



Substitute House Bill No. 6859

Public Act No. 25-157

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING FIREARM INFORMATION, SECURITY OFFICERS, FIREARM TRANSFERS AND SCHOOL SECURITY GRANTS AND THE FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING COUNCIL, THE COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL AND THE CODES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE.

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

Section 1. Section 54-36n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) Whenever a law enforcement agency seizes a firearm in connection with a criminal arrest or pursuant to a search warrant without an arrest or otherwise recovers a firearm, such agency shall forthwith take all appropriate steps to identify and trace the history of such firearm. For the purposes of this section, "law enforcement agency" means the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, any municipal police department or any special police force established pursuant to section 10a-156b.

(b) In complying with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, a law enforcement agency shall: [use] (1) Submit all available information identifying such firearm to the National Tracing Center of

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, [and] Firearms [. Such law enforcement agency shall immediately transmit to the National Tracing Center, by facsimile or by entering] and Explosives, via said center's electronic tracing system known as "eTrace"; (2) opt to allow such information to be shared via eTrace; and (3) for any such firearm that was stolen or is missing, enter such information [on] into the Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing (COLLECT) System. [when said system becomes available for transmitting such information directly to the National Tracing Center, all information necessary to comply with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section.]

[(c) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall take appropriate action to allow the COLLECT System to be used by law enforcement agencies in complying with the provisions of this section.]

[(d)] (c) Whenever a firearm is identified and is determined to have been stolen, the law enforcement agency shall return such firearm, and any ammunition seized or recovered with such firearm that is determined to be stolen, to the rightful owner thereof, provided such owner is not prohibited from possessing such firearm or ammunition and such agency does not need to retain such firearm or ammunition as evidence in a criminal prosecution.

Sec. 2. Section 29-161z of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) No employee of a licensed security service and no employee hired by a firm or corporation to perform work as a security officer may carry a pistol, revolver or other firearm, or electronic defense weapon, as such terms are defined in section 53a-3, while on duty or directly en route to or from such employment unless such employee obtains a special permit from the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

Protection in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. No licensed security service and no firm or corporation may permit any employee to carry a pistol, revolver or other firearm, or electronic defense weapon, while on duty or directly en route to or from such employment unless it obtains proof that such employee has obtained such permit from the commissioner. The permit required under this section shall be in addition to the permit requirement imposed under section 29-28.

(b) (1) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may grant to any suitable employee of a licensed security service, or to an employee hired by a firm or corporation to perform work as a uniformed or nonuniformed security officer, a special permit to carry a pistol or revolver or other firearm while actually on duty on the premises of the employer, or, while directly en route to or from such employment, provided that such employee has proven to the satisfaction of the commissioner that such employee has successfully completed a course, approved by the commissioner, of training in the safety and use of firearms. The commissioner may grant to such employee a temporary permit pending issuance of the permit, provided such employee has submitted an application and successfully completed such training course immediately following employment. All armed security officers shall complete such safety course and yearly complete a refresher safety course approved by the commissioner.

(2) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may grant to any suitable employee of a licensed security service, or to an employee hired by a firm or corporation to perform work as a uniformed or nonuniformed security officer, a special permit to carry an electronic defense weapon while actually on duty on the premises of the employer, or while directly en route to or from such employment, provided such employee has proven to the satisfaction of the commissioner that such employee has successfully completed a course,

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

approved by the commissioner, of training in the safety and use of electronic defense weapons. The commissioner may grant to such employee a temporary permit pending issuance of the permit, provided such employee has submitted an application and successfully completed such training course immediately following employment. All security officers carrying electronic defense weapons shall complete such safety course and annually complete a refresher safety course approved by the commissioner.

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

(c) Application for a special permit shall be made on forms provided by the commissioner and shall be accompanied by a sixty-two-dollar fee. Such permit shall have the same expiration date as the pistol permit issued under subsection (b) of section 29-28 and may be renewed for additional five-year periods.

(d) (1) [On and after October 1, 2008, no] No person or employee of an association, corporation or partnership shall conduct the training pursuant to subsection (b) of this section without the approval of the commissioner. [, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.] Application for such approval shall be submitted on forms prescribed by the commissioner, accompanied by a fee of forty dollars. Such application shall be made under oath and shall contain the applicant's name, address, date and place of birth, employment for the previous five years, education or training in the subjects required to be taught under subsection (b) of this section, any convictions for violations of the law and such other information as the commissioner may require by regulation adopted pursuant to section 29-161x to properly investigate the character, competency and integrity of the applicant. No

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

person shall be approved as an instructor for such training who has been convicted of a felony, a sexual offense or a crime of moral turpitude or who has been denied approval as a security service licensee, a security officer or instructor in the security industry by any licensing authority, or whose approval has been revoked or suspended. The term for such approval shall not exceed two years. Not later than two business days after a change of address, any person approved as an instructor in accordance with this section shall notify the commissioner of such change and such notification shall include both the old and new addresses.

[(2) If a course of training in the safety and use of firearms is approved by the commissioner in accordance with subsection (b) of this section on or before September 30, 2008, the person serving as an instructor of such course shall have until April 1, 2009, to apply for approval as an instructor in accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection.]

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

(e) Any fee or portion of a fee paid pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not be refundable.

(f) Any person, firm or corporation that violates any provision of this section shall be fined seventy-five dollars for each offense. Each violation of this section shall be a separate and distinct offense, and, in the case of a continuing violation, each day's continuance thereof shall be deemed to be a separate and distinct offense.

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

(g) The commissioner may suspend or revoke a security service license, a special permit issued to a security officer or instructor approval upon a finding by the commissioner that such licensee, permit holder or instructor has violated any provision of this section, provided notice shall have been given to such licensee, permit holder or instructor to appear before the commissioner to show cause why the license, permit or approval should not be suspended or revoked. Any party aggrieved by an order of the commissioner may appeal therefrom in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183, except the venue for such appeal shall be the judicial district of New Britain.

Sec. 3. Section 29-161q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) Any security service or business may employ as many security officers as such security service or business deems necessary for the conduct of the business, provided such security officers are of good moral character and at least eighteen years of age.

