



Substitute Senate Bill No. 994

Public Act No. 23-40

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES, STUDYING AN EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION DATABASE OR REVISIONS TO MOTOR VEHICLE RECORDS AND CONCERNING THE SAFETY DRIVING COURSE, MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS AND REPAIRERS, MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY RECALLS, THE KNOWLEDGE TEST FOR AN OPERATOR'S LICENSE, RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF DRIVER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS, TRESPASS ON WATERSHED LAND, EMERGENCY LIGHTS, REMOVABLE WINDSHIELD PLACARDS, SCHOOL BUSES, REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES AND MINOR REVISIONS TO MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES.

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

Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 14-44c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(d) On and after [January 6, 2023] November 18, 2024, the commissioner shall request a driver's record from the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse, in accordance with 49 CFR 382.725, as amended from time to time, for any person who applies for, renews, transfers or upgrades a commercial driver's license or a commercial driver's instruction permit. The commissioner shall use information obtained from the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse solely for the purpose of

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determining whether [a] such person is qualified to operate a commercial motor vehicle and shall not disclose such information to any other person or entity not directly involved in determining whether [a] such person is qualified to operate a commercial motor vehicle. If the commissioner receives notification pursuant to 49 CFR 382.501(a), as amended from time to time, that such person is prohibited from operating a commercial motor vehicle, the commissioner shall not issue, renew or upgrade the commercial driver's license or commercial driver's instruction permit. If such person currently holds a commercial driver's license or commercial driver's instruction permit, the commissioner shall, not later than sixty days after the date the commissioner receives such notification: (1) Downgrade the commercial driver's license to a Class D operator's license, or (2) cancel the commercial driver's instruction permit. Any person who is denied a commercial driver's license or a commercial driver's instruction permit, or whose license or permit is downgraded or cancelled pursuant to this subsection, shall be granted an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

Sec. 2. Section 14-51 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) As used in this subpart: [(D):]

(1) "New car dealer" includes any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of merchandising new motor vehicles under a manufacturer's or importer's contract for each such make of vehicle who may, incidental to such business, sell used motor vehicles and repair motor vehicles. Such person shall be qualified to conduct such business in accordance with the requirements of section 14-52a.

(2) "Used car dealer" includes any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of merchandising motor vehicles other than new who may, incidental to such business, repair motor vehicles. A

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used car dealer does not include any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of leasing or renting motor vehicles that offers for sale or sells used motor vehicles incidental to its primary business, if (A) such person, firm or corporation is licensed in accordance with the provisions of section 14-15, and (B) the motor vehicles that it offers for sale were formerly the subject of one or more lease agreements to which it was a party and the actual or prospective purchaser is the original lessee pursuant to a purchase option specified in a lease agreement. Such person shall be qualified to conduct such business in accordance with the requirements of section 14-52a.

(3) "Repairer" includes any person, firm or corporation qualified to conduct such business in accordance with the requirements of section 14-52a, having a suitable facility and having adequate equipment, engaged in repairing, overhauling, adjusting, assembling or disassembling any motor vehicle [, but shall exclude] or making minor repairs to any motor vehicle, including repairs and replacement of cooling, electrical, fuel and exhaust systems, brake adjustments, relining and repairs, wheel alignment and balancing and repair and replacement of shock absorbers. "Repairer" does not include a person engaged in making repairs to tires, upholstering, glazing, general blacksmithing, welding and machine work on motor vehicle parts when parts involving such work are disassembled or reassembled by a licensed repairer.

[(4) "Limited repairer" includes any qualified person, having a suitable place of business and adequate equipment engaged in the business of minor repairs, including repairs and replacement of cooling, electrical, fuel and exhaust systems, brake adjustments, relining and repairs, wheel alignment and balancing, and repair and replacement of shock absorbers. For the purpose of this section, the place of business of a limited repairer shall be deemed to be suitable if the building in which the work of the repairer is performed has space capable of receiving at least one motor vehicle at any one time, exclusive of a grease pit or rack,

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and has adequate space for an office and for the storage of parts and accessories. A person shall be deemed capable of performing the duties of a limited repairer if he is, in the opinion of the commissioner, a qualified mechanic who has a thorough knowledge of the services to be rendered, or has a certificate of completion of a specialized course from a service school approved by the commissioner, or satisfactory proof of previous employment by a licensed repairer for a period of three years, or has successfully passed an examination given by the Department of Motor Vehicles.]

(b) The lubricating of motor vehicles, adding or changing of oil or other motor vehicle fluids, changing of tires and tubes, including the balancing of wheels, or installing of batteries or light bulbs, windshield wiper blades or drive belts shall not be construed as the repairing of motor vehicles under the provisions of this subpart. [(D).]

Sec. 3. Section 14-52 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) No person, firm or corporation may engage in the business of the buying, selling, offering for sale or brokerage of any motor vehicle or the repairing of any motor vehicle without having been issued [either] a new car dealer's, a used car dealer's [,] or a repairer's [or a limited repairer's] license. The license fee for each such license, payable to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, shall be as follows: (1) New motor vehicle dealer, seven hundred dollars; (2) used motor vehicle dealer, five hundred sixty dollars; and (3) repairer, [or limited repairer,] three hundred forty dollars. Each such license shall be renewed biennially according to renewal schedules established by the commissioner [so as] to effect staggered renewal of all such licenses. If the adoption of a staggered system results in the expiration of any license more or less than one year from its issuance, the commissioner may charge a prorated amount for such license fee. Not less than forty-five days prior to the date of expiration of each such license, the commissioner shall

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send or transmit to each licensee, in a manner determined by the commissioner, an application for renewal. Any licensee which has not filed the application for renewal accompanied by the prescribed fee prior to the date of expiration of its license shall cease to engage in business. An application for renewal filed with the commissioner after the date of expiration shall be accompanied by a late fee of one hundred dollars. The commissioner shall not renew any license under this subsection which has expired for more than forty-five days.

(b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, each applicant for a repairer's license shall furnish a surety bond in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars.

[(2) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, each applicant for a limited repairer's license shall furnish a surety bond in the amount of ten thousand dollars.]

[(3)] (2) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, each applicant for a new car dealer's or a used car dealer's license shall furnish a surety bond in the amount of sixty thousand dollars.

[(4)] (3) Each applicant for a leasing or rental license issued pursuant to section 14-15, who is engaged in the leasing or renting of motor vehicles for periods of thirty days or more, shall furnish a surety bond in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars.

[(5)] (4) Each such bond required under subdivisions (1) to [(4)] (3), inclusive, of this subsection shall be conditioned upon the applicant or licensee complying with the provisions of any state or federal law or regulation relating to the conduct of such business and provided as indemnity for any loss sustained by any customer by reason of any acts of the licensee constituting grounds for suspension or revocation of the license or such licensee going out of business. Each surety bond shall be executed in the name of the state of Connecticut for the benefit of any

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aggrieved customer, but the penalty of the bond shall not be invoked except upon order of the commissioner after a hearing held before said commissioner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. For purposes of this subdivision, "customer" does not include (A) any person, firm or corporation that finances a licensed dealer's motor vehicle inventory, or (B) any licensed dealer, in such person's capacity as a dealer, who buys motor vehicles from, or sells motor vehicles to, another licensed dealer.

[(6)] (5) The commissioner shall assess an administrative fee of two hundred dollars against any licensee for failing to provide proof of bond renewal or replacement on or before the date of the expiration of the existing bond. Such fee shall be in addition to the license suspension or revocation penalties and the civil penalties to which the licensee is subject pursuant to section 14-64.

