



Substitute Senate Bill No. 90

Public Act No. 26-77

AN ACT REVISING AND CONSOLIDATING THE HATE CRIMES STATUTES.

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

Section 1. Section 53a-181i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

For the purposes of [sections 53a-181j to 53a-181l, inclusive] this section, section 53-37, as amended by this act, 53-37a, 53a-40a, as amended by this act, and sections 53a-181j to 53a-181l, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 5 to 13, inclusive, of this act, and sections 15 to 21, inclusive, of this act:

(1) "Disability" means [physical disability, mental disability or intellectual disability] any of the following: Physical disability or blindness, each as described in section 1-1f, "intellectual disability" as defined in section 1-1g or mental disability as described in section 46a-51;

(2) "Gender identity or expression" [means a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's assigned sex at birth] has the same meaning as provided in section 1-1n;

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[(3) "Mental disability" means one or more mental disorders, as defined in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders";

(4) "Intellectual disability" has the same meaning as provided in section 1-1g; and

(5) "Physical disability" means any chronic physical handicap, infirmity or impairment, whether congenital or resulting from bodily injury, organic processes or changes or from illness, including, but not limited to, blindness, epilepsy, deafness or being hard of hearing or reliance on a wheelchair or other remedial appliance or device]

(3) "Protected social category" means a person's actual or perceived race, color, religion, ethnicity, disability, alienage, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, if sixty years of age or older, or any combination thereof;

(4) "Race" includes ethnic traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and "protective hairstyles", as defined in section 46a-51;

(5) "Religion" includes denomination, creed and any aspect of religious observance and practice as well as belief;

(6) "Religiously affiliated community center" means real property used for the provision of recreational, social or educational services that is owned or leased by a nonprofit organization that holds such property out as being affiliated with a religion;

(7) "Sex" includes pregnancy, child-bearing capacity, sterilization, fertility or related medical conditions; and

(8) "Sexual orientation" has the same meaning as provided in section 46a-51.

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Sec. 2. Section 53a-181j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of [intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the first degree] hate crime causing physical injury when such person [maliciously, and] acts with specific intent to intimidate or harass another person motivated in whole or in substantial part by [the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression] any protected social category of such other person [,] and intentionally causes physical injury to such other person or [to a third] another person.

(b) [Intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the first degree] Hate crime causing physical injury is a class C felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of at least three thousand dollars. [of the fine imposed]

(c) A minimum fine pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 3. Section 53a-181k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of [intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the second degree] hate crime causing physical contact when such person [maliciously, and] acts with specific intent to intimidate or harass another person [or group of persons] motivated in whole or in substantial part by [the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression of such other person or group of persons, does any of the following: (1) Causes physical contact with such other person or group of persons, (2) damages, destroys or defaces any real or personal property of such other person or group of persons, or (3) threatens, by word or act, to do an act

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described in subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection, if there is reasonable cause to believe that an act described in subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection will occur] any protected social category of such other person and intentionally causes physical contact with such other person.

(b) [Intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the second degree] Hate crime causing physical contact is a class D felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of at least one thousand dollars. [of the fine imposed]

(c) A minimum fine pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 4. Section 53a-181l of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of [intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the third degree] hate crime affecting property when such person [,] acts with specific intent to intimidate or harass another person [or group of persons] motivated in whole or in substantial part by [the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression] any protected social category of such other person [or persons] and: (1) [Damages] Intentionally damages, destroys or defaces any real or personal property of such other person, or (2) [threatens, by word or act, to do an act described in subdivision (1) of this subsection or advocates or urges another person to do an act described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, if there is reasonable cause to believe that an act described in said subdivision will occur] damages, destroys or defaces any real or personal property of a third person.

(b) [Intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the third degree is] A violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section is a class D felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of at least one thousand

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dollars.

(c) A violation of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section is a class E felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of at least one thousand dollars. [of the fine imposed]

(d) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime affecting a house of religious worship when such person, having no reasonable ground to believe that such person has a right to do so, intentionally damages, destroys or defaces any house of religious worship.

(b) A violation of subsection (a) of this section shall be a (1) class D felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars if property is damaged as a consequence of such violation in an amount up to and including ten thousand dollars, or (2) class C felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than three thousand dollars if the property damaged as a consequence of such violation is in an amount in excess of ten thousand dollars.

(c) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by threat of physical contact when such person, with specific intent to intimidate or harass another person motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person, threatens, by word or act, to cause physical contact with such other person, if there is reasonable cause to believe that such an act will occur.

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(b) Hate crime by threat of physical contact is a class D felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars.

(c) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by threat to property when such person, with specific intent to intimidate or harass another person motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person threatens, by word or act, to damage, destroy or deface any real or personal property of (1) such other person, if there is reasonable cause to believe that such an act will occur, or (2) a third person, if there is reasonable cause to believe that such an act will occur.

(b) A violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section shall be a class D felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars.

(c) A violation of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section shall be a class E felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars.

(d) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by threatening of a house of religious worship or religiously affiliated community center in the first degree if such person acts in violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-61aa of the general statutes, as amended by this act, with the intent to cause an evacuation of a building or the grounds of a house of religious worship or religiously affiliated community center, during operational hours or

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when a building or the grounds of such house of worship or community center are being used for the provision of religious or community services, or used for activities sponsored by such house of worship or community center.

(b) Hate crime by threatening of a house of religious worship or religiously affiliated community center in the first degree is a class C felony.

Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by threatening of a house of religious worship or religiously affiliated community center in the second degree if such person acts in violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-62 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and the person threatened is in a building or on the grounds of a house of religious worship or religiously affiliated community center, during operational hours or when a building or the grounds of such house of worship or community center are being used for the provision of religious or community services, or used for activities sponsored by such house of worship or community center.

(b) Hate crime by threatening of a house of religious worship or religiously affiliated community center in the second degree is a class D felony.

Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by advocacy or urging if such person, with specific intent to intimidate or harass another person motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person, advocates or urges another person to damage, destroy or deface any real or personal property of a third person, if there is reasonable cause to believe that such an act will occur.

(b) Hate crime by advocacy or urging is a class E felony, for which

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the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars.

(c) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the prosecution or punishment of any person pursuant to section 53a-8 of the general statutes or section 53a-179a of the general statutes.

Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by deprivation of civil rights when such person subjects, or causes to be subjected, any other person to the deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities, secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of this state or of the United States, motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person or another person.

(b) Hate crime by deprivation of civil rights is a (1) class A misdemeanor, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars, or (2) class E felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars if property is damaged as a consequence of such violation in an amount in excess of one thousand dollars.

(c) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by burning a cross if such person places a burning cross or a simulation of a burning cross on any public property, or on any private property without the written consent of the owner, and with intent to intimidate or harass any other person.

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(b) Hate crime by burning a cross is a (1) class A misdemeanor, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars, or (2) class E felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars if property is damaged as a consequence of such violation in an amount in excess of one thousand dollars.

(c) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by noose if such person places a noose or a simulation of a noose on any public property, or on any private property without the written consent of the owner, and with intent to intimidate or harass any other person motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person or another person.

(b) Hate crime by noose is a (1) class A misdemeanor, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars, or (2) class E felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one thousand dollars if property is damaged as a consequence of such violation in an amount in excess of one thousand dollars.

(c) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 14. Section 53-37 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

[Any person who, by his] (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by commercial advertisement if such person, by such person's advertisement, ridicules or holds up to contempt any person [or class of persons, on account of the creed, religion, color, denomination, nationality or race of such person or class of persons, shall be guilty of]

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motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person.

(b) Hate crime by commercial advertisement is a class D misdemeanor.

(c) For purposes of this section, "advertisement" only includes commercial speech.

Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by discriminatory public accommodations practice if such person acts with intent to intimidate or harass any other person motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person or another person, in violation of any provision of section 46a-64 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 46a-81d of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

(b) Hate crime by discriminatory public accommodations practice is a class D misdemeanor.

Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by discriminatory housing practice if such person acts in violation of any provision of section 46a-64c of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 46a-81e of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

(b) Hate crime by discriminatory housing practice is a class D misdemeanor.

Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by false report if such person falsely reports an incident in violation of subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (a) of section 53a-180 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, with specific intent to falsely report another person motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person.

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(b) Hate crime by false report is a class C felony.

Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by false report to law enforcement if such person falsely reports an incident to a law enforcement officer or agency in violation of subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (a) of section 53a-180c of the general statutes, as amended by this act, with specific intent to falsely report another person motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social category of such other person.

(b) Hate crime by false report to law enforcement is a class E felony.

Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by false report resulting in serious physical injury or death if such person acts in violation of section 17 or 18 of this act and such false report described therein results in the serious physical injury or death of another person.

(b) Hate crime by false report resulting in serious physical injury or death is a class B felony.

Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by stalking if such person commits stalking in the second degree as provided in section 53a-181d of the general statutes and intentionally directs such conduct at the other person motivated in whole or in part by any protected social category of such other person.

(b) Hate crime by stalking is a class D felony.

Sec. 21. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) A person is guilty of hate crime by misuse of emergency 9-1-1 system if such person misuses the emergency 9-1-1 system in violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of section 53a-180d of the general statutes, as amended by this act, with specific intent to make a false alarm or complaint or report false information about another person motivated in whole or in

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substantial part by any protected social category of such other person.

(b) Hate crime by misuse of emergency 9-1-1 system is a class A misdemeanor.

Sec. 22. Section 53a-40a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A persistent offender of hate crimes [involving bigotry or bias] is a person who (1) stands convicted of a violation of section [46a-58] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53-37a, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, and (2) has been, prior to the commission of the present crime, convicted of a violation of section [46a-58] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53-37a, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, or section 46a-58, as amended by this act, in effect prior to October 1, 2026, or section 53a-181b in effect prior to October 1, 2000.

(b) When any person has been found to be a persistent offender of hate crimes, [involving bigotry or bias,] the court shall: (1) In lieu of imposing the sentence authorized for the crime under section 53a-35a if the crime is a felony, impose the sentence of imprisonment authorized by said section for the next more serious degree of felony, or (2) in lieu of imposing the sentence authorized for the crime under section 53a-36 if the crime is a misdemeanor, impose the sentence of imprisonment authorized by said section for the next more serious degree of misdemeanor, except that if the crime is a class A misdemeanor the court shall impose the sentence of imprisonment for a class [D] E felony as authorized by section 53a-35a.