(b) No person hired or otherwise engaged to perform work as a security officer, as defined in section 29-152u, shall perform the duties of a security officer prior to being licensed as a security officer by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, except as provided in subsection (h) of this section. Each applicant for a license shall complete a minimum of eight hours training in the following areas: Basic first aid, search and seizure laws and regulations, use of force, basic criminal justice and public safety issues. If an applicant for a license intends to carry a less lethal weapon while on duty as a security officer, such applicant shall complete additional training on how to use such less lethal weapon lawfully and in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer of such less lethal weapon. The commissioner shall waive any such training required by this subsection for any person who, while serving in the armed forces or the National Guard, or if such person is a veteran, within two years of such person's

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

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

(1) [On and after October 1, 2008, no] No person or employee of an association, corporation or partnership shall conduct such training without the approval of the commissioner. [except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.] Application for such approval shall be submitted on forms prescribed by the commissioner and accompanied by a fee of forty dollars. Such application shall be made under oath and shall contain the applicant's name, address, date and place of birth, employment for the previous five years, education or training in the subjects required to be taught under this subsection, any convictions for violations of the law and such other information as the commissioner may require by regulation adopted pursuant to section 29-161x to properly investigate the character, competency and integrity of the applicant. No person shall be approved as an instructor for such training who has been convicted of a felony, a sexual offense or a crime

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

of moral turpitude or who has been denied approval as a security service licensee, a security officer or instructor in the security industry by any licensing authority, or whose approval has been revoked or suspended. The term for such approval shall not exceed two years. Not later than two business days after a change of address, any person approved as an instructor in accordance with this section shall notify the commissioner of such change and such notification shall include both the old and new addresses.

[(2) If a security officer training course described in this subsection is approved by the commissioner on or before September 30, 2008, the instructor of such course shall have until April 1, 2009, to apply for approval as an instructor in accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection.]

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

(c) Not later than two years after successful completion of the training required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or the waiver of such training, the applicant may submit an application for a license as a security officer on forms furnished by the commissioner and, under oath, shall give the applicant's name, address, date and place of birth, employment for the previous five years, experience in the position applied for, including military training and weapons qualifications, any convictions for violations of the law and such other information as the commissioner may require, by regulation, to properly investigate the character, competency and integrity of the applicant. The commissioner

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

shall require any applicant for a license, or for renewal of a license, under this section to submit to state and national criminal history records checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, provided an applicant for renewal of a license shall not be charged any fingerprint search or fingerprinting fee pursuant to subsection (c) of section 29-11 for such records checks. Each applicant for a license, or for renewal of a license, shall submit with the application (1) two sets of his or her fingerprints on forms specified and furnished by the commissioner, [provided an applicant for renewal of a license need not submit such sets of fingerprints,] (2) two full-face photographs, two inches wide by two inches high, taken not earlier than six months prior to the date of application, and (3) a one-hundred-dollar licensing fee or licensing renewal fee, made payable to the state. Any applicant who received a waiver as provided in subsection (b) of this section shall be exempt from payment of such licensing fee. Subject to the provisions of section 46a-80, no person shall be approved for a license who has been convicted of a felony, any sexual offense or any crime involving moral turpitude, or who has been refused a license under the provisions of sections 29-161g to 29-161x, inclusive, for any reason except minimum experience, or whose license, having been granted, has been revoked or is under suspension. Upon being satisfied of the suitability of the applicant for licensure, the commissioner may license the applicant as a security officer. Such license shall be renewed every five years. The commissioner shall send a notice of the expiration date of such license to the holder of such license, by first class mail or electronic mail, not less than ninety days before such expiration, and shall include with such notice an application for renewal. The holder of such license may elect to receive such notice by first class mail or electronic mail. The security officer license shall be valid for a period of ninety days after its expiration date unless the license has been revoked or is under suspension pursuant to section 29-161v. An application for renewal filed with the commissioner after the expiration date shall be accompanied by a late fee of twenty-five dollars. The commissioner shall not renew

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

any license that has been expired for more than ninety days.

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

(e) The security service shall notify the commissioner not later than five days after the termination of employment of any registered employee.

(f) Any fee or portion of a fee paid pursuant to this section shall not be refundable.

(g) No person, firm or corporation shall employ or otherwise engage any person as a security officer, as defined in section 29-152u, unless such person (1) is a licensed security officer, or (2) meets the requirements of subsection (h) of this section.

(h) During the time that an application for a license as a security officer is pending with the commissioner, the applicant may perform the duties of security officer, provided (1) the security service employing

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

the applicant conducts, or has a consumer reporting agency regulated under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act conduct, a state and national criminal history records check and determines the applicant meets the requirements of subsection (c) of this section to be a security officer, (2) the applicant successfully completed the training required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or obtained a waiver of such training, and (3) the applicant has not been decertified as a police officer or otherwise had his or her certification canceled, revoked or refused renewal pursuant to subsection (c) of section 7-294d or under the laws of any other jurisdiction. The applicant shall not perform such duties at a public or private preschool, elementary or secondary school or at a facility licensed and used exclusively as a child care center, as described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 19a-77. The applicant shall cease to perform such duties pursuant to this subsection when the commissioner grants or denies the pending application for a security license under this section.

(i) Any person, firm or corporation that violates any provision of subsection (b), (d), (e), (g) or (h) of this section shall be fined seventy-five dollars for each offense. Each distinct violation of this section shall be a separate offense and, in the case of a continuing violation, each day thereof shall be deemed a separate offense.

Sec. 4. Section 53-206 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) Any person who carries upon his or her person any BB. gun, blackjack, metal or brass knuckles, or any dirk knife, or any switch knife, or any knife having an automatic spring release device by which a blade is released from the handle, having a blade of over one and one-half inches in length, or stiletto, or any knife the edged portion of the blade of which is four inches or more in length, any police baton or nightstick, or any martial arts weapon or electronic defense weapon, as defined in section 53a-3, or any other dangerous or deadly weapon or instrument,

