



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 509

LCO No. 3089



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING ADDRESS VERIFICATION REFORMS FOR REGISTRANTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (11) of section 54-250 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (11) "Sexually violent offense" means (A) a violation of section 53a-
5 70b of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2019,
6 or section 53a-70, except subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of said section,
7 53a-70a, 53a-71, except subdivision (1), (4), (8) or (10) or subparagraph
8 (B) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of said section or subparagraph
9 (A) of subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of said section if the court makes
10 a finding that, at the time of the offense, the victim was under eighteen
11 years of age, 53a-72a, except subdivision [(2)] (3) of subsection (a) of said
12 section, or 53a-72b, or of section 53a-92 or 53a-92a, provided the court
13 makes a finding that the offense was committed with intent to sexually
14 violate or abuse the victim, (B) a violation of any of the offenses specified
15 in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision for which a person is criminally

16 liable under section 53a-8, 53a-48 or 53a-49, or (C) a violation of any
17 predecessor statute to any of the offenses specified in subparagraph (A)
18 or (B) of this subdivision the essential elements of which are
19 substantially the same as said offense.

20 Sec. 2. Subsection (e) of section 54-251 of the general statutes is
21 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
22 *1, 2026*):

23 (e) (1) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this
24 section shall be guilty of a class [D felony] C misdemeanor, except that,
25 if such person violates the provisions of this section by failing to notify
26 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection without
27 undue delay of a change of name, address or status or another
28 reportable event, such person shall only be subject to such penalty if
29 such failure continues for five business days.

30 (2) Any person who does not receive by mail an address verification
31 form described in subsection (c) of section 54-257, as amended by this
32 act, may request that the Department of Emergency Services and Public
33 Protection mail such form to such person. The department shall mail
34 such form to such person not later than five business days after
35 receiving such request.

36 (3) The court shall dismiss any charges against a person for a violation
37 of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section if such person (A) has
38 no prior conviction for a violation of said subsection (a), and (B) is in
39 compliance with the provisions of said subsection (a) not later than
40 twenty business days following the arraignment of such person on such
41 charges.

42 (4) In any prosecution of a person for a violation of subsection (a) of
43 this section, it shall be an affirmative defense that (A) uncontrollable
44 circumstances prevented the person from complying with