



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Proposal Name	An Act Concerning Fire Services
Legislative Liaison	Ashley Zane
Division Requesting Proposal	Commission on Fire Prevention and Control
Drafter	Jeff Morissette

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

The proposal would mandate the creation and reporting of fire chiefs' contact information to DESPP for the purposes of establishing a fire chiefs directory.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

There is currently no requirement for the state to maintain contact information for the fire chief of each department. Appointments and or election of fire chiefs occur at various times throughout the year. At times, this creates challenges regarding an accurate point of contact during emergency situations, mutual aid, and understanding the landscape of the firefighting profession. During the first phase of the state fire strategic plan, numerous departments did not respond to requests for information.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

The proposal would require each department to notify DESPP when a new or interim fire chief is appointed and provide updated contact information to include name, department name, mailing address, email address, mobile (cell) number, and dispatch contact number. This will aid our agency to better communicate with and coordinate mutual aid at events like the Oxford flash flooding or Hawthorne fire and aid in strategic planning follow up activities. In addition, this would fulfill a recommendation from the Comptrollers Special Examination on Firefighters in Connecticut.

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Require the creation and regular upkeep of fire chiefs' contact information to DESPP within 10 days of a new appointee.

Statutory Reference:	N/A
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Background

New Proposal Resubmission

Have there been any changes in federal laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Have there been any changes in state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states?

No

Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?

No

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	N/A
Contact	N/A
Date Contacted	N/A
Status	N/A
Open Issues	N/A

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Budget Option Submitted

Include the section number(s) which have a fiscal impact and the anticipated impact:

State

No

Municipal

No

Federal

No

Other Information

If there is any additional information we should know, please detail below:

Currently DAS maintains an active list of each town's fire marshal. This would align with what is currently being done at other agencies.

Legislative Language

Insert fully drafted bill below. Please use standard legislative drafting considerations, as published by LCO [here](#).

Section 1: (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2026)

- (a) As used in this section, "municipal fire department" means any department, agency or organization of a municipality, as defined in section 7-148 of the general statutes, fire district established pursuant to section 7-325 of the general statutes, or other political subdivision of the state, whether staffed by career, volunteer or combination personnel, that provides fire suppression or fire protection services.
- (b) Not later than ten business days after the appointment of a new or interim fire chief of a municipal fire department, such municipal fire department shall notify the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such appointment. Such notification shall be made on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and shall include, but need not be limited to, the name of the appointee, the effective date of such appointment, department name, mailing address, electronic mail address, mobile telephone number, dispatch contact number and any other information the commissioner deems necessary for the department's records.
- (c) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Proposal Name	Act Concerning the Division of Scientific Services
Legislative Liaison	Ashley Zane
Division Requesting Proposal	Division of Scientific Services
Drafter	Dr. Guy Vallaro

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

This proposal has two main components that would impact the state forensic laboratory operations. 1) The change would differentiate a breath test result from a chemical test result and would only require the breath test result to be given to the defendant within 24 hours of the result being known. This would clarify the requirements that are necessary when chemical tests are performed on blood and/or urine evidence for drug detection, and requirements that are to be in place when laboratory testing is conducted. 2) The proposal aims to establish a comprehensive and unified protocol for consistent collection of lawfully owed DNA under CGS § 54-102g and establish a tracking system of collection status. A thorough multi-agency pre-study, led by DESPP/DSS (Division of Scientific Services), will be required to determine collection gaps, identify missing samples and propose process improvements.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

1) In CY 2024, there were 90 driving under the influence (DUI)-related reports returned to the state forensic laboratory through the U.S. Postal Service due to them being undeliverable. For CY 2025, there are approximately 50 reports marked as returned. Reasons include but are not limited to incorrect addresses or defendants no longer living at the listed address. As a result, the laboratory staff have had to dedicate time to obtaining correct addresses from submitting police departments. This leads to work and time delays for getting final results to defendants. 2) CSG 54-102g mandates the lawful collection of DNA from convicted felony offenders. However, the multiple collection pathways and lack of process oversight, allow for disjointed collection efforts,

increasing the likelihood of missed opportunities and delayed justice. As written, the statute allows for considerable procedural ambiguity, allowing each stakeholder to specify collection policies and timing, potentially leading to inconsistent application. Without firm deadlines for collection, investigations and case resolutions are delayed by years.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

1) This proposed change would increase administrative functionality of laboratory staff and would result in productivity increases while improving case completion turn-around times. 2) At a minimum, the proposal will standardize collection timelines, ensuring timely DNA processing and faster case resolution. The driving force for policy reform will be through the proposed pre-study. Overseen by DESPP/DSS, the pre-study will be a multi-agency collaboration to identify the systemic barriers to collection and generate a census of individuals from whom DNA is lawfully owed but not collected. Through the audit and review of current state practices, the pre-study results will establish comprehensive DNA tracking and collection reform

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Breath test for motor vehicles
2	Breath test for boating
3	Creates a 30-day time period for the collection of lawfully owed DNA.
4	The study of lawfully owed DNA processes by DSS

Statutory Reference: CGS 14-227a, 15-140r, 54-102g

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

Bill #(s)	Reason bill(s) did not move forward
SB 230 (2024)	Sections 1 and 2 is a resubmit. No reason indicated for not passing

Have there been any changes in federal laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Have there been any changes in state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states?

Yes

- 1) To the best of our knowledge, we are the only state that provides copies of toxicology reports directly to the source via USPS. In other states, the source of the report is provided a copy of the report via the police department.
- 2) Arizona Rev. Stat. § 13-610 – Within 30 days of sentencing and/or arrival into Arizona.
Georgia Code 35-3-161 – Time and Procedure for Withdrawal of Blood Samples – Part (a) specified the expected timeline as “within the first 30 days of incarceration”.
Cuyohoga County - [Completing a Census of Individuals Who Lawfully "Owe" DNA in Cuyahoga County](#)
Washington State House Bill 1028 – Created time sensitive protocols and policy to follow if sample is not collected

Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?

No

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	DNA Data Bank Oversight Panel
Contact	Representatives from Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Correction, Office of Chief Public Defender, Sex Offender Registry Unit

	(CSP), Office of Attorney General, Judicial Department (Court Support Services)
Date Contacted	9/11/2025
Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Unresolved
Open Issues	

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Budget Option Submitted

Include the section number(s) which have a fiscal impact and the anticipated impact:

State 1) It will decrease the amount of money currently used for postage when mailing laboratory results through the US Postal Services. 3) approximate cost for DNA processing is \$22.07 per sample

Yes

Municipal

No

Federal

No

Other Information

If there is any additional information we should know, please detail below: N/A

Legislative Language

Insert fully drafted bill below. Please use standard legislative drafting considerations, as published by LCO [here](#).

