



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 397

LCO No. 2627



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTABILITY.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Every person or entity,
2 including a federal or state officer or employee who, under color of any
3 statute, ordinance, regulation, custom or usage, of the United States or
4 the state of Connecticut, subjects, or causes to be subjected, any citizen
5 of this state or other person within the jurisdiction thereof to the
6 deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities secured by the
7 United States Constitution, shall be liable to the party injured in an
8 action at law or other proper proceeding for redress.

9 (b) (1) In a civil action brought pursuant to subsection (a) of this
10 section, if the defendant is held liable, the court may award damages,
11 including, but not limited to, nominal damages, actual damages,
12 compensatory damages, punitive damages, injunctive relief and other
13 appropriate equitable relief, to protect the peaceable exercise or
14 enjoyment of the right or rights secured by the United States
15 Constitution.

16 (2) In a civil action brought pursuant to subsection (a) of this section,
17 if the defendant is held liable, the court shall award the plaintiff
18 reasonable attorney's fees and expenses, unless the court determines
19 that special circumstances would render such an award unjust.

20 (c) It is the intent of the legislature that in construing the provisions
21 of this section, the courts shall be guided by interpretations given by
22 federal and state courts to 42 USC 1983, as amended from time to time,
23 except that under this section an injured person may bring a claim
24 against a federal officer or employee. Any person named as a defendant
25 under the provisions of this section shall be entitled to raise any
26 applicable immunities or defenses under federal or state law, and
27 federal officers or employees shall be immune to the same degree as an
28 equivalent state officer or employee.

29 (d) No provision of this section shall be construed to constitute a
30 waiver of sovereign immunity.

31 Sec. 2. Section 3-129g of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
32 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
33 *passage*):

34 (a) The Attorney General may investigate, intervene in or bring a civil
35 or administrative action in the name of the state, seeking injunctive or
36 declaratory relief, damages, and any other relief that may be available
37 under law, whenever any person is or has engaged in a practice or
38 pattern of conduct, or has established a policy, that:

39 (1) Subjects, or causes to be subjected, other persons to the
40 deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities secured by the
41 constitutions or laws of this state or the United States; or

42 (2) Interferes, or attempts to interfere, by threats, intimidation or
43 coercion, with the exercise or enjoyment by other persons of any rights,
44 privileges or immunities secured by the constitutions or laws of this
45 state or the United States.

46 (b) In conducting any investigation under this section, the Attorney
47 General may issue subpoenas and interrogatories, and otherwise gather
48 information, in the same manner and to the same extent as is provided
49 in section 35-42. No information obtained pursuant to the provisions of
50 this subsection may be used in a criminal proceeding.

51 (c) The Attorney General may investigate, intervene in or bring a civil
52 or administrative action in the name of the state, seeking injunctive or
53 declaratory relief, damages and any other relief that may be available
54 under law, whenever any person, acting under color of any statute,
55 ordinance, regulation, custom or usage, of the United States or the state
56 of Connecticut:

57 (1) Subjects, or causes to be subjected, other persons to the
58 deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities secured by the
59 Constitution of the United States or the state Constitution; or

60 (2) Interferes, or attempts to interfere, by physical obstruction,
61 threats, intimidation or coercion, with the exercise or enjoyment by
62 other persons of any rights, privileges or immunities secured by the
63 Constitution of the United States or the state Constitution.

64 [(c)] (d) If the Attorney General prevails in a civil action brought
65 pursuant to this section, the court shall order the distribution of any
66 award of damages to the injured person. In a matter involving the
67 interference or attempted interference with any right protected by the
68 [constitutions of this state or the United States] Constitution of the
69 United States or the state Constitution, the court may also award civil
70 penalties against each defendant in an amount not exceeding two
71 thousand five hundred dollars for each violation, provided such
72 violation has been established by clear and convincing evidence. Any
73 civil penalty that is received pursuant to this subsection shall be
74 deposited in the General Fund.

75 [(d)] (e) In lieu of bringing a civil action under this section, the
76 Attorney General may accept an assurance of the discontinuance of any

77 allegedly unlawful or unconstitutional practice from any person
78 engaged in such practice. Thereafter, any evidence of a violation of such
79 assurance shall constitute prima facie proof of violation of the applicable
80 law or right in any action commenced by the Attorney General.

81 [(e)] (f) Nothing in this section shall limit the right of a person
82 adversely affected by a violation of chapter 814c to file a complaint with
83 the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

84 [(f)] (g) Nothing in this section shall limit the jurisdiction of the
85 Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities under chapter 814c.

