



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5222**

February Session, 2026



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS STATUTES CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 20-295b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) Any person who, on October 1, 1969, holds a certificate of  
4 authority or renewal issued pursuant to sections 20-295 and 20-295a of  
5 the general statutes, revised to 1968, shall be entered on the roster of  
6 licensed architects and shall thereafter be authorized and entitled to  
7 practice architecture in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

8 (b) An architect licensed in this state may perform the work of an  
9 interior designer as prescribed in chapter 396a without obtaining a  
10 certificate of registration as an interior designer under said chapter.  
11 [Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, an architect licensed  
12 in this state shall not be required to satisfy the continuing education  
13 requirements for registered interior designers established in subsections  
14 (f) and (g) of section 20-377s if such architect satisfies all continuing  
15 education requirements set forth in this chapter necessary for such  
16 architect to maintain such license.]

17 (c) An architect licensed in this state who holds a certificate of  
18 registration as an interior designer issued under chapter 396a shall be  
19 subject to [(1) the continuing education requirements for registered  
20 interior designers established in subsections (f) and (g) of section 20-  
21 377s, and (2)] the fee for renewal of such certificate of registration  
22 established in subsection (e) of section 20-377s, as amended by this act.

23 Sec. 2. Section 20-305 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
24 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

25 Applications for licensure under this chapter shall be on forms  
26 prescribed and furnished by the Department of Consumer Protection.  
27 The nonrefundable application fee for a professional engineer license  
28 shall be eighty dollars. The nonrefundable application fee for an  
29 engineer-in-training license shall be seventy-six dollars, which shall  
30 accompany the application and which shall include the cost of the  
31 issuance of a license. The nonrefundable application fee for a land  
32 surveyor license shall be eighty dollars. The nonrefundable application  
33 fee for a surveyor-in-training license shall be sixty-four dollars, which  
34 shall accompany the application and which shall include the cost of the  
35 issuance of a license. The initial license fee for a professional engineer  
36 license or a land surveyor license shall be [two hundred twenty] four  
37 hundred forty dollars. The application fee for a combined license as  
38 professional engineer and land surveyor shall be eighty dollars. The  
39 initial license fee for such combined license shall be [two hundred  
40 twenty] four hundred forty dollars.

41 Sec. 3. Section 20-306 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
42 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

43 (a) (1) The Department of Consumer Protection shall notify each  
44 person licensed under this chapter of the date of the expiration of such  
45 license and the amount of the fee required for its renewal for [one year]  
46 two years. Such license renewals shall be accompanied by the payment  
47 of [the professional services fee for class G, as defined in section 33-182L,]  
48 five hundred seventy dollars in the case of a professional engineer

49 license, a professional engineer and land surveyor combined license, or  
50 a land surveyor license. The license shall be considered lapsed if not  
51 renewed on or before the expiration date.

52 (2) [~~Annual~~] Biennial renewal of an engineer-in-training license or a  
53 surveyor-in-training license shall not be required. Any such license shall  
54 remain valid for a period of ten years from the date of its original  
55 issuance and, during this time, it shall meet in part the requirements for  
56 licensure as a professional engineer or land surveyor. It shall not be the  
57 duty of the department to notify the holder of an engineer-in-training  
58 license or a surveyor-in-training license of the date of expiration of such  
59 license other than to publish it annually in the roster.

60 (3) Renewal of any license under this chapter or payment of renewal  
61 fees shall not be required of any licensee serving in the armed forces of  
62 the United States until the next renewal period immediately following  
63 the termination of such service or the renewal period following the fifth  
64 year after such licensee's entry into such service, whichever occurs first.  
65 The status of such licensees shall be indicated in the annual roster of  
66 professional engineers and land surveyors.

67 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section  
68 concerning fees, any person who is licensed under the provisions of this  
69 chapter, who is age sixty-five or over and who is no longer actively  
70 engaged in the practice of engineering or any of its branches, or land  
71 surveying, may renew such license [~~annually~~] biennially upon payment  
72 of [~~the professional services fee for class A, as defined in section 33-182I~~]  
73 one hundred twenty dollars.

