



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4084



Offered by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.
REP. RITTER, 1st Dist.
SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.
REP. ROJAS, 9th Dist.
SEN. WINFIELD, 10th Dist.

REP. STAFSTROM, 129th Dist.
SEN. MARONEY, 14th Dist.
REP. LEMAR, 96th Dist.
SEN. FLEXER, 29th Dist.
REP. BLUMENTHAL, 147th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 397

File No. 399

Cal. No. 245

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

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

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

11 (b) (1) In a civil action brought pursuant to subsection (a) of this

12 section, if the defendant is held liable, the court may award damages,
13 including, but not limited to, nominal damages, actual damages,
14 compensatory damages, punitive damages, injunctive relief and other
15 appropriate equitable relief, to protect the peaceable exercise or
16 enjoyment of the right or rights secured by the United States
17 Constitution.

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

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

31 (d) No provision of this section shall be construed to constitute a
32 waiver of the state's sovereign immunity.

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

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

41 (1) Subjects, or causes to be subjected, other persons to the
42 deprivation of any rights, privileges or immunities secured by the

43 constitutions or laws of this state or the United States; or

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

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

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

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

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

66 [(c)] (d) If the Attorney General prevails in a civil action brought
67 pursuant to this section, the court shall order the distribution of any
68 award of damages to the injured person. In a matter involving the
69 interference or attempted interference with any right protected by the
70 [constitutions of this state or the United States] Constitution of the
71 United States or the state Constitution, the court may also award civil
72 penalties against each defendant in an amount not exceeding two
73 thousand five hundred dollars for each violation, provided such

74 violation has been established by clear and convincing evidence. Any
75 civil penalty that is received pursuant to this subsection shall be
76 deposited in the General Fund.

77 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) In lieu of bringing a civil action under this section, the
78 Attorney General may accept an assurance of the discontinuance of any
79 allegedly unlawful or unconstitutional practice from any person
80 engaged in such practice. Thereafter, any evidence of a violation of such
81 assurance shall constitute prima facie proof of violation of the applicable
82 law or right in any action commenced by the Attorney General.

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

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

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

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

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

100 ~~[(j)]~~ (k) Nothing in this section shall permit the Attorney General to
101 assert any claim against a state agency or a state officer or state
102 employee in such officer's or employee's official capacity, regarding
103 actions or omissions of such state agency, state officer or state employee.

104 If the Attorney General determines that a state officer or state employee
105 is not entitled to indemnification under section 5-141d, the Attorney
106 General may, as relates to such officer or employee, take any action
107 authorized under this section.

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

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

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

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

134 (A) "Peace officer" means a member of the Division of State Police

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

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

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

159 [(a) (1)] (2) Whenever a peace officer, in the performance of such
160 officer's duties, uses physical force upon another person and such
161 person dies as a result thereof or uses deadly physical force [, as defined
162 in section 53a-3,] upon another person, the Division of Criminal Justice
163 shall cause an investigation to be made and the Inspector General shall
164 have the responsibility of determining whether the use of physical force
165 by the peace officer was justifiable under section 53a-22, as amended by
166 this act. The use of an electronic defense weapon [, as defined in section
167 53a-3,] by a peace officer shall not be considered deadly physical force

168 for purposes of this section.

169 [(2)] (3) (A) Except as provided under subdivision [(1)] (2) of this
170 subsection, whenever a person dies [in the] within the physical custody
171 of a peace officer or law enforcement agency, the Inspector General shall
172 investigate and determine whether physical force was used by a peace
173 officer upon the deceased person, and if so, whether the use of physical
174 force by the peace officer was justifiable under section 53a-22, as
175 amended by this act. If the Inspector General determines the deceased
176 person may have died as a result of criminal action not involving the
177 use of force by a peace officer, the Inspector General shall refer such case
178 to the Chief State's Attorney or a state's attorney for potential
179 prosecution.

180 (B) Except as provided under subdivision [(1)] (2) of this subsection
181 or subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, [(2) of this subsection,]
182 whenever a person dies [in the] within the physical custody of the
183 Commissioner of Correction, the Inspector General shall investigate and
184 determine whether the deceased person may have died as a result of
185 criminal action, and, if so, refer such case to the Chief State's Attorney
186 or a state's attorney for potential prosecution. The Inspector General
187 may issue a report concerning the death of such person, which may
188 include, but need not be limited to, any recommended future action to
189 be taken by said commissioner.

190 [(3)] (4) Whenever a person who (A) is a next of kin of a deceased
191 person, (B) is not notified of such deceased person's death as required
192 pursuant to section 7-294mm and no other person who is a next of kin
193 of the deceased person was so notified, and (C) requests of the Office of
194 the Inspector General an investigation of the lack of notification or
195 timely notification of such death, the Inspector General shall investigate
196 and determine whether there was any malfeasance on the part of a peace
197 officer, except for a federal law enforcement officer, or a supervisor of
198 the peace officer, except for a federal law enforcement officer, in the
199 failure to provide such notification or timely notification, and if so, may
200 make recommendations to the Police Officer Standards and Training

201 Council established under section 7-294b concerning censure,
202 suspension, renewal, cancelation or revocation of the peace officer's or
203 supervisor's certification, provided any such recommendation may be
204 made to said council only in a case where such failure is found to be
205 intentional or made with reckless indifference. If there is no finding that
206 such failure was intentional or made with reckless indifference, a
207 recommendation may be made to the officer's or supervisor's employing
208 agency for any further disciplinary action as so determined by such
209 employing agency.

210 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) (A) The Inspector General shall request the appropriate law
211 enforcement agency to provide such assistance as is necessary to
212 investigate and make a determination under subdivision ~~[(1), (2) or (3)]~~
213 (2), (3) or (4) of this subsection.

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

223 (C) If any person restricts the Division of Criminal Justice or the
224 Inspector General's right to access the scene and collect evidence as set
225 forth in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the Division of Criminal
226 Justice or the Inspector General may bring an action in the Superior
227 Court for injunctive relief against any person who has committed the
228 violation. Upon filing of the complaint, the court may order any
229 declaratory or temporary injunctive relief required to make the
230 complainant whole. The court shall order a hearing to be had upon such
231 complaint not more than five days after the date of filing the complaint
232 and the Division of Criminal Justice or the Inspector General shall cause
233 notice to be given to any interested party of the time and place for the

234 hearing upon such complaint. A continuance of the hearing date may be
235 granted upon consent of the parties. The court shall, on the day fixed for
236 such hearing and without unnecessary delay, proceed to hear the
237 parties. The court may order, amend or continue any declaratory or
238 temporary injunctive relief.

