



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 5291

LCO No. 1528



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS STATUTES RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "municipal fire department" means any department, agency or
3 organization of a municipality, as defined in section 7-148 of the general
4 statutes, fire district established pursuant to section 7-325 of the general
5 statutes or other political subdivision of the state, whether staffed by
6 career or volunteer personnel, or a combination thereof, that provides
7 fire suppression or fire protection services.

8 (b) Not later than ten business days after the appointment of a new
9 or interim fire chief of a municipal fire department, such municipal fire
10 department shall notify the Department of Emergency Services and
11 Public Protection of such appointment. Such notification shall be made
12 on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and
13 Public Protection and shall include, but need not be limited to, the name
14 of the appointee, effective date of such appointment, department name,

15 mailing address, electronic mail address, mobile telephone number,
16 dispatch contact number and any other information the commissioner
17 deems necessary for the department's records.

18 (c) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
19 provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the
20 provisions of this section.

21 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 14-227a of the 2026 supplement to the
22 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
23 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

24 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, in any criminal
25 prosecution for violation of subsection (a) of this section, evidence
26 respecting the amount of alcohol or drug in the defendant's blood or
27 urine at the time of the alleged offense, as shown by a chemical test of
28 the defendant's breath, blood or urine, shall be admissible and
29 competent provided: (1) The defendant was afforded a reasonable
30 opportunity to telephone an attorney prior to the performance of the test
31 and consented to the taking of the test upon which such analysis is
32 made; (2) if the chemical test was of the defendant's breath, a true copy
33 of the report of the [test] result of such test was mailed to or personally
34 delivered to the defendant within twenty-four hours or by the end of
35 the next regular business day, after such result was known, whichever
36 is later; (3) the test was performed by or at the direction of a police officer
37 according to methods and with equipment approved by the Department
38 of Emergency Services and Public Protection and was performed in
39 accordance with the regulations adopted under subsection (d) of this
40 section; (4) the device used for such test was checked for accuracy in
41 accordance with the regulations adopted under subsection (d) of this
42 section; (5) an additional chemical test of the same type was performed
43 at least ten minutes after the initial test was performed or, if requested
44 by the police officer for reasonable cause, an additional chemical test of
45 a different type was performed, including a test to detect the presence
46 of a drug or drugs other than or in addition to alcohol, provided the

47 results of the initial test shall not be inadmissible under this subsection
48 if reasonable efforts were made to have such additional test performed
49 in accordance with the conditions set forth in this subsection and (A)
50 such additional test was not performed or was not performed within a
51 reasonable time, or (B) the results of such additional test are not
52 admissible for failure to meet a condition set forth in this subsection;
53 and (6) evidence is presented that the test was commenced within two
54 hours of operation. In any prosecution under this section it shall be a
55 rebuttable presumption that the results of such chemical test establish
56 the ratio of alcohol in the blood of the defendant at the time of the
57 alleged offense, except that if the results of the additional test indicate
58 that the ratio of alcohol in the blood of such defendant is ten-hundredths
59 of one per cent or less of alcohol, by weight, and is higher than the
60 results of the first test, evidence shall be presented that demonstrates
61 that the test results and the analysis thereof accurately indicate the blood
62 alcohol content at the time of the alleged offense.

63 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 15-140r of the general statutes is
64 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
65 *1, 2026*):

66 (a) Except as provided in section 15-140s or subsection (d) of this
67 section, in any criminal prosecution for the violation of section 15-132a,
68 subsection (d) of section 15-133, section 15-140l or 15-140n or subsection
69 (b) of section 53-206d, evidence respecting the amount of alcohol or drug
70 in the defendant's blood or urine at the time of the alleged offense, as
71 shown by a chemical test of the defendant's breath, blood or urine shall
72 be admissible and competent provided: (1) The defendant was afforded
73 a reasonable opportunity to telephone an attorney prior to the
74 performance of the test and consented to the taking of the test upon
75 which such analysis is made; (2) if the chemical test was of the
76 defendant's breath, a true copy of the report of the [test] result of such
77 test was mailed to or personally delivered to the defendant within
78 twenty-four hours or by the end of the next regular business day, after
79 such result was known, whichever is later; (3) the test was performed

80 by or at the direction of a certified law enforcement officer according to
81 methods and with equipment approved by the Department of
82 Emergency Services and Public Protection, and if a blood test was
83 performed, it was performed on a blood sample taken by a person
84 licensed to practice medicine and surgery in this state, a qualified
85 laboratory technician, an emergency medical technician II or a
86 registered nurse in accordance with the regulations adopted under
87 subsection (b) of this section; (4) the device used for such test was
88 checked for accuracy in accordance with the regulations adopted under
89 subsection (b) of this section; (5) an additional chemical test of the same
90 type was performed at least ten minutes after the initial test was
91 performed or, if requested by the peace officer for reasonable cause, an
92 additional chemical test of a different type was performed, including a
93 test to detect the presence of a drug or drugs other than or in addition
94 to alcohol, except that the results of the initial test shall not be
95 inadmissible under this subsection if reasonable efforts were made to
96 have such additional test performed in accordance with the conditions
97 set forth in this subsection and (A) such additional test was not
98 performed or was not performed within a reasonable time, or (B) the
99 results of such additional test are not admissible for failure to meet a
100 condition set forth in this subsection; and (6) evidence is presented that
101 the test was commenced within two hours of operation of the vessel or
102 expert testimony establishes the reliability of a test commenced beyond
103 two hours of operation of the vessel. In any prosecution under this
104 section, it shall be a rebuttable presumption that the results of such
105 chemical analysis establish the ratio of alcohol in the blood of the
106 defendant at the time of the alleged offense, except that if the results of
107 the additional test indicate that the ratio of alcohol in the blood of such
108 defendant is ten-hundredths of one per cent or less of alcohol, by weight,
109 and is higher than the results of the first test, evidence shall be presented
110 that demonstrates that the test results and the analysis thereof
111 accurately indicate the blood alcohol content at the time of the alleged
112 offense.