74 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 20-308 of the general statutes is  
75 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
76 *1, 2026*):

77 (a) The board may, upon application and the payment of a fee of [~~one~~  
78 ~~hundred ninety~~] three hundred eighty dollars to the Department of  
79 Consumer Protection, authorize the department to issue a license as a  
80 professional engineer, or a combined license as a professional engineer

81 and land surveyor or, upon application and the payment of a fee of [one  
82 hundred ninety] three hundred eighty dollars, to issue a license as a land  
83 surveyor to any person who holds a certificate of qualification, licensure  
84 or registration issued to such person by the proper authority of any  
85 state, territory or possession of the United States, or any country, or the  
86 National Bureau of Engineering Registration, provided the  
87 requirements for the licensure or registration of professional engineers  
88 or land surveyors under which such license, certificate of qualification  
89 or registration was issued shall not conflict with the provisions of this  
90 chapter and shall be of a standard not lower than that specified in  
91 section 20-302. Upon request of any such applicant the board may, if it  
92 determines that the application is in apparent good order, authorize the  
93 department to grant to such applicant permission in writing to practice  
94 engineering or land surveying or both for a specified period of time  
95 while such application is pending. The board may waive the first part  
96 of the examination specified in subdivision (1) of section 20-302 in the  
97 case of an applicant for licensure as a professional engineer who holds  
98 a certificate as an engineer-in-training issued to him by the proper  
99 authority of any state, territory or possession of the United States,  
100 provided the requirements under which the certificate was issued do  
101 not conflict with the provisions of this chapter and are of a standard at  
102 least equal to that specified in said subdivision (1). The board may waive  
103 that part of the examination specified in subdivision (3) of section 20-  
104 302 relating to the fundamentals of land surveying, in the case of an  
105 applicant for licensure as a land surveyor who holds a certificate as a  
106 surveyor-in-training issued to him by the proper authority of any state,  
107 territory or possession of the United States, provided the requirements  
108 under which the certificate was issued do not conflict with the  
109 provisions of this chapter and are of a standard at least equal to that  
110 specified in said subdivision (3).

111 Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 20-314 of the general statutes is  
112 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
113 *2026*):

114 (c) In order to determine the competency of any applicant for a real

115 estate licensee's license, the commission or Commissioner of Consumer  
116 Protection shall, on payment of an application fee of one hundred  
117 twenty dollars by an applicant for a real estate broker's license or an  
118 application fee of eighty dollars by an applicant for a real estate  
119 salesperson's license, subject such applicant to personal written  
120 examination as to the applicant's competency to act as a real estate  
121 broker or real estate salesperson, as the case may be. Each examination  
122 shall be prepared by the department or by a national testing service  
123 designated by the commissioner and shall be administered to applicants  
124 by the department or by such testing service at such times and places as  
125 the commissioner may deem necessary. The commission or  
126 commissioner may waive the uniform portion of the written  
127 examination requirement in the case of an applicant who has taken the  
128 national testing service examination in another state within two years  
129 from the date of application and has received a score deemed  
130 satisfactory by the commission or commissioner. An applicant shall  
131 submit to the commission or commissioner evidence that the applicant  
132 has successfully completed the final examination for the real estate  
133 license for which such applicant has applied, which successful  
134 completion shall occur within two years from the date of application  
135 unless the applicant submits to the commission a written request for,  
136 and the commission grants, a hardship extension of such two-year  
137 period. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with  
138 chapter 54, establishing passing scores for examinations. In addition to  
139 such application fee, applicants taking the examination administered by  
140 a national testing service shall be required to pay directly to such testing  
141 service an examination fee covering the cost of such examination. Each  
142 payment of such application fee shall entitle the applicant to take such  
143 examination within the one-year period from the date of payment.