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 14-227a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 31, 2026):

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, in any criminal prosecution for violation of subsection (a) of this section, evidence respecting the amount of alcohol or drug in the defendant's blood or urine at the time of the alleged offense, as shown by a chemical test of the defendant's breath, blood or urine, shall be admissible and competent provided: (1) The defendant was afforded a reasonable opportunity to telephone an attorney prior to the performance of the test and consented to the taking of the test upon which such analysis is made; (2) **if the chemical test was of the defendant's breath**, a true copy of the report of the [test] result **of such test** was mailed to or personally delivered to the defendant within twenty-four hours or by the end of the next regular business day, after such result was known, whichever is later; (3) the test was performed by or at the direction of a police officer according to methods and with equipment approved by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and was performed in accordance with the regulations adopted under subsection (d) of this section; (4) the device used for such test was checked for accuracy in accordance with the regulations adopted under subsection (d) of this section; (5) an additional chemical test of the same type was performed at least ten minutes after the initial test was performed or, if requested by the police officer for reasonable cause, an additional chemical test of a different type was performed, including a test to detect the presence of a drug or drugs other than or in addition to alcohol, provided the results of the initial test shall not be inadmissible under this subsection if reasonable efforts were made to have such additional test performed in accordance with the conditions set forth in this subsection and (A) such additional test was not performed or was not performed within a reasonable time, or (B) the results of such additional test are not admissible for failure to meet a condition set forth in this subsection; and (6) evidence is presented that the test was commenced within two hours of operation. In any prosecution under this section it shall be a rebuttable presumption that the results of such chemical test establish the ratio of alcohol in the blood of the defendant at the time of the alleged offense, except

that if the results of the additional test indicate that the ratio of alcohol in the blood of such defendant is ten-hundredths of one per cent or less of alcohol, by weight, and is higher than the results of the first test, evidence shall be presented that demonstrates that the test results and the analysis thereof accurately indicate the blood alcohol content at the time of the alleged offense.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 15-140r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2026):

(a) Except as provided in section 15-140s or subsection (d) of this section, in any criminal prosecution for the violation of section 15-132a, subsection (d) of section 15-133, section 15-140l or 15-140n or subsection (b) of section 53-206d, evidence respecting the amount of alcohol or drug in the defendant's blood or urine at the time of the alleged offense, as shown by a chemical test of the defendant's breath, blood or urine shall be admissible and competent provided: (1) The defendant was afforded a reasonable opportunity to telephone an attorney prior to the performance of the test and consented to the taking of the test upon which such analysis is made; (2) if the chemical test was of the defendant's breath, a true copy of the report of the [test] result of such test was mailed to or personally delivered to the defendant within twenty-four hours or by the end of the next regular business day, after such result was known, whichever is later; (3) the test was performed by or at the direction of a certified law enforcement officer according to methods and with equipment approved by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and if a blood test was performed, it was performed on a blood sample taken by a person licensed to practice medicine and surgery in this state, a qualified laboratory technician, an emergency medical technician II or a registered nurse in accordance with the regulations adopted under subsection (b) of this section; (4) the device used for such test was checked for accuracy in accordance with the regulations adopted under subsection (b) of this section; (5) an additional chemical test of the same type was performed at least ten minutes after the initial test was performed or, if requested by the peace officer for reasonable cause, an additional chemical test of a different type was performed, including a test to detect the presence of a drug or drugs other than or in addition to alcohol, except that the results of the initial test shall not be inadmissible under this subsection if reasonable efforts were made to have such additional test performed in accordance with the conditions set forth in this subsection

and (A) such additional test was not performed or was not performed within a reasonable time, or (B) the results of such additional test are not admissible for failure to meet a condition set forth in this subsection; and (6) evidence is presented that the test was commenced within two hours of operation of the vessel or expert testimony establishes the reliability of a test commenced beyond two hours of operation of the vessel. In any prosecution under this section, it shall be a rebuttable presumption that the results of such chemical analysis establish the ratio of alcohol in the blood of the defendant at the time of the alleged offense, except that if the results of the additional test indicate that the ratio of alcohol in the blood of such defendant is ten-hundredths of one per cent or less of alcohol, by weight, and is higher than the results of the first test, evidence shall be presented that demonstrates that the test results and the analysis thereof accurately indicate the blood alcohol content at the time of the alleged offense.

Section 3: Sec. 54-102g. of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2026): (a) Whenever any person is arrested on or after October 1, 2011, for the commission of a serious felony and, prior to such arrest, has been convicted of a felony but has not submitted to the taking of a blood or other biological sample for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis pursuant to this section, the law enforcement agency that arrested such person shall, ~~as available resources allow~~, require such person to submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to determine identification characteristics specific to the person. If the law enforcement agency requires such person to submit to the taking of such blood or other biological sample, such person shall submit to the taking of such sample prior to release from custody and at such time and place as the agency may specify. For purposes of this subsection, "serious felony" means a violation of section [53a-70b](#) of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2019, or section [53a-54a](#), [53a-54b](#), [53a-54c](#), [53a-54d](#), [53a-55](#), [53a-55a](#), [53a-56](#), [53a-56a](#), [53a-56b](#), [53a-57](#), [53a-59](#), [53a-59a](#), [53a-60](#), [53a-60a](#), [53a-60b](#), [53a-60c](#), [53a-70](#), [53a-70a](#), [53a-72b](#), [53a-92](#), [53a-92a](#), [53a-94](#), [53a-94a](#), [53a-95](#), [53a-100aa](#), [53a-101](#), [53a-102](#), [53a-102a](#), [53a-103a](#), [53a-111](#), [53a-112](#), [53a-134](#), [53a-135](#), [53a-136](#), [53a-167c](#), [53a-179b](#), [53a-179c](#) or [53a-181c](#).

(b) Any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent offense, as those terms are defined in section [54-250](#), or a felony, and has been sentenced on that conviction to the custody of the Commissioner of Correction, and who has not submitted to the taking of a blood or other biological sample pursuant to subsection (a) of this section with respect to such

offense, shall, [prior to release from custody] **within thirty days of sentencing** and at such time as the commissioner may specify, submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample of sufficient quality for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to determine identification characteristics specific to the person. If any person required to submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample pursuant to this subsection refuses to do so, the Commissioner of Correction or the commissioner's designee shall notify the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection within thirty days of such refusal for the initiation of criminal proceedings against such person.

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

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

(e) Any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent offense, as those terms are defined in section [54-250](#), or a felony, and is serving a period of probation or parole, and who has not submitted to the taking of a blood or other biological sample pursuant to subsection (a), (b), (c) or (d) of this section, shall, **within thirty days of entering** prior to discharge

from the supervision of the Court Support Services Division or the custody of the Department of Correction and at such time as said division or department may specify, submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample of sufficient quality for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to determine identification characteristics specific to the person.

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

(g) If the blood or other biological sample taken from a person pursuant to this section is not of sufficient quality for DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis to determine identification characteristics specific to the person, the person shall submit to the taking of an additional sample or samples until a sample of sufficient quality is obtained.

(h) The analysis shall be performed by the Division of Scientific Services within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, except that the division shall analyze samples taken pursuant to subsection (a) of this section only as available resources allow. The identification characteristics of the profile resulting from the DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis shall be stored and maintained by the division in a DNA data bank and shall be made available only as provided in section 54-102j.