(c) The commissioner may request information from any applicant for a repairer's license or used car dealer's license concerning the financial status and ability of such applicant to comply with the requirements of this subpart and the regulations adopted thereunder. The commissioner shall review such information to determine if the applicant has sufficient financial resources to conduct the business in a manner consistent with the reasonable security and protection of its customers in regard to the duties and responsibilities imposed by the provisions of this subpart and the regulations adopted thereunder. The commissioner may refuse to issue a license if the applicant fails to provide any such information requested or, if, after review by the commissioner, the commissioner is not satisfied as to such applicant's financial status. The commissioner may, in any case deemed appropriate, grant a license on condition that the applicant post a surety bond, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, in an amount prescribed by the commissioner that is greater than the minimum amount required by the applicable provisions of said

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subsection (b). Any applicant aggrieved by any decision of the commissioner made pursuant to this subsection shall be afforded an opportunity for hearing in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to carry out the provisions of this subsection.

(d) Any person, firm or corporation engaging in the business of the buying, selling, offering for sale or brokerage of any motor vehicle or of the repairing of any motor vehicle without a license shall be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

(e) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall transmit to the Commissioner of Revenue Services and the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection a summary of any complaint that the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles receives alleging that a person, firm or corporation is engaging in the business of the buying, selling, offering for sale or brokerage of any motor vehicle or of the repairing of any motor vehicle without a license.

Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2024*) On and after January 1, 2024, each limited repairer's license issued by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles prior to January 1, 2024, that is otherwise valid, shall remain valid, according to its terms, and shall authorize each license holder to engage in the business of minor repairs of motor vehicles under the provisions of section 14-52 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2023, until the expiration of the license. On and after January 1, 2024, the commissioner shall not issue or renew a limited repairer's license.

Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall provide written notice to each limited repairer licensed in accordance with the provisions of section 14-52 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2023. Such notice shall include (1) a statement

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that the limited repairer's license will not be renewed by the commissioner on and after January 1, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of this act, and (2) a description of the process to obtain a repairer's license pursuant to section 14-52 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 14-58 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(b) Each such licensee shall, instead of registering each motor vehicle owned by such licensee or temporarily in such licensee's custody, [make application] apply to the commissioner for a general distinguishing number and mark, and the commissioner may issue to the applicant a certificate or certificates of registration containing the distinguishing number and mark assigned to such applicant, and made in a form and containing any further information that the commissioner may determine, and, thereupon, each motor vehicle owned by the applicant or temporarily in the applicant's custody shall be regarded as registered under and having assigned to it such general distinguishing number and mark until sold. For the registration of all motor vehicles registered under a general distinguishing number and mark, the commissioner shall charge a fee at the rate of seventy dollars per year. [No new car dealer may be issued more than one such registration for each ten sales transactions in a year and no repairer or limited repairer may be issued more than three registrations in a year, unless such licensee makes application for an additional registration to the commissioner, in such form and containing such information as the commissioner may require to substantiate such request. No used car dealer may be issued more than three such registrations in a year, provided an additional registration may be issued for each ten sales transactions in excess of thirty such transactions upon submission of such application for an additional registration.] The commissioner may issue to each such

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licensee such [additional] registrations as the commissioner deems necessary. The commissioner may withdraw any registration previously issued or may limit the number of registrations which any licensee is eligible to receive or to hold, if the commissioner determines that a licensee does not require such number of registrations or if a licensee has been found to be in violation of any of the provisions of section 14-64.

Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 14-62b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(b) No new car dealer, used car dealer [] or repairer, [or limited repairer, as defined in section 14-51,] licensed in accordance with the provisions of section 14-52, as amended by this act, may purchase or in any manner obtain possession of any motor vehicle for the purpose of dismantling such motor vehicle and selling its parts, as defined in subsection (a) of this section, for use in any other motor vehicle, except that any such dealer or repairer may sell used motor vehicle parts if the parts are installed in a motor vehicle by such dealer or repairer for the purpose of repair or maintenance of such motor vehicle.

Sec. 8. Section 14-65e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

For the purposes of sections 14-65f to 14-65j, inclusive, "motor vehicle repair shop" or "repair shop" means a new car dealer, a used car dealer [] or a repairer, [or a limited repairer, as defined in section 14-51,] or their agents or employees.

Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 14-103 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may establish and maintain

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a system of voluntary examination of equipment of motor vehicles registered in this state or being operated on the highways thereof. Such examination may be made by [licensed automobile dealers and repair garages, not including limited repairers, which have been] a new car dealer, a used car dealer or a repairer, who is licensed in accordance with the provisions of section 14-52, as amended by this act, and approved by said commissioner for such purpose.

Sec. 10. Section 14-106b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) Each self-propelled motor vehicle registered in this state that is designed and manufactured with an odometer shall at all times while operating on the highway be equipped with a properly functioning odometer. Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be issued a warning for defective equipment under the provisions of subsection (c) of section 14-103.

(b) No person or [his] such person's agent shall remove, turn back or change the reading on the odometer of any motor vehicle required under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section or subsection (a) of section 14-106a to be equipped with an odometer, except in connection with the repair of such odometer either while installed in or removed from such motor vehicle and unless such person is licensed as a new car dealer, used car dealer or [general or limited] repairer pursuant to section 14-52, as amended by this act. Each odometer repaired and each new or used odometer installed in any motor vehicle required to be equipped with an odometer shall display mileage at least equal to the mileage displayed by the odometer in such motor vehicle immediately prior to such repair or replacement.

(c) No person shall sell, offer for sale, use, install or cause to be installed any device which causes the odometer in any motor vehicle required under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section or

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subsection (a) of section 14-106a to be so equipped to register any mileage other than the true mileage driven. For purposes of this section, the true mileage driven is that mileage driven by the vehicle as registered by the odometer within the manufacturer's designed tolerance.

(d) Any person violating the provisions of subsections (b) or (c) of this section shall be guilty of committing a class A misdemeanor. Any person violating the provisions of said subsections shall be liable for damages equal to three times the amount of actual damage or one thousand five hundred dollars, whichever is greater, court costs and reasonable attorney's fees and shall pay a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars for each violation. A violation of the provisions of said subsections shall be deemed to be an unfair trade practice within the provisions of chapter 735a. Any person licensed as a new car dealer, used car dealer or [general or limited] repairer pursuant to section 14-52, as amended by this act, shall, in addition to the penalties imposed by this section, be subject to the suspension or revocation of [his] such person's license as provided in section 14-64.

Sec. 11. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 12-692 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(3) "Rental company" means any business entity that is engaged in the business of renting passenger motor vehicles, rental trucks without a driver or machinery in this state to lessees and that uses for rental purposes a motor vehicle fleet of five or more passenger motor vehicles, rental trucks or pieces of machinery in this state, but does not mean any person, firm or corporation that is licensed, or required to be licensed, pursuant to section 14-52, as amended by this act, (A) as a new car dealer [, repairer or limited] or repairer, or (B) as a used car dealer that is not primarily engaged in the business of renting passenger motor vehicles or rental trucks without a driver in this state to lessees. "Rental

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company" does not include a business entity with total annual rental income, excluding retail or wholesale sales of rental equipment, that is less than fifty-one per cent of the total revenue of the business entity in a given taxable year.

Sec. 12. Subsection (b) of section 13b-99 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(b) Each such taxicab shall be inspected, biennially, at the time of renewal of registration of such taxicab, by a repairer [or limited repairer] licensed and authorized by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to perform such inspections. The commissioner shall set a fee for such an inspection.

Sec. 13. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 42-450 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(2) "Rental company" means any business entity that is engaged in the business of renting trucks or vans without a driver in this state to renters and that uses for rental purposes a motor vehicle fleet of five or more rental trucks in this state, but does not mean any person, firm or corporation that is licensed, or required to be licensed, pursuant to section 14-52, as amended by this act, (A) as a new car dealer [, repairer or limited] or repairer, or (B) as a used car dealer that is not primarily engaged in the business of renting passenger motor vehicles or rental trucks without a driver in this state to renters.

