



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 392

February Session, 2022

Substitute House Bill No. 5366

House of Representatives, April 11, 2022

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. LEMAR of the 96th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-16c of the 2022 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

4 (a) (1) (A) Any insurance company that takes possession of a motor
5 vehicle for which a certificate of title has been issued in this state, that
6 has been declared a total loss and that is offered for sale in this state by
7 such insurance company or its agent as a result of the settlement of a
8 claim for damage or theft, shall stamp the word "SALVAGE" in one-
9 inch-high letters not to exceed three inches in length on the vehicle's
10 certificate of title and shall attach to such certificate of title a copy of the
11 appraiser's damage report for such totalled motor vehicle, except that if
12 the insurance company determines that such motor vehicle has ten or
13 more major component parts that are damaged beyond repair and must
14 be replaced, the insurance company shall stamp the words "SALVAGE

15 PARTS ONLY" in one-inch-high letters not to exceed three inches in
16 length on the vehicle's certificate of title. A copy of such certificate shall
17 be sent by the insurance company to the Department of Motor Vehicles.
18 If the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles determines that salvage
19 information required to be reported by an insurance company to the
20 National Motor Vehicle Title Information System under 49 USC Sections
21 30501 to 30505, inclusive, and 28 CFR Sections 25.51 to 25.57, inclusive,
22 is available to the department on a regular basis from the National
23 Motor Vehicle Title Information System, the commissioner may
24 discontinue the requirement that an insurance company submit a copy
25 of such certificate to the department. (B) Any insurance company that
26 takes possession of a motor vehicle for which a certificate of title has
27 been issued in any state other than this state that has been declared a
28 total loss and that is offered for sale in this state by such insurance
29 company or its agent as a result of the settlement of a claim for damage
30 or theft, shall attach to such certificate of title a copy of the appraiser's
31 damage report for such totalled motor vehicle.

32 (2) (A) Any person, firm or corporation that is a self-insurer and owns
33 a motor vehicle for which a certificate of title has been issued in this
34 state, that has been declared a total loss and that is offered for sale in
35 this state by such self-insurer or its agent, shall stamp the word
36 "SALVAGE" in one-inch-high letters not to exceed three inches in length
37 on the vehicle's certificate of title and shall attach to such certificate of
38 title a copy of the appraiser's damage report for such totalled motor
39 vehicle, except that if such self-insurer determines that such motor
40 vehicle has ten or more major component parts that are damaged
41 beyond repair and must be replaced, the self-insurer shall stamp the
42 words "SALVAGE PARTS ONLY" in one-inch-high letters not to exceed
43 three inches in length on the motor vehicle's certificate of title. Any
44 person, firm or corporation that is insured other than by means of self-
45 insurance and owns such a motor vehicle, shall forward the vehicle's
46 certificate of title to the company insuring such vehicle or the company
47 paying the totalled claim. Such insurer shall stamp the word
48 "SALVAGE" in one-inch-high letters not to exceed three inches in length
49 on the certificate of title except that if the insurance company determines

50 that such motor vehicle has ten or more major component parts that are
51 damaged beyond repair and must be replaced, the insurer taking
52 possession of such motor vehicle shall stamp the words "SALVAGE
53 PARTS ONLY" in one-inch-high letters not to exceed three inches in
54 length on the motor vehicle's certificate of title and shall return such
55 certificate to such person, firm or corporation. A copy of such certificate
56 shall be sent by the person, firm or corporation to the Department of
57 Motor Vehicles. If the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles determines that
58 salvage information required to be reported by a self-insurer to the
59 National Motor Vehicle Title Information System under 49 USC Sections
60 30501 to 30505, inclusive, and 28 CFR Sections 25.51 to 25.57, inclusive,
61 is available to the department on a regular basis from the National
62 Motor Vehicle Title Information System, the commissioner may
63 discontinue the requirement that a self-insurer submit a copy of such
64 certificate to the department. (B) Any person, firm or corporation that is
65 a self-insurer and owns a motor vehicle for which a certificate of title has
66 been issued in any state other than this state that has been declared a
67 total loss and that is offered for sale in this state by such self-insurer or
68 its agent, shall attach to such certificate of title a copy of the appraiser's
69 damage report for such totalled motor vehicle.

70 (3) For purposes of this subsection, "major component part" has the
71 same meaning as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section
72 14-149a.

73 (b) Any insurance company or its agent taking possession of a motor
74 vehicle in accordance with subsection (a) of this section or any person,
75 firm or corporation that owns such motor vehicle shall copy the
76 certificate and give the original of such certificate, with a copy of the
77 appraiser's damage report attached thereto, to any subsequent
78 purchaser of the motor vehicle that has been declared a total loss. The
79 name and address of any such purchaser shall be recorded on the
80 original and the copy, as provided on the certificate. The copy shall
81 serve only as a record of transfers of the total loss motor vehicle.

82 (c) Any insurance company that takes possession of a motor vehicle

83 for which a certificate of title has been issued in this state, as a result of
84 a full settlement of a claim for damage or theft, but is unable to obtain
85 the title to the vehicle from the insured or any lienholder of record for
86 the vehicle may apply to the department for a certificate of title,
87 SALVAGE title or SALVAGE-PARTS ONLY title, as described in
88 subsection (a) of this section. The application for a certificate of title
89 pursuant to this subsection shall (1) be on a form prescribed by the
90 commissioner, and (2) include [documents as required by the
91 commissioner in lieu of the documents required under subsection (a) of
92 this section, and (3) include evidence satisfactory to the commissioner]
93 an attestation that the insurance company (A) provided at least [two
94 notices] one notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by
95 commercial delivery service that provides evidence of delivery to the
96 insured and any lienholder of record for the vehicle indicating the
97 insurance company's intention to apply for a certificate of title as the
98 owner of the vehicle, and (B) made payment to the insured or any
99 lienholder of record in full settlement of the claim involving the vehicle.
100 The commissioner may issue a certificate of title pursuant to this
101 subsection only in the name of the insurance company not earlier than
102 thirty days after the date of the payment described in subparagraph (B)
103 of subdivision [(3)] (2) of this [section] subsection is made.

