



House Bill No. 5563

Public Act No. 26-130

AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROPOSALS, CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL FOR AIRPORTS, HELIPORTS, VERTIPOINTS, RESTRICTED LANDING AREAS AND OTHER AIR NAVIGATION FACILITIES, POLICE COLLABORATION WITH SOCIAL WORKERS, SURVEILLANCE PRICING, EDUCATION COST SHARING AND WITHHOLDING OF TAXES FROM LUMP SUM PAYMENTS.

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

Section 1. Section 53-142k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Retail property" means any new article, product, commodity, item or component intended to be sold in retail commerce;

(2) "Value" means the retail value of an item as advertised by the affected retail establishment, including applicable taxes; and

(3) "Retail property fence" means a person who buys retail property when such person knows or should know the property is stolen and with the intent to unlawfully distribute the property or to promote, manage, carry on or facilitate a violation of subsection (b) of this section.

House Bill No. 5563

(b) Any person who, for financial gain and in conjunction with one or more other persons, commits larceny by shoplifting, as defined in section 53a-119, as amended by this act, of retail property having an aggregate value exceeding two thousand dollars and (1) wrongfully takes such property during a period of [one hundred eighty] three hundred sixty-five days, or (2) sells, delivers or otherwise transfers such property to a retail property fence, shall have committed the offense of organized retail theft.

(c) Any person who receives, possesses, conceals, stores, barter, sells or disposes of any retail property acquired in violation of subsection (b) of this section, including through the use of an online platform, Internet web site or electronic device, with the intent to distribute the proceeds or otherwise promote, manage, carry on or facilitate a violation of said subsection, shall have committed the offense of accessory to organized retail theft.

(d) It shall not be a defense to a charge of accessory to organized retail theft in violation of subsection (c) of this section that the retail property was obtained by means other than through a violation of said subsection if the property was explicitly represented to the person charged under said subsection (c) as being obtained through the commission of organized retail theft.

(e) Any person who violates subsection (b) or (c) of this section shall be guilty of a class D felony, except that, if such person derives a financial benefit of ten thousand dollars or more as a result of such violation, such person shall be guilty of a class C felony.

Sec. 2. Section 53a-119 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

A person commits larceny when, with intent to deprive another of property or to appropriate the same to [himself] such person or a third

House Bill No. 5563

person, [he] such person wrongfully takes, obtains or withholds such property from an owner. Larceny includes, but is not limited to:

(1) Embezzlement. A person commits embezzlement when [he] such person wrongfully appropriates to [himself] such person's self or to another property of another in [his] such person's care or custody.

(2) Obtaining property by false pretenses. A person obtains property by false pretenses when, by any false token, pretense or device, [he] such person obtains from another any property, with intent to defraud [him] such other person or any other person.

(3) Obtaining property by false promise. A person obtains property by false promise when, pursuant to a scheme to defraud, [he] such person obtains property of another by means of a representation, express or implied, that [he] such person or a third person will in the future engage in particular conduct, and when [he] such person does not intend to engage in such conduct or does not believe that the third person intends to engage in such conduct. In any prosecution for larceny based upon a false promise, the defendant's intention or belief that the promise would not be performed may not be established by or inferred from the fact alone that such promise was not performed.

(4) Acquiring property lost, mislaid or delivered by mistake. A person who comes into control of property of another that [he] such person knows to have been lost, mislaid, or delivered under a mistake as to the nature or amount of the property or the identity of the recipient is guilty of larceny if, with purpose to deprive the owner thereof, [he] such person fails to take reasonable measures to restore the property to a person entitled to it.

(5) Extortion. A person obtains property by extortion when [he] an actor compels or induces another person to deliver such property to [himself] such actor or a third person by means of instilling in [him] the

House Bill No. 5563

other person a fear that, if the property is not so delivered, the actor or another will: (A) Cause physical injury to some person in the future; or (B) cause damage to property; or (C) engage in other conduct constituting a crime; or (D) accuse some person of a crime or cause criminal charges to be instituted against [him] such person; or (E) expose a secret or publicize an asserted fact, whether true or false, tending to subject some person to hatred, contempt or ridicule; or (F) cause a strike, boycott or other collective labor group action injurious to some person's business; except that such a threat shall not be deemed extortion when the property is demanded or received for the benefit of the group in whose interest the actor purports to act; or (G) testify or provide information or withhold testimony or information with respect to another's legal claim or defense; or (H) use or abuse [his] the actor's position as a public servant by performing some act within or related to [his] the actor's official duties, or by failing or refusing to perform an official duty, in such manner as to affect some person adversely; or (I) inflict any other harm which would not benefit the actor.

(6) Defrauding of public community. A person is guilty of defrauding a public community who (A) authorizes, certifies, attests or files a claim for benefits or reimbursement from a local, state or federal agency which [he] such person knows is false; or (B) knowingly accepts the benefits from a claim [he] such person knows is false; or (C) as an officer or agent of any public community, with intent to prejudice it, appropriates its property to the use of any person or draws any order upon its treasury or presents or aids in procuring to be allowed any fraudulent claim against such community. For purposes of this subdivision such order or claim shall be deemed to be property.

