



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 397

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 6861

House of Representatives, April 1, 2025

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. BERGER-GIRVALO of the 111th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CONNECTICUT AIRPORT AUTHORITY REGARDING THE PROJECTION OF A LASER AT AN AIRCRAFT OR THE FLIGHT PATH OF AN AIRCRAFT.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in the section,
2 (1) "aircraft" has the same meaning as provided in section 15-34 of the
3 general statutes; (2) "armed forces of the state" has the same meaning as
4 described in section 27-2 of the general statutes; (3) "armed forces of the
5 United States" has the same meaning as "armed forces" as defined in
6 section 27-103 of the general statutes; (4) "laser" means any device that
7 projects a beam or point of light by means of light amplification by
8 stimulated emission of radiation or any device that emits light that
9 simulates the appearance of a laser; and (5) "police officer" has the same
10 meaning as provided in section 7-294a of the general statutes.

11 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, no person shall

12 intentionally project a laser on or at an aircraft or at the flight path of an
13 aircraft.

14 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any member of the
15 armed forces of the United States, member of the armed forces of the
16 state or police officer, provided such member or officer is acting in the
17 performance of the official duties of such member or officer.

18 (d) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be
19 guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2025	New section

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Judicial Dept. (Probation)	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which creates a new class A misdemeanor for intentionally projecting a laser on or at an aircraft or its flight path, results in a potential cost to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines. On average, the marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$600¹ each year for adults and \$450 each year for juveniles.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the actual number of violations.

¹ Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6861

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CONNECTICUT AIRPORT AUTHORITY REGARDING THE PROJECTION OF A LASER AT AN AIRCRAFT OR THE FLIGHT PATH OF AN AIRCRAFT.

SUMMARY

This bill generally prohibits anyone from intentionally projecting a laser on or at an aircraft or its flight path. It makes violations a class A misdemeanor (punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000, up to 364 days in prison, or both). The bill exempts members of the U.S. and state armed forces and police officers performing their official duties.

Under the bill, a laser is any device that (1) projects a beam or point of light by means of light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation or (2) emits light simulating the appearance of a laser.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/12/2025)