144 Sec. 6. Subdivision (3) of section 20-330 of the general statutes is  
145 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
146 *passage*):

147 (3) "Plumbing and piping work" means the installation, repair,  
148 replacement, alteration, maintenance, inspection or testing of

149 alternative fuels, petroleum-based products, gas, water and associated  
150 fixtures, tubing and piping mains and branch lines up to and including  
151 the closest valve to a machine or equipment used in the manufacturing  
152 process, laboratory equipment, sanitary equipment, other than  
153 subsurface sewage disposal systems, fire prevention apparatus, all  
154 water systems for human usage, sewage treatment facilities and all  
155 associated fittings within a building and includes lateral storm and  
156 sanitary lines from buildings to the mains, process piping, swimming  
157 pools and pumping equipment, and includes making connections to  
158 back flow prevention devices, and includes low voltage wiring, not  
159 exceeding twenty-four volts, used within a lawn sprinkler system, but  
160 does not include (A) solar thermal work performed pursuant to a  
161 certificate held as provided in section 20-334g, except for the repair of  
162 those portions of a solar hot water heating system that include the basic  
163 domestic hot water tank and the tie-in to the potable water system, (B)  
164 the installation, repair, replacement, alteration, maintenance, inspection  
165 or testing of fire prevention apparatus within a structure, except for  
166 standpipes that are not connected to sprinkler systems, (C) medical gas  
167 and vacuum systems work, and (D) millwright work. For the purposes  
168 of this subdivision, "process piping" means piping or tubing that  
169 conveys liquid or gas that is used directly in the production of a  
170 chemical or a product for human consumption;

171 Sec. 7. Section 20-337 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
172 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

173 (a) Nothing in this chapter shall require that the ownership or control  
174 of a business engaged in providing the work or services licensed under  
175 the provisions of this chapter be vested in a person licensed under this  
176 chapter, but all the work and services set forth in section 20-330, as  
177 amended by this act, shall be performed by persons licensed for such  
178 work or occupation under this chapter.

179 (b) (1) A business engaged in providing any work or services licensed  
180 under the provisions of this chapter shall (A) designate a contractor of  
181 record, and (B) disclose to the Department of Consumer Protection, in a

182 form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer  
183 Protection, (i) the name, telephone number and electronic mail address  
184 of such designated contractor of record, and (ii) any change in the  
185 information disclosed to the department pursuant to subparagraph  
186 (B)(i) of this subdivision, including, but not limited to, any change in  
187 such information due to the designation of a substitute contractor of  
188 record, not later than ten days after such change occurs.

189 (2) Each contractor of record designated pursuant to subdivision (1)  
190 of this subsection shall be (A) an owner or direct employee of the  
191 business, (B) licensed, in good standing, under this chapter to perform  
192 the work or services provided by the business, (C) regularly engaged  
193 with the business while such business is engaged in providing any work  
194 or services licensed under the provisions of this chapter, and (D)  
195 responsible for acting on behalf of the business in obtaining any  
196 building permit required by such business.

197 (3) No contractor of record designated pursuant to subdivision (1) of  
198 this subsection who is a direct employee of the business shall serve as  
199 the designated contractor of record for more than one business at any  
200 time.

201 (4) For purposes of this subsection, "direct employee" (A) means an  
202 individual whose (i) manner and means of work performance are  
203 subject to the right of control of, or are controlled by, the business, and  
204 (ii) compensation is reported, or required to be reported, on a federal  
205 Form W-2 issued by, or caused to be issued by, the business, and (B)  
206 does not include any individual who is an independent contractor,  
207 subcontractor or consultant of the business.

208 Sec. 8. Section 20-377s of the general statutes is repealed and the  
209 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

210 (a) A registered interior designer shall include his or her certificate of  
211 registration number in any advertisement and may include his or her  
212 certificate of registration number in any written communication.

213 (b) No person shall: (1) Present or attempt to present, as his or her  
214 own, the certificate of another, (2) knowingly give false evidence of a  
215 material nature to the commissioner for the purpose of procuring a  
216 certificate, (3) use or attempt to use a certificate which has expired or  
217 which has been suspended or revoked, (4) represent himself or herself  
218 falsely as, or impersonate, a registered interior designer, or (5) represent  
219 in any manner that his or her certificate of registration constitutes an  
220 endorsement of the quality of his or her workmanship or of his or her  
221 competency by the commissioner.

222 (c) Certificates of registration issued to an interior designer shall not  
223 be transferable or assignable.

224 (d) All certificates of registration issued under the provisions of  
225 sections 20-377k to 20-377v, inclusive, shall expire annually.

226 (e) A registered interior designer may apply for renewal of a  
227 certificate of registration. The fee for renewal of such certificate of  
228 registration shall be one hundred ninety dollars, provided any architect  
229 licensed in this state shall not be required to pay such fee.