86 [(g)] (h) The Attorney General shall not bring an action under the
87 provisions of this section during the pendency of a matter involving the
88 same parties and the same alleged facts and circumstances before the
89 Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

90 [(h)] (i) Nothing in this section shall permit the Attorney General to
91 bring an action that would otherwise be barred under the applicable
92 statute of limitations or repose.

93 [(i)] (j) The Attorney General shall post on the Attorney General's
94 Internet web site information on how to properly file a complaint with
95 the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. The Attorney
96 General may, as appropriate, refer cases to the Commission on Human
97 Rights and Opportunities.

98 [(j)] (k) Nothing in this section shall permit the Attorney General to
99 assert any claim against a state agency or a state officer or state
100 employee in such officer's or employee's official capacity, regarding
101 actions or omissions of such state agency, state officer or state employee.
102 If the Attorney General determines that a state officer or state employee
103 is not entitled to indemnification under section 5-141d, the Attorney
104 General may, as relates to such officer or employee, take any action
105 authorized under this section.

106 [(k)] (l) With regard to any action brought pursuant to this section
107 against a person for a pattern or practice of conduct in violation of
108 section 46a-64, 46a-64c, 46a-81d or 46a-81e, or, as a result of an
109 investigation conducted pursuant to this section, of a potential violation
110 of section 46a-64, 46a-64c, 46a-81d or 46a-81e, the Attorney General may
111 petition the superior court for the judicial district in which the violation
112 or alleged violation occurred for any relief available under subsection
113 (b) of section 46a-89, in addition to any relief as described in subsection
114 (a) or (c) of this section.

115 (m) With regard to any action brought pursuant to subsection (c) of
116 this section, the Attorney General may petition the superior court for the
117 judicial district in which the violation or alleged violation occurred for
118 any relief available under this section. Upon filing of the complaint, the
119 court may order any temporary injunctive or declaratory relief required
120 to make the complainant whole. The court shall order a hearing to be
121 had upon such complaint not more than five days after the date of filing
122 the complaint and shall cause notice to be given to any interested party
123 of the time and place for the hearing upon such complaint. The court
124 shall, on the day fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary delay,
125 proceed to hear the parties. If sufficient reason is shown, the court may
126 order, amend or continue any permanent injunctive or declaratory
127 relief.

128 Sec. 3. Section 51-277a of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
129 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
130 *passage*):

131 (a) (1) As used in this section:

132 (A) "Peace officer" means a member of the Division of State Police
133 within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or
134 an organized local police department, a chief inspector or inspector in
135 the Division of Criminal Justice, a state marshal while exercising
136 authority granted under any provision of the general statutes, a judicial

137 marshal in the performance of the duties of a judicial marshal, a
138 conservation officer or special conservation officer, as defined in section
139 26-5, a constable who performs criminal law enforcement duties, a
140 special policeman appointed under section 29-18, 29-18a, 29-18b or 29-
141 19, an adult probation officer, an official of the Department of Correction
142 authorized by the Commissioner of Correction to make arrests in a
143 correctional institution or facility, any investigator in the investigations
144 unit of the office of the State Treasurer, an inspector of motor vehicles in
145 the Department of Motor Vehicles, who is certified under the provisions
146 of sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive, any federal law enforcement
147 officer as defined under 18 USC 115(c)(1) and 34 USC 50301(5), or a
148 member of a law enforcement unit of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or
149 the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut created and governed by
150 a memorandum of agreement under section 47-65c who is certified as a
151 police officer by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council
152 pursuant to sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive;

153 (B) "Deadly force" has the same meaning as provided in section 53a-
154 3; and

155 (C) "Electronic defense weapon" has the same meaning as provided
156 in section 53a-3.

157 [(a) (1)] (2) Whenever a peace officer, in the performance of such
158 officer's duties, uses physical force upon another person and such
159 person dies as a result thereof or uses deadly force [, as defined in
160 section 53a-3,] upon another person, the Division of Criminal Justice
161 shall cause an investigation to be made and the Inspector General shall
162 have the responsibility of determining whether the use of physical force
163 by the peace officer was justifiable under section 53a-22, as amended by
164 this act. The use of an electronic defense weapon [, as defined in section
165 53a-3,] by a peace officer shall not be considered deadly force for
166 purposes of this section.

167 [(2)] (3) (A) Except as provided under subdivision [(1)] (2) of this

168 subsection, whenever a person dies in the custody of a peace officer or
169 law enforcement agency, the Inspector General shall investigate and
170 determine whether physical force was used by a peace officer upon the
171 deceased person, and if so, whether the use of physical force by the
172 peace officer was justifiable under section 53a-22, as amended by this
173 act. If the Inspector General determines the deceased person may have
174 died as a result of criminal action not involving the use of force by a
175 peace officer, the Inspector General shall refer such case to the Chief
176 State's Attorney or a state's attorney for potential prosecution.