113 Sec. 4. Subsections (a) to (f), inclusive, of section 54-102g of the
114 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
115 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

116 (a) Whenever any person is arrested on or after October 1, 2011, for
117 the commission of a serious felony and, prior to such arrest, has been
118 convicted of a felony but has not submitted to the taking of a blood or
119 other biological sample for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis
120 pursuant to this section, the law enforcement agency that arrested such
121 person shall [, as available resources allow,] require such person to
122 submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample for DNA
123 (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to determine identification
124 characteristics specific to the person. If the law enforcement agency
125 requires such person to submit to the taking of such blood or other
126 biological sample, such person shall submit to the taking of such sample
127 prior to release from custody and at such time and place as the agency
128 may specify. For purposes of this subsection, "serious felony" means a
129 violation of section 53a-70b of the general statutes, revision of 1958,
130 revised to January 1, 2019, or section 53a-54a, 53a-54b, 53a-54c, 53a-54d,
131 53a-55, 53a-55a, 53a-56, 53a-56a, 53a-56b, 53a-57, 53a-59, 53a-59a, 53a-60,
132 53a-60a, 53a-60b, 53a-60c, 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-72b, 53a-92, 53a-92a, 53a-
133 94, 53a-94a, 53a-95, 53a-100aa, 53a-101, 53a-102, 53a-102a, 53a-103a, 53a-
134 111, 53a-112, 53a-134, 53a-135, 53a-136, 53a-167c, 53a-179b, 53a-179c or
135 53a-181c.

136 (b) Any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense against
137 a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent
138 offense, as those terms are defined in section 54-250, or a felony, and has
139 been sentenced on that conviction to the custody of the Commissioner
140 of Correction, and who has not submitted to the taking of a blood or
141 other biological sample pursuant to subsection (a) of this section with
142 respect to such offense, shall, [prior to release from custody] not later
143 than thirty days after sentencing and at such time as the commissioner
144 may specify, submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample
145 of sufficient quality for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to

146 determine identification characteristics specific to the person. If any
147 person required to submit to the taking of a blood or other biological
148 sample pursuant to this subsection refuses to do so, the Commissioner
149 of Correction or the commissioner's designee shall notify the
150 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection within thirty
151 days of such refusal for the initiation of criminal proceedings against
152 such person.

153 (c) Any person who is convicted of a criminal offense against a victim
154 who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent offense,
155 as those terms are defined in section 54-250, or a felony and is not
156 sentenced to a term of confinement, and who has not submitted to the
157 taking of a blood or other biological sample pursuant to subsection (a)
158 of this section with respect to such offense, shall, as a condition of such
159 sentence, not later than thirty days after sentencing and at a time and
160 place specified by the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial
161 Department, submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample
162 of sufficient quality for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to
163 determine identification characteristics specific to the person.

164 (d) Any person who has been found not guilty by reason of mental
165 disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13 of a criminal offense against
166 a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent
167 offense, as those terms are defined in section 54-250, or a felony, and is
168 in the custody of the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction
169 Services or the Commissioner of Developmental Services as a result of
170 that finding, and who has not submitted to the taking of a blood or other
171 biological sample pursuant to subsection (a) of this section with respect
172 to such offense, shall, prior to a court hearing commenced in accordance
173 with subsection (d) of section 17a-582, and at such time as the
174 Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services or the
175 Commissioner of Developmental Services with whom such person has
176 been placed may specify, submit to the taking of a blood or other
177 biological sample of sufficient quality for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid)
178 analysis to determine identification characteristics specific to the person.

179 (e) Any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense against
180 a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent
181 offense, as those terms are defined in section 54-250, or a felony, and is
182 serving a period of probation or parole, and who has not submitted to
183 the taking of a blood or other biological sample pursuant to subsection
184 (a), (b), (c) or (d) of this section, shall, [prior to discharge from] not later
185 than thirty days after entering the supervision of the Court Support
186 Services Division or the custody of the Department of Correction and at
187 such time as said division or department may specify, submit to the
188 taking of a blood or other biological sample of sufficient quality for
189 DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to determine identification
190 characteristics specific to the person.

191 (f) Any person who has been convicted or found not guilty by reason
192 of mental disease or defect in any other state or jurisdiction of a felony
193 or of any crime, the essential elements of which are substantially the
194 same as a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent
195 sexual offense or a sexually violent offense, as those terms are defined
196 in section 54-250, and is in the custody of the Commissioner of
197 Correction, is under the supervision of the Judicial Department or the
198 Board of Pardons and Paroles or is under the jurisdiction of the
199 Psychiatric Security Review Board, shall, [prior to discharge from] not
200 later than thirty days after entering such custody, supervision or
201 jurisdiction, submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample
202 of sufficient quality for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to
203 determine identification characteristics specific to the person.

204 Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) For the purposes of this section,
205 "lawfully owed DNA" means a DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) sample
206 obtained from an offender pursuant to section 54-102g of the general
207 statutes, as amended by this act.