104 (d) The person, firm, company or corporation required to stamp
105 "SALVAGE" on the certificate of title shall stamp the following
106 statement on the face of any original or copy of such certificate issued in
107 accordance with this section: "WARNING: ALL PURCHASERS OF THE
108 MOTOR VEHICLE DESCRIBED HEREIN MUST RECORD THEIR
109 NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE REVERSE SIDE. THIS VEHICLE
110 CANNOT BE REGISTERED OR RETITLED WITHOUT PASSING
111 INSPECTION UNDER SECTION 14-103a. THIS DOCUMENT MUST
112 BE SUBMITTED AT THE TIME OF INSPECTION."

113 (e) No motor vehicle for which a copy of a certificate of title has been
114 made in accordance with this section may be operated upon any
115 highway in this state, except that an owner of any such motor vehicle
116 who is a motor vehicle dealer or repairer licensed under the provisions

117 of section 14-52 may operate such vehicle for the purpose of presenting
118 the vehicle for inspection pursuant to section 14-103a. If such vehicle
119 fails to comply with the minimum standards, it shall be transported
120 from the site of such inspection. If any such motor vehicle is rebuilt for
121 sale or use, the owner shall apply to the Commissioner of Motor
122 Vehicles for an original certificate of title and present the vehicle for
123 inspection pursuant to section 14-103a. The certificate of title issued in
124 accordance with this section [must] shall be presented at the time of
125 inspection, unless waived by the commissioner for good cause.

126 (f) If an insurance company requests that a used car dealer licensed
127 under the provisions of section 14-52 take possession of a motor vehicle
128 that is subject to an insurance claim and subsequently a total loss claim
129 is not paid by the insurance company with respect to such motor
130 vehicle, the used car dealer may, if such motor vehicle has been
131 abandoned at the place of business of the used car dealer for more than
132 thirty days, apply to the department for a certificate of title in the name
133 of the used car dealer without surrendering the certificate of title. The
134 application for a certificate of title pursuant to this subsection shall (1)
135 be on a form prescribed by the commissioner, and (2) include an
136 attestation that the used car dealer provided at least two notices by
137 certified mail, return receipt requested or by commercial delivery
138 service that provides evidence of proof of delivery, to the owner of the
139 vehicle and any lienholder of record, requesting to have the motor
140 vehicle removed from the place of business.

141 [(f)] (g) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a motor
142 vehicle for which a certificate of title has been issued in this state, that
143 has been declared a total loss in settlement of a claim for theft, having
144 no damage to a major component part or having damage not exceeding
145 (1) fifteen per cent of the retail value of such motor vehicle, as
146 determined in accordance with the provisions of section 38a-353, or (2)
147 one thousand dollars as evidenced by an insurance adjuster's damage
148 appraisal report, shall not be required to have its certificate of title
149 stamped in accordance with the provisions of this section provided
150 proof of such damage or lack of damage to a major component part, is

151 attached to such certificate.

152 [(g)] (h) No insurance company and no firm or corporation that is a
153 self-insurer may sell or transfer any totalled or salvaged motor vehicle,
154 major component parts or any other parts of a motor vehicle to any
155 person, firm or corporation that is not licensed under the provisions of
156 subparts (D) or (H) of part III of this chapter. No person, firm or
157 corporation licensed as a new or used car dealer who holds a permit
158 pursuant to the provisions of section 14-65 may sell or transfer any
159 totalled or salvaged motor vehicle with a certificate of title stamped
160 "SALVAGE PARTS ONLY" or any motor vehicle that has ten or more
161 major component parts damaged beyond repair and in need of
162 replacement to any person, firm or corporation which is not licensed
163 under the provisions of subpart (H) of this part or under a similar
164 provision of law of any other state. Any sale or transfer in violation of
165 the provisions of this section shall constitute an unfair method of
166 competition and an unfair or deceptive act or practice, as defined by
167 section 42-110b.

168 [(h)] (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1-350b and the
169 requirements of section 1-350d that a signature on a power of attorney
170 executed in this state be witnessed by two witnesses and acknowledged
171 by a notary public, a commissioner of the Superior Court or other
172 individual authorized by law to take acknowledgments, a power of
173 attorney used to support an application for or transfer of a certificate of
174 title by an insurance company or its agent shall only require the
175 signature or electronic signature of the insured who has received or is
176 to receive a total loss settlement of a claim for damage or theft from the
177 insurance company.

178 [(i)] (j) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations,
179 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the
180 provisions of this section.

181 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 14-164c of the 2022 supplement to the
182 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
183 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

184 (d) No motor vehicle subject to the inspection requirements of this
185 section shall be operated upon the highways of this state unless such
186 vehicle has been presented for inspection in accordance with a schedule
187 for inspection and compliance as established by the commissioner. The
188 commissioner shall grant waivers from compliance with standards for
189 vehicles which fail any required inspection and require an unreasonable
190 cost of repair to bring the vehicle into compliance or require additional
191 time to make emissions-related repairs to the vehicle. The commissioner
192 may determine compliance of a vehicle that has failed an emissions
193 retest by means of a complete physical and functional diagnosis and
194 inspection of the vehicle, in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR
195 Part 51.360, showing that no additional emissions-related repairs are
196 needed. An extension of time, not to exceed the period of inspection
197 frequency, may be granted to obtain needed repairs on a vehicle in the
198 case of economic hardship of the owner. An extension of time, not to
199 exceed ninety days, may be granted to obtain emissions-related repairs
200 on a vehicle. Only one [such] extension of time may be granted for any
201 vehicle. The commissioner may design a sticker to be affixed to the
202 windshield of each vehicle which shall bear the date of expiration of the
203 assigned inspection period on both sides. The commissioner may also
204 design a sticker to be affixed to the windshield of each vehicle that is
205 exempt from the requirements of this chapter, which sticker shall bear
206 the date, if any, on which such vehicle is no longer exempt and is
207 required to be presented for inspection. As used in this section,
208 "unreasonable cost of repair" means cost of repair in excess of the
209 amounts required to be expended by Title 40, Part 51.360 of the Code of
210 Federal Regulations, as amended from time to time.