177 (B) Except as provided under subdivision [(1)] (2) of this subsection
178 or subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, [(2) of this subsection,]
179 whenever a person dies in the custody of the Commissioner of
180 Correction, the Inspector General shall investigate and determine
181 whether the deceased person may have died as a result of criminal
182 action, and, if so, refer such case to the Chief State's Attorney or a state's
183 attorney for potential prosecution.

184 [(3)] (4) Whenever a person who (A) is a next of kin of a deceased
185 person, (B) is not notified of such deceased person's death as required
186 pursuant to section 7-294mm and no other person who is a next of kin
187 of the deceased person was so notified, and (C) requests of the Office of
188 the Inspector General an investigation of the lack of notification or
189 timely notification of such death, the Inspector General shall investigate
190 and determine whether there was any malfeasance on the part of a peace
191 officer, except for a federal law enforcement officer, or a supervisor of
192 the peace officer, except for a federal law enforcement officer, in the
193 failure to provide such notification or timely notification, and if so, may
194 make recommendations to the Police Officer Standards and Training
195 Council established under section 7-294b concerning censure,
196 suspension, renewal, cancelation or revocation of the peace officer's or
197 supervisor's certification, provided any such recommendation may be
198 made to said council only in a case where such failure is found to be
199 intentional or made with reckless indifference. If there is no finding that
200 such failure was intentional or made with reckless indifference, a

201 recommendation may be made to the officer's or supervisor's employing
202 agency for any further disciplinary action as so determined by such
203 employing agency.

204 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) (A) The Inspector General shall request the appropriate law
205 enforcement agency to provide such assistance as is necessary to
206 investigate and make a determination under subdivision ~~[(1), (2) or (3)]~~
207 ~~(2), (3) or (4)~~ of this subsection.

208 (B) The Division of Criminal Justice and the Inspector General shall
209 have the unrestricted right to access the scene and collect evidence
210 whenever a peace officer, in the performance of such officer's duties,
211 uses physical force upon another person and such person dies as a result
212 thereof or uses deadly force, or a person dies in the custody of a peace
213 officer or law enforcement agency, regardless of whether such incident
214 involved only peace officers employed by the federal government and
215 did not involve any peace officer employed by the state or a
216 municipality.

217 (C) If any person restricts the Division of Criminal Justice or the
218 Inspector General's right to access the scene and collect evidence as set
219 forth in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the Division of Criminal
220 Justice or the Inspector General may bring an action in the Superior
221 Court for injunctive relief against any person who has committed the
222 violation. Upon filing of the complaint, the court may order any
223 temporary injunctive or declaratory relief required to make the
224 complainant whole. The court shall order a hearing to be had upon such
225 complaint not more than five days after the date of filing the complaint
226 and shall cause notice to be given to any interested party of the time and
227 place for the hearing upon such complaint. The court shall, on the day
228 fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary delay, proceed to hear
229 the parties. If sufficient reason is shown, the court may order, amend or
230 continue any temporary injunctive or declaratory relief.

231 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Whenever a peace officer, in the performance of such officer's

232 duties, uses physical force or deadly force upon another person and
233 such person dies as a result thereof, the Inspector General shall complete
234 a preliminary status report that shall include, but need not be limited to,
235 (A) the name of the deceased person, (B) the gender, race, ethnicity and
236 age of the deceased person, (C) the date, time and location of the injury
237 causing such death, (D) the law enforcement agency involved, (E) the
238 status on the toxicology report, if available, and (F) the death certificate,
239 if available. The Inspector General shall complete the report and submit
240 a copy of such report not later than five business days after the cause of
241 the death is available to the Chief State's Attorney and, in accordance
242 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of
243 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the
244 judiciary and public safety.

245 (b) Upon the conclusion of the investigation of an incident described
246 in subdivision [(1) or] (2) or (3) of subsection (a) of this section, the
247 Inspector General shall file a report with the Chief State's Attorney
248 which shall contain the following: (1) The circumstances of the incident,
249 (2) a determination of whether the use of physical force by the peace
250 officer was justifiable under section 53a-22, as amended by this act, and
251 (3) any recommended future action to be taken by the Office of the
252 Inspector General as a result of the incident. The Chief State's Attorney
253 shall provide a copy of the report to the chief executive officer of the
254 municipality in which the incident occurred and to the Commissioner
255 of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the chief of police of
256 such municipality, as the case may be, and shall make such report
257 available to the public on the Division of Criminal Justice's Internet web
258 site not later than forty-eight hours after the copies are provided to the
259 chief executive officer and the commissioner or chief of police.

