



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4177



Offered by:
SEN. GASTON, 23rd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 408

File No. 306

Cal. No. 216

"AN ACT CONCERNING LIQUOR PERMITS, FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION INSPECTIONS, THE REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION AND JUICE BARS."

1 Strike section 2 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
2 thereof:

3 "Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2027,
4 the State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the Commissioner of
5 Administrative Services and the Joint Council of Connecticut Fire
6 Service Organizations, shall establish a two-year risk-based residential
7 fire inspection pilot program to improve the scheduling, documentation
8 and prioritization of fire inspections of residential buildings designed to
9 be occupied by more than two families pursuant to section 29-305 of the
10 general statutes. Municipalities participating in such pilot program
11 shall: (1) Prioritize the scheduling of such residential fire inspections
12 using a standardized scoring method that assigns scores for violations
13 and classifies residential buildings based on fire prevention and
14 construction features, (2) maintain timely fire inspections as required
15 pursuant to section 29-305 of the general statutes, while allocating more

16 fire inspection resources to high-risk residential buildings, and (3)
17 comply with the data collection and record-keeping requirements of
18 such pilot program, including, but not limited to, using a data system
19 designated by the State Fire Marshal to record fire inspection data
20 required pursuant to such pilot program.

21 (b) The State Fire Marshal shall select, from among applicants for
22 participation in the risk-based residential fire inspection pilot program,
23 not less than three participating municipalities which shall include, but
24 need not be limited to, two municipalities with populations of at least
25 one hundred thousand and one municipality with a population of at
26 least thirty-five thousand, but less than one hundred thousand. If any
27 participating municipality withdraws or is unable to meet the
28 requirements of the pilot program, the State Fire Marshal may select a
29 comparable municipality as a replacement. In selecting participating
30 municipalities, the State Fire Marshal shall consult with the appointing
31 authority for local fire marshals within such municipality, pursuant to
32 section 29-297 of the general statutes, to determine the (1) volume and
33 diversity of residential buildings designed to be occupied by more than
34 two families in such municipality, (2) availability of local resources, and
35 (3) capability for consistent implementation of such pilot program.

36 (c) For the implementation of the risk-based residential fire
37 inspection pilot program by a participating municipality, the State Fire
38 Marshal shall:

39 (1) Specify a standardized scoring method that assigns scores to
40 violations identified during fire inspections based on the severity of life-
41 safety hazards related to such violations;

42 (2) Establish a grading system that classifies such residential
43 buildings based on fire prevention and construction features and other
44 risk indicators for the purpose of prioritizing the annual fire inspection
45 of such residential buildings;

46 (3) Develop a pre-inspection checklist for owners of residential

47 buildings to encourage voluntary correction of potential hazards prior
48 to a fire inspection;

49 (4) Standardize the documentation of fire inspection findings to
50 support enforcement actions and compliance follow-up, which
51 documentation shall include, but not be limited to, photographs; and

52 (5) Designate a data system, including, but not limited to, the
53 National Emergency Response Information System, that is capable of
54 (A) collecting and exporting data related to, at a minimum, residential
55 building classifications with risk-relevant construction and fire
56 prevention features, dates and types of fire inspections, violations cited
57 with assigned score, corrective action status and fire inspections
58 timelines pursuant to section 29-305 of the general statutes, (B)
59 generating residential building classifications based on data recorded
60 into such system, (C) producing quarterly reports of fire inspection
61 activities, including, but not limited to, responses to complaints and
62 outcomes of public reporting, and (D) establishing a baseline of
63 residential fire inspection activity for each municipality based on a two-
64 year history of data collection or, when such data is unavailable, based
65 on predictive data deemed sufficient to establish a baseline by the State
66 Fire Marshal. As used in this subdivision, "National Emergency
67 Response Information System" means the national data system
68 developed or designated by the United States Fire Administration, or its
69 successor system, for the collection, reporting and analysis of fire and
70 emergency incident data.

71 (d) The risk-based residential fire inspection pilot program shall
72 terminate on January 1, 2029. Not later than February 1, 2027, and
73 annually thereafter until February 1, 2029, the State Fire Marshal shall
74 submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
75 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
76 having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security a
77 report on such pilot program and whether such pilot program should
78 be made permanent based on the results from such pilot program."

79 Strike section 3 in its entirety and renumber the remaining sections
80 and internal references accordingly