208 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
209 shall conduct a study of lawfully owed DNA. The study shall include
210 (1) an audit of current DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) collection and

211 submission practices across local and state law enforcement agencies,
212 the Division of Criminal Justice, the Department of Correction, the
213 Department of Developmental Services and the Judicial Branch, (2) a
214 census of individuals from whom DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) is
215 lawfully owed but not collected, an analysis of systemic barriers to
216 collection, timelines, interagency coordination and data sharing, (3) a
217 definition of agency responsibilities at each stage of the criminal justice
218 process, (4) standard timelines and procedures for the collection and
219 submission of DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid), (5) recommendations for
220 data tracking and reporting protocols to ensure and facilitate
221 transparency and compliance, and (6) any information deemed relevant
222 by the commissioner. Not later than July 1, 2027, the commissioner shall
223 submit a report on the findings of such study, and any
224 recommendations, to the joint standing committees of the General
225 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and the
226 judiciary, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
227 general statutes.

228 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 7-294b of the general statutes is
229 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
230 *passage*):

231 (b) The council shall consist of the following members:

232 (1) The chief elected official or chief executive officer of a town or city
233 within the state with a population in excess of fifty thousand, appointed
234 by the Governor;

235 (2) The chief elected official or chief executive officer of a town or city
236 within the state with a population of fifty thousand or less, appointed
237 by the Governor;

238 (3) A member of the faculty of an institution of higher education in
239 the state who has a background in criminal justice studies, appointed by
240 the Governor;

241 (4) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who is
242 holding office or employed as the chief of police, the deputy chief of
243 police or a senior ranking professional police officer of an organized
244 police department of a municipality within the state with a population
245 in excess of one hundred thousand, appointed by the Governor;

246 (5) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who is
247 holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest ranking
248 professional police officer of an organized police department of a
249 municipality within the state with a population in excess of sixty
250 thousand but not exceeding one hundred thousand, appointed by the
251 Governor;

252 (6) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who is
253 holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest ranking
254 professional police officer of an organized police department of a
255 municipality within the state with a population in excess of thirty-five
256 thousand but not exceeding sixty thousand, appointed by the Governor;

257 (7) A sworn municipal police officer from a municipality within the
258 state with a population exceeding fifty thousand, appointed by the
259 Governor;

260 (8) A sworn municipal police officer from a municipality within the
261 state with a population not exceeding fifty thousand, appointed by the
262 Governor;

263 (9) The [commanding officer] deputy commissioner of the
264 [Connecticut] Division of State Police [Academy] within the
265 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or the deputy
266 commissioner's designee;

267 (10) A member of the public, who is a person with a physical
268 disability or an advocate on behalf of persons with physical disabilities,
269 appointed by the Governor;

270 (11) A victim of crime or the immediate family member of a deceased
271 victim of crime, appointed by the Governor;

272 (12) A medical professional, appointed by the Governor;

273 (13) The Chief State's Attorney;

274 (14) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association or the
275 person holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest
276 ranking professional police officer of an organized police department
277 within the state, appointed by the speaker of the House of
278 Representatives;

279 (15) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association or the
280 person holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest
281 ranking professional police officer of an organized police department
282 within the state, appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

283 (16) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who is
284 holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest ranking
285 professional police officer of an organized police department of a
286 municipality within the state with a population not exceeding thirty-five
287 thousand, appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

288 (17) A member of the public who is a justice-impacted person,
289 appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;

290 (18) A member of the public who is a justice-impacted person,
291 appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

292 (19) A member of the public who is a person with a mental disability
293 or an advocate on behalf of persons with mental disabilities, appointed
294 by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

295 (20) A sworn police officer who is not in a command position within
296 such officer's law enforcement unit, who is appointed by the
297 chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly

298 having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security; and

299 (21) A sworn police officer who is not in a command position within
300 such officer's law enforcement unit, who is appointed by the minority
301 leader of the Senate and the minority leader of the House of
302 Representatives.

303 Sec. 7. Section 29-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the
304 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

305 (a) [On and after June 15, 2012, and until July 1, 2013, the
306 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall
307 appoint and maintain a sufficient number of sworn state police
308 personnel to efficiently maintain the operation of the Division of State
309 Police as determined by the commissioner in the commissioner's
310 judgment.] On and after July 1, 2013, the commissioner shall appoint
311 and maintain a sufficient number of sworn state police personnel to
312 efficiently maintain the operation of the division as determined by the
313 commissioner, [in accordance with the recommended standards
314 developed pursuant to subsection (f) of this section.] Any sworn state
315 police personnel appointed by the commissioner on or after July 31,
316 2020, shall be certified by the Police Officer Standards and Training
317 Council under section 7-294d within one year of appointment.

318 (b) On or before February first of each odd-numbered year, the
319 commissioner shall submit a report to the joint standing committees of
320 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
321 safety and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, in
322 accordance with section 11-4a, providing an assessment of the number
323 of sworn state police personnel necessary to perform division
324 operations for the biennium beginning July first of that year. If such
325 report recommends a staffing level of less than one thousand two
326 hundred forty-eight sworn state police personnel, the commissioner
327 shall include in such report an assessment of the impact to public safety
328 and any potential negative impact specifically attributable to such

329 deviation in staffing level.

330 (c) The commissioner shall appoint from among sworn state police
331 personnel not more than three lieutenant colonels who shall be in the
332 unclassified service as provided in section 5-198. Any permanent
333 employee in the classified service who accepts appointment to the
334 position of lieutenant colonel in the unclassified service may return to
335 the classified service at such employee's former rank. The commissioner
336 shall appoint not more than twelve majors who shall be in the classified
337 service. The position of major in the unclassified service shall be
338 abolished on July 1, 2011. Any permanent employee in the classified
339 service who accepts appointment to the position of major in the
340 unclassified service prior to July 1, 2011, may return to the classified
341 service at such permanent employee's former rank. The commissioner,
342 subject to the provisions of chapter 67, shall appoint such numbers of
343 captains, lieutenants, sergeants, detectives and corporals as the
344 commissioner deems necessary to officer efficiently the state police
345 force.