230 [(f) A registered interior designer shall complete a minimum of four  
231 hours of continuing education every three years. Such three-year period  
232 shall commence on the first date of renewal of the applicant's certificate  
233 of registration on or after October 1, 2015. The continuing education  
234 shall be in areas related to the application of the State Building Code and  
235 the Fire Safety Code.

236 (g) A registered interior designer who applies for a renewal of a  
237 certificate of registration on or after October 1, 2018, shall sign a  
238 statement on a form prescribed by the commissioner attesting that he or  
239 she has satisfied the continuing education requirements of subsection (f)  
240 of this section. Such applicant shall retain records of attendance or  
241 certificates of completion that demonstrate compliance with such  
242 continuing education requirements for a minimum of three years  
243 following the year in which the continuing education activities were  
244 completed. Such applicant shall submit such records to the

245 commissioner for inspection not later than forty-five days after a request  
246 by the commissioner for such records.]

247 Sec. 9. Subdivision (5) of section 20-670 of the general statutes is  
248 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
249 *passage*):

250 (5) "Comprehensive background check" means a background  
251 investigation of a prospective employee performed by a homemaker-  
252 companion agency, that includes (A) a review of any application  
253 materials prepared or requested by the homemaker-companion agency  
254 and completed by the prospective employee, (B) an in-person or video-  
255 conference interview of the prospective employee, (C) verification of the  
256 prospective employee's Social Security number, (D) if the prospective  
257 employee has applied for a position within the homemaker-companion  
258 agency that requires licensure on the part of such prospective employee,  
259 verification that the required license is in good standing, (E) a check of  
260 the registry established and maintained pursuant to section 54-257, (F)  
261 a [local] state and national criminal background check of criminal  
262 matters of public record based on the prospective employee's name and  
263 date of birth that includes a search of a multistate and multijurisdiction  
264 criminal record locator or other similar commercial nationwide  
265 database with validation, and a search of the United States Department  
266 of Justice National Sex Offender Public Website, conducted by a third-  
267 party consumer reporting agency or background screening company  
268 that is accredited by the Professional Background Screening Association  
269 and in compliance with the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, (G) if the  
270 prospective employee has resided in this state for less than three years  
271 prior to the date of such prospective employee's application with the  
272 homemaker-companion agency, a review of criminal conviction  
273 information from the state or states where such prospective employee  
274 resided during such three-year period, and (H) a review of any other  
275 information that the homemaker-companion agency deems necessary in  
276 order to evaluate the suitability of the prospective employee for the  
277 position.

278 Sec. 10. Section 21a-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
279 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

280 (a) As used in this section, "adulterated" has the same meaning as  
281 provided in section 21a-101.

282 [(a)] (b) No person shall sell or offer or expose for sale in any  
283 establishment or vending machine, or have in [his] such person's  
284 possession with intent to sell therefrom, any food, beverage or  
285 ingredient which is adulterated or misbranded.

286 [(b)] (c) The commissioner may cause samples of any food, beverage  
287 or ingredient so sold, offered, exposed or possessed to be taken and  
288 examined as often as may be necessary to determine freedom from  
289 adulteration or misbranding. Upon written notice to the establishment  
290 or vending machine operator, the commissioner may [impound and]  
291 take the following actions to protect public health and safety: (1)  
292 Impound any food or beverage which is adulterated or misbranded; (2)  
293 forbid the sale of any food or beverage which is adulterated or  
294 misbranded; and [, after hearing,] (3) prohibit such establishment from  
295 selling or offering for sale any food or beverage which was adulterated  
296 or misbranded until the conditions that caused such adulteration or  
297 misbranding, and are likely to cause future adulteration or  
298 misbranding, have been remedied.

299 (d) After a hearing, the commissioner may cause any [such]  
300 adulterated or misbranded food or beverage to be destroyed, provided,  
301 in the case of misbranding which may be corrected by proper labeling,  
302 the commissioner may release such food or beverage to the  
303 establishment or vending machine operator upon corrective action  
304 being taken.

