

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 134

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 739



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by: (GL)

## AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MINOR AND TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO STATUTES CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION.

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

- 1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 19a-342a of the
- 2 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
- 3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):
- 4 (b) (1) No person shall use an electronic nicotine or cannabis delivery
- 5 system or vapor product: (A) In any area of a building or portion of a
- 6 building owned and operated or leased and operated by the state or any
- 7 political subdivision of the state; (B) in any area of a health care
- 8 institution, including, but not limited to, a psychiatric facility; (C) in any
- 9 area of a retail establishment accessed by the public; (D) in any
- 10 restaurant; (E) in any area of an establishment with a permit issued for
- the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-20a, 30-21, 30-21b, 30-
- 12 22, 30-22a, 30-22c, 30-26, 30-28, 30-28a, 30-33a, 30-33b, 30-35a, 30-37a, 30-
- 13 37e or 30-37f, or in any area of an establishment with a permit issued for
- 14 the sale of alcoholic liquor pursuant to section 30-22aa issued after May

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1, 2003; (F) in any area of a school building or on the grounds of such 15 16 school; (G) within a child care facility or on the grounds of such child 17 care facility, except, if the child care facility is a family child care home 18 as defined in section 19a-77, such use is prohibited only when a child 19 enrolled in such home is present during customary business hours; (H) 20 in any passenger elevator; (I) in any area of a dormitory in any public or 21 private institution of higher education; (J) in any area of a dog race track or a facility equipped with screens for the simulcasting of off-track 22 23 betting race programs or jai alai games; (K) in any room offered as an 24 accommodation to guests by the operator of a hotel, motel or similar 25 lodging; (L) in any area of a correctional facility, halfway house or 26 residential facility funded by the Judicial Branch; or (M) in any area of a 27 platform or a shelter at a rail, busway or bus station, owned and 28 operated or leased and operated by the state or any political subdivision 29 of the state. For purposes of this subsection, "restaurant" means space, 30 in a suitable and permanent building, kept, used, maintained, 31 advertised and held out to the public to be a place where meals are 32 regularly served to the public; and "school" has the same meaning as 33 provided in section 10-154a.

Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 20-327f of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 35 of public act 23-84, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2024):

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(a) With respect to a contract for the sale of residential real property, if the seller provides written notice to the purchaser, prior to, or upon, entering into the contract, of the availability of the lists of hazardous waste facilities pursuant to section 22a-134f, the seller and any real estate licensee shall be deemed to have fully satisfied any duty to disclose the presence of all hazardous waste facilities, as defined in section 22a-134f, even if: (1) The list required to be submitted pursuant to section 22a-134f has not been submitted, (2) the list has not been received or made available as required in section 22a-134f, or (3) there is an error, omission or inaccuracy in the list.

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Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 20-420a of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

- (b) A business entity desiring a certificate of registration shall apply to the commissioner, online, on a form provided by the commissioner. The application shall (1) state the name and address of such business entity, the city or town and the street and number where such business entity is to maintain its principal place of business in this state and the names and addresses of its individual owners, (2) contain a list of one or more individuals who shall direct, supervise or perform home improvements for such business entity, (3) require each individual owner of such business entity to disclose whether such individual owner has been found guilty or convicted as a result of an act which (A) constitutes a felony under the laws of this state or federal law, or (B) was committed in another jurisdiction but, if committed in this state, would constitute a felony under the laws of this state, and (4) contain such other information as the commissioner may require.
- Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 20-426 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):
  - (a) The commissioner may revoke, suspend or refuse to issue or renew any certificate of registration as a home improvement contractor or salesperson or place a registrant on probation or issue a letter of reprimand (1) for conduct of a character likely to mislead, deceive or defraud the public or the commissioner, (2) for engaging in any untruthful or misleading advertising, (3) for failing to reimburse the guaranty fund established pursuant to section 20-432, as amended by this act, for any moneys paid to an owner pursuant to subsection (o) of section 20-432, (4) for unfair or deceptive business practices, (5) subject to section 46a-80, based on a felony conviction of an individual registrant or an individual owner of a registrant that is a business entity, [;] or (6) for violation of any of the provisions of the general statutes relating to home improvements or any regulation adopted pursuant to

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81 any of such provisions. The commissioner may refuse to issue or renew 82 any certificate of registration as a home improvement contractor or 83 salesperson of any person subject to the registration requirements of 84 chapter 969.