211 Sec. 3. Subsection (k) of section 14-164c of the 2022 supplement to the
212 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
213 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

214 (k) (1) The commissioner, with approval of the Secretary of the Office
215 of Policy and Management, shall establish, and from time to time
216 modify, the inspection fees, not to exceed twenty dollars for each
217 biennial inspection or reinspection required pursuant to this chapter for

218 inspections performed at official emissions inspection stations. Such
219 fees shall be paid in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. If the
220 costs to the state of the emissions inspection program, including
221 administrative costs and payments to any independent contractor,
222 exceed the income from such fees, such excess costs shall be borne by
223 the state. Any person whose vehicle has been inspected at an official
224 emissions inspection station shall, if such vehicle is found not to comply
225 with any required standards, have the vehicle repaired and have the
226 right within sixty consecutive calendar days to return such vehicle to
227 the same official emissions inspection station for one reinspection
228 without charge, provided, where the sixtieth day falls on a Sunday, legal
229 holiday or [a] day on which the commissioner has established that
230 special circumstances or conditions exist that have caused emissions
231 inspection to be impracticable, such person may return such vehicle for
232 reinspection on the next day. The commissioner shall assess a late fee of
233 twenty dollars against the owner of a motor vehicle that has not
234 presented such motor vehicle for (A) an emissions inspection within
235 thirty days following the expiration date of the assigned inspection
236 period, or [that has not presented such motor vehicle for] (B) a
237 reinspection within sixty days following a test failure or ninety days of
238 such failure if an extension was granted, as the case may be, or both
239 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision. The commissioner may
240 waive such late fee when it is proven to the commissioner's satisfaction
241 that the failure to have the vehicle inspected within thirty days of the
242 assigned inspection period or during the sixty-day or ninety-day
243 reinspection period was due to exigent circumstances. If ownership of
244 the motor vehicle has been transferred, the new owner shall have such
245 motor vehicle inspected within thirty days of the registration of such
246 motor vehicle. The commissioner may specify a longer period for all
247 new owners to achieve compliance after a transfer of ownership if
248 circumstances require closure or limited operations of the Department
249 of Motor Vehicles or emissions inspection stations. After the expiration
250 of such thirty-day period, or the period specified by the commissioner,
251 the commissioner shall require the payment of the late fee specified in
252 this subdivision. If the thirtieth day falls on a Sunday, legal holiday or

253 [a] day on which the commissioner has established that special
254 circumstances or conditions exist that have caused emissions inspection
255 to be impracticable, such vehicle may be inspected on the next day and
256 no late fee shall be assessed.

257 (2) If the commissioner authorizes a licensed dealer or repairer to
258 conduct emissions inspections of 1996 model year and newer vehicles
259 required by this chapter, the commissioner may authorize such licensee
260 to charge a fee, not to exceed twenty dollars for each biennial inspection
261 or reinspection.

262 (3) Upon the registration of each new motor vehicle subject to the
263 inspection requirements of this chapter, or of each motor vehicle that is
264 four or less model years of age that has not been registered previously
265 in this state, the commissioner may issue a sticker indicating the exempt
266 status of such motor vehicle and the date on which the motor vehicle is
267 scheduled to be presented for inspection. Any such sticker that may be
268 issued shall be displayed on the motor vehicle in accordance with
269 subsection (d) of this section. On and after July 1, 2002, the commissioner
270 shall charge a fee of forty dollars in addition to any other fees required
271 for such registration. All receipts from the payment of such fee shall be
272 deposited in the Special Transportation Fund.

273 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 14-50 of the 2022 supplement to the
274 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
275 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

276 (c) The commissioner shall waive any operator's license or
277 registration fee, including any renewal fee, in the case of any person in
278 the active service of the armed forces of the United States who was a
279 legal resident of Connecticut at the time of [his or her] such person's
280 induction; and for one licensing period to any person who is a veteran,
281 as defined in section 27-103, which person applies for such operator's
282 license or registration within two years following the date of separation,
283 [and was a legal resident of Connecticut at the time of his or her
284 induction.] The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance
285 with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this subsection.

286 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 27-102a of the general statutes is
287 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
288 *1, 2022*):

289 (b) Any member of the armed forces of any state or of any reserve
290 component of the armed forces of the United States who has been called
291 to active service in the armed forces of any state of the United States
292 shall be exempt from the payment of any fine or late fee assessed for
293 failure to renew a motor vehicle operator's license or motor vehicle
294 registration or for failure to have emissions inspection performed in a
295 timely manner provided such member renews the license or registration
296 or has the member's vehicle inspected at an official emissions inspection
297 station no later than [sixty] ninety days following the date such member
298 is released from the qualifying military service.

299 Sec. 6. Section 14-140 of the general statutes is repealed and the
300 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

301 (a) Any person who has been arrested by an officer for a violation of
302 any provision of any statute relating to motor vehicles may be released,
303 upon [his] such person's own recognizance, by such officer in [his] such
304 officer's discretion, unless such violation is of a provision relating to
305 driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs or
306 using a motor vehicle without permission of the owner or evading
307 responsibility for personal injury or property damage or involves the
308 death or serious injury of another, in which cases such person shall not
309 be released on [his] such person's own recognizance.

310 (b) If any person so arrested or summoned wilfully fails to appear for
311 any scheduled court appearance at the time and place assigned, or if any
312 person charged with an infraction involving the use of a motor vehicle,
313 or with a motor vehicle violation specified in section 51-164n, fails to
314 pay the fine and any additional fee imposed or send in [his] such
315 person's plea of not guilty by the answer date or wilfully fails to appear
316 for any scheduled court appearance which may be required, or if any
317 person fails to pay any surcharge imposed under section 13b-70, any fee
318 imposed under section 51-56a or any cost imposed under section 54-143

319 or 54-143a, a report of such failure shall be sent to the commissioner by
320 the court having jurisdiction. The provisions of this section shall be
321 extended to any nonresident owner or operator of a motor vehicle
322 residing in any state, the proper authorities of which agree with the
323 commissioner to revoke, until personal appearance to answer the charge
324 against [him, his] such person, such person's motor vehicle registration
325 certificate or operator's license, upon [his] such person's failure to
326 appear for any scheduled court appearance. Any infractions or
327 violations, for which a report of failure to appear has been sent to the
328 commissioner under this subsection, that have not otherwise been
329 disposed of shall be dismissed by operation of law seven years after
330 such report was sent. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-111,
331 the commissioner shall not suspend the operator's license of any person
332 solely for failure to pay any fines, fees or other charges associated with
333 an infraction involving the use of a motor vehicle.