(i) Any person who refuses to submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample pursuant to this section or wilfully fails to appear at the time and place specified pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for the taking of a blood or other biological sample shall be guilty of a class D felony. Any person required to submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample pursuant to subsection (c) of this section who wilfully fails to appear to submit to the taking of such sample within five business days of the time specified by the Court Support Services Division may be arrested pursuant to a warrant issued under section 54-2a.

(j) If any person required to submit to the taking of a blood or other biological sample pursuant to any provision of this section is in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction and refuses to submit to the taking of such sample, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee may use reasonable force to obtain a blood or other biological sample from such person.

(k) For the purposes of this section, a motor vehicle violation for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment of more than one year may be imposed shall be deemed an unclassified felony.

Sec. 4: (New, Effective July 1, 2026)

(a) For the purpose of this section "Lawfully owed DNA" means a DNA sample from an offender pursuant to 54-102g.

(b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall conduct a study of lawfully owed DNA. The study shall include an audit of current DNA collection and submission practices across local and state law enforcement agencies, the Division of Criminal Justice, the Department of Corrections, Division of Developmental Services, and the Judicial Branch, a census of individuals from whom DNA is lawfully owed but not collected, an analysis of systemic barriers to collection, timelines, inter-agency coordination and data sharing, define agency responsibilities at each stage of the criminal justice process, standard timelines and procedures for collection and submission of DNA, recommend data tracking and reporting protocols to ensure and facilitate transparency and compliance, and any information deemed relevant by the Commissioner. Not later than July 1, 2027, the Commissioner shall submit a report on the findings of such study, and any recommendations, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and judiciary, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Proposal Name	Changes to the Police Officer Standards and Training Council
Legislative Liaison	Ashley Zane
Division Requesting Proposal	Police Officer Standards and Training
Drafter	Thomas Wydra

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

Section 1 of the bill modifies the statutory language for the Connecticut State Police representative on the POST Council to allow for greater flexibility in appointment and improved continuity. Section 2 of the proposal removes the reference to a PRI study in 2013

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

The current statute restricts the State Police representative to "The commanding officer of the Connecticut State Police Academy," which creates continuity issues when that individual is promoted or transferred.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

This change would ensure consistent State Police input on critical areas such as statewide policy generation, training, and certification while maintaining compliance with changes affecting the law enforcement community

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Allows the commanding officer of the Police Academy or the Colonel of the State Police's designee to be a member of POST Council.
2	Eliminates the reference to Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee shall conduct a study to develop recommended standards for use by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in determining the commissioner's proposed level of staffing

Statutory Reference: CGS 7-294b and 29-4(f)

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

Have there been any changes in federal laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Have there been any changes in state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states?

No

Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?

No

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	N/A
Contact	N/A
Date Contacted	N/A
Status	N/A
Open Issues	N/A

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Budget Option Submitted

Include the section number(s) which have a fiscal impact and the anticipated impact:

State

No

Municipal

No

Federal

No

Other Information

If there is any additional information we should know, please detail below: N/A

Legislative Language

Insert fully drafted bill below. Please use standard legislative drafting considerations, as published by LCO [here](#).

Section 1: Sec. 7-294b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective upon passage): (a) There shall be a Police Officer Standards and Training Council which shall be within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

(b) On and after January 1, 2021, the council shall consist of the following members:

- (1) The chief elected official or chief executive officer of a town or city within the state with a population in excess of fifty thousand, appointed by the Governor;
- (2) The chief elected official or chief executive officer of a town or city within the state with a population of fifty thousand or less, appointed by the Governor;
- (3) A member of the faculty of an institution of higher education in the state who has a background in criminal justice studies, appointed by the Governor;
- (4) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who is holding office or employed as the chief of police, the deputy chief of police or a senior ranking professional police officer of an organized police department of a municipality within the state with a population in excess of one hundred thousand, appointed by the Governor;
- (5) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who is holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest ranking professional police officer of an organized police department of a municipality within the state with a population in excess of sixty thousand but not exceeding one hundred thousand, appointed by the Governor;
- (6) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who is holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest ranking professional police officer of an organized police department of a municipality within the state with a population in excess of thirty-five thousand but not exceeding sixty thousand, appointed by the Governor;
- (7) A sworn municipal police officer from a municipality within the state with a population exceeding fifty thousand, appointed by the Governor;

- (8) A sworn municipal police officer from a municipality within the state with a population not exceeding fifty thousand, appointed by the Governor;
- (9) The [commanding officer of the Connecticut State Police Academy] **Colonel of the Connecticut State Police or the Colonel's designee;**
- (10) A member of the public, who is a person with a physical disability or an advocate on behalf of persons with physical disabilities, appointed by the Governor;
- (11) A victim of crime or the immediate family member of a deceased victim of crime, appointed by the Governor;
- (12) A medical professional, appointed by the Governor;
- (13) The Chief State's Attorney;
- (14) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association or the person holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest ranking professional police officer of an organized police department within the state, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (15) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association or the person holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest ranking professional police officer of an organized police department within the state, appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- (16) A member of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association who is holding office or employed as chief of police or the highest ranking professional police officer of an organized police department of a municipality within the state with a population not exceeding thirty-five thousand, appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
- (17) A member of the public who is a justice-impacted person, appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;
- (18) A member of the public who is a justice-impacted person, appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; and
- (19) A member of the public who is a person with a mental disability or an advocate on behalf of persons with mental disabilities, appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

Section 2: Sec. 29-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective upon passage):

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

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

(c) The commissioner shall appoint from among sworn state police personnel not more than three lieutenant colonels who shall be in the unclassified service as provided in section [5-198](#). Any permanent employee in the classified service who accepts appointment to the position of lieutenant colonel in the unclassified service may return to the classified service at such employee's former rank. The commissioner shall appoint not more than twelve majors who shall be in the classified service. The position of major in the unclassified service shall be abolished on July 1, 2011. Any permanent employee in the classified service who accepts appointment to the position of major in the unclassified service prior to July 1, 2011, may return to the classified service at such permanent employee's former rank. The commissioner, subject to the provisions of chapter 67, shall appoint such numbers of

captains, lieutenants, sergeants, detectives and corporals as the commissioner deems necessary to officer efficiently the state police force.

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

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

[(f) The Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee shall conduct a study to develop recommended standards for use by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in determining the commissioner's proposed level of staffing for the Division of State Police for purposes of the biennial budget. The committee, in developing such recommended standards, shall consider the following: Technological improvements, federal mandates and funding, statistical data on rates and types of criminal activity,

staffing of patrol positions, staffing of positions within the division and department that do not require the exercise of police powers, changes in municipal police policy and staffing and such other criteria as the committee deems relevant. On or before January 9, 2013, the committee shall report such recommended standards to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and shall forward a copy thereof to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.]



