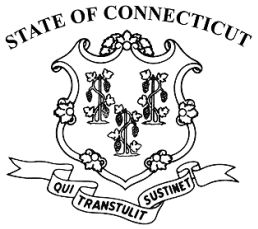

Substitute Senate Bill No. 132

Public Act No. 24-1

AN ACT CONCERNING DOG RACING.

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

Section 1. Subsections (i) to (s), inclusive, of section 12-574 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(i) The commissioner shall adopt regulations governing the operation of the off-track betting system and facilities, tracks, stables **[**, kennels**]** and frontons, including the regulation of betting in connection therewith, to **[**insure**]** ensure the integrity and security of the conduct of meetings and the broadcast of racing events held pursuant to this chapter. Such regulations shall include provision for the imposition of fines and suspension of licenses for violations thereof. **[**Prior to the adoption of any regulations concerning the treatment of animals at any dog race track, the commissioner shall notify the National Greyhound Association of the contents of such regulations and of its right to request a hearing pursuant to chapter 54.**]** The commissioner shall have the authority to impose a fine of up to (1) seventy-five thousand dollars for any violation of such regulations by a licensee authorized to conduct a meeting or operate the off-track betting system under this section; (2) five thousand dollars for any violation of such regulations by a business organization licensed as an affiliate licensee authorized to exercise

control over an association; and (3) two thousand five hundred dollars for any such violation by any other licensee licensed by the commissioner. The stewards or judges of a meeting acting in accordance with such regulations shall have the authority to impose a fine of up to five hundred dollars for any such violation by such licensee, and the players' manager of a jai alai exhibition acting in accordance with such regulations shall have the authority to recommend to the judges that a fine should be considered for a player who may have violated such regulations. The commissioner may delegate to the stewards and judges of a meeting the power to suspend the license of any occupational licensee employed in this state by an association licensee for a period not to exceed sixty days for any violation of such regulations. If any license is suspended, such stewards and judges of a meeting shall state the reasons therefor in writing. All fines imposed pursuant to this section shall be paid over to the General Fund upon receipt by the department. Any person or business organization fined or suspended pursuant to this section shall have a right of appeal to the commissioner for a hearing that shall be conducted pursuant to chapter 54. Any person or business organization aggrieved by a decision of the commissioner following such a hearing shall have a right of appeal pursuant to section 4-183.

(j) The commissioner **[**shall have the power to**]** may require that the books and records of any licensee, other than an occupational licensee, **[**shall**]** be maintained in any manner which **[**he**]** the commissioner may deem best, and that any financial or other statements based on such books and records **[**shall**]** be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in such form as **[**he**]** the commissioner shall prescribe. The commissioner or **[**his**]** the commissioner's designee shall also be authorized to visit, to investigate and to place expert accountants and such other persons as **[**he**]** the commissioner may deem necessary, in the offices, tracks, frontons, off-track betting facilities or places of business of any such licensee, for the purpose of satisfying

[himself or herself**]** the commissioner or such designee that the department's regulations are strictly complied with.

(k) The commissioner may at any time for good cause require the removal of any employee or official employed by any licensee **[**hereunder**]** under this section.

(l) The commissioner may, on **[**his or her**]** the commissioner's own motion or upon application, exempt any person or business organization from the licensing requirements of this chapter or some or all of the disclosure requirements of chapter 226b, provided the applicant does not exercise control in or over an integral part of any activity which is authorized under this chapter. The burden of proving that an exemption should be granted rests solely with the applicant. The commissioner may limit or condition the terms of an exemption and such determination shall be final.

(m) Any person aiding or abetting in the operation of an off-track betting system or the conduct of any meeting within this state at which racing or the exhibition of the game of jai alai shall be permitted for any stake, purse or reward, except in accordance with a license duly issued and unsuspended or unrevoked by the commissioner, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

(n) The majority of the membership of the board of directors of any corporation licensed to operate the off-track betting system or to hold or conduct any meeting within the state of Connecticut at which racing or the exhibition of the game of jai alai shall be permitted for any stake, purse or reward, shall be residents of the state of Connecticut.