239 [(5)] (6) Whenever a peace officer, in the performance of such officer's
240 duties, uses physical force or deadly physical force upon another person
241 and such person dies as a result thereof, the Inspector General shall
242 complete a preliminary status report that shall include, but need not be
243 limited to, (A) the name of the deceased person, (B) the gender, race,
244 ethnicity and age of the deceased person, (C) the date, time and location
245 of the injury causing such death, (D) the law enforcement agency
246 involved, (E) the status on the toxicology report, if available, and (F) the
247 death certificate, if available. The Inspector General shall complete the
248 report and submit a copy of such report not later than five business days
249 after the cause of the death is available to the Chief State's Attorney and,
250 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
251 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
252 relating to the judiciary and public safety.

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

267 provided to the chief executive officer and the commissioner or chief of
268 police.

269 (c) The Office of the Inspector General shall prosecute any case in
270 which the Inspector General determines that (1) the use of force by a
271 peace officer was not justifiable under section 53a-22, as amended by
272 this act, or (2) there was a failure to intervene in such incident or to
273 report any such incident, as required under subsection (a) of section 7-
274 282e or section 18-81nn.

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

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

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

293 (b) Except as provided in subsection (a) or (d) of this section, a peace
294 officer or an authorized official of the Department of Correction or the
295 Board of Pardons and Paroles is justified in using physical force upon
296 another person when and to the extent that he or she reasonably believes
297 such use to be necessary to: (1) Effect an arrest or prevent the escape

298 from custody of a person whom he or she reasonably believes to have
299 committed an offense, unless he or she knows that the arrest or custody
300 is unauthorized; or (2) defend himself or herself or a third person from
301 the use or imminent use of physical force while effecting or attempting
302 to effect an arrest or while preventing or attempting to prevent an
303 escape.

304 (c) (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a peace
305 officer or an authorized official of the Department of Correction or the
306 Board of Pardons and Paroles is justified in using deadly physical force
307 upon another person for the purposes specified in subsection (b) of this
308 section only when his or her actions are objectively reasonable under the
309 given circumstances at that time, and:

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

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

327 (2) For purposes of evaluating whether actions of a peace officer or
328 an authorized official of the Department of Correction or the Board of
329 Pardons and Paroles are reasonable under subdivision (1) of this

330 subsection, factors to be considered include, but are not limited to,
331 whether (A) the person upon whom deadly physical force was used
332 possessed or appeared to possess a deadly weapon, (B) the peace officer
333 or an authorized official of the Department of Correction or the Board
334 of Pardons and Paroles engaged in reasonable deescalation measures
335 prior to using deadly physical force, and (C) any unreasonable conduct
336 of the peace officer or an authorized official of the Department of
337 Correction or the Board of Pardons and Paroles led to an increased risk
338 of an occurrence of the situation that precipitated the use of such force.

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

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

354 (f) A person who has been directed to assist a peace officer or an
355 authorized official of the Department of Correction or the Board of
356 Pardons and Paroles under circumstances specified in subsection (e) of
357 this section may use deadly physical force to effect an arrest or to
358 prevent an escape from custody only when: (1) He or she reasonably
359 believes such use to be necessary to defend himself or herself or a third
360 person from what he or she reasonably believes to be the use or
361 imminent use of deadly physical force; or (2) he or she is directed or
362 authorized by such peace officer or official to use deadly physical force,

363 unless he or she knows that the peace officer or official himself or herself
364 is not authorized to use deadly physical force under the circumstances.

365 (g) A private person acting on his or her own account is justified in
366 using reasonable physical force upon another person when and to the
367 extent that he or she reasonably believes such use to be necessary to
368 effect an arrest or to prevent the escape from custody of an arrested
369 person whom he or she reasonably believes to have committed an
370 offense and who in fact has committed such offense; but he or she is not
371 justified in using deadly physical force in such circumstances, except in
372 defense of person as prescribed in section 53a-19.

373 (h) In determining whether use of force by a peace officer who is a
374 police officer, as defined in subsection (a) of section 29-6d, is justified
375 pursuant to this section, the trier of fact may draw an unfavorable
376 inference from a police officer's deliberate failure in violation of section
377 29-6d to record such use of physical force.

378 Sec. 5. Section 51-277e of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
379 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
380 *passage*):

381 (a) There is established the Office of the Inspector General that shall
382 be a separate office within the Division of Criminal Justice. Not later
383 than October 1, 2021, the Criminal Justice Commission established
384 pursuant to section 51-275a shall appoint a deputy chief state's attorney
385 as Inspector General who shall lead the Office of the Inspector General.
386 The office shall: (1) Conduct investigations of peace officers in
387 accordance with section 51-277a, as amended by this act; (2) prosecute
388 any case in which the Inspector General determines a peace officer used
389 force found to not be justifiable pursuant to section 53a-22, as amended
390 by this act, or where a police officer or correction officer fails to intervene
391 in any such incident or to report any such incident, as required under
392 subsection (a) of section 7-282e or section 18-81nn, as applicable; (3)
393 investigate any failure to report the death of a person in accordance with
394 the provisions of section 7-294mm; (4) investigate any failure to report

395 in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (h) of
396 section 7-294d; (5) investigate the death of a person within the physical
397 custody of a peace officer or law enforcement agency or the
398 Commissioner of Correction in accordance with the provisions of
399 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 51-277a, as amended by this
400 act; and [(5)] (6) make recommendations to the Police Officer Standards
401 and Training Council established under section 7-294b concerning
402 censure and suspension, renewal, cancelation or revocation of a peace
403 officer's certification, provided in the case of a failure to report a death
404 of a person, any such recommendation may be made to said council only
405 in a case where such failure is found to be intentional or made with
406 reckless indifference, or if there is no finding that such failure was
407 intentional or made with reckless indifference, a recommendation may
408 be made to the officer's employing agency for any further disciplinary
409 action as so determined by such employing agency. As used in this
410 subsection, "peace officer" has the same meaning as provided in section
411 51-277a, as amended by this act.

412 (b) The Inspector General shall serve a term of four years from July
413 first in the year of the appointment unless sooner removed by the
414 Criminal Justice Commission. The commission shall not be precluded
415 from reappointing an individual who has previously served as
416 Inspector General.

417 (c) An Inspector General may be removed or otherwise disciplined
418 only in accordance with section 51-278b.

419 (d) The Inspector General may issue subpoenas to municipalities, law
420 enforcement units, as defined in section 7-294, the Department of
421 Correction and any employee or former employee of the municipality,
422 unit or department (1) requiring the production of reports, records or
423 other documents concerning an investigation described in subsection (a)
424 of this section that is undertaken by the Inspector General, and (2)
425 compelling the attendance and testimony of any person having
426 knowledge pertinent to such investigation at an investigative deposition
427 conducted by the Inspector General, or the Inspector General's designee.

428 (e) A chief of police of a municipality, the Commissioner of
429 Emergency Services and Public Protection or the Commissioner of
430 Correction may refer and the Inspector General shall accept any such
431 referral of an incident described in subsection (a) of this section for
432 purposes of an investigation.

433 (f) The Office of the Inspector General shall be at a location that is
434 separate from the locations of the Office of the Chief State's Attorney or
435 any of the state's attorneys for the judicial districts.