260 (c) The Office of the Inspector General shall prosecute any case in
261 which the Inspector General determines that (1) the use of force by a
262 peace officer was not justifiable under section 53a-22, as amended by
263 this act, or (2) there was a failure to intervene in such incident or to
264 report any such incident, as required under subsection (a) of section 7-

265 282e or section 18-81nn.

266 Sec. 4. Section 53a-22 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
267 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
268 *passage*):

269 (a) (1) For purposes of this section: [a] (A) A reasonable belief that a
270 person has committed an offense means a reasonable belief in facts or
271 circumstances which if true would in law constitute an offense. If the
272 believed facts or circumstances would not in law constitute an offense,
273 an erroneous though not unreasonable belief that the law is otherwise
274 does not render justifiable the use of physical force to make an arrest or
275 to prevent an escape from custody; and (B) notwithstanding the
276 provisions of subdivision (9) of section 53a-3, "peace officer" has the
277 same meaning as provided in section 51-277a, as amended by this act.

278 (2) A peace officer or an authorized official of the Department of
279 Correction or the Board of Pardons and Paroles who is effecting an
280 arrest pursuant to a warrant or preventing an escape from custody is
281 justified in using the physical force prescribed in subsections (b), (c) and
282 (d) of this section unless such warrant is invalid and is known by such
283 officer to be invalid.

284 (b) Except as provided in subsection (a) or (d) of this section, a peace
285 officer or an authorized official of the Department of Correction or the
286 Board of Pardons and Paroles is justified in using physical force upon
287 another person when and to the extent that he or she reasonably believes
288 such use to be necessary to: (1) Effect an arrest or prevent the escape
289 from custody of a person whom he or she reasonably believes to have
290 committed an offense, unless he or she knows that the arrest or custody
291 is unauthorized; or (2) defend himself or herself or a third person from
292 the use or imminent use of physical force while effecting or attempting
293 to effect an arrest or while preventing or attempting to prevent an
294 escape.

295 (c) (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a peace

296 officer or an authorized official of the Department of Correction or the
297 Board of Pardons and Paroles is justified in using deadly physical force
298 upon another person for the purposes specified in subsection (b) of this
299 section only when his or her actions are objectively reasonable under the
300 given circumstances at that time, and:

301 (A) He or she reasonably believes such use to be necessary to defend
302 himself or herself or a third person from the use or imminent use of
303 deadly physical force; or

304 (B) He or she (i) has reasonably determined that there are no available
305 reasonable alternatives to the use of deadly physical force, (ii)
306 reasonably believes that the force employed creates no unreasonable
307 risk of injury to a third party, and (iii) reasonably believes such use of
308 force to be necessary to (I) effect an arrest of a person whom he or she
309 reasonably believes has committed or attempted to commit a felony
310 which involved the infliction of serious physical injury, and if, where
311 feasible, he or she has given warning of his or her intent to use deadly
312 physical force, or (II) prevent the escape from custody of a person whom
313 he or she reasonably believes has committed a felony which involved
314 the infliction of serious physical injury and who poses a significant
315 threat of death or serious physical injury to others, and if, where feasible,
316 he or she has given warning of his or her intent to use deadly physical
317 force.

318 (2) For purposes of evaluating whether actions of a peace officer or
319 an authorized official of the Department of Correction or the Board of
320 Pardons and Paroles are reasonable under subdivision (1) of this
321 subsection, factors to be considered include, but are not limited to,
322 whether (A) the person upon whom deadly physical force was used
323 possessed or appeared to possess a deadly weapon, (B) the peace officer
324 or an authorized official of the Department of Correction or the Board
325 of Pardons and Paroles engaged in reasonable deescalation measures
326 prior to using deadly physical force, and (C) any unreasonable conduct
327 of the peace officer or an authorized official of the Department of

328 Correction or the Board of Pardons and Paroles led to an increased risk
329 of an occurrence of the situation that precipitated the use of such force.

330 (d) A peace officer or an authorized official of the Department of
331 Correction or the Board of Pardons and Paroles is justified in using a
332 chokehold or other method of restraint applied to the neck area or that
333 otherwise impedes the ability to breathe or restricts blood circulation to
334 the brain of another person for the purposes specified in subsection (b)
335 of this section only when he or she reasonably believes such use to be
336 necessary to defend himself or herself or a third person from the use or
337 imminent use of deadly physical force.