Sec. 14. Section 14-69 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) No person shall engage in the business of conducting a drivers' school without being licensed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. An application for a license shall be in writing and shall contain such

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information as the commissioner requires. Each applicant for a license or the renewal of a license shall be fingerprinted before such application is approved. The commissioner shall subject each applicant for a license or the renewal of a license to state and national criminal history records checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, and a check of the state child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k. If any such applicant has a criminal record or is listed on the state child abuse and neglect registry, the commissioner shall make a determination [of] whether to issue a license or renew a license to conduct a drivers' school in accordance with the standards and procedures set forth in section 14-44 and the regulations adopted pursuant to said section. If the application is approved, the applicant shall be granted a license upon the payment of a fee of seven hundred dollars and submission of a surety bond from a surety company authorized to do business in this state, conditioned upon the faithful performance by the applicant of any contract to furnish instruction, in such amount as the commissioner may require. Such surety bond shall be held by the commissioner to satisfy any execution issued against such school in a cause arising out of failure of such school to perform such contract. For each additional place of business of such school, the commissioner shall charge a fee of one hundred seventy-six dollars, except if the licensee opens an additional place of business with one year or less remaining on the term of its license, the commissioner shall charge a fee of eighty-eight dollars for each such additional place of business for the year, or any part thereof, remaining on the term of such license. No license or surety bond shall be required in the case of any board of education, or any public, private or parochial school, which conducts a course in driver education established in accordance with sections 14-36e and 14-36f. A license so issued shall be valid for two years. The commissioner shall issue a license certificate or certificates to each licensee, one of which shall be displayed in each place of business of the licensee. In case of the loss, mutilation or destruction of a license certificate, the commissioner shall issue a duplicate license certificate to

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the licensee upon proof of the facts and the payment of a fee of twenty dollars.

(b) The biennial fee for the renewal of a license shall be seven hundred dollars and the biennial renewal fee for each additional place of business shall be one hundred seventy-six dollars, except if the licensee opens an additional place of business with one year or less remaining on the term of its license, the commissioner shall charge a fee of eighty-eight dollars for each such additional place of business for the year, or any part thereof, remaining on the term of such license. If the commissioner has not received a complete renewal application and all applicable renewal fees on or before the expiration date of an applicant's license, the commissioner shall charge such applicant, in addition to such renewal fees, a late fee of seven hundred dollars. Upon the expiration date of a license, the licensee shall cease to conduct business until such time as the licensee's application for renewal is approved by the commissioner. The commissioner shall not renew any license under this section that has expired for more than sixty days.

(c) Any person who engages in the business of conducting a drivers' school without being licensed in accordance with this section shall be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

Sec. 15. Subsection (d) of section 14-100a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(d) (1) (A) Any person who transports a child under two years of age or weighing less than thirty pounds in a motor vehicle on the highways of this state shall provide and require the child to ride rear-facing in a child restraint system equipped with a five-point harness approved pursuant to regulations that the Department of Motor Vehicles shall adopt in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

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(B) Any person who transports a child under five years of age, but not under two years of age, or weighing less than forty pounds, but not less than thirty pounds, in a motor vehicle on the highways of this state shall provide and require the child to ride rear-facing or forward-facing in a child restraint system equipped with a five-point harness approved pursuant to such regulations.

(C) Any person who transports a child under eight years of age, but not under five years of age, or weighing less than sixty pounds, but not less than forty pounds, in a motor vehicle on the highways of this state shall provide and require the child to ride rear-facing or forward-facing in a child restraint system equipped with a five-point harness or a booster seat secured by a seat safety belt approved pursuant to such regulations.

(D) No person shall transport a child in a motor vehicle on the highways of this state in a rear-facing child restraint system in the front seat of any motor vehicle that is equipped with a functional air bag on the passenger side of such motor vehicle.

(2) Any person who transports a child eight years of age or older and weighing sixty or more pounds in a motor vehicle on the highways of this state shall either provide and require the child to use an approved child restraint system or require the child to use a seat safety belt. Failure to use a child restraint system shall not be considered as contributory negligence nor shall such failure be admissible evidence in any civil action. As used in this subsection, "motor vehicle" does not mean a bus having a tonnage rating of one ton or more.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, any person who transports a child four years of age or older in a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212, on the highways of this state shall either provide and require the child to use an approved child restraint system or require the child to use a seat

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safety belt. Any person who transports a child under four years of age weighing less than forty pounds in a student transportation vehicle on the highways of this state shall provide and require the child to use a child restraint system approved pursuant to such regulations.

(4) No person shall restrain a child in a booster seat unless the motor vehicle is equipped with a safety seat belt that includes a shoulder belt and otherwise meets the requirement of subsection (b) of this section.

(5) Any person who violates the provisions of subdivision (1), (2), (3) or (4) of this subsection shall, for a first violation, have committed an infraction; for a second violation, be fined not more than one hundred ninety-nine dollars; and, for a third or subsequent violation, be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. The court may, subsequent to the violation but prior to the imposition of a fine, remit the fine for a first-time violator who presents proof of the acquisition, rental or purchase of a child restraint system or booster seat appropriate for the weight and age of the child that such person transports not later than fourteen days from the date of the violation. The commissioner shall require any person who has committed a first or second violation of the provisions of this subsection to attend a child car seat safety course offered or approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The commissioner may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, suspend for a period of not more than two months the motor vehicle operator's license of any person who fails to attend or successfully complete the course.

Sec. 16. Section 14-147 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) Any person who counterfeits any number plate or marker, or makes any substitute or temporary marker, except as provided in section 14-18, or who counterfeits or in any manner alters any motor vehicle registration or operator's license, and any person who gives, loans or sells any such counterfeited or altered number plate, marker,

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motor vehicle registration or operator's license, shall be [fined not more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or both] guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

(b) Any person who loans or sells [any operator's license issued by the commissioner, for use by any person, or] any number plate or marker or certificate of registration issued by the commissioner, for use on any car, except as provided in sections 14-59 and 14-60, shall [be fined not more than one hundred dollars] have committed an infraction.

(c) No person shall use any motor vehicle registration or operator's license other than the one issued to [him] such person by the commissioner, except as provided in section 14-18; and no person shall use a motor vehicle registration on any motor vehicle other than that for which such registration has been issued. Any person who violates any provision of this subsection shall [be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or both] have committed an infraction.

(d) Any person who loans any operator's license issued by the commissioner, for use by another person, shall have committed an infraction.

(e) Any person who sells any operator's license issued by the commissioner, for use by another person, shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

Sec. 17. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-111 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection, whenever the holder of any motor vehicle operator's license has been convicted or has forfeited any bond taken or has received a suspended judgment or sentence for any of the following violations, the

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commissioner shall, without hearing, suspend such person's operator's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state as follows: For a first violation of subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-224 or section 14-110, 14-215 or 53a-119b, for a period of not less than one year and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than two years; for a violation of subsection (a) of section 14-222 or subsection (c) of section 14-224, for a period of not less than thirty days or more than ninety days and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than ninety days; for a violation of subdivision (2) or (3) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, for a period of not less than ninety days and for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than one year; for a first violation of subsection (b), (d) or (e) of section 14-147, as amended by this act, for a period of not less than ninety days and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than five years; for a first violation of subsection (c) of section 14-147, as amended by this act, for a period of not less than thirty days and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than one year.

Sec. 18. Subsection (g) of section 14-111 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(g) When any person who does not hold a Connecticut operator's license is convicted or has [his] such person's case nulled or is given a suspended judgment or sentence for a violation of any provision of section 14-36, as amended by this act, 14-110 or 14-145, subsection (b), (d) or (e) of section 14-147, as amended by this act, or section 14-215, 14-224, 14-227a, 14-227m, 14-227n or 14-229, the commissioner shall not issue to [him] such person a nonresident or resident operator's license during such period as the commissioner may determine, which period shall not be less than the period provided for suspension in subsection (b) of this section or in subsection (g) of section 14-227a, subsection (c)

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of section 14-227m or subsection (c) of section 14-227n. When any person is convicted or has [his] such person's case nolleed or is given a suspended judgment or sentence for any violation of any of the provisions of section 14-12, the commissioner shall not issue registration for any motor vehicle owned by such person until thirty days after application therefor.

