

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6355

January Session, 2021



AN ACT CONCERNING RISK PROTECTION ORDERS OR WARRANTS AND THE EFFECT OF THE ISSUANCE OF A PHYSICIAN'S EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE ON A PERSON'S ABILITY TO POSSESS FIREARMS.

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

- Section 1. Section 29-38c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 1, 2022*):
- 3 (a) Upon complaint on oath by any state's attorney or assistant state's 4 attorney or by any two police officers, to any judge of the Superior 5 Court, that such state's attorney or police officers have probable cause to believe that [(1)] a person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to 6 7 himself or herself or to other individuals, [(2)] (1) the judge may issue a risk protection order prohibiting such person from acquiring or 8 9 possessing a firearm or ammunition, and (2) as part of or following the 10 issuance of such order, if there is probable cause to believe that (A) such 11 person possesses one or more firearms, and [(3)] (B) such firearm or 12 firearms are within or upon any place, thing or person, such judge may 13 issue a warrant commanding a [proper] police officer to enter into or 14 upon such place or thing, search the same or the person and take into 15 such officer's custody any and all firearms and ammunition. Such state's 16 attorney or police officers [shall] may not make such complaint unless

such state's attorney or police officers have conducted an independent investigation and [have] determined that such probable cause exists. Igand that there is no reasonable alternative available to prevent such person from causing imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to others with such firearm.

(b) 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 other individuals may make an application to the Superior Court for a risk protection order. The applicant shall indicate whether such person holds a permit to carry a pistol or revolver, an eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver, a long gun eligibility certificate or an ammunition certificate or possesses one or more firearms or ammunition. The application shall be accompanied by an affidavit that states the reasons why the applicant believes the person who is the subject of the application poses a risk of imminent harm. Upon receipt of the application, the court may issue a risk protection order prohibiting the person who is the subject of the application from acquiring or possessing a firearm or ammunition upon a finding that if the facts in the application were true, there exists a reasonable belief that the person who is the subject of the application poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to other individuals. Upon issuance of such risk protection order under this subsection, the court shall immediately contact the municipal or state police agency with jurisdiction over the place, thing or person who is subject to the order. Such municipal or state police agency shall immediately send an officer to the court to collect the risk protection order and the application that served as basis of the order. Upon receipt, such municipal or state police agency shall immediately investigate and, if it determines that there is probable cause to believe that the subject of the order poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to other individuals, and that there is probable cause to believe that such subject possesses one or more firearms, and that such firearms are within or upon any place, thing, or person, it shall forthwith seek a warrant pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such warrant shall be

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51 sought not later than twenty-four hours after receiving the risk 52 protection order, if practicable, and in all cases, as soon as is practicable. If the municipal or state police agency does not determine that there is 53 54 probable cause to believe that such subject possesses one or more 55 firearms, or that such firearms are within or upon any place, thing or 56 person, it shall serve the risk protection order and notify the court of this 57 determination in writing not later than forty-eight hours after receiving 58 the risk protection order, if practicable, and in all cases, as soon as is 59 practicable.

[(b)] (c) A risk protection order or warrant 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 <u>order or</u> warrant, which [affidavit] shall be part of the [seizure] court file. In determining [whether grounds for the application exist or] whether there is a reasonable belief that grounds exist for a risk protection order under subsection (b) of this section or probable cause [to believe they exist] exists for a risk protection order or warrant under subsection (a) or (b) 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 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. [If] In the case of an application made under subsection (a) of this section, if the judge is satisfied that the grounds for the application exist or that there is probable cause to believe that [they] such grounds exist,

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such judge shall issue a risk protection order or warrant naming or describing the person, and, in the case of the issuance of a warrant, the place or thing to be searched. In the case of an application made under subsection (b) of this section, if the judge is satisfied that the grounds for the application exist or has a reasonable belief that such grounds exist, such judge shall issue a risk protection order naming and describing the person. The order or warrant shall be directed to any police officer of a regularly organized police department or any state police officer. [It] The order or warrant shall state the grounds or probable cause for [its] issuance and, [it] 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 ammunition. A copy of the order or warrant shall be given to the person named [therein] in the order or warrant together with a notice informing the person that such person has the right to a hearing under this section and the right to be represented by counsel at such hearing.