(7) Theft of services. A person is guilty of theft of services when: (A) With intent to avoid payment for restaurant services rendered, or for services rendered to [him] such person as a transient guest at a hotel, motel, inn, tourist cabin, rooming house or comparable establishment,

House Bill No. 5563

[he] such person avoids such payment by unjustifiable failure or refusal to pay, by stealth, or by any misrepresentation of fact which [he] such person knows to be false; or (B) (i) except as provided in section 13b-38i, with intent to obtain railroad, subway, bus, air, taxi or any other public transportation service without payment of the lawful charge therefor or to avoid payment of the lawful charge for such transportation service which has been rendered to [him, he] such person who obtains such service or avoids payment therefor by force, intimidation, stealth, deception or mechanical tampering, or by unjustifiable failure or refusal to pay, or (ii) with intent to obtain the use of equipment, including a motor vehicle, without payment of the lawful charge therefor, or to avoid payment of the lawful charge for such use which has been permitted [him, he] such person who obtains such use or avoids such payment therefor by means of any false or fraudulent representation, fraudulent concealment, false pretense or personation, trick, artifice or device, including, but not limited to, a false representation as to [his] such person's name, residence, employment, or driver's license; or (C) obtaining or having control over labor in the employ of another person, or of business, commercial or industrial equipment or facilities of another person, knowing that [he] the actor is not entitled to the use thereof, and with intent to derive a commercial or other substantial benefit for [himself] the actor or a third person, [he] the actor uses or diverts to the use of [himself] such actor or a third person such labor, equipment or facilities.

(8) Receiving stolen property. A person is guilty of larceny by receiving stolen property if [he] such person receives, retains, or disposes of stolen property knowing that it has probably been stolen or believing that it has probably been stolen, unless the property is received, retained or disposed of with purpose to restore it to the owner. A person who accepts or receives the use or benefit of a public utility commodity which customarily passes through a meter, knowing such commodity (A) has been diverted therefrom, (B) has not been correctly

House Bill No. 5563

registered, or (C) has not been registered at all by a meter, is guilty of larceny by receiving stolen property.

(9) Shoplifting. A person is guilty of shoplifting who intentionally takes possession of any goods, wares or merchandise offered or exposed for sale by any store or other mercantile establishment with the intention of converting the same to [his] such person's own use, without paying the purchase price thereof. A person intentionally concealing unpurchased goods or merchandise of any store or other mercantile establishment, either on the premises or outside the premises of such store, shall be prima facie presumed to have so concealed such article with the intention of converting the same to [his] such person's own use without paying the purchase price thereof.

(10) Conversion of a motor vehicle. A person is guilty of conversion of a motor vehicle who, after renting or leasing a motor vehicle under an agreement in writing which provides for the return of such vehicle to a particular place at a particular time, fails to return the vehicle to such place within the time specified, and who thereafter fails to return such vehicle to the agreed place or to any other place of business of the lessor within one hundred twenty hours after the lessor shall have sent a written demand to [him] such person for the return of the vehicle by registered mail addressed to [him at his] such person at such person's address as shown in the written agreement or, in the absence of such address, to [his] such person's last-known address as recorded in the records of the motor vehicle department of the state in which [he] such person is licensed to operate a motor vehicle. It shall be a complete defense to any civil action arising out of or involving the arrest or detention of any person to whom such demand was sent by registered mail that [he] such person failed to return the vehicle to any place of business of the lessor within one hundred twenty hours after the mailing of such demand.

(11) Obtaining property through fraudulent use of an automated

House Bill No. 5563

teller machine. A person obtains property through fraudulent use of an automated teller machine when such person obtains property by knowingly using in a fraudulent manner an automated teller machine with intent to deprive another of property or to appropriate the same to [himself] such person or a third person. In any prosecution for larceny based upon fraudulent use of an automated teller machine, the crime shall be deemed to have been committed in the town in which the machine was located. In any prosecution for larceny based upon more than one instance of fraudulent use of an automated teller machine, (A) all such instances in any six-month period may be combined and charged as one offense, with the value of all property obtained thereby being accumulated, and (B) the crime shall be deemed to have been committed in any of the towns in which a machine which was fraudulently used was located. For the purposes of this subsection, "automated teller machine" means an unmanned device at which banking transactions including, without limitation, deposits, withdrawals, advances, payments and transfers may be conducted, and includes, without limitation, a satellite device and point of sale terminal as defined in section 36a-2.

(12) Library theft. A person is guilty of library theft when (A) [he] such person conceals on [his person or among his] such person's self or among such person's belongings a book or other archival library materials, belonging to, or deposited in, a library facility with the intention of removing the same from the library facility without authority or without authority removes a book or other archival library materials from such library facility, or (B) [he] such person mutilates a book or other archival library materials belonging to, or deposited in, a library facility, so as to render it unusable or reduce its value. The term "book or other archival library materials" includes any book, plate, picture, photograph, engraving, painting, drawing, map, manuscript, document, letter, public record, microform, sound recording, audiovisual material in any format, magnetic or other tape, electronic

House Bill No. 5563

data-processing record, artifact or other documentary, written or printed material regardless of physical form or characteristics, or any part thereof, belonging to, on loan to, or otherwise in the custody of a library facility. The term "library facility" includes any public library, any library of an educational institution, organization or society, any museum, any repository of public records and any archives.