346 (d) The commissioner shall establish such divisions as the
347 commissioner deems necessary for effective operation of the state police
348 force and consistent with budgetary allotments, a Criminal Intelligence
349 Division and a state-wide organized crime investigative task force to be
350 engaged throughout the state for the purpose of preventing and
351 detecting any violation of the criminal law, a Hate Crimes Investigative
352 Unit for the purposes described in section 29-7d and, for the fiscal years
353 ending June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2026, an investigative unit within the
354 Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to conduct sting
355 operations relating to the online sexual abuse of minors for the purposes
356 described in section 29-7e. The head of the Criminal Intelligence
357 Division shall be of the rank of sergeant or above. The head of the Hate
358 Crimes Investigative Unit shall be of the rank of sergeant or above, and
359 shall serve as a member of the State-Wide Hate Crimes Advisory
360 Council, established under section 51-279f. The head of the state-wide
361 organized crime investigative task force shall be a police officer. The

362 head of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, including the
363 investigative unit conducting sting operations relating to the online
364 sexual abuse of minors, shall be of the rank of sergeant or above.

365 (e) Salaries of the members of the Division of State Police within the
366 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall be fixed
367 by the Commissioner of Administrative Services as provided in section
368 4-40. State police personnel may be promoted, demoted, suspended or
369 removed by the commissioner, but no final dismissal from the service
370 shall be ordered until a hearing has been had before the Commissioner
371 of Emergency Services and Public Protection on charges preferred
372 against such officer. Each state police officer shall, before entering upon
373 such officer's duties, be sworn to the faithful performance of such duties.
374 The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall
375 designate an adequate patrol force for motor patrol work exclusively.

376 [(f) The Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee
377 shall conduct a study to develop recommended standards for use by the
378 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in
379 determining the commissioner's proposed level of staffing for the
380 Division of State Police for purposes of the biennial budget. The
381 committee, in developing such recommended standards, shall consider
382 the following: Technological improvements, federal mandates and
383 funding, statistical data on rates and types of criminal activity, staffing
384 of patrol positions, staffing of positions within the division and
385 department that do not require the exercise of police powers, changes in
386 municipal police policy and staffing and such other criteria as the
387 committee deems relevant. On or before January 9, 2013, the committee
388 shall report such recommended standards to the joint standing
389 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
390 relating to public safety and shall forward a copy thereof to the
391 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.]

392 Sec. 8. Subsection (b) of section 85 of public act 13-3, as amended by
393 section 74 of public act 14-98, section 67 of public act 15-1 of the June

394 special session, section 26 of public act 18-178, section 74 of public act
395 20-1, section 62 of public act 21-111, section 68 of public act 23-205 and
396 section 9 of public act 25-157, is amended to read as follows (*Effective*
397 *July 1, 2026*):

398 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the amount
399 stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Department
400 of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the
401 Department of Education, for the purpose of the school security
402 infrastructure competitive grant program, established pursuant to
403 section 84 of public act 13-3, as amended by section 15 of public act 13-
404 122, section 191 of public act 13-247, section 73 of public act 14-98, section
405 1 of public act 15-5, section 1 of public act 16-171, section 1 of public act
406 17-68, section 490 of public act 17-2 of the June special session, section
407 73 of public act 20-1, section 1 of public act 25-102 and section 8 of [this
408 act] public act 25-157, provided not more than five million dollars may
409 be used by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
410 for school security projects that involve multimedia interoperable
411 communications systems.

412 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 29-357 of the general statutes is
413 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
414 *1, 2026*):

415 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
416 shall adopt reasonable regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, for
417 the granting of permits for supervised displays of fireworks or for the
418 indoor use of pyrotechnics, sparklers and fountains for special effects by
419 municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks, other organizations
420 or groups of individuals or artisans in pursuit of their trade. Such permit
421 may be issued upon application to said commissioner and after (1)
422 inspection of the site of such display or use by the local fire marshal to
423 determine compliance with the requirements of such regulations, and
424 (2) approval of the chiefs of the police and fire departments, or, if there
425 is no police or fire department, of the first selectman, of the municipality

426 wherein the display is to be held as is provided in this section. No such
427 display shall be handled or fired by any person until such person has
428 been granted a certificate of competency by the Commissioner of
429 Emergency Services and Public Protection. Such certificate of
430 competency shall be granted upon (A) submission by such person (i) of
431 evidence of good moral character and competence in the control and
432 handling of fireworks, and (ii) to state and national criminal history
433 record checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, and (B)
434 payment of [, in respect to which] a fee of two hundred dollars [shall be
435 payable] to the State Treasurer. [when issued and which] Such certificate
436 of competency may be renewed every three years upon payment of a
437 fee of one hundred ninety dollars [payable] to the State Treasurer. [,
438 provided such certificate may be suspended or revoked by said
439 commissioner at any time for cause.] Such certificate of competency
440 shall attest to the fact that such operator is competent to fire a display.
441 No certificate of competency granted pursuant to this subsection shall
442 be transferable. The commissioner may suspend or revoke such
443 certificate of competency at any time for cause. Such display shall be of
444 such a character and so located, discharged or fired as in the opinion of
445 the chiefs of the police and fire departments or such selectman, after
446 proper inspection, will not be hazardous to property or endanger any
447 person or persons. In an aerial bomb, no salute, report or maroon may
448 be used that is composed of a formula of chlorate of potash, sulphur,
449 black needle antimony and dark aluminum. Formulas that may be used
450 in a salute, report or maroon are as follows: [(A)] (i) Perchlorate of
451 potash, black needle antimony and dark aluminum, and [(B)] (ii)
452 perchlorate of potash, dark aluminum and sulphur. No high explosive
453 such as dynamite, fulminate of mercury or other stimulator for
454 detonating shall be used in any aerial bomb or other pyrotechnics.
455 Application for permits shall be made in writing at least fifteen days
456 prior to the date of display, on such notice as the Commissioner of
457 Emergency Services and Public Protection by regulation prescribes, on
458 forms furnished by the commissioner, and a fee of one hundred dollars
459 shall be payable to the State Treasurer with each such application. After