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- Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 20-432 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2024):
- 88 (b) Each salesman who receives a certificate pursuant to this chapter 89 shall pay a fee of forty dollars annually. Each contractor [(1)] who 90 receives a certificate pursuant to this chapter, or [(2)] who receives a 91 certificate pursuant to chapter 399a and has opted to engage in home 92 improvement pursuant to subsection (f) of section 20-417b, shall pay a 93 fee of one hundred dollars annually to the guaranty fund. Such fee shall 94 be payable with the fee for an application for a certificate or renewal 95 thereof. The annual fee for a contractor who receives a certificate of 96 registration as a home improvement contractor acting solely as the 97 contractor of record for a corporation shall be waived, provided the 98 contractor of record shall use such registration for the sole purpose of 99 directing, supervising or performing home improvements for such 100 corporation.
  - Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 20-679 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):
  - (b) Not later than seven calendar days after the date on which a homemaker-companion agency commences providing homemaker services or companion services, such agency shall provide the person who receives such services, or the authorized representative of such person, with a written contract or service plan. The written contract or service plan shall be developed in consultation with such person or authorized representative and include (1) a person-centered plan of care and services that prescribes the anticipated scope, type, frequency, duration and cost of such services, (2) the anticipated scope, type and

LCO No. 739 4 of 14 frequency of oversight of an employee assigned to such person by the homemaker-companion agency, and (3) a predetermined frequency of meetings between the person who oversees such employee and the person who receives the services, or the authorized representative of such person. In addition, any contract or service plan provided by a homemaker-companion agency to a person receiving homemaker services or companion services shall also provide conspicuous notice, in boldface type, disclosing (A) the person's right to request changes to, or review of, the contract or service plan, (B) that such agency shall provide at least sixty days' advance written notice to such person or such person's authorized representative disclosing any change in the rate for the same level or type of services provided and charged for such services, (C) the employees of such agency who, pursuant to section 20-678, are required to submit to a comprehensive background check, (D) that upon the request of such person or an authorized representative of such person, such agency shall provide such person or representative of such person with written notice that a comprehensive background check, as required pursuant to section 20-678, was performed for all employees of such agency performing homemaker services or companion services for such person, (E) that such agency's records are available for inspection or audit by the Department of Consumer Protection, (F) that the agency is not able to guarantee the extent to which its homemaker services or companion services will be covered under any insurance plan, and (G) that such contract or service plan may be cancelled at any time by the client if such contract or service plan does not contain a specific period of duration. On the date that a homemakercompanion agency provides such contract or service plan to such person, the agency shall also provide a printed copy of the guide that details the process by which such person, or such person's authorized representative, may file a complaint against such agency, posted on the Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site pursuant to 20-284. No contract or service plan for the provision of homemaker or companion services shall be valid against the person who receives the services or the authorized representative of such person, unless the contract or service plan has been signed by a duly authorized

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148 representative of the homemaker-companion agency and the person 149 who receives the services or the authorized representative of such 150 person. No change in the rate for the same level or type of services 151 provided and charged for homemaker services or companion services 152 shall be valid against a person who is receiving such services unless the homemaker-companion agency providing such services provides at 153 154 least sixty days' advance written notice to such person, or such person's 155 authorized representative, disclosing such rate change. 156 requirements of this section shall not apply to homemaker services or 157 companion services provided under the Connecticut home-care 158 program for the elderly administered by the Department of Social 159 Services in accordance with section 17b-342. A written contract or 160 service plan between a homemaker-companion agency and a person 161 receiving services or the authorized representative of such person shall 162 not be enforceable against such person receiving services or authorized 163 representative unless such written contract or service plan contains all 164 of the requirements of this section.

Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 21a-70 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2024):

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(a) As used in this section: (1) "Drugs", "devices" and "cosmetics" have the same meanings as defined in section 21a-92, "wholesaler" or "distributor" means a person, including, but not limited to, a medical device and oxygen provider, a third-party logistics provider, a virtual manufacturer or a virtual wholesale distributor, as such terms are defined in section 20-571, whether within or without the boundaries of the state of Connecticut, who supplies drugs, devices or cosmetics prepared, produced or packaged by manufacturers, to other wholesalers, manufacturers, distributors, hospitals, prescribing practitioners, as defined in section 20-571, pharmacies, federal, state or municipal agencies, clinics or any other person as permitted under subsection (h) of this section, except that: (A) A retail pharmacy or a pharmacy within a licensed hospital that supplies to another such pharmacy a quantity of a noncontrolled drug or a schedule II, III, IV or