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Proposal Name	School Security Grant Program
Legislative Liaison	Ashley Zane
Division Requesting Proposal	Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)
Drafter	Brenda Bergeron, Deputy Commissioner

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

The proposal would move the School Security Grant Program into DESPP versus the State Department of Education, allowing DESPP to make the request for bond funding to the Bond Commission.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

Currently, the State Department of Education needs to make the request for bond funding despite not being the program administer. This leads to delays in funding and DESPP's ability to run the program.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

This proposal would allow DESPP to request bond funding when the agency is ready. This will result in programmatic efficiencies.

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Replaces SDE with DESPP as the recipient of the School Security Grant program in consultation with SDE.

Statutory Reference: Subsection (b) of section 85 of public act 13-3

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

Have there been any changes in federal laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Have there been any changes in state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states?

No

Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?

Yes Municipalities and school districts have been requesting funding.

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

NOTE: If this proposal impacts one or more other agencies, it is the proposing agency's

Agency	Dept. of Education
Contact	Laura Stefon
Date Contacted	8/22/2025
Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Unresolved
Open Issues	

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Budget Option Submitted

Include the section number(s) which have a fiscal impact and the anticipated impact:

State

No

Municipal

No

Federal

No

Other Information

If there is any additional information we should know, please detail below:

DESPP would continue to work with SDE to ensure that needs are being met.

Legislative Language

Insert fully drafted bill below. Please use standard legislative drafting considerations, as published by LCO [here](#).

Section 1: Section 85 of public act 13-3, as amended by section 74 of public act 14-98, section 67 of public act 15-1 of the June special session, section 26 of public act 18-178, section 74 of public act 20-1, section 62 of public act 21-111, section 68 of public act 23-205, section 9 of public act 25-157 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective upon passage):

(a) For the purposes described in subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate one hundred seven million dollars, provided ten million dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2024.

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

(c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided in or

pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become due.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Proposal Name	Fingerprint and Background Provisions for Fireworks
Legislative Liaison	Ashley Zane
Division Requesting Proposal	Special Licensing and Firearms Unit
Drafter	Captain Pattberg

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

SLFU is requesting to have the ability for fingerprints to be taken and submission of a national background search to ensure sellers and users of fireworks, explosives and special effects displays are legally able to do so. Currently, there is not a provision in state statute (29-357 & 29-357a) that allows for the background check to go beyond the state and local check

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

Currently, SLFU cannot conduct a criminal history check outside of CT. Most fireworks and special effect shooters are from out of state.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

Allows for an out of state fingerprint supported criminal history check

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall require the applicant to submit to state and national criminal history records checks
Statutory Reference:	CGS 29-357 and 29-357a

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

Have there been any changes in federal laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Have there been any changes in state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states?

Unsure

Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?

No

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	N/A
Contact	N/A
Date Contacted	N/A
Status	N/A
Open Issues	N/A

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Budget Option Submitted

Include the section number(s) which have a fiscal impact and the anticipated impact:

State

No

Municipal

No

Federal

No

Other Information

If there is any additional information we should know, please detail below: N/A

Legislative Language

Insert fully drafted bill below. Please use standard legislative drafting considerations, as published by LCO [here](#).

Sec. 29-357. (Formerly Sec. 29-97). Sale, use and possession of fireworks prohibited. Sale, use and possession of certain sparklers or fountains permitted. Permits for display. Variations or exemptions. Penalty.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no person, firm or corporation shall offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail or use or explode or possess with intent to sell, use or explode any fireworks. A person who is sixteen years of age or older may offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail, purchase, use or possess with intent to sell or use sparklers or fountains of not more than one hundred grams of pyrotechnic mixture per item, which are nonexplosive and nonaerial, provided (1) such sparklers and fountains do not contain magnesium, except for magnalium or magnesium-aluminum alloy, (2) such sparklers and fountains containing any chlorate or perchlorate salts do not exceed five grams of composition per item, and (3) when more than one fountain is mounted on a common base, the total pyrotechnic composition does not exceed two hundred grams.

(b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall adopt reasonable regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, for the granting of permits for supervised displays of fireworks or for the indoor use of pyrotechnics, sparklers and fountains for special effects by municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks, other organizations or groups of individuals or artisans in pursuit of their trade. Such permit may be issued upon application to said commissioner and after (1) inspection of the site of such display or use by the local fire marshal to determine compliance with the requirements of such regulations, and (2) approval of the chiefs of the police and fire departments, or, if there is no police or fire department, of the first selectman, of the municipality wherein the display is to be held as is provided in this section. No such display shall be handled or fired by any person until such person has been granted a certificate of competency by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection. **Such certificate shall be issued upon submission by such person OF evidence of good moral character and of competence in the control and handling of**

fireworks. The fee for such certificate shall be [, in respect to which a fee of] two hundred dollars and shall be payable to the State Treasurer when issued. **[and which]** **Such certificate** may be renewed every three years upon payment of a fee of one hundred ninety dollars payable to the State Treasurer. **The commissioner** [**provided** such certificate] may [be] suspend[ed] or revoke[d] **such certificate** [by said commissioner] at any time for cause. **The commissioner shall require the applicant for a certificate of competency to submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records checks required pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a.** Such certificate of competency shall attest to the fact that such operator is competent to fire a display. **No certificate granted pursuant to this subsection shall be transferable.** Such display shall be of such a character and so located, discharged or fired as in the opinion of the chiefs of the police and fire departments or such selectman, after proper inspection, will not be hazardous to property or endanger any person or persons. In an aerial bomb, no salute, report or maroon may be used that is composed of a formula of chlorate of potash, sulphur, black needle antimony and dark aluminum. Formulas that may be used in a salute, report or maroon are as follows: (A) Perchlorate of potash, black needle antimony and dark aluminum, and (B) perchlorate of potash, dark aluminum and sulphur. No high explosive such as dynamite, fulminate of mercury or other stimulator for detonating shall be used in any aerial bomb or other pyrotechnics. Application for permits shall be made in writing at least fifteen days prior to the date of display, on such notice as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection by regulation prescribes, on forms furnished by the commissioner, and a fee of one hundred dollars shall be payable to the State Treasurer with each such application. After such permit has been granted, sales, possession, use and distribution of fireworks for such display shall be lawful for that purpose only. No permit granted hereunder shall be transferable. Any permit issued under the provisions of this section may be suspended or revoked by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection **[or the local fire marshal]** for violation by the permittee of any provision of the general statutes, any regulation or any ordinance relating to fireworks.

(c) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may grant variations or exemptions from, or approve equivalent or alternate compliance with, particular

provisions of any regulation issued under the provisions of subsection (b) of this section where strict compliance with such provisions would entail practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship or is otherwise adjudged unwarranted, provided any such variation, exemption, approved equivalent or alternate compliance shall, in the opinion of the commissioner, secure the public safety and shall be made in writing.

(d) Any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor, except that (1) any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of subsection (a) of this section by offering for sale, exposing for sale or selling at retail or possessing with intent to sell any fireworks with a value exceeding ten thousand dollars shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor, and (2) any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of subsection (b) of this section or any regulation adopted thereunder shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor, except if death or injury results from any such violation, such person, firm or corporation shall be guilty of a class C felony.