460 such permit has been granted, sales, possession, use and distribution of
461 fireworks for such display shall be lawful for that purpose only. No
462 permit granted hereunder shall be transferable. Any permit issued
463 under the provisions of this section may be suspended or revoked by
464 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection [or the
465 local fire marshal] for violation by the permittee of any provision of the
466 general statutes, any regulation or any ordinance relating to fireworks.

467 Sec. 10. Subsection (c) of section 29-357a of the general statutes is
468 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
469 *1, 2026*):

470 (c) No pyrotechnic or flame producing device for use in a special
471 effects display shall be handled, discharged or fired by any person
472 unless under the supervision of a person who has been granted a
473 certificate of competency for special effects by the Commissioner of
474 Emergency Services and Public Protection. [The] Such certificate shall
475 be granted upon (1) submission by such person (A) of evidence of good
476 moral character and competence in the control and handling of special
477 effects, and (B) to state and national criminal history record checks
478 conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, and (2) payment of a fee
479 [for such certificate shall be] of two hundred dollars [, made payable] to
480 the State Treasurer. Such certificate may be renewed every three years
481 upon payment of a fee of one hundred ninety dollars to the State
482 Treasurer. Such certificate shall attest to the fact that such person is
483 competent to supervise the handling and discharge or firing of such
484 special effects. No certificate granted pursuant to this subsection shall
485 be transferable. The commissioner may suspend or revoke such
486 certificate at any time for cause.

487 Sec. 11. Subsections (e) to (i), inclusive, of section 29-38c of the 2026
488 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
489 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

490 (e) Not later than fourteen days after the issuance of a risk protection

491 order and, if applicable, a warrant under this section, the court for the
492 geographical area where the person named in the order or warrant
493 resides shall hold a hearing to determine whether the risk protection
494 order should continue to apply and whether the firearm or firearms or
495 other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any ammunition seized
496 should be returned to the person named in the warrant or should
497 continue to be held by the state in accordance with the provisions of
498 subsections (h) and (i) of this section. At such hearing the state shall have
499 the burden of proving all material facts by clear and convincing
500 evidence. If, after such hearing, the court finds by clear and convincing
501 evidence that the person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to
502 such person's self or to another person, the court may order (1) that the
503 risk protection order continue to apply, and (2) that the firearm or
504 firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any
505 ammunition seized pursuant to the warrant issued under subsection (a)
506 of this section continue to be held by the state until such time that (A)
507 the court shall terminate such order pursuant to subsection (f) of this
508 section and order the firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or
509 deadly weapons and any ammunition seized to be returned as soon as
510 practicable to the person named in the warrant, provided such person
511 is otherwise legally able to possess such firearm or firearms or other
512 deadly weapon or deadly weapons and ammunition, or (B) the firearm
513 or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any
514 ammunition seized are (i) transferred pursuant to subsection (h) of this
515 section, or (ii) destroyed in accordance with subsection (i) of this section.
516 If the court finds that the state has failed to prove by clear and
517 convincing evidence that the petitioner poses a risk of imminent
518 personal injury to such person's self or to another person, the court shall
519 terminate such order and warrant, if applicable, and order the firearm
520 or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any
521 ammunition seized to be returned as soon as is practicable to the person
522 named in the warrant, provided such person is otherwise legally eligible
523 to possess such firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly
524 weapons and ammunition. If the court finds that the person poses a risk

525 of imminent personal injury to such person's self or to another person,
526 the court shall give notice to the Department of Mental Health and
527 Addiction Services which may take such action pursuant to chapter 319i
528 as the department deems appropriate.

529 (f) A risk protection order and warrant, if applicable, shall continue
530 to apply and the firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly
531 weapons and any ammunition held pursuant to subsection (e) of this
532 section shall continue to be held by the state until such time that (1) the
533 person named in the order and warrant, if applicable, successfully
534 petitions the court to terminate such order and warrant, if applicable, or
535 (2) the firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons
536 and any ammunition seized are (A) transferred pursuant to subsection
537 (h) of this section, or (B) destroyed in accordance with subsection (i) of
538 this section. The person named in the order may first petition the court
539 of the geographical area where the proceeding was originally conducted
540 for a hearing to terminate such order and warrant, if applicable, at least
541 one hundred eighty days after the hearing held pursuant to subsection
542 (e) of this section. Upon the filing of such petition, the court shall [(1)]
543 (i) provide to the petitioner a hearing date that is on the twenty-eighth
544 day following the filing of such petition or the business day nearest to
545 such day if such twenty-eighth day is not a business day, [(2)] (ii) notify
546 the Division of Criminal Justice of the filing of such petition, and [(3)]
547 (iii) direct the law enforcement agency for the town in which the
548 petitioner resides to determine, not later than fourteen days after the
549 filing of such petition, whether there is probable cause to believe that
550 the petitioner poses a risk of imminent personal injury to such person's
551 self or to another person. No finding of probable cause may be found
552 solely because the petitioner is subject to an existing risk protection
553 order or warrant. If the law enforcement agency finds no probable
554 cause, the agency shall so notify the court which shall cancel the hearing
555 and terminate the order and warrant, if applicable. If the law
556 enforcement agency finds probable cause, the agency shall notify the
557 court of such finding and the hearing shall proceed as scheduled. At