436 (g) The Inspector General may employ necessary staff to fulfil the
437 duties of the Office of the Inspector General described in subsection (a)
438 of this section. Such staff shall be selected by the Inspector General
439 within the confines of any existing collective bargaining agreement and
440 shall include, but not be limited to, an assistant state's attorney or a
441 deputy assistant state's attorney, an inspector and administrative staff.
442 As needed by and upon request of the Inspector General, the Office of
443 the Chief State's Attorney shall ensure assistance from additional
444 assistant state's attorneys or deputy assistant state's attorneys,
445 inspectors and administrative staff.

446 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section: (1)
447 "Peace officer" has the same meaning as provided in section 51-277a of
448 the general statutes, as amended by this act; and (2) "facial covering"
449 means any opaque mask, garment, helmet, headgear or other item that
450 conceals or obscures the facial identity of an individual, including, but
451 not limited to, a balaclava, tactical mask, gator, ski mask and any similar
452 type of facial covering or face-shielding item.

453 (b) A peace officer, while carrying out the enforcement of laws of this
454 state, any other state or the United States, shall not wear any facial
455 covering or personal disguise while interacting with the public in the
456 performance of such officer's duties, except for (1) a medical grade facial
457 covering that is designed to protect the health and safety of the peace
458 officer, provided protecting the health and safety of the officer does not
459 include protecting the identity of the peace officer, (2) any facial

460 covering designed to prevent the transmission of airborne diseases, (3)
461 any facial covering designed to protect against exposure to smoke
462 during a fire-involved situation, (4) any facial covering necessary to
463 perform duties during a water rescue operation, (5) any facial covering
464 related to protection against exposure to biological or chemical agents
465 during an incident where such agents may be present, (6) any facial
466 covering protecting against freezing temperatures, provided such facial
467 covering is worn during an activity not requiring oral communication
468 with the public or a person sought to be placed in custody, or (7) any
469 facial covering necessary to perform duties during an active undercover
470 operation or assignment which have been authorized to be worn by
471 supervising personnel or court order. Notwithstanding the provisions
472 of this subsection, a peace officer assigned to a bomb squad, motorcycle
473 unit or specialized weapons and tactics team is permitted to utilize gear
474 necessary to protect such officer's face and head from physical harm
475 while performing the duties associated with such assignment. Any
476 peace officer who violates the provisions of this subsection shall be
477 guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

478 (c) In accordance with the provisions of section 7-294ii of the general
479 statutes, a peace officer, who is conducting a planned arrest or
480 interacting with the public in such officer's official capacity and is
481 authorized to make arrests, shall be clearly identified by such officer's
482 badge and name tag on the officer's uniform, unless (1) such officer is
483 performing duties during an active undercover assignment authorized
484 by supervising personnel, (2) compliance is excused pursuant to the
485 model policy adopted pursuant to section 7-294ii of the general statutes,
486 (3) compliance is excused pursuant to a court order, or (4) while in the
487 performance of such officer's duties, weather-related events or traffic
488 safety issues exist that prevent such officer from having a name tag or
489 badge on such officer's outer garment. Any peace officer who
490 intentionally violates the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of
491 a class D misdemeanor.

492 (d) Notwithstanding any other law, any peace officer who is found to

493 have committed an intentional tort of assault, battery, false
494 imprisonment, false arrest, abuse of process or malicious prosecution
495 pursuant to state law or 28 USC 2680(h), while wearing a facial covering
496 or personal disguise in a knowing and wilful violation of this section,
497 shall not be entitled to assert any privilege or immunity for such officer's
498 tortious conduct against a claim of civil liability.

499 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

500 (1) "Protected area" means any of the following buildings or locations,
501 including the grounds of such buildings or locations and any garages or
502 parking lots utilized in the operation of such buildings or locations,
503 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
504 the buildings or locations:

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

507 (B) A hospital licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 368v of
508 the general statutes or an urgent care center, as defined in section 19a-
509 493d of the general statutes;

510 (C) A place of worship or religious study;

511 (D) A playground, recreation center, child care center, before or after-
512 school care center, foster care facility, group home for children or school
513 bus stop when children are present;

514 (E) A social services establishment, including, but not limited to, a
515 crisis center, domestic violence shelter, victims services center, child
516 advocacy center, supervised visitation center, family justice center,
517 facility that serves disabled persons, homeless shelter, drug or alcohol
518 counseling and treatment facility, or food bank, pantry or other
519 establishment distributing food or other essentials of life to people in
520 need;

521 (F) A place where disaster or emergency response and relief is

522 provided, including, but not limited to, such places along evacuation
523 routes, where shelter or emergency supplies, food or water are being
524 distributed, or registration for disaster-related assistance or family
525 reunification is underway; or

526 (G) A cemetery or other place of internment for the deceased.

527 (2) "State facility" means any building, or part thereof, owned, leased,
528 occupied, controlled by or used for business by an office or agency of
529 the Executive Department, either directly or indirectly, including, but
530 not limited to, entities providing direct services on behalf of offices or
531 agencies, but not including state-owned property leased to a federal
532 entity. "State facility" includes the grounds of such facility and any
533 garages or parking lots utilized in the operation of such facility,
534 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
535 the facility.

536 (3) "Municipal facility" means any building or part thereof, owned,
537 leased, occupied, controlled by or used for business by a municipal
538 government, either directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to,
539 entities providing direct services on behalf of a municipal government.
540 "Municipal facility" includes the grounds of such facility and any
541 garages or parking lots utilized in the operation of such facility,
542 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
543 the facility.

544 (4) "Civil offense" means an offense for which a local, state or federal
545 civil proceeding is available to the charged individual to offer a defense.
546 "Civil offense" does not include any offense identified as an infraction
547 by the general statutes, a motor vehicle violation or an arrest allowed
548 (A) for an alleged violation of the criminal law of: (i) The state or another
549 jurisdiction within the United States, for which a sentence of a term of
550 imprisonment is authorized by law; or (ii) the United States, for which
551 a sentence of a term of imprisonment is authorized by law, and for
552 which federal law requires an initial appearance before a federal judge,
553 federal magistrate or other judicial officer, pursuant to the federal rules

554 of criminal procedure that govern initial appearances; (B) for contempt
555 of court; (C) for a *capias* issued by a judge; (D) in response to a warrant
556 for a violation of parole or probation; or (E) for commitment under
557 emergency certificate or other arrest permitted under chapter 319i of the
558 general statutes.