[(c) The applicant for] (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 [will be] 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 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 a copy of the order and transmit to the state's attorney's office for such judicial district

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- 118 a return of service stating the date and time that the order was served. 119 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 120 121 any affidavits upon which the order is based to any person outside the 122 Judicial Branch, the municipal or state police agency that served the 123 order, or the state's attorney's office for the judicial district within which 124 the order was served. The order shall be served and returned with 125 reasonable promptness consistent with due process of law.
 - [(d)] (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 and any ammunition seized should be returned to the person named in the warrant or should continue to be held by the state. 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 other individuals, the court may order that the risk protection order continue to apply and that the firearm or firearms and any ammunition seized pursuant to the warrant issued under subsection (a) of this section continue to be held by the state [for a period not to exceed one year, otherwise] until such time that the court shall order the lifting of the risk protection order and the firearm or firearms and any ammunition seized to be returned to the person named in the warrant pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. If the court finds that the person poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to other individuals, the court shall give notice to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services which may take such action pursuant to chapter 319i as [it] the department deems appropriate.
- (f) A risk protection order shall continue to apply and the firearm or firearms and any ammunition held pursuant to subsection (e) of this

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section shall continue to be held by the state until such time that the person named in the order or warrant can prove by a preponderance of the evidence at a hearing of the court that such person no longer poses an immediate risk of personal injury to himself or herself or other individuals. The person named in the order or warrant may first petition the court of the geographical area where the subject of the risk protection order or warrant resides for a hearing at least one hundred eighty days after the hearing held pursuant to subsection (e) of this section. If the court, following such hearing, denies a person's petition under this section, the person may not file a subsequent petition until at least one hundred eighty days after the date on which the court denied the petition.

[(e)] (g) Any person whose firearm or firearms and ammunition have been ordered seized pursuant to subsection [(d)] (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 [any person eligible to possess such firearm or firearms and ammunition] a federally licensed firearm dealer. Upon notification in writing by such person, or such person's legal representative, and the [transferee] 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 [transferee] dealer.

[(f) For the] (h) 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 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 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, and (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
- 191 psychologist licensed under chapter 383, or (D) a clinical social worker
- 192 <u>licensed under chapter 383b</u>.

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- Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 46b-15e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 1*, 2022):
 - (a) (1) The Chief Court Administrator shall revise and simplify the process for filing an application for relief under section 46b-15. The Chief Court Administrator shall ensure that any person seeking to file an application for relief is provided with a one-page, plain language explanation of how to apply for relief under section 46b-15.
 - (2) The Chief Court Administrator shall develop and make available to the public educational materials concerning the [warrant process] risk protection order and warrant processes set forth in section 29-38c, as amended by this act, relating to a person who poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to other individuals. The Chief Court Administrator shall develop and make available to the public in hard copy and electronically on the Internet web site of the Judicial Branch a form to enable a family or household member or medical professional, each as defined in section 29-38c, as amended by this act, to apply to have a risk protection order issued and a one-page, plain language explanation of how to apply for such order. The form shall contain questions designed to solicit information significant to a determination. The public educational materials and form shall prominently advise the applicant that a risk protection order or warrant may be sought through and with the assistance of a municipal or state police agency or a state's attorney's office, and of the benefits of doing

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Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 29-28 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2021):