Sec. 19. (*Effective from passage*) For the purposes of this section, "motor vehicle record" has the same meaning as provided in section 14-10 of the general statutes and "police officer" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-294a of the general statutes. The Commissioners of Motor Vehicles and Emergency Services and Public Protection shall study the feasibility of establishing and maintaining an emergency contact information database or, alternatively, revising motor vehicle records to add emergency contact information. Such database or revised motor vehicle records shall (1) provide the holder of a Connecticut motor vehicle operator's license, instruction permit or identity card with the opportunity to furnish and update, as needed, the name, address, telephone number and relationship to at least one contact person whom the holder wishes to be contacted if the holder is involved in a motor vehicle accident or emergency situation and the holder dies, is seriously injured or is rendered unconscious and is unable to communicate with such contact person, and (2) be accessible to police officers for the purposes of notifying such contact person that such holder is involved in a motor vehicle accident or emergency situation. Not later than February 1, 2024, the commissioners shall submit the results of such study and make recommendations regarding the implementation of such database or revised motor vehicle records to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, public safety and security and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies.

Sec. 20. Subsection (b) of section 51-164n of the general statutes is

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repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the provisions of section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 2-71h, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35 or 7-41, subsection (c) of section 7-66, section 7-83, 7-147h, 7-148, 7-148f, 7-148o, 7-283, 7-325, 7-393, 8-12, 8-25, 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-185, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 10-230, 10-251, 10-254, 10a-35, 12-52, 12-54, 12-129b or 12-170aa, subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of section 12-286, section 12-286a, 12-292, 12-314b or 12-326g, subdivision (4) of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of section 12-411, section 12-435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-476c, 12-487, 13a-71, 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-115, 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-124, 13a-139, 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-253, 13a-263 or 13b-39f, subsection (f) of section 13b-42, section 13b-90 or 13b-100, subsection (a) of section 13b-108, section 13b-221 or 13b-292, subsection (a) or (b) of section 13b-324, section 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c, subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414 or 14-4, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-12, subsection (d) of section 14-12, subsection (f) of section 14-12a, subsection (a) of section 14-15a, section 14-16c, 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (f) of section 14-34a, subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-44j, 14-49, 14-50a, as amended by this act, 14-58, as amended by this act, or 14-62a, subsection (b) of section 14-66, section 14-66a or 14-67a, subsection (g) of section 14-80, subsection (f) or (i) of section 14-80h, section 14-97a or 14-98, subsection (a), (b) or (d) of section 14-100a, as amended by this act, section 14-100b, 14-103a, 14-106a, 14-106c, 14-145a, [or] 14-146, [subsection (b) of section 14-147, section] 14-152, 14-153, 14-161 or 14-163b, subsection (f) of section 14-164i, section 14-213b or 14-219, subdivision (1) of section 14-223a, subsection (d) of section 14-224, section 14-240, 14-250, 14-253a, as amended by this act, 14-261a, 14-262, 14-264, 14-266, 14-267a, 14-269, 14-270, 14-272b, 14-274, 14-275 or 14-275a, subsection (c) of section 14-275c, section 14-276, subsection (a) or

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(b) of section 14-277, section 14-278, 14-279 or 14-280, subsection (b), (e) or (h) of section 14-283, section 14-283d, 14-283e, 14-283f, 14-283g, 14-291, 14-293b, 14-296aa, as amended by this act, 14-298a, 14-300, 14-300d, 14-300f, 14-319, 14-320, 14-321, 14-325a, 14-326, 14-330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of section 14-386a, section 15-15e, 15-25 or 15-33, subdivision (1) of section 15-97, subsection (a) of section 15-115, section 16-15, 16-16, 16-44, 16-256e, 16-278 or 16a-15, subsection (a) of section 16a-21, section 16a-22, subsection (a) or (b) of section 16a-22h, section 16a-106, 17a-24, 17a-145, 17a-149 or 17a-152, subsection (b) of section 17a-227, section 17a-465, subsection (c) of section 17a-488, section 17b-124, 17b-131, 17b-137, 19a-33, 19a-39 or 19a-87, subsection (b) of section 19a-87a, section 19a-91, 19a-102a, 19a-102b, 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-113, 19a-215, 19a-216a, 19a-219, 19a-222, 19a-224, 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-335, 19a-336, 19a-338, 19a-339, 19a-340, 19a-425, 19a-442, 19a-502, 19a-565, 20-7a, 20-14, 20-153a, 20-158, 20-231, 20-233, 20-249, 20-257, 20-265, 20-324e, 20-329c or 20-329g, subsection (b) of section 20-334, section 20-341l, 20-366, 20-482, 20-597, 20-608, 20-610, 20-623, 21-1, 21-38, 21-39, 21-43, 21-47, 21-48 or 21-63, subsection (d) of section 21-71, section 21-76a or 21-100, subsection (c) of section 21a-2, subdivision (1) of section 21a-19, section 21a-20 or 21a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 21a-25, section 21a-26 or 21a-30, subsection (a) of section 21a-37, section 21a-46, 21a-61, 21a-63, 21a-70b or 21a-77, subsection (b) or (c) of section 21a-79, section 21a-85 or 21a-154, subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-159, section 21a-278b, subsection (c), (d) or (e) of section 21a-279a, section 21a-421eee, 21a-421fff, 21a-421hhh, subsection (a) of section 21a-430, section 22-12b, 22-13, 22-14, 22-15, 22-16, 22-26g, 22-30, 22-34, 22-35, 22-36, 22-38, 22-39, 22-39f, 22-49, 22-54, 22-61j or 22-61l, subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of section 22-61l, subsection (f) of section 22-61m, subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 22-61m, section 22-84, 22-89, 22-90, 22-96, 22-98, 22-99, 22-100 or 22-111o, subsection (d) of section 22-118l, section 22-167, subsection (c) of section 22-277, section 22-278, 22-279, 22-280a, 22-318a, 22-320h, 22-324a or 22-326, subsection (b), subdivision (1) or (2) of

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subsection (e) or subsection (g) of section 22-344, subsection (a) or (b) of section 22-344b, section 22-344c, subsection (d) of section 22-344d, section 22-344f, 22-350a, 22-354, 22-359, 22-366, 22-391, 22-413, 22-414, 22-415, 22-415c, 22a-66a or 22a-246, subsection (a) of section 22a-250, section 22a-256g, subsection (e) of section 22a-256h, section 22a-363 or 22a-381d, subsections (c) and (d) of section 22a-381e, section 22a-449, 22a-450, 22a-461, 23-4b, 23-38, 23-45, 23-46 or 23-61b, subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 23-65, section 25-37 or 25-40, subsection (a) of section 25-43, section 25-43d, 25-135, 26-18, 26-19, 26-21, 26-31, 26-40, 26-40a, 26-42, 26-43, 26-49, 26-54, 26-55, 26-56, 26-58 or 26-59, subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 26-61, section 26-64, subdivision (1) of section 26-76, section 26-79, 26-87, 26-89, 26-91, 26-94, 26-97, 26-98, 26-104, 26-105, 26-107, 26-114a, 26-117, subsection (b) of section 26-127, 26-128, 26-128a, 26-131, 26-132, 26-138, 26-139 or 26-141, subdivision (1) of section 26-186, section 26-207, 26-215, 26-217 or 26-224a, subdivision (1) of section 26-226, section 26-227, 26-230, 26-231, 26-232, 26-244, 26-257a, 26-260, 26-276, 26-280, 26-284, 26-285, 26-286, 26-287, 26-288, 26-290, 26-291a, 26-292, 26-294, 27-107, 28-13, 29-6a, 29-16, 29-17, 29-25, 29-143o, 29-143z or 29-156a, subsection (b), (d), (e), (g) or (h) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y or 29-161z, subdivision (1) of section 29-198, section 29-210, 29-243 or 29-277, subsection (c) of section 29-291c, section 29-316 or 29-318, subsection (b) of section 29-335a, section 29-381, 30-19f, 30-48a or 30-86a, subsection (b) of section 30-89, subsection (c) or (d) of section 30-117, section 31-3, 31-10, 31-11, 31-12, 31-13, 31-14, 31-15, 31-16, 31-18, 31-23, 31-24, 31-25, 31-32, 31-36, 31-38, 31-40, 31-44, 31-47 or 31-48, subsection (b) of section 31-48b, section 31-51, 31-51g, 31-52, 31-52a, 31-53 or 31-54, subsection (a) or (c) of section 31-69, section 31-70, 31-74, 31-75, 31-76, 31-76a, 31-89b or 31-134, subsection (i) of section 31-273, section 31-288, 31-348, 33-624, 33-1017, 34-13d or 34-412, subdivision (1) of section 35-20, subsection (a) of section 36a-57, subsection (b) of section 36a-665, section 36a-699, 36a-739, 36a-787, 38a-2 or 38a-140, subsection (a) or (b) of section 38a-278, section 38a-479qq, 38a-479rr, 38a-506, 38a-548, 38a-626, 38a-680, 38a-713,