Sec. 29-357a. Permit for display of special effects produced by pyrotechnics or flame producing devices. Certificate of competency. Variations or exemptions. Penalty. (a) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, for the granting of permits for supervised displays of special effects produced by pyrotechnics, including sparklers and fountains, or flame producing devices by municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks, other organizations or groups of individuals or artisans in pursuit of their trade. Such regulations shall include provisions for determining the competency of persons intending to discharge or fire such special effects. Such regulations shall not apply to ceremonial activities that include minimal use of pyrotechnics or flame producing devices.

(b) An applicant for a permit for the supervised display of such special effects produced by pyrotechnics or flame producing devices shall submit a written application at least fifteen days prior to the date of the display, or upon such notice as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection by regulation prescribes, on forms furnished by said commissioner. The fee for such application shall be one hundred dollars, made payable to the State Treasurer. The commissioner shall not grant any such permit until (1) the fire marshal for the municipality where the intended display is to be held inspects the

site intended for the display and determines it to be in compliance with the requirements of such regulations, and (2) the chiefs of the police and fire departments or, if there is no police or fire department, the chief executive officer of the municipality where the intended display is to be held approves such intended site. Such display shall be of such a character and so located, discharged or fired as in the opinion of the chiefs of the police and fire departments or chief executive officer, after proper inspection, will not be hazardous to property or endanger any person. After such permit has been granted, the possession of pyrotechnics and flame producing devices for use in such display shall be lawful for that purpose only. No permit granted pursuant to this subsection shall be transferable. The commissioner may suspend or revoke such permit for violation by the permittee of any provision of the general statutes, any regulation or any ordinance relating to special effects.

(c) No pyrotechnic or flame producing device for use in a special effects display shall be handled, discharged or fired by any person unless under the supervision of a person who has been granted a certificate of competency for special effects by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Such certificate shall be issued upon submission by such person of evidence of good moral character and of competence in the control and handling of special effects. The fee for such certificate shall be two hundred dollars, made payable to the State Treasurer. Such certificate may be renewed every three years upon payment of a fee of one hundred ninety dollars to the State Treasurer. The commissioner shall require the applicant for a certificate of competency to submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records checks required pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. Such certificate shall attest to the fact that such person is competent to supervise the handling and discharge or firing of such special effects. No certificate granted pursuant to this subsection shall be transferable. The commissioner may suspend or revoke such certificate at any time for cause.

(d) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may grant, in writing, variations or exemptions from, or approve equivalent or alternate compliance with, particular provisions of any regulation adopted under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section where strict compliance with such provisions would entail practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship or is otherwise adjudged unwarranted, provided any such variation,

exemption, approved equivalent or alternate compliance shall, in the opinion of the commissioner, secure the public safety.

(e) Any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of subsection (b) or (c) of this section or any regulation adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor, except if death or injury results from any such violation, such person, firm or corporation shall be guilty of a class C felony.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Proposal Name	Risk Warrant Firearm Holding Period
Legislative Liaison	Ashley Zane
Division Requesting Proposal	Connecticut State Police
Drafter	Captain Pattberg

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

The purpose of this proposal would streamline the hold and destruction process, and stipulate that firearms being held would need to be destroyed, returned, or transferred within one (1) year.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

Holding weapons indefinitely creates a massive backlog and storage problem at police departments across the state.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

This proposal would alleviate the need for additional storage and the costs associated with retention.

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Stipulate that firearms being held under a risk protection order would need to be destroyed, returned, or transferred within one (1) year.

Statutory Reference: CGS 29-38c

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

Have there been any changes in federal laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Have there been any changes in state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

Yes Yes, PA 21-67 codified as 29-38c is not written to align with domestic violence laws, which require destruction after one (1) year.

Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states?

Unknown

Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?

Yes Local and state law enforcement departments who are incurring additional costs.

Interagency Impact Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	N/A
Contact	N/A
Date Contacted	N/A
Status	N/A
Open Issues	N/A

Fiscal Impact No Fiscal Impact

Budget Option Submitted

Include the section number(s) which have a fiscal impact and the anticipated impact:

State	Potential cost savings and avoidance by the state. This would prevent the need to purchase additional storage and free up current space for other purposes.
Yes	
Municipal	Potential cost savings and avoidance. This would prevent the need to purchase additional storage and free up current space for other purposes.
Yes	
Federal	
No	

Other Information

If there is any additional information we should know, please detail below: N/A

Legislative Language

Insert fully drafted bill below. Please use standard legislative drafting considerations, as published by LCO [here](#).

Section1: Sec. 29-38c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2026). (a) Upon complaint on oath by any state's attorney or assistant state's attorney or by any two police officers, to any judge of the Superior Court, that such state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or police officers have probable cause to believe that a person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, the judge may issue a risk protection order prohibiting such person from acquiring or possessing a firearm or other deadly weapon or ammunition. As part of or following the issuance of such order, if there is probable cause to believe that (1) such person possesses one or more firearms or other deadly weapons, and (2) such firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons are within or upon any place, thing or person, such judge shall issue a warrant commanding a police officer to enter into or upon such place or thing, search the same or the person and take into such officer's custody any and all firearms and other deadly weapons and ammunition. Such state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or police officers may not make such complaint unless such state's attorney, assistant state's attorney or police officers have conducted an independent investigation and determined that such probable cause exists. Upon the issuance of any such order and warrant, if applicable, the judge shall order the clerk of the court to give notice to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of the issuance of such order and warrant, if applicable.

(b) (1) Any family or household member or medical professional who has a good faith belief that a person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person may make an application for a risk protection order investigation with the clerk of the court for any geographical area. The application and accompanying affidavit shall be made under oath and indicate: (A) The factual basis for the applicant's belief that such person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person; (B) whether such person holds a permit under subsection (b) of section 29-28, or an eligibility certificate issued under section 29-36f, 29-37p, or 29-38n or currently possesses one or more firearms or other deadly weapons or ammunition, if known; and (C) where any such firearm or other deadly weapon or ammunition is located, if known.

(2) Upon receipt of an application and affidavit pursuant to this subsection, if the court finds that there is a good faith belief that a person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, the court shall order a risk protection order investigation to determine if the person who is the subject of the application poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person. Upon issuance by the

court of an order for investigation, the court shall: (A) Give notice to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of the issuance of the order for a risk protection order investigation; and (B) immediately give notice of the order and transmit the order and the application and affidavit on which the order is based to the law enforcement agency for the town in which the subject of the investigation resides. The court shall immediately enter into the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) a record indicating that the person who is the subject of the investigation is ineligible to purchase or otherwise receive a firearm.