334 (c) The commissioner may enter into reciprocal agreements with the
335 proper authorities of other states, which agreements may include
336 provisions for the suspension or revocation of licenses and registrations
337 of residents and nonresidents who fail to appear for trial at the time and
338 place assigned.

339 (d) Any judgment under this section shall be opened upon the
340 payment to the clerk of the Superior Court of a fee of forty dollars. Such
341 filing fee may be waived by the court.

342 (e) In addition, the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall
343 apply to sections 29-322, 29-349 and 29-351.

344 Sec. 7. Section 14-45a of the 2022 supplement to the general statutes
345 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
346 *October 1, 2022*):

347 (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in
348 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning the licensing
349 of persons with health problems. Such regulations shall (1) include basic
350 standards for licensing decisions with respect to the most common and

351 recurrent health problems, such as visual and neurological
352 impairments, (2) include procedures for the referral of individual cases
353 to the medical advisory board, and (3) specify vision standards that are
354 necessary for a person to operate a motor vehicle safely.

355 (b) Prior to issuing a motor vehicle operator's license to a person who
356 has not previously been issued a license in this state or whose
357 Connecticut motor vehicle operator's license expired more than two
358 years prior to the application date, the commissioner may require such
359 person to (1) pass a vision screening conducted by the Department of
360 Motor Vehicles to determine if the person meets vision standards
361 specified in the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this
362 section, or (2) submit to the commissioner the results of a vision
363 examination conducted by a licensed medical professional, as defined
364 in section 14-46b, that certifies that such person meets such vision
365 standards.

366 (c) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue a motor vehicle
367 operator's license to a person who wears eyeglasses with bioptic lenses,
368 provided such person otherwise meets the vision standards specified in
369 the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and
370 the requirements for such license.

371 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Motor
372 Vehicles shall include, as part of the annual report required under
373 section 4-60 of the general statutes submitted to the Governor, a report
374 for the preceding fiscal year regarding (1) the number of special number
375 plates offered by the commissioner pursuant to part III of chapter 246 of
376 the general statutes, (2) the number of special number plates issued by
377 the commissioner, (3) the amount of fees collected upon such issuance,
378 and (4) the accounts in which such fees were deposited.

379 Sec. 9. Section 14-42 of the general statutes is repealed and the
380 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

381 (a) An application for an operator's license or identity card shall be
382 made on forms furnished by the commissioner. The applications shall

383 be in such form and contain such provisions and information as the
384 commissioner may determine, except as provided in subsection (b) of
385 this section.

386 (b) The commissioner shall require any person [applying] who
387 applies for an operator's license or identity card, or any person who
388 applies to renew such license or card and did not previously consent to
389 make an anatomical gift through inclusion on the state donor registry,
390 maintained pursuant to section 14-42a, to indicate whether such person
391 consents or declines to make an anatomical gift through inclusion in the
392 state donor registry. [maintained pursuant to section 14-42a] In the case
393 of a person who applies to renew an operator's license or identity card
394 and previously consented to make an anatomical gift through inclusion
395 in the state donor registry, the commissioner shall not require such
396 person to reaffirm such consent. An operator's license issued to a person
397 who has authorized inclusion on such donor registry shall have a donor
398 symbol imprinted on such license or identity card.

399 Sec. 10. Subsection (b) of section 14-66 of the general statutes is
400 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
401 *1, 2022*):

402 (b) The commissioner, or an inspector authorized by the
403 commissioner, shall examine each wrecker, including its number,
404 equipment and identification, and shall determine the mechanical
405 condition of such wrecker and whether or not it is properly equipped to
406 do the work intended. A wrecker shall be deemed properly equipped if
407 there are [two] flashing yellow lights installed and mounted on such
408 wrecker that (1) show in all directions at all times, and (2) [indicate the
409 full width of such wrecker. Such lights shall be mounted not less than
410 eight feet above the road surface and] are as close to the back of the cab
411 of such wrecker as practicable. Such lights shall be in operation when
412 such wrecker is towing a vehicle and when such wrecker is at the scene
413 of an accident or the location of a disabled motor vehicle. In addition,
414 each wrecker shall be equipped with a spot light mounted so that its
415 beam of light is directed toward the hoisting equipment in the rear of

416 such wrecker. The hoisting equipment of each wrecker shall be of
417 sufficient capacity to perform the service intended and shall be securely
418 mounted to the frame of such vehicle. A fire extinguisher shall be carried
419 at all times on each wrecker which shall be in proper working condition,
420 mounted in a permanent bracket on each wrecker and have a minimum
421 rating of eight bc. A set of three flares in operating condition shall be
422 carried at all times on each wrecker and shall be used between the
423 periods of one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise
424 when the wrecker is parked on a highway while making emergency
425 repairs or preparing to pick up a disabled vehicle to remove it from a
426 highway or adjoining property. No registrant or operator of any
427 wrecker shall offer to give any gratuities or inducements of any kind to
428 any police officer or other person in order to obtain towing business or
429 recommendations for towing or storage of, or estimating repairs to,
430 disabled vehicles. No licensee shall require the owner to sign a contract
431 for the repair of such owner's damaged vehicle as part of the towing
432 consideration or to sign an order for the repair of, or authorization for
433 estimate until the tow job has been completed. No licensee shall tow a
434 vehicle in such a negligent manner as to cause further damage to the
435 vehicle being towed.