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

shall be guilty of a class E felony. Whenever any person is found guilty of a violation of this section, any weapon or other instrument within the provisions of this section, found upon the body of such person, shall be forfeited to the municipality wherein such person was apprehended, notwithstanding any failure of the judgment of conviction to expressly impose such forfeiture.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to (1) any officer charged with the preservation of the public peace while engaged in the pursuit of such officer's official duties; (2) the carrying of a [baton or nightstick] less lethal weapon, as defined in section 29-161q, as amended by this act, by a licensed security [guard] officer or a person who meets the requirements of subsection (h) of section 29-161q, as amended by this act, while engaged in the pursuit of such [guard's] officer's or person's official duties; (3) the carrying of a knife, the edged portion of the blade of which is four inches or more in length, by (A) any member of the armed forces of the United States, as defined in section 27-103, or any reserve component thereof, or of the armed forces of the state, as defined in section 27-2, when on duty or going to or from duty, (B) any member of any military organization when on parade or when going to or from any place of assembly, (C) any person while transporting such knife as merchandise or for display at an authorized gun or knife show, (D) any person who is found with any such knife concealed upon one's person while lawfully removing such person's household goods or effects from one place to another, or from one residence to another, (E) any person while actually and peaceably engaged in carrying any such knife from such person's place of abode or business to a place or person where or by whom such knife is to be repaired, or while actually and peaceably returning to such person's place of abode or business with such knife after the same has been repaired, (F) any person holding a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license issued pursuant to chapter 490 or any saltwater fisherman carrying such knife for lawful hunting, fishing or trapping activities, or (G) any person while participating in an

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

authorized historic reenactment; (4) the carrying by any person enrolled in or currently attending, or an instructor at, a martial arts school of a martial arts weapon while in a class or at an authorized event or competition or while transporting such weapon to or from such class, event or competition; (5) the carrying of a BB. gun by any person taking part in a supervised event or competition of the Boy Scouts of America or the Girl Scouts of America or in any other authorized event or competition while taking part in such event or competition or while transporting such weapon to or from such event or competition; (6) the carrying of an electronic defense weapon, as defined in section 53a-3, by any person who is twenty-one years of age or older and possesses a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of section 29-28, 29-36f, 29-37p or 29-38n; and (7) the carrying of a BB. gun by any person upon such person's own property or the property of another person provided such other person has authorized the carrying of such weapon on such property, and the transporting of such weapon to or from such property.

Sec. 5. Section 29-33 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) No person, firm or corporation shall sell, deliver or otherwise transfer any pistol or revolver to any person who is prohibited from possessing a pistol or revolver as provided in section 53a-217c.

(b) No person may purchase or receive any pistol or revolver unless such person holds a valid permit to carry a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to subsection (b) of section 29-28, a valid permit to sell firearms at retail issued pursuant to subsection (a) of section 29-28 or a valid eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to section 29-36f or is a federal marshal, parole officer or peace officer.

(c) No person, firm or corporation shall sell, deliver or otherwise transfer any pistol or revolver [except upon written application on a form prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner of Emergency

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

Services and Public Protection. Such person, firm or corporation shall ensure that all questions on the application are answered properly prior to releasing the pistol or revolver and shall retain the application, which shall be attached to the federal sale or transfer document, for at least twenty years or until such vendor goes out of business. Such application shall be available for inspection during normal business hours by law enforcement officials. No sale, delivery or other transfer of any pistol or revolver shall be made] unless the person [making the purchase or] to whom the same is sold, delivered or transferred is personally known to the person selling such pistol or revolver or making delivery or transfer thereof or provides evidence of his identity in the form of a motor vehicle operator's license, identity card issued pursuant to section 1-1h or valid passport. No sale, delivery or other transfer of any pistol or revolver shall be made until the person, firm or corporation [making such transfer] selling, delivering or transferring such pistol or revolver completes a transfer document on a form prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and obtains an authorization number from [the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Said commissioner] said commissioner. Such transfer document shall contain the name and address of the transferor and transferee, the date of sale, the caliber, make, model and manufacturer's number and a general description of such pistol or revolver, the identification number of the transferor's and transferee's permit to carry pistols or revolvers, issued pursuant to subsection (b) of section 29-28, permit to sell firearms at retail, issued pursuant to subsection (a) of said section, or eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver, issued pursuant to section 29-36f, if any, and the authorization number designated for the transfer by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall perform the national instant criminal background check and make a reasonable effort to determine whether there is any reason that would prohibit such [applicant] transferee from possessing a pistol or revolver as provided in section

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

53a-217c. If the commissioner determines the existence of such a reason, the commissioner shall (1) deny the sale, delivery or other transfer and no pistol or revolver shall be sold, delivered or otherwise transferred by such person, firm or corporation to such [applicant] transferee, and (2) inform the chief of police of the town in which the applicant resides, or, where there is no chief of police, the warden of the borough or the first selectman of the town, or the chief of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native American tribe within the borders of the state as referenced in subsection (b) of section 29-28, if the [applicant] transferee has a bona fide permanent residence within the jurisdiction of such tribe, as the case may be, that there exists a reason that would prohibit such [applicant] transferee from possessing a pistol or revolver.

(d) No person, firm or corporation shall sell, deliver or otherwise transfer any pistol or revolver, other than at wholesale, unless such pistol or revolver is equipped with a reusable trigger lock, gun lock or gun locking device appropriate for such pistol or revolver, which lock or device shall be constructed of material sufficiently strong to prevent it from being easily disabled and have a locking mechanism accessible by key or by electronic or other mechanical accessory specific to such lock or device to prevent unauthorized removal. No pistol or revolver shall be loaded or contain therein any gunpowder or other explosive or any bullet, ball or shell when such pistol or revolver is sold, delivered or otherwise transferred.

(e) Upon the sale, delivery or other transfer of any pistol or revolver, the [person making the purchase or to whom the same is delivered or transferred shall sign a receipt for such pistol or revolver, which shall contain the name and address of such person, the date of sale, the caliber, make, model and manufacturer's number and a general description of such pistol or revolver, the identification number of such person's permit to carry pistols or revolvers, issued pursuant to subsection (b) of section 29-28, permit to sell firearms at retail, issued

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

pursuant to subsection (a) of said section, or eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver, issued pursuant to section 29-36f, if any, and the authorization number designated for the transfer by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. The] person, firm or corporation selling such pistol or revolver or making delivery or transfer thereof shall (1) give one copy of the [receipt] transfer document to the person making the purchase of such pistol or revolver or to whom the same is delivered or transferred, (2) retain one copy of the [receipt] transfer document for at least five years, and (3) send, by first class mail, or electronically transmit, within forty-eight hours of such sale, delivery or other transfer, (A) one copy of the [receipt] transfer document to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and (B) one copy of the [receipt] transfer document to the chief of police of the municipality in which the transferee resides or, where there is no chief of police, the chief executive officer of the municipality, as defined in section 7-148, in which the transferee resides or, if designated by such chief executive officer, the resident state trooper serving such municipality or a state police officer of the state police troop having jurisdiction over such municipality, or the chief of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native American tribe within the borders of the state as referenced in subsection (b) of section 29-28, if the transferee has a bona fide permanent residence within the jurisdiction of such tribe. If the transferor or transferee is a federally licensed firearms dealer, such federally licensed firearms dealer shall retain the transfer document for at least twenty years or until such federally licensed firearms dealer goes out of business. Such transfer document shall be available for inspection during normal business hours by law enforcement officials.