(3) Upon receipt of an investigation order, the law enforcement agency shall immediately investigate whether the subject of the investigation poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person. If the law enforcement agency determines that there is probable cause to believe that the subject of the investigation poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, such law enforcement agency shall seek a risk protection order, and when applicable, a warrant pursuant to subsection (a) of this section not later than twenty-four hours after receiving the investigation order, or, if the law enforcement agency needs additional time to complete the investigation, as soon thereafter as is practicable. If the law enforcement agency determines that there is no probable cause to believe that the subject of the investigation poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, the law enforcement agency shall notify the court, the applicant, and the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection of such determination, in writing, not later than forty-eight hours after receiving the investigation order, if practicable, or, if the law enforcement agency needs additional time to complete the risk warrant investigation, as soon thereafter as is practicable. Upon receiving such notification that there was not a finding of probable cause, the court shall immediately remove or cancel any record entered into the National Instant Criminal Background Check System associated with such investigation for which there was no finding of probable cause.

(c) A risk protection order and warrant, if applicable, issued under subsection (a) of this section, may issue only on affidavit sworn to by the complainant or complainants before the judge and establishing the grounds for issuing the order and warrant, if applicable, which shall be part of the court file. In determining whether there is probable cause for a risk protection order and warrant, if applicable, under subsection (a) of this section, the judge shall consider: (1) Recent threats or acts of violence by such person directed toward other persons; (2) recent threats or acts of violence by such person directed toward himself or herself; and (3) recent acts of cruelty to animals as provided in subsection (b) of section 53-247 by such person. In evaluating whether such recent threats or acts of violence constitute probable cause to believe that such person poses a risk of imminent personal

injury to himself or herself or to others, the judge may consider other factors including, but not limited to (A) the reckless use, display or brandishing of a firearm or other deadly weapon by such person, (B) a history of the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force by such person against other persons, (C) prior involuntary confinement of such person in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, and (D) the illegal use of controlled substances or abuse of alcohol by such person. In the case of a complaint made under subsection (a) of this section, if the judge is satisfied that the grounds for the complaint exist or that there is probable cause to believe that such grounds exist, such judge shall issue a risk protection order and warrant, if applicable, naming or describing the person, and, in the case of the issuance of a warrant, the place or thing to be searched. If the requisite circumstances are met, the judge shall issue a risk protection order regardless of whether the person is already ineligible to possess a firearm. The order and warrant, if applicable, shall be directed to any police officer of a regularly organized police department or any state police officer. The order and warrant, if applicable, shall state the grounds or probable cause for issuance and, in the case of a warrant, the warrant shall command the officer to search within a reasonable time the person, place or thing named for any and all firearms and other deadly weapons and ammunition. A copy of the order and warrant, if applicable, shall be given within a reasonable time to the person named in the order together with a notice informing the person that such person has the right to a hearing under this section, the telephone number for the court clerk who can inform the person of the date and time of such hearing and the right to be represented by counsel at such hearing.

(d) (1) In the case of a warrant, the municipal or state police agency that executed the warrant shall file a copy of the application for the warrant and all affidavits upon which the warrant is based with the clerk of the court for the geographical area within which the search was conducted and with the state's attorney's office for such judicial district no later than the next business day following the execution of the warrant. Prior to the execution and return of the warrant, the clerk of the court shall not disclose any information pertaining to the application for the warrant or any affidavits upon which the warrant is based. The warrant shall be executed and returned with reasonable promptness consistent with due process of law and shall be accompanied by a written inventory of all firearms and other deadly weapons and ammunition seized.

(2) In the case of a risk protection order, not later than the next business day following the service of the order, the municipal or state police agency that served the order shall file with the court of the geographical area in the location in which the subject of the order resides a copy of the order and transmit to the state's attorney's office for such judicial district a return of service stating the date and time that the order was served. Prior to the

service and return of the order, the clerk of court shall not disclose any information pertaining to the application for the order or any affidavits upon which the order is based to any person outside the Judicial Branch, the municipal or state police agency that served the order, or the state's attorney's office for the judicial district within which the order was served. The order shall be served and returned with reasonable promptness consistent with due process of law.

(e) Not later than fourteen days after the service of a risk protection order or execution of a warrant under this section, the court for the geographical area where the person named in the order or warrant resides shall hold a hearing to determine whether the risk protection order should continue to apply and whether the firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any ammunition seized should be returned to the person named in the warrant or should continue to be held by the state **for a period not to exceed one year. If, at the end of such year, such pistols and revolvers and other firearms and ammunition have not been so transferred, the commissioner or a local police department as the case may be, shall cause them to be destroyed.** At such hearing the state shall have the burden of proving all material facts by clear and convincing evidence. If, after such hearing, the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, the court may order that the risk protection order continue to apply and that the firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any ammunition seized pursuant to the warrant issued under subsection (a) of this section continue to be held by the state until such time that the court shall terminate such order pursuant to subsection (f) of this section and order the firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any ammunition seized to be returned as soon as practicable to the person named in the warrant, provided such person is otherwise legally able to possess such firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and ammunition. If the court finds that the state has failed to prove by clear and convincing evidence that the petitioner poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, the court shall terminate such order and warrant, if applicable, and order the firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any ammunition seized to be returned as soon as is practicable to the person named in the warrant, provided such person is otherwise legally able to possess such firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and ammunition. If the court finds that the person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, the court shall give notice to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services which may take such action pursuant to chapter 319i as the department deems appropriate.

(f) A risk protection order, and warrant, if applicable, shall continue to apply and the firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any ammunition held pursuant to subsection (e) of this section shall continue to be held by the state until such time that the person named in the order and warrant, if applicable, successfully petitions the court to terminate such order and warrant, if applicable. The person named in the order may first petition the court of the geographical area where the proceeding was originally conducted for a hearing to terminate such order, and warrant if applicable, at least one hundred eighty days after the hearing held pursuant to subsection (e) of this section. Upon the filing of such petition, the court shall (1) provide to the petitioner a hearing date that is on the twenty-eighth day following the filing of such petition or the business day nearest to such day if such twenty-eighth day is not a business day, (2) notify the Division of Criminal Justice of the filing of such petition, and (3) direct the law enforcement agency for the town in which the petitioner resides to determine, not later than fourteen days after the filing of such petition, whether there is probable cause to believe that the petitioner poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person. No finding of probable cause may be found solely because the petitioner is subject to an existing risk protection order or warrant. If the law enforcement agency finds no probable cause, the agency shall so notify the court which shall cancel the hearing and terminate the order and warrant, if applicable. If the law enforcement agency finds probable cause, the agency shall notify the court of such finding and the hearing shall proceed as scheduled. At such hearing the state shall have the burden of proving all material facts by clear and convincing evidence. If the court, following such hearing, finds by clear and convincing evidence that the petitioner poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, the order and warrant, if applicable, shall remain in effect. If the court finds that the state has failed to prove by clear and convincing evidence that the petitioner poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to another person, the court shall terminate such order and warrant, if applicable. Any person whose petition is denied may file a subsequent petition in accordance with the provisions of this subsection at least one hundred eighty days after the date on which the court denied the previous petition.

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

(h) Any person whose firearm or firearms and ammunition have been ordered seized pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, or such person's legal representative, may transfer such firearm or firearms and ammunition in accordance with the provisions of section 29-33 or other applicable state or federal law, to a federally licensed firearm dealer.