(o) Any license granted under this section, other than an association license authorizing the licensee to conduct a meeting or operate the off-track betting system, as described in subsection (a) of this section, or an affiliate license authorizing the licensee to exercise control in or over an

association licensee, as described in subsection (e) of this section, shall be effective for not more than one year from the date of issuance. Initial application for and renewal of any license shall be in such form and manner as the commissioner shall prescribe by regulation.

[(p) Any person or business organization issued a license to conduct dog racing shall establish a pet adoption program for the proper housing and care of retired greyhounds and shall provide financial support for such program and any facility operated to implement such program.

(q) Any person or business organization issued a license to conduct dog racing pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-574c shall employ persons who, at the time of employment, are recipients of assistance under the state-administered general assistance program, state supplement program, medical assistance program, temporary family assistance program or supplemental nutrition assistance program to fill not less than twenty per cent of the positions created by the conversion of a jai alai fronton to a dog race track if such persons have been trained for such employment by public or publicly funded agencies in coordination with such licensee.

(r) Any person or business organization issued a license to conduct dog racing pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-574c shall provide an on-site child care center, as described in section 19a-77, for use by employees of the dog race track. Such licensee shall employ persons who, at the time of employment, are recipients of aid under chapter 302 or 308 to fill not less than fifty per cent of the positions at such child care center if such persons have been trained for such employment by public or publicly funded agencies in coordination with such licensee.

(s) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary, any person or business organization issued a license to conduct dog racing may operate on a year-round basis and may conduct

such number of performances as it may elect, provided the total number of such performances does not exceed five hundred eighty performances in any calendar year.**]**

Sec. 2. Section 12-574c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(a) The Department of Consumer Protection shall not issue a license authorizing any person, firm, corporation or association to conduct horse racing **[**, dog racing**]** or jai alai events.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the department may renew any license issued prior to May 23, 1979, authorizing the conduct of horse racing or jai alai events or issue such a license to a currently operating facility.

[(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the department may, on or after July 5, 1991, issue one additional license authorizing a person or business organization to conduct dog racing to a person or business organization holding a license to conduct jai alai events or to the successor of such business organization upon the surrender of the license to conduct jai alai events.**]**

[(d)**]** (c) No licensee shall move any horse race track **[**, dog race track**]** or jai alai fronton to any municipality other than the municipality in which such facility was located on July 5, 1991.

Sec. 3. Section 12-574a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(a) Whenever a person or business organization files an application with the department for a license to conduct an activity regulated by section 12-574, as amended by this act, exclusive of renewal license applications, the department shall forward within five days to the town clerk of the town within which such activity is proposed to be carried

on a statement specifying the prospective applicant, the proposed activity, the site on which such activity is proposed to be conducted and the fact that an application has been filed with the department. Within ten days after such statement has been filed, such town clerk shall cause notice of such filing to be published in a newspaper having a circulation in the town wherein the activity is to be conducted. The question of the approval of the conducting of such activity shall be submitted to the electors of such town at a special election called for the purpose to be held not less than thirty nor more than sixty days after such publication, in conformity with the provisions of section 9-369, or at a regular town election if such election is to be held more than sixty but not more than one hundred twenty days after such publication, such question shall be so submitted and the vote shall be taken in the manner prescribed by said section 9-369. The town clerk shall notify the department of the results of such election. The disapproval of the conducting of such activity by a majority of those voting on the question shall be a bar to the granting of a license to such applicant to conduct such activity at such location. All costs incurred by a municipality in connection with such referendum shall be paid to said municipality by the person or business organization filing such application for such license. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any licensee authorized to operate the off-track betting system with respect to any off-track betting facility approved prior to June 25, 1993.

(b) No licensee may conduct any <u>horse</u> racing or jai alai event on any Sunday without the prior approval of the legislative body of the town in which the event is scheduled to take place.

(c) No licensee authorized to operate the off-track betting system may conduct any off-track pari-mutuel wagering on any racing program on any Sunday without the prior approval of the legislative body of the town in which such off-track betting facility is located.