(f) (1) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall not issue more than three authorization numbers for sale at retail of a pistol or revolver to any transferee within a thirty-day period, except that if such transferee is certified as a firearms instructor

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

by the state pursuant to section 29-28 or the National Rifle Association, said commissioner shall not issue more than six authorization numbers within a thirty-day period.

(2) No authorization number issued for any of the following purposes shall count toward the limits in subdivision (1) of this subsection: (A) Any firearm transferred to a federal, state or municipal law enforcement agency, or any firearm legally transferred under the provisions of section 29-36k, (B) the exchange of a pistol or revolver purchased by an individual from a federally licensed firearm dealer for another pistol or revolver from the same federally licensed firearm dealer not later than thirty days after the original transaction, provided the federally licensed firearm dealer reports the transaction to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, (C) as otherwise provided in subsection (h) or (i) of this section, [or] (D) a transfer to a museum at a fixed location that is open to the public and displays firearms as part of an educational mission, or (E) any firearm transferred by bequest or intestate succession, or, upon the death of a testator or settlor, (i) to a trust, or (ii) from a trust to a beneficiary.

(g) The provisions of this section shall not apply to antique pistols or revolvers. An antique pistol or revolver, for the purposes of this section, means any pistol or revolver which was manufactured in or before 1898 and any replica of such pistol or revolver provided such replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition except rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition which is no longer manufactured in the United States and not readily available in the ordinary channel of commercial trade.

(h) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the sale, delivery or transfer of pistols or revolvers between (1) a [federally-licensed] federally licensed firearm manufacturer and a [federally-licensed] federally licensed firearm dealer, (2) a [federally-licensed] federally licensed firearm importer and a [federally-licensed] federally licensed

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

firearm dealer, (3) [federally-licensed] federally licensed firearm dealers, or (4) [federally-licensed] federally licensed firearm manufacturers.

(i) If the court finds that a violation of this section is not of a serious nature and that the person charged with such violation (1) will probably not offend in the future, (2) has not previously been convicted of a violation of this section, and (3) has not previously had a prosecution under this section suspended pursuant to this subsection, the court may order suspension of prosecution. The court shall not order suspension of prosecution unless the accused person has acknowledged that he understands the consequences of the suspension of prosecution. Any person for whom prosecution is suspended shall agree to the tolling of any statute of limitations with respect to such violation and to a waiver of his right to a speedy trial. Such person shall appear in court and shall be released to the supervision of the Court Support Services Division for such period, not exceeding two years, and under such conditions as the court shall order. If the person refuses to accept, or, having accepted, violates such conditions, the court shall terminate the suspension of prosecution and the case shall be brought to trial. If such person satisfactorily completes his period of probation, he may apply for dismissal of the charges against him and the court, on finding such satisfactory completion, shall dismiss such charges. If the person does not apply for dismissal of the charges against him after satisfactorily completing his period of probation, the court, upon receipt of a report submitted by the Court Support Services Division that the person satisfactorily completed his period of probation, may on its own motion make a finding of such satisfactory completion and dismiss such charges. Upon dismissal, all records of such charges shall be erased pursuant to section 54-142a. An order of the court denying a motion to dismiss the charges against a person who has completed his period of probation or terminating the participation of a defendant in such program shall be a final judgment for purposes of appeal.

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

(j) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of 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, except that any person who sells, delivers or otherwise transfers a pistol or revolver in violation of the provisions of this section knowing that such pistol or revolver is stolen or that the manufacturer's number or other mark of identification on such pistol or revolver has been altered, removed or obliterated, shall be guilty of a class B felony for which three years of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court, and ten 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, and any pistol or revolver found in the possession of any person in violation of any provision of this section shall be forfeited.

Sec. 6. Section 29-37a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) For the purposes of this section, "long gun" means a firearm, as defined in section 53a-3, other than a pistol or revolver.

(b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, no person, firm or corporation may sell, deliver or otherwise transfer, at retail, any long gun to any person under eighteen years of age.

(2) No person, firm or corporation may sell, deliver or otherwise transfer any semi-automatic centerfire rifle that has or accepts a magazine with a capacity exceeding five rounds to any person under twenty-one years of age. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to the sale, delivery or transfer of such a rifle to any person who is a member or employee of an organized local police department, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

Department of Correction or a member of the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States for use in the discharge of their duties.

(c) No person may purchase or receive any long gun unless such person holds a valid long gun eligibility certificate issued pursuant to section 29-37p, a valid permit to carry a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to subsection (b) of section 29-28, a valid permit to sell firearms at retail issued pursuant to subsection (a) of section 29-28 or a valid eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to section 29-36f.

(d) No person, firm or corporation may sell, deliver or otherwise transfer [, at retail,] any long gun [to any person] unless [such] the person [makes application on a form prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, which shall be attached by the transferor to the federal sale or transfer document and filed and retained by the transferor for at least twenty years or until such transferor goes out of business. Such application shall be available for inspection during normal business hours by law enforcement officials] to whom the same is sold, delivered or transferred is personally known to the person selling such long gun or making delivery or transfer thereof or provides evidence of such person's identity in the form of a motor vehicle operator's license, identity card issued pursuant to section 1-1h or valid passport. No such sale, delivery or other transfer of any long gun shall be made until the person, firm or corporation [making such sale, delivery or transfer has ensured that such application has been completed properly and has obtained] selling, delivering or transferring such long gun completes a transfer document, on a form prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and obtains an authorization number from [the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for such sale, delivery or transfer. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection] said commissioner. Such transfer