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38a-733, 38a-764, 38a-786, 38a-828, 38a-829, 38a-885, 42-133hh, 42-230, 42-470 or 42-480, subsection (a) or (c) of section 43-16q, section 45a-283, 45a-450, 45a-634 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 46a-54, section 46a-59, 46a-81b, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 46b-38d, 47-34a, 47-47 or 47-53, subsection (i) of section 47a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (k) of section 47a-21, section 49-2a, 49-8a, 49-16, 52-143 or 52-289, subsection (j) of section 52-362, section 53-133, 53-199, 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-264, 53-280, 53-290a, 53-302a, 53-303e, 53-311a, 53-314, 53-321, 53-322, 53-323 or 53-331, subsection (b) of section 53-343a, section 53-344, subsection (b) or (c) of section 53-344b, subsection (b) of section 53-345a, section 53-377, 53-422 or 53-450 or subsection (i) of section 54-36a, or (2) a violation under the provisions of chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any regulation adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 13b-410, or (4) a violation of any ordinance, regulation or bylaw of any town, city or borough, except violations of building codes and the health code, for which the penalty exceeds ninety dollars but does not exceed two hundred fifty dollars, unless such town, city or borough has established a payment and hearing procedure for such violation pursuant to section 7-152c, shall follow the procedures set forth in this section.

Sec. 21. Section 54-1q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

The court shall not accept a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from a person in a proceeding with respect to a violation of section 14-110, subsection (b), ~~[or] (c), (d) or (e)~~ of section 14-147, as amended by this act, section 14-215, subsection (a) of section 14-222, subsection (a) or (b) of section 14-224 or section 53a-119b unless the court advises such person that conviction of the offense for which such person has been charged may have the consequence of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles suspending such person's motor vehicle operator's license.

Sec. 22. Section 54-143a of the general statutes is repealed and the

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following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

A cost of twenty dollars shall be imposed against any person convicted of a violation, as defined in section 53a-27, under any provision of section 12-487 or sections 13b-410a to 13b-410c, inclusive; any regulation adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 13b-410; or a violation of subsection (a) or (e) of section 14-147, as amended by this act, section 14-219, 14-266, 14-267a, 14-269 or 14-270, chapter 268 or subsection (a) of section 22a-250, or any section of the general statutes the violation of which is deemed an infraction, or who forfeits a cash bond or guaranteed bail bond certificate posted under section 14-140a or under reciprocal agreements made with other states for the alleged violation of any of said sections, or who pleads nolo contendere to a violation of any of said sections and pays the fine by mail; except that such cost shall be thirty-five dollars for a violation of any section of the general statutes the violation of which is deemed an infraction and carries a fine of thirty-five dollars or more. The costs imposed by this section shall be deposited in the General Fund and shall be in addition to any costs imposed by section 54-143.

Sec. 23. Subsection (b) of section 14-61 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) The commissioner shall require any dealer who is authorized to issue a temporary transfer of registration in accordance with subsection (a) of this section or a new registration in accordance with subsection (c) of section 14-12 to file each application for a permanent registration electronically if the commissioner determines that the dealer files, on average, [seven] five or more such applications for permanent registration each month with the Department of Motor Vehicles. Any dealer may make a written request to the commissioner for an exemption from filing such applications electronically due to a hardship, including, but not limited to, a lack of access to a device

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capable of communicating electronically. The commissioner may enter into an agreement with one or more nonprofit associations or organizations representing the interests of motor vehicle dealers to file such applications electronically on behalf of such dealer. The commissioner may authorize such nonprofit association or organization to charge a convenience fee, in an amount to be determined by the commissioner, to each dealer for an application submitted electronically by such nonprofit association or organization.

Sec. 24. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of this section, "open recall" means a safety-related recall for which notification by a manufacturer of a motor vehicle has been provided under 49 USC 30119, as amended from time to time, that necessitates repairs or modifications to a motor vehicle by an authorized motor vehicle dealer, but does not include a recall related to defects or failures to comply with requirements relating to labeling or notification in an owner's manual or a recall where the remedy is for the manufacturer to repurchase the motor vehicle or otherwise provide financial compensation to the owner of the motor vehicle.

(b) During the course of performing repair work or changing the oil or tires and tubes of a motor vehicle, a repairer licensed in accordance with section 14-52 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or a person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of changing the oil or tires and tubes of a motor vehicle, shall determine whether the motor vehicle being repaired or worked upon is subject to an open recall by checking information provided by the manufacturer of the motor vehicle or other known and readily available sources, such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. If the motor vehicle is subject to one or more open recalls, the repairer, person, firm or corporation shall provide the owner of the motor vehicle with written notice of each such open recall at the time of such repair or work. The notice shall include a description of each open recall and a statement

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that a motor vehicle dealer approved by the manufacturer of the motor vehicle may repair or modify the motor vehicle at no cost to the owner, except as provided in 49 USC 30120, as amended from time to time.

(c) Nothing in this section shall alter the liability under common law of any motor vehicle manufacturer or motor vehicle dealer approved by the manufacturer to repair or modify a motor vehicle subject to an open recall.

(d) A repairer or person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of changing the oil or tires and tubes of a motor vehicle and any employee of such repairer or person, firm or corporation shall not be liable to any person for any act or omission related to the provision of a written notice regarding an open recall required pursuant to this section.

Sec. 25. Section 14-164b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and terms shall be construed as follows, unless another meaning is clearly apparent from the language or context:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

(2) "Fleet" means a group of owned or leased motor vehicles subject to emissions inspection pursuant to subsection (c) of section 14-164c owned or leased by one person, firm, corporation, or governmental entity.

(3) "Fleet emissions inspection station" means an inspection station owned or leased by the owner or operator of a fleet and licensed by the commissioner for conducting emission inspections of fleet vehicles.

(4) "Independent contractor" means any person, business, firm,

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partnership, limited liability company or corporation with whom the commissioner may enter into an agreement providing for the leasing, construction, equipping, maintaining, staffing, management or operation of official emissions inspection stations pursuant to this chapter.

(5) "Official emissions inspection station" means an emissions inspection facility approved by the commissioner, whether placed in a permanent structure or in a mobile unit for conveyance among various locations within this state, including any such facility located on the premises of a licensed dealer or repairer, for the purpose of conducting exhaust emissions inspections of all vehicles required to be inspected pursuant to this chapter.

(6) "Open recall" has the same meaning as provided in section 24 of this act.

[(6)] (7) "Twenty-five or more years old", when used with respect to the age of a motor vehicle, means that the difference between the model year of such motor vehicle and the current calendar year is twenty-five or more.