[(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,

the prior approval of the legislative body only of the town shall be required in the event the department issues a license pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-574c.**]**

Sec. 4. Section 12-575 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(a) The department may permit at racing events, exhibitions of the game of jai alai licensed under the provisions of this chapter or at off-track betting facilities, betting under a pari-mutuel system, so called, including standard pari-mutuel, daily double, exacta, quinella, trifecta, superfecta, twin trifecta, pick four and pick six betting, and such other forms of multiple betting as the department may determine.

(b) The pari-mutuel system, so called, shall not be used or permitted at any location other than the race track at which the racing event is licensed to be conducted or the fronton at which the game of jai alai is licensed to be played or at an off-track betting facility operated by the department or by a licensee authorized to operate the off-track betting system. A computerized electronic totalizator system, approved by the commissioner, shall be used to conduct pari-mutuel wagering at each racing or jai alai event. A computerized electronic totalizator system approved by the commissioner and, where authorized by subsection (b) of section 12-571a, and approved by the commissioner, a simulcast system shall be used to conduct pari-mutuel wagering and simulcasting of off-track betting race programs at off-track betting facilities. The commissioner may require any licensee to submit information concerning the daily operation of such totalizator or simulcast system which **[**he**]** the commissioner deems necessary for the effective administration of this chapter, including records of all wagering transactions, in such form and manner as **[**he shall prescribe**]** the commissioner prescribes.

(c) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, each

licensee conducting horse racing events under the pari-mutuel system shall distribute all sums deposited in any pari-mutuel program to the holders of winning tickets therein, less seventeen per cent of the total deposits plus the breakage to the dime of the amount so retained, **[**;**]** and each licensee conducting jai alai events shall distribute all sums deposited in any pari-mutuel program to the holders of winning tickets therein, less a maximum of eighteen per cent of the deposits in the win, place or show pools and less a maximum of twenty-three per cent of the deposits in all other pools plus the breakage to the dime of the amount so retained. **[**; each licensee conducting dog racing events shall distribute all sums deposited in any pari-mutuel program to the holders of winning tickets therein, less a maximum of nineteen per cent of the deposits in the win, place or show pools and less a maximum of twenty-seven per cent of the deposits in all other pools plus the breakage to the dime of the amount so retained, or, shall distribute all sums deposited in all of its pari-mutuel programs conducted on any day to the holders of winning tickets therein less twenty per cent of the total deposits plus the breakage to the dime of the amount so retained, provided on and after July 1, 1992, each licensee conducting dog racing events on July 5, 1991, shall allocate four per cent of all sums deposited in any pari-mutuel program to purses, one-quarter of one per cent to capital expenditures for alterations, additions, replacement changes, improvements or major repairs to or upon the property owned or leased by any such licensee and used for such racing events, and one-quarter of one per cent to promotional marketing, to reduce the costs of admission, programs, parking and concessions and to offer entertainment and giveaways. Each licensee conducting dog racing events shall, on an annual basis, submit to the department certified financial statements verifying the use of such allocations for purses, capital improvements and promotional marketing.**]**

(2) Each licensee conducting horse racing or jai alai events may carry over all or a portion of the sums deposited in any pari-mutuel program,

less the amount retained as **[**herein**]** provided in this section, in the twin trifecta, pick four or pick six pari-mutuel pool to another pool, including a pool in a succeeding performance.

(d) Each licensee conducting horse racing events under the pari-mutuel system shall pay to the state, and there is hereby imposed: (1) A tax on the total money wagered in the pari-mutuel pool on each **[**and every**]** day the licensee conducts racing events, pursuant to the following schedule:

Total Wagered	Tax
0 to $100,001	3.25% on the entire pool
$100,001 to $200,001	3.75% on the entire pool
$200,001 to $300,001	4.25% on the entire pool
$300,001 to $400,001	4.75% on the entire pool
$400,001 to $500,001	5.25% on the entire pool
$500,001 to $600,001	5.75% on the entire pool
$600,001 to $700,001	6.25% on the entire pool
$700,001 to $800,001	6.75% on the entire pool
$800,001 to $900,001	7.25% on the entire pool
$900,001 to $1,000,001	7.75% on the entire pool
$1,000,001 and over	8.75% on the entire pool

and (2) a tax equal to one-half of the breakage to the dime resulting from such wagering. The commissioner shall by regulation adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 designate the percentage of the difference between the seventeen per cent specified in subsection (c) of this section and the tax specified in this subsection, which shall be allocated as prize or purse money for the horses racing at each facility.