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

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

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

573 Sec. 8. Section 51-33b of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
574 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
575 *passage*):

576 (a) No representative of a local, state or federal law enforcement
577 authority shall detain, arrest or otherwise take an individual on
578 courthouse grounds into custody on the basis of a civil offense, unless
579 such representative (1) is acting in the representative's official capacity,
580 and (2) has notified a judicial marshal within the courthouse in which
581 the representative intends to detain, arrest or otherwise take an
582 individual into custody and has provided documentation to the judicial
583 marshal demonstrating that the individual to be detained, arrested or
584 otherwise taken into custody (A) is the subject of a judicial warrant, (B)

585 has been convicted of (i) a violation of section 53-21, 53a-56a, 53a-64aa,
586 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b, 53a-90a, 53a-102a, 53a-196e, 53a-196f, 53a-196i,
587 53a-222 or 53a-223, or (ii) any class A or B felony offense, or (C) is
588 identified as a possible match in the federal Terrorist Screening
589 Database or similar database. The provisions of this subsection do not
590 apply to a judicial marshal detaining, arresting or otherwise taking an
591 individual on courthouse grounds into custody.

592 (b) Any judicial marshal receiving documentation pursuant to
593 subsection (a) of this section shall promptly review such documentation
594 in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the Office of
595 the Chief Court Administrator. No representative of a local, state or
596 federal law enforcement authority shall detain, arrest or otherwise take
597 an individual on courthouse grounds into custody on the basis of a civil
598 offense who is the subject of such documentation, unless the judicial
599 marshal determines, based upon such review, that such individual (1) is
600 the subject of a judicial warrant, (2) has been convicted of (A) a violation
601 of section 53-21, 53a-56a, 53a-64aa, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b, 53a-90a,
602 53a-102a, 53a-196e, 53a-196f, 53a-196i, 53a-222 or 53a-223, or (B) any
603 class A or B felony offense, or (3) is identified as a possible match in the
604 federal Terrorist Screening Database or similar database.

605 (c) Any violation of the provisions of this section may be deemed
606 contempt of court and punished in accordance with the provisions of
607 section 51-33.

608 (d) Any individual aggrieved by a violation of this section may bring
609 a civil action for equitable relief or damages in the Superior Court. A
610 civil action brought for damages may be triable by jury.

611 (e) In any action pursuant to this section, the court may award
612 reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred to the prevailing party.

613 (f) No action may be commenced pursuant to subsection (d) of this
614 section against the Judicial Branch or any officer or employee of said
615 branch acting lawfully pursuant to such officer's or employee's official

616 capacity, regarding actions or omissions of said branch or such officer
617 or employee.

618 (g) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to prohibit a
619 representative of a local, state or federal law enforcement authority from
620 detaining, arresting or otherwise taking an individual on courthouse
621 grounds into custody on the basis of a civil offense, if such action is in
622 compliance with the provisions of this section and section 54-192h.

623 (h) For purposes of this section, (1) "courthouse" means the interior
624 of any facility or property in which a court of this state conducts
625 business, [and] (2) "courthouse grounds" includes the courthouse and
626 any garage or parking lot owned by the Judicial Branch, or under
627 contract with said branch, for the purpose of serving a courthouse, any
628 walkways or sidewalks on the grounds of, contiguous to or abutting the
629 grounds of the courthouse or connecting such garage or parking lot to
630 the courthouse or grounds of the courthouse, and "civil offense" has the
631 same meaning as provided in section 7 of this act.

632 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 7-294d of the general statutes is
633 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
634 *passage*):

635 (b) (1) No person may be employed as a police officer by any law
636 enforcement unit for a period exceeding one year unless such person
637 has been certified under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section
638 or has been granted an extension by the council. No person may serve
639 as a police officer during any period when such person's certification
640 has been cancelled or revoked pursuant to the provisions of subsection
641 (c) of this section. In addition to the requirements of this subsection, the
642 council may establish other qualifications for the employment of police
643 officers and require evidence of fulfillment of these qualifications. The
644 certification of any police officer who is not employed by a law
645 enforcement unit for a period of time in excess of two years, unless such
646 officer is on leave of absence, shall be considered lapsed. Upon
647 reemployment as a police officer, such officer shall apply for

648 recertification in a manner provided by the council, provided such
649 recertification process requires the police officer to submit to a urinalysis
650 drug test that screens for controlled substances, including, but not
651 limited to, anabolic steroids, and receive a result indicating no presence
652 of any controlled substance not prescribed for the officer.

653 (2) The council shall certify any applicant who presents evidence of
654 satisfactory completion of a program or course of instruction in another
655 state or, if the applicant is a veteran or a member of the armed forces or
656 the National Guard, as part of training during service in the armed
657 forces, that is equivalent in content and quality to that required in this
658 state, provided such applicant passes an examination or evaluation as
659 required by the council. The council shall not waive any portion of the
660 required basic training program for any applicant who has previously
661 served as a peace officer, or who, at the time the application is made, is
662 -serving as a peace officer, unless the applicant presents evidence of
663 satisfactorily completing a substantially equivalent training or
664 educational program, which includes a minimum of four hundred
665 eighty hours of training. Nothing in this section shall require the council
666 to waive any portion of the required basic training program for any
667 applicant who has previously served as a peace officer, or who, at the
668 time the application is made, is serving as a peace officer. For the
669 purposes of this [section,] subsection, (A) "veteran" and "armed forces"
670 have the same meanings as provided in section 27-103, and (B) "peace
671 officer" has the same meaning as provided in section 51-277a, as
672 amended by this act.

673 Sec. 10. Section 52-571j of the general statutes is repealed and the
674 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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

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

686 (c) An employer of a peace officer shall not be liable under subsection
687 (b) of this section if the peace officer had reasonable grounds to believe
688 that the peace officer was interfering with the taking of such image in
689 order to (1) lawfully enforce a criminal law of this state, a federal
690 criminal law or a municipal ordinance, whichever is applicable, (2)
691 protect the public safety, (3) preserve the integrity of a crime scene or
692 criminal investigation, (4) safeguard the privacy interests of any person,
693 including a victim of a crime, or (5) lawfully enforce court rules and
694 policies of the Judicial Branch with respect to taking a photograph,
695 videotaping or otherwise recording an image in facilities of the Judicial
696 Branch.

697 (d) Notwithstanding any other law, any peace officer who is found to
698 have committed an intentional tort of assault, battery, false
699 imprisonment, false arrest, abuse of process or malicious prosecution,
700 pursuant to state law or 28 USC 2680(h), while interfering with any
701 person taking a photographic or digital still or video image of such
702 peace officer or another peace officer acting in the performance of such
703 peace officer's duties, shall not be entitled to assert any privilege or
704 immunity for their tortious conduct against a claim of civil liability.

705 Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) In any prosecution for an
706 offense, no federal officer, employee or agent shall have immunity for
707 any action taken under color of federal law, unless such officer's,
708 employee's or agent's action was: (1) Authorized by federal law; and (2)
709 necessary and proper to execute such officer's, employee's or agent's
710 official duties as a federal officer, employee or agent.