(13) Conversion of leased property. (A) A person is guilty of conversion of leased personal property who, with the intent of converting the same to [his] such person's own use or that of a third person, after renting or leasing such property under an agreement in writing which provides for the return of such property to a particular place at a particular time, sells, conveys, conceals or aids in concealing such property or any part thereof, and who thereafter fails to return such property to the agreed place or to any other place of business of the lessor within one hundred ninety-two hours after the lessor shall have sent a written demand to [him] such person for the return of the property by registered or certified mail addressed to [him at his] such person at such person's address as shown in the written agreement, unless a more recent address is known to the lessor. Acknowledgment of the receipt of such written demand by the lessee shall not be necessary to establish that one hundred ninety-two hours have passed since such written demand was sent. (B) Any person, being in possession of personal property other than wearing apparel, received upon a written lease, who, with intent to defraud, sells, conveys, conceals or aids in concealing such property, or any part thereof, shall be prima facie presumed to have done so with the intention of converting such property to [his] such person's own use. (C) A person who uses a false or fictitious name or address in obtaining such leased personal property shall be prima facie presumed to have obtained such leased personal property with the intent of converting the same to [his] such person's own use or that of a third person. (D) "Leased personal property", as used in this subdivision, means any personal property received

House Bill No. 5563

pursuant to a written contract, by which one owning such property, the lessor, grants to another, the lessee, the right to possess, use and enjoy such personal property for a specified period of time for a specified sum, but does not include personal property that is rented or leased pursuant to chapter 743i.

(14) Failure to pay prevailing rate of wages. A person is guilty of failing to pay the prevailing rate of wages when [he] such person (A) files a certified payroll, in accordance with section 31-53 which [he] such person knows is false, in violation of section 53a-157a, and (B) fails to pay to an employee or to an employee welfare fund the amount attested to in the certified payroll with the intent to convert such amount to [his] such person's own use or to the use of a third party.

(15) Theft of utility service. A person is guilty of theft of utility service when [he] such person intentionally obtains electric, gas, water, telecommunications, wireless radio communications or community antenna television service that is available only for compensation: (A) By deception or threat or by false token, slug or other means including, but not limited to, electronic or mechanical device or unauthorized use of a confidential identification or authorization code or through fraudulent statements, to avoid payment for the service by [himself] such person or another person; or (B) by tampering or making connection with or disconnecting the meter, pipe, cable, conduit, conductor, attachment or other equipment or by manufacturing, modifying, altering, programming, reprogramming or possessing any device, software or equipment or part or component thereof or by disguising the identity or identification numbers of any device or equipment utilized by a supplier of electric, gas, water, telecommunications, wireless radio communications or community antenna television service, without the consent of such supplier, in order to avoid payment for the service by [himself] such person or another person; or (C) with intent to avoid payment by [himself] such person or

House Bill No. 5563

another person for a prospective or already rendered service the charge or compensation for which is measured by a meter or other mechanical measuring device provided by the supplier of the service, by tampering with such meter or device or by attempting in any manner to prevent such meter or device from performing its measuring function, without the consent of the supplier of the service. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person to whom the service is billed has the intent to obtain the service and to avoid making payment for the service if, without the consent of the supplier of the service: (i) Any meter, pipe, cable, conduit, conductor, attachment or other equipment has been tampered with or connected or disconnected, (ii) any device, software or equipment or part or component thereof has been modified, altered, programmed, reprogrammed or possessed, (iii) the identity or identification numbers of any device or equipment utilized by the supplier of the service have been disguised, or (iv) a meter or other mechanical measuring device provided by the supplier of the service has been tampered with or prevented from performing its measuring function. The presumption does not apply if the person to whose service the condition applies has received such service for less than thirty-one days or until the service supplier has made at least one meter or service reading and provided a billing statement to the person as to whose service the condition applies. The presumption does not apply with respect to wireless radio communications.

(16) Air bag fraud. A person is guilty of air bag fraud when such person, with intent to defraud another person, obtains property from such other person or a third person by knowingly selling, installing or reinstalling any object, including any counterfeit air bag or nonfunctional air bag, as such terms are defined in section 14-106d, in lieu of an air bag that was designed in accordance with federal safety requirements as provided in 49 CFR 571.208, as amended, and which is proper for the make, model and year of the vehicle, as part of the vehicle inflatable restraint system.

House Bill No. 5563

(17) Theft of motor fuel. A person is guilty of theft of motor fuel when such person (A) delivers or causes to be delivered motor fuel, as defined in section 14-327a, into the fuel tank of a vehicle or into a portable container, or into both, on the premises of a retail dealer, as defined in section 14-318, and (B) with the intent to appropriate such motor fuel to [himself] such person or a third person, leaves such premises without paying the purchase price for such motor fuel.

(18) Failure to repay surplus Citizens' Election Fund grant funds. A person is guilty of failure to repay surplus Citizens' Election Fund grant funds when such person fails to return to the Citizens' Election Fund any surplus funds from a grant made pursuant to sections 9-700 to 9-716, inclusive, not later than ninety days after the primary or election for which the grant is made.

(19) Fostering the sale of stolen property. A person is guilty of fostering the sale of stolen property when such person hosts, advertises or otherwise assists in the sale of stolen property, including through an online platform, knowing or believing that such property has been stolen, unless such property is received, retained or disposed of with purpose to restore such property to the owner.