[(e) Each licensee conducting dog racing events under the pari-mutuel system shall pay to the state, and there is hereby imposed: (1) (A) A tax at the rate of two per cent on the total money wagered in the pari-mutuel pool on each and every day the licensee conducts racing

events or (B) on or after July 1, 1993, in the case of any licensee licensed prior to July 5, 1991, (i) a tax at the rate of two per cent on any amount up to and including fifty million dollars of the total money wagered in the pari-mutuel pool in any state fiscal year during which a licensee licensed prior to July 5, 1991, conducts racing events, (ii) a tax at the rate of three per cent on any amount in excess of fifty million dollars and up to and including eighty million dollars of the total money wagered in the pari-mutuel pool in any state fiscal year during which a licensee licensed prior to July 5, 1991, conducts racing events, and (iii) a tax at the rate of four per cent on any amount in excess of eighty million dollars of the total money wagered in the pari-mutuel pool in any state fiscal year during which a licensee licensed prior to July 5, 1991, conducts racing events, and (2) a tax equal to one-half of the breakage to the dime resulting from such wagering.**]**

[(f)**]** (e) Each licensee operating a fronton at which the game of jai alai is licensed to be played under the pari-mutuel system shall pay to the state and there is hereby imposed: (1) (A) A tax at the rate of two per cent on any amount up to and including fifty million dollars of the total money wagered on such games, (B) a tax at the rate of three per cent of any amount in excess of fifty million dollars and up to and including eighty million dollars of the total money wagered on such games, and (C) a tax at the rate of four per cent on any amount in excess of eighty million dollars of the total money wagered on such games, and (2) a tax equal to one-half of the breakage to the dime resulting from such wagering.

[(g)**]** (f) The licensee authorized to operate the system of off-track betting under the pari-mutuel system shall pay to the state and there is hereby imposed: (1) A tax at the rate of three and one-half per cent on the total money wagered in the pari-mutuel pool on each **[**and every**]** day the licensee broadcasts racing events, and (2) a tax equal to one-half of the breakage to the dime resulting from such wagering.

[(h)**]** (g) The commissioner shall assess and collect the taxes imposed by this chapter under such regulations as **[**he**]** the commissioner may prescribe, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. All taxes hereby imposed shall be due and payable by the close of the next banking day after each day's racing or jai alai exhibition. If any such tax is not paid when due, the commissioner shall impose a delinquency assessment upon the licensee in the amount of ten per cent of such tax or ten dollars, whichever amount is greater, plus interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent of the unpaid principal of such tax for each month or fraction of a month from the date such tax is due to the date of payment. Subject to the provisions of section 12-3a, the commissioner may waive all or part of the penalties provided under this subsection when it is proven to **[**his**]** the commissioner's satisfaction that the failure to pay such tax within the time required was due to reasonable cause and was not intentional or due to neglect. Failure to pay any such delinquent tax upon demand may be considered by the commissioner as cause for revocation of license.

[(i)**]** (h) The commissioner shall devise a system of accounting and shall supervise betting at such track, fronton or off-track betting facility in such manner that the rights of the state are protected and shall collect all fees and licenses under such regulations as **[**he**]** the commissioner shall prescribe, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

[(j)**]** (i) The amount of unclaimed moneys, as determined by the commissioner, held by any licensee other than by licensees authorized to operate a jai alai fronton **[**, dog race track**]** or the off-track betting system on account of outstanding and uncashed winning tickets, shall be due and payable to the commissioner, for deposit in the General Fund of the state, at the expiration of one year after the close of the meeting during which such tickets were issued. If any such unclaimed moneys are not paid when due, the commissioner shall impose a delinquency assessment upon the licensee in the amount of ten per cent of such

moneys or ten dollars, whichever amount is greater, plus interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent of the unpaid principal of such moneys for each month or fraction of a month from the date such moneys are due to the date of payment. Subject to the provisions of section 12-3a, the commissioner may waive all or part of the penalties provided under this subsection when it is proven to **[**his**]** the commissioner's satisfaction that the failure to pay such moneys to the state within the time required was due to reasonable cause and was not intentional or due to neglect.