(b) Upon the application of any person having a bona fide permanent residence within the jurisdiction of any such authority, such chief of police, warden or selectman may issue a temporary state permit to such person to carry a pistol or revolver within the state, provided such authority shall find that such applicant intends to make no use of any pistol or revolver which such applicant may be permitted to carry under such permit other than a lawful use and that such person is a suitable person to receive such permit. No state or temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall be issued under this subsection if the applicant (1) has failed to successfully complete a course approved by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the safety and use of pistols and revolvers including, but not limited to, a safety or training course in the use of pistols and revolvers available to the public offered by a law enforcement agency, a private or public educational institution or a firearms training school, utilizing instructors certified by the National Rifle Association or the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and a safety or training course in the use of pistols or revolvers conducted by an instructor certified by the state or the National Rifle Association, (2) has been convicted of (A) a felony, or (B) on or after October 1, 1994, a violation of section 21a-279 or section 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d, (3) has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120, (4) has been discharged from custody within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13, (5) (A) has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court, or (B) has been voluntarily admitted on or after October 1, 2013, or has been

committed under emergency certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680, (6) is subject to a restraining or protective order issued by a court in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, including an ex parte order issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or 46b-16a, (7) is subject to a firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and hearing, (8) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4), (9) is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States, or (10) is less than twenty-one years of age. Nothing in this section shall require any person who holds a valid permit to carry a pistol or revolver on October 1, 1994, to participate in any additional training in the safety and use of pistols and revolvers. No person may apply for a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver more than once within any twelve-month period, and no temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall be issued to any person who has applied for such permit more than once within the preceding twelve months. Any person who applies for a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall indicate in writing on the application, under penalty of false statement in such manner as the issuing authority prescribes, that such person has not applied for a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver within the past twelve months. Upon issuance of a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver to the applicant, the local authority shall forward the original application to the commissioner. Not later than sixty days after receiving a temporary state permit, an applicant shall appear at a location designated by the commissioner to receive the state permit. The commissioner may then issue, to any holder of any temporary state permit, a state permit to carry a pistol or revolver within the state. Upon issuance of the state permit, the commissioner shall make available to the permit holder a copy of the law regarding the permit holder's

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responsibility to report the loss or theft of a firearm and the penalties associated with the failure to comply with such law. Upon issuance of the state permit, the commissioner shall forward a record of such permit to the local authority issuing the temporary state permit. The commissioner shall retain records of all applications, whether approved or denied. The copy of the state permit delivered to the permittee shall be laminated and shall contain a full-face photograph of such permittee. A person holding a state permit issued pursuant to this subsection shall notify the issuing authority within two business days of any change of such person's address. The notification shall include the old address and the new address of such person.

Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 29-28 of the general statutes, as amended by section 3 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 1*, 2022):

(b) Upon the application of any person having a bona fide permanent residence within the jurisdiction of any such authority, such chief of police, warden or selectman may issue a temporary state permit to such person to carry a pistol or revolver within the state, provided such authority shall find that such applicant intends to make no use of any pistol or revolver which such applicant may be permitted to carry under such permit other than a lawful use and that such person is a suitable person to receive such permit. No state or temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall be issued under this subsection if the applicant (1) has failed to successfully complete a course approved by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the safety and use of pistols and revolvers including, but not limited to, a safety or training course in the use of pistols and revolvers available to the public offered by a law enforcement agency, a private or public educational institution or a firearms training school, utilizing instructors certified by the National Rifle Association or the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and a safety or training course in the use of pistols or revolvers conducted by an instructor certified by the state or the National Rifle Association, (2) has been convicted of (A) a felony,

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or (B) on or after October 1, 1994, a violation of section 21a-279 or section 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d, (3) has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120, (4) has been discharged from custody within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13, (5) (A) has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court, or (B) has been voluntarily admitted on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under emergency certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680, (6) is subject to a restraining or protective order issued by a court in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, including an ex parte order issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or 46b-16a, (7) is subject to a firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and hearing, or a risk protection order issued pursuant to section 29-38c, as amended by this act, (8) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4), (9) is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States, or (10) is less than twenty-one years of age. Nothing in this section shall require any person who holds a valid permit to carry a pistol or revolver on October 1, 1994, to participate in any additional training in the safety and use of pistols and revolvers. No person may apply for a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver more than once within any twelve-month period, and no temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall be issued to any person who has applied for such permit more than once within the preceding twelve months. Any person who applies for a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall indicate in writing on the application, under penalty of false statement in such