Sec. 26. Subsection (b) of section 14-164c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(b) (1) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall consult with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and furnish the commissioner with technical information, including testing techniques, standards and instructions for emission control features and equipment. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall furnish the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles with emission standards for all motor vehicles subject to the inspection and maintenance requirements. Such standards shall be consistent with provisions of

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federal law, if any, relating to control of emissions from the vehicles concerned or any regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection which implement the low-emission vehicle and clean fuels regulations adopted by the state of California, as amended. Such standards shall be periodically reviewed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection and revised, if necessary, to achieve the objectives of the vehicle emission inspection program.

(2) During the performance of an emissions inspection, an independent contractor retained by the state in accordance with the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, or a licensed dealer or repairer authorized to perform inspections in accordance with the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, shall determine whether the motor vehicle being inspected is subject to an open recall by checking information provided by the manufacturer of the motor vehicle or other known and readily available sources, such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. If the motor vehicle is subject to one or more open recalls, the independent contractor, dealer or repairer shall provide the owner of the motor vehicle with written notice of each such open recall at the time of inspection. The notice shall include a description of each open recall and a statement that a motor vehicle dealer approved by the manufacturer of the motor vehicle may repair or modify the motor vehicle at no cost to the owner, except as provided in 49 USC 30120, as amended from time to time. Nothing in this subdivision shall alter the liability under common law of any motor vehicle manufacturer or motor vehicle dealer approved by the manufacturer to repair or modify a motor vehicle subject to an open recall. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 22a-6a, an independent contractor, licensed dealer or repairer and any employee of such independent contractor or licensed dealer or repairer shall not be liable to any person for any act or omission related to the provision of a written notice regarding an open recall required pursuant to this

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subdivision.

Sec. 27. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 14-36 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(d) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued to any applicant who is sixteen or seventeen years of age unless the applicant has held a youth instruction permit and has satisfied the requirements specified in this subsection. The applicant shall (A) submit to the commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner shall direct, a certificate of the successful completion (i) in a public secondary school, a technical education and career school or a private secondary school of a full course of study in motor vehicle operation prepared as provided in section 14-36e, (ii) of training of similar nature provided by a licensed drivers' school approved by the commissioner, or (iii) of home training in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection, including, in each case, or by a combination of such types of training, successful completion of: Not less than forty clock hours of behind-the-wheel, on-the-road instruction for applicants to whom a youth instruction permit is issued on or after August 1, 2008; (B) submit to the commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner shall direct, a certificate of the successful completion of a course of not less than eight hours relative to safe driving practices, including a minimum of four hours on the nature and the medical, biological and physiological effects of alcohol and drugs, including cannabis, as defined in section 21a-420, and their impact on the operator of a motor vehicle, the dangers associated with the operation of a motor vehicle after the consumption of alcohol or drugs by the operator, the problems of alcohol and drug abuse, [and] the penalties for alcohol and drug-related motor vehicle violations and a video presentation specific to the impact of cannabis on the operator of a motor vehicle and how the ingestion of cannabis can cause impairment of motor function, reaction time, perception and peripheral

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vision; and (C) pass an examination which may include a comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws concerning motor vehicles and the rules of the road in addition to the test required under subsection (c) of this section and shall include an on-the-road skills test as prescribed by the commissioner. At the time of application and examination for a motor vehicle operator's license, an applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age shall have held a youth instruction permit for not less than one hundred eighty days, except that an applicant who presents a certificate under subparagraph (A)(i) or subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision shall have held a youth instruction permit for not less than one hundred twenty days and an applicant who is undergoing training and instruction by the driver training unit for persons with disabilities in accordance with the provisions of section 14-11b shall have held such permit for the period of time required by said unit. The commissioner shall approve the content of the safe driving instruction at drivers' schools, high schools and other secondary schools. Subject to such standards and requirements as the commissioner may impose, the commissioner may authorize any drivers' school, licensed in good standing in accordance with the provisions of section 14-69, as amended by this act, or secondary school driver education program authorized pursuant to the provisions of section 14-36e, to administer the comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws concerning motor vehicles and the rules of the road, required pursuant to subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, as part of the safe driving practices course required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, and to certify to the commissioner, under oath, the results of each such test administered. Such hours of instruction required by this subdivision shall be included as part of or in addition to any existing instruction programs. Any fee charged for the course required under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision shall not exceed one hundred fifty dollars. Any applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who, while a resident of another state, completed the course required in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, but did not complete the safe driving course required in

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subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, shall complete the safe driving course. The commissioner may waive any requirement in this subdivision, except for that in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, in the case of an applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who holds a valid motor vehicle operator's license issued by any other state, provided the commissioner is satisfied that the applicant has received training and instruction of a similar nature.

(2) The commissioner may accept as evidence of sufficient training under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection home training as evidenced by a written statement submitted to the commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner directs. Such statement shall be signed by the spouse of a married minor applicant, or by a parent, grandparent, foster parent or legal guardian of an applicant, and state that the applicant has obtained a youth instruction permit and has successfully completed a driving course taught by the person signing the statement, that the signer has had an operator's license for at least four years preceding the date of the statement, and that the signer has not had such license suspended by the commissioner for at least four years preceding the date of the statement. If the applicant has no spouse, parent, grandparent, foster parent or guardian so qualified and available to give the instruction, such statement may be signed by the applicant's stepparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt, by blood or marriage, provided the person signing the statement is qualified.

(3) [If the commissioner requires a written test of any applicant under this section, the test shall be given in English or Spanish at the option of the applicant, provided the] The knowledge test for a class D motor vehicle operator's license required under this section shall be administered (A) in electronic and audio format and any other format the commissioner deems appropriate, and (B) at the option of the applicant, in English, Spanish or any language spoken at home by at least one per cent of the state's population, according to statistics

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prepared by the United States Census Bureau, based on the most recent decennial census. The knowledge test shall also be administered in a written or electronic format in at least twenty-six other languages that the commissioner, in consultation with representatives of organizations that advocate on behalf of or assist immigrants, refugees or other persons who are English language learners, determines are responsive to the linguistic needs of the emerging immigrant and refugee populations in the state. Each knowledge test offered in such other languages shall be reviewed by a person who is fluent in the language of such knowledge test and may also be administered in an audio format as the commissioner deems appropriate. The commissioner shall require [that the] any applicant [shall] under this section to have sufficient understanding of English for the interpretation of traffic control signs.

(4) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the purposes of this subsection concerning the requirements for behind-the-wheel, on-the-road instruction, the content of safe driving instruction at drivers' schools, high schools and other secondary schools, and the administration and certification of required testing.

(e) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued until (A) the applicant signs and submits to the commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner directs, an application under oath, or made subject to penalties for false statement in accordance with section 53a-157b, and (B) the commissioner is satisfied that the applicant is sixteen years of age or older and is a suitable person to receive the license.

(2) Except any applicant described in section 14-36m, an applicant for a new motor vehicle operator's license shall submit with the application a copy of such applicant's birth certificate or other prima facie evidence, as determined by the commissioner, of date of birth and evidence of identity.