(20) Gift card crime. (A) A person is guilty of gift card crime when, with intent to defraud, such person (i) acquires or retains possession of a gift card or gift card redemption information without the consent of the cardholder, card issuer or gift card seller; (ii) alters or tampers with a gift card or its packaging; or (iii) devises a scheme to obtain a gift card or gift card information from a cardholder, card issuer or gift card seller by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations or promises. (B) For purposes of this subdivision: (i) "Cardholder" means any person or party (I) to whom a physical or virtual gift card is issued through a purchase, or (II) who receives a gift card from a willing party; (ii) "card issuer" means any person who issues a gift card or the agent of such person with respect to such card; (iii) "closed-loop gift card" means a

House Bill No. 5563

card, code or device that is (I) issued to a consumer on a prepaid basis in a specified amount, regardless of whether such amount may be increased or reloaded in exchange for payment, and (II) redeemable for goods, services or anything of value upon presentation by a consumer to a single merchant or group of affiliated merchants; (iv) "gift card" means a physical or digital closed-loop gift card or open-loop gift card that is activated or inactivated; (v) "gift card redemption information" means information unique to each gift card that allows the cardholder to access, transfer or spend the funds on such gift card; (vi) "open-loop gift card" means a card, code or device that is (I) issued to a consumer on a prepaid basis in a specified amount, regardless of whether such amount may be increased or reloaded in exchange for payment, and (II) redeemable for goods, services or anything of value upon presentation by a consumer to multiple unaffiliated merchants within a payment card network; and (vii) "gift card seller" means a merchant who is engaged in the business of selling open-loop gift cards or closed-loop gift cards to consumers.

Sec. 3. Section 52-564a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) Any person eighteen years of age or older or an emancipated minor who takes possession of goods or merchandise displayed or offered for sale by any mercantile establishment, or who takes from any real property any agricultural produce kept, grown or raised on the property for purposes of sale, without the consent of the owner and with the intention of converting such goods, merchandise or produce to [his] such person's own use without having paid the purchase price thereof, or who alters the price indicia of such goods or merchandise, shall be liable in a civil action to the owner of the goods, merchandise or produce for (1) the actual and reasonable costs of maintaining the action, including court costs and a reasonable attorney's fee, (2) the retail value of the goods, merchandise or produce taken, if not recovered by the time

House Bill No. 5563

of the commencement of the action or if recovered in an unmerchantable condition, and (3) punitive damages in an amount not to exceed [three hundred] one thousand dollars.

(b) A conviction of larceny by shoplifting, as defined in subdivision (9) of section 53a-119, as amended by this act, shall not be a condition precedent to the maintenance of a civil action under this section.

(c) In any action brought pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, if the plaintiff does not prevail, the court may award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the defendant. [his costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee, and damages not to exceed three hundred dollars.]

(d) No action shall be brought pursuant to subsection (a) of this section but within two years from the date of the act complained of.

Sec. 4. Section 46b-486 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

The Department of Public Health may release information relating to an acknowledgment of parentage to (1) (A) a signatory of the acknowledgment, (B) the child if such child is eighteen years of age or older, (C) a guardian of the person whose parentage is acknowledged, (D) an attorney representing a person to whom such information may be released, (E) a court, (F) a federal agency, (G) an authorized representative of the Department of Social Services, (H) the child support agency of this state, (I) any agency acting under a cooperative or purchase of service agreement with the child support agency of this state, and (J) the child support agency of another state, and (2) an authorized representative of the Department of Children and Families when such information is requested in furtherance of the department's duties or responsibilities in a matter pending the superior court for juvenile matters where parentage of the child is outstanding.

Sec. 5. Section 13b-46 of the general statutes is repealed and the

House Bill No. 5563

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

(a) The executive director may approve airports, heliports, vertiports, restricted landing areas and other air navigation facilities. Any municipality or person acquiring property for the purpose of constructing or establishing an airport, heliport, vertiport or restricted landing area shall, prior to such acquisition, apply to the executive director for a certificate of approval of the site selected and the general purpose or purposes for which the property is to be acquired, to ensure that the property and its use shall conform to minimum standards of safety and shall serve the public interest. Any proposed airport, heliport, vertiport, restricted landing area or other air navigation facility at which more than thirty-six landings and takeoffs are expected to be made by aircraft in any year shall be approved by the executive director before it shall be licensed to be used or operated. The executive director shall make no charge for approval certificates of proposed property acquisition for airport, heliport, vertiport or restricted landing area purposes.

(b) The executive director may (1) license [airports, heliports, vertiports, restricted landing areas and other air navigation facilities] any airport, heliport, vertiport, restricted landing area and other air navigation facility at which more than thirty-six landings and takeoffs are expected to be made by aircraft in any year, and (2) renew such licenses. When a certificate of approval of an airport, heliport, vertiport, [or] restricted landing area or other air navigation facility has been issued by the executive director, the executive director may grant a license for operation and use. On and after [July 1, 1995] October 1, 2026, the executive director shall charge a fee of [one hundred fifty] three hundred dollars for each license or renewal thereof. Each such license shall be effective for a period of three years from the date of issuance. Each licensee shall certify, on a form provided by the executive director, that the licensed facility shall comply with all applicable federal, state

House Bill No. 5563

and local laws and regulations during the license period. Municipalities shall be exempt from the payment of any license fee in connection with airports owned or operated by such municipalities.

(c) The executive director may (1) register any airport, heliport, vertiport, restricted landing area or other air navigation facility at which thirty-six or fewer landings and takeoffs are expected to be made by aircraft in any year, and (2) renew such registrations. On and after October 1, 2026, the executive director shall charge a fee of one hundred dollars for each registration or renewal thereof. Each such registration shall be effective for a period of three years from the date of issuance. Each registrant shall certify, on a form provided by the executive director, (A) that the registered facility shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations during the registration period, and (B) that there will be thirty-six or fewer landings and takeoffs by aircraft at such facility in any year during the registration period. Any airport, heliport, vertiport, restricted landing area or other air navigation facility at which thirty-six or fewer landings and takeoffs are expected to be made by aircraft in any year shall be registered with the executive director pursuant to this subsection before it is to be used or operated. Municipalities shall be exempt from the payment of any registration fee in connection with airports owned or operated by such municipalities.