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manner as the issuing authority prescribes, that such person has not applied for a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver within the past twelve months. Upon issuance of a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver to the applicant, the local authority shall forward the original application to the commissioner. Not later than sixty days after receiving a temporary state permit, an applicant shall appear at a location designated by the commissioner to receive the state permit. The commissioner may then issue, to any holder of any temporary state permit, a state permit to carry a pistol or revolver within the state. Upon issuance of the state permit, the commissioner shall make available to the permit holder a copy of the law regarding the permit holder's responsibility to report the loss or theft of a firearm and the penalties associated with the failure to comply with such law. Upon issuance of the state permit, the commissioner shall forward a record of such permit to the local authority issuing the temporary state permit. The commissioner shall retain records of all applications, whether approved or denied. The copy of the state permit delivered to the permittee shall be laminated and shall contain a full-face photograph of such permittee. A person holding a state permit issued pursuant to this subsection shall notify the issuing authority within two business days of any change of such person's address. The notification shall include the old address and the new address of such person.

Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 29-36f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2021):

(b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall issue an eligibility certificate unless said commissioner finds that the applicant: (1) Has failed to successfully complete a course approved by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the safety and use of pistols and revolvers including, but not limited to, a safety or training course in the use of pistols and revolvers available to the public offered by a law enforcement agency, a private or public educational institution or a firearms training school, utilizing instructors

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386 certified by the National Rifle Association or the Department of Energy 387 and Environmental Protection and a safety or training course in the use 388 of pistols or revolvers conducted by an instructor certified by the state or the National Rifle Association; (2) has been convicted of a felony or 389 390 of a violation of section 21a-279 or section 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-391 62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d; (3) has been 392 convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense, 393 as defined in section 46b-120; (4) has been discharged from custody 394 within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of 395 a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13; 396 (5) (A) has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric 397 disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty 398 months by order of a probate court; or (B) has been voluntarily admitted on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under emergency 399 400 certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a 401 hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 402 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a 403 psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent 404 person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 405 17a-680; (6) is subject to a restraining or protective order issued by a 406 court in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of 407 physical force against another person, including an ex parte order 408 issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or section 46b-16a; (7) is subject to a 409 firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-410 38c, as amended by this act, after notice and hearing; (8) is prohibited 411 from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant 412 to 18 USC 922(g)(4); or (9) is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United 413 States.

- Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 29-36f of the general statutes, as amended by section 5 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 1*, 2022):
- 417 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 418 shall issue an eligibility certificate unless said commissioner finds that

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419 the applicant: (1) Has failed to successfully complete a course approved 420 by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in 421 the safety and use of pistols and revolvers including, but not limited to, 422 a safety or training course in the use of pistols and revolvers available 423 to the public offered by a law enforcement agency, a private or public 424 educational institution or a firearms training school, utilizing instructors 425 certified by the National Rifle Association or the Department of Energy 426 and Environmental Protection and a safety or training course in the use 427 of pistols or revolvers conducted by an instructor certified by the state 428 or the National Rifle Association; (2) has been convicted of a felony or 429 of a violation of section 21a-279 or section 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-430 62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d; (3) has been 431 convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense, 432 as defined in section 46b-120; (4) has been discharged from custody 433 within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of 434 a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13; 435 (5) (A) has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric 436 disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court; or (B) has been voluntarily admitted 437 438 on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under emergency 439 certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a 440 hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 441 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a 442 psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent 443 person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 444 17a-680; (6) is subject to a restraining or protective order issued by a 445 court in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of 446 physical force against another person, including an ex parte order 447 issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or section 46b-16a; (7) is subject to a 448 firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of section 449 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and hearing, or a risk 450 protection order issued pursuant to section 29-38c, as amended by this 451 act; (8) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or 452 receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4); or (9) is an alien 453 illegally or unlawfully in the United States.

Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 29-37p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2021):

457 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 458 shall issue a long gun eligibility certificate unless said commissioner 459 finds that the applicant: (1) Has failed to successfully complete a course 460 approved by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public 461 Protection in the safety and use of firearms including, but not limited to, 462 a safety or training course in the use of firearms available to the public 463 offered by a law enforcement agency, a private or public educational institution or a firearms training school, utilizing instructors certified by 464 465 the National Rifle Association or the Department of Energy and 466 Environmental Protection and a safety or training course in the use of 467 firearms conducted by an instructor certified by the state or the National 468 Rifle Association; (2) has been convicted of (A) a felony, or (B) on or after 469 October 1, 1994, a violation of section 21a-279 or section 53a-58, 53a-61, 470 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d; (3) 471 has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious 472 juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120; (4) has been discharged 473 from custody within the preceding twenty years after having been 474 found not guilty of a crime by reason of mental disease or defect 475 pursuant to section 53a-13; (5) has been confined in a hospital for 476 persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, 477 within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court; (6) has 478 been voluntarily admitted or has been committed under emergency 479 certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a 480 hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 481 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a 482 psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent 483 person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 484 17a-680; (7) is subject to a restraining or protective order issued by a 485 court in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of 486 physical force against another person, including an ex parte order 487 issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or 46b-16a; (8) is subject to a firearms

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- seizure order issued pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and hearing; (9) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18
- 491 USC 922(g)(4); or (10) is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United
- 492 States.
- Sec. 8. Subsection (b) of section 29-37p of the general statutes, as amended by section 7 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 1*, 2022):
- 496 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection 497 shall issue a long gun eligibility certificate unless said commissioner 498 finds that the applicant: (1) Has failed to successfully complete a course 499 approved by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public 500 Protection in the safety and use of firearms including, but not limited to, 501 a safety or training course in the use of firearms available to the public 502 offered by a law enforcement agency, a private or public educational 503 institution or a firearms training school, utilizing instructors certified by 504 the National Rifle Association or the Department of Energy and 505 Environmental Protection and a safety or training course in the use of 506 firearms conducted by an instructor certified by the state or the National 507 Rifle Association; (2) has been convicted of (A) a felony, or (B) on or after 508 October 1, 1994, a violation of section 21a-279 or section 53a-58, 53a-61, 509 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d; (3) 510 has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious 511 juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120; (4) has been discharged from custody within the preceding twenty years after having been 512 513 found not guilty of a crime by reason of mental disease or defect 514 pursuant to section 53a-13; (5) has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, 515 516 within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court; (6) has 517 been voluntarily admitted or has been committed under emergency 518 certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a 519 hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 520 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a

psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680; (7) is subject to a restraining or protective order issued by a court in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, including an ex parte order issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or 46b-16a; (8) is subject to a firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and hearing, or a risk protection order issued pursuant to section 29-38c, as amended by this act; (9) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4); or (10) is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States.

- Sec. 9. Section 29-38b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- (a) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in fulfilling his obligations under sections 29-28 to 29-38, inclusive, as amended by this act, and section 53-202d, shall verify that any person who, on or after October 1, 1998, applies for or seeks renewal of a permit to sell at retail a pistol or revolver, a permit to carry a pistol or revolver, an eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver or a certificate of possession for an assault weapon, or who, on or after July 1, 2013, applies for or seeks renewal of a long gun eligibility certificate, has not been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court or has not been voluntarily admitted or committed under emergency certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 to a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680, by making an inquiry to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services in such a manner so as to only receive a report on the commitment or admission status of the person with respect to whom the