[(k)**]** (j) The commissioner may authorize deputies and the Commissioner of Revenue Services or his or her agents are authorized to enter upon the premises at any horse racing event, jai alai exhibition or off-track betting race event for the purpose of inspecting books and records, supervising and examining cashiers, ticket sellers, pool sellers and other persons handling money at **[**said**]** such event and such other supervision as may be necessary for the maintenance of order at such event.

[(l)**]** (k) (1) The commissioner shall pay each municipality in which a horse race track is located **[**,**]** one-quarter of one per cent of the total money wagered on horse racing events at such race track, except the commissioner shall pay each such municipality having a population in excess of fifty thousand one per cent of the total money wagered at such horse racing events in such municipality. The commissioner shall pay each municipality in which a jai alai fronton **[**or dog race track**]** is located one-half of one per cent of the total money wagered on jai alai games **[**or dog racing events**]** at such fronton**[**, **[**or dog race track,**]** except the commissioner shall pay each such municipality having a population in excess of fifty thousand one per cent of the total money wagered on jai alai games **[**or dog racing events**]** at such fronton **[**or dog race track**]** located in such municipality. The commissioner shall pay each municipality in which an off-track betting facility is located one and three-fifths per cent of the total money wagered in such facility less

amounts paid as refunds or for cancellations. The commissioner shall pay to both the city of New Haven and the town of Windsor Locks an additional one-half of one per cent of the total money wagered less any amount paid as a refund or for a cancellation in any facility equipped with screens for simulcasting after October 1, 1997, located within a fifteen-mile radius of facilities in New Haven and Windsor Locks. Payment shall be made not less than four times a year and not more than twelve times a year as determined by the commissioner, and shall be made from the tax imposed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section for horse racing, subsection (e) of this section **[**for dog racing, subsection (f) of this section**]** for jai alai games and subsection **[**(g)**]** (f) of this section for off-track betting.

(2) **[**If, for any calendar year after the surrender of a license to conduct jai alai events by any person or business organization pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-574c and prior to the opening of any dog race track by such person or business organization, any other person or business organization licensed to conduct jai alai events is authorized to conduct a number of performances greater than the number authorized for such licensee in the previous calendar year, the commissioner shall pay the municipality in which the jai alai fronton for which such license was surrendered was located, rather than the municipality in which the jai alai fronton conducting the increased performances is located, one-half of one per cent of the total money wagered on jai alai games for such increased performances at the fronton which conducted the additional performances, except the commissioner shall pay each such municipality having a population in excess of fifty thousand one per cent of the total money wagered on jai alai games for such increased performances at such fronton. (3) During any state fiscal year ending on or after June 30, 1993, the commissioner shall pay each municipality in which a dog race track was operating prior to July 5, 1991, one per cent of the total money wagered on dog racing events at such dog race track. (4) During the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, each municipality

in which a dog race track was operating prior to July 5, 1991, shall pay the Northeast Connecticut Economic Alliance, Inc. two-tenths of one per cent of the total money wagered on dog racing events at any dog race track operating prior to July 5, 1991. (5)**]** In the event a licensee incurs a loss from the operation of a pari-mutuel facility, as determined by the commissioner, the legislative body of the city or town in which such facility is located may direct the commissioner to credit or rebate all or a part of the revenue otherwise due to the municipality back to the facility. In no case shall such credit and such reimbursement exceed the amount of the licensee's loss, and in no fiscal year shall these provisions affect the total fees paid to the state by the authorized operator of the off-track betting system on its off-track betting activities.

