commissioner may also acquire title in fee simple to, or any lesser estate, interest or right in, any rights-of-way, properties or facilities, including properties used on or before October 1, 1969, for rail or other forms of transportation services. The commissioner may hold such properties for future use by the state and may enter into agreements for interim use of such properties for other purposes.
- (5) Any person contracting with the state pursuant to this section for the provision of any transportation service shall not be considered an arm or agent of the state. Any person contracting with the state pursuant to this section for the provision of any motor bus service shall not be subject to the provisions of section 13b-80, as amended by this act. Any damages caused by the operation of such transportation service by such person may be recovered in a civil action brought against such person in the superior court and such person may not assert the defense of sovereign immunity in such action.
- Sec. 8. Section 13b-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- [No] Except as provided in subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 13b-34, as amended by this act, no person, association, limited liability company or corporation shall operate a motor bus without having obtained a certificate from the Department of Transportation or from the

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Federal Highway Administration pursuant to the Bus Regulatory Reform Act of 1982, P.L. 97-261, specifying the route and certifying that public convenience and necessity require the operation of a motor bus or motor buses over such route. Such certificate shall be issued only after written application for the same has been made. Upon receipt of such application, said department shall promptly give written notice of the pendency of such application to the mayor of each city, the warden of each borough or the first selectman of each town in or through which the applicant desires to operate, and to any common carrier operating over any portion of such route or over a route substantially parallel thereto. Any town, city or borough within which, or between which and any other town, city or borough in this state, any such common carrier is furnishing service may bring a written petition to the department in respect to routes, fares, speed, schedules, continuity of service and the convenience and safety of passengers and the public. Thereupon the department may fix a time and place for a hearing upon such petition and mail notice thereof to the parties in interest at least one week prior to such hearing. No such certificate shall be sold or transferred until the department, upon written application to it, setting forth the purpose, terms and conditions thereof and after investigation, approves the same. The application shall be accompanied by a fee of one hundred seventysix dollars. The department may amend or, for sufficient cause shown, may suspend or revoke any such certificate. The department may impose a civil penalty on any person or any officer of any association, limited liability company or corporation who violates any provision of any regulation adopted under section 13b-86 with respect to routes, fares, speed, schedules, continuity of service or the convenience and safety of passengers and the public, in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars per day for each violation. The owner or operator of every motor bus shall display in a conspicuous place therein a memorandum of such certificate. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 285, such certificate shall include authority to transport baggage, express, mail and newspapers for hire in the same vehicle with passengers under such regulations as the department may prescribe. Any certificate issued pursuant to this section by the Division of Public

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- 249 Utility Control within the Department of Business Regulation prior to
- October 1, 1979, shall remain valid unless suspended or revoked by the
- 251 Department of Transportation.
- Sec. 9. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 13a-95c of the
- 253 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this

254 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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- 256 subsection, there shall be a transition period during which the 257 Commissioner of Transportation may authorize the continued use of 258 consultants if necessary to complete contracts authorized pursuant to 259 section 13a-95b. During this period, the commissioner shall make all 260 reasonable efforts to perform development and inspection work as 261 described in subsection (a) of this section using, where such employees 262 are available, department employees and reducing, and where possible 263 eliminating, the dependency on outside consultants. The commissioner 264 shall establish a program to train department employees to support 265 alternative project delivery methods. Such training program may be 266 provided in projects utilizing consultants, as provided for in this section. 267 The commissioner shall report, on or before October first annually, to 268 the Governor of the progress made in training employees in alternative
- of employees and building internal project delivery capacity. [The

project delivery methods, improving the diversity of technical expertise

- authority granted by this subdivision to use consultants on contracts
- 272 entered into pursuant to section 13a-95b shall be subject to a termination
- date which shall be January 1, 2022, unless the Governor certifies that
- 274 the use of consultants is necessary to complete projects authorized
- pursuant to section 13a-95b, which shall extend such termination date
- to a date not later than January 1, 2025.]
- Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 13b-97 of the general statutes is
- 278 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
- 279 *passage*):
- 280 (a) No person, association, limited liability company or corporation 281 shall operate a taxicab until such person, association, limited liability