~~[(c)]~~ (d) No municipality or officer or employee thereof and no person shall operate an airport, heliport, vertiport, restricted landing area or other air navigation facility for which approval has not been granted, and a license has not been issued, by the executive director in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section or registration has not been issued by the executive director in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any airport, heliport, vertiport, restricted landing area or other air navigation facility owned by the federal

House Bill No. 5563

government within this state. Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

[(d)] (e) Any heliport in operation prior to October 1, 1985, shall be deemed licensed for operation and use and the executive director shall issue an original license for any such heliport upon the written request of the person who controls and operates such heliport. Such heliports shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter concerning the renewal or revocation of licenses, inspection and review of air navigation facilities and any other provision of this chapter except those concerning the initial approval or licensing of such facilities. Such heliports shall be subject to any rule or procedure adopted by the authority in accordance with the provisions of this chapter except those concerning the initial approval or licensing of any air navigation facility.

Sec. 6. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 18-811l of the general statutes, as amended by section 2 of public act 26-40, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(b) (1) The department shall, during the intake of any person who is incarcerated, (A) verify directly with such person any medications taken by such person, or make such verification through the State-wide Health Information Exchange, established pursuant to section 17b-59d, the pharmacy used by such person or such person's prescribing health care provider, (B) request that such person provide the name of such person's primary care provider and authorize the sharing of medical information with such provider and a designated family member or health care proxy by signing a release of information form, and (C) accept from such person any prescription medication such person has in such person's possession for storage and possible administration as prescribed to such person, and in accordance with written policies and procedures established by the department to ensure patient safety, by appropriate Department of Correction staff. [as prescribed to such person.]

House Bill No. 5563

Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 18-100j of the general statutes, as amended by section 8 of public act 26-40, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) (1) Not later than October 1, [2027] 2026, the Departments of Correction, Mental Health and Addiction Services and Social Services and the Office of Policy and Management shall, within available appropriations, initiate a pilot program to assist with discharge planning for patients with chronic disease and behavioral health needs, including mental health and substance abuse disorders, and to coordinate specialty care referrals for persons who are incarcerated at York Correctional Institution upon release. Such program shall be administered by the health services and behavioral health employees within the Department of Correction and shall expand internal capacity for discharge planning and care coordination, including coordination with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, to facilitate access to programs and services upon release. Said departments and office shall contract with a federally qualified health center in this state to work with Department of Correction health services and behavioral health employees to provide community-based care for persons upon release for not fewer than two years. The federally qualified health center shall work with Department of Correction employees to improve continuity of care and community health care standards for said department. The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to permit the contracting out of work customarily performed by Department of Correction employees.

(2) Not later than January 15, [2029] 2028, and January fifteenth following each calendar year thereafter during which such program is maintained, the Departments of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Social Services, the Office of Policy and Management, the Department of Correction health services and behavioral health employees and the federally qualified health center assisting with such

House Bill No. 5563

program shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, on the results of such program to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the Department of Correction, human services and public health. Such reports shall evaluate the (A) effectiveness of discharge planning and reentry care coordination for participants in the program, (B) management and continuity of care for chronic diseases among participants in the program, (C) coordination, timeliness and completion of specialty care referrals for participants in the program, (D) extent to which participants successfully access community-based health care services following release from the correctional institution, and (E) costs of the program when compared to other delivery of care models in use at the time such program is initiated.

Sec. 8. Section 54-102kk of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law governing [postconviction] post-conviction relief, any person who was convicted of a crime and sentenced to incarceration may, at any time during the term of such incarceration or after completion of such term and while subject to the jurisdiction or supervision of any probation, parole or correctional agency, file a petition with the sentencing court requesting the DNA testing of any evidence that is in the possession or control of the Division of Criminal Justice, any law enforcement agency, any laboratory or the Superior Court. The petitioner shall state under penalties of perjury that the requested testing is related to the investigation or prosecution that resulted in the petitioner's conviction and that the evidence sought to be tested contains biological evidence.

(b) After notice to the prosecutorial official and a hearing, the court shall order DNA testing if it finds that:

(1) A reasonable probability exists that the petitioner would not have

House Bill No. 5563

been prosecuted or convicted if exculpatory results had been obtained through DNA testing;

(2) The evidence is still in existence and is capable of being subjected to DNA testing;

(3) The evidence, or a specific portion of the evidence identified by the petitioner, was never previously subjected to DNA testing, or the testing requested by the petitioner may resolve an issue that was never previously resolved by previous testing; and

(4) The petition before the Superior Court was filed in order to demonstrate the petitioner's innocence and not to delay the administration of justice.

(c) After notice to the prosecutorial official and a hearing, the court may order DNA testing if it finds that:

(1) A reasonable probability exists that the requested testing will produce DNA results which would have altered the verdict or reduced the petitioner's sentence if the results had been available at the prior proceedings leading to the judgment of conviction;

(2) The evidence is still in existence and is capable of being subjected to DNA testing;

(3) The evidence, or a specific portion of the evidence identified by the petitioner, was never previously subjected to DNA testing, or the testing requested by the petitioner may resolve an issue that was never previously resolved by previous testing; and

(4) The petition before the Superior Court was filed in order to demonstrate the petitioner's innocence and not to delay the administration of justice.

(d) The costs of DNA testing ordered pursuant to this section shall be

House Bill No. 5563

borne by the state or the petitioner, as the court may order in the interests of justice, except that DNA testing shall not be denied because of the inability of the petitioner to pay the costs of such testing.