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

document shall contain the name and address of the transferor and transferee, the date of sale, the caliber, make, model and manufacturer's number and a general description of such long gun, the identification number of the transferor's and transferee's permit to carry pistols or revolvers, issued pursuant to subsection (b) of section 29-28, permit to sell firearms at retail, issued pursuant to subsection (a) of said section, eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver, issued pursuant to section 29-36f, or eligibility certificate for a long gun, issued pursuant to section 29-37p, as applicable, and the authorization number designated for the transfer by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall [make every effort, including performing] perform the national instant criminal background check [,] and make a reasonable effort to determine [if the applicant is] whether there is any reason that would prohibit such transferee from being eligible to receive such long gun. If [it is determined that the applicant is ineligible to receive such long gun, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection] the commissioner determines the existence of such a reason, the commissioner shall [immediately notify the (1) person, firm or corporation to whom such application was made] (1) deny the sale, delivery or transfer, and no such long gun shall be sold, delivered or otherwise transferred to such [applicant] transferee by such person, firm or corporation, and (2) inform the chief of police of the town in which the [applicant] transferee resides, or, where there is no chief of police, the warden of the borough or the first selectman of the town, or the chief of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native American tribe within the borders of the state as referenced in subsection (b) of section 29-28, if the [applicant] transferee has a bona fide permanent residence within the jurisdiction of such tribe, as the case may be, that the [applicant] transferee is not eligible to receive a long gun. When any long gun is delivered in connection with any sale or purchase, such long gun shall be enclosed in a package, the paper or wrapping of which shall be securely fastened, and no such long gun

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

when delivered on any sale or purchase shall be loaded or contain any gunpowder or other explosive or any bullet, ball or shell. Upon the sale, delivery or other transfer of the long gun, the [transferee shall sign in triplicate a receipt for such long gun, which shall contain the name, address and date and place of birth of such transferee, the date of such sale, delivery or transfer and the caliber, make, model and manufacturer's number and a general description thereof. Not later than twenty-four hours after such sale, delivery or transfer, the transferor shall] person, firm or corporation selling such long gun, or making delivery or transfer thereof, shall (A) give one copy of the transfer document to the person making the purchase of such long gun or to whom the same is delivered or transferred, (B) retain one copy of the transfer document for at least five years, and (C) send by first class mail or electronically [transfer] transmit, within forty-eight hours of such sale, delivery or other transfer, (i) one [receipt] copy of the transfer document to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and (ii) one [receipt] copy of the transfer document to the chief of police of the municipality in which the transferee resides or, where there is no chief of police, the chief executive officer of the municipality, as defined in section 7-148, in which the transferee resides or, if designated by such chief executive officer, the resident state trooper serving such municipality or a state police officer of the state police troop having jurisdiction over such municipality, or the chief of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native American tribe within the borders of the state as referenced in subsection (b) of section 29-28, if the transferee has a bona fide permanent residence within the jurisdiction of such tribe, [and shall retain one receipt, together with the original application, for at least five years.] If the transferor or transferee is a federally licensed firearms dealer, such federally licensed firearms dealer shall retain the transfer document for at least twenty years or until such federally licensed firearms dealer goes out of business. Such transfer document shall be available for inspection during normal business hours by law

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

enforcement officials.

[(e) No sale, delivery or other transfer of any long gun shall be made by a person who is not a federally licensed firearm manufacturer, importer or dealer to a person who is not a federally licensed firearm manufacturer, importer or dealer unless:

(1) The prospective transferor and prospective transferee comply with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section and the prospective transferor has obtained an authorization number from the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for such sale, delivery or transfer; or

(2) The prospective transferor or prospective transferee requests a federally licensed firearm dealer to contact the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection on behalf of such prospective transferor or prospective transferee and the federally licensed firearm dealer has obtained an authorization number from the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for such sale, delivery or transfer.

(f) (1) For purposes of a transfer pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this section, a prospective transferor or prospective transferee may request a federally licensed firearm dealer to contact the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to obtain an authorization number for such sale, delivery or transfer. If a federally licensed firearm dealer consents to contact the department on behalf of the prospective transferor or prospective transferee, the prospective transferor or prospective transferee shall provide to such dealer the name, sex, race, date of birth and state of residence of the prospective transferee and, if necessary to verify the identity of the prospective transferee, may provide a unique numeric identifier including, but not limited to, a Social Security number, and additional identifiers including, but not limited to, height, weight, eye and hair color, and

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

place of birth. The prospective transferee shall present to the dealer such prospective transferee's valid long gun eligibility certificate issued pursuant to section 29-37p, valid permit to carry a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to subsection (b) of section 29-28, valid permit to sell firearms at retail issued pursuant to subsection (a) of section 29-28 or valid eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to section 29-36f. The dealer may charge a fee for contacting the department on behalf of the prospective transferor or prospective transferee.

(2) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall make every effort, including performing the national instant criminal background check, to determine if the prospective transferee is eligible to receive such long gun. The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall immediately notify the dealer of the department's determination and the dealer shall immediately notify the prospective transferor or prospective transferee of such determination. If the department determines the prospective transferee is ineligible to receive such long gun, no long gun shall be sold, delivered or otherwise transferred by the prospective transferor to the prospective transferee. If the department determines the prospective transferee is eligible to receive such long gun and provides an authorization number for such sale, delivery or transfer, the prospective transferor may proceed to sell, deliver or otherwise transfer the long gun to the prospective transferee.

(3) Upon the sale, delivery or other transfer of the long gun, the transferor or transferee shall complete a form, prescribed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, that contains the name and address of the transferor, the name and address of the transferee, the date and place of birth of such transferee, the firearm permit or certificate number of the transferee, the firearm permit or certificate number of the transferor, if any, the date of such sale, delivery or transfer, the caliber, make, model and manufacturer's

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

number and a general description of such long gun and the authorization number provided by the department. Not later than twenty-four hours after such sale, delivery or transfer, the transferor shall send by first class mail or electronically transfer one copy of such form to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and one copy to the chief of police of the municipality in which the transferee resides or, where there is no chief of police, the chief executive officer of the municipality, as defined in section 7-148, in which the transferee resides or, if designated by such chief executive officer, the resident state trooper serving such municipality or a state police officer of the state police troop having jurisdiction over such municipality, or the chief of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native American tribe within the borders of the state as referenced in subsection (b) of section 29-28, if the transferee has a bona fide permanent residence within the jurisdiction of such tribe, and shall retain one copy, for at least five years.