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company or corporation has obtained a certificate from the Department of Transportation certifying that public convenience and necessity require the operation of a taxicab or taxicabs for transportation of passengers, the acceptance or solicitation of which originates within the territory specified in such certificate except as provided under subsection (d) of this section. No such certificate shall be issued unless the department finds that the person, association, limited liability company or corporation is suitable to operate a taxicab service, after giving due consideration to, at a minimum, the following factors: (1) Any convictions of the applicant under federal, state or local laws relative to safety, motor vehicle or criminal violations; (2) the number of taxicabs to be operated under the certificate, provided no applicant for a new certificate shall operate fewer than three taxicabs; (3) the adequacy of the applicant's financial resources to operate the taxicab service; (4) the adequacy of insurance coverage and safety equipment; and (5) the availability of qualified taxicab operators. The commissioner shall request the state criminal history records check for any person or any officer of any association, limited liability company or corporation applying for such certificate from the State Police Bureau of Identification. The commissioner shall arrange for the fingerprinting of any person or any officer of any association, limited liability company or corporation applying for such certificate and forward the fingerprints to said bureau which shall submit the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history records check for any federal conviction specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection. The commissioner shall charge a fee for each such national criminal history records check which shall be equal to the fee charged by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for performing such check. Such certificate shall be issued only after written application, fingerprinting and said criminal history records check for the same has been made and public hearing held thereon. The application shall be accompanied by a fee of two thousand dollars and the fee for said criminal history records check. Upon receipt of such application, the department shall fix a time and place of hearing thereon [, provided such hearing shall be held not earlier than three months after such receipt,] and shall promptly give

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written notice of the pendency of such application and of the time and place of <u>such</u> hearing [thereon] to [such] <u>the</u> applicant, the mayor of each city, the warden of each borough or the first selectman of each town in which the applicant desires to originate the transportation of such passengers, and to any common carrier operating within the territory specified. Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection to the contrary, the department may, upon receipt of a written application, amend an existing certificate to increase the number of taxicabs which may be operated pursuant to the certificate without holding a hearing on the application, provided the department issues a legal notice of such application in a daily newspaper in accordance with the provisions of section 1-2, gives written notice of the pendency of such application to any common carrier operating within the territory specified and no objection is filed with the department within thirty days of each such notice.

- Sec. 11. Section 13b-103 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
 - (a) (1) No person, association, limited liability company or corporation shall operate a motor vehicle in livery service until such person, association, limited liability company or corporation has obtained a permit from the Department of Transportation, specifying the nature and extent of the service to be rendered and certifying that public convenience and necessity will be improved by the operation and conduct of such livery service. Such permits shall be issued only after a written application for the same has been made and a public hearing has been held thereon. Upon receipt of such application, together with the payment of a fee of two hundred dollars, the department shall fix a time and place of hearing thereon, within a reasonable time, and shall promptly give written notice of the pendency of such application and of the time and place of such hearing to each applicant, the mayor of each city, the warden of each borough and the first selectman of each town, within which any such applicant desires to maintain an office or headquarters, to any carrier legally operating motor vehicles in livery service within the same territory and to other interested parties as

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determined by the department. (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the department may issue a permit for the operation of vehicles (A) having a capacity of less than eleven adults or to be used exclusively at funerals, weddings, christenings, processions or celebrations, without holding a hearing and certifying that public convenience and necessity would be improved by the operation of such vehicles, or (B) having a capacity of not less than eleven or more than fourteen adults and used for sightseeing and related purposes, without holding a hearing, provided the department issues a legal notice, as provided under section 1-2, of such application and no objection is filed with the department within thirty days of publication of such notice. (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the department may issue a temporary or permanent permit to any person, association, limited liability company or corporation operating a motor vehicle engaged in the transportation of passengers for hire by virtue of a contract with, or a lower tier contract for, any federal, state or municipal agency that (A) is in effect on July 1, 1997, with or without hearing, after a written application for the same has been made and the department has determined that the applicant meets the requirements of subsection (b) of this section except with respect to public convenience and necessity, or (B) becomes effective after July 1, 1997, with or without hearing, after a written application for the same has been made and the department has determined that the applicant meets the requirements of subsection (b) of this section. Any such permit issued under the provisions of this subdivision (i) shall be limited to service provided under any such contract, and (ii) with respect to any contract under the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, shall not authorize a total number of motor vehicles exceeding the number required to provide service existing under such contract on July 1, 1997. (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the department shall issue to any person who has an intrastate livery permit for at least one year, upon the application of such person, up to two additional vehicle authorizations each year without a hearing and without written notice of the pendency of the application, if all the existing permits held by