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- inquiry is made including identifying information in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 17a-500, as amended by this act.
- (b) If the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection determines pursuant to subsection (a) of this section that a person has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court or has been voluntarily admitted or committed under emergency certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 to a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680, said commissioner shall report the status of such person's application for or renewal of a permit to sell at retail a pistol or revolver, a permit to carry a pistol or revolver, an eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver, a certificate of possession for an assault weapon or a long gun eligibility certificate to the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services for the purpose of fulfilling his responsibilities under subsection (c) of section 17a-500.
- Sec. 10. Section 53a-217 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- (a) A person is guilty of criminal possession of a firearm, ammunition or an electronic defense weapon when such person possesses a firearm, ammunition or an electronic defense weapon and (1) has been convicted of a felony committed prior to, on or after October 1, 2013, or of a violation of section 21a-279, 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d committed on or after October 1, 2013, (2) has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120, (3) has been discharged from custody within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13, (4) knows that such person is subject

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to (A) a restraining or protective order of a court of this state that has been issued against such person, after notice has been provided to such person, in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, or (B) a foreign order of protection, as defined in section 46b-15a, that has been issued against such person in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, (5) (A) has been confined on or after October 1, 2013, in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court, or with respect to any person who holds a valid permit or certificate that was issued or renewed under the provisions of section 29-28, as amended by this act, or 29-36f, as amended by this act, in effect prior to October 1, 2013, such person has been confined in such hospital within the preceding twelve months, or (B) has been voluntarily admitted on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under emergency certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability, unless the person (i) was [voluntarily] admitted or committed solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680, or (ii) is a police officer who was voluntarily admitted and had his or her firearm, ammunition or electronic defense weapon used in the performance of the police officer's official duties returned in accordance with section 7-291d, (6) knows that such person is subject to a firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and an opportunity to be heard has been provided to such person, or (7) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4). For the purposes of this section, "convicted" means having a judgment of conviction entered by a court of competent jurisdiction, "ammunition" means a loaded cartridge, consisting of a primed case, propellant or projectile, designed for use in any firearm, and a motor vehicle violation for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment of more than one year may be imposed shall be

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- 622 deemed an unclassified felony.
- (b) Criminal possession of a firearm, ammunition or an electronic defense weapon is a class C felony, for which two years of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court, and five thousand dollars of the fine imposed may not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.
- Sec. 11. Section 53a-217 of the general statutes, as amended by section 10 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective June 1, 2022):
 - (a) A person is guilty of criminal possession of a firearm, ammunition or an electronic defense weapon when such person possesses a firearm, ammunition or an electronic defense weapon and (1) has been convicted of a felony committed prior to, on or after October 1, 2013, or of a violation of section 21a-279, 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d committed on or after October 1, 2013, (2) has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120, (3) has been discharged from custody within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13, (4) knows that such person is subject to (A) a restraining or protective order of a court of this state that has been issued against such person, after notice has been provided to such person, in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, or (B) a foreign order of protection, as defined in section 46b-15a, that has been issued against such person in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, (5) (A) has been confined on or after October 1, 2013, in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court, or with respect to any person who holds a valid permit or certificate that was issued or renewed under the provisions of section 29-28, as amended by this act, or 29-36f, as

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amended by this act, in effect prior to October 1, 2013, such person has been confined in such hospital within the preceding twelve months, or (B) has been voluntarily admitted on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under emergency certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability, unless the person (i) was admitted or committed solely for being an alcoholdependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680, or (ii) is a police officer who was voluntarily admitted and had his or her firearm, ammunition or electronic defense weapon used in the performance of the police officer's official duties returned in accordance with section 7-291d, (6) knows that such person is subject to a firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and an opportunity to be heard has been provided to such person, or a risk protection order issued pursuant to section 29-38c, as amended by this act, or (7) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4). For the purposes of this section, "convicted" means having a judgment of conviction entered by a court of competent jurisdiction, "ammunition" means a loaded cartridge, consisting of a primed case, propellant or projectile, designed for use in any firearm, and 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.