436 Sec. 11. Subdivision (6) of section 14-1 of the 2022 supplement to the
437 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
438 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

439 (6) "Autocycle" means a motor vehicle that meets the requirements of
440 a motorcycle under 49 CFR Part 571, and (A) does not have more than
441 three wheels in contact with the ground, (B) is designed to be controlled
442 with a steering [wheel] mechanism and foot pedals for acceleration,
443 braking or shifting, (C) has a seat or seats that are fully or partially
444 enclosed and in which the occupants sit with their legs forward, and (D)
445 is equipped with safety belts, in accordance with section 14-100a, for all
446 occupants;

447 Sec. 12. Section 14-65f of the general statutes is repealed and the
448 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

449 (a) (1) Prior to performing any repair work on a motor vehicle, a
450 motor vehicle repair shop shall obtain a written authorization to
451 perform the work, on an invoice signed by the customer, that includes
452 an estimate in writing of the maximum cost to the customer of the parts
453 and labor necessary for the specific job authorized. A repair shop shall
454 not charge for work done or parts supplied without a written
455 authorization or in excess of the estimate unless the customer gives
456 consent orally or in writing.

457 (2) In addition to, or as part of, the written authorization set forth in
458 subdivision (1) of this subsection, a motor vehicle repair shop shall
459 obtain a written acknowledgment that the customer is aware of his or
460 her right to choose the licensed repair shop where the motor vehicle will
461 be repaired. Such acknowledgment shall read as follows: "I am aware of
462 my right to choose the licensed repair shop where the damage to the
463 motor vehicle will be repaired." A repair shop shall not repair a motor
464 vehicle without such acknowledgment, which may be transmitted by
465 facsimile or by electronic mail.

466 (b) If the repair shop is unable to estimate the cost of repair because
467 the specific repairs to be performed are not known at the time the vehicle
468 is delivered to the repair shop, the written authorization required by this
469 section need not include an estimate of the maximum cost of parts and
470 labor. In such a case, prior to commencing any repairs, the repair shop
471 shall notify the customer of the work to be performed and the estimated
472 maximum cost to the customer of the necessary parts and labor, obtain
473 the customer's written or oral authorization and record such
474 information on the invoice.

475 (c) If, during the course of performing repair work, the repair shop
476 discovers that repairs other than those authorized are needed or that the
477 cost of authorized repairs will exceed the estimate, the repair shop shall
478 not proceed with the repairs without first obtaining the customer's
479 additional written or oral consent and recording such information on
480 the invoice.

481 (d) No repair shop shall have a claim against a motor vehicle for

482 repairs, other than for repairs actually performed and authorized, in an
483 amount greater than that authorized by the customer under the
484 provisions of sections 14-65e to 14-65j, inclusive, as amended by this act.

485 (e) If a motor vehicle is delivered to a repair shop at a time when the
486 shop is not open for business, the authorization to repair the vehicle and
487 the estimate of the cost of parts and labor may be given orally but shall
488 be recorded on the invoice.

489 (f) Unless requested by a customer, the requirement for a repair shop
490 to furnish an advance written estimate shall not apply to repair work for
491 which the total cost for parts and labor is less than fifty dollars.

492 (g) (1) Unless otherwise requested by a customer, a motor vehicle
493 repair shop shall, when repairing a motor vehicle, follow the collision
494 repair procedures, guidelines, recommendations or service bulletins
495 issued by the original equipment manufacturer, provided such
496 procedures, guidelines, recommendations or service bulletins do not
497 prohibit the use of recycled parts, as defined in subsection (b) of section
498 14-53a.

499 (2) A motor vehicle repair shop may install a recycled part on a motor
500 vehicle provided such recycled part is of like kind and quality of the part
501 being replaced and is from a motor vehicle that is the same model as the
502 motor vehicle being repaired.

503 (3) A motor vehicle repair shop shall repair a motor vehicle, in a
504 manner determined by such motor vehicle repair shop, to ensure the
505 safe operation of the motor vehicle and reasonably mitigate the
506 diminished value of the motor vehicle.

507 ~~[(g)]~~ (h) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an
508 infraction.

509 Sec. 13. Section 14-65e of the general statutes is repealed and the
510 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

511 For the purposes of sections 14-65f to 14-65j, inclusive, as amended

512 by this act, and section 14 of this act "motor vehicle repair shop" or
513 "repair shop" means a new car dealer, a used car dealer, a repairer, or a
514 limited repairer, as defined in section 14-51, or their agents or
515 employees.

516 Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2022*) (a) No person or entity, other
517 than the owner of the motor vehicle, shall require, request, encourage or
518 cause a motor vehicle repair shop to: (1) Repair the motor vehicle in an
519 unsafe manner, as determined by the repair shop or original
520 manufacturer of the motor vehicle, or (2) install an aftermarket part, as
521 defined in subsection (b) of section 14-53a of the general statutes.

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

523 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
524 Removable Windshield Placard Advisory Council that shall be within
525 the Department of Motor Vehicles for administrative purposes only. The
526 advisory council shall (1) review the laws in other states concerning the
527 issuance and use of removable windshield placards for persons who are
528 blind and persons with disabilities, (2) recommend best practices to the
529 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for clear and concise policies and
530 regulations regarding the issuance and use of removable windshield
531 placards pursuant to section 14-253a of the general statutes, and (3)
532 make educational materials available to medical professionals, law
533 enforcement officers and the general public regarding the proper
534 issuance and use of such removable windshield placards.

535 (b) The advisory council shall consist of thirteen members, appointed
536 as follows: (1) Seven appointed by the Governor; (2) one appointed by
537 the speaker of the House of Representatives; (3) one appointed by the
538 president pro tempore of the Senate; (4) one appointed by the majority
539 leader of the House of Representatives; (5) one appointed by the
540 majority leader of the Senate; (6) one appointed by the minority leader
541 of the House of Representatives; and (7) one appointed by the minority
542 leader of the Senate.

543 (c) All initial appointments to the advisory council shall be made not

544 later than October 1, 2022. The term of each member of the advisory
545 council shall be two years. Any vacancy shall be filled for the remainder
546 of the term in the same manner as original appointments.

547 (d) The Governor shall designate the chairperson of the advisory
548 council from among the members. The advisory council shall meet at
549 least annually and at such other times as the chairperson deems
550 necessary or upon the request of a majority of the members. Members
551 shall serve without compensation.