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such person are registered and in use and if there are no outstanding violations or matters pending adjudication against such person. The department shall have thirty calendar days to issue such amended permit.

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- (b) In determining whether or not such a permit will be granted, the Department of Transportation shall take into consideration the present or future public convenience and necessity for the service the applicant proposes to render, the suitability of the applicant or the suitability of the management if the applicant is a limited liability company or corporation, the financial responsibility of the applicant, the ability of the applicant efficiently and properly to perform the service for which authority is requested and the fitness, willingness and ability of the applicant to conform to the provisions of this chapter and the requirements and regulations of the department under this chapter.
- (c) Any interested party may bring a written petition to the Department of Transportation in respect to fares, service, operation or equipment, or the convenience, protection and safety of the public with regard to any carrier operating a motor vehicle in livery service. Thereupon, the department may fix a time and place for a hearing upon such petition and give notice thereof. No permit shall be sold or transferred until the department, upon written application to it setting forth the purpose, terms and conditions thereof and accompanied by a fee of two hundred dollars, after investigation, approves the same. The department may amend or, for sufficient cause shown, may suspend or revoke any such permit. The department may impose a civil penalty on any person or any officer of any association, limited liability company or corporation who violates any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under section 13b-102 with respect to fares, service, operation or equipment, in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars per day for each violation. Prior to the imposition of a civil penalty under this subsection, the department shall provide notice to said person or officer no later than fifteen business days after receipt of information concerning an alleged violation and shall provide an opportunity for a hearing.

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(d) The owner or operator of each motor vehicle in livery service shalldisplay in such vehicle such permit or a memorandum thereof.

- (e) (1) Any person who holds himself or herself out to be the operator of a motor vehicle in livery service who has not received a permit under this section shall be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
- (2) The state shall remit to a municipality fifty per cent of the fine amount received for a violation of subdivision (1) of this subsection with respect to each summons issued by such municipality. Each clerk of the Superior Court or the Chief Court Administrator, or any other official of the Superior Court designated by the Chief Court Administrator, shall, on or before the thirtieth day of January, April, July and October in each year, certify to the Comptroller the amount due for the previous quarter under this subsection to each municipality served by the office of the clerk or official.
- (f) The Department of Transportation may revoke a permit issued under this section or section 13b-105 without a hearing, provided (1) the department sends a notice of revocation to the permit holder at the address of the permit holder on file with the department and (A) the notice is returned as undeliverable or could not be delivered, or (B) the permit holder fails to respond to the notice within the time period specified by the department in such notice, (2) the department conducts a physical inspection of the address of the permit holder on file with the department and determines that no livery service is operated at such address, and (3) no motor vehicle is registered by the permit holder with the Department of Motor Vehicles to be used as specified in the permit pursuant to section 13b-106.
- Sec. 12. Section 13b-392 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

In determining whether or not such a certificate shall be granted, the Commissioner of Transportation shall take into consideration the existing motor transportation facilities and the effect upon them of granting such certificate, the suitability of the applicant, or the

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suitability of the management if the applicant is a corporation, the financial responsibility and financial stability of the applicant, the ability of the applicant efficiently to perform the service for which authority is requested [,] and the criminal history of the applicant. [, the condition of and effect upon the highways involved and the safety of the public using such highways. The commissioner shall take into consideration such recommendations as to motor transportation facilities, or highways, or the effect of granting such certificate upon either of them, or the safety of the public using such highways.] No such certificate shall be denied solely on the ground that there is an existing rail or household goods carrier service. When it appears that no household goods carrier service is being supplied over the route or routes applied for, public convenience and necessity shall be presumed to require operation of such service.