Sec. 23. Subsection (d) of section 54-56e of the general statutes is

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repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(d) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, any defendant who enters such program shall pay to the court a participation fee of one hundred dollars. Any defendant who enters such program shall agree to the tolling of any statute of limitations with respect to such crime and to a waiver of the right to a speedy trial. Any such defendant shall appear in court and shall, under such conditions as the court shall order, be released to the supervision of the Court Support Services Division, except that, if a criminal docket for drug-dependent persons has been established pursuant to section 51-181b in the judicial district, such defendant may be transferred, under such conditions as the court shall order, to the court handling such docket for supervision by such court. If the defendant refuses to accept, or, having accepted, violates such conditions, the defendant's case shall be brought to trial. The period of such probation or supervision, or both, shall not exceed two years. If the defendant has reached the age of sixteen years but has not reached the age of eighteen years, the court may order that as a condition of such probation the defendant be referred for services to a youth service bureau established pursuant to section 10-19m, provided the court finds, through an assessment by a youth service bureau or its designee, that the defendant is in need of and likely to benefit from such services. When determining any conditions of probation to order for a person entering such program who was charged with a misdemeanor that did not involve the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person or a motor vehicle violation, the court shall consider ordering the person to perform community service in the community in which the offense or violation occurred. If the court determines that community service is appropriate, such community service may be implemented by a community court established in accordance with section 51-181c if the offense or violation occurred within the jurisdiction of a community court established by said section.

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If the defendant is charged with a violation of section [46a-58] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53-37a, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, the court may order that as a condition of such probation the defendant participate in a hate crimes diversion program as provided in subsection (e) of this section. If a defendant is charged with a violation of section 53-247, the court may order that as a condition of such probation the defendant undergo psychiatric or psychological counseling or participate in an animal cruelty prevention and education program provided such a program exists and is available to the defendant.

Sec. 24. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) Nothing in section 53-37 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 53a-181j of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 53a-181k of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, shall be construed to limit any right under chapter 814c of the general statutes of any person claiming to be aggrieved by a discriminatory practice, as described in chapter 814c of the general statutes, to file a complaint with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities or to bring any civil action as authorized by section 46a-98a of the general statutes, section 46a-100 of the general statutes, or as otherwise provided by law.

(b) Nothing in section 53-37 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 53a-181j of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 53a-181k of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, shall be construed to limit the jurisdiction and powers of the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and the Attorney General under chapter 814c of the general statutes.

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(c) Nothing in section 53-37 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 53a-181j of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 53a-181k of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, shall be construed to affect the authority of any court to order financial restitution pursuant to subsection (c) of section 53a-28 of the general statutes for any victim of a violation of section 53-37 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 53a-181j of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 53a-181k of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act.

Sec. 25. Section 46a-58 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section for any person to subject, or cause to be subjected, any other person to the deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities, secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of this state or of the United States, on account of religion, national origin, alienage, color, race, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, blindness, mental disability, physical disability, age, status as a veteran, status as a victim of domestic violence, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons.

(b) Any person who intentionally desecrates any public property, monument or structure, or any religious object, symbol or house of religious worship, or any cemetery, or any private structure not owned by such person, shall be in violation of subsection (a) of this section. For the purposes of this subsection, "desecrate" means to mar, deface or damage as a demonstration of irreverence or contempt.

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(c) Any person who places a burning cross or a simulation thereof on any public property, or on any private property without the written consent of the owner, and with intent to intimidate or harass any other person or group of persons, shall be in violation of subsection (a) of this section.

(d) Any person who places a noose or a simulation thereof on any public property, or on any private property without the written consent of the owner, and with intent to intimidate or harass any other person on account of religion, national origin, alienage, color, race, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, blindness, mental disability, physical disability, age, status as a veteran, status as a victim of domestic violence, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons, shall be in violation of subsection (a) of this section.

[(e) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars, except that if property is damaged as a consequence of such violation in an amount in excess of one thousand dollars, such person shall be guilty of a class D felony and shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars.

(2) Any person who violates the provisions of this section by intentionally desecrating a house of religious worship (A) shall be guilty of a class D felony and shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars if property is damaged as a consequence of such violation in an amount up to and including ten thousand dollars, and (B) shall be guilty of a class C felony and shall be fined not less than three thousand dollars if the property damaged as a consequence of such violation is in an amount in excess of ten thousand dollars.

(3) The minimum amount of any fine imposed by the provisions of

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this section may not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

(4) The court may order restitution for any victim of a violation of this section pursuant to subsection (c) of section 53a-28.]

(e) Nothing in section 53-37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, shall be construed to limit the meaning of any discriminatory practice as described in this section.

Sec. 26. Section 46a-64 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section: (1) To deny any person within the jurisdiction of this state full and equal accommodations in any place of public accommodation, resort or amusement because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, intellectual disability, mental disability, physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness or deafness, status as a veteran, status as a victim of domestic violence, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons, of the applicant, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons; (2) to discriminate, segregate or separate on account of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, intellectual disability, mental disability, learning disability, physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness or deafness, status as a veteran, status as a victim of domestic violence, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons; (3) for a place of public accommodation, resort or amusement to restrict or limit

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the right of a mother to breast-feed her child; (4) for a place of public accommodation, resort or amusement to refuse entry to a person with a disability who is accompanied by a service animal; or (5) to deny any person with a disability or any person training an animal as a service animal to assist a person with a disability, accompanied by such service animal, full and equal access to any place of public accommodation, resort or amusement. Any person with a disability or any person training an animal as a service animal may keep such service animal at all times in such place of public accommodation, resort or amusement at no extra charge, provided such service animal is in the direct custody and control of such person. When it is not obvious what service an animal provides, staff of a place of public accommodation, resort or amusement may inquire of the owner or keeper whether such animal is a service animal required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to perform. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude a business owner's ability to recover for damage caused to a person or property by a service animal. For the purposes of this subsection, "disability" and "service animal" have the same meanings as provided in section 22-345 and "place of public accommodation, resort or amusement" has the same meaning as provided in section 46a-44.

