CHAPTER 244*

MOTOR BUSES

*See Sec. 14-97b re requirement of lift equipment on motor buses for persons with disabilities.

See chapter 277 (Sec. 16-1 et seq.) for definitions and other provisions applicable to this chapter.

Annotations to former chapter 286:

Chapter is constitutional; power of legislature to license any business defined; power of commission to determine whether any service is required by public convenience and necessity, and, if any, what and by whom; limitations on right of appeal from commission’s decisions. 97 C. 453; Id., 728.

Because of limited nature of livery service, commission may grant application for regular route motor bus common carrier service even when livery service exists in the area and is capable of being expanded. 24 CS 402.

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Sec. 13b-80. (Formerly Sec. 16-309). Certificate of public convenience and necessity. No person, association, limited liability company or corporation shall operate a motor bus without having obtained a certificate from the Department of Transportation or from the Federal Highway Administration pursuant to the Bus Regulatory Reform Act of 1982, P.L. 97-261, specifying the route and certifying that public convenience and necessity require the operation of a motor bus or motor buses over such route. Such certificate shall be issued only after written application for the same has been made. Upon receipt of such application, said department shall promptly give written notice of the pendency of such application to the mayor of each city, the warden of each borough or the first selectman of each town in or through which the applicant desires to operate, and to any common carrier operating over any portion of such route or over a route substantially parallel thereto. Any town, city or borough within which, or between which and any other town, city or borough in this state, any such common carrier is furnishing service may bring a written petition to the department in respect to routes, fares, speed, schedules, continuity of service and the convenience and safety of passengers and the public. Thereupon the department may fix a time and place for a hearing upon such petition and mail notice thereof to the parties in interest at least one week prior to such hearing. No such certificate shall be sold or transferred until the department, upon written application to it, setting forth the purpose, terms and conditions thereof and after investigation, approves the same. The application shall be accompanied by a fee of one hundred seventy-six dollars. The department may amend or, for sufficient cause shown, may suspend or revoke any such certificate. The department may impose a civil penalty on any person or any officer of any association, limited liability company or corporation who violates any provision of any regulation adopted under section 13b-86 with respect to routes, fares, speed, schedules, continuity of service or the convenience and safety of passengers and the public, in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars per day for each violation. The owner or operator of every motor bus shall display in a conspicuous place therein a memorandum of such certificate. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 285, such certificate shall include authority to transport baggage, express, mail and newspapers for hire in the same vehicle with passengers. In an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars per day for each violation. The owner or operator of every public utility certificate shall be valid unless suspended or revoked by the Department of Transportation.


History: 1965 act added authority for transporting baggage, express, mail and newspapers for hire in same vehicle with passengers; 1967 act provided for fee of $50 to accompany application; 1969 act included commissioner of transportation among those to be notified of hearing on applications for certificates and on petitions by towns and provided further for the consideration of the recommendations of that commissioner submitted in writing within 30 days of the conclusion of the hearing; P.A. 75-486 substituted public utilities control "authority" for public utilities "commission" where appearing, effective December 1, 1975; P.A. 77-614 replaced "public utilities control authority" with "division of public utility control within the department of business regulation", effective January