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(3) Before granting a license to any applicant who has not previously held a Connecticut motor vehicle operator's license, or whose Connecticut motor vehicle operator's license expired more than two years prior to the application date, the commissioner shall require the applicant to demonstrate personally to the commissioner, a deputy, a motor vehicle inspector or an agent of the commissioner, in such manner as the commissioner directs, that the applicant is a proper person to operate motor vehicles of the class for which such applicant has applied, has sufficient knowledge of the mechanism of the motor vehicles to ensure their safe operation by him or her and has satisfactory knowledge of the laws concerning motor vehicles and the rules of the road. The knowledge test of an applicant for a class D motor vehicle operator's license [may be administered in such form as the commissioner deems appropriate, including audio, electronic or written testing. Such knowledge test shall be administered in English, Spanish or any language spoken at home by at least one per cent of the state's population, according to statistics prepared by the United States Census Bureau, based on the most recent decennial census. Each such knowledge test] shall include a question concerning highway work zone safety and the responsibilities of an operator of a motor vehicle under section 14-212d. Each such knowledge test shall include not less than one question concerning distracted driving, the use of mobile telephones and electronic devices by motor vehicle operators or the responsibilities of motor vehicle operators under section 14-296aa, as amended by this act. If any such applicant has held a license from a state, territory or possession of the United States where a similar examination is required, the commissioner may waive part or all of the examination. If any such applicant is (A) a veteran who applies not later than two years after the date of discharge from the military and who, prior to such discharge, held a military operator's license for motor vehicles of the same class as that for which such applicant has applied, or (B) a member of the armed forces or the National Guard who currently holds a military operator's license for motor vehicles of the same class as that for

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which such applicant has applied, the commissioner shall waive all of the examination, except in the case of a commercial motor vehicle license, the commissioner shall waive the driving skills test for such applicant and may, in such commissioner's discretion, waive the knowledge test for such application, provided such applicant meets the conditions set forth in 49 CFR 383.77, as amended from time to time. For the purposes of this subsection, "veteran" and "armed forces" have the same meanings as provided in section 27-103. When the commissioner is satisfied as to the ability and competency of any applicant, the commissioner may issue to such applicant a license, either unlimited or containing such limitations as the commissioner deems advisable, and specifying the class of motor vehicles which the licensee is eligible to operate.

(4) If any applicant or operator license holder has any health problem which might affect such person's ability to operate a motor vehicle safely, the commissioner may require the applicant or license holder to demonstrate personally or otherwise establish that, notwithstanding such problem, such applicant or license holder is a proper person to operate a motor vehicle, and the commissioner may further require a certificate of such applicant's condition, signed by a medical authority designated by the commissioner, which certificate shall in all cases be treated as confidential by the commissioner. A license, containing such limitation as the commissioner deems advisable, may be issued or renewed in any case, but nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the commissioner from refusing a license, either limited or unlimited, to any person or suspending a license of a person whom the commissioner determines to be incapable of safely operating a motor vehicle. Consistent with budgetary allotments, each motor vehicle operator's license issued to or renewed by a person who is deaf or hard of hearing shall, upon the request of such person, indicate such impairment. Such person shall submit a certificate stating such impairment, in such form as the commissioner may require and signed

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by a licensed health care practitioner.

(5) The issuance of a motor vehicle operator's license to any applicant who is the holder of a license issued by another state shall be subject to the provisions of [sections 14-111c and] section 14-111k.

Sec. 28. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than February 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation concerning the administration of the knowledge test for a motor vehicle operator's license in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Such report shall (1) identify the languages that the commissioner determined were responsive to the linguistic needs of the emerging immigrant and refugee populations in the state, (2) state the number of requests by applicants for a knowledge test in a specific language received by the department on and after April 1, 2023, until January 1, 2024, and (3) recommend which such languages, if any, should be administered in an electronic or audio format and a level of funding needed by the department for such administration.

Sec. 29. (*Effective from passage*) On or before February 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, regarding the status of entering into an agreement with Taiwan for the reciprocal recognition of driver training requirements.

Sec. 30. Section 14-54 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

Any person who desires to obtain a license for dealing in or repairing

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motor vehicles shall first obtain and present to the commissioner a certificate of approval [of the location for which such license is desired from the board or authority designated by local charter, regulation or ordinance of the town, city or borough wherein the business is located or is proposed to be located, except that in any town or city having a zoning commission, combined planning and zoning commission and a board of appeals, such certificate shall be approved by the board of appeals] from the zoning enforcement official of the municipality where such license is desired, affirming that the proposed location and use of the property conform to the zoning regulations of such municipality. In addition thereto, such certificate shall be approved by the local building official and local fire marshal. The provisions of this section shall not apply to (1) a transfer of ownership to a spouse, child, brother, sister or parent of a licensee, (2) a transfer of ownership to or from a corporation in which a spouse, child, brother, sister or parent of a licensee has a controlling interest, or (3) a change in ownership involving the withdrawal of one or more partners from a partnership.

Sec. 31. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of this section, "water company" has the same meaning as provided in section 25-32a of the general statutes. A person is guilty of simple trespass of public water supply watershed land that is owned, controlled or managed by a water company when, knowing that such person is not licensed or privileged to do so, such person enters or remains on the watershed land without lawful authority or the consent of the water company.

(b) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall have committed an infraction and be fined ninety dollars.

Sec. 32. Section 14-283b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) For the purpose of this section, "emergency vehicle" means any

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vehicle with activated flashing lights (1) operated by a member of an emergency medical service organization responding to an emergency call, (2) operated by a fire department or by any officer of a fire department responding to a fire or other emergency, (3) operated by a police officer, (4) that is a maintenance vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, or (5) that is a wrecker, as defined in section 14-1, "police officer" has the meaning set forth in section 7-294a, and "highway" has the meaning set forth in section 14-1, provided such highway has two or more travel lanes that proceed in the same direction.

(b) (1) Any operator of a motor vehicle on a highway when approaching one or more emergency vehicles that are stationary or traveling significantly below the posted speed limit and located on the shoulder, lane or breakdown lane of such highway shall ~~[(1)]~~ (A) immediately reduce speed to a reasonable level below the posted speed limit, and ~~[(2)]~~ (B) if traveling in the lane adjacent to the shoulder, lane or breakdown lane containing such emergency vehicle, move such motor vehicle over one lane, unless such movement would be unreasonable or unsafe.

(2) Any operator of a motor vehicle on a road that provides for two lanes of undivided traffic proceeding in the opposite direction when approaching one or more emergency vehicles that are stationary or traveling significantly below the posted speed limit and located on the shoulder, lane or breakdown lane of such road shall immediately reduce speed to a reasonable level below the posted speed limit until safely clear of the emergency vehicle.

(c) Any operator of a motor vehicle on a highway when approaching one or more nonemergency vehicles that are stationary and located on the shoulder, lane or breakdown lane of such highway shall, if traveling in the lane adjacent to the shoulder, lane or breakdown lane containing such nonemergency vehicle, move such motor vehicle over one lane, unless such movement would be unreasonable or unsafe.

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(d) (1) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall have committed an infraction, except that if such violation results in the injury of the operator or any occupant of an emergency vehicle, such person shall be fined not more than two thousand five hundred dollars and, if such violation results in the death of the operator or any occupant of an emergency vehicle, such person shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars.

(2) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (c) of this section shall have committed an infraction.

Sec. 33. Subsection (a) of section 14-253a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Special license plate" means a license plate displaying the symbol of access in a size identical to that of the letters or numerals on the plate and in a color that contrasts with the background color of the plate;

(2) "Removable windshield placard" means a two-sided, hanger-style placard which bears on both of its sides: (A) The symbol of access in a height of three inches or more centered on such placard and colored white on a blue background; (B) a unique identification number; (C) a date of expiration; [and] (D) a statement indicating that the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles issued such placard; and (E) the words "Accessibility Parking Permit";

(3) "Temporary removable windshield placard" means a placard that is the same as a removable windshield placard except that the symbol of access appears on a red background;

(4) "Person with disabilities" means a person with disabilities which limit or impair the ability to walk, as defined in 23 CFR Section 1235.2;

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and

(5) "Symbol of access" means the symbol designated by the Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to section 29-269b used to indicate access for persons with disabilities.

Sec. 34. Subsection (d) of section 14-253a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(d) (1) Any placard issued pursuant to this section shall be displayed by hanging it from the front windshield rearview mirror of the vehicle when utilizing a parking space reserved for persons who are blind and persons with disabilities. If there is no rearview mirror in such vehicle, the placard shall be displayed in clear view on the dashboard of such vehicle.

(2) On and after October 1, 2023, any placard issued pursuant to this section shall not bear the words "parking permit for persons with disabilities". Any placard issued prior to October 1, 2023, that is otherwise valid, shall remain valid, according to its terms, until the expiration of such placard.

Sec. 35. Subsection (o) of section 14-253a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(o) The commissioner shall [periodically] check the Department of Public Health's state registration of deaths on a monthly basis and shall cancel any placard issued to an individual identified in such registry as deceased.