711 Sec. 12. Section 7-291c of the general statutes is repealed and the
712 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

713 (a) No law enforcement unit, as defined in section 7-294a, shall hire
714 any person as a police officer, as defined in said section 7-294a, who was
715 previously employed as a [police] peace officer, as defined in section 51-
716 277a, as amended by this act, by such unit or in any other jurisdiction
717 and who (1) was dismissed for malfeasance or other serious misconduct
718 calling into question such person's fitness to serve as a [police] peace
719 officer; or (2) resigned or retired from such officer's position while under
720 investigation for such malfeasance or other serious misconduct.

721 (b) Any law enforcement unit that has knowledge that any former
722 police officer of such unit who (1) (A) was dismissed for malfeasance or
723 other serious misconduct, or (B) resigned or retired from such officer's
724 position while under investigation for such malfeasance or other serious
725 misconduct; and (2) is an applicant for the position of police officer with
726 any other law enforcement unit, shall inform such other unit and the
727 Police Officer Standards and Training Council established under section
728 7-294b of such dismissal, resignation or retirement.

729 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any [police] peace
730 officer who is exonerated of each allegation against such officer of such
731 malfeasance or other serious misconduct.

732 (d) For purposes of this section, (1) "malfeasance" means the
733 commonly approved usage of "malfeasance"; and (2) "serious
734 misconduct" means improper or illegal actions taken by a [police] peace
735 officer in connection with such officer's official duties that could result
736 in a miscarriage of justice or discrimination, including, but not limited
737 to, (A) a conviction of a felony, (B) fabrication of evidence, (C) repeated
738 use of excessive force, (D) acceptance of a bribe, or (E) the commission
739 of fraud.

740 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section and
741 sections 14 and 15 of this act:

742 (1) "Automated license plate reader system" means a mobile or fixed
743 electronic image recording device that is capable, in combination with

744 computer programs or algorithms, of converting images of license
745 plates or vehicle descriptors into computer-readable data. "Automated
746 license plate reader system" does not include an image recording device
747 that provides evidence used in enforcement of an offense specified in
748 the general statutes or by municipal ordinance, including, but not
749 limited to, such devices as an automated traffic enforcement safety
750 device, as defined in section 14-307b of the general statutes, or those
751 used as part of a work zone speed control system, as defined in section
752 13a-261 of the general statutes, or a municipal school bus violation
753 enforcement system, as defined in section 14-279c of the general
754 statutes;

755 (2) "Automated license plate reader data" includes any data captured,
756 recorded, held or stored, processed or derived from an automated
757 license plate reader system, including, but not limited to, license plate
758 characters, vehicle still or video images, vehicle attributes, location data,
759 time stamps and metadata;

760 (3) "Gender-affirming health care services" has the same meaning as
761 provided in section 52-571m of the general statutes;

762 (4) "Hotlist" means a list of registration numbers displayed on license
763 plates maintained for comparison against a registration number
764 collected by an automated license plate reader system;

765 (5) "Internal hotlist addendum" means a hotlist that (A) is maintained
766 for use only at a specific state facility or facilities for which the list was
767 made and by the public agency that made such list, and (B) may contain
768 registration numbers displayed on a license plate of a motor vehicle
769 registered to a person who is identified in the making of such list as a
770 potential threat to a person in the state facility, to the state facility or
771 against the public agency operating the state facility, for reasons that
772 include a previous conviction of such person for a misdemeanor or
773 felony offense involving threats of physical violence or harassment
774 against a person in the state facility, to the state facility or against the
775 public agency operating the state facility or conduct by a person that is

776 documented and involves threats of or attempted violence, harassment
777 or incitement of physical violence against a person in the state facility,
778 to the state facility or against the public agency operating the state
779 facility, provided no such inclusion on an internal hot list addendum is
780 based on an arrest for or conduct that is solely speech, conduct or
781 association protected by article first of the Constitution of the state or
782 the first amendment to the United States Constitution.

783 (6) "Law enforcement agency" means a department or agency for
784 which a law enforcement officer is an employee of or otherwise paid by
785 or acting as an agent of, including, but not limited to, a municipal police
786 department or the Division of State Police within the Department of
787 Emergency Services and Public Protection;

788 (7) "Public agency" has the same meaning as provided in section 1-
789 200 of the general statutes;

790 (8) "Reproductive health care services" has the same meaning as
791 provided in section 52-571m of the general statutes; and

792 (9) "State facility" means any building, or part thereof, owned, leased,
793 occupied, controlled by or used for business by an office or agency of
794 the Executive Department, Legislative Branch or Judicial Branch, either
795 directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, entities providing
796 direct services on behalf of offices or agencies, but not including state-
797 owned property leased to a federal entity. "State facility" includes the
798 grounds of such facility and any garages or parking lots utilized in the
799 operation of such facility, irrespective of whether such garages or
800 parking lots are contiguous to the facility.

801 (b) (1) On and after October 1, 2026, no public agency or private
802 vendor under contract with a public agency may operate an automated
803 license plate reader system or use automated license plate reader data,
804 except as follows:

805 (A) A public agency or a private vendor under contract with a public
806 agency may operate an automated license plate reader system or use

807 automated license plate reader data for the following purposes: (i)
808 Performing weigh station duties; (ii) monitoring or maintaining the
809 agency's vehicles or equipment; (iii) assisting in the control of access to
810 a secured area; (iv) conducting traffic analytics; (v) enforcing parking
811 regulations and collecting fines, including (I) by a municipal parking
812 authority pursuant to chapter 100 of the general statutes, or (II) on the
813 grounds of any facility owned or operated by any other public agency
814 and any garages or parking lots utilized in the operation of such facility,
815 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
816 the facility; (vi) monitoring and securing state facilities; or (vii) enforcing
817 motor vehicle tax compliance pursuant to section 14-33 and chapter 203
818 of the general statutes; and

819 (B) A law enforcement agency or a private vendor under contract
820 with a law enforcement agency may operate an automated license plate
821 reader system or use automated license plate reader data for the
822 following purposes: (i) Comparing such data with (I) data contained in
823 a hotlist or internal hotlist addendum, (II) records of the Connecticut
824 Online Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing System, (III)
825 data contained in the Federal Bureau of Investigations Kidnapping and
826 Missing Persons list, (IV) data contained in the Connecticut Criminal
827 Justice Information System, (V) data contained in the Federal Terrorist
828 Screening Database, (VI) data contained in the National Crime
829 Information Center database, or (VII) data contained in the National
830 Center for Missing and Exploited Children database; or (ii) entering a
831 license plate number into an automated license plate reader system
832 upon a law enforcement officer's determination that data in the system
833 may (I) be relevant and material to a specific active investigation of a
834 criminal offense in which there is reasonable suspicion that the offense
835 has been or is being committed, provided any access by an officer of
836 automated license plate reader data for such purpose shall result in a
837 record of the reason for the access and any associated case number for
838 the complaint or incident that is being investigated and is the basis for
839 the access, (II) assist in the apprehension of an individual with an
840 outstanding warrant, (III) assist in locating a missing or endangered

841 individual, or (IV) assist in the recovery of a stolen motor vehicle.

