



General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 6746

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 4689



Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING WRONG-WAY DRIVING DETECTION AND PREVENTION.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of
2 this section, (1) "wrong-way driving detection and notification system"
3 means a system capable of (A) alerting a motor vehicle operator with
4 the use of flashing lights when such operator is driving the wrong
5 way, (B) notifying a law enforcement unit when a wrong-way operator
6 is detected, and (C) broadcasting the presence of a wrong-way
7 operator on electronic message boards along the highway, (2) "law
8 enforcement unit" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-294a
9 of the general statutes, and (3) "highway" has the same meaning as
10 provided in section 14-1 of the general statutes.

11 (b) The Department of Transportation shall expand efforts to
12 implement wrong-way driving countermeasures throughout the state.
13 Such efforts shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The
14 installation of wrong-way driving detection and notification systems
15 on at least one hundred twenty highway exit ramps that the
16 department determines are at high risk for motor vehicle operators

17 driving in the wrong direction; (2) the installation of rumble strips on
18 highway exit ramps in such a manner to cause a tactile vibration and
19 audible rumbling when an operator drives the wrong way on such
20 ramps; and (3) a public awareness campaign to educate the public
21 concerning ways to reduce incidents of operators driving in the wrong
22 direction and actions to take when an operator encounters a motor
23 vehicle being operated in the wrong direction.

24 Sec. 2. Section 14-36f of the general statutes is repealed and the
25 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

26 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in
27 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, governing the
28 establishment, conduct and scope of driver education programs in
29 secondary schools of this state, subject to the requirements of section
30 14-36e. Such regulations shall (1) permit any local or regional board of
31 education or private secondary school to contract with a licensed
32 drivers' school approved by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for
33 the behind-the-wheel instruction of such driver education program
34 and instruction therein may be given by such school's driving
35 instructors who are licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles, (2)
36 require that the classroom instruction of any such driver education
37 program include (A) a discussion concerning highway work zone
38 safety and the responsibilities of an operator of a motor vehicle under
39 section 14-212d, and (B) a discussion concerning ways to reduce
40 incidents of operators driving in the wrong direction and actions to
41 take when an operator encounters a motor vehicle being operated in
42 the wrong direction, and (3) except for instruction offered pursuant to
43 section 14-36j, permit a class or classroom instruction to be offered in
44 person in a congregate setting, through distance learning or through a
45 combination of both in-person and distance learning, provided such
46 distance learning has interactive components such as mandatory
47 interactions, participation or testing.

48 Sec. 3. Section 14-78 of the general statutes is repealed and the
49 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

50 The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
 51 provisions of chapter 54, regarding the conduct of drivers' schools and
 52 instructor license requirements. Such regulations shall (1) establish the
 53 conduct of drivers' schools, including, but not limited to, (A)
 54 requirements as to the inspection of the vehicles used by the drivers'
 55 schools in the conduct of their business, (B) instructional standards and
 56 procedures, including instruction of not less than fifteen minutes
 57 concerning the responsibilities of an operator of a motor vehicle under
 58 subsection (b) of section 14-223 and the penalty for a violation of the
 59 provisions of said subsection, instruction concerning highway work
 60 zone safety and the responsibilities of an operator of a motor vehicle
 61 under section 14-212d, and instruction concerning ways to reduce
 62 incidents of operators driving in the wrong direction and actions to
 63 take when an operator encounters a motor vehicle being operated in
 64 the wrong direction, (C) the administration of a test at the conclusion
 65 of each class, (D) the posting of rates charged for instruction, and (E)
 66 the general form in which records concerning persons under
 67 instruction and those who have completed their course of instruction
 68 shall be kept and, when required, the method of transmission to the
 69 commissioner, (2) except as required pursuant to section 14-36j, permit
 70 a class or classroom instruction to be offered in person in a congregate
 71 setting, through distance learning or through a combination of both in-
 72 person and distance learning, provided such distance learning has
 73 interactive components such as mandatory interactions, participation
 74 or testing, and (3) establish the requirements for a person to receive a
 75 license as an instructor in accordance with section 14-73. On and after
 76 October 1, 2010, the commissioner shall not issue a license that is
 77 limited to classroom instruction. Any person who was issued such
 78 limited license prior to October 1, 2010, may maintain and renew such
 79 license.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2023	New section

Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	14-36f
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	14-78

TRA *Joint Favorable*