338 (e) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a person who
339 has been directed by a peace officer or an authorized official of the
340 Department of Correction or the Board of Pardons and Paroles to assist
341 such peace officer or official to effect an arrest or to prevent an escape
342 from custody is justified in using reasonable physical force when and to
343 the extent that he or she reasonably believes such to be necessary to
344 carry out such peace officer's or official's direction.

345 (f) A person who has been directed to assist a peace officer or an
346 authorized official of the Department of Correction or the Board of
347 Pardons and Paroles under circumstances specified in subsection (e) of
348 this section may use deadly physical force to effect an arrest or to
349 prevent an escape from custody only when: (1) He or she reasonably
350 believes such use to be necessary to defend himself or herself or a third
351 person from what he or she reasonably believes to be the use or
352 imminent use of deadly physical force; or (2) he or she is directed or
353 authorized by such peace officer or official to use deadly physical force,
354 unless he or she knows that the peace officer or official himself or herself
355 is not authorized to use deadly physical force under the circumstances.

356 (g) A private person acting on his or her own account is justified in
357 using reasonable physical force upon another person when and to the
358 extent that he or she reasonably believes such use to be necessary to

359 effect an arrest or to prevent the escape from custody of an arrested
360 person whom he or she reasonably believes to have committed an
361 offense and who in fact has committed such offense; but he or she is not
362 justified in using deadly physical force in such circumstances, except in
363 defense of person as prescribed in section 53a-19.

364 (h) In determining whether use of force by a peace officer who is a
365 police officer, as defined in subsection (a) of section 29-6d, is justified
366 pursuant to this section, the trier of fact may draw an unfavorable
367 inference from a police officer's deliberate failure in violation of section
368 29-6d to record such use of physical force.

369 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section: (1)
370 "Peace officer" has the same meaning as provided in section 51-277a of
371 the general statutes, as amended by this act; and (2) "facial covering"
372 means any opaque mask, garment, helmet, headgear or other item that
373 conceals or obscures the facial identity of an individual, including, but
374 not limited to, a balaclava, tactical mask, gator, ski mask and any similar
375 type of facial covering or face-shielding item.

376 (b) A peace officer, while carrying out the enforcement of laws of this
377 state, any other state or the United States, shall not wear any facial
378 covering or personal disguise while interacting with the public in the
379 performance of such officer's duties, except for medical grade masks
380 that are designed to protect the health and safety of the peace officer,
381 masks designed to prevent the transmission of airborne diseases, masks
382 designed to protect against exposure to smoke during a fire-involved
383 situation, masks necessary to perform duties during a water rescue
384 operation, masks related to protection against exposure to biological or
385 chemical agents during an incident where such agents may be present,
386 masks designed to protect against exposure to cold during a declared
387 weather emergency or masks necessary to perform duties during an
388 active undercover operation or assignment which have been authorized
389 to be worn by supervising personnel or court order.

390 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, a
391 peace officer assigned to a bomb squad, motorcycle unit or specialized
392 weapons and tactics team is permitted to utilize gear necessary to
393 protect such officer's face and head from physical harm while
394 performing the duties associated with such assignment.

395 (d) In accordance with the provisions of section 7-294ii of the general
396 statutes, a peace officer, while carrying out the enforcement of laws of
397 this state, any other state or the United States, shall be clearly identified
398 by such officer's badge and name tag on the officer's uniform, unless (1)
399 such officer is performing duties during an active undercover
400 assignment authorized by supervising personnel, (2) compliance is
401 excused pursuant to the model policy adopted pursuant to section 7-
402 294ii of the general statutes, or (3) compliance is excused pursuant to a
403 court order.

404 (e) Any peace officer who violates the provisions of subsection (b) or
405 (d) of this section shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

406 (f) Notwithstanding any provision of law, any peace officer who is
407 found to have committed an assault, battery, false imprisonment, false
408 arrest, abuse of process or malicious prosecution, while wearing a facial
409 covering or personal disguise in a knowing and wilful violation of this
410 section, shall not be entitled to assert any privilege or immunity for such
411 officer's tortious conduct against a claim of civil liability.

412 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) No armed military force from
413 another state, territory or district is permitted to enter the state of
414 Connecticut for the purpose of engaging in military duty within this
415 state without the express written permission of the Governor, unless
416 such force has been called into active service of the United States and is
417 acting under authority of the President of the United States.