842 (2) (A) On and after October 1, 2026, except as provided in
843 subparagraph (B) or (C) of this subdivision, any automated license plate
844 reader data collected or otherwise acquired or held or stored by a public
845 agency or by a private vendor under contract with a public agency shall
846 not be retained for a period in excess of twenty-one days, or for a shorter
847 period when required pursuant to the terms of a contract between a
848 public agency with a private vendor that accesses an automated license
849 plate reader system or holds or stores such data, unless such data is
850 being retained (i) pursuant to a warrant or court order issued by a judge
851 or magistrate on behalf of the state or federal judicial branches, or
852 pursuant to court rules governing the preservation of evidence, (ii) for
853 the purpose of collecting highway usage fees if such fees exist, provided
854 such data is deleted not later than thirty days following the collection of
855 such fees, (iii) as evidence in an active criminal investigation or
856 prosecution, provided (I) at the time such data is designated for
857 retention, such retention is approved by a supervisory law enforcement
858 officer and documented by the law enforcement agency in a record
859 stating the purpose for such retention and any associated case number
860 for the investigation or prosecution to which the data relates, and (II)
861 such data is deleted upon the conclusion of the investigation if no
862 criminal charges are filed, or upon the final disposition of the criminal
863 case to which the data relates, including the exhaustion of all direct
864 appeals, whichever occurs first, unless otherwise required to be retained
865 under clause (i) of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, or (iv) for the
866 purpose of conducting traffic analytics pursuant to clause (iv) of
867 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, provided such
868 data is held or stored or managed as de-identified, aggregated or
869 summarized data.

870 (B) A public agency or a private vendor under contract with a public
871 agency may hold or retain automated license plate reader data for a
872 period in excess of twenty-one days, if such data may be necessary to
873 establish that the commission of a potential future offense, motor vehicle

874 violation or infraction pursuant to an ordinance, the general statutes or
875 a regulation is a subsequent offense, motor vehicle violation or
876 infraction for which a penalty prescribed for such subsequent offense,
877 motor vehicle violation or infraction exceeds the penalty for the
878 previous offense, motor vehicle violation or infraction.

879 (C) Any data collected pursuant to clause (vii) of subparagraph (A)
880 of subdivision (1) of this subsection may be held or retained for a period
881 in excess of twenty-one days, if such data is being held or retained
882 expressly for the purpose of ensuring an individual's compliance with a
883 municipality's motor vehicle tax laws, provided (i) such data is not
884 shared with any entity or individual other than the municipality's tax
885 assessor or the individual to whom the motor vehicle is registered, and
886 (ii) such data is deleted after ninety days, or following a determination
887 of compliance by the municipality's tax assessor, whichever occurs first.

888 (c) Automated license plate reader data may be admissible as
889 evidence in any court of this state, provided such data was collected or
890 otherwise acquired or held or stored in accordance with the provisions
891 of this section or obtained pursuant to a warrant issued by a judge of the
892 Superior Court.

893 (d) On and after October 1, 2026, no public agency operating an
894 automated license plate reader system or using automated license plate
895 reader data pursuant to subsection (b) of this section may:

896 (1) Use or assist in the use of automated license plate reader data to
897 monitor or investigate an individual based on such individual's actual
898 or perceived race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or
899 expression, sex, pregnancy status, disability, citizenship, nationality or
900 income level, or perceived criminal history, except in a case where an
901 individual is being investigated for a potential criminal offense for
902 which an element of such offense is a prior conviction;

903 (2) Use or assist in the use of an automated license plate reader data
904 system or automated license plate reader data for the purpose of

905 identifying an individual engaged in an activity protected under the
906 First Amendment to the United States Constitution;

907 (3) Use or assist in the use of an automated license plate reader data
908 system or automated license plate reader data for the purpose of
909 investigating a suspected immigration violation or otherwise assisting
910 in any civil or criminal immigration enforcement activity;

911 (4) Use or assist in the use of an automated license plate reader data
912 system or automated license plate reader data for the purpose of
913 investigating or prosecuting any individual who has sought, received,
914 or provided reproductive health care services or gender-affirming
915 health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state;

916 (5) Unless authorized pursuant to section 29-6d of the general
917 statutes, collect automated license plate reader data from a fixed
918 automated license plate reader system on the premises or within a
919 distance established by the Police Officer Standards and Training
920 Council pursuant to section 14 of this act, of a reproductive or sexual
921 health facility, as defined in section 42-515 of the general statutes, that
922 primarily provides gender-affirming health care services that are
923 permitted under the laws of this state or a nonprofit or community
924 organization that primarily serves immigrant communities, excluding
925 any property under federal jurisdiction, provided such facility or
926 organization notified the Police Officer Standards and Training Council
927 of such facility's or organization's location;

928 (6) Share or provide access to automated license plate reader data,
929 unless the individual or entity requesting such data or access is (A) a
930 public agency of this state, (B) a law enforcement agency of the state of
931 New York or Rhode Island or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or
932 a municipality of said states or commonwealth or a multijurisdictional
933 task force of which a public agency of this state is a participating
934 member, provided (i) such requesting law enforcement agency or task
935 force provides a written declaration affirming that any data received
936 will be used in compliance with the prohibitions set forth in this section,

937 and will not be used for an immigration investigation or enforcement
938 action or to investigate or prosecute any individual who has sought,
939 received or provided reproductive health care services or gender-
940 affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this
941 state and will not be further disclosed except as permitted under the
942 laws of this state, and (ii) in the case of a multijurisdictional task force,
943 such specific data requested is approved by the head of such task force
944 or such head's designee and is directly and reasonably relevant to a
945 specific investigation of such task force, (C) any other law enforcement
946 agency other than those of this state or described in subparagraph (B) of
947 this subdivision, including any federal law enforcement agency, if such
948 requesting law enforcement agency has a judicially issued probable
949 cause warrant for the specific data requested, or is requesting specific
950 data on an individual identified as a possible match in the Federal
951 Terrorist Screening Database, or (D) an individual requesting data
952 regarding a motor vehicle registered in such individual's name,
953 provided if a motor vehicle has more than one owner, lessor or regular
954 user, all such owners, lessors and regular users join in the request and
955 are natural persons;

956 (7) Participate in a system or network that shares automated license
957 plate reader data, or provide to, or access such data through any
958 multistate, intrastate or national data-sharing system or network unless
959 such system or network requires, as a condition of participation in or
960 access to such system or network, execution of a written declaration by
961 each participant affirming that: (A) Any data shared, accessed or
962 otherwise acquired will be used solely in compliance with this section
963 and other laws of this state; and (B) such participant will not share or
964 use such data, except in compliance with the provisions of this section;
965 and

966 (8) Permit a public agency to have real-time, bulk or automatic access
967 to automated license plate reader data, unless such data is in response
968 to a documented, case-specific request and the sharing of such data is
969 not otherwise prohibited under this subsection.

