



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Motor Vehicles
Proposal Name	Background Check Authorization
Legislative Liaison	Jim Polites
Division Requesting Proposal	Multiple units that administer business licensing
Drafter	Jim Polites, Tiffany Hardwick, and Michell Givens

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

This statutory modification seeks to further clarify that the Motor Vehicles Commissioner is the prescribed authority – and the custodian of results – for national background checks for purposes of issuing certain DMV business and driving instructor licenses. Background checks are an important component to determine applicant suitability for license issuance, as well as a matter of consumer protection.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

Federal background check partners provided feedback that applicable statutory provisions in Title 14 do not fully distinguish Commissioner's authority and responsibility in such cases, despite legislative attempts included – and adopted – as part of the DMV's agency bill (Public Act 25-159) last year.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

Rather than attempt to broadly modify "Commissioner" across all Title 14 provisions, this new proposed language would be inserted in each of the three sections that authorize the agency's business application and licensing administration.

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Each of the three proposed sections below includes verbatim
2	language, intended to apply to applications for and administration
3	of: electronic issuance licensing (Sec. 14-15e); dealer, repairer, and recycler licensing (Sec. 14-52a); and driving instructor licensing (Sec. 14-73).

Statutory Reference: CGS 14-15e; 14-52a; and 14-73

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

If resubmission, please provide details below. Please also note any changes made since the last submission:

Bill #(s)	Reason bill(s) did not move forward
Public Act 25-159	The DMV's agency bill did pass last year – this latest proposal seeks to build on provisions cited within feedback from federal partners received over the summer.

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

Federal background check partners, including the FBI.

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Contact	Versie Jones
Date Contacted	Multiple discussions, with continuing collaboration.
Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Unresolved
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:

Given current federal interpretation of Title 14 statutory construction, this has proven to be a difficult issue to fully solve. The DMV is continuing to seek direct feedback and guidance from federal partners to sharpen proposed modifications..

Legislative Language

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

Section 1. Sec. 14-15e of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (x) as follows (*Effective upon passage*):

(NEW) (x) For the purposes of this section, "commissioner" means the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or any employee of the Department of Motor Vehicles who is acting for, or on behalf of, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

Section 2. Sec. 14-52a of the general is amended by adding subsection (x) as follows (*Effective upon passage*):

(NEW) (x) For the purposes of this section, "commissioner" means the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or any employee of the Department of Motor Vehicles who is acting for, or on behalf of, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

Section 3. Sec. 14-73 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (x) as follows (*Effective upon passage*):

(NEW) (x) For the purposes of this section, "commissioner" means the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or any employee of the Department of Motor Vehicles who is acting for, or on behalf of, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Motor Vehicles
Proposal Name	Accessible Parking Awareness
Legislative Liaison	Jim Polites
Division Requesting Proposal	Commissioner's Office
Drafter	Jim Polites, Tiffany Hardwick, and Michell Givens

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

The purpose of this proposed new statutory provision is to highlight efforts that support, educate, and improve accessible parking in the state of Connecticut.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

Accessible parking credentials should be available to those who need it; and those in possession of an accessible parking placard should act responsibly. Further promotion of these efforts can help bring attention to, and improve, oversight and programming.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

Since 2023, the DMV has convened a group of accessible parking stakeholders for the purpose of strengthening accessible parking in Connecticut. This group identified regular, annual promotion of such efforts as a recommendation to the Legislature.

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Adds the second Monday of July as accessible parking awareness day.

Statutory Reference: N/A

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 Accessible parking advocates and stakeholders.

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	

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:

This summer, Governor Lamont issued a proclamation – dated July 14, 2025 – declaring Accessible Parking Awareness Day. A successful recognition event was held at the Enfield DMV with stakeholders and local and state officials.

Legislative Language

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

Section 1. (NEW) The Governor shall proclaim the second Monday in July of each year as Accessible Parking Awareness Day, to promote the value of accessible parking and efforts to strengthen education, collaboration, and responsibility. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Motor Vehicles
Proposal Name	Copy Records Request Update, Alignment
Legislative Liaison	Jim Polites
Division Requesting Proposal	Legal
Drafter	Jim Polites, Tiffany Hardwick, and Michell Givens

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

The purpose of this statutory modification is to more fully align the DMV copy records request process for vessels with other DMV disclosure standards and better protect customer information.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

Current language includes a carve out for vessel records which exists, reasonably, to help establish previous sources of registration and ownership. This update would continue to authorize identification of vessel registrant/ownership continuity and add protection against undue disclosure of customer information.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

The modification would enhance DMV copy records request protections – an ongoing agency goal – and streamline administration, while preserving a mechanism that can help identify vessel registration/ownership.

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Removes existing vessel carve out language related to statutes outlining copy records requests made to DMV and replaces with mechanism below.

2 Provides mechanism to access the original identity of the last owner who registered vessel, in cases such as acquisition via secondary/online markets.

Statutory Reference (if any): CGS 14-10

Background

New Proposal Resubmission

If resubmission, please provide details below. Please also note any changes made since the last submission:

Bill #(s)	Reason bill(s) did not move forward

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 These recommended modifications have surfaced in the processing and administration of records requests from colleagues.