Sec. 13. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 19a-342 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(b) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 31-40q, no person shall smoke: (A) In any building or portion of a building, [partially enclosed shelter on a rail platform or bus shelter] owned and operated or leased and operated by the state or any political subdivision [thereof] of the state; (B) in any area of a health care institution; (C) in any area of a retail food store; (D) in any restaurant; (E) in any area of an establishment with a permit issued for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-20a, 30-21, 30-21b, 30-22, 30-22c, 30-28, 30-28a, 30-33a, 30-33b, 30-35a, 30-37a, 30-37e or 30-37f, in any area of an establishment with a permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-23 issued after May 1, 2003, and, on and after April 1, 2004, in any area of an establishment with a permit issued for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-22a or 30-26 or the bar area of a bowling establishment holding a permit pursuant to subsection (a) of section 30-37c; (F) within a school building or on the grounds of such school; (G) within a child care facility or on the grounds of such child care facility, except, if the child care facility is a family child care home,

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as defined in section 19a-77, such smoking is prohibited only when a child enrolled in such home is present; (H) in any passenger elevator, provided no person shall be arrested for violating this subsection unless there is posted in such elevator a sign which indicates that smoking is prohibited by state law; (I) in any dormitory in any public or private institution of higher education; [or] (J) on and after April 1, 2004, in any area of a dog race track or a facility equipped with screens for the simulcasting of off-track betting race programs or jai alai games; or (K) in any area of a platform or a shelter at a rail, busway or bus station, owned and operated or leased and operated by the state or any political subdivision of the state. For purposes of this subsection, "restaurant" means space, in a suitable and permanent building, kept, used, maintained, advertised and held out to the public to be a place where meals are regularly served to the public, "school" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-154a and "child care facility" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-342a.

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Sec. 14. Special act 91-32 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 13b-268 of the general statutes or any other provision of the general statutes, special act or regulation which prohibits the construction of any new highway railroad crossing at-grade, the [commissioner] <u>Commissioner</u> of [transportation] <u>Transportation</u> shall construct an at-grade crossing for [emergency vehicles] <u>vehicle</u> and pedestrian traffic at the east end of Portland Street and Bridge Street in <u>the town of</u> Middletown. The crossing shall be constructed subject to the provisions of sections 13b-342 to [13b-347] 13b-345, inclusive, of the general statutes.

- Sec. 15. Section 4e-30 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) A state contracting agency may audit the books and records of a contractor or any subcontractor under any negotiated contract or subcontract to the extent that such books and records relate to the performance of such contract or subcontract. Such books and records

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- shall be maintained by the contractor for a period of three years from the date of final payment under the prime contract and by the
- 521 subcontractor for a period of three years from the expiration of the
- 522 subcontract.
- (b) If a state contracting agency enters into an amendment to any
- 524 negotiated contract or subcontract that extends the terms of such
- 525 contract or subcontract, the amendment shall be deemed a new and
- 526 separate negotiated contract for the purposes of this section. The books
- 527 and records of a contractor or any subcontractor related to the
- 528 performance of such amendment shall be maintained by the contractor
- 529 from the commencement of such amendment until a period of three
- 530 years from the date of final payment under such amendment or the date
- of expiration of such amendment, whichever is later.
- Sec. 16. Subsection (c) of section 14-100a of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
- 534 1, 2021):
- (c) (1) The operator of and any [front seat] passenger in any motor
- vehicle or fire fighting apparatus originally equipped with seat safety
- 537 belts complying with the provisions of 49 CFR 571.209, as amended
- from time to time, shall wear such seat safety belt while the vehicle or
- 539 <u>fire fighting apparatus</u> is being operated on any highway, except as
- 540 follows:
- 541 (A) A child under eight years of age shall be restrained as provided
- in subsection (d) of this section; and
- (B) The operator of such vehicle shall secure or cause to be secured in
- a seat safety belt any passenger eight years of age or older and under
- sixteen years of age. [; and]
- 546 (C) If the operator of such vehicle is under eighteen years of age, such
- operator and each passenger in such vehicle shall wear such seat safety
- belt while the vehicle is being operated on any highway.
- 549 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply

