
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5552

AN ACT CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE CONTRACTS CONCERNING AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER INFORMATION.

SUMMARY

Starting October 1, 2026, this bill sets restrictions that must be included in public agency contracts with automated license plate reader (ALPR) vendors (owners and operators who have access to ALPR information), such as prohibiting vendors from engaging in certain actions, such as selling ALPR information (information the ALPR gathers or that is created by analyzing the gathered information). It also prohibits public agencies from contracting or renewing a contract with a vendor unless the contract (1) provides that the vendor consents to Connecticut's personal jurisdiction for any legal proceeding and (2) has a choice of law provision designating Connecticut state law as controlling over the contract.

An "ALPR" is defined as a mobile or fixed electronic image recording device capable, in combination with computer programs or algorithms, of converting license plate images into computer-readable data.

Under the bill, ALPR information is generally confidential and not disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), with certain exceptions. It also allows the (1) attorney general to start proceedings to enforce the bill's contracting provisions and (2) court to grant appropriate relief, including preliminary, temporary, or permanent injunctive relief.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

ALPR CONTRACTS WITH PUBLIC AGENCIES

Under the bill, starting October 1, 2026, a public agency may not enter into a contract with an ALPR vendor unless the contract restricts the

vendor from doing the following:

1. selling ALPR information;
2. sharing or transferring the ALPR information to anyone else, including other public agencies not party to the contract, unless the contracted agency sends prior express written authorization for sharing the data for a specific purpose, with prior notification to the governor;
3. allowing anyone other than the contracted agency to access the ALPR information, unless the vendor is required to give access by a judicial warrant or valid court order, which do not include subpoenas or grand jury investigation demands; or
4. storing or maintaining the contracting public agency's ALPR information (a) with other ALPR information, including information stored or maintained for a different public agency, (b) in another state, or (c) not according to industry-recognized data security practices, such as using encryption when transmitting or storing the information.

LIMITS ON INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

The bill generally prohibits ALPR information from being disclosed under FOIA except the following:

1. the locations of ALPR recording devices (of video or still images) and
2. data other than ALPR information derived from a system audit, system usage logs, and data access logs, as long as ALPR information is redacted.

The bill also allows a person (individual or entity) seeking ALPR user information about a motor vehicle registered in his or her name when the information was created to obtain it from the contracting public agency. If the motor vehicle is also registered to another person, then the other person's consent is needed for disclosure.

BACKGROUND

Public Agencies

By law, “public agency” generally includes any:

1. executive, administrative, or legislative office of the state or any political subdivision of the state and any state or town agency;
2. department, board, commission, authority, or official of the state or of any municipality, school district, or other district or other political subdivision of the state;
3. committee of, or created by, any of these offices or officials;
4. judicial office, official, or body or committee, but only for administrative functions; and
5. person to the extent they are the functional equivalent of a public agency (CGS § 1-200(1)).

Related Bills

sSB 4 (§ 18), favorably reported by the General Law Committee, prohibits the transportation and motor vehicles departments, or law enforcement agencies, from entering or renewing contracts with ALPR users unless the contract bars the user from taking various actions.

sHB 5449, favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee, restricts public agencies or law enforcement agencies from using ALPR systems, or using or sharing ALPR data, except for listed reasons, and requires related policies and reporting.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/23/2026)