(g) No sale, delivery or other transfer of any long gun shall be made until the expiration of two weeks from the date of the application, except that such waiting period shall not apply to any federal marshal, parole officer or peace officer, or to the sale, delivery or other transfer of (1) any long gun to a holder of a valid state permit to carry a pistol or revolver issued under the provisions of section 29-28, a valid eligibility certificate issued under the provisions of section 29-36f, or a valid long gun eligibility certificate issued under the provisions of section 29-37p, (2) any long gun to an active member of the armed forces of the United States or of any reserve component thereof, (3) any long gun to a holder of a valid hunting license issued pursuant to chapter 490, or (4) antique firearms. For the purposes of this subsection, "antique firearm" means any firearm which was manufactured in or before 1898 and any replica of such firearm, provided such replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition except rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition which is no longer

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

manufactured in the United States and not readily available in the ordinary channel of commercial trade.]

[(h)] (e) The provisions of subsections (c) [to (g), inclusive,] and (d) of this section shall not apply to the sale, delivery or transfer of (1) long guns to (A) the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, police departments, the Department of Correction, the Division of Criminal Justice, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection or the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States, (B) a sworn and duly certified member of an organized police department, the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the Department of Correction, a chief inspector or inspector in the Division of Criminal Justice, a salaried inspector of motor vehicles designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, a conservation officer or special conservation officer appointed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection pursuant to section 26-5, or a constable who is certified by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council and appointed by the chief executive authority of a town, city or borough to perform criminal law enforcement duties, pursuant to a letter on the letterhead of such department, division, commissioner or authority authorizing the purchase and stating that the sworn member, inspector, officer or constable will use the long gun in the discharge of official duties, and that a records check indicates that the sworn member, inspector, officer or constable has not been convicted of a crime of family violence, for use by such sworn member, inspector, officer or constable in the discharge of such sworn member's, inspector's, officer's or constable's official duties or when off duty, (C) a member of the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States, or (D) a nuclear facility licensed by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the purpose of providing security services at such facility, or any contractor or subcontractor of such facility for the purpose of providing security

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

services at such facility; (2) long guns to or between federally licensed firearm manufacturers, importers or dealers; (3) curios or relics, as defined in 27 CFR 478.11, to or between federally licensed firearm collectors; or (4) antique firearms. [as defined in subsection (g) of this section.] For the purposes of this subsection, "antique firearm" means any firearm that was manufactured in or before 1898 and any replica of such firearm, provided such replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition except rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition that is no longer manufactured in the United States and not readily available in the ordinary channel of commercial trade.

[(i)] (f) If the court finds that a violation of this section is not of a serious nature and that the person charged with such violation (1) will probably not offend in the future, (2) has not previously been convicted of a violation of this section, and (3) has not previously had a prosecution under this section suspended pursuant to this subsection, it may order suspension of prosecution. The court shall not order suspension of prosecution unless the accused person has acknowledged that he understands the consequences of the suspension of prosecution. Any person for whom prosecution is suspended shall agree to the tolling of any statute of limitations with respect to such violation and to a waiver of his right to a speedy trial. Such person shall appear in court and shall be released to the supervision of the Court Support Services Division for such period, not exceeding two years, and under such conditions as the court shall order. If the person refuses to accept, or, having accepted, violates such conditions, the court shall terminate the suspension of prosecution and the case shall be brought to trial. If such person satisfactorily completes his period of probation, he may apply for dismissal of the charges against him and the court, on finding such satisfactory completion, shall dismiss such charges. If the person does not apply for dismissal of the charges against him after satisfactorily completing his period of probation, the court, upon receipt of a report

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

submitted by the Court Support Services Division that the person satisfactorily completed his period of probation, may on its own motion make a finding of such satisfactory completion and dismiss such charges. Upon dismissal, all records of such charges shall be erased pursuant to section 54-142a. An order of the court denying a motion to dismiss the charges against a person who has completed his period of probation or terminating the participation of a defendant in such program shall be a final judgment for purposes of appeal.

[(j)] (g) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class D felony, except that any person who sells, delivers or otherwise transfers a long gun in violation of the provisions of this section, knowing that such long gun is stolen or that the manufacturer's number or other mark of identification on such long gun has been altered, removed or obliterated, shall be guilty of a class B felony, and any long gun found in the possession of any person in violation of any provision of this section shall be forfeited.

Sec. 7. Section 54-66a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

Any bail bond posted in any criminal proceeding in this state shall be automatically terminated and released whenever the defendant: (1) Is granted accelerated rehabilitation pursuant to section 54-56e; (2) is granted admission to the pretrial alcohol education program pursuant to section 54-56g; (3) is granted admission to the pretrial family violence education program pursuant to section 46b-38c; (4) is granted admission to the pretrial drug education and community service program pursuant to section 54-56i; (5) has the complaint or information filed against such defendant dismissed; (6) has the prosecution of the complaint or information filed against such defendant terminated by entry of a nolle prosequi; (7) is acquitted; (8) is sentenced by the court and a stay of such sentence, if any, is lifted; (9) is granted admission to the pretrial school violence prevention program pursuant to section 54-

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

56j; (10) is charged with a violation of section 29-33, as amended by this act, 53-202l or 53-202w, and prosecution has been suspended pursuant to subsection (i) of section 29-33, as amended by this act; (11) is charged with a violation of section 29-37a, as amended by this act, and prosecution has been suspended pursuant to subsection [(i)] (f) of section 29-37a, as amended by this act; (12) is granted admission to the supervised diversionary program for persons with psychiatric disabilities, or persons who are veterans, pursuant to section 54-56l; (13) is granted admission to a diversionary program for young persons charged with a motor vehicle violation or an alcohol-related offense pursuant to section 54-56p; (14) is granted admission to the pretrial drug intervention and community service program pursuant to section 54-56q; or (15) is granted admission to the pretrial impaired driving intervention program pursuant to section 54-56r.