(b) (1) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of sex discrimination shall not apply to (A) the rental of sleeping accommodations provided by associations and organizations which rent all such sleeping accommodations on a temporary or permanent basis for the exclusive use of persons of the same sex or (B) separate bathrooms or locker rooms based on sex. (2) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of age shall not apply to minors or to special discount or other public or private programs to assist persons sixty years of age and older. (3) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of physical disability shall not require any person to modify his property in any way or provide a higher degree of

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care for a physically disabled person, including, but not limited to blind or deaf persons, than for a person not physically disabled. (4) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of creed shall not apply to the practice of granting preference in admission of residents into a nursing home as defined in section 19a-490, if (A) the nursing home is owned, operated by or affiliated with a religious organization, exempt from taxation for federal income tax purposes and (B) the class of persons granted preference in admission is consistent with the religious mission of the nursing home. (5) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of lawful source of income shall not prohibit the denial of full and equal accommodations solely on the basis of insufficient income.

[(c) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.]

(c) Nothing in section 53-37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, shall be construed to limit the meaning of any discriminatory practice as described in this section.

Sec. 27. Section 46a-64c of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section:

(1) To refuse to sell or rent after the making of a bona fide offer, or to refuse to negotiate for the sale or rental of, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any person because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, status as a

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veteran, status as a victim of domestic violence, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons.

(2) To discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection therewith, because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, status as a veteran, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons.

(3) To make, print or publish, or cause to be made, printed or published any notice, statement, or advertisement, with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, status as a veteran, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

(4) (A) To represent to any person because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, status as a veteran, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons, that any dwelling is not available for inspection, sale or rental when such dwelling is in fact so available.

(B) It shall be a violation of this subdivision for any person to restrict or attempt to restrict the choices of any buyer or renter to purchase or rent a dwelling (i) to an area which is substantially populated, even if less than a majority, by persons of the same protected class as the buyer or renter, (ii) while such person is authorized to offer for sale or rent

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another dwelling which meets the housing criteria as expressed by the buyer or renter to such person, and (iii) such other dwelling is in an area which is not substantially populated by persons of the same protected class as the buyer or renter. As used in this subdivision, "area" means municipality, neighborhood or other geographic subdivision which may include an apartment or condominium complex; and "protected class" means race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, status as a veteran, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons.

(5) For profit, to induce or attempt to induce any person to sell or rent any dwelling by representations regarding the entry or prospective entry into the neighborhood of a person or persons of a particular race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, status as a veteran, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons.

(6) (A) To discriminate in the sale or rental, or to otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any buyer or renter because of a learning disability or physical or mental disability of: (i) Such buyer or renter; (ii) a person residing in or intending to reside in such dwelling after it is so sold, rented, or made available; or (iii) any person associated with such buyer or renter.

(B) To discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection with such dwelling, because of a learning disability or physical or mental disability of: (i) Such person; or (ii) a person residing in or intending to reside in such dwelling after it is so sold, rented, or made available; or (iii) any person associated with such person.

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(C) For purposes of this subdivision, discrimination includes: (i) A refusal to permit, at the expense of a person with a physical or mental disability, reasonable modifications of existing premises occupied or to be occupied by such person if such modifications may be necessary to afford such person full enjoyment of the premises; except that, in the case of a rental, the landlord may, where it is reasonable to do so, condition permission for a modification on the renter agreeing to restore the interior of the premises to the condition that existed before the modification, reasonable wear and tear excepted; (ii) a refusal to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices or services, when such accommodations may be necessary to afford such person equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling; (iii) in connection with the design and construction of covered multifamily dwellings for the first occupancy after March 13, 1991, a failure to design and construct those dwellings in such manner that they comply with the requirements of Section 804(f) of the Fair Housing Act or the provisions of the state building code as adopted pursuant to the provisions of sections 29-269 and 29-273, whichever requires greater accommodation. "Covered multifamily dwellings" means buildings consisting of four or more units if such buildings have one or more elevators, and ground floor units in other buildings consisting of four or more units.

(7) For any person or other entity engaging in residential real-estate-related transactions to discriminate against any person in making available such a transaction, or in the terms or conditions of such a transaction, because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, status as a veteran, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons.

(8) To deny any person access to or membership or participation in any multiple-listing service, real estate brokers' organization or other

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service, organization, or facility relating to the business of selling or renting dwellings, or to discriminate against him in the terms or conditions of such access, membership or participation, on account of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, status as a veteran, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons.

(9) To coerce, intimidate, threaten, or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or on account of his having exercised or enjoyed, or on account of his having aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of, any right granted or protected by this section.

(b) (1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to (A) the rental of a room or rooms in a single-family dwelling unit if the owner actually maintains and occupies part of such living quarters as his residence or (B) a unit in a dwelling containing living quarters occupied or intended to be occupied by no more than two families living independently of each other, if the owner actually maintains and occupies the other such living quarters as his residence. (2) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of marital status shall not be construed to prohibit the denial of a dwelling to a man or a woman who are both unrelated by blood and not married to each other. (3) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of age shall not apply to minors, to special discount or other public or private programs to assist persons sixty years of age and older or to housing for older persons as defined in section 46a-64b, provided there is no discrimination on the basis of age among older persons eligible for such housing. (4) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of familial status shall not apply to housing for older persons as defined in

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section 46a-64b or to a unit in a dwelling containing units for no more than four families living independently of each other, if the owner of such dwelling resides in one of the units. (5) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of lawful source of income shall not prohibit the denial of full and equal accommodations solely on the basis of insufficient income. (6) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex shall not apply to the rental of sleeping accommodations to the extent they utilize shared bathroom facilities when such sleeping accommodations are provided by associations and organizations which rent such sleeping accommodations on a temporary or permanent basis for the exclusive use of persons of the same sex based on considerations of privacy and modesty.