552 (e) On or before January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the advisory
553 council shall submit a report on its activities and any recommendations
554 to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the General
555 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, in
556 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

557 Sec. 16. Section 14-279 of the general statutes is repealed and the
558 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

559 (a) The operator of any vehicle or motor vehicle, including an
560 authorized emergency vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, shall
561 immediately bring such vehicle to a stop not less than ten feet from the
562 front when approaching and not less than ten feet from the rear when
563 overtaking or following any registered school bus on any highway or
564 private road or in any parking area or on any school property when such
565 bus is displaying flashing red signal lights, except at the specific
566 direction of a traffic officer. Vehicles so stopped for a school bus shall
567 not proceed until such school bus no longer displays flashing red signal
568 lights, except that a stopped authorized emergency vehicle may proceed
569 as long as such authorized emergency vehicle is operated pursuant to
570 section 14-283. At the intersection of two or more highways vehicular
571 turns toward a school bus receiving or discharging passengers are
572 prohibited. The operator of a vehicle upon a highway with separate
573 roadways need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is
574 on a different roadway.

575 (b) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (a) of this

576 section shall be fined four hundred fifty dollars for the first offense and
577 for each subsequent offense, not less than five hundred dollars nor more
578 than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or
579 both, except that if such violation is detected by a live digital video
580 school bus violation detection monitoring system, as defined in section
581 14-279a, as amended by this act, such person shall be fined ninety
582 dollars.

583 (c) Upon receipt of a written report from any school bus operator
584 specifying the license plate number, color and type of any vehicle
585 observed by such operator violating any provision of subsection (a) of
586 this section and the date, approximate time and location of such
587 violation, a police officer shall issue a written warning or a summons to
588 the owner of any such vehicle.

589 Sec. 17. Subsection (d) of section 14-279a of the general statutes is
590 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
591 *1, 2022*):

592 (d) A monitoring system shall be installed so as to record images of
593 the [license] number plate [number] of a motor vehicle only, and shall
594 not record images of the occupants of such motor vehicle or of any other
595 persons or vehicles in the vicinity at the time the images are recorded.

596 Sec. 18. Subsection (b) of section 14-279b of the 2022 supplement to
597 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
598 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

599 (b) As provided in subsection (b) of section 14-107, proof of the
600 registration number of the motor vehicle therein concerned shall be
601 prima facie evidence that the owner was the operator thereof, except
602 that, in the case of a leased or rented motor vehicle, such proof shall be
603 prima facie evidence that the lessee was the operator thereof. A
604 photographic or digital still or video image that clearly shows the
605 [license] number plate [number] of a vehicle violating section 14-279, as
606 amended by this act, shall be sufficient proof of the identity of such
607 vehicle for purposes of subsection (b) of section 14-107.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2022	14-16c
Sec. 2	October 1, 2022	14-164c(d)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2022	14-164c(k)
Sec. 4	October 1, 2022	14-50(c)
Sec. 5	October 1, 2022	27-102a(b)
Sec. 6	October 1, 2022	14-140
Sec. 7	October 1, 2022	14-45a
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 9	October 1, 2022	14-42
Sec. 10	October 1, 2022	14-66(b)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2022	14-1(6)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2022	14-65f
Sec. 13	October 1, 2022	14-65e
Sec. 14	October 1, 2022	New section
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 16	October 1, 2022	14-279
Sec. 17	October 1, 2022	14-279a(d)
Sec. 18	October 1, 2022	14-279b(b)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Section 3(k)(1) was rewritten for clarity; in Section 7, "spectacles" was changed to "eyeglasses" for consistency; in Section 15, "from among the members" was added for clarity; Sections 16, 17 and 18 were rewritten for consistency with standard drafting conventions; and Sections 19 and 20 were deleted to conform with the changes being made in Section 16.

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 23 \$	FY 24 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue Loss	See Below	See Below
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Resources of the Special Transportation Fund	TF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 23 \$	FY 24 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Explanation

Section 1 creates a Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) process for titling and removing total loss vehicles abandoned at a used car facility and does not have a fiscal impact, as DMV has existing resources and expertise to implement this provision.

Sections 2 & 3 extend the period by which a vehicle must be retested for emissions after an initial failed test from 60 to 90 days. After this timeframe DMV assesses a \$20 late fee. To the extent fewer late fees are assessed as a result of this extension, this section results in minimal revenue loss to the Special Transportation Fund (STF).

Section 4 expands mandatory DMV fee waivers for one licensing period to veterans who apply within two years of their date of

separation and who were not Connecticut residents at the time of their induction. The number of veterans to which this section applies is unknown, but it is expected to be small, resulting in minimal revenue loss to the STF.

Section 5 increases, from 60 to 90 days after release from active service, the period by which an armed forces member is exempt from certain DMV late fees, resulting in potential minimal revenue loss to the STF.

Section 6 prohibits DMV from suspending licenses for failing to pay fines resulting from a motor vehicle infraction and results in a potential revenue loss to the extent that a subset of violators no longer pays the relevant fines.

Section 14 creates a new infraction related to unsafe motor vehicle repairs and aftermarket parts and, to the extent offenders are fined, results in potential minimal revenue gain to the General Fund (GF).

Section 15 establishes a Removable Windshield Placard Advisory Council to review policies and recommend best practices for granting and using placards, among other purposes, and to report to the Governor and the Transportation Committee annually beginning on January 1, 2023. This section has no fiscal impact because the bill requires members to serve without compensation and PA 17-236 prohibits transportation allowances for task force members.

Section 16 establishes a \$90 civil penalty for any person who is detected passing a stopped school bus by the digital video monitoring system defined in CGS Sec. 14-279s. To the extent that offenders are fined this section results in new revenue, remitted as follows: 80% to the municipality in which the violation occurs, 12% to the STF, and 8% to the GF.