Sec. 8. Section 84 of public act 13-3, as amended by section 15 of public act 13-122, section 191 of public act 13-247, section 73 of public act 14-98, section 1 of public act 15-5, section 1 of public act 16-171, section 1 of public act 17-68, section 490 of public act 17-2 of the June special session and section 73 of public act 20-1, is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Departments of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Administrative Services and Education shall jointly administer a school security infrastructure competitive grant program to reimburse (1) a town, (2) a regional educational service center, (3) the governing authority for a state charter school, (4) the Department of Education on behalf of the technical high school system, (5) an incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-34 of the general statutes, (6) the supervisory agent for a nonpublic school, and (7) a licensed child care center or private preschool operator that has received threats, provided no family child care providers may be eligible for reimbursement

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

pursuant to this section, for certain expenses for schools, centers or preschools incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for: (A) The development or improvement of the security infrastructure of schools, centers or preschools, based on the results of school building or child care center building security assessments pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, including, but not limited to, the installation of surveillance cameras, penetration resistant vestibules, ballistic glass, solid core doors, double door access, computer-controlled electronic locks, entry door buzzer systems, scan card systems, panic alarms, real time interoperable communications and multimedia sharing infrastructure or other systems; and (B) (i) the training of school personnel in the operation and maintenance of the security infrastructure of school buildings, or (ii) the purchase of portable entrance security devices, including, but not limited to, metal detector wands and screening machines and related training.

(b) (1) On and after April 4, 2013, each local and regional board of education may, on behalf of its town or its member towns, apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such board of education incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. Prior to the date that the School Safety Infrastructure Council makes its initial submission of the school safety infrastructure standards, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and Education, shall determine which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. On and after the date that the School Safety Infrastructure Council submits the school safety infrastructure standards, the decision to approve or deny an application and the determination of which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

the program shall be in accordance with the most recent submission of the school safety infrastructure standards, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

(2) A regional educational service center may apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such regional educational service center incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

(3) The governing authority for a state charter school may apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such governing authority incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

(4) The superintendent of the technical high school system may apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools in the technical high school system incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

section. The department shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

(5) An incorporated or endowed high school or academy may apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

(6) (A) The supervisory agent for a nonpublic school or a licensed child care center or private preschool operator described in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of this section may apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such supervisory agent or for such licensed child care centers or private preschools incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

(B) Ten per cent of the funds available under the program shall be awarded to the supervisory agents of nonpublic schools and licensed

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

child care center or private preschool operators described in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (6) of subsection (c) of this section.

(c) (1) A town may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined as follows: (A) Each town shall be ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine according to town wealth, as defined in subdivision (26) of section 10-262f of the general statutes, (B) based upon such ranking, a percentage of not less than twenty or more than eighty shall be assigned to each town on a continuous scale, and (C) the town ranked first shall be assigned a percentage of twenty and the town ranked last shall be assigned a percentage of eighty.

(2) A regional educational service center may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by (A) multiplying the population of each member town in the regional educational service center by such town's ranking, as determined in subsection (a) of section 10-285a of the general statutes; (B) adding together the figures for each town determined under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision; and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all member towns in the regional educational service center. The ranking of each regional educational service center shall be rounded to the next higher whole number and each such center shall receive the same reimbursement percentage as would a town with the same rank.

(3) The governing authority for a state charter school may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses that is the same as the town in which such state charter school is located, as calculated pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(4) The Department of Education, on behalf of the technical high

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

school system, may receive a grant equal to one hundred per cent of its eligible expenses.

(5) An incorporated or endowed high school or academy may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by (A) multiplying the total population, as defined in section 10-261 of the general statutes, of each town which at the time of application for such school security infrastructure competitive grant has designated such school as the high school for such town for a period of not less than five years from the date of such application, by such town's percentile ranking, as determined in subsection (a) of section 10-285a of the general statutes, (B) adding together the figures for each town determined under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all towns which designate the school as their high school under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. The ranking determined pursuant to this subsection shall be rounded to the next higher whole number. Such incorporated or endowed high school or academy shall receive the reimbursement percentage of a town with the same rank.

(6) The supervisory agent for a nonpublic school or a licensed child care center or private preschool operator described in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of this section may receive a grant equal to fifty per cent of its eligible expenses, provided any such grant shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars.

(d) (1) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, if there are not sufficient funds to provide grants to all towns, based on the percentage determined pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined by said commissioners based on

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

school building security assessments of the schools under the jurisdiction of the town's school district conducted pursuant to this subdivision. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give first priority to applicants on behalf of schools that have no security infrastructure at the time of such school building security assessment and succeeding priority to applicants on behalf of schools located in priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the general statutes.

(B) To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section, an applicant board of education shall ~~[(A)]~~ (i) demonstrate that it has developed and periodically practices an emergency plan at the schools under its jurisdiction and that such plan has been developed in concert with applicable state or local first-responders, and ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) provide for a uniform assessment of the schools under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure, using [the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe Schools Facilities Checklist] guidelines established by the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, which shall be based on best practices regarding school security infrastructure. The assessment shall be conducted under the supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

(2) (A) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2018, and the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2021, if there are not sufficient funds to provide grants to all applicants that are towns, regional educational service centers, governing authorities for state charter schools, the Department of Education, on behalf of the technical high school system, and incorporated or endowed high schools or academies based on the percentage determined pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

Services and Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined by said commissioners based on school building security assessments of the schools under the jurisdiction of the applicant conducted pursuant to this subdivision. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give first priority to applicants on behalf of schools that have no security infrastructure at the time of such school building security assessment and succeeding priority to applicants on behalf of schools located in priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the general statutes.

(B) To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section, an applicant shall [(A)] (i) demonstrate that it has developed and periodically practices an emergency plan at the schools under its jurisdiction and that such plan has been developed in concert with applicable state or local first-responders, and [(B)] (ii) provide for a uniform assessment of the schools under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure, using [the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe Schools Facilities Checklist] guidelines established by the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, which shall be based on best practices regarding school security infrastructure. The assessment shall be conducted under the supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

(3) (A) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2018, and the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2021, if there are not sufficient funds to provide grants to all applicant supervisory agents for nonpublic schools or licensed child care center or private preschool operators described in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of this section, based on the percentages described in subsection (c) of this section, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools, centers or preschools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined by said commissioners. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools, centers or preschools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give first priority to applicants on behalf of schools, centers or preschools that have no security infrastructure at the time of application.

