



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 502

LCO No. 3143



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING DISCRETIONARY TRANSFER FROM
JUVENILE COURT TO ADULT COURT.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 46b-127 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3 (a) (1) The court shall automatically transfer from the docket for
4 juvenile matters to the regular criminal docket of the Superior Court the
5 case of any child charged with the commission of a capital felony under
6 the provisions of section 53a-54b in effect prior to April 25, 2012, a class
7 A felony, or a class B felony, except as provided in subdivision (3) of this
8 subsection, or a violation of section 53a-54d, provided such offense was
9 committed after such child attained the age of fifteen years and counsel
10 has been appointed for such child if such child is indigent. Such counsel
11 may appear with the child but shall not be permitted to make any
12 argument or file any motion in opposition to the transfer. The child shall
13 be arraigned in the regular criminal docket of the Superior Court at the
14 next court date following such transfer, provided any proceedings held
15 prior to the finalization of such transfer shall be private and shall be

16 conducted in such parts of the courthouse or the building in which the
17 court is located that are separate and apart from the other parts of the
18 court which are then being used for proceedings pertaining to adults
19 charged with crimes.

20 (2) A state's attorney may, at any time after such arraignment, file a
21 motion to transfer the case of any child charged with the commission of
22 a class B felony or a violation of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of
23 section 53a-70 to the docket for juvenile matters for proceedings in
24 accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

25 (3) No case of any child charged with the commission of a violation
26 of section 53a-55, 53a-59b, 53a-71 or 53a-94, subdivision (2) of subsection
27 (a) of section 53a-101, section 53a-112, 53a-122 or 53a-129b, subdivision
28 (1), (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 53a-134, section 53a-196c, 53a-
29 196d or 53a-252 or subsection (a) of section 53a-301 shall be transferred
30 from the docket for juvenile matters to the regular criminal docket of the
31 Superior Court, except as provided in this subdivision. Upon motion of
32 a prosecutorial official, the superior court for juvenile matters shall
33 conduct a hearing to determine whether the case of any child charged
34 with the commission of any such offense shall be transferred from the
35 docket for juvenile matters to the regular criminal docket of the Superior
36 Court. The court shall not order that the case be transferred under this
37 subdivision unless the court finds that (A) such offense was committed
38 after such child attained the age of fifteen years, (B) there is probable
39 cause to believe the child has committed the act for which the child is
40 charged, and (C) the best interests of the child and the public will not be
41 served by maintaining the case in the superior court for juvenile matters.
42 In making such findings, the court shall consider (i) any prior criminal
43 or juvenile offenses committed by the child, (ii) the seriousness of such
44 offenses, (iii) any evidence that the child has intellectual disability or
45 mental illness, and (iv) the availability of services in the docket for
46 juvenile matters that can serve the child's needs. Any motion under this
47 subdivision shall be made, and any hearing under this subdivision shall
48 be held, not later than thirty days after the child is arraigned in the
49 superior court for juvenile matters.

50 (b) Upon motion of a prosecutorial official, the superior court for
51 juvenile matters shall conduct a hearing to determine whether the case
52 of any child charged with the commission of a class C, D or E felony or
53 an unclassified felony or any other offense not subject to the provisions
54 of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section that is a serious firearm
55 offense, as defined in section 53a-3, shall be transferred from the docket
56 for juvenile matters to the regular criminal docket of the Superior Court.
57 The court shall not order that the case be transferred under this
58 subdivision unless the court finds that (1) such offense was committed
59 after such child attained the age of fifteen years, (2) there is probable
60 cause to believe the child has committed the act for which the child is
61 charged, and (3) the best interests of the child and the public will not be
62 served by maintaining the case in the superior court for juvenile matters.
63 In making such findings, the court shall consider (A) any prior criminal
64 or juvenile offenses committed by the child, (B) the seriousness of such
65 offenses, (C) any evidence that the child has intellectual disability or
66 mental illness, and (D) the availability of services in the docket for
67 juvenile matters that can serve the child's needs. Any motion under this
68 subdivision shall be made [] and [any hearing under this subdivision]
69 the hearing on such motion shall be held [] not later than thirty days
70 after the child is arraigned in the superior court for juvenile matters,
71 except in the case of a child arraigned for a serious firearm offense, in
72 which case such motion shall be made and the hearing on such motion
73 shall be held not later than fifteen days after such child is arraigned.