(e) In a proceeding under this section, the petitioner shall have the right to be represented by counsel and, if the petitioner is indigent, the court shall appoint counsel for the petitioner in accordance with section 51-296.

(f) An order of the court denying the petitioner's request for DNA testing of any evidence that is in the possession or control of the Division of Criminal Justice, any law enforcement agency, any laboratory or the Superior Court shall be a final judgment for purposes of an appeal.

Sec. 9. Section 54-91c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2027*):

(a) For the purposes of this section, "victim" means a person who is a victim of a crime, the legal representative of such person, a member of a deceased victim's immediate family or a person designated by a deceased victim in accordance with section 1-56r.

(b) (1) (A) Prior to any proceedings involving the dismissal of a charge against any defendant or the entry of a nolle prosequi to a charge for any offense described in subdivision (2) of this subsection against a defendant, or (B) prior to the imposition of sentence upon any defendant who has been found guilty of any crime or has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to any crime, and prior to the acceptance by the court of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere made pursuant to a plea agreement with the state, the court shall permit any victim of the crime to appear before the court for the purpose of making a statement for the record, which statement may include the victim's opinion [of] concerning the dismissal of a charge against any defendant or the entry of a nolle prosequi to a charge for any offense described in subdivision (2) of this

House Bill No. 5563

subsection against a defendant or any plea agreement. In lieu of such appearance, the victim may submit a written statement or, if the victim of the crime is deceased, the legal representative or a member of the immediate family of such deceased victim may submit a statement of such deceased victim to the state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney in charge of the case. Such state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney shall file the statement with the sentencing court and the statement shall be made a part of the record at the sentencing hearing. Any such statement, whether oral or written, shall relate to the facts of the case, the appropriateness of any penalty and the extent of any injuries, financial losses and loss of earnings directly resulting from the crime for which the defendant is being sentenced. The court shall inquire on the record whether any victim is present for the purpose of making an oral statement or has submitted a written statement. If no victim is present and no such written statement has been submitted, the court shall inquire on the record whether an attempt has been made to notify any such victim as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section or, if the defendant was originally charged with a violation of section 53a-167c for assaulting a peace officer, whether the peace officer has been personally notified as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section. After consideration of any such statements, the court may refuse to accept, where appropriate, a negotiated plea or sentence, and the court shall give the defendant an opportunity to enter a new plea and to elect trial by jury or by the court.

(2) The following are offenses for which the court, pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, shall permit any victim of a crime to appear before the court for the purpose of making a statement for the record concerning the dismissal of a charge against a defendant or the entry of a nolle prosequi to a charge against a defendant:

(A) An offense that is a violation of subdivision (2) or (3) of subsection

House Bill No. 5563

(a) of section 53-21, or section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70c, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-73a, 53a-83b, 53a-86, 53a-90a, 53a-90b, 53a-189a, 53a-189c, 53a-191, 53a-192a, 53a-196, 53a-196a, 53a-196b, 53a-196c, 53a-196d, 53a-196e, 53a-196f, 53a-196h, 53a-196i or 53a-196j; or

(B) Any other offense that is (i) a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent offense, each as defined in section 54-250, or (ii) designated as a family violence crime, as defined in section 46b-38a.

(c) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, prior to the imposition of sentence upon such defendant and prior to the acceptance of a plea pursuant to a plea agreement, the state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney in charge of the case shall notify the victim of such crime of the date, time and place of the original sentencing hearing or any judicial proceeding concerning the acceptance of a plea pursuant to a plea agreement, provided the victim has informed such state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney that such victim wishes to make or submit a statement as provided in subsection (b) of this section and [has complied with a request from such state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney to submit a stamped, self-addressed postcard for the purpose of such notification] such victim has provided the state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney with up-to-date contact information.

(2) Prior to the imposition of sentence upon a defendant originally charged with a violation of section 53a-167c for assaulting a peace officer, and prior to the acceptance of a plea pursuant to a plea agreement, the state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney in charge of the case shall personally notify the peace officer who was the victim of such crime of the date, time and place of the original sentencing hearing or any judicial proceeding concerning the acceptance of a plea pursuant to a plea agreement.

House Bill No. 5563

(3) If the state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney is unable to notify the victim, such state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy state's attorney shall sign a statement as to such notification.

(d) Upon the request of a victim, prior to the acceptance by the court of a plea of a defendant pursuant to a proposed plea agreement, the state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney in charge of the case shall provide such victim with the terms of such proposed plea agreement in writing. If the terms of the proposed plea agreement provide for a term of imprisonment which is more than two years or a total effective sentence of more than a two-year term of imprisonment, the state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or deputy assistant state's attorney in charge of the case shall indicate: (1) The maximum period of imprisonment that may apply to the defendant; (2) whether the defendant may be eligible to earn risk reduction credits pursuant to section 18-98e; (3) whether the defendant may be eligible to apply for release on parole pursuant to section 54-125a; and (4) whether the defendant may be eligible for automatic erasure of such defendant's criminal conviction pursuant to subsection (e) of section 54-142a.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any proceedings held in accordance with section 46b-121 or section 54-76h.