Upon notification in writing by such person, or such person's legal representative, and the dealer, the head of the state agency holding such seized firearm or firearms and ammunition shall within ten days deliver such firearm or firearms and ammunition to the dealer.

(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 29-36k, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection holding any firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons and any ammunition seized pursuant to a warrant issued under this section, or any local police department holding on behalf of said commissioner any such firearm or firearms or other deadly weapon or deadly weapons or ammunition, shall not destroy any such firearm or other deadly weapon or ammunition until at least one year has passed since date of the termination of a warrant under subsection (e) of this section.

(j) For purposes of this section, (1) "ammunition" means a loaded cartridge, consisting of a primed case, propellant or projectile, designed for use in any firearm, (2) "family or household member" means (A) a person eighteen years of age or older who is a: (i) Spouse, (ii) parent, (iii) child, (iv) sibling, (v) grandparent, (vi) grandchild, (vii) step-parent, (viii) step-child, (ix) step-sibling, (x) mother or father-in-law, (xi) son or daughter-in-law, or (xii) brother or sister-in-law of the person who is the subject of an application pursuant to subsection (b) of this section; (B) a person residing with the person who is the subject of the application; (C) a person who has a child in common with the person who is the subject of the application; (D) a person who is dating or an intimate partner of the person who is the subject of the application; or (E) a person who is the legal guardian or former legal guardian of the person who is the subject of the application, (3) "medical professional" means any person who has examined the person who is the subject of the application and who is (A) a physician or physician assistant licensed under chapter 370, (B) an advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378, (C) a psychologist licensed under chapter 383, or (D) a clinical social worker licensed under chapter 383b, and (4) "deadly weapon" means a deadly weapon, as defined in section 53a-3.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Proposal Name	Security Guard Licensing
Legislative Liaison	Ashley Zane
Division Requesting Proposal	Special Licensing and Firearms Unit
Drafter	Captain Pattberg

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

This proposal is a conforming and clarifying change to better align current practices regarding security guard licensing and application process.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

Align the statute with business practice and to clarify application language.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

The proposal includes provisions to permit additional entities to be covered under the waiver and clarifies the application process.

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	This request makes a statutory change to allow for a waiver of the security guard course for qualified DOC, parole, judicial marshals, and retired police who are applying to be security guards. Currently the law allows a waiver for military and veterans only, but office practice has been including the others. It also clarifies language regarding guard applications.

Statutory Reference:

CGS 29-161q

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

Have there been any changes in federal laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Have there been any changes in state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states?

Unsure

Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?

No

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	N/A
Contact	N/A
Date Contacted	N/A
Status	N/A
Open Issues	N/A

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Budget Option Submitted

Include the section number(s) which have a fiscal impact and the anticipated impact:

State

No

Municipal

No

Federal

No

Other Information

If there is any additional information we should know, please detail below: N/A

Legislative Language

Insert fully drafted bill below. Please use standard legislative drafting considerations, as published by LCO [here](#).

Section 1: Sec. 29-161q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage): (a) Any security service or business may employ as many security officers as such security service or business deems necessary for the conduct of the business, provided such security officers are of good moral character and at least eighteen years of age.

(b) No person hired or otherwise engaged to perform work as a security officer, as defined in section 29-152u, shall perform the duties of a security officer prior to being licensed as a security officer by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, except as provided in subsection (h) of this section. Each applicant for a license shall complete a minimum of eight hours training in the following areas: Basic first aid, search and seizure laws and regulations **governing the state of Connecticut**, use of force, basic criminal justice and public safety issues. If an applicant for a license intends to carry a less lethal weapon while on duty as a security officer, such applicant shall complete additional training on how to use such less lethal weapon lawfully and in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer of such less lethal weapon. **The commissioner shall waive any such training required by this subsection for any person who is either currently employed as, or separated from service in good standing within the preceding two years as, a corrections officer for the Department of Correction, a parole officer for the Department of Correction or a judicial marshal for the Judicial Branch, provided that such person presents proof that he or she has completed training that is equivalent to the training required by this subsection. The commissioner shall also waive such training for any person who is separated from service in good standing within the preceding two years as a police officer, provided that such person presents proof that he or she has completed training that is equivalent to the training required by this subsection. In addition, [T] the commissioner shall waive any such training required by this subsection for any person who, while serving in the armed forces or the National Guard, or if such person is a veteran, within two years of such person's discharge from the armed forces, presents proof that such person has completed military training that is equivalent to the training required by this subsection, and, if applicable, such person's military**

discharge document or a certified copy thereof. The training shall be approved by the commissioner in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to section 29-161x. The commissioner may not grant a license to any person who has been decertified as a police officer or otherwise had his or her certification canceled, revoked or refused renewal pursuant to subsection (c) of section 7-294d or under the laws of any other jurisdiction. For the purposes of this subsection, "veteran" and "armed forces" have the same meanings as provided in section 27-103, "military discharge document" has the same meaning as provided in section 1-219, and "less lethal weapon" means a baton or oleoresin capsicum spray, commonly referred to as "O.C. spray" or "pepper spray".

(1) No person or employee of an association, corporation or partnership shall conduct such training without the approval of the commissioner. Application for such approval shall be submitted on forms prescribed by the commissioner and accompanied by a fee of forty dollars. Such application shall be made under oath and shall contain the applicant's name, address, date and place of birth, employment for the previous five years, education or training in the subjects required to be taught under this subsection, any convictions for violations of the law and such other information as the commissioner may require by regulation adopted pursuant to section 29-161x to properly investigate the character, competency and integrity of the applicant. No person shall be approved as an instructor for such training who has been convicted of a felony, a sexual offense or a crime of moral turpitude or who has been denied approval as a security service licensee, a security officer or instructor in the security industry by any licensing authority, or whose approval has been revoked or suspended. The term for such approval shall not exceed two years. Not later than two business days after a change of address, any person approved as an instructor in accordance with this section shall notify the commissioner of such change and such notification shall include both the old and new addresses.