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to: (A) [any] Any person whose physical disability or impairment would prevent restraint in such safety belt, provided such person obtains a written statement from a licensed physician or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse containing reasons for such person's inability to wear such safety belt and including information concerning the nature and extent of such condition. Such person shall carry the statement on his or her person or in the motor vehicle at all times when it is being operated, [or] (B) an authorized emergency vehicle, other than fire fighting apparatus, responding to an emergency call or a motor vehicle operated by a rural letter carrier of the United States postal service while performing his or her official duties or by a person engaged in the delivery of newspapers, or (C) any passenger on a bus, as defined in 49 USC 30127, as amended from time to time.

- 563 (3) Failure to wear a seat safety belt shall not be considered as 564 contributory negligence nor shall such failure be admissible evidence in 565 any civil action.
 - (4) No law enforcement official may stop a motor vehicle solely for the apparent or actual failure of a back seat passenger who is sixteen years of age or older to wear a seat safety belt.
 - [(4)] (5) Any operator of a motor vehicle, who is eighteen years of age or older, and any passenger in such motor vehicle, who violates any provision of this subsection shall have committed an infraction and shall be fined fifty dollars. Any operator of a motor vehicle who is under eighteen years of age and any passenger in such motor vehicle who violates any provision of this subsection shall have committed an infraction and shall be fined seventy-five dollars. Points may not be assessed against the operator's license of any person convicted of such violation.
- Sec. 17. Section 54-33m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
 - The failure of an operator of, or [front seat] passenger in, a private passenger motor vehicle or vanpool vehicle to wear a seat safety belt as

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required by section 14-100a, as amended by this act, shall not constitute probable cause for a law enforcement official to conduct a search of such vehicle and its contents.

- Sec. 18. Section 13a-124a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) As used in this section, ["specific information sign"] " a specific service sign" or "logo sign" means a rectangular sign with the word GAS, FOOD, LODGING, [or] CAMPING or ATTRACTION and exit directional information pertaining to the designated motorist service placed [at the top of] on the sign and upon which is mounted separately attached business [signs] sign panels showing the brand, symbol, trademark or name, or any combination of these, for the designated service available on a crossroad at or near an interchange or intersection.
- [(b) The Commissioner of Transportation may issue permits for the erection and maintenance of specific information signs and business signs within the rights-of-way of any portion of a state-maintained limited access highway, except a parkway. The commissioner shall not issue any such permit to any person or company until such person or company files with the commissioner a bond or recognizance to the state, satisfactory to the commissioner and in such amount as the commissioner determines, subject to forfeiture upon failure to comply with (1) the requirements of this section, (2) regulations adopted pursuant to this section, or (3) any orders of the commissioner relating to the erection and maintenance of specific information signs and business signs. Any such bond or recognizance shall remain in full force and effect as long as such person or company is subject to any such requirements, regulations or orders as provided in this section.
- (c) Any person or company issued a permit in accordance with subsection (b) of this section shall be reimbursed, by subsequent permittees on the same sign, the costs associated with said sign divided by the number of other permittees on said sign.
- (d) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with