(B) To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section, an applicant supervisory agent for a nonpublic school or licensed child care center or private preschool operator described in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of this section shall [(A)] (i) demonstrate that it has developed and periodically practices an emergency plan at the school, center or preschool under its jurisdiction and that such plan has been developed in concert with applicable state or local first-responders, and [(B)] (ii) provide for a uniform assessment of the schools, centers or preschools under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure, using [the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe Schools Facilities Checklist] guidelines established by the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, which shall be based on best practices regarding school security infrastructure. The assessment shall be conducted under the supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

Sec. 9. Section 85 of public act 13-3, as amended by section 74 of public act 14-98, section 67 of public act 15-1 of the June special session, section 26 of public act 18-178, section 74 of public act 20-1, section 62 of public act 21-111 and section 68 of public act 23-205, is amended to read as follows (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) For the purposes described in subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the power from time to time to

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate one hundred seven million dollars, provided ten million dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2024.

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

(c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its discretion, may require. Said

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become due.

Sec. 10. Section 29-298a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

There shall be established within the Department of Administrative Services a Fire Marshal Training Council which shall advise the State Fire Marshal and the Codes and Standards Committee on all matters pertaining to (1) certification training programs, (2) decertification hearings, (3) in-service training for fire marshals in the state, and (4) programs for all other persons eligible to receive training pursuant to subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 29-251c. The council shall be composed of [twelve] nine members as follows: The State Fire Marshal or [his] the State Fire Marshal's designee; a member of the Codes and Standards Committee to be elected by such committee; three members [appointed] designated by the Connecticut Fire Marshals Association, [one of whom shall be a volunteer,] one of whom shall be a part-time paid local fire marshal, deputy fire marshal or fire inspector, and [one] two of whom shall be [a] full-time [,] local fire [marshal] marshals, deputy fire [marshal] marshals or fire [inspector] inspectors; one member [appointed by the Board of Regents for Higher Education; two members] designated by the Connecticut Chapter of the American Institute of Architects; one member appointed by the [Board of Trustees for the Community-Technical Colleges; the chief elected official of a municipality having a population in excess of seventy thousand persons, appointed by the Governor; the chief elected official of a

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

municipality having a population of less than seventy thousand persons, appointed by the Governor; and two public members, appointed by the Governor. Members shall be residents of this state and shall not be compensated for their services but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties] Office of Education and Data Management within the Department of Administrative Services; one member designated by the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities; and one member designated by the Connecticut Council of Small Towns. The council may elect such officers as it deems necessary.

Sec. 11. Section 7-323k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) [(1)] There is established a Commission on Fire Prevention and Control. [Until June 30, 2025, the commission shall consist of twelve members appointed by the Governor. The State Fire Marshal or the State Fire Marshal's designee and the chancellor of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities or the chancellor's designee shall serve as ex-officio, voting members of said commission. Of the twelve members appointed by the Governor, two shall represent The Connecticut State Firefighter's Association, two shall represent the Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association, two shall represent the Uniformed Professional Firefighters of the International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO, two shall represent the Connecticut Fire Marshals Association, two shall represent the Connecticut Fire Department Instructors Association and two shall represent the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. The term of any member appointed pursuant to this subdivision shall end on June 30, 2025.

(2) On and after July 1, 2025, the] The commission shall consist of the following members:

[(A)] (1) Two members of The Connecticut State Firefighter's

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

Association, one of whom is the chairperson of the association's education committee, appointed by the Governor;

[(B)] (2) Two members of the Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association, appointed by the Governor;

[(C)] (3) Two members of the Connecticut Career Fire Chiefs' Association, appointed by the Governor;

[(D)] (4) Two members of the Uniformed Professional Firefighters of the International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO, appointed by the Governor;

[(E)] (5) Two members of the Connecticut Fire Marshals Association, appointed by the Governor;

[(F)] (6) Two members of the Connecticut Fire Department Instructors Association, appointed by the Governor;

[(G)] (7) A representative of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns, appointed by the Governor;

[(H)] (8) A representative of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, appointed by the Governor;

[(I)] (9) A representative of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns, appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security;

[(J)] (10) A representative of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security;

[(K)] (11) A member of the Connecticut Fire Equipment Mechanics

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

Association, appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security;

[(L)] (12) A representative of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board, appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security;

[(M)] (13) The State Fire Marshal, [who shall be a nonvoting member] or such marshal's designee;

[(N)] (14) The forest protection supervisor within the Forestry Division of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, or such supervisor's designee; [, who shall be a nonvoting member;] and

[(O)] (15) The commanding officer of the Fire and Explosion Investigation Unit of the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or such officer's designee. [, who shall be a nonvoting member.]

(b) On or before July fifteenth, annually, each organization to be represented on said commission shall submit to the appropriate appointing authority a list of nominees for appointment to said commission, which list the appointing authority may use when making appointments to said commission. Appointing authorities shall appoint members to said commission to serve for three years, or until a successor is appointed. Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be filled by the appointing authority for the unexpired portion of the term. Persons appointed to said commission shall be qualified, by experience or education, in the fields of fire protection, fire prevention, fire suppression, fire fighting and related fields.

(c) The commission shall meet at such times and at such places as it deems proper. [On and before June 30, 2025, the commission shall elect

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

from its membership a chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary who shall serve a one year term commencing on October first of the year in which they are elected, provided such terms shall expire on June 30, 2025, and nothing contained herein shall prevent their reelection to such office. On and after July 1, 2025, the] The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the commission from the commission's membership, and the commission shall elect from its membership a vice chairperson and secretary, who shall serve one year terms, provided nothing contained herein shall prevent their reelection to such office. No member of said commission shall receive compensation for such member's services.

(d) Members of the commission shall not be considered as holding public office solely by virtue of their membership on said commission.

(e) [On and after July 1, 2025, the] The members of the education committee of the Connecticut State Firefighters Association, Inc., shall serve as a subcommittee of the commission on matters relating to fire schools.

(f) The commission shall be within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

Sec. 12. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall convene a working group within the Department of Administrative Services to study the Codes and Standards Committee. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, a review of the membership of, and procedures utilized by, the Codes and Standards Committee, for the purpose of recommending any needed changes to such membership or procedures.

(b) The working group shall consist of the following members, none of whom shall be a current member of the Codes and Standards Committee: (1) Four appointed by the Commissioner of Administrative Services; (2) one appointed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services

Substitute House Bill No. 6859

and Public Protection; (3) two designated by the Connecticut Building Officials Association; and (4) two designated by the Connecticut Fire Marshals Association.

(c) Not later than July 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or July 1, 2026, whichever is later.