970 (e) (1) Automated license plate reader data is confidential and shall
971 not be deemed a public record for the purposes of the Freedom of
972 Information Act, as defined in section 1-200 of the general statutes.

973 (2) The following are not confidential and are deemed public records
974 for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section
975 1-200 of the general statutes:

976 (A) Locations of any still or video image recording device used as part
977 of an automated license plate reader system, except such data is
978 confidential and not deemed public records if the purchase of the still or
979 video image recording device was funded in whole or in part by the
980 United States Department of Homeland Security and such funding was
981 conditioned on the location of such device not being disclosed; and

982 (B) Any data derived from any audit of an automated license plate
983 reader system, usage logs for such system and logs detailing access to
984 automated license plate reader data, provided any such data disclosable
985 under this subsection has all automated license plate reader data
986 redacted from otherwise disclosable data.

987 (3) Any person who seeks to obtain automated license plate reader
988 data concerning a motor vehicle that was registered in such person's
989 name at the time of the creation of such data may obtain such data from
990 the contracting public agency, provided if such motor vehicle is also
991 registered in another person's name, such person also consents to such
992 disclosure.

993 (f) Not later than January 1, 2027, a public agency, other than a law
994 enforcement agency, that operates an automated license plate reader
995 system or uses automated license plate reader data shall adopt and
996 publicize a written automated license plate reader system usage and
997 privacy policy prior to using or acquiring an automated license plate
998 reader system or automated license plate reader data. Such policy shall
999 comply with all applicable provisions of this section and include
1000 safeguards and standards substantially equivalent to those required

1001 under the model policy adopted under section 14 of this act.

1002 (g) On and after the effective date of this section, no public agency
1003 shall enter into or renew any contract with a private vendor related to
1004 automated license plate reader system usage or automated license plate
1005 reader data, unless such contract provides that the private vendor shall
1006 not engage in any of the following activities with respect to any
1007 automated license plate reader data collected in this state,
1008 notwithstanding any terms of service, including, but not limited to,
1009 terms or conditions of use, use agreements or policies or procedures
1010 maintained by a private vendor, that are incorporated by reference or
1011 otherwise into the contract:

1012 (1) Sell such automated license plate reader data;

1013 (2) Share or transfer such automated license plate reader data with or
1014 to any third party, without receiving the prior express written
1015 authorization of the contracting public agency for the sharing or
1016 transferring of such data for a specific purpose;

1017 (3) Allow any person other than the contracting agency to access such
1018 automated license plate reader data, unless the private vendor is
1019 required to allow such person to access such automated license plate
1020 reader data pursuant to a warrant or court order issued by a judge or
1021 magistrate on behalf of the state or federal judicial branches. As used in
1022 this subdivision, "warrant or court order" excludes any subpoena or
1023 demand of a grand jury investigation;

1024 (4) Share or transfer such automated license plate reader data, or
1025 allow access to such automated license plate reader data, if the private
1026 vendor reasonably believes that such automated license plate reader
1027 data may be used for purposes of (A) investigating any suspected
1028 immigration violation or otherwise assisting in any immigration
1029 enforcement activity, (B) investigating any suspected, or prosecuting
1030 any alleged person or persons for, (i) seeking, providing or receiving
1031 reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care

1032 services that are permitted under the laws of this state, or (ii) assisting
1033 another individual who is seeking, providing or receiving reproductive
1034 health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are
1035 permitted under the laws of this state, including, but not limited to,
1036 providing information, transportation, lodging or material support to
1037 such other individual, or (C) any effort to identify, or impose any civil
1038 or criminal liability on, any person based solely on such person's
1039 participation in any activity that is protected by the United States
1040 Constitution or the Constitution of the state of Connecticut, including,
1041 but not limited to, any exercise of such person's right to freedom of
1042 speech, to peaceably assemble or to petition the government for a
1043 redress of grievances, except as otherwise provided by applicable state
1044 or federal law; or

1045 (5) Hold or store the contracting public agency's automated license
1046 plate reader data (A) with the automated license plate reader data held
1047 or stored pursuant to a contract with a different public agency
1048 concerning automated license plate reader data or any such data held or
1049 stored pursuant to a contract with any other person concerning such
1050 data, (B) in another jurisdiction outside of this state, or (C) in a manner
1051 that is not in accordance with industry-recognized data security
1052 practices, including, but not limited to, using encryption when
1053 transmitting or storing such data.

1054 (h) On and after the effective date of this section, no public agency
1055 shall enter into or renew any contract with a private vendor related to
1056 automated license plate reader system usage or automated license plate
1057 reader data, unless such contract provides that the private vendor
1058 consents to personal jurisdiction in this state in the event of any legal
1059 proceeding and contains a choice of law provision that states that
1060 Connecticut state law shall be the controlling law for the contract.

1061 (i) The Attorney General may bring an action against any private
1062 vendor with which a public agency contracts, if that private vendor is
1063 engaged in any conduct identified in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive,
1064 of subsection (g) of this section or subsection (h) of this section with

1065 respect to any automated license plate reader data collected in this state.
1066 In any action instituted under this subsection, the court may grant
1067 appropriate relief, including, but not limited to, injunctive or
1068 declaratory relief, damages and any other relief that may be available
1069 under law. If the Attorney General prevails in an action brought
1070 pursuant to this section, the court shall order the distribution of any
1071 award of damages to any injured person. The court may also award civil
1072 penalties against each defendant in an amount not exceeding two
1073 thousand five hundred dollars for each violation. Any civil penalty that
1074 is received pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited in the General
1075 Fund.

1076 (j) On and after October 1, 2026, a public agency may be subject to an
1077 action by any aggrieved individual for injunctive or declaratory relief,
1078 including a determination of past violations, if an officer, employee or
1079 other individual otherwise paid by or acting as an agent of such agency
1080 violates any provision of subsection (b), (d) or (e) of this section. If the
1081 alleged violation that forms the basis of an action under this subsection
1082 is committed by a private vendor with which a public agency contracts,
1083 or if that private vendor is engaged in any conduct identified in
1084 subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of subsection (g) of this section with
1085 respect to any automated license plate reader data collected in this state,
1086 the private vendor shall be liable for such violation, rather than the
1087 public agency. Such action may be brought in the superior court for the
1088 judicial district in which the aggrieved individual resides. If an
1089 aggrieved individual prevails and an order of injunctive relief is issued,
1090 such aggrieved individual may be entitled to recover court costs and
1091 reasonable attorney's fees associated only with an action or that portion
1092 of an action concerning a request and order for injunctive relief. An
1093 action under this subsection shall be privileged with respect to
1094 assignment for trial.

1095 (k) Any law enforcement officer who is found to have knowingly
1096 accessed, used or disseminated automated license plate reader data with
1097 malicious intent for purposes outside of the provisions of this section

1098 shall be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to,
1099 suspension, cancellation or revocation of certification by the Police
1100 Officer Standards and Training Council pursuant to section 7-294d of
1101 the general statutes, as amended by this act.