305 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 21a-430 of the 2026 supplement to  
306 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
307 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

308 (a) No person shall place or cause to be placed in a public place a

309 donation bin for the donation of clothing or other articles unless (1) such  
310 person obtains advance written consent from the owner of such public  
311 place, or such owner's duly authorized agent, to place such donation  
312 bin, or cause such bin to be placed, in such public place, and (2) such bin  
313 contains a notice, in block letters at least two inches high, stating, (A) if  
314 the donation is for a charitable purpose, (i) the name of the nonprofit  
315 organization that will benefit from the donation, (ii) the charity  
316 registration number the Department of Consumer Protection issued to  
317 the nonprofit organization, (iii) the name and contact information of the  
318 owner of such bin, and [(iii)] (iv) that the public may contact the  
319 Department of Consumer Protection for further information, or (B) if not  
320 intended for a charitable purpose, that such donation is not for a  
321 charitable purpose. Such notice shall be on the same side of the bin  
322 where the donation is likely to be made. As used in this section, "public  
323 place" means any area that is used or held out for use by the public,  
324 whether owned or operated by public or private interests, and "donation  
325 bin" means a large container commonly placed in a parking lot for the  
326 purpose of encouraging individuals to donate clothing or other items.

327 Sec. 12. Subsection (b) of section 42-200 of the general statutes is  
328 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
329 *2026*):

330 (b) A funeral service contract shall be in writing and shall contain,  
331 except as provided in subsection (c) of this section: [ the following:]

332 (1) The name, address, telephone number and Social Security number  
333 of the beneficiary and the purchaser;

334 (2) The name, address, telephone number and license number of the  
335 funeral director for the funeral service establishment providing the  
336 goods or services;

337 (3) A list of the selected goods or services, if any;

338 (4) The amount of funds paid or to be paid by the purchaser for such  
339 contract, the method of payment and a description of how such funds

340 will be invested and how such investments are limited to those  
341 authorized pursuant to subsection (c) of section 42-202;

342 (5) A description of any price guarantees by the funeral service  
343 establishment or, if there are no such guarantees, a specific statement  
344 that the contract contains no guarantees on the price of the goods or  
345 services contained in the contract;

346 (6) The name and address of the escrow agent designated to hold the  
347 prepaid funeral services funds;

348 (7) A written representation, in clear and conspicuous bold type, that  
349 (A) the purchaser should receive a notice from the escrow agent  
350 acknowledging receipt of the initial deposit and the amount of such  
351 deposit not later than [twenty-five] ten days after receipt of such deposit  
352 by a licensed funeral director, and (B) the purchaser or the beneficiary  
353 has the right to cancel such contract if (i) such contract is a revocable  
354 funeral service contract, and (ii) the purchaser does not receive such  
355 notice or the full amount of such deposit was not placed in escrow;

356 (8) A description of any fees to be paid from the escrow account to  
357 the escrow agent or any third party provider;

358 (9) A description of the ability of the purchaser or the beneficiary to  
359 cancel a revocable funeral service contract and the effect of cancelling  
360 such contract, and the following statement immediately adjacent to the  
361 space provided for the purchaser's signature: "YOU, THE BUYER, OR  
362 YOUR BENEFICIARY MAY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION AT ANY  
363 TIME PRIOR TO THE RENDERING OF SERVICES.";

364 (10) For irrevocable contracts, a description of the ability of the  
365 beneficiary to transfer such contract to another funeral home; [and]

366 (11) The signature of the purchaser or authorized representative and  
367 the licensed funeral director of the funeral service establishment; and

368 (12) A statement signed by the purchaser attesting that, prior to  
369 executing such contract, the purchaser received (A) a copy of the fact

370 sheet on funeral service contracts published on the Department of  
371 Consumer Protection's Internet web site, and (B) time to review such  
372 fact sheet.