http://search.cga.state.ct.us/dtsearch_pub_statutes.asp?cmd=getdoc&DocId=315&Index=1%...
1, 1979; P.A. 79-610 substituted “department of transportation” for “division of public utility control within the department of business regulation” and “department” for “division” where appearing, and deleted the “commissioner of transportation” from those to be notified of hearings on applications for certificates and on petitions; P.A. 80-25 provided that certificates issued prior to October 1, 1979, shall remain valid unless suspended or revoked by the department of transportation; in 1981 Sec. 16-309 transferred to Sec. 13b-80; P.A. 84-134 authorized any person, association or corporation to operate a motor bus after obtaining certificate from Interstate Commerce Commission; P.A. 84-254 increased application fee from $50 to $176 between July 1, 1985, and July 1, 1993; P.A. 92-136 amended section by requiring the issuance of a decal to be conspicuously displayed on the vehicle; P.A. 93-307 amended the section by providing for an annual decal fee and eliminating the provision for a one-time decal fee, effective June 29, 1993; P.A. 95-126 eliminated provision re issuance of decal representing authority to operate and provision re display of decal, effective July 1, 1995; P.A. 96-222 inserted “or its successor agency” after “Interstate Commerce Commission”, effective July 1, 1996; P.A. 97-304 extended prohibition re operation of motor buses without a certificate to limited liability companies, substituted “Federal Highway Administration” for “Interstate Commerce Commission or its successor agency”, eliminated requirement that certificate be issued only after a public hearing is held thereon and that department fix a time and place for a hearing upon a written petition brought by town, city or borough and mail notice thereof, made technical changes, deleted obsolete references re application fees, and authorized department to impose civil penalty for violation of any provision of any regulation adopted under Sec. 13b-86, effective July 1, 1997.

Annotations to former section 16-309:

Cited. 166 C. 328.

Cited. 24 CS 405.

Sec. 13b-81. (Formerly Sec. 16-309a). Temporary authority. The Department of Transportation may issue to an applicant for authority to operate motor bus service, temporary authority to operate such service, pending disposition of his application by the department, but such temporary authority shall not extend over a period of more than one hundred eighty days.


History: P.A. 75-486 substituted “public utilities control authority” for “public utilities commission” and “the authority” for “the commission”, effective December 1, 1975; P.A. 77-614 replaced “public utilities control authority” with “division of public utility control within the department of business regulation”, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 79-610 substituted “department of transportation” for “division of public utility control within the department of business regulation” and substituted “department” for “division”; in 1981 Sec. 16-309a transferred to Sec. 13b-81; P.A. 97-304 eliminated references to hearings and made technical changes, effective July 1, 1997.

Sec. 13b-82. (Formerly Sec. 16-309b). Transportation of school children. The provisions of sections 14-275 to 14-281, inclusive, shall not apply to the operation of any motor bus operated pursuant to a

certificate of public convenience and necessity issued in accordance with section 13b-80 which transports school children as well as other passengers for compensation, over regular routes authorized in such certificate.

(P.A. 73-661, S. 2; P.A. 75-263.)

History: P.A. 75-263 deleted provision for display of "school bus" signs; in 1981 Sec. 16-309b transferred to Sec. 13b-82.

Sec. 13b-83. (Formerly Sec. 16-310). Registration. (a) Upon the granting of a certificate of public convenience and necessity, the holder of such certificate may apply for the registration of any motor bus of which such holder is the owner or lessee and which is to be used as specified in such certificate. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall have jurisdiction over the registration of any motor bus, its exterior lighting equipment and the licensing of its operator.

(b) The holder of a certificate of public convenience and necessity, issued in accordance with the provisions of section 13b-103 for the operation of a passenger vehicle which has seats for more than ten passengers in addition to the driver, may apply for the registration of such vehicle as a motor bus, provided such holder is the owner or lessee of such vehicle and such vehicle is to be used as specified in such certificate. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall have jurisdiction over the registration of any such vehicle and its exterior lighting equipment and over the licensing of its operator. Any such vehicle so registered may operate exclusively in livery service in accordance with the provisions of chapter 244b.

(1949 Rev., S. 5707; P.A. 85-437, S. 2; P.A. 99-181, S. 2, 40; P.A. 03-115, S. 60.)

History: In 1981 Sec. 16-310 transferred to Sec. 13b-83; P.A. 85-437 added Subsec. (b) which allows certain owners of motor vehicles used in livery service to register such vehicles as motor buses and to operate such vehicles as motor vehicles in livery service; P.A. 99-181 amended Subsec. (b) by increasing the minimum number of passenger seats required for registration as a motor bus from "more than nine" to "more than ten", effective June 23, 1999; P.A. 03-115 amended Subsec. (a) to make technical changes.

