



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 743

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1504

Senate, April 23, 2025

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. WINFIELD of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE-WIDE FIREARMS CRIMES AND TRACING TASK FORCE.

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

1 Section 1. Section 29-38e of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) There shall be within the Division of State Police, within the
4 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, a state-wide
5 firearms [trafficking] crimes and tracing task force for the effective
6 cooperative enforcement of the laws of this state concerning the
7 distribution and possession of firearms.

8 (b) The task force shall be comprised of municipal and state law
9 enforcement officers and may include federal law enforcement officers.
10 Such task force shall be authorized to conduct any investigation
11 authorized by this section at any place within the state as may be
12 deemed necessary.

13 (c) The task force may request and may receive from any federal, state
14 or local agency, cooperation and assistance in the performance of its
15 duties, including the temporary assignment of personnel which may be
16 necessary to carry out the performance of its functions.

17 (d) The task force may enter into mutual assistance and cooperation
18 agreements with other states pertaining to firearms law enforcement
19 matters extending across state boundaries, and may consult and
20 exchange information and personnel with agencies of other states with
21 reference to firearms law enforcement problems of mutual concern.

22 (e) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
23 may appoint [a commanding officer and such other] such personnel as
24 the commissioner deems necessary for the duties of the task force,
25 within available appropriations.

26 (f) The task force shall: (1) Review the problem of illegal trafficking in
27 firearms and its effects, including its effects on the public, and
28 implement solutions to address the problem; (2) identify persons
29 illegally trafficking in firearms and focus resources to prosecute such
30 persons; (3) track firearms which were sold or distributed illegally and
31 implement solutions to remove such firearms from persons illegally in
32 possession of them; [and] (4) coordinate its activities with other law
33 enforcement agencies within and without the state; and (5) not later than
34 February 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, report in accordance with the
35 provisions of section 11-4a to the Governor and the joint standing
36 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
37 relating to the judiciary and public safety on: (A) The number of
38 individuals identified and arrested pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
39 subsection; (B) the number of firearms seized as a result of the task
40 force's efforts pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection; (C) any
41 other activities of the task force during the preceding calendar year; and
42 (D) any resources that the task force needs to continue to operate in
43 accordance with the provisions of this section.

44 Sec. 2. Section 29-31 of the general statutes is repealed and the
45 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

46 No sale of any firearm shall be made except in the room, store or place
47 described in the permit for the sale of firearms, and such permit or a
48 copy of such permit certified by the authority issuing the same shall be
49 exposed to view within the room, store or place where firearms are sold
50 or offered or exposed for sale. No sale or delivery of any firearm shall
51 be made unless the purchaser or person to whom the same is to be
52 delivered is personally known to the vendor of such firearm or the
53 person making delivery thereof or unless the person making such
54 purchase or to whom delivery thereof is to be made provides evidence
55 of his or her identity. The vendor of any firearm shall keep a record of
56 each firearm sold in a book kept for that purpose, which record shall be
57 in such form as is prescribed by 27 CFR 478.125. The vendor of any
58 firearm shall make such record available for inspection upon the request
59 of any sworn member of an organized local police department or the
60 Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services
61 and Public Protection or any investigator assigned to the state-wide
62 firearms [trafficking] crimes and tracing task force established under
63 section 29-38e, as amended by this act, or any investigator employed by
64 a federal law enforcement agency for official purposes related to such
65 member's or investigator's employment.

66 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 29-38f of the general statutes is
67 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
68 *passage*):

69 (a) There shall be a State-Wide Firearms [Trafficking] Crimes and
70 Tracing Task Force Policy Board within the Division of State Police,
71 within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for
72 administrative purposes only, consisting of the Commissioner of
73 Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Chief State's Attorney,
74 the agent in Connecticut in charge of the federal Bureau of Alcohol,
75 Tobacco and Firearms, the president of the Connecticut Police Chiefs
76 Association and five chiefs of police designated by said association, each
77 to serve for a term of one year, provided one such chief of police shall
78 be from a municipality with a population of one hundred thousand or
79 more.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	29-38e
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	29-31
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	29-38f(a)

JUD *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: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which renames the state police's statewide firearm trafficking task force and requires it to submit an annual report, results in no fiscal impact because the task force has the expertise to meet the bill's requirements.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1504

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE-WIDE FIREARMS CRIMES AND TRACING TASK FORCE.

SUMMARY

This bill renames the state police’s statewide firearms trafficking task force as the statewide firearms crimes and tracing task force and requires it to annually report on certain related matters. Under existing law, this task force’s charge is the cooperative enforcement of the state’s firearms distribution and possession laws. It consists of local and state law enforcement officers and may also include federal officers.

By law, the task force’s responsibilities include, among other things, (1) identifying people illegally trafficking in firearms and focusing resources to prosecute them and (2) tracking illegally sold or distributed firearms and implementing strategies to take them from illegal possessors. The bill requires the task force, starting by February 1, 2026, to annually report to the governor and Judiciary and Public Safety and Security committees on (1) the number of traffickers identified and arrested, (2) the number of trafficked firearms seized, (3) any of the task force’s other activities during the prior year, and (4) any resources it needs to continue to perform its duties.

Lastly, the bill makes minor, technical, and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 41 Nay 0 (04/07/2025)