(b) Criminal possession of a firearm, ammunition or an electronic defense weapon is a class C felony, for which two years of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court, and five thousand dollars of the fine imposed may not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

Sec. 12. Section 53a-217c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

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(a) A person is guilty of criminal possession of a pistol or revolver when such person possesses a pistol or revolver, as defined in section 29-27, and (1) has been convicted of a felony committed prior to, on or after October 1, 2013, or of a violation of section 21a-279, 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d committed on or after October 1, 1994, (2) has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120, (3) has been discharged from custody within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13, (4) (A) has been confined prior to October 1, 2013, in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding twelve months by order of a probate court, or has been confined on or after October 1, 2013, in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court, or, with respect to any person who holds a valid permit or certificate that was issued or renewed under the provisions of section 29-28, as amended by this act, or 29-36f, as amended by this act, in effect prior to October 1, 2013, such person has been confined in such hospital within the preceding twelve months, or (B) has been voluntarily admitted on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under emergency certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability, unless the person (i) was [voluntarily] admitted or committed solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680, or (ii) is a police officer who was voluntarily admitted and had his or her firearm, ammunition or electronic defense weapon used in the performance of the police officer's official duties returned in accordance with section 7-291d, (5) knows that such person is subject to (A) a restraining or protective order of a court of this state that has been issued against such person, after notice has been provided to such person, in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, or (B) a

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- foreign order of protection, as defined in section 46b-15a, that has been issued against such person in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, (6) knows that such person is subject to a firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and an opportunity to be heard has been provided to such person, (7) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4), or (8) is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States. For the purposes of this section, "convicted" means having a judgment of conviction entered by a court of competent jurisdiction.
 - (b) Criminal possession of a pistol or revolver is a class C felony, for which two years of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court, and five thousand dollars of the fine imposed may not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.
- Sec. 13. Section 53a-217c of the general statutes, as amended by section 12 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 1*, 2022):
 - (a) A person is guilty of criminal possession of a pistol or revolver when such person possesses a pistol or revolver, as defined in section 29-27, and (1) has been convicted of a felony committed prior to, on or after October 1, 2013, or of a violation of section 21a-279, 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d committed on or after October 1, 1994, (2) has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120, (3) has been discharged from custody within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13, (4) (A) has been confined prior to October 1, 2013, in a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding twelve months by order of a probate court, or has been confined on or after October 1, 2013, in a hospital for persons with

psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty months by order of a probate court, or, with respect to any person who holds a valid permit or certificate that was issued or renewed under the provisions of section 29-28, as amended by this act, or 29-36f, as amended by this act, in effect prior to October 1, 2013, such person has been confined in such hospital within the preceding twelve months, or (B) has been voluntarily admitted on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under emergency certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2021, to a hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability, unless the person (i) was [voluntarily] admitted or committed solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680, or (ii) is a police officer who was voluntarily admitted and had his or her firearm, ammunition or electronic defense weapon used in the performance of the police officer's official duties returned in accordance with section 7-291d, (5) knows that such person is subject to (A) a restraining or protective order of a court of this state that has been issued against such person, after notice has been provided to such person, in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, or (B) a foreign order of protection, as defined in section 46b-15a, that has been issued against such person in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, (6) knows that such person is subject to a firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and an opportunity to be heard has been provided to such person, or a risk protection order issued pursuant to section 29-38c, as amended by this act, (7) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4), or (8) is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States. For the purposes of this section, "convicted" means having a judgment of conviction entered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) Criminal possession of a pistol or revolver is a class C felony, for