Sec. 10. Section 7-294tt of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Not later than January 1, 2024, the Police Officer Standards and Training Council shall (1) examine (A) programs and strategies used in the state or other jurisdictions through which police officers collaborate with social workers, and (B) the evaluation submitted pursuant to section 18 of public act 20-1 of the July special session; and (2) issue guidance to law enforcement units that (A) includes recommendations of how police officers may collaborate with social workers, and (B) on

House Bill No. 5563

and after October 1, 2026, includes (i) the potential impact of such collaboration, and (ii) instances where such collaboration may or may not be feasible, including when a social worker may respond to a call for assistance or accompany a police officer on certain calls for assistance.

Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2027*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Bona fide market price" means the price at which a consumer good or consumer service is advertised to the public on a regular basis by the retail seller or third-party delivery service for a reasonably substantial period of time;

(2) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 42-515 of the general statutes;

(3) "Consumer good" means any article that is purchased, leased, exchanged or received primarily for personal, family or household purposes;

(4) "Consumer service" means any service that is purchased, leased, exchanged or received primarily for personal, family or household purposes;

(5) "Discounted price" means any price for a consumer good or consumer service that is (A) established for, or offered to, a consumer or group of consumers, and (B) verifiably lower than the generally available, publicly disclosed and bona fide market price established for the consumer good or consumer service;

(6) "Person" means any individual, association, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, trust or other legal entity;

(7) "Personal data" has the same meaning as provided in section 42-515 of the general statutes;

(8) "Retail seller" (A) means a retailer, as defined in section 12-407 of

House Bill No. 5563

the general statutes, to the extent such retailer is engaged in making sales, at retail, of tangible personal property, and (B) includes, but is not limited to, a retail food establishment;

(9) "Surveillance pricing" means the practice of establishing a customized price for a consumer good or consumer service that is specific to a consumer or group of consumers based, in whole or in part, on the consumer's personal data collected (A) through any technology or technological method, system or tool, including, but not limited to, any biometric monitoring, camera, device tracking or sensor, that is used to gather personal data in a physical or digital environment, and (B) by the person establishing the customized price either directly or indirectly by gathering, purchasing or otherwise acquiring such personal data from a third party; and

(10) "Third-party delivery service" means a company, organization or entity, outside of the operation of a retail food establishment's business, that facilitates delivery or online ordering services to customers of a retail food establishment.

(b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, any person doing business in the state who engages in surveillance pricing for any reason other than to establish a discounted price for a consumer good or consumer service to be sold, leased, exchanged or provided as part of an online transaction, and who directly or indirectly advertises or promotes online a price established for a consumer good or consumer service by using surveillance pricing, labels a consumer good with such price online or publishes an online statement, display, image, offer or announcement disclosing such price, shall include in such online advertisement, promotion, label, statement, display, image, offer or announcement the following disclosure, or a substantially similar disclosure: "THIS PRICE WAS INCREASED USING YOUR PERSONAL DATA". Any person doing business in this state who is required to include such disclosure shall disclose to consumers their rights under

House Bill No. 5563

section 42-518 of the general statutes. No disclosure shall be required under this subdivision if the advertised, promoted, labeled or published price is the bona fide market price.

(2) The disclosure required under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be readily visible to the average consumer.

(c) (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, no retail seller or third-party delivery service doing business in the state shall engage in surveillance pricing.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the following shall not be deemed to constitute surveillance pricing:

(A) Establishing for, or offering to, a consumer a discounted price for a consumer good or consumer service for purposes such as retaining a consumer as a customer, reestablishing a consumer as a customer, attracting a consumer as a new customer, cross-selling an item to a consumer or reengaging a lapsed customer;

(B) Establishing for, or offering to, different consumers different prices for the same consumer good or consumer service due to (i) justifiable differences in the costs incurred in providing such consumer good or consumer service to such consumers, including, but not limited to, justifiable differences in consumers' physical locations, consumer selections, delivery distances or delivery times, or (ii) justifiable temporal differences, including, but not limited to, justifiable temporal differences due to price fluctuations based on supply and demand;

(C) Establishing for, or offering to, a consumer or group of consumers a discounted price for a consumer good or consumer service (i) based on publicly disclosed discounted prices and uniform terms and conditions that may be satisfied by any consumer, including, but not limited to, by signing up for a mailing list, registering for promotional

House Bill No. 5563

communications or participating in a promotional event, (ii) that is available to all consumers who are members of a broadly defined group, including, but not limited to, veterans or members of the armed forces, senior citizens, students, teachers or residents of a specific area, based on publicly disclosed discounts and uniform terms and conditions, or (iii) through a loyalty, membership or rewards program in which consumers must affirmatively enroll. The retail seller or third-party delivery service shall prominently post the discount and discounted price, and the uniform terms and conditions for such discount and discounted price, on such retail seller's or third-party delivery service's Internet web site in language that is readily understandable by the average consumer; or

(D) Correcting a price resulting from a pricing error or resetting a price following a system or network outage.

(d) The provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall not be construed to apply to:

(1) Any person licensed, authorized to operate or registered, or required to be licensed, authorized to operate or registered, pursuant to the insurance laws of this state; or

(2) Any person who can demonstrate that any refusal to extend credit, the terms, rates or pricing on which any credit or financial services are extended or any refusal to enter into a transaction with a specific consumer is based on (A) data provided in a consumer report covered by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681 et seq., as amended from time to time, or (B) data reflecting factors a creditor is permitted to consider under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, 15 USC 1681 et seq., as amended from time to time, and the regulations promulgated under said act.

(e) Any violation of the provisions of subsections (b) to (d), inclusive,

House Bill No. 5563

of this section shall constitute an unfair or deceptive trade practice for the purposes of subsection (a) of section 42-110b of the general statutes and shall be enforced solely by the Attorney General. Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a private right of action or to provide grounds for an action under section 42-110g of the general statutes.