See Sec. 14-26 re registration of public service motor vehicles.

See Sec. 14-44 re licensing of public service motor vehicle and service bus operators.

Sec. 13b-84. (Formerly Sec. 16-311). Transportation permits. Section 13b-84 is repealed, effective July 1, 1997.

Sec. 13b-85. (Formerly Sec. 16-312). Penalty. Any person or the officers of any association, limited liability company or corporation who violate any order or regulation adopted or established under the provisions of sections 13b-80 to 13b-83, inclusive, or who violate any provision of said sections, shall be guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

(1949 Rev., S. 5710; P.A. 97-304, S. 9, 31; P.A. 12-80, S. 109.)

History: In 1981 Sec. 16-312 transferred to Sec. 13b-85; P.A. 97-304 extended penalty to officers of limited liability companies and substituted “13b-83” for “13b-84”, effective July 1, 1997; P.A. 12-80 replaced penalty of a fine of not more than $100 or imprisonment of not more than 60 days or both with a class B misdemeanor.

Sec. 13b-86. (Formerly Sec. 16-312a). Common carrier subject to jurisdiction of department. Each person, association, limited liability company or corporation owning or operating a motor bus is declared to be a common carrier and subject as such to the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation and, while so operating, to such reasonable rules and regulations as said department may prescribe with respect to routes, fares, speed, schedules, continuity of service and the convenience and safety of passengers and the public.

(1959, P.A. 6, S. 1; P.A. 75-486, S. 1, 69; P.A. 77-614, S. 162, 610; P.A. 79-610, S. 12; P.A. 97-304, S. 10, 31.)

History: P.A. 75-486 substituted “public utilities control authority” for “public utilities commission” and “authority” for “commission”, effective December 1, 1975; P.A. 77-614 replaced “public utilities control authority” with “division of public utility control within the department of business regulation”, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 79-610 substituted department of transportation for the foregoing designation and “department” for “division”; in 1981 Sec. 16-312a transferred to Sec. 13b-86; P.A. 97-304 extended provisions to limited liability companies, effective July 1, 1997.

Annotation to former section 16-312a:

Cited. 24 CS 407.
610 substituted “department of transportation” for the foregoing designation; in 1981 Sec. 16-312b transferred to Sec. 13b-87.

Sec. 13b-88. (Formerly Sec. 16-313). Interstate motor buses. Each person, association, limited liability company or corporation owning or operating a motor bus over highways within this state between points outside of this state or between points within this state and points outside of this state shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation and, while so operating, to such reasonable regulations as said department may prescribe with respect to routes and terminals in this state, speed of operation, safety of passengers, equipment, public safety and convenience on the highways and conservation of the highways.


History: P.A. 75-486 substituted “public utilities control authority” for “commission”, i.e. public utilities commission, and “authority” for “commission” thereafter, effective December 1, 1975; P.A. 77-614 replaced “public utilities control authority” with “division of public utility control within the department of business regulation”, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 79-610 substituted “department of transportation” for the foregoing designation and “department” for “division”; in 1981 Sec. 16-313 transferred to Sec. 13b-88; P.A. 97-304 extended provisions to limited liability companies, effective July 1, 1997.

Sec. 13b-89. (Formerly Sec. 16-314). Permits for operation of interstate motor buses. (a) No person, association, limited liability company or corporation shall operate a motor bus over highways within this state between points outside this state or between points within this state and points outside this state and indiscriminately receive or discharge passengers without having obtained a permit from the Department of Transportation to be issued upon written application to said department specifying the route or routes within this state over which such motor bus may operate and the terminals within this state. Permits may be issued without hearing in the discretion of said department. Any permit issued pursuant to this section by the Division of Public Utility Control within the Department of Business Regulation prior to October 1, 1979, shall remain valid unless suspended or revoked by the Department of Transportation.