558 such hearing the state shall have the burden of proving all material facts
559 by clear and convincing evidence. If the court, following such hearing,
560 finds by clear and convincing evidence that the petitioner poses a risk
561 of imminent personal injury to such person's self or to another person,
562 the order and warrant, if applicable, shall remain in effect. If the court
563 finds that the state has failed to prove by clear and convincing evidence
564 that the petitioner poses a risk of imminent personal injury to such
565 person's self or to another person, the court shall terminate such order
566 and warrant, if applicable. Any person whose petition is denied may file
567 a subsequent petition in accordance with the provisions of this
568 subsection at least one hundred eighty days after the date on which the
569 court denied the previous petition.

570 (g) The court shall immediately upon termination of a risk protection
571 order pursuant to this section remove or cancel any record entered into
572 the National Instant Criminal Background Check System associated
573 with such order.

574 (h) Any person whose firearm or firearms and ammunition have been
575 ordered seized pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, or such
576 person's legal representative, may transfer such firearm or firearms and
577 ammunition in accordance with the provisions of section 29-33 or other
578 applicable state or federal law, to a federally licensed firearm dealer.
579 Upon notification in writing by such person, or such person's legal
580 representative, and the dealer, the head of the state agency holding such
581 seized firearm or firearms and ammunition shall within ten days deliver
582 such firearm or firearms and ammunition to the dealer.

583 (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 29-36k, the
584 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection holding
585 any firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and
586 any ammunition seized pursuant to a warrant issued under this section,
587 or any local police department holding on behalf of said commissioner
588 any such firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons
589 or ammunition, shall not destroy any such firearm or other deadly

590 weapon or ammunition until at least [one year has] two years have
591 passed since date of the [termination of a warrant under] hearing held
592 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section. Not later than ninety days
593 prior to such destruction, the commissioner or any such local police
594 department shall notify, in writing, the person whose firearm, other
595 deadly weapon or ammunition was seized pursuant to a warrant issued
596 under this section of the date of such destruction.

597 Sec. 12. Section 29-161q of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes
598 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
599 *October 1, 2026*):

600 (a) Any security service or business may employ as many security
601 officers as such security service or business deems necessary for the
602 conduct of the business, provided such security officers are of good
603 moral character and at least eighteen years of age.

604 (b) (1) No person hired or otherwise engaged to perform work as a
605 security officer, as defined in section 29-152u, shall perform the duties
606 of a security officer prior to being licensed as a security officer by the
607 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, except as
608 provided in subsection (h) of this section. Each applicant for a license
609 shall complete a minimum of eight hours training in the following areas:
610 Basic first aid, state search and seizure laws and regulations, use of force,
611 basic criminal justice and public safety issues. If an applicant for a
612 license intends to carry a less lethal weapon while on duty as a security
613 officer, such applicant shall complete additional training on how to use
614 such less lethal weapon lawfully and in accordance with the
615 recommendations of the manufacturer of such less lethal weapon. The
616 commissioner shall waive any such training required by this subsection
617 for (A) any person who is currently employed as, or separated from
618 service in good standing within the preceding two years as, a correction
619 officer for the Department of Correction, a parole officer for the
620 Department of Correction or a judicial marshal for the Judicial Branch,
621 and presents proof that such person has completed training that is

622 equivalent to the training required by this subsection, (B) any person
623 who is separated from service in good standing within the preceding
624 two years as a police officer, and presents proof that such person has
625 completed training that is equivalent to the training required by this
626 subsection, and (C) any person who, while serving in the armed forces
627 or the National Guard, or if such person is a veteran, within two years
628 of such person's discharge from the armed forces, presents proof that
629 such person has completed military training that is equivalent to the
630 training required by this subsection, and, if applicable, such person's
631 military discharge document or a certified copy thereof. The training
632 shall be approved by the commissioner in accordance with regulations
633 adopted pursuant to section 29-161x. The commissioner may not grant
634 a license to any person who has been decertified as a police officer or
635 otherwise had his or her certification canceled, revoked or refused
636 renewal pursuant to subsection (c) of section 7-294d or under the laws
637 of any other jurisdiction. For the purposes of this subsection, "veteran"
638 and "armed forces" have the same meanings as provided in section 27-
639 103, "military discharge document" has the same meaning as provided
640 in section 1-219, and "less lethal weapon" means a baton or oleoresin
641 capsicum spray, commonly referred to as "O.C. spray" or "pepper
642 spray".