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- which two years of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court, and five thousand dollars of the fine imposed may not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.
- Sec. 14. Subsection (b) of section 17a-500 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2021):
- 797 (b) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall, 798 notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, 799 maintain information, in accordance with section 17a-499, on 800 commitment orders by a probate court, [and shall maintain information, 801 in accordance with] section 17a-506a, on voluntary admissions, and 802 section 17a-502, on commitment under emergency certificate, and shall 803 provide such information to the Commissioner of Emergency Services 804 and Public Protection in fulfillment of his or her obligations under 805 sections 29-28 to 29-38, inclusive, as amended by this act, and section 53-806 202d, in such a manner as to report identifying information on the 807 commitment or voluntary admission status, including, but not limited 808 to, name, address, sex, date of birth and date of commitment or 809 admission, for a person who applies for or holds a permit or certificate 810 under said sections 29-28 to 29-38, inclusive, as amended by this act, and 811 section 53-202d. The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public 812 Protection shall maintain as confidential any such information provided 813 to him and shall use such information only for purposes of fulfilling his 814 obligations under sections 29-28 to 29-38, inclusive, as amended by this 815 act, and section 53-202d, except that nothing in this section shall prohibit 816 said commissioner from entering such information into evidence at a 817 hearing held in accordance with section 29-32b.
- Sec. 15. Section 29-37i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- No person shall store or keep any firearm, as defined in section 53a-3, on any premises under such person's control if such person knows or

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822 reasonably should know that (1) a minor is likely to gain access to the 823 firearm without the permission of the parent or guardian of the minor, 824 (2) a resident of the premises is ineligible to possess a firearm under state 825 or federal law, (3) a resident of the premises is subject to a firearms 826 seizure order issued pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-38c, as 827 amended by this act, after notice and hearing, or [(3)] (4) a resident of 828 the premises poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or 829 herself or to other individuals, unless such person (A) keeps the firearm 830 in a securely locked box or other container or in a manner which a 831 reasonable person would believe to be secure, or (B) carries the firearm 832 on his or her person or within such close proximity thereto that such 833 person can readily retrieve and use the firearm as if such person carried 834 the firearm on his or her person. For the purposes of this section, "minor" 835 means any person under the age of eighteen years.

Sec. 16. Section 29-37i of the general statutes, as amended by section 15 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 1, 2022*):

No person shall store or keep any firearm, as defined in section 53a-3, on any premises under such person's control if such person knows or reasonably should know that (1) a minor is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the parent or guardian of the minor, (2) a resident of the premises is ineligible to possess a firearm under state or federal law, (3) a resident of the premises is subject to a firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection (e) of section 29-38c, as amended by this act, after notice and hearing, or a risk protection order issued pursuant to section 29-38c, as amended by this act, or [(3)] (4) a resident of the premises poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to other individuals, unless such person (A) keeps the firearm in a securely locked box or other container or in a manner which a reasonable person would believe to be secure, or (B) carries the firearm on his or her person or within such close proximity thereto that such person can readily retrieve and use the firearm as if such person carried the firearm on his or her person. For the purposes of this section,

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This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	June 1, 2022	29-38c
Sec. 2	June 1, 2022	46b-15e(a)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2021	29-28(b)
Sec. 4	June 1, 2022	29-28(b)
Sec. 5	October 1, 2021	29-36f(b)
Sec. 6	June 1, 2022	29-36f(b)
Sec. 7	October 1, 2021	29-37p(b)
Sec. 8	June 1, 2022	29-37p(b)
Sec. 9	October 1, 2021	29-38b
Sec. 10	October 1, 2021	53a-217
Sec. 11	June 1, 2022	53a-217
Sec. 12	October 1, 2021	53a-217c
Sec. 13	June 1, 2022	53a-217c
Sec. 14	October 1, 2021	17a-500(b)
Sec. 15	October 1, 2021	29-37i
Sec. 16	June 1, 2022	29-37i

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b), "respondent" was replaced with "person who is the subject of the application" for accuracy and made other clarifying changes, in Section 1(h), the definitions were rewritten for clarity and accuracy, in Sections 3 to 14, inclusive, references were added to "section 17a-502" for accuracy, and in Sections 10 and 12, changes were made for internal consistency.

JUD Joint Favorable Subst.