Sec. 36. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established an Accessible Parking Advisory Council, which shall be within the Department of Motor Vehicles for administrative purposes only. The

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advisory board shall: (1) Develop a strategy to detect, deter and prevent fraud and misuse from occurring with regard to the issuance and use of removable windshield placards for persons who are blind and persons with disabilities from occurring without adversely impacting persons who are blind and persons with disabilities, (2) review the laws in other states concerning the issuance and use of such removable windshield placards, (3) recommend best practices for policies and regulations regarding the application for, and issuance and use of, removable windshield placards and the enforcement of subsection (1) of section 14-253a of the general statutes, (4) identify and make recommendations regarding streetscape issues that interfere with the ability of a person who is blind or person with disabilities to access and use public and private areas reserved for exclusive use by persons who are blind or persons with disabilities, (5) make educational materials available to medical professionals, law enforcement officers and the general public regarding the proper issuance and use of such removable windshield placards, and (6) review the status of such removable windshield placards issued to persons who are blind and persons with disabilities prior to January 1, 2010, for the lifetime of such persons.

(b) The advisory council shall consist of (1) the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or the commissioner's designee, (2) the Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services or the commissioner's designee, (3) two members appointed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, who are licensed physicians, physician assistants or advanced practice registered nurses who certify applications for removable windshield placards while in the course of employment, (4) one member appointed by the Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services who represents an organization that advocates on behalf of persons with physical disabilities, (5) one appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, who is a municipality planner, (6) one appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of

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the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, who uses or advocates on behalf of users of accessible parking, (7) one appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, who uses or advocates on behalf of users of accessible parking, (8) one appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, who is a sworn member of a municipal police department, and (9) and such other members as the advisory council may prescribe. All initial appointments to the advisory council shall be made not later than September 1, 2023. Each member appointed pursuant to subdivisions (3) to (9), inclusive, of this subsection shall serve for a term of two years and may serve until such member's successor is appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as chairperson of the advisory council. The advisory council shall meet at such times as it deems necessary and may establish rules governing its internal procedures.

(c) Not later than January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the advisory council shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, regarding the strategy developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the findings of the advisory council and any recommendations for legislation to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation.

Sec. 37. Subsection (c) of section 14-296aa of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(c) No person shall use a hand-held mobile telephone or other electronic device, including those with hands-free accessories, or a

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mobile electronic device, while operating a school bus that is carrying passengers, except that this subsection shall not apply when such person: (1) [places] Places an emergency call to school officials; [,] (2) uses a hand-held mobile telephone as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section; [, or] (3) uses a hand-held mobile telephone or mobile electronic device in a manner similar to a two-way radio to allow real-time communication with a school official, an emergency response operator, a hospital, physician's office or health clinic, an ambulance company, a fire department or a police department; or (4) uses a mobile electronic device with a video display, provided such device (A) is used as a global positioning system or to provide navigation, (B) is securely attached inside the school bus near such person, and (C) has been approved for such use by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Sec. 38. Subsection (b) of section 14-276a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) No person shall operate a school bus, as defined in section 14-275, or a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212, for the purpose of transporting school children unless such person has, prior to the issuance or renewal of such person's license endorsement: (1) Furnished evidence to the satisfaction of the commissioner that such person meets the physical qualification standards established in 49 CFR 391, as amended from time to time; and (2) successfully completed a course in safety training and, in the case of school bus operators, passed an examination in proficiency in school bus operation given by the commissioner. Such proficiency examination shall include a road test administered in either a type I school bus having a gross vehicle weight exceeding ten thousand pounds or a type II school bus having a gross vehicle weight of ten thousand pounds or less. The commissioner shall prioritize scheduling a road test for persons seeking or renewing a

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public passenger endorsement to operate a school bus. Any operator administered a road test in a type II school bus shall not be eligible for a license to operate a type I school bus. Any person who violates any provision of this subsection shall be deemed to have committed an infraction.

Sec. 39. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall study and make recommendations regarding policies or initiatives to respond to the nation-wide shortage of school bus drivers. Such study shall consider, at a minimum, increasing the period of validity for a commercial driver's license from a four-year period to a five-year period and streamlining the licensing and renewal processes for a public passenger endorsement to operate a school bus. On or before February 1, 2024, the commissioner shall submit the results of such study and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 40. Subsection (a) of section 14-50a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the fee charged by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for the following items or services shall be twenty dollars:

(1) Duplicate of a registration certificate provided at the main office or a branch office of the Department of Motor Vehicles or by a contractor authorized by the commissioner pursuant to subsection (b) of section 14-41.

(2) For each duplicate of a motor vehicle operator's license or identity card, thirty dollars. As used in this section, "duplicate" [shall include] includes any license or identity card that is reissued prior to the

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expiration date of a previously issued license or identity card, and (A) is identical to the holder's most recently issued license or identity card, or (B) contains modifications to one or more items of information that appear on the holder's most recently issued license or identity card. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, one duplicate shall be issued, for a fee of five dollars, to the holder of a license or identity card who reaches the age of twenty-one years.

(3) Replacement number plate or set of number plates, except as provided in subsection (c) of section 14-253a.

(4) Replacement number plate or set of number plates bearing same number as set of replaced plates.

(5) Certified abstract of driving history record, or driving history record for applicants for commercial driver's license with passenger endorsement or transportation permit.

(6) Name of registered owner.

(7) Operator license information.

(8) Certification of any copy or record.

(9) Certified transcripts of hearing held and transcribed by the commissioner, three dollars and fifty cents per page with a minimum charge of twenty dollars.

(10) Each copy of a motor vehicle operator's completed application for a license.

(11) Each copy of a completed application for registration of a motor vehicle.

(12) Each copy of a title document provided to a municipality.

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(13) Each request for information as provided in section 14-10, the amount provided in said section.

(14) Each document from a motor vehicle record, as defined in section 14-10, that is electronically maintained by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(15) For any copy or material released from information maintained by the Department of Motor Vehicles for which no fee is established by statute, an amount determined by the commissioner.

Sec. 41. Subsection (c) of section 22a-202 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(c) There is established a Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate Advisory Board, which shall be within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for administrative purposes only. The advisory board shall advise the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection concerning priorities for the allocation, distribution and utilization of funds for the Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate program. The advisory board shall consist of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection or the commissioner's designee, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection or the commissioner's designee, the president of the Connecticut Green Bank or the president's designee, the chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority or the chairperson's designee and ten members appointed as follows: (1) One representative of an environmental organization knowledgeable in electric vehicle policy appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; (2) one member who is an owner or manager of a business engaged in the sale or repair of bicycles appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (3) one representative of an organization that represents the interests of an environmental justice

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community appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives; (4) one representative of an association representing automotive retailers in the state appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; (5) one representative of an association representing electric vehicle consumers appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives; (6) one member appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; (7) one representative of an organization interested in the promotion of walking or bicycling appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation; (8) one member appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation; (9) one representative of an association representing electric vehicle manufacturers appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation; and (10) one member appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may appoint to the advisory board not more than three additional representatives from other industrial fleet or transportation companies. Each member appointed pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (10), inclusive, of this subsection or appointed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall serve for a term of two years and may [service] continue to serve until such member's successor is appointed. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as chairperson of the advisory board. The advisory board shall meet at such times as it deems necessary and may establish rules governing its internal procedures.

Sec. 42. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 14-164c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

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thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(2) On and after July 1, 2022, until July 1, 2024, inclusive, the commissioner shall grant an extension of time for a vehicle which fails any required inspection to obtain needed repairs, provided any motor vehicle dealer or repairer licensed under the provisions of section 14-52, as amended by this act, certifies, in writing, that the part needed to fix a problem associated with the vehicle's engine is delayed due to market conditions. Any [waiver] extension of time granted pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision shall be valid for a period of one hundred eighty days from the date of the certification provided by such dealer or repairer.

Approved June 12, 2023