



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4100



Offered by:

SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist.
SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.
SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd Dist.
SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

SEN. CICARELLA, 34th Dist.
SEN. GORDON, 35th Dist.
SEN. PERILLO J., 21st Dist.
SEN. FAZIO, 36th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 397

File No. 399

Cal. No. 245

(As Amended)

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

1 Strike section 7 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

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

3 (1) "Protected area" means any of the following buildings or locations,
4 including the grounds of such buildings or locations and any garages or
5 parking lots utilized in the operation of such buildings or locations,
6 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
7 the buildings or locations:

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

10 (B) A hospital licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 368v of
11 the general statutes or an urgent care center, as defined in section 19a-
12 493d of the general statutes;

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

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

17 (E) A social services establishment, including, but not limited to, a
18 crisis center, domestic violence shelter, victims services center, child
19 advocacy center, supervised visitation center, family justice center,
20 facility that serves disabled persons, homeless shelter, drug or alcohol
21 counseling and treatment facility, or food bank, pantry or other
22 establishment distributing food or other essentials of life to people in
23 need;

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

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

30 (2) "State facility" means any building, or part thereof, owned, leased,
31 occupied, controlled by or used for business by an office or agency of
32 the Executive Department, either directly or indirectly, including, but
33 not limited to, entities providing direct services on behalf of offices or
34 agencies, but not including state-owned property leased to a federal
35 entity. "State facility" includes the grounds of such facility and any
36 garages or parking lots utilized in the operation of such facility,
37 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
38 the facility.

39 (3) "Municipal facility" means any building or part thereof, owned,

40 leased, occupied, controlled by or used for business by a municipal
41 government, either directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to,
42 entities providing direct services on behalf of a municipal government.
43 "Municipal facility" includes the grounds of such facility and any
44 garages or parking lots utilized in the operation of such facility,
45 irrespective of whether such garages or parking lots are contiguous to
46 the facility.

47 (4) "Civil offense" means an offense for which a local, state or federal
48 civil proceeding is available to the charged individual to offer a defense.
49 "Civil offense" does not include any offense identified as an infraction
50 by the general statutes, a motor vehicle violation or an arrest allowed
51 (A) for an alleged violation of the criminal law of: (i) The state or another
52 jurisdiction within the United States, for which a sentence of a term of
53 imprisonment is authorized by law; or (ii) the United States, for which
54 a sentence of a term of imprisonment is authorized by law, and for
55 which federal law requires an initial appearance before a federal judge,
56 federal magistrate or other judicial officer, pursuant to the federal rules
57 of criminal procedure that govern initial appearances; (B) for contempt
58 of court; (C) for a *capias* issued by a judge; (D) in response to a warrant
59 for a violation of parole or probation; or (E) for commitment under
60 emergency certificate or other arrest permitted under chapter 319i of the
61 general statutes.

62 (5) "Exigent circumstance" means the following:

63 (A) An enforcement action involving a national security threat;

64 (B) An imminent risk of death, violence or physical harm to a person;

65 (C) An enforcement action involving the hot pursuit of an individual
66 who poses a public safety threat;

67 (D) An imminent risk that evidence material to a criminal case will be
68 destroyed; or

69 (E) A situation enforcement action where a safe alternative location

70 does not exist.

71 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, no peace
72 officer, as defined in section 51-277a of the general statutes, as amended
73 by this act, shall detain, arrest or otherwise take an individual in a
74 protected area, state facility or municipal facility into custody on the
75 basis of a civil offense, unless (1) such peace officer is acting in the peace
76 officer's official capacity, and (2) the individual to be detained, arrested
77 or otherwise taken into custody (A) is the subject of a judicial warrant,
78 (B) has been convicted of a violation of section 53-21 of the general
79 statutes, section 53a-54a of the general statutes, section 53a-54b of the
80 general statutes, section 53a-54d of the general statutes, section 53a-70
81 of the general statutes, section 53a-70a of the general statutes, section
82 53a-70c of the general statutes, section 53a-71 of the general statutes,
83 section 53a-83b of the general statutes, section 53a-192a of the general
84 statutes, section 53a-196a of the general statutes or section 53a-196d of
85 the general statutes, or (C) is identified as a possible match in the federal
86 Terrorist Screening Database or similar database.

87 (c) A peace officer, as defined in section 51-277a of the general
88 statutes, may perform an enforcement action at a protected area, state
89 facility or municipal facility if an exigent circumstance exists.

90 (d) (1) Any individual aggrieved by a violation of this section may
91 bring a civil action for equitable relief or damages in the Superior Court.
92 A civil action brought for damages may be triable by jury.

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