Interagency Impact

Check here if this proposal does NOT impact other agencies

Agency	Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection	
Contact	Megan Andrews	
Date Contacted	1/9/2026	
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: N/A

Legislative Language

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

Section 1. Subdivision (a)(2) of section 14-10 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(2) "Motor vehicle record" means any record that pertains to an operator's license, instruction or learner's permit, identity card, registration, certificate of title or any other document issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles; ["Motor vehicle record" does not include any record relating to vessels and certificates of title for vessels, as provided in section 15-210;]

Section 2. Subdivision (f) of section 14-10 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(f) The commissioner may disclose personal information from a motor vehicle record to:

(1) Any federal, state or local government agency in carrying out its functions or to any individual or entity acting on behalf of any such agency, or

(2) Any individual, organization or entity that signs and files with the commissioner, under penalty of false statement as provided in section 53a-157b, a statement on a form approved by the commissioner, together with such supporting documentation or information as the commissioner may require, that such information will be used for any of the following purposes, or [:]

(3) Any individual who provides proof of current ownership of a vessel to obtain the name and address of the last person who registered such vessel, at no charge.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is permitted to release the name and address of the last person who registered a vessel to any individual who provides proof of current ownership of such vessel.

(A) In connection with matters of motor vehicle or driver safety and theft, motor vehicle emissions, motor vehicle product alterations, recalls or advisories, performance monitoring of motor vehicles and dealers by motor vehicle manufacturers, motor vehicle market research activities including survey research, motor vehicle product and service communications and removal of nonowner records from the original owner records of motor vehicle manufacturers to implement the provisions of the federal Automobile Information Disclosure Act, 15 USC 1231 et seq., the Clean Air Act, 42 USC 7401 et seq., and 49 USC Chapters 301, 305 and 321 to 331, inclusive, as amended from time to time, and any provision of the general statutes enacted to attain compliance with said federal provisions;

(B) In the normal course of business by the requesting party, but only to confirm the accuracy of personal information submitted by the individual to the requesting party;

(C) In connection with any civil, criminal, administrative or arbitral proceeding in any court or government agency or before any self-regulatory body, including the service of process, an investigation in anticipation of litigation by an attorney-at-law or any individual acting on behalf of an attorney-at-law and the execution or enforcement of judgments and orders, or pursuant to an order of any court provided the requesting party is a party in interest to such proceeding;

(D) In connection with matters of motor vehicle or driver safety and theft, motor vehicle emissions, motor vehicle product alterations, recalls or advisories, performance monitoring of motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts and dealers, producing statistical reports and removal of nonowner records from the original owner records of motor vehicle manufacturers, provided the personal information is not published, disclosed or used to contact individuals except as permitted under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision;

(E) By any insurer or insurance support organization or by a self-insured entity or its agents, employees or contractors, in connection with the investigation of claims arising under insurance policies, antifraud activities, rating or underwriting;

(F) In providing any notice required by law to owners or lienholders named in the certificate of title of towed, abandoned or impounded motor vehicles;

(G) By an employer or its agent or insurer to obtain or verify information relating to a holder of a passenger endorsement or commercial driver's license required under 49 USC Chapter 313, and sections 14-44 to 14-44m, inclusive;

(H) In connection with any lawful purpose of a labor organization, as defined in section 31-77, provided (i) such organization has entered into a contract with the commissioner, on such terms and conditions as the commissioner may require, and (ii) the information will be used only for the purposes specified in the contract other than campaign or political purposes;

(I) For bulk distribution for surveys, marketing or solicitations provided the commissioner has obtained the express consent of the individual to whom such personal information pertains;

(J) For the purpose of preventing fraud by verifying the accuracy of personal information contained in a motor vehicle record, including an individual's photograph or computerized image, as submitted by an individual to a legitimate business or an agent, employee or contractor of a legitimate business, provided the individual has provided express consent in accordance with subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of this section;

- (K) Inclusion of personal information about persons who have indicated consent to become organ and tissue donors in a donor registry established by a procurement organization, as defined in section 19a-289a;
- (L) By any private detective or private detective licensed in accordance with the provisions of chapter 534, in connection with an investigation involving matters concerning motor vehicles;
- (M) By a state marshal, for use in the performance of duties under the provisions of section 6-38a. Such information including, but not limited to, (i) operator photos, and (ii) records produced by providing an operator's license number, number plate or vehicle identification number, may be requested and provided to a state marshal electronically, or by such other means, within a reasonable time. Such records may be transmitted to a state marshal by means of an existing electronic system used by the Department of Motor Vehicles for the transmission of records. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may charge a state marshal a reasonable annual fee for access to such records and the use of such electronic system.



Agency Legislative Proposal

2026 Session

General Information

Agency	Dept. of Motor Vehicles
Proposal Name	National Title Check, Duplicate Requests
Legislative Liaison	Jim Polites
Division Requesting Proposal	Vehicle and Business Regulation
Drafter	Jim Polites, Tiffany Hardwick, and Michell Givens

Overview

Brief Summary of Proposal

This proposed statutory update would add a national title check to the process of administering a duplicate certificate of title. The change can help prevent the DMV from issuing a title for a vehicle that has already been registered/titled in another state. A check of the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS), which the DMV has access to, can reduce fraud and errors, and confirm document veracity.

What problem is this proposal looking to solve?

This is a matter of consumer protection that can reduce the incidence of motor vehicle theft and fraud.

How does the proposal solve the problem?

This update adds another level of security to a duplicate title transaction that could prevent the DMV from issuing a title for a vehicle that has already been registered or titled in another state.

Section by section summary:

Section #(s)	Section Summary
1	Adds replacement certificate of title transaction to applicable section requiring a national database check of vehicle identification number.
Statutory Reference:	CGS 14-172 and 14-178

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 Our national organization (American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators) considers a national title check for duplicate requests a best practice.

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:

A national title check through NMVTIS is already a part of the DMV's workflow for the issuance of new motor vehicle titles. This additional authorization for duplicates would align Connecticut with national best practice and other jurisdictions.

Legislative Language

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

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 14-172 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) The commissioner, upon receiving application for a first certificate of title, or replacement certificate of title as provided in section 14-178, shall check the identification number of the vehicle shown in the application against the records of vehicles required to be maintained by section 14-173 and against the record of stolen and converted vehicles required to be maintained by section 14-197.