The other sections of the bill are technical, make conforming changes, or otherwise do not have a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

The Out Years

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

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5366****AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

[§ 1 — VEHICLE TITLES](#)

Reduces the requirements insurers must follow when applying for certain vehicle titles; creates a process for titling abandoned vehicles at used car facilities after notifying owners

[§§ 2 & 3 — EXTENSION FOR EMISSIONS REPAIRS](#)

Requires the motor vehicles commissioner to waive emissions standards compliance for vehicles needing additional time to make emissions-related repairs

[§ 4 — VETERAN FEE WAIVERS](#)

Extends license and registration fee waivers to any veteran within two years from their date of separation

[§ 5 — GRACE PERIOD FROM FINES OR LATE FEES FOR ARMED FORCES MEMBERS](#)

Increases, from 60 to 90 days after release from qualifying service, the grace period for armed forces members from certain fines or late fees

[§ 6 — SUSPENSION FOR UNPAID FINES](#)

Prohibits the motor vehicles commissioner from suspending a driver's license solely for failing to pay any fines, fees, or charges associated with an infraction

[§ 7 — DRIVERS WEARING GLASSES WITH BIOPTIC LENSES](#)

Requires the commissioner to issue driver's licenses to people wearing glasses with bioptic lenses if the applicant otherwise meets regulatory vision standards and license requirements

[§ 8 — REPORT ON SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE FEES](#)

Requires the motor vehicles commissioner to annually report certain information about special license plates

[§ 9 — ORGAN DONOR CONSENT](#)

Specifically requires certain license renewal applicants to indicate whether they consent to be organ donors

§ 10 — LIGHTS ON WRECKERS

Eliminates certain flashing light requirements for wreckers

§ 11 — AUTOCYCLES

Broadens the definition of "autocycle" to potentially encompass additional types of three-wheeled vehicles

§§ 12-14 — VEHICLE REPAIR

Generally requires a repair shop to follow collision repair procedures, guidelines, recommendations, or service bulletins issued by the original manufacturer as long as they do not prohibit the use of recycled parts

§ 15 — ACCESSIBLE PARKING PLACARD COUNCIL

Creates a 13-member advisory council to review policies and recommend best practices for granting and using removeable windshield placards

§§ 16-18 — SCHOOL BUS STOP MONITORING SYSTEMS

Establishes a \$90 civil penalty for any person who is detected as passing a stopped school bus by a stop arm camera

§ 1 — VEHICLE TITLES

Reduces the requirements insurers must follow when applying for certain vehicle titles; creates a process for titling abandoned vehicles at used car facilities after notifying owners

Application by Insurers

Existing law allows an insurance company to apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for a title certificate, salvage title, or salvage parts-only title if the company is unable to obtain a vehicle's Connecticut-issued title from the insured or any lienholder of record after taking possession following a full settlement of a damage or theft claim. Under current law, the title application must be on a commissioner-prescribed form and include documents she requires, including satisfactory evidence that the insurance company:

1. provided at least two notices by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the insured and any lienholder of record indicating the company's intention to apply for a title as the vehicle owner

and

2. paid the insured or any lienholder in full settlement of the vehicle claim.

The bill instead requires that the application include an attestation, rather than documentation and satisfactory evidence as required by the commissioner, that the insurance company provided notice to the insured and lienholders. It also (1) reduces the number of required notices that the insurer must provide to these entities from two to one and (2) gives insurers the option of providing the notice by commercial delivery service that provides evidence of delivery.

Vehicles Abandoned at Used Car Facilities

The bill establishes a process for titling abandoned vehicles at a used car facility. Under the bill, if an insurance company requests that a licensed used car dealer take possession of a vehicle that is subject to an insurance claim and subsequently the company does not pay a total loss claim for the vehicle, the dealer may apply to the DMV for a title certificate in the dealer's name without surrendering the vehicle's title certificate. The dealer may do so for vehicles abandoned for more than 30 days.

The dealer's application must be (1) on a form the DMV commissioner prescribes and (2) include an attestation that the dealer provided at least two notices to the vehicle owner and any lienholder of record to have the vehicle removed from the place of business. These notices must be by certified mail, return receipt requested, or commercial delivery service that provides evidence of proof of delivery.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§§ 2 & 3 — EXTENSION FOR EMISSIONS REPAIRS

Requires the motor vehicles commissioner to waive emissions standards compliance for vehicles needing additional time to make emissions-related repairs

With certain exceptions, the law generally prohibits vehicles subject to emissions testing requirements from being operated on public roads

unless they comply with these requirements on a schedule determined by the DMV commissioner (typically every two years). Under existing law, the commissioner (1) must waive emissions standards compliance for vehicles failing a required inspection and requiring an unreasonable repair cost to become compliant and (2) may grant a one-time extension, not to exceed the inspection period, for repairs in the case of an owner's economic hardship.

The bill additionally (1) requires the commissioner to waive emissions standards compliance for vehicles needing additional time to make emissions-related repairs and (2) allows her to grant a one-time 90-day extension to make emissions-related repairs. (It is unclear if the waiver and extension are the same or are distinct.) As under current law, the bill limits vehicles to one extension of time.

For vehicles that fail an emissions test, current law requires the DMV commissioner to assess a \$20 late fee if the vehicle is not retested within 60 days after the failed test. The bill extends this deadline to 90 days after the failed test for vehicles granted an extension (presumably the extension described above). As under current law, she may waive the fee for exigent circumstances.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§ 4 — VETERAN FEE WAIVERS

Extends license and registration fee waivers to any veteran within two years from their date of separation

The bill extends mandatory fee waivers for one licensing period to any veteran who applies for a driver's license or registration, including any renewal, within two years after their date of separation. Under current law, only those veterans who were also legal state residents at the time of their induction are eligible for these waivers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§ 5 — GRACE PERIOD FROM FINES OR LATE FEES FOR ARMED FORCES MEMBERS

Increases, from 60 to 90 days after release from qualifying service, the grace period for armed forces members from certain fines or late fees

Existing law exempts armed forces members, and reserve members called to active service, from paying fines or late fees for failing to renew a driver's license or vehicle registration or obtain an emissions test. The exemption applies during qualifying service and for a specified grace period following their release from service, which is 60 days under current law. The bill extends this grace period to 90 days following their release from service.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§ 6 — SUSPENSION FOR UNPAID FINES

Prohibits the motor vehicles commissioner from suspending a driver's license solely for failing to pay any fines, fees, or charges associated with an infraction

Current law grants the DMV commissioner broad authority to suspend or revoke a driver's license or vehicle registration for any cause she deems sufficient (CGS § 14-111). The bill creates an exception to this authority by prohibiting the commissioner from suspending a person's driver's license solely for failing to pay any fines, fees, or other charges associated with a motor vehicle infraction. Under certain circumstances, existing law requires undisposed infractions or violations to be dismissed after seven years.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§ 7 — DRIVERS WEARING GLASSES WITH BIOPTIC LENSES