(c) Nothing in this section limits the applicability of any reasonable state statute or municipal ordinance restricting the maximum number of persons permitted to occupy a dwelling.

(d) Nothing in this section or section 46a-64b shall be construed to invalidate or limit any state statute or municipal ordinance that requires dwellings to be designed and constructed in a manner that affords persons with physical or mental disabilities greater access than is required by this section or section 46a-64b.

(e) Nothing in this section prohibits a person engaged in the business of furnishing appraisals of real property to take into consideration factors other than race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, status as a veteran, status as a victim of sexual assault or status as a victim of trafficking in persons.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, complaints alleging a violation of this section shall be investigated within one

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hundred days of filing and a final administrative disposition shall be made within one year of filing unless it is impracticable to do so. If the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities is unable to complete its investigation or make a final administrative determination within such time frames, it shall notify the complainant and the respondent in writing of the reasons for not doing so.

[(g) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.]

(g) Nothing in section 53-37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, shall be construed to limit the meaning of any discriminatory practice as described in this section.

Sec. 28. Section 46a-81d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section: (1) To deny any person within the jurisdiction of this state full and equal accommodations in any place of public accommodation, resort or amusement because of such person's sexual orientation or civil union status, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons; or (2) to discriminate, segregate or separate on account of sexual orientation or civil union status.

[(b) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.]

(b) Nothing in section 53-37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, shall be construed to limit the meaning of any discriminatory practice as described in this section.

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Sec. 29. Section 46a-81e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section:

(1) To refuse to sell or rent after the making of a bona fide offer, or to refuse to negotiate for the sale or rental of, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any person because of sexual orientation or civil union status.

(2) To discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection therewith, because of sexual orientation or civil union status.

(3) To make, print or publish, or cause to be made, printed or published any notice, statement, or advertisement, with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on sexual orientation or civil union status, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

(4) (A) To represent to any person because of sexual orientation or civil union status, that any dwelling is not available for inspection, sale or rental when such dwelling is in fact so available. (B) It shall be a violation of this subdivision for any person to restrict or attempt to restrict the choices of any buyer or renter to purchase or rent a dwelling (i) to an area which is substantially populated, even if less than a majority, by persons of the same sexual orientation or civil union status as the buyer or renter, (ii) while such person is authorized to offer for sale or rent another dwelling which meets the housing criteria as expressed by the buyer or renter to such person and (iii) such other dwelling is in an area which is not substantially populated by persons of the same sexual orientation or civil union status as the buyer or renter. As used in this subdivision, "area" means municipality, neighborhood

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or other geographic subdivision which may include an apartment or condominium complex.

(5) For profit, to induce or attempt to induce any person to sell or rent any dwelling by representations regarding the entry or prospective entry into the neighborhood of a person or persons of a particular sexual orientation or civil union status.

(6) For any person or other entity engaging in residential-real-estate-related transactions to discriminate against any person in making available such a transaction, or in the terms or conditions of such a transaction, because of sexual orientation or civil union status.

(7) To deny any person access to or membership or participation in any multiple-listing service, real estate brokers' organization or other service, organization, or facility relating to the business of selling or renting dwellings, or to discriminate against him in the terms or conditions of such access, membership or participation, on account of sexual orientation or civil union status.

(8) To coerce, intimidate, threaten, or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or on account of his having exercised or enjoyed, or on account of his having aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of, any right granted or protected by this section.

(b) Nothing in this section limits the applicability of any reasonable state statute or municipal ordinance restricting the maximum number of persons permitted to occupy a dwelling.

(c) Nothing in this section prohibits a person engaged in the business of furnishing appraisals of real property to take into consideration factors other than sexual orientation or civil union status.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, complaints

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alleging a violation of this section shall be investigated within one hundred days of filing and a final administrative disposition shall be made within one year of filing unless it is impracticable to do so. If the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities is unable to complete its investigation or make a final administrative determination within such time frames, it shall notify the complainant and the respondent in writing of the reasons for not doing so.

[(e) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.]

(e) Nothing in section 53-37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, shall be construed to limit the meaning of any discriminatory practice as described in this section.

Sec. 30. Section 53a-61aa of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of threatening in the first degree when such person (1) (A) threatens to commit any crime involving the use of a hazardous substance with the intent to terrorize another person, to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation or otherwise to cause serious public inconvenience, or (B) threatens to commit such crime in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror, evacuation or inconvenience; (2) (A) threatens to commit any crime of violence with the intent to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation or otherwise to cause serious public inconvenience, or (B) threatens to commit such crime in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such evacuation or inconvenience; (3) commits threatening in the second degree as provided in section 53a-62, as amended by this act, and in the commission of such offense such person uses or is armed with and

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threatens the use of or displays or represents by such person's words or conduct that such person possesses a pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, machine gun or other firearm; or (4) violates subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection with the intent to cause an evacuation of a building or the grounds of a (A) [house of religious worship, (B) religiously-affiliated community center, (C)] public or nonpublic preschool, school or institution of higher education, or [(D)] (B) day care center, as defined in section 19a-87g, during operational, preschool, school or instructional hours or when a building or the grounds of such [house of worship, community center,] preschool, school, institution or day care center are being used for the provision of religious or community services, or [house of worship, community center,] preschool, school, institution or day care center-sponsored activities. No person shall be found guilty of threatening in the first degree under subdivision (3) of this subsection and threatening in the second degree upon the same transaction but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "hazardous substance" means any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter which, because of its quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or incapacitating reversible illness, or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health. [and "religiously-affiliated community center" means real property used for the provision of recreational, social or educational services that is owned or leased by a nonprofit organization that holds such property out as being affiliated with an organized religion.]