373       Sec. 13. Subsection (a) of section 42-202 of the general statutes is  
374 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
375 *2026*):

376       (a) A licensed funeral service establishment shall deposit any money  
377 or securities which such establishment receives pursuant to a funeral  
378 service contract, and not later than [fifteen] three days after its receipt of  
379 such money or securities, in one or more escrow accounts established in  
380 accordance with the provisions of this section. Not later than [ten] five  
381 days after the [initial] deposit of such money or securities, the escrow  
382 agent shall notify the purchaser, in writing, of the agent's receipt of such  
383 [initial] deposit and the amount of such [initial] deposit. Such escrow  
384 agent shall notify the purchaser of any transfer of such funds or  
385 securities, except when such transfer is to pay for services as required  
386 by the funeral service contract. Such funds or securities shall not be  
387 transferred to an insurance contract without a description to the  
388 purchaser by the funeral director of any fees, costs or commissions  
389 associated with such insurance contract and without obtaining the  
390 written consent of the purchaser to such transfer.

391       Sec. 14. Section 42-207 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
392 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

393       (a) An irrevocable funeral service contract may be entered into  
394 which the amount held in escrow or a death benefit payable under an  
395 individual or group life insurance policy may be disbursed only upon  
396 the death of the beneficiary, provided such a contract does not exceed  
397 ten thousand dollars and all interest, growth or dividends accumulates  
398 to the escrow account or insurance policy and are inaccessible to the  
399 beneficiary. Such irrevocable funeral service contract may be transferred  
400 from one funeral service establishment to another upon request of the  
401 beneficiary or a legal representative of the beneficiary. The purchase of

402 an irrevocable funeral service contract shall not preclude an individual  
403 from purchasing other funeral service contracts that are revocable,  
404 provided any such revocable funeral service contract purchased by a  
405 Medicaid beneficiary may be revoked only upon written notice by the  
406 Medicaid beneficiary to the Commissioner of Social Services. An  
407 irrevocable funeral service contract shall provide that, upon the death  
408 of the beneficiary, the state of Connecticut shall receive any amounts  
409 remaining after performance of the contract, up to (1) the total amount  
410 of medical assistance paid by the state of Connecticut on behalf of the  
411 beneficiary that is recoverable under 42 USC 1396p, and (2) the total  
412 amount of all other forms of public assistance paid by the state of  
413 Connecticut on behalf of the beneficiary or his or her dependent child.  
414 The funeral service establishment providing services under such a  
415 contract shall make payment of such remaining funds to the  
416 Commissioner of Social Services not later than sixty days after all  
417 services have been performed under such contract. If a funeral service  
418 establishment pays such remaining amount to any person other than the  
419 Commissioner of Social Services, the funeral service establishment shall  
420 be liable to said commissioner for repayment of such amount.

421 (b) A purchaser shall have the right to cancel an irrevocable funeral  
422 service contract at any time prior to midnight on the third calendar day  
423 after the day on which the purchaser signed and received a copy of the  
424 contract. A purchaser may not waive such right of cancellation, and any  
425 contract providing that a purchaser has waived such right of  
426 cancellation is voidable by the purchaser, the beneficiary or the legal  
427 representative of the beneficiary. If a purchaser elects to cancel an  
428 irrevocable funeral service contract under this subsection, or if a  
429 purchaser, beneficiary or legal representative of a beneficiary elects to  
430 void an irrevocable funeral service contract under this subsection, the  
431 purchaser, beneficiary or legal representative, as applicable, shall do so  
432 by giving to the person who sold the contract a notice by hand-delivery,  
433 postage prepaid United States mail or overnight common carrier  
434 delivery service. Such cancellation shall be without penalty or  
435 obligation, and all payments made by the purchaser prior to such

436 cancellation shall be refunded to the purchaser not later than twenty  
437 business days after the date on which the person who sold such contract  
438 received a timely notice under this subsection.

439 (c) Each irrevocable funeral service contract shall contain the  
440 following statement, or a substantially similar statement, in conspicuous  
441 type:

442 "PURCHASER'S RIGHT TO CANCEL.

443 (1) BY SIGNING THIS CONTRACT YOU ARE INCURRING AN  
444 OBLIGATION TO PURCHASE AN IRREVOCABLE FUNERAL  
445 SERVICE CONTRACT. YOU MAY, HOWEVER, CANCEL THIS  
446 CONTRACT WITHOUT PENALTY OR OBLIGATION BEFORE  
447 MIDNIGHT OF THE THIRD CALENDAR DAY AFTER THE DATE  
448 YOU SIGN AND RECEIVE A COPY OF THE CONTRACT.