418 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

419 (1) "Protected area" means any of the following buildings or locations,

420 including the grounds of such buildings or locations and any garages or
421 parking lots utilized in the operation of such buildings or locations,
422 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
423 the buildings or locations:

424 (A) A school, including, but not limited to, a preschool, primary or
425 secondary school, vocational school or college or university;

426 (B) A medical or mental health facility, including, but not limited to,
427 a hospital, doctor's office, health clinic, vaccination or testing site, urgent
428 care center, site that serves pregnant individuals or community health
429 center;

430 (C) A place of worship or religious study, whether in a structure
431 dedicated to activities of faith or a temporary facility or location where
432 such activities take place;

433 (D) A place where children gather, including, but not limited to, a
434 playground, recreation center, child care center, before or after-school
435 care center, foster care facility, group home for children or school bus
436 stop;

437 (E) A social services establishment, including, but not limited to, a
438 crisis center, domestic violence shelter, victims services center, child
439 advocacy center, supervised visitation center, family justice center,
440 community-based organization, facility that serves disabled persons,
441 homeless shelter, drug or alcohol counseling and treatment facility, or
442 food bank, pantry or other establishment distributing food or other
443 essentials of life to people in need;

444 (F) A place where disaster or emergency response and relief is
445 provided, including, but not limited to, such places along evacuation
446 routes, where shelter or emergency supplies, food or water are being
447 distributed, or registration for disaster-related assistance or family
448 reunification is underway;

449 (G) A place where a funeral, graveside ceremony, rosary, wedding or
450 other religious or civil ceremonies or observances occur; or

451 (H) A place where there is an ongoing parade, demonstration or rally.

452 (2) "State facility" means any building, or part thereof, owned, leased,
453 occupied, controlled by or used for business by an office or agency of
454 the Executive Department, either directly or indirectly, including, but
455 not limited to, entities providing direct services on behalf of offices or
456 agencies, but not including state-owned property leased to a federal
457 entity. "State facility" includes the grounds of such facility and any
458 garages or parking lots utilized in the operation of such facility,
459 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
460 the facility.

461 (3) "Municipal facility" means any building or part thereof, owned,
462 leased, occupied, controlled by or used for business by a municipal
463 government, either directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to,
464 entities providing direct services on behalf of a municipal government.
465 "Municipal facility" includes the grounds of such facility and any
466 garages or parking lots utilized in the operation of such facility,
467 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
468 the facility.

469 (b) No peace officer, as defined in section 51-277a of the general
470 statutes, as amended by this act, shall detain, arrest or otherwise take an
471 individual in a protected area, state facility or municipal facility into
472 custody on the basis of a civil offense, unless (1) such representative is
473 acting in the representative's official capacity, and (2) the individual to
474 be detained, arrested or otherwise taken into custody is the subject of a
475 judicial warrant.

476 (c) (1) Any individual aggrieved by a violation of this section may
477 bring a civil action for equitable relief or damages in the Superior Court.
478 A civil action brought for damages may be triable by jury.

479 (2) In any action pursuant to this section, the court may grant a
480 plaintiff such legal and equitable relief which it deems appropriate,
481 including, but not limited to, temporary or permanent injunctive relief,
482 punitive damages, attorney's fees and court costs.

483 Sec. 8. Section 7-294d of the general statutes is amended by adding
484 subsection (i) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

485 (NEW) (i) (1) As used in this subsection, "comparative certification"
486 means the certification of a candidate for a police officer position, who
487 has served as a police officer in another state or in a law enforcement
488 unit within the state that is not subject to the provisions of the general
489 statutes and the regulations of Connecticut state agencies applicable to
490 the Police Officer Standards and Training Council.

491 (2) A candidate for comparative certification to a position as a police
492 officer in any law enforcement unit within the state shall satisfactorily
493 meet all entry level requirements of the council. The candidate shall also
494 complete a police basic training program approved by the council.

495 (3) The council may grant a full or partial waiver of the police basic
496 training requirement, specifying the elements of the program, if any, the
497 candidate will be required to satisfactorily complete. A request for
498 waiver of the requirement of police basic training shall be forwarded to
499 the council, in writing, by the chief of police of the law enforcement unit
500 seeking to employ such police officer, giving all pertinent information.
501 If the request for a waiver originates from a municipality or agency for
502 which there is no chief of police, or concerns the position of chief of
503 police, the request shall be made by the candidate's appointing
504 authority.

505 (4) In determining whether to waive all or a portion of the required
506 police basic training program, the council shall evaluate in comparison
507 to current standards the quality and extent of the candidate's (A)
508 previous basic training and certification as a police officer; (B) formal,
509 professional and in-service training and education in law enforcement

510 and criminal justice; (C) length of service and field experience as a police
511 officer; and (D) length of absence from employment with a law
512 enforcement unit.