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

(c) Not later than two years after successful completion of the training required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or the waiver of such training, the applicant may submit an application for a license as a security officer on forms furnished by the commissioner and, under oath, shall give the applicant's name, address, date and place of birth, employment for the previous five years, experience in the position applied for, including military training and weapons qualifications, any convictions for violations of the law and such other information as the commissioner may require, by regulation, to properly investigate the character, competency and integrity of the applicant. The commissioner shall require any applicant for a license, or for renewal of a license, under this section to submit to state and national criminal history records checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, provided an applicant for renewal of a license shall not be charged any fingerprint search or fingerprinting fee pursuant to subsection (c) of section 29-11 for such records checks. Each applicant for a license, or for renewal of a license, shall submit with the application (1) two sets of his or her fingerprints on forms specified and furnished by the commissioner, (2) two full-face photographs, two inches wide by two inches high, taken not earlier than six months prior to the date of application, and (3) a one-hundred-dollar licensing fee or licensing renewal fee, made payable to the state. **Any applicant who is a member of the armed forces or the National Guard or a veteran of the armed forces or the National Guard [any applicant who] and** received a waiver as provided in subsection (b) of this section shall be exempt from payment of such licensing fee. Subject to the provisions of section 46a80, no person shall be approved for a license who has been convicted of a felony, any sexual offense or any crime involving moral turpitude, or who has been refused a license under the provisions of sections 29-161g to 29-161x, inclusive, for any reason except minimum experience, or whose license, having been granted, has been revoked or is under suspension. Upon being satisfied of the suitability of the applicant for licensure, the commissioner may license the applicant as a security officer. Such license shall be renewed every five years. The commissioner shall send a notice of the expiration date of such license to the holder of such license, by first class mail or electronic mail, not less than ninety days before such expiration, and shall include with such notice an application for renewal. The holder of such license may elect to receive such notice by first class mail or electronic mail. The security officer license shall be valid for a period of ninety days after its expiration date unless the license has been revoked or is under suspension pursuant to section 29-161v. An application for renewal filed with the commissioner after

the expiration date shall be accompanied by a late fee of twenty-five dollars. The commissioner shall not renew any license that has been expired for more than ninety days.

(d) Upon the security officer's successful completion of training and licensing by the commissioner, or immediately upon hiring a licensed security officer, the security service employing such security officer shall apply to register such security officer with the commissioner on forms provided by the commissioner. Such application shall be accompanied by payment of a forty-dollar application fee payable to the state. The Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall keep on file the completed registration form and all related material. An identification card with the name, date of birth, address, full-face photograph, physical descriptors and signature of the applicant shall be issued to the security officer, and shall be carried by the security officer at all times while performing the duties associated with the security officer's employment. Registered security officers, in the course of performing their duties, shall present such card for inspection upon the request of a law enforcement officer.

(h) During the time that an application for a license as a security officer is pending with the commissioner, the applicant may perform the duties of security officer, provided **that** (1) the security service employing the applicant has conducteded, or has had a consumer reporting agency regulated under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act conduct, a state and national criminal history records check and has determine[s]d the applicant meets the requirements of subsection (c) of this section to be a security officer, (2) the applicant successfully completed the training required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or obtained a waiver of such training, and (3) the applicant has not been decertified as a police officer or otherwise had his or her certification canceled, revoked or refused renewal pursuant to subsection (c) of section 7-294d or under the laws of any other jurisdiction. **If an applicant applies for a license and is notified by the commissioner that the application is incomplete, the applicant must return a completed application within ten (10) calendar days of such notification. If, upon receiving the returned application, the commissioner determines that it is still incomplete, the commissioner may, in his discretion, deny the application.** The applicant shall not perform such duties at a public or private preschool, elementary or secondary school or at a facility licensed and used exclusively as a child care center, as described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 19a-77. The applicant shall cease to perform such duties pursuant to this subsection when

the commissioner grants or denies the pending application for a security license under this section.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Proposal Name	Electronic Defense Weapon Training
Legislative Liaison	Ashley Zane
Division Requesting Proposal	Special Licensing and Firearms Unit
Drafter	Captain Pattberg

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

This request makes a statutory change that requires bondsmen and Bail Enforcement Agents (BEA) to have electronic defense weapon training. The goal of the proposal is to ensure consistency across all public safety professions. While electronic defense weapons are a less lethal option, there is still a risk of injury or death if the device is used improperly or if the person being shocked has a pre-existing medical condition. Additionally, these devices may be less effective on individuals under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. Finally, many of the newer models are classified as a firearm, as they shoot projectiles propelled by gun powder.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

Requires electronic defense weapon training for Bail Enforcement Agents and Bondsmen.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

Incorporates language to require training

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
Section 1	This request makes a statutory change that requires bondsmen and BEA's to have electronic defense weapon training.

Statutory Reference: CGS 29-152m

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

Have there been any changes in federal laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Have there been any changes in state laws or regulations that make this legislation necessary?

No

Has this proposal or a similar proposal been implemented in other states?

Unsure

Have certain constituencies called for this proposal?

No

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	N/A
Contact	N/A
Date Contacted	N/A
Status	N/A
Open Issues	N/A

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Budget Option Submitted

Include the section number(s) which have a fiscal impact and the anticipated impact:

State

No

Municipal

No

Federal

No

Other Information

If there is any additional information we should know, please detail below:

Security Guards are now required to receive training to carry Electronic Defense Weapons.

Legislative Language

Insert fully drafted bill below. Please use standard legislative drafting considerations, as published by LCO [here](#).

Section 1: Sec. 29-152m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage): (a) No professional bondsman licensed under chapter 533, surety bail bond agent licensed under chapter 700f or bail enforcement agent licensed under sections 29-152f to 29-152i, inclusive, shall carry a pistol, revolver or other firearm, or electronic defense weapon, while engaging in the business of a professional bondsman, surety bail bond agent or bail enforcement agent, as the case may be, or while traveling to or from such business unless such bondsman or agent obtains a special permit from the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. The permit required under this section shall be in addition to the permit requirement imposed under section 29-28 and shall not be issued until the applicant has been issued a permit under section 29-28.

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

(b)(2) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may grant to any professional bondsman licensed under chapter 533, surety bail bond agent licensed under chapter 700f or bail enforcement agent licensed under sections 29-152f to 29-152i, inclusive, a special permit to carry an electronic defense weapon while engaging in the business of professional bondsman, surety bail bond agent or bail enforcement agent, as the case may be, or while traveling to or from such business, provided that such bondsman or agent has proven to the satisfaction of the commissioner that such

bondsman or agent has successfully completed a course, approved by the commissioner, of training in the safety and use of electronic defense weapons. All professional bondsmen, surety bail agents and bail enforcement agents shall complete such safety course and annually complete a refresher safety course approved by the commissioner.

(b)(3) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 concerning the approval of schools, institutions or organizations offering the courses described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, the requirements for instructors and the required number of hours and content of such courses.

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

(d) A permit issued pursuant to this section shall be renewable every five years with a renewal fee of sixty-two dollars. Each holder of a permit issued pursuant to this section shall successfully complete an annual firearms safety refresher course approved by the commissioner as a condition of such renewal. The commissioner shall send, by first class mail, a notice of expiration of the bail enforcement agent firearms permit issued pursuant to this section, together with a notice of expiration of the permit to carry a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to section 29-28, in one combined form. The commissioner shall send such combined notice to the holder of the permits not later than ninety days before the date of the expiration of both permits, and shall enclose a form for renewal of the permits. A bail enforcement agent firearms permit issued pursuant to this section shall be valid for a period of ninety days after the expiration date, except this provision shall not apply if the permit to carry a pistol or revolver has been revoked or revocation is pending pursuant to section 29-32, in which case the bail enforcement agent firearms permit shall also be revoked.

[(e) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 concerning the approval of schools, institutions or organizations offering firearms safety courses, the requirements for instructors and the required number of hours and content of such courses.]