449 (2) IF YOU DECIDE TO CANCEL THIS CONTRACT, YOU MAY DO  
450 SO BY EITHER HAND-DELIVERING NOTICE OF CANCELLATION  
451 TO THE CONTRACT SELLER OR BY MAILING NOTICE BY PREPAID  
452 UNITED STATES MAIL TO THE CONTRACT SELLER, OR BY  
453 PROVIDING NOTICE BY OVERNIGHT COMMON CARRIER  
454 DELIVERY SERVICE TO THE CONTRACT SELLER. YOUR NOTICE  
455 OF CANCELLATION IS EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE SENT. IF  
456 MAILED OR SENT BY OVERNIGHT COMMON CARRIER FOR YOUR  
457 PROTECTION, SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO CANCEL, YOU SHOULD  
458 EITHER SEND YOUR NOTICE OF CANCELLATION BY CERTIFIED  
459 MAIL WITH A RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED OR OBTAIN A  
460 SIGNED AND DATED RECEIPT IF DELIVERING IT IN PERSON OR  
461 BY OVERNIGHT COMMON CARRIER.

462 (3) A PURCHASER SHOULD NOT RELY ON STATEMENTS  
463 OTHER THAN THOSE INCLUDED IN THIS CONTRACT.

464 (4) SHOULD YOU CANCEL, ANY PAYMENTS MADE BY YOU  
465 UNDER THE CONTRACT AND ANY NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT  
466 EXECUTED BY YOU WILL BE RETURNED WITHIN TWENTY

467 BUSINESS DAYS FOLLOWING RECEIPT BY THE CONTRACT  
468 SELLER OF YOUR CANCELLATION NOTICE."

469 Sec. 15. Subsection (a) of section 51-344a of the general statutes is  
470 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
471 *passage*):

472 (a) Whenever the term "judicial district of Hartford-New Britain" or  
473 "judicial district of Hartford-New Britain at Hartford" is used or referred  
474 to in the following sections of the general statutes, it shall be deemed to  
475 mean or refer to the judicial district of Hartford on and after September  
476 1, 1998: Sections 2-48, 3-21a, 3-62d, 3-70a, 3-71a, 4-61, 4-160, 4-164, 4-  
477 177b, 4-180, 4-183, 4-197, 5-202, 5-276a, 8-30g, 9-7a, 9-7b, 9-369b, 10-153e,  
478 12-208, 12-237, 12-268l, 12-312, 12-330m, 12-405k, 12-422, 12-448, 12-454,  
479 12-456, 12-463, 12-489, 12-522, 12-554, 12-565, 12-572, 12-586f, 12-597, 12-  
480 730, 13b-34, 13b-235, 13b-315, 13b-375, 14-57, 14-66, 14-67u, 14-110, 14-  
481 195, 14-311, 14-311c, 14-324, 14-331, 15-125, 15-126, 16-41, 16a-5, 17b-60,  
482 17b-100, 17b-238, 17b-531, 19a-85, 19a-86, 19a-425, 19a-498, 19a-517, 19a-  
483 526, 19a-633, 20-12f, 20-13e, 20-29, 20-40, 20-45, 20-59, 20-73a, 20-86f, 20-  
484 99, 20-114, 20-133, 20-154, 20-156, 20-162p, 20-192, 20-195p, 20-202, 20-  
485 206c, 20-227, 20-238, 20-247, 20-263, 20-271, 20-307, 20-341f, 20-363, 20-  
486 373, 20-404, 20-414, 21a-55, 21a-190i, 22-7, 22-228, 22-248, 22-254, 22-  
487 320d, 22-326a, 22-344b, 22-386, 22a-6b, 22a-7, 22a-16, 22a-30, 22a-34, 22a-  
488 53, 22a-60, 22a-62, 22a-63, 22a-66h, 22a-106a, 22a-119, 22a-180, 22a-182a,  
489 22a-184, 22a-220a, 22a-220d, 22a-225, 22a-226, 22a-226c, 22a-227, 22a-  
490 250, 22a-255l, 22a-276, 22a-310, 22a-342a, 22a-344, 22a-361a, 22a-374, 22a-  
491 376, 22a-408, 22a-430, 22a-432, 22a-438, 22a-449f, 22a-449g, 22a-459, 23-  
492 5e, 23-65m, 25-32e, 25-36, 28-5, 29-143j, 29-158, 29-161z, 29-323, 30-8, 31-  
493 109, 31-249b, 31-266, 31-266a, 31-270, 31-273, 31-284, 31-285, 31-339, 31-  
494 355a, 31-379, 35-3c, 35-42, 36a-186, 36a-187, 36a-471a, 36a-494, 36a-587,  
495 36a-647, 36a-684, 36a-718, 36a-807, 36b-26, 36b-27, 36b-30, 36b-50, 36b-  
496 71, 36b-72, 36b-74, 36b-76, 38a-41, 38a-52, 38a-134, 38a-139, 38a-140, 38a-  
497 147, 38a-150, 38a-185, 38a-209, 38a-225, 38a-226b, 38a-241, 38a-337, 38a-  
498 470, 38a-620, 38a-657, 38a-687, 38a-774, 38a-776, 38a-817, 38a-843, 38a-  
499 868, 38a-906, 38a-994, [42-103c,] 42-110d, 42-110k, 42-110p, 42-182, 46a-  
500 56, 46a-100, 47a-21, 49-73, 51-44a, 51-81b, 51-194, 52-146j, 53-392d and