1102 (l) If a law enforcement agency of this state suspects that a law
1103 enforcement agency of another state or a federal law enforcement
1104 agency may have used any automated license plate reader data shared
1105 with such agency in any manner prohibited by this section, such law
1106 enforcement agency of this state shall notify the Police Officer Standards
1107 and Training Council of such suspected prohibited use. The Police
1108 Officer Standards and Training Council shall determine whether
1109 automated license plate reader data was used in a prohibited manner by
1110 the law enforcement agency of another state or federal law enforcement
1111 agency, as applicable, and, if so determined, direct each law
1112 enforcement agency in this state to discontinue sharing such data or
1113 providing access to such data with or to such other law enforcement
1114 agency.

1115 Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than December 1,
1116 2026, the Police Officer Standards and Training Council shall adopt a
1117 model policy governing law enforcement agency acquisition and use of
1118 automated license plate reader systems and automated license plate
1119 reader data. Such policy shall direct agencies to act in accordance with
1120 section 13 of this act, including permissible and prohibited uses of such
1121 system and any automated license plate reader data, whether collected
1122 by such system or acquired otherwise. In addition to detailing such
1123 permissible and prohibited uses of such system or data, such policy
1124 shall, at a minimum: (1) Develop standards for the use of a hotlist,
1125 including the sources from which a hotlist may be compiled,
1126 supervisory approval requirements for use and management of, access
1127 to and validation procedures for the data on any hotlist, including time
1128 limitations for the inclusion of such data on a hotlist, (2) provide for data
1129 retention limits in accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
1130 section 13 of this act, (3) establish data access and sharing requirements

1131 in accordance with subsection (d) of section 13 of this act, including
1132 internal access controls and supervisory review and conditions under
1133 which such data may be shared with other public agencies or law
1134 enforcement agencies, (4) provide for a supervisory responsibility and
1135 accountability structure, including designation of an officer or unit
1136 responsible for oversight of automated license plate reader system use
1137 and compliance with any policy adopted in accordance with the
1138 provisions of this section, (5) establish training requirements, including
1139 initial and periodic training for any officer or employee authorized to
1140 access the system or data, (6) establish audit and logging requirements,
1141 including the creation and retention of access logs sufficient to ensure
1142 compliance and facilitate independent review, of which the logs shall
1143 include documentation of access to and retention of automated license
1144 plate reader data pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section
1145 13 of this act, including, but not limited to, (A) the number of times such
1146 data is retained, and (B) the duration of such retention, and require that
1147 such audits be conducted not less than quarterly, (7) establish public
1148 transparency standards and requirements, including publication of
1149 agency-specific usage policies for an automated license plate reader
1150 system and annual statistical reports detailing such usage, (8) establish
1151 the distance described in subdivision (5) of subsection (d) of section 13
1152 of this act, and (9) contain provisions concerning compliance with
1153 subsection (g) of section 13 of this act concerning contracting with
1154 private vendors for services associated with access to an automated
1155 license plate reader system or storage of, processing of, transmission of
1156 or access to automated license plate reader data.

1157 (b) Not later than January 1, 2027, each law enforcement agency shall
1158 adopt and implement the policy developed pursuant to subsection (a)
1159 of this section, or a policy that provides greater privacy protections than
1160 that which are in the policy developed pursuant to said subsection (a).
1161 Such policy shall be in effect until regulations are adopted pursuant to
1162 this section, at which point such policy shall be supplanted by any such
1163 regulation.

1164 (c) (1) Not later than January 1, 2028, the Commissioner of Emergency
1165 Services and Public Protection shall, in consultation with the Police
1166 Officer Standards and Training Council, adopt regulations, in
1167 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
1168 enact a policy that, at a minimum, satisfies the provisions of
1169 subdivisions (1) to (9), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section and
1170 section 13 of this act.

1171 (2) Not later than January 1, 2033, and at least once during each five-
1172 year period thereafter, the commissioner shall, in consultation with the
1173 Police Officer Standards and Training Council, adopt regulations in
1174 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes.
1175 Such regulations shall (A) comply with the provisions of this section and
1176 section 13 of this act and shall not reduce or limit the protections
1177 afforded by said sections or any minimum standards established by said
1178 sections, and (B) be based on a consideration of any changes in law,
1179 technology and best practices since the previous adoption of regulations
1180 pursuant to this section.

1181 (3) Any regulation adopted pursuant to this section shall be binding
1182 upon all law enforcement agencies.

1183 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1,
1184 2027, the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, in consultation
1185 with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
1186 and the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of
1187 Connecticut, shall develop and promulgate a standardized form for
1188 reporting automated license plate reader system usage, including, but
1189 not limited to, (1) the number of (A) license plates scanned, (B) searches
1190 performed by the law enforcement agency as a result of automated
1191 license plate reader system use and the reason for any such search, (C)
1192 times automated license plate reader data was shared with or accessed
1193 by another entity, the identity of each of those entities and the reason for
1194 sharing the data, (D) times automated license plate reader data was
1195 shared or accessed pursuant to a judicial warrant, (E) instances, if any,
1196 when data was retained longer than permissible pursuant to

1197 subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 13 of this act, (F) instances, if
1198 any, when data was requested to be collected at locations described in
1199 subdivision (5) of subsection (d) of section 13 of this act, and (G) times
1200 that data is accessed or requested on or after the fourteenth day after
1201 such data is collected, and (2) any changes to the law enforcement
1202 agency's data collection, retention or sharing policies that affect privacy
1203 of automated license plate reader data.

1204 (b) Each law enforcement agency shall, not later than January thirty-
1205 first following a calendar year during which the law enforcement
1206 agency used an automated license plate reader system pursuant to
1207 subsection (b) of section 13 of this act, submit a report detailing such
1208 usage to the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The
1209 University of Connecticut using the standardized form promulgated
1210 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and publish such report on the
1211 law enforcement agency's Internet web site.

1212 (c) Not later than January thirty-first of each year, any public agency,
1213 other than a law enforcement agency, that uses an automated license
1214 plate reader system pursuant to subsection (b) of section 13 of this act,
1215 shall publish on the agency's Internet web site an annual report
1216 containing the information described in subsection (a) of this section as
1217 it pertains to such agency for the previous calendar year.

1218 (d) Not later than July 30, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Institute
1219 for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut
1220 shall compile, analyze and summarize the reports submitted pursuant
1221 to subsections (b) and (c) of this section and shall submit, in accordance
1222 with section 11-4a of the general statutes, a consolidated report
1223 regarding automated license plate reader system usage and any
1224 recommendations for legislation to the Governor and the joint standing
1225 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
1226 relating to public safety and the judiciary."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	3-129g
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	51-277a
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	53a-22
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	51-277e
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	51-33b
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	7-294d(b)
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	52-571j
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	7-291c
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	New section