513 (5) The council may waive those portions of the police basic training
514 program for which a candidate demonstrates (A) the satisfactory
515 completion of a substantially equivalent training or educational
516 program in another state or jurisdiction, (B) a length of service with field
517 experience sufficient to establish a practical mastery of the required
518 skills, or (C) a satisfactory combination of both.

519 (6) The council may not waive any portion of the required basic
520 training program for any candidate, even if the candidate previously
521 held certification from another state, local or federal law enforcement
522 agency, if such certification did not require the completion of a
523 substantially equivalent training or educational program, including a
524 minimum of four hundred eighty hours of training.

525 Sec. 9. Section 52-571j of the general statutes is repealed and the
526 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

527 (a) For the purposes of this section, "peace officer" has the same
528 meaning as provided in section [53a-3] 51-277a, as amended by this act,
529 except "peace officer" does not include [a special agent of the federal
530 government or] a member of a law enforcement unit of the
531 Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of
532 Connecticut.

533 (b) An employer of a peace officer who interferes with any person
534 taking a photographic or digital still or video image of such peace officer
535 or another peace officer acting in the performance of such peace officer's
536 duties shall be liable to such person in an action at law, suit in equity or
537 other proper proceeding for redress.

538 (c) An employer of a peace officer shall not be liable under subsection
539 (b) of this section if the peace officer had reasonable grounds to believe

540 that the peace officer was interfering with the taking of such image in
541 order to (1) lawfully enforce a criminal law of this state, a federal
542 criminal law or a municipal ordinance, whichever is applicable, (2)
543 protect the public safety, (3) preserve the integrity of a crime scene or
544 criminal investigation, (4) safeguard the privacy interests of any person,
545 including a victim of a crime, or (5) lawfully enforce court rules and
546 policies of the Judicial Branch with respect to taking a photograph,
547 videotaping or otherwise recording an image in facilities of the Judicial
548 Branch.

549 (d) Notwithstanding any other law, any peace officer who is found to
550 have committed an assault, battery, false imprisonment, false arrest,
551 abuse of process or malicious prosecution, while interfering with any
552 person taking a photographic or digital still or video image of such
553 peace officer or another peace officer acting in the performance of such
554 peace officer's duties, shall not be entitled to assert any privilege or
555 immunity for their tortious conduct against a claim of civil liability.

556 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

557 (1) "Dashboard" means the immigration enforcement activity
558 dashboard created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

559 (2) "Immigration authorities" means any federal agency or officer
560 engaged in immigration enforcement, including, but not limited to, the
561 United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency,
562 enforcement and removal operations, homeland security investigations,
563 customs and border protection and any joint federal-state task force
564 engaged in immigration enforcement.

565 (3) "Immigration enforcement action" means any civil or criminal
566 enforcement activity conducted by immigration authorities within the
567 state of Connecticut, including, but not limited to, arrests, detainers,
568 notifications, interviews, service of administrative warrants,
569 surveillance, transportation, custody pickups, transfers and courthouse,
570 hospital, jail, workplace, traffic-stop or home encounters.

571 (4) "Contact" means any communication, notification, request,
572 inquiry, exchange of information, appearance, in-person visit, digital
573 communication, meeting or request for assistance initiated by or
574 between immigration authorities and a state or local agency.

575 (5) "Cooperation" means any action taken by a state or local agency
576 in response to a contact that provides assistance to immigration
577 authorities, whether voluntary, compulsory or claimed by such agency
578 to be mandated by federal law.

579 (6) "Agency" means any state agency, state or local law enforcement
580 agency, state or local correctional facility or other public entity with
581 custodial, law enforcement or regulatory authority.

582 (b) (1) The Department of Administrative Services, in consultation
583 with the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the
584 Division of Criminal Justice, the Department of Correction and the office
585 of the Attorney General, shall establish and maintain a publicly
586 accessible online dashboard known as the "immigration enforcement
587 activity dashboard".

588 (2) The immigration enforcement activity dashboard shall include, to
589 the extent available and legally permissible:

590 (A) A state-wide system for logging all contact between agencies and
591 immigration authorities;

592 (B) Standards for the recording and classification of immigration
593 enforcement actions;

594 (C) Mandatory reporting by all agencies; and

595 (D) A publicly accessible online dashboard displaying aggregate,
596 nonidentifiable data as described in subdivision (6) of subsection (c) of
597 this section.

598 (c) (1) Each agency shall record every immigration enforcement

599 action, contact and instance of cooperation that the agency becomes
600 aware of in a manner prescribed by the Department of Administrative
601 Services.