Requires the commissioner to issue driver's licenses to people wearing glasses with bioptic lenses if the applicant otherwise meets regulatory vision standards and license requirements

The bill requires the DMV commissioner to issue driver's licenses to people wearing glasses with bioptic lenses if the applicant otherwise meets regulatory vision standards and license requirements. (By law, the commissioner must adopt regulations specifying vision standards that are necessary to safely operate a motor vehicle.) Generally, bioptic lenses consist of miniature telescopic lenses mounted on top of eyeglasses.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§ 8 — REPORT ON SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE FEES

Requires the motor vehicles commissioner to annually report certain information about special license plates

Existing law requires the head of each budgeted agency to submit an annual report to the governor on the agency's activities in the previous fiscal year. The bill requires the DMV commissioner to additionally include in the department's report the following information for the previous fiscal year: (1) the number of special license plates offered and issued and (2) the amount of special license plate fees collected and the accounts in which these fees were deposited.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 9 — ORGAN DONOR CONSENT

Specifically requires certain license renewal applicants to indicate whether they consent to be organ donors

The bill requires the DMV commissioner to require any person who applies for a driver's license or identity card, or who applies to renew a license or ID card and did not previously consent to organ donation through inclusion on the state donor registry, to indicate whether they consent or decline registry inclusion. It prohibits the commissioner from requiring a person to reaffirm consent if he or she is applying to renew a license or card and has previously consented to registry inclusion.

Under current law, the commissioner must require any person applying for a driver's license or ID card to indicate whether they consent or decline registry inclusion., but current law does not specifically address license renewals.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§ 10 — LIGHTS ON WRECKERS

Eliminates certain flashing light requirements for wreckers

The bill eliminates requirements in current law that wreckers be equipped with two flashing yellow lights installed and mounted on the truck that span its full width and are at least eight feet above the road

surface. It instead requires that wreckers be equipped with an unspecified number of flashing yellow lights. As under existing law, the lights must (1) continuously show in all directions, (2) be as close to the back of the cab as practicable, and (3) be used when the wrecker is towing a vehicle and at the scene of an accident or a disabled vehicle.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§ 11 — AUTOCYCLES

Broadens the definition of "autocycle" to potentially encompass additional types of three-wheeled vehicles

Existing law allows drivers to operate autocycles with a standard "class D" license (i.e., without needing a motorcycle license endorsement) (CGS § 14-36a). The law defines "autocycle," in part, as a motorcycle with up to three wheels that has seat belts and partially or fully enclosed seats in which occupants sit with their legs forward.

Current law additionally provides that an autocycle is designed to be controlled with a steering wheel and foot pedals. The bill instead provides that it is designed to be controlled with a steering mechanism, rather than a steering wheel.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§§ 12-14 — VEHICLE REPAIR

Generally requires a repair shop to follow collision repair procedures, guidelines, recommendations, or service bulletins issued by the original manufacturer as long as they do not prohibit the use of recycled parts

The bill requires repair shops, unless a customer requests otherwise, to follow the collision repair procedures, guidelines, recommendations, or service bulletins issued by the original equipment manufacturer when repairing a vehicle, as long as they do not prohibit using recycled parts. It allows shops to install a recycled part if it is of like kind and quality of the part being replaced and is from the same model vehicle as the one being repaired.

The bill explicitly prohibits a person or entity, other than the vehicle owner, from requiring, requesting, encouraging, or causing a repair

shop to (1) repair the vehicle in an unsafe manner, as determined by the shop or original vehicle manufacturer, or (2) install an aftermarket part. It likewise explicitly requires the shop to repair a vehicle, in a manner the shop determines, to ensure the vehicle's safe operation and reasonably mitigate its diminished value.

Under the bill, (1) each of these requirements applies to new and used car dealers, repairers, limited repairers, and their agents or employees and (2) violating them is an infraction.

By law and under the bill, a "recycled part" is one that was made for and installed in a new vehicle by the manufacturer or the original equipment manufacturer and later removed from the vehicle and made available for resale or reuse. An "aftermarket part" is a part that was made by a company other than the vehicle manufacturer or the original equipment manufacturer (CGS § 14-53a(b)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

§ 15 — ACCESSIBLE PARKING PLACARD COUNCIL

Creates a 13-member advisory council to review policies and recommend best practices for granting and using removeable windshield placards

The bill establishes a 13-member Removeable Windshield Placard Advisory Council within DMV for administrative purposes only. It directs the council to (1) review the laws in other states concerning the issuance and use of removable windshield placards for persons who are blind and persons with disabilities; (2) recommend best practices to the DMV commissioner for clear and concise policies and regulations regarding placard issuance and use by law; and (3) make educational materials available to medical professionals, law enforcement officers and the general public regarding the proper issuance and use of these placards.

Under the bill, the council consists of seven gubernatorial appointees and six legislative appointees (one by each of the leaders), with the chairperson designated by the governor from among the members. All initial appointments to the council must be made by October 1, 2022,

with members serving two-year terms without compensation. Any vacancy must be filled for the remainder of the term in the same manner as the original appointment.

The bill requires the council to meet at least annually and at other times as the chairperson deems necessary or upon the request of a majority of its members. Beginning by January 1, 2023, the council must annually submit a report on its activities and any recommendations to the governor and the Transportation Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 16-18 — SCHOOL BUS STOP MONITORING SYSTEMS

Establishes a \$90 civil penalty for any person who is detected as passing a stopped school bus by a stop arm camera

The law allows municipalities and local boards of education to install, operate, and maintain “live digital video school bus violation detection monitoring systems” (i.e., stop arm cameras) on school buses, or to enter into contracts with private vendors to do so (CGS § 14-279a). The cameras detect and record drivers who fail to stop for school buses.

The bill establishes a \$90 civil penalty for any violation detected by a monitoring system. It replaces provisions in current law that make violators detected by a monitoring system subject to the same penalties as violations witnessed by a bus driver or police officer (i.e., a \$450 fine for a first offense and a \$500-\$1,000 fine, 30-days imprisonment, or both, for subsequent offenses). In doing so, it limits the existing higher penalties to violations witnessed by a bus driver or police officer.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 27 Nay 8 (03/24/2022)