Sec. 5. Section 12-578 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(a) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, governing registration and the issuance and annual renewal of licenses and payment of annual nonrefundable application fees for the same in accordance with the following schedule:

(1) Registration: (A) Stable name, one hundred dollars; (B) partnership name, one hundred dollars; and (C) colors, twenty dollars.**[**; (D) kennel name, one hundred dollars.**]**

(2) Licenses: (A) Owner, one hundred dollars; (B) trainer, one hundred dollars; (C) assistant trainer, one hundred dollars; (D) jockey, forty dollars; (E) jockey agent, for each jockey, one hundred dollars; (F) stable employees, including exercise boy, groom, stable foreman, hot walker, outrider, twenty dollars; (G) veterinarian, one hundred dollars; (H) jockey apprentice, forty dollars; (I) driver, one hundred dollars; (J) valet, twenty dollars; (K) blacksmith, twenty dollars; (L) plater, twenty dollars; (M) concessionaire, for each concession, two hundred fifty dollars; (N) concessionaire affiliate, for each concession of the

concessionaire, two hundred fifty dollars; (O) concession employees, twenty dollars; (P) jai alai players, one hundred dollars; (Q) officials and supervisors, one hundred dollars; (R) pari-mutuel employees, forty dollars; (S) other personnel engaged in activities regulated under this chapter, twenty dollars; (T) vendor, for each contract, two hundred fifty dollars; (U) totalizator, for each contract, two hundred fifty dollars; (V) vendor and totalizator affiliates, for each contract of the vendor or totalizator, two hundred fifty dollars; (W) gaming employee, forty dollars; (X) nongaming vendor, two hundred fifty dollars; (Y) gaming services, five hundred dollars; and (Z) gaming affiliate, two hundred fifty dollars. For the purposes of this subdivision, "concessionaire affiliate" means a business organization, other than a shareholder in a publicly traded corporation, that may exercise control in or over a concessionaire; and "concessionaire" means any individual or business organization granted the right to operate an activity at **[**a dog race track or**]** an off-track betting facility for the purpose of making a profit that receives or, in the exercise of reasonable business judgment, can be expected to receive more than twenty-five thousand dollars or twenty-five per cent of its gross annual receipts from such activity at such **[**track or**]** facility.

(b) The commissioner shall require each applicant for a license under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section to submit to state and national criminal history records checks before such license is issued. The criminal history records checks required pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a.

Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 12-572 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(a) The commissioner may establish or authorize the establishment of such off-track betting facilities throughout the state for the purpose of receiving moneys wagered on the results of races or jai alai games as **[**he

shall deem**]** the commissioner deems will serve the convenience of the public and provide maximum economy and efficiency of operation, provided the establishment of such a facility in any municipality for the purpose of receiving moneys on the results of races or jai alai games shall be subject to the approval of the legislative body of such municipality which shall be given only after a public hearing on the same. Until the effective date of transfer of ownership of the off-track betting system, moneys received at such facilities shall be deposited in a betting fund from which daily payments, in such amount as the commissioner deems suitable, shall be made. If an operator of an off-track betting facility intends to conduct wagering on **[**dog racing events or**]** jai alai games, such operator (1) shall conduct wagering on **[**dog racing events or**]** jai alai games conducted by any association licensee which offers such **[**racing events or**]** games for off-track betting, provided such operator obtains the written consent of such licensee, and (2) may conduct wagering on out-of-state **[**dog racing events or**]** jai alai games when no such association licensee is conducting such **[**racing events or**]** games, provided such operator has complied with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection. No operator of an off-track betting facility shall conduct wagering on any **[**dog racing event or**]** jai alai game if such **[**racing event or**]** game is conducted within forty miles of such facility unless such operator has obtained the written consent of the licensee conducting such **[**racing event or**]** game. An operator of an off-track betting facility may conduct wagering on out-of-state dog racing events.

Sec. 7. Section 12-559 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

The commissioner may employ stewards for thoroughbred racing, judges for harness racing **[**, greyhound racing**]** and jai alai, and veterinarians who shall be exempt from classified service, and may employ, subject to the provisions of chapter 67, such other employees as

may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. The commissioner shall require such persons to submit to state and national criminal history records checks before being employed. The criminal history records checks required pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. All persons employed pursuant to this section, with the exception of any steward, judge or veterinarian, shall be residents of the state at the time of and during the full term of their employment.