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V controlled substance normally stocked by such pharmacies to provide for the immediate needs of a patient pursuant to a prescription or medication order of an authorized practitioner, (B) a pharmacy within a licensed hospital that supplies drugs to another hospital or an authorized practitioner for research purposes, (C) a retail pharmacy that supplies a limited quantity of a noncontrolled drug or [of] a schedule II, III, IV or V controlled substance for emergency stock to a practitioner who is a medical director of a chronic and convalescent nursing home, of a rest home with nursing supervision, of a hospice inpatient facility licensed pursuant to section 19a-491 or of a state correctional institution, and (D) a pharmacy within a licensed hospital that contains another hospital wholly within such licensed hospital's physical structure that supplies to such contained hospital a quantity of a noncontrolled drug or a schedule II, III, IV [,] or V controlled substance normally stocked by such hospitals to provide for the needs of a patient, pursuant to a prescription or medication order of an authorized practitioner, receiving inpatient care on a unit that is operated by the contained hospital, or receiving outpatient care in a setting operated by the contained hospital and such drug or substance is administered on-site by the contained hospital, shall not be deemed a wholesaler under this section; (2) "manufacturer" means (A) a person, whether within or without the boundaries of the state of Connecticut, who produces, prepares, cultivates, grows, propagates, compounds, converts or processes, directly or indirectly, by extraction from substances of natural origin or by means of chemical synthesis or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, or who packages, repackages, labels or relabels a container under such manufacturer's own or any other trademark or label any drug, device or cosmetic for the purpose of selling such items, or (B) a sterile compounding pharmacy, as defined in section 20-633b, that dispenses sterile pharmaceuticals without a prescription or a patient-specific medical order; (3) "drug", "device" and "cosmetic" have the same meanings as provided in section 21a-92; and (4) "commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer Protection or the commissioner's designee.

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- Sec. 8. Subdivisions (7) to (13), inclusive, of section 21a-231 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):
- 219 (7) "Manufacture", "make" [,] or "made" refer to the assembly, 220 construction or [the] importation of bedding or filling material for sale.
- 221 (8) "Manufacturer" means any person who makes or prepares for sale 222 or imports bedding, in whole or in part, that contains filling material.
- (9) "New" means any filling material or bedding which has not been previously used for any purpose.
- 225 (10) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited 226 liability company, association, receiver or agent.
- 227 (11) "Renovate" means addition of new filling material to bedding.
- 228 (12) "Renovator" means any person who adds new filling material to 229 bedding for a fee.
- 230 (13) "Sale", "sell" [,] or "sold" means offering or exposing for sale, [or] exchange or lease or holding in possession with like intent.
- Sec. 9. Subdivision (30) of section 21a-240 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):
- 235 (30) "Narcotic substance" means any of the following, whether 236 produced directly or indirectly by extraction from a substance of 237 vegetable origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or 238 by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis: (A) Morphine-239 type: (i) Opium or opiate, or any salt, compound, derivative, or 240 preparation of opium or opiate which is similar to any such substance 241 in chemical structure or which is similar to any such substance in 242 physiological effect and which shows a like potential for abuse, which 243 is a controlled substance under this chapter unless modified; (ii) any 244 salt, compound, isomer, derivative, or preparation of any such

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substance which is chemically equivalent or identical to any substance referred to in clause (i) of this [subdivision] subparagraph, but not including the isoquinoline alkaloids of opium; (iii) opium poppy or poppy straw; or (iv) (I) fentanyl or any salt, compound, derivative or preparation of fentanyl which is similar to any such substance in chemical structure or which is similar to any such substance in physiological effect and which shows a like potential for abuse, which is a controlled substance under this chapter unless modified, or (II) any salt, compound, isomer, derivative or preparation of any such substance which is chemically equivalent or identical to any substance referred to in subclause (I) of this clause; or (B) cocaine-type, [;] coca leaves or any salt, compound, derivative or preparation of coca leaves, or any salt, compound, isomer, derivatives or preparation of any such substance which is chemically equivalent or identical to any such substance or which is similar to any such substance in physiological effect and which shows a like potential for abuse, but not including decocainized coca leaves or extractions of coca leaves which do not contain cocaine or ecgonine.

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Sec. 10. Subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 21a-420g of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(2) Upon determination by the Social Equity Council that an application selected through the lottery process does not qualify for consideration as a social equity applicant, the department shall request that the third-party lottery operator identify the next-ranked application in the social equity lottery. This process may continue until the Social Equity Council has identified for further consideration the number of applications set forth on the department's <u>Internet</u> web site pursuant to subsection (b) of this section or until there are no remaining social equity applications to be considered.

Sec. 11. Subdivision (2) of section 21a-435 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

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(2) "Criminal background screening" means a name search for an individual's history of criminal convictions that is conducted by searching [an] (A) <u>an</u> available and regularly updated government public record database that in the aggregate provides national coverage for searching an individual's history of criminal convictions; or (B) a regularly updated database maintained by a private vendor that provides national coverage for searching an individual's history of criminal convictions and sexual offender registries;