(b) The Department of Transportation may amend or, for sufficient cause shown, may suspend or revoke any such permit. The department may impose a civil penalty on any person or any officer of any association, limited liability company or corporation who violates any provision of any regulation adopted under section 13b-88 with respect to routes and terminals in this state, speed of operation, safety of passengers, equipment, public safety and convenience on the highways or conservation of the highways, in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars per day for each violation.

(c) A holder of such permit shall not operate a motor bus in the transportation of passengers for hire between points within this state without securing from (1) the Department of Transportation a certificate of public convenience and necessity in accordance with the provisions of sections 13b-80 to 13b-85, inclusive, or (2) the Federal Highway Administration a certificate pursuant to the Bus Regulatory Reform Act of 1982, P.L. 97-261.
(d) Upon the granting of a permit, the holder of such permit may apply for the registration of any motor bus of which such holder is the owner or lessee and which is to be used as specified in such permit. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall have jurisdiction over the registration of any such motor bus, its exterior lighting equipment and the licensing of its operator.


History: 1969 act provided that commissioner of transportation be notified of any application received and for consideration to be given any of the commissioner’s recommendations made within 30 days or if hearing held, within 30 days after hearing; P.A. 75-486 substituted “public utilities control authority” for “public utilities commission” and “authority” for “commission” where appearing, effective December 1, 1975; P.A. 77-614 replaced public utilities control authority with division of public utility control within the department of business regulation where appearing, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 79-610 substituted “department of transportation” for the foregoing designation and “department” for “division” and further deleted provision for notice to be given to the commissioner of transportation; P.A. 80-25 specified that permits issued by division remain valid unless suspended or revoked by transportation department; in 1981 Sec. 16-314 transferred to Sec. 13b-89; P.A. 84-134 amended Subsec. (c) to authorize permit holder to operate a motor bus if holder secures certificate from Interstate Commerce Commission; P.A. 96-222 amended Subsec. (c) to insert “or its successor agency” after “Interstate Commerce Commission”, effective July 1, 1996; P.A. 97-304 amended Subsec. (a) to extend prohibition re operation of interstate motor buses without a permit to limited liability companies, Subsec. (b) to authorize department to impose civil penalty for violation of any provision of any regulation adopted under Sec. 13b-88, and Subsec. (c) to substitute “Federal Highway Administration” for “Interstate Commerce Commission or its successor agency”, effective July 1, 1997; P.A. 03-115 amended Subsec. (d) to make technical changes.

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Sec. 13b-89a. Interstate motor buses having upper and lower decks. The recipient of a permit pursuant to section 13b-89, who owns or operates a motor bus, as defined in section 14-1, which has an upper and lower deck, may register such motor bus in this state, provided such motor bus complies with manufacturing and safety standards for motor buses established under federal statutes and regulations. The Commissioner of Transportation shall adopt regulations in accordance with this section.

(P.A. 07-232, S. 7; P.A. 08-150, S. 36.)

History: P.A. 08-150 made a technical change.

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Sec. 13b-90. (Formerly Sec. 16-315). Penalty. Any person or the officers of any association, limited liability company or corporation who violate any provision of section 13b-88 or 13b-89 or any order or regulation adopted or established under their provisions shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars.

(1949 Rev., S. 5714; P.A. 97-304, S. 13, 31.)
History: In 1981 Sec. 16-315 transferred to Sec. 13b-90; P.A. 97-304 extended penalty to officers of limited liability companies, effective July 1, 1997.

Annotation to former section 16-315:

Cited. 122 C. 239.

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Sec. 13b-91. (Formerly Sec. 16-316). Interstate motor buses; authority to hold hearings and issue permits. The Department of Transportation may hold such hearings and issue such permits as may be required in carrying out the provisions of sections 13b-88 and 13b-89.

(1949 Rev., S. 5715; P.A. 75-486, S. 1, 69; P.A. 77-614, S. 162, 610; P.A. 79-610, S. 16.)