501 54-211a.

502       Sec. 16. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working  
503 group to study issues related to prepaid funeral service contracts and  
504 the establishment and implementation of a guaranty fund for  
505 consumers who purchase such contracts.

506       (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

507       (1) One appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing  
508 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
509 relating to consumer protection;

510       (2) One appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing  
511 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
512 relating to consumer protection;

513       (3) One appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing  
514 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
515 relating to consumer protection;

516       (4) One appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing  
517 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
518 relating to consumer protection;

519       (5) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioner's  
520 designee;

521       (6) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's  
522 designee;

523       (7) The Insurance Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

524       (8) The Banking Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

525       (9) The Probate Court Administrator, or the administrator's designee;

526       (10) A representative of an association representing funeral directors,  
527 who shall be appointed jointly by the chairpersons of the joint standing

528 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
529 relating to consumer protection;

530 (11) A representative of an association representing banks, who shall  
531 be appointed jointly by the chairpersons of the joint standing committee  
532 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
533 consumer protection; and

534 (12) A representative of an association representing insurance  
535 companies, who shall be appointed jointly by the chairpersons of the  
536 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
537 matters relating to consumer protection.

538 (c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision  
539 (1), (2), (3) or (4) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the  
540 General Assembly, provided any member of the working group  
541 appointed under said subdivisions who is a member of the General  
542 Assembly shall serve as a nonvoting member of the working group  
543 unless such member is selected to serve as a chairperson of the working  
544 group, in which case such member shall have a vote on the working  
545 group.

546 (d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not  
547 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy  
548 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

549 (e) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General  
550 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection  
551 shall select two chairpersons of the working group from among the  
552 members of the working group appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3)  
553 or (4) of subsection (b) of this section. Such chairpersons shall schedule  
554 the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than  
555 sixty days after the effective date of this section. The working group  
556 shall meet not less frequently than monthly and may meet at such other  
557 times as the chairpersons, in their discretion, deem necessary.

558 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the

559 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer  
560 protection shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

561 (g) Not later than February 1, 2027, the working group shall submit  
562 an initial report on its findings and recommendations to the joint  
563 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
564 matters relating to consumer protection, in accordance with the  
565 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

566 (h) Not later than January 1, 2028, the working group shall submit a  
567 final report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
568 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
569 relating to consumer protection, in accordance with the provisions of  
570 section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate  
571 on the date that it submits such final report or January 1, 2028,  
572 whichever is later.

573 Sec. 17. Sections 42-103b to 42-103m, inclusive, of the general statutes  
574 are repealed. (Effective from passage)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	20-295b
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-305
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-306
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-308(a)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	20-314(c)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	20-330(3)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	20-337
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	20-377s
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	20-670(5)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	21a-39
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	21a-430(a)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	42-200(b)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	42-202(a)
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	42-207
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	51-344a(a)
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section
---------	---------------------	------------------

**GL**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*