(c) Threatening in the first degree is a class D felony, except that a violation of subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section is a class C felony.

Sec. 31. Section 53a-62 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of threatening in the second degree when: (1) By physical threat, such person intentionally places or attempts to place another person in fear of imminent serious physical injury, (2) (A) such person threatens to commit any crime of violence with the intent to terrorize another person, or (B) such person threatens to commit such crime of violence in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror, or (3) violates subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection and the person threatened is in a building or on the grounds of a (A) [house of religious worship, (B) religiously-affiliated community center, (C)] public or nonpublic preschool, school or institution of higher education, or [(D)] (B) day care center, as defined in section 19a-87g, during operational, preschool, school or instructional hours or when a building or the grounds of such [house of worship, community center,] preschool, school, institution or day care center are being used for the provision of religious or community services, or [house of worship, community center,] preschool, school, institution or day care center-sponsored activities.

[(b) For the purposes of this section, "religiously-affiliated community center" has the same meaning as provided in section 53a-61aa.]

[(c)] (b) Threatening in the second degree is a class A misdemeanor, except that a violation of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section is a class D felony.

Sec. 32. Section 53a-180 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of falsely reporting an incident in the first degree when, knowing the information reported, conveyed or circulated to be false or baseless, such person: (1) Initiates or circulates

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a false report or warning of an alleged occurrence or impending occurrence of a fire, explosion, catastrophe or emergency under circumstances in which it is likely that public alarm or inconvenience will result; (2) reports, by word or action, to any official or quasi-official agency or organization having the function of dealing with emergencies involving danger to life or property, an alleged occurrence or impending occurrence of a fire, explosion or other catastrophe or emergency which did not in fact occur or does not in fact exist; or (3) violates subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection with intent to cause a large scale emergency response; ; or (4) violates subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection with specific intent to falsely report another person or group of persons because of the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression of such other person or group of persons.] For purposes of this section, "large scale emergency response" means an on-site response to any such reported incident by five or more first responders, and "first responder" means any peace officer or firefighter or any ambulance driver, emergency medical responder, emergency medical technician or paramedic, as those terms are defined in section 19a-175.

(b) Falsely reporting an incident in the first degree is a [(1)] class D felony. [for a violation of subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (a) of this section, or (2) class C felony for a violation of subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section.]

(c) In addition to any sentence imposed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, if (1) a person is convicted of an offense in violation of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section that resulted in a large scale emergency response, (2) any agency or department of the state or political subdivision of the state requests financial restitution for costs associated with such emergency response, and (3) the court finds that the agency or department of the state or political subdivision of the state incurred costs associated with such emergency response as a result of

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such offense, the court shall order the offender to make financial restitution under terms that the court determines are appropriate. In determining the appropriate terms of financial restitution, the court shall consider: (A) The financial resources of the offender and the burden restitution will place on other obligations of the offender; (B) the offender's ability to pay based on installments or other conditions; (C) the rehabilitative effect on the offender of the payment of restitution and the method of payment; and (D) other circumstances, including the financial burden and impact on the agency or department of the state or political subdivision of the state, that the court determines make the terms of restitution appropriate. If the court determines that the current financial resources of the offender or the offender's current ability to pay based on installments or other conditions are such that no appropriate terms of restitution can be determined, the court may forego setting such terms. The court shall articulate its findings on the record with respect to each of the factors set forth in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of this subsection. Restitution ordered by the court pursuant to this subsection shall be based on easily ascertainable damages for actual expenses associated with such emergency response. Restitution ordered by the court pursuant to this subsection shall be imposed or directed by a written order of the court containing the amount of actual expenses associated with such emergency response, as ascertained by the court. The order of the court shall direct that a certified copy of the order be delivered by certified mail to the agency or department of the state or political subdivision of the state. Such order is enforceable in the same manner as an order pursuant to subsection (c) of section 53a-28.

Sec. 33. Section 53a-180a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of falsely reporting an incident resulting in serious physical injury or death when such person commits the crime of (1) falsely reporting an incident in the first degree as provided in

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subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (a) of section 53a-180, as amended by this act, or (2) falsely reporting an incident in the second degree as provided in subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (a) of section 53a-180c, as amended by this act, [or (3) falsely reporting an incident in the first degree as provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 53a-180 or falsely reporting an incident in the second degree as provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 53a-180c,] and such false report described in subdivision (1) [] or (2) [or (3)] of this subsection results in the serious physical injury or death of another person.

(b) Falsely reporting an incident resulting in serious physical injury or death is a [(1)] class C felony. [for a violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section, or (2) class B felony for a violation of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section.]

Sec. 34. Section 53a-180c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of falsely reporting an incident in the second degree when, knowing the information reported, conveyed or circulated to be false or baseless, such person gratuitously reports to a law enforcement officer or agency (1) the alleged occurrence of an offense or incident which did not in fact occur, (2) an allegedly impending occurrence of an offense or incident which in fact is not about to occur, or (3) false information relating to an actual offense or incident or to the alleged implication of some person therein. [] or (4) violates subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection with specific intent to falsely report another person or group of persons because of the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression of such other person or group of persons.]