History: P.A. 75-486 substituted “public utilities control authority” for “commission”, i.e. public utilities commission, effective December 1, 1975; P.A. 77-614 replaced public utilities control authority with division of public utility control within the department of business regulation, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 79-610 substituted “department of transportation” for the foregoing designation; in 1981 Sec. 16-316 transferred to Sec. 13b-91.

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Sec. 13b-92. (Formerly Sec. 16-317). Carrying of passengers for hire by mail carriers and others. The Department of Transportation, upon written application of any person authorized by the United States government to carry mail by motor vehicle, or of any person desiring to carry passengers for hire to and from any rural section where there is no other agency of public transportation of passengers, may authorize such applicant to transport passengers for hire in such motor vehicle over a prescribed route if, in the opinion of the department, public convenience and necessity require the same. The department shall also determine the registration fee, if any, to be charged such applicant and shall forward to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles a certified copy of its findings concerning the requirements of public convenience and necessity and the registration fee, and, thereupon, said commissioner may register such vehicle for such service. The department may, at any time, amend or revoke any such authorization. Any such authorization issued by the Division of Public Utility Control within the Department of Business Regulation prior to October 1, 1979, shall remain valid unless revoked by the Department of Transportation. Said department may make rules, regulations and orders relating to such passenger service and fixing rates and schedules therefor, provided such rules, regulations and orders shall not be inconsistent with federal regulations pertaining to carriers of United States mail.


History: P.A. 75-486 substituted “public utilities control authority” for “commission” i.e. public utilities commission, and “authority” for “commission” thereafter where appearing, effective December 1, 1975; P.A. 77-614 replaced public utilities control authority with division of public utility control within the department of business regulation, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 79-610 substituted “department of transportation” for foregoing designation and “department” for “division” where appearing; P.A. 80-25 specified that authorizations issued by division remain valid unless revoked by transportation department; in 1981 Sec. 16-317 transferred to Sec. 13b-92.

Sec. 13b-93. (Formerly Sec. 16-317a). New schedules of bus operation. Discontinuation of service. Any motor bus company which wishes to adopt a new schedule of operations or discontinue a service shall, not less than twenty days prior to the effective date of such schedule, give notice thereof to the Department of Transportation and to the chief executive officer of each municipality affected by such schedule. Notice shall also be posted in each bus operated on the route affected by such change and at each ticket agency serving such route and published in a newspaper or newspapers having circulation in the affected area not less than ten days prior to the effective date of such schedule. No such schedule shall be effective until approved by the Department of Transportation.

(1969, P.A. 77; P.A. 75-486, S. 1, 69; P.A. 77-614, S. 162, 610; P.A. 79-610, S. 18; P.A. 84-216, S. 1.)

History: P.A. 75-486 substituted “public utilities control authority” for “public utilities commission” where appearing, effective December 1, 1975; P.A. 77-614 replaced public utilities control authority with division of public utility control within the department of business regulation, effective January 1, 1979; P.A. 79-610 substituted “department of transportation” for foregoing designation where appearing; in 1981 Sec. 16-317a transferred to Sec. 13b-93; P.A. 84-216 extended notice requirement to discontinuation of a service and required notice to also be posted at each ticket agency serving a route affected by a change in service.

Sec. 13b-94. Reporting of motor vehicle accidents. Section 13b-94 is repealed.

(P.A. 79-610, S. 41; P.A. 92-36.)

Sec. 13b-94a. Motor vehicle in charter bus transportation. No person, association, limited liability company or corporation shall operate a motor vehicle in charter bus transportation, pursuant to Public Law 105-178 until such person, association, limited liability company or corporation has obtained a permit from the Commissioner of Transportation. An application for a permit shall be filed with the commissioner, in such form as the commissioner may prescribe, along with a fee of two hundred dollars. A hearing shall not be required for obtaining said permit.

(P.A. 99-181, S. 4, 40.)