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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sSB 983**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING SLOWING DOWN FOR SERVICE VEHICLES.***

#### **SUMMARY**

Existing law generally requires a driver of a vehicle passing another vehicle traveling in the same direction to (1) pass on the left at a safe distance and (2) not move right until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle (CGS § 14-232). This bill requires drivers passing a stationary or slow-moving service vehicle to also immediately reduce their vehicles' speed to a reasonable level below the posted speed limit. Under the bill, these requirements do not apply in situations when the driver is lawfully passing on the right or in a no-passing zone (CGS §§ 14-233 & 14-234).

Under the bill, drivers must be issued a warning for violations of the bill's requirements occurring within the first nine months after the bill takes effect (until June 30, 2022); violations occurring after that date are an infraction.

The bill defines a "service vehicle" as a (1) commercial motor vehicle equipped with a garbage compactor, detachable container, or curbside recycling body; (2) tank vehicle; (3) vehicle authorized by the U.S. government to carry mail; or (4) vehicle operated by an express delivery carrier. By law, a "tank vehicle" is a commercial motor vehicle with a permanently or temporarily attached tank designed to transport liquid or gaseous material, but not a vehicle with a portable tank that has a rated capacity of 1,000 gallons or less (CGS § 14-1(97)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/24/2021)