



Substitute Senate Bill No. 983

Public Act No. 21-195

AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICE VEHICLES AND AGRICULTURAL TRACTORS.

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

Section 1. Section 14-300i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in subsection (b) of this section, (1) "vulnerable user" means: (A) A pedestrian; (B) a highway worker; (C) a person riding or driving an animal; (D) a person riding a bicycle, an electric bicycle or an electric foot scooter; (E) a person using a skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates; (F) a person operating or riding on an agricultural tractor; (G) a person using a wheelchair or motorized chair; [and] (H) a person who is blind and such person's service animal; and (I) a person operating (i) a commercial motor vehicle equipped with a garbage compactor, a detachable container or a curbside recycling body, (ii) a tank vehicle, (iii) a vehicle authorized by the United States government to carry mail, or (iv) a vehicle operated by an express delivery carrier, (2) "public way" includes any state or other public highway, road, street, avenue, alley, driveway, parkway or place, under the control of the state or any political subdivision of the state, dedicated, appropriated or opened to public travel or other use, (3) "substantial bodily harm" means bodily injury that involves a temporary but substantial disfigurement,

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causes a temporary but substantial loss or impairment of the function of any bodily part or organ, or causes a fracture of any bodily part, and (4) "serious physical injury" has the same meaning as provided in section 53a-3.

(b) Any person operating a motor vehicle on a public way who fails to exercise reasonable care and causes substantial bodily harm to, or the serious physical injury or death, of a vulnerable user of a public way, provided such vulnerable user has shown reasonable care in such user's use of the public way, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars.

Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of section 14-297 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(1) The following terms shall be construed as they are defined in section 14-1: "Authorized emergency vehicle", "class 1 electric bicycle", "class 2 electric bicycle", "class 3 electric bicycle", "driver", "electric bicycle", "electric foot scooter", "head lamp", "highway", "intersection", "limited access highway", "motor vehicle", "number plate", "operator", "person", "rotary" or "roundabout", "shoulder", "stop", "tank vehicle", "truck" and "vehicle";

Sec. 3. Section 14-232 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) Except as provided in sections 14-233 and 14-234, (1) the driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the highway until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle; and (2) the driver of an overtaken vehicle shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle and shall not increase the speed of his or her vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle. For the purposes of this subsection, "safe distance" means not less than

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three feet when the driver of a vehicle overtakes and passes (A) a person riding a bicycle, an electric bicycle or an electric foot scooter, (B) a commercial motor vehicle equipped with a garbage compactor, a detachable container or a curbside recycling body, (C) a tank vehicle, (D) a vehicle authorized by the United States government to carry mail, (E) a vehicle operated by an express delivery carrier, or (F) an agricultural tractor.

(b) No vehicle shall be driven to the left side of the center of the highway in overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction unless the left side is clearly visible and is free of oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit such overtaking and passing to be completely made without interfering with the safe operation of any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction or any vehicle overtaken.

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

Sec. 4. Subdivision (1) of section 14-212 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(1) The following terms shall be construed as they are defined in section 14-1: ["Authorized emergency vehicle"] "Agricultural tractor", "authorized emergency vehicle", "class 1 electric bicycle", "class 2 electric bicycle", "class 3 electric bicycle", "commissioner", "driver", "electric bicycle", "electric foot scooter", "fuels", "gross weight", "head lamp", "high-mileage vehicle", "highway", "light weight", "limited access highway", "maintenance vehicle", "motor bus", "motorcycle", "motor vehicle registration", "nonresident", "nonskid device", "number plate", "officer", "operator", "owner", "passenger motor vehicle", "passenger and commercial motor vehicle", "person", "pneumatic tires", "pole trailer", "registration", "registration number", "second offense", "semitrailer", "shoulder", "solid tires", "stop", "subsequent offense", "tail lamp", "tank

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vehicle", "tractor", "tractor-trailer unit", "trailer", "truck" and "vanpool vehicle";

Approved July 13, 2021