(b) Falsely reporting an incident in the second degree is a [(1)] class A misdemeanor. [for a violation of subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of

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subsection (a) of this section, or (2) class E felony for a violation of subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section.]

Sec. 35. Section 53a-180d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of misuse of the emergency 9-1-1 system when such person (1) dials or otherwise causes E 9-1-1 to be called for the purpose of making a false alarm or complaint, or (2) purposely reports false information which could result in the dispatch of emergency services, [, or (3) violates subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection with specific intent to make a false alarm or complaint or report false information about another person or group of persons because of the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression of such other person or group of persons.]

(b) Misuse of the emergency 9-1-1 system is a [(1)] class B misdemeanor, [for a violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section, or (2) class A misdemeanor for a violation of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section.]

Sec. 36. Section 53a-181c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) A person is guilty of stalking in the first degree when such person commits stalking in the second degree as provided in section 53a-181d, and (1) such person has previously been convicted of a violation of section 53a-181d, (2) such conduct violates a court order in effect at the time of the offense, or (3) such person is twenty-two years of age or older and the other person is under sixteen years of age, [, or (4) such person intentionally directs such conduct at the other person, in whole or in part, because of the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression of

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such other person.]

(b) Stalking in the first degree is a class D felony.

Sec. 37. Section 52-571c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) Any person injured in person or property as a result of an act that constitutes a violation of section 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 6, 7 or 10 of this act may bring a civil action against the person who committed such act to recover damages for such injury.

(b) In any civil action brought under this section in which the plaintiff prevails, the court shall award treble damages and may, in its discretion, award equitable relief and a reasonable attorney's fee.

(c) No action shall be brought under this section but within three years from the date of the act complained of.

Sec. 38. Section 3-129f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) The Attorney General may investigate the facts and circumstances concerning any alleged violation of section [53a-181j, 53a-181k or 53a-181l] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, and in connection with such investigation, issue subpoenas and written interrogatories in the same manner and to the same extent as is provided in section 35-42. No information obtained pursuant to the provisions of this subsection may be used in a criminal proceeding.

(b) If the Attorney General finds that a person has committed an act that constitutes a violation of section [53a-181j, 53a-181k or 53a-181l] 53-

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37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, the Attorney General may bring a civil action in the superior court for the judicial district in which such act occurred in the name of the state against such person.

(c) In any such action, the Attorney General may obtain, for the benefit of a person adversely affected by a violation of section [53a-181j, 53a-181k or 53a-181l] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, any relief to which such person may be entitled by law, including treble damages; a civil penalty not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars, per violation, provided such violation has been established by clear and convincing evidence; and declaratory, injunctive or equitable relief that the Attorney General determines is necessary to vindicate the public's interests. Any civil penalty that is received pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited in the General Fund.

(d) Nothing in this section shall limit the right of a person adversely affected by a violation of section [53a-181j, 53a-181k or 53a-181l] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, to bring an action under section 52-571c, as amended by this act, or any other law that may entitle such person to relief, except that the Attorney General shall not bring an action under the provisions of this section during the pendency of a matter involving the same parties and the same alleged facts and circumstances before the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

(e) Nothing in this section shall permit the Attorney General to assert

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any claim against a state agency or a state officer or state employee in such officer's or employee's official capacity, regarding actions or omissions of such state agency, state officer or state employee. If the Attorney General determines that a state officer or state employee is not entitled to indemnification under section 5-141d, the Attorney General may, as it relates to such officer or employee, take any action authorized under this section.

Sec. 39. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 29-7d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(1) Shall seek to prevent and detect any criminal activity or suspected criminal activity in the state that is a violation of section [46a-58,] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53-37a, 53-37b, [or 53a-61aa, subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 53a-62, subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 53a-181c, or section 53a-181j, 53a-181k or 53a-181l] 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act;

Sec. 40. Subsection (a) of section 51-279f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) There shall be a State-Wide Hate Crimes Advisory Council within the Office of the Chief State's Attorney, for administrative purposes only. Members of the council shall include (1) the following, or their designees: The Chief State's Attorney; the Chief Public Defender; the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection; the president of the Connecticut Bar Association; the president of the George W. Crawford Black Bar Association; the president of the South Asian Bar Association of Connecticut; the president of the Connecticut Asian Pacific American Bar Association; the president of the

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Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association; the director of the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut; and the president of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association; (2) the head of the Hate Crimes Investigative Unit, established pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-4; and (3) no more than thirty appointed by the Governor who are representatives of organizations committed to decreasing hate crimes, improving diversity awareness or representing the interests of groups within the state protected by sections [53a-181j to 53a-181l, inclusive] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53-37a, 53a-40a, as amended by this act, and sections 53a-181j to 53a-181l, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 5 to 13, inclusive, and 15 to 21, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 41. Subsection (a) of section 17a-210d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) (1) Wherever the words "the mentally retarded" are used in the following general statutes, "persons with intellectual disability" or "individuals with intellectual disability" shall be substituted in lieu thereof; (2) wherever the words "mentally retarded", "mentally retarded person" or "mentally retarded persons" are used in the following general statutes, the words "intellectual disability", "person with intellectual disability" or "persons with intellectual disability" shall be substituted in lieu thereof; and (3) wherever the words "mental retardation" are used in the following general statutes, the words "intellectual disability" shall be substituted in lieu thereof: 4a-60, 4b-31, 8-2g, 8-3e, 9-159s, 10-91f, 17a-593, 17a-594, 17a-596, 45a-598, 45a-669, 45a-672, 45a-676, 45a-677, 45a-678, 45a-679, 45a-680, 45a-681, 45a-682, 45a-683, 46a-51, 46a-60, 46a-64, as amended by this act, 46a-64b, 46a-66, 46a-70, 46a-71, 46a-72, 46a-73, 46a-75, 46a-76, 46b-84, 52-146o, 53a-46a [, 53a-181i] and 54-250.