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- Sec. 12. Subsections (b) to (g), inclusive, of section 36a-701b of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2024):
- (b) (1) Any person who owns, licenses or maintains computerized data that includes personal information [,] shall provide notice of any breach of security following the discovery of the breach to any resident of this state whose personal information was breached or is reasonably believed to have been breached. Such notice shall be made without unreasonable delay but not later than sixty days after the discovery of such breach, unless a shorter time is required under federal law, subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section. If the person identifies additional residents of this state whose personal information was breached or reasonably believed to have been breached following sixty days after the discovery of such breach, the person shall proceed in good faith to notify such additional residents as expediently as possible. Such notification shall not be required if, after an appropriate investigation, the person reasonably determines that the breach will not likely result in harm to the individuals whose personal information has been acquired or accessed.
- (2) If notice of a breach of security is required by subdivision (1) of this subsection:
- (A) The person who owns, licenses or maintains computerized data that includes personal information [,] shall, not later than the time when notice is provided to the resident, also provide notice of the breach of

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security to the Attorney General; and

- (B) The person who owns or licenses computerized data that includes personal information [,] shall offer to each resident whose personal information under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section was breached, or is reasonably believed to have been breached, appropriate identity theft prevention services and, if applicable, identity theft mitigation services. Such service or services shall be provided at no cost to such resident for a period of not less than two years. Such person shall provide all information necessary for such resident to enroll in such service or services and shall include information on how such resident can place a credit freeze on such resident's credit file.
- (c) Any person that maintains computerized data that includes personal information that the person does not own shall notify the owner or licensee of the information of any breach of the security of the data immediately following its discovery, if the personal information of a resident of this state was breached or is reasonably believed to have been breached.
- (d) Any notification required by this section shall be delayed for a reasonable period of time if a law enforcement agency determines that the notification will impede a criminal investigation and such law enforcement agency has made a request that the notification be delayed. Any such delayed notification shall be made after such law enforcement agency determines that notification will not compromise the criminal investigation and so notifies the person of such determination.
- (e) Any notice to a resident, owner or licensee required by the provisions of this section may be provided by one of the following methods, subject to the provisions of subsection (f) of this section: (1) Written notice; (2) telephone notice; (3) electronic notice, provided such notice is consistent with the provisions regarding electronic records and signatures set forth in 15 USC 7001; (4) substitute notice, provided such person demonstrates in the notice provided to the Attorney General that

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the cost of providing notice in accordance with subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection would exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars, that the affected class of subject persons to be notified exceeds five hundred thousand persons or that the person does not have sufficient contact information. Substitute notice shall consist of the following: (A) Electronic mail notice when the person has an electronic mail address for the affected persons; (B) conspicuous posting of the notice on the Internet web site of the person if the person maintains one; and (C) notification to major state-wide media, including newspapers, radio and television.

- (f) (1) In the event of a breach of login credentials under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, notice to a resident may be provided in electronic or other form that directs the resident whose personal information was breached or is reasonably believed to have been breached to promptly change any password or security question and answer, as applicable, or to take other appropriate steps to protect the affected online account and all other online accounts for which the resident uses the same user name or electronic mail address and password or security question and answer.
- (2) Any person that furnishes an electronic mail account shall not comply with this section by providing notification to the electronic mail account that was breached or reasonably believed to have been breached if the person cannot reasonably verify the affected resident's receipt of such notification. In such an event, the person shall provide notice by another method described in this section or by clear and conspicuous notice delivered to the resident online when the resident is connected to the online account from an Internet protocol address or online location from which the person knows the resident customarily accesses the account.
- (g) Any person that maintains such person's own security breach procedures as part of an information security policy for the treatment of personal information and otherwise complies with the timing requirements of this section [,] shall be deemed to be in compliance with

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the security breach notification requirements of this section, provided such person notifies, as applicable, residents of this state, owners and licensees in accordance with such person's policies in the event of a breach of security and in the case of notice to a resident, such person also notifies the Attorney General not later than the time when notice is provided to the resident. Any person that maintains such a security breach procedure pursuant to the rules, regulations, procedures or guidelines established by the primary or functional regulator, as defined in 15 USC 6809(2), shall be deemed to be in compliance with the security breach notification requirements of this section, provided (1) such person notifies, as applicable, such residents of this state, owners [,] and licensees who are required to be notified under and in accordance with the policies or the rules, regulations, procedures or guidelines established by the primary or functional regulator in the event of a breach of security, and (2) if notice is given to a resident of this state in accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection regarding a breach of security, such person also notifies the Attorney General not later than the time when notice is provided to the resident.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2024	19a-342a(b)(1)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2024	20-327f(a)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2024	20-420a(b)
Sec. 4	October 1, 2024	20-426(a)
Sec. 5	October 1, 2024	20-432(b)
Sec. 6	October 1, 2024	20-679(b)
Sec. 7	October 1, 2024	21a-70(a)
Sec. 8	October 1, 2024	21a-231(7) to (13)
Sec. 9	October 1, 2024	21a-240(30)
Sec. 10	October 1, 2024	21a-420g(e)(2)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2024	21a-435(2)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2024	36a-701b(b) to (g)

## Statement of Purpose:

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To make minor and technical revisions to statutes concerning consumer protection.

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[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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