



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Raised Bill No. 763

LCO No. 2586



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT REQUIRING DRIVERS OF PARATRANSIT VEHICLES TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION OR ABANDONMENT OF ELDERLY PERSONS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-451 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2021*):

4 (a) A mandatory reporter [, as defined in this section,] who has
5 reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any elderly person has been
6 abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned, or is in a condition that is
7 the result of such abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, or is in
8 need of protective services, shall, not later than seventy-two hours after
9 such suspicion or belief arose, report such information or cause a report
10 to be made in any reasonable manner to the Commissioner of Social
11 Services or to the person or persons designated by the commissioner to
12 receive such reports. [The term "mandatory reporter" means (1) any
13 physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, (2)
14 any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or

15 not so licensed, (3) any registered nurse, (4) any nursing home
16 administrator, nurse's aide or orderly in a nursing home facility or
17 residential care home, (5) any person paid for caring for a resident in a
18 nursing home facility or residential care home, (6) any staff person
19 employed by a nursing home facility or residential care home, (7) any
20 residents' advocate, other than a representative of the Office of the Long-
21 Term Care Ombudsman, as established under section 17a-405,
22 including the State Ombudsman, (8) any licensed practical nurse,
23 medical examiner, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, social
24 worker, clergyman, police officer, pharmacist, psychologist or physical
25 therapist, (9) any person paid for caring for an elderly person by any
26 institution, organization, agency or facility, including without
27 limitation, any employee of a community-based services provider,
28 senior center, home care agency, homemaker and companion agency,
29 adult day care center, village-model community and congregate
30 housing facility, and (10) any person licensed or certified as an
31 emergency medical services provider pursuant to chapter 368d or
32 chapter 384d, including any such emergency medical services provider
33 who is a member of a municipal fire department.] Any mandatory
34 reporter who fails to make such report within the prescribed time
35 [period] shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, except that,
36 if such person intentionally fails to make such report within the
37 prescribed time period, such person shall be guilty of a class C
38 misdemeanor for the first offense and a class A misdemeanor for any
39 subsequent offense. Any institution, organization, agency or facility
40 employing individuals to care for persons sixty years of age or older
41 shall provide mandatory training on detecting potential abuse, neglect,
42 exploitation and abandonment of such persons and inform such
43 employees of their obligations under this section. For purposes of this
44 subsection, ["person paid for caring for an elderly person by any
45 institution, organization, agency or facility" includes an employee of a
46 community-based services provider, senior center, home health care
47 agency, homemaker and companion agency, adult day care center,
48 village-model community and congregate housing facility] "mandatory
49 reporter" means any (1) physician or surgeon licensed under the

50 provisions of chapter 370, (2) resident physician or intern in any hospital
 51 in this state, whether or not so licensed, (3) registered nurse, (4) nursing
 52 home administrator, nurse's aide or orderly in a nursing home facility
 53 or residential care home, (5) person paid for caring for a resident in a
 54 nursing home facility or residential care home, (6) staff person
 55 employed by a nursing home facility or residential care home, (7)
 56 residents' advocate, other than a representative of the Office of the Long-
 57 Term Care Ombudsman, as established under section 17a-405,
 58 including the State Ombudsman, (8) licensed practical nurse, medical
 59 examiner, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, social worker,
 60 clergyman, police officer, pharmacist, psychologist or physical
 61 therapist, (9) person paid for caring for an elderly person by any
 62 institution, organization, agency or facility, including but not limited to,
 63 any employee of a community-based services provider, senior center,
 64 home care agency, homemaker and companion agency, adult day care
 65 center, village-model community and congregate housing facility, (10)
 66 person licensed or certified as an emergency medical services provider
 67 pursuant to chapter 368d or 384d, including any such emergency
 68 medical services provider who is a member of a municipal fire
 69 department, and (11) driver of a paratransit vehicle, as defined in section
 70 13b-38k.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	17b-451(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To make paratransit vehicle drivers mandatory reporters of suspected abuse of elderly persons.

[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.]