74 (c) If a case is transferred to the regular criminal docket pursuant to
75 subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section or subsection (b) of this
76 section, or if a case is transferred to the regular criminal docket pursuant
77 to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section and the charge in such
78 case is subsequently reduced to that of the commission of an offense for
79 which a case may be transferred pursuant to subdivision (2) or (3) of
80 subsection (a) of this section or subsection (b) of this section, the court
81 sitting for the regular criminal docket may return the case to the docket
82 for juvenile matters at any time prior to the court or jury rendering a
83 verdict or the entry of a guilty plea for good cause shown for

84 proceedings in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

85 (d) Upon the effectuation of the transfer, such child shall stand trial
86 and be sentenced, if convicted, as if such child were eighteen years of
87 age, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section and section
88 54-91g. Such child shall receive credit against any sentence imposed for
89 time served in a juvenile facility prior to the effectuation of the transfer.
90 A child who has been transferred may enter a guilty plea to a lesser
91 offense if the court finds that such plea is made knowingly and
92 voluntarily. Any child transferred to the regular criminal docket who
93 pleads guilty to a lesser offense shall not resume such child's status as a
94 juvenile regarding such offense. If the action is dismissed or nolleed or if
95 such child is found not guilty of the charge for which such child was
96 transferred or of any lesser included offenses, the child shall resume
97 such child's status as a juvenile until such child attains the age of
98 eighteen years.

99 (e) Any child whose case is transferred to the regular criminal docket
100 of the Superior Court who is detained pursuant to such case shall be in
101 the custody of the Commissioner of Correction upon the finalization of
102 such transfer. A transfer shall be final (1) upon the arraignment on the
103 regular criminal docket until a motion filed by the state's attorney
104 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section is granted by the court, or (2)
105 upon the arraignment on the regular criminal docket of a transfer
106 ordered pursuant to subsection (b) of this section until the court sitting
107 for the regular criminal docket orders the case returned to the docket for
108 juvenile matters for good cause shown. Any child whose case is
109 returned to the docket for juvenile matters who is detained pursuant to
110 such case shall be in the custody of the Judicial Department.

111 (f) The transfer of a child to a Department of Correction facility shall
112 be limited as provided in subsection (e) of this section and said
113 subsection shall not be construed to permit the transfer of or otherwise
114 reduce or eliminate any other population of juveniles in detention or
115 confinement within the Judicial Department.

116 (g) Upon the motion of any party or upon the court's own motion, the
117 case of any youth age sixteen or seventeen, except a case that has been
118 transferred to the regular criminal docket of the Superior Court
119 pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section, which is pending on the
120 youthful offender docket, regular criminal docket of the Superior Court
121 or any docket for the presentment of defendants in motor vehicle
122 matters, where the youth is charged with committing any offense or
123 violation for which a term of imprisonment may be imposed, other than
124 a violation of section 14-227a, 14-227g or 14-227m or subdivision (1) or
125 (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-227n, may, before trial or before the
126 entry of a guilty plea, be transferred to the docket for juvenile matters if
127 (1) the youth is alleged to have committed such offense or violation on
128 or after January 1, 2010, while sixteen years of age, or is alleged to have
129 committed such offense or violation on or after July 1, 2012, while
130 seventeen years of age, and (2) after a hearing considering the facts and
131 circumstances of the case and the prior history of the youth, the court
132 determines that the programs and services available pursuant to a
133 proceeding in the superior court for juvenile matters would more
134 appropriately address the needs of the youth and that the youth and the
135 community would be better served by treating the youth as a
136 delinquent. Upon ordering such transfer, the court shall vacate any
137 pleas entered in the matter and advise the youth of the youth's rights,
138 and the youth shall (A) enter pleas on the docket for juvenile matters in
139 the jurisdiction where the youth resides, and (B) be subject to
140 prosecution as a delinquent child. The decision of the court concerning
141 the transfer of a youth's case from the youthful offender docket, regular
142 criminal docket of the Superior Court or any docket for the presentment
143 of defendants in motor vehicle matters shall not be a final judgment for
144 purposes of appeal.

145 (h) Not later than January 15, 2027, and each January fifteenth
146 thereafter, the chief administrative judge for the Juvenile Division of the
147 Superior Court, or the chief administrative judge's designee, shall report
148 the number of motions by a prosecutor to transfer a case to the regular
149 criminal docket pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this

150 section or subsection (b) of this section, the offenses charged in the cases
151 for which the transfers were sought and the disposition of such motions
152 during the previous calendar year in accordance with the provisions of
153 section 11-4a to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
154 having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	46b-127

JUD *Joint Favorable*