643 [(1)] (2) No person or employee of an association, corporation or
644 partnership shall conduct such training without the approval of the
645 commissioner. Application for such approval shall be submitted on
646 forms prescribed by the commissioner and accompanied by a fee of
647 forty dollars. Such application shall be made under oath and shall
648 contain the applicant's name, address, date and place of birth,
649 employment for the previous five years, education or training in the
650 subjects required to be taught under this subsection, any convictions for
651 violations of the law and such other information as the commissioner
652 may require by regulation adopted pursuant to section 29-161x to
653 properly investigate the character, competency and integrity of the
654 applicant. No person shall be approved as an instructor for such training

655 who has been convicted of a felony, a sexual offense or a crime of moral
656 turpitude or who has been denied approval as a security service
657 licensee, a security officer or instructor in the security industry by any
658 licensing authority, or whose approval has been revoked or suspended.
659 The term for such approval shall not exceed two years. Not later than
660 two business days after a change of address, any person approved as an
661 instructor in accordance with this section shall notify the commissioner
662 of such change and such notification shall include both the old and new
663 addresses.

664 [(2)] (3) Each person approved as an instructor in accordance with
665 this section may apply for the renewal of such approval on a form
666 approved by the commissioner, accompanied by a fee of forty dollars.
667 Such form may require the disclosure of any information necessary for
668 the commissioner to determine whether the instructor's suitability to
669 serve as an instructor has changed since the issuance of the prior
670 approval. The term of such renewed approval shall not exceed two
671 years.

672 (c) Not later than two years after successful completion of the training
673 required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or the waiver of such
674 training, the applicant may submit an application for a license as a
675 security officer on forms furnished by the commissioner and, under
676 oath, shall give the applicant's name, address, date and place of birth,
677 employment for the previous five years, experience in the position
678 applied for, including military training and weapons qualifications, any
679 convictions for violations of the law and such other information as the
680 commissioner may require, by regulation, to properly investigate the
681 character, competency and integrity of the applicant. The commissioner
682 shall require any applicant for a license, or for renewal of a license,
683 under this section to submit to state and national criminal history
684 records checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, provided
685 an applicant for renewal of a license shall not be charged any fingerprint
686 search or fingerprinting fee pursuant to subsection (c) of section 29-11
687 for such records checks. Each applicant for a license, or for renewal of a

688 license, shall submit with the application (1) two sets of his or her
689 fingerprints on forms specified and furnished by the commissioner, (2)
690 two full-face photographs, two inches wide by two inches high, taken
691 not earlier than six months prior to the date of application, and (3) a one-
692 hundred-dollar licensing fee or licensing renewal fee, made payable to
693 the state. Any applicant who is a member or veteran of the armed forces
694 or the National Guard and received a waiver as provided in subdivision
695 (1) of subsection (b) of this section shall be exempt from payment of such
696 licensing fee. Subject to the provisions of section 46a-80, no person shall
697 be approved for a license who has been convicted of a felony, any sexual
698 offense or any crime involving moral turpitude, or who has been
699 refused a license under the provisions of sections 29-161g to 29-161x,
700 inclusive, for any reason except minimum experience, or whose license,
701 having been granted, has been revoked or is under suspension. Upon
702 being satisfied of the suitability of the applicant for licensure, the
703 commissioner may license the applicant as a security officer. Such
704 license shall be renewed every five years. The commissioner shall send
705 a notice of the expiration date of such license to the holder of such
706 license, by first class mail or electronic mail, not less than ninety days
707 before such expiration, and shall include with such notice an application
708 for renewal. The holder of such license may elect to receive such notice
709 by first class mail or electronic mail. The security officer license shall be
710 valid for a period of ninety days after its expiration date unless the
711 license has been revoked or is under suspension pursuant to section 29-
712 161v. An application for renewal filed with the commissioner after the
713 expiration date shall be accompanied by a late fee of twenty-five dollars.
714 The commissioner shall not renew any license that has been expired for
715 more than ninety days.

716 (d) Upon the security officer's successful completion of training and
717 licensing by the commissioner, or immediately upon hiring a licensed
718 security officer, the security service employing such security officer
719 shall apply to register such security officer with the commissioner on
720 forms provided by the commissioner. Such application shall be

721 accompanied by payment of a forty-dollar application fee payable to the
722 state. The Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency
723 Services and Public Protection shall keep on file the completed
724 registration form and all related material. An identification card with
725 the name, date of birth, address, full-face photograph, physical
726 descriptors and signature of the applicant shall be issued to the security
727 officer, and shall be carried by the security officer at all times while
728 performing the duties associated with the security officer's employment.
729 Registered security officers, in the course of performing their duties,
730 shall present such card for inspection upon the request of a law
731 enforcement officer.

732 (e) The security service shall notify the commissioner not later than
733 five days after the termination of employment of any registered
734 employee.

735 (f) Any fee or portion of a fee paid pursuant to this section shall not
736 be refundable.

737 (g) No person, firm or corporation shall employ or otherwise engage
738 any person as a security officer, as defined in section 29-152u, unless
739 such person (1) is a licensed security officer, or (2) meets the
740 requirements of subsection (h) of this section.

741 (h) During the time that an application for a license as a security
742 officer is pending with the commissioner, the applicant may perform the
743 duties of security officer, provided (1) the security service employing
744 the applicant [~~conducts, or has~~] conducted, or had a consumer reporting
745 agency regulated under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act conduct,
746 a state and national criminal history records check and [~~determines~~]
747 determined the applicant meets the requirements of subsection (c) of
748 this section to be a security officer, (2) the applicant successfully
749 completed the training required pursuant to subsection (b) of this
750 section, or obtained a waiver of such training, and (3) the applicant has
751 not been decertified as a police officer or otherwise had his or her

752 certification canceled, revoked or refused renewal pursuant to
753 subsection (c) of section 7-294d or under the laws of any other
754 jurisdiction. If the commissioner notifies the applicant that the
755 application is incomplete, the applicant shall submit a completed
756 application not later than ten calendar days after the date of such
757 notification. If, upon receiving such application, the commissioner
758 determines that such application is still incomplete, the commissioner
759 may, in the commissioner's discretion, deny the application. The
760 applicant shall not perform such duties at a public or private preschool,
761 elementary or secondary school or at a facility licensed and used
762 exclusively as a child care center, as described in subdivision (1) of
763 subsection (a) of section 19a-77. The applicant shall cease to perform
764 such duties pursuant to this subsection when the commissioner grants
765 or denies the pending application for a security license under this
766 section.