602 (2) Each agency shall, to the extent permitted by law, electronically
603 transmit the data described in this section to the division on a weekly
604 basis.

605 (3) The Department of Administrative Services shall develop a
606 standardized state-wide reporting template, electronic interface and
607 definitions for use by all agencies.

608 (4) Such reports shall include, when applicable: (A) The subject
609 individual's race, gender, country of birth and birth year; (B) the date
610 and time the subject individual was taken into custody; (C) the location
611 where the subject individual was held or detained and any charges; (D)
612 the date and time of the agency's receipt of the request; (E) the
613 requesting agency; (F) the nature of the request; (G) immigration or
614 criminal history indicated on the request form; (H) whether the request
615 was accompanied by documentation regarding immigration status or
616 proceedings; (I) whether there was a judicial warrant; (J) whether a copy
617 of the request was provided to the subject individual and, if so, the date
618 and time of notification; (K) whether the subject individual requested to
619 confer with counsel regarding the request; (L) the agency's response to
620 the request, including any decision not to fulfill the request; (M) the date
621 and time that federal authorities took custody of, or were otherwise
622 given access to, the subject individual; and (N) the date and time of the
623 subject individual's release from agency custody.

624 (5) Such reports shall distinguish between: (A) Civil immigration
625 enforcement activity; (B) criminal investigations conducted jointly with
626 immigration authorities; and (C) contacts or notifications where the
627 agency took no action or declined action.

628 (6) The Department of Administrative Services may incorporate: (A)
629 State-wide agency reports; (B) existing federal public data or data

630 released under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-
631 200 of the general statutes; (C) validated aggregate data from academic
632 or nonprofit entities; and (D) any other lawful source of nonidentifiable
633 information.

634 (7) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize cooperation
635 with civil immigration enforcement or to limit existing prohibitions in
636 state or local law. Any documentation required in this section shall not
637 be construed as permission to engage in any act otherwise prohibited.

638 (d) The public dashboard shall include aggregated, nonidentifying
639 data on immigration enforcement activity, including, but not limited to:

640 (1) The amount and type of immigration enforcement actions, to the
641 extent known, categorized by: Arrest type, detainer type, location type,
642 point of origin, service of warrants, interviews, surveillance, custody
643 pickups, transfers and custodial enforcement;

644 (2) Geographic information describing clusters and locations of
645 enforcement activity, at the highest level of specificity permissible for
646 privacy and safety;

647 (3) The amount of contact received by agencies from immigration
648 authorities;

649 (4) The amount and type of responses, including whether cooperation
650 occurred, whether cooperation was voluntary, compulsory or claimed
651 to be mandatory, and the rationale provided;

652 (5) Any agencies initiating or receiving communication from
653 immigration authorities;

654 (6) Any contracts, agreements, task force memberships or recurring
655 practices between immigration authorities and agencies; and

656 (7) Annual and quarterly trends showing disparities or concentration
657 of enforcement across jurisdictions.

658 (e) (1) The Department of Administrative Services may adopt
659 regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the
660 general statutes and provide guidance relating to immigration
661 authorities' enforcement activities.

662 (2) Failure to report pursuant to the provisions of subsection (c) of
663 this section shall not excuse an agency from compliance with state or
664 local limits on cooperation with immigration authorities.

665 (f) (1) No personally identifying information shall be published or
666 shared through the dashboard.

667 (2) Data shall be aggregated to a minimum geographic level sufficient
668 to prevent the identification of any individual or household, consistent
669 with the personal privacy protection law and applicable federal privacy
670 standards.

671 (g) The Department of Administrative Services and the office of the
672 Attorney General may enter into memoranda of understanding with
673 community organizations, research institutions or advocacy groups to
674 enhance data accuracy, methodological transparency and public
675 engagement in the dashboard's design and evaluation.

676 (h) On or before January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the
677 Commissioner of Administrative Services shall report, in accordance
678 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the
679 Governor, office of the Attorney General and the joint standing
680 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
681 relating to the judiciary on the data collected, notable trends and any
682 recommendations for policy or operational improvements under this
683 section.

684 (i) The Department of Administrative Services, in consultation with
685 the office of the Attorney General and the Department of Emergency
686 Services and Public Protection, may adopt regulations, in accordance
687 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the

688 provisions of this section. The Department of Administrative Services
 689 may collect data prior to the adoption of such regulations and the
 690 dashboard shall be made publicly available not later than twelve
 691 months after the effective date of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	3-129g
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	51-277a
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	53a-22
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage:</i>	7-294d(i)
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	52-571j
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To enact statutory provisions providing for the accountable administration and enforcement of law in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]