Sec. 42. Subsection (c) of section 53a-13 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*

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1, 2026):

(c) As used in this section, (1) the terms mental disease or defect do not include (A) an abnormality manifested only by repeated criminal or otherwise antisocial conduct, or (B) pathological or compulsive gambling, and (2) "gender identity or expression" means gender identity or expression, as defined in section [53a-181i] 1-1n.

Sec. 43. Section 53a-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

In any prosecution for an offense, justification, as defined in sections 53a-17 to 53a-23, inclusive, shall be a defense. Justification as a defense does not include provocation that resulted solely from the discovery of, knowledge about or potential disclosure of the victim's actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, including under circumstances in which the victim made an unwanted, nonforcible, romantic or sexual advance toward the defendant, or if the defendant and victim dated or had a romantic relationship. As used in this section, "gender identity or expression" means gender identity or expression, as defined in section [53a-181i] 1-1n.

Sec. 44. Subsection (a) of section 53a-30 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) When imposing sentence of probation or conditional discharge, the court may, as a condition of the sentence, order that the defendant: (1) Work faithfully at a suitable employment or faithfully pursue a course of study or of vocational training that will equip the defendant for suitable employment; (2) undergo medical or psychiatric treatment and remain in a specified institution, when required for that purpose; (3) support the defendant's dependents and meet other family obligations; (4) make restitution of the fruits of the defendant's offense

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or make restitution, in an amount the defendant can afford to pay or provide in a suitable manner, for the loss or damage caused thereby. The court or the Court Support Services Division, if authorized by the court, may fix the amount thereof and the manner of performance, and the victim shall be advised by the court or the Court Support Services Division that restitution ordered under this section may be enforced pursuant to section 53a-28a; (5) if a minor, (A) reside with the minor's parents or in a suitable foster home, (B) attend school, and (C) contribute to the minor's own support in any home or foster home; (6) post a bond or other security for the performance of any or all conditions imposed; (7) refrain from violating any criminal law of the United States, this state or any other state; (8) if convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony, other than a capital felony under the provisions of section 53a-54b in effect prior to April 25, 2012, a class A felony or a violation of section 53a-70b of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2019, or section 21a-278, 21a-278a, 53a-55, 53a-56, 53a-56b, 53a-57 or 53a-58 or any offense for which there is a mandatory minimum sentence which may not be suspended or reduced by the court, and any sentence of imprisonment is suspended, participate in an alternate incarceration program; (9) reside in a residential community center or halfway house approved by the Commissioner of Correction, and contribute to the cost incident to such residence; (10) participate in a program of community service labor in accordance with section 53a-39c; (11) participate in a program of community service in accordance with section 51-181c; (12) if convicted of a violation of section 53a-70b of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2019, or subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53-21 or section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a or 53a-72b, undergo specialized sexual offender treatment; (13) if convicted of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent offense, as defined in section 54-250, or of a felony that the court finds was committed for a sexual purpose, as provided in section 54-254, register such person's identifying factors, as defined in section 54-250, with the Commissioner

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of Emergency Services and Public Protection when required pursuant to section 54-251, 54-252 or 54-253, as the case may be; (14) be subject to electronic monitoring, which may include the use of a global positioning system; (15) if convicted of a violation of section [46a-58] 53-37, as amended by this act, 53-37a, 53a-181j, as amended by this act, 53a-181k, as amended by this act, or 53a-181l, as amended by this act, or section 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 of this act, participate in an anti-bias or diversity awareness program or participate in a program of community service designed to remedy damage caused by the commission of a [bias] hate crime or otherwise related to the defendant's violation; (16) if convicted of a violation of section 53-247, undergo psychiatric or psychological counseling or participate in an animal cruelty prevention and education program provided such a program exists and is available to the defendant; or (17) satisfy any other conditions reasonably related to the defendant's rehabilitation. The court shall cause a copy of any such order to be delivered to the defendant and to the probation officer, if any.

Sec. 45. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Connecticut Sentencing Commission established pursuant to section 54-300 of the general statutes, in consultation with the State-Wide Hate Crimes Advisory Council established pursuant to section 51-279f of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall review the laws of this state concerning offenses that are hate crimes and the penalties associated with such offenses. Said commission and council, at a minimum, shall consider the (1) penalty structure, including the gradation of penalties and degrees of such offenses, (2) penalties of such offenses when compared with other offenses under this state's laws that are not hate crimes but otherwise have substantially similar elements to the elements of those offenses that are hate crimes, and (3) penalties of such offenses when compared with penalties of similar hate crimes offenses of other jurisdictions.

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(b) As part of said commission's and said council's review, the commission and council shall determine whether the penalties for this state's hate crimes are appropriate when reviewed pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of this section. Not later than January 1, 2027, said commission shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, the findings of such review and recommendations for adjustments to this state's hate crimes penalties, if any, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary.

Governor's Action:
Approved May 26, 2026