767 (i) Any person, firm or corporation that violates any provision of
768 subsection (b), (d), (e), (g) or (h) of this section shall be fined seventy-
769 five dollars for each offense. Each distinct violation of this section shall
770 be a separate offense and, in the case of a continuing violation, each day
771 thereof shall be deemed a separate offense.

772 Sec. 13. Section 29-152m of the general statutes is repealed and the
773 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

774 (a) No professional bondsman licensed under chapter 533, surety bail
775 bond agent licensed under chapter 700f or bail enforcement agent
776 licensed under sections 29-152f to 29-152i, inclusive, shall carry a pistol,
777 revolver or other firearm, or electronic defense weapon, while engaging
778 in the business of a professional bondsman, surety bail bond agent or
779 bail enforcement agent, as the case may be, or while traveling to or from
780 such business unless such bondsman or agent obtains a special permit
781 from the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in
782 accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. The
783 permit required under this section shall be in addition to the permit

784 requirement imposed under section 29-28 and shall not be issued until
785 the applicant has been issued a permit under section 29-28.

786 (b) (1) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
787 Protection may grant to any professional bondsman licensed under
788 chapter 533, surety bail bond agent licensed under chapter 700f or bail
789 enforcement agent licensed under sections 29-152f to 29-152i, inclusive,
790 a permit to carry a pistol or revolver or other firearm while engaging in
791 the business of a professional bondsman, surety bail bond agent or bail
792 enforcement agent, as the case may be, or while traveling to or from such
793 business, provided [that] such bondsman or agent has proven to the
794 satisfaction of the commissioner that such bondsman or agent has
795 successfully completed a course, approved by the commissioner, of
796 training in the safety and use of firearms.

797 (2) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
798 may grant to any professional bondsman licensed under chapter 533,
799 surety bail bond agent licensed under chapter 700f or bail enforcement
800 agent licensed under sections 29-152f to 29-152i, inclusive, a permit to
801 carry an electronic defense weapon while engaging in the business of a
802 professional bondsman, surety bail bond agent or bail enforcement
803 agent, as the case may be, or while traveling to or from such business,
804 provided such bondsman or agent has proven to the satisfaction of the
805 commissioner that such bondsman or agent has successfully completed
806 a course, approved by the commissioner, of training in the safety and
807 use of electronic defense weapons.

808 (c) An application for a permit pursuant to this section shall be made
809 on forms provided by the commissioner and shall be accompanied by a
810 fee of sixty-two dollars. Such permit shall have an expiration date that
811 coincides with that of the state permit to carry a pistol or revolver issued
812 pursuant to section 29-28.

813 (d) A permit issued pursuant to this section shall be renewable every
814 five years with a renewal fee of sixty-two dollars. [Each] As a condition

815 of such renewal, each holder of a permit issued pursuant to this section
 816 shall successfully complete an annual firearms or electronic defense
 817 weapons safety refresher course, as applicable, that is approved by the
 818 commissioner. [as a condition of such renewal.] The commissioner shall
 819 send, by first class mail, a notice of expiration of the bail enforcement
 820 agent firearms or electronic defense weapons permit issued pursuant to
 821 this section, as applicable, together with a notice of expiration of the
 822 permit to carry a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to section 29-28, in
 823 one combined form. The commissioner shall send such combined notice
 824 to the holder of the permits not later than ninety days before the date of
 825 the expiration of both permits, and shall enclose a form for renewal of
 826 the permits. A bail enforcement agent firearms or electronic defense
 827 weapons permit issued pursuant to this section, as applicable, shall be
 828 valid for a period of ninety days after the expiration date, except this
 829 provision shall not apply if the permit to carry a pistol or revolver has
 830 been revoked or revocation is pending pursuant to section 29-32, in
 831 which case the bail enforcement agent firearms or electronic defense
 832 weapons permit, as applicable, shall also be revoked.

833 (e) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the
 834 provisions of chapter 54 concerning the approval of schools, institutions
 835 or organizations offering firearms or electronic defense weapons safety
 836 courses, the requirements for instructors and the required number of
 837 hours and content of such courses.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	14-227a(b)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	15-140r(a)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	54-102g(a) to (f)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	7-294b(b)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	29-4
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	PA 13-3, Sec. 85(b)

Sec. 9	October 1, 2026	29-357(b)
Sec. 10	October 1, 2026	29-357a(c)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2026	29-38c(e) to (i)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2026	29-161q
Sec. 13	October 1, 2026	29-152m

Statement of Purpose:

To implement various recommendations of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection concerning (1) the appointment of new or interim fire chiefs, (2) chemical tests of criminal defendants' breath, (3) blood or other biological samples for DNA analysis required from certain arrested or convicted persons, (4) a study of lawfully owed DNA, (5) the membership of the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, (6) standards for determining the proposed level of staffing for the Division of State Police, (7) the school security infrastructure competitive grant program, (8) certificates of competency regarding fireworks and special effects, (9) the holding of firearms or other deadly weapons and ammunition seized pursuant to certain warrants, (10) security officers, and (11) professional bondsmen, surety bail bond agents and bail enforcement agents.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]