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- chapter 54 to carry out the purposes of this section. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to, establishment of (1) fees for the permits issued under subsection (b) of this section, (2) reimbursements issued pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, and (3) standards for the location, size and maintenance of specific information signs and business signs.]
- (b) The Commissioner of Transportation may enter into an agreement with a qualifying person or company regarding the erection, maintenance and removal of a specific service sign within the rights-of-way of any portion of a state-maintained limited access highway, except a parkway. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, regarding (1) the design and installation requirements for a specific service sign, (2) the minimum qualifications for a person or company to obtain a specific service sign, (3) the application process to obtain a specific service sign, (4) the financial responsibility of such person or company, and (5) the terms regarding the removal of a specific service sign or revocation of an agreement with such person or company.
- Sec. 19. Section 13b-237 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) (1) The Commissioner of Transportation shall not, directly or indirectly, sell, transfer, salvage or otherwise dispose of any surplus rail [or other track] material, [unless the commissioner has offered such rail or other track material] including, but not limited to, rail sections having a maximum length of two hundred feet, ties, tie plates and other track material, without first offering such surplus rail material to freight railroad companies for upgrading state-owned rights-of-way. [Said commissioner shall offer any remaining rail or other track material, if any, to freight railroad companies for upgrading other rail lines located within the state. If any freight railroad company accepts such offer, the Department of Transportation shall transfer such rail or other track material to the recipient's designated material site within the state at a charge to such recipient that, in the case of state-owned rights-of-way

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does not exceed the value, as scrap, of the materials replaced by the material transferred by said department, and, in the case of non-state-owned rights-of-way, does not exceed the value, as scrap, of the materials transferred by said department.] Such offer shall be in writing and shall be sent by first class mail or electronic mail. No later than thirty days after the date of such offer, a freight railroad company interested in acquiring such surplus material shall submit, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, a notification of interest and a statement regarding the need and intended use of such surplus material. If more than one freight railroad company submits a notification of interest, the commissioner may select a freight railroad company based on the prior distribution of surplus rail material and the best intended use of such surplus rail material on state property as determined by the commissioner. The commissioner shall send a notification of selection to the selected freight railroad company by first class mail or electronic mail.

(2) The commissioner shall offer remaining surplus rail material, if any, to freight railroad companies for upgrading other rail lines located within the state in the same manner as provided for in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

- (3) The commissioner shall make any surplus rail material available for inspection at a designated location within a rail yard or along a sliding track in the state.
- (b) A freight railroad company that received a notice of selection shall accept delivery of the surplus rail material not later than thirty days after receipt of such notice. If the selected freight railroad company does not accept delivery within such thirty-day period, the commissioner may select another fright railroad company that submitted a notification of interest and statement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section or salvage or otherwise dispose of the surplus rail material. The selected freight railroad company shall (1) arrange for and pay the costs associated with the handling and delivery of the surplus rail material from a specific location within a rail yard or along a sliding track in the

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state, (2) accept the surplus rail material in "as is" condition, (3) acknowledge that the commissioner assumes no responsibility for the quality or fitness of the surplus rail material, and (4) install the surplus rail material pursuant to the statement submitted to the commissioner in accordance with subsection (a) of this section unless otherwise approved in writing by the commissioner. The selected freight railroad company shall not salvage the surplus rail material and obtain reimbursement for the cost of the handling and delivery of the surplus rail material, but may salvage any material replaced by the surplus rail material to offset such costs.

 (c) The commissioner may enter into agreements with salvage companies for the salvage or disposal of surplus rail material that is not distributed to a freight railroad company pursuant to this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	from passage	13a-73(h)
Sec. 2	from passage	13a-151
Sec. 3	October 1, 2021	14-298a
Sec. 4	October 1, 2021	51-164n(b)
Sec. 5	from passage	13b-20e(a)
Sec. 6	from passage	13b-20f
Sec. 7	from passage	13b-34(a)
Sec. 8	from passage	13b-80
Sec. 9	from passage	13a-95c(b)(2)
Sec. 10	from passage	13b-97(a)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2021	13b-103
Sec. 12	October 1, 2021	13b-392
Sec. 13	October 1, 2021	19a-342(b)(1)
Sec. 14	from passage	SA 91-32
Sec. 15	from passage	4e-30
Sec. 16	October 1, 2021	14-100a(c)
Sec. 17	October 1, 2021	54-33m
Sec. 18	from passage	13a-124a
Sec. 19	October 1, 2021	13b-237

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Statement of Purpose:

To implement the recommendations of the Department of Transportation.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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