Sec. 12. (*Effective from passage*) Any municipality or regional board of education that increased its local share of the budget for the board of education for such municipality or regional board of education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, over the amount of the local share of the budget for such board of education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, may adjust its adopted budget or tax levies to reduce such local share for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, including the local share and funds received pursuant to sections 391 and 394 of public act 26-68, provided the resulting local share is not less than the greater of (1) the amount of funding provided for education under its adopted budget, or (2) the sum of the budget for the board of education for such municipality or regional board of education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and any funds received pursuant to said sections 391 and 394 of public act 26-68.

Sec. 13. Section 391 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the city of Hartford shall be paid a supplemental education aid grant in an amount equal to five million dollars of its grant amount listed in section 390 of [this act] public act 26-68. The amount paid to the city of Hartford shall be paid by the Comptroller, upon certification of the Commissioner of Education, to the treasurer of Hartford not later than June thirtieth of said fiscal year. All aid paid to the city of Hartford pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision shall be expended for educational purposes only and shall be expended upon the authorization of the board of education for Hartford. [Such grant shall not be used to

House Bill No. 5563

supplant local funding for educational purposes.]

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, each town shall be paid a supplemental education aid grant equal to the amount prescribed in section 390 of [this act] public act 26-68. The amount due each town shall be paid by the Comptroller, upon certification of the Commissioner of Education, to the treasurer of each town not later than June thirtieth of said fiscal year. [All] Subject to the provisions of section 12 of this act, all aid distributed to a town pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision shall be expended for educational purposes only and shall be expended upon the authorization of the local or regional board of education. [Such grant shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational purposes.]

(b) Such grant shall not be considered part of the budgeted appropriation for education for the town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for purposes of calculating the minimum budget requirement for the town pursuant to section 10-262j of the general statutes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028.

Sec. 14. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 394 of public act 26-68 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) [All] Subject to the provisions of section 12 of this act, all aid distributed to a town pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be expended for educational purposes only and shall be expended upon the authorization of the local or regional board of education. [Such grant shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational purposes.]

(d) Such grant shall not be considered part of the budgeted appropriation for education for the town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for purposes of calculating the minimum budget requirement for the town pursuant to section 10-262j of the general statutes for the

House Bill No. 5563

fiscal year ending June 30, 2028.

Sec. 15. Section 178 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-142 of the general statutes, title 7 or 10 of the general statutes, chapters 170 and 204 of the general statutes, any special act, any municipal charter or any home rule ordinance, if a municipality or regional board of education has adopted a budget or levied taxes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, prior to the adoption of the state budget for said fiscal year and such municipality or regional board of education receives, pursuant to such adopted state budget, an amount of state aid more than the amount projected in the municipality's or regional board of education's adopted budget, such (1) municipality, by vote of its legislative body or, in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting, by vote of the board of selectmen, or (2) regional board of education, may (A) amend its budget, and (B) not later than July 1, 2026, adjust the tax levy and the amount of any remaining installments of such taxes, provided such amended budget shall not reduce the amount provided by the municipality to the local or regional board of education for education purposes below the greater of (i) the amount of local funding provided for such purpose under the adopted budget, or (ii) (I) the minimum budget requirement for the town pursuant to section 10-262j of the general statutes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, plus (II) the amount of funds paid to the municipality or regional board of education pursuant to sections 391 and 394 of public act 26-68. The amendment to such budget shall be in an amount not exceeding the increase in state aid to the municipality or regional board of education.

Sec. 16. (*Effective from passage*) The provisions of sections 12 to 15, inclusive, of this act shall not apply to the city of Bridgeport.

Sec. 17. Subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 18-81qq of the 2026

House Bill No. 5563

supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 26-40, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(e) (1) The Correction Ombuds need not investigate a complaint, if the Correction Ombuds determines such investigation is not warranted. If the Correction Ombuds determines that such investigation is not warranted, the Correction Ombuds shall inform the person making the complaint of such decision in writing, which complaint and decision shall be confidential and exempt from the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and shall not be disclosed without the consent of such person. Not later than December 31, 2026, and each December thirty-first annually thereafter, the Correction Ombuds shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the Department of Correction setting forth the number of complaints for which the Correction Ombuds determined that an investigation was not warranted and a summary of the reason for each such determination. Such report shall be a public record, as defined in section 1-200.

Sec. 18. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 12-705 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(B) (i) For the period commencing July 1, [2025] 2026, and ending December 31, [2026] 2027, the withholding requirement for a lump sum payment under clause (ii) of this subparagraph shall not apply, except that if a payee has requested an amount to be withheld from such distribution, the payer shall withhold such amount.

(ii) With respect to a lump sum distribution, if a payee does not make a request to have an amount withheld from such distribution, the payer shall withhold from the taxable portion of the distribution at the highest

House Bill No. 5563

marginal rate, except that no withholding shall be required if (I) any portion of the lump sum distribution was previously subject to tax, or (II) the lump sum distribution is a rollover that is effected as a direct trustee-to-trustee transfer or as a direct rollover in the form of a check made payable to another qualified account.

(iii) For purposes of this subparagraph, "lump sum distribution" means a payment from a payer to a resident payee of an amount exceeding fifty per cent of such resident payee's entire account balance or more than five thousand dollars, whichever is less, exclusive of any other tax withholding and any administrative charges and fees.

Sec. 19. Section 44 of public act 26-100 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Governor's Action:
Approved June 4, 2026