Sec. 8. Subsection (b) of section 17a-713 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(b) The program established by subsection (a) of this section shall be funded by: (1) Imposition of a fee of one hundred thirty-five dollars on each association license, for each performance of jai alai **[**or dog racing**]** conducted under the provisions of chapter 226, provided no such licensee shall contribute more than forty-five thousand dollars in any one year; (2) imposition of a fee of twenty-five dollars for each teletheater performance on each operator of a teletheater facility; (3) the amount received from the Connecticut Lottery Corporation pursuant to section 12-818; and (4) any amount received pursuant to section 12-871 from the holder of a master wagering license under section 12-852. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall collect the fee from each association licensee or such operator on a monthly basis. The receipts shall be deposited in the General Fund and credited to a separate, nonlapsing chronic gamblers treatment and rehabilitation account which shall be established by the Comptroller. All moneys in the account are deemed to be appropriated and shall be expended for the purposes established in subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 9. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 19a-342 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(b) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 31-40q, no person shall smoke: (A) In any area of a building or portion of a building, owned and operated or leased and operated by the state or any political subdivision of the state; (B) in any area of a health care institution, including, but not limited to, a psychiatric facility; (C) in any area of a retail establishment accessed by the general public; (D) in any restaurant; (E) in any area of an establishment with a permit issued for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-20a, 30-21, 30-21b, 30-22, 30-22c, 30-28, 30-28a, 30-33a, 30-33b, 30-35a, 30-37a, 30-37e or 30-37f, in any area of an establishment with a permit for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-22aa issued after May 1, 2003, and, on and after April 1, 2004, in any area of an establishment with a permit issued for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-22a or 30-26; (F) in any area of a school building or on the grounds of such school; (G) within a child care facility or on the grounds of such child care facility, except, if the child care facility is a family child care home, as defined in section 19a-77, such smoking is prohibited only when a child enrolled in such home is present during customary business hours; (H) in any passenger elevator; (I) in any area of a dormitory in any public or private institution of higher education; (J) in any area of **[**a dog race track or**]** a facility equipped with screens for the simulcasting of off-track betting race programs or jai alai games; (K) in any room offered as an accommodation to guests by the operator of a hotel, motel or similar lodging; (L) in any area of a correctional facility or halfway house; or (M) in any area of a platform or a shelter at a rail, busway or bus station, owned and operated or leased and operated by the state or any political subdivision of the state. For purposes of this subsection, "restaurant" means space, in a suitable and permanent building, kept, used, maintained, advertised and held out to the public to be a place where meals are regularly served to the public, "school" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-154a and "child care facility" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-342a, as amended by this act.

Sec. 10. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 19a-342a of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(b) (1) No person shall use an electronic nicotine or cannabis delivery system or vapor product: (A) In any area of a building or portion of a building owned and operated or leased and operated by the state or any political subdivision of the state; (B) in any area of a health care institution, including, but not limited to, a psychiatric facility; (C) in any area of a retail establishment accessed by the public; (D) in any restaurant; (E) in any area of an establishment with a permit issued for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-20a, 30-21, 30-21b, 30-22, 30-22a, 30-22c, 30-26, 30-28, 30-28a, 30-33a, 30-33b, 30-35a, 30-37a, 30-37e or 30-37f, in any area of establishment with a permit issued for the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-22aa issued after May 1, 2003; (F) in any area of a school building or on the grounds of such school; (G) within a child care facility or on the grounds of such child care facility, except, if the child care facility is a family child care home as defined in section 19a-77, such use is prohibited only when a child enrolled in such home is present during customary business hours; (H) in any passenger elevator; (I) in any area of a dormitory in any public or private institution of higher education; (J) in any area of **[**a dog race track or**]** a facility equipped with screens for the simulcasting of off-track betting race programs or jai alai games; (K) in any room offered as an accommodation to guests by the operator of a hotel, motel or similar lodging; (L) in any area of a correctional facility, halfway house or residential facility funded by the Judicial Branch; or (M) in any area of a platform or a shelter at a rail, busway or bus station, owned and operated or leased and operated by the state or any political subdivision of the state. For purposes of this subsection, "restaurant" means space, in a suitable and permanent building, kept, used, maintained, advertised and held out to the public to be a place where meals are regularly served to the public; and "school" has the same meaning as

provided in section 10-154a.

Sec. 11. Section 12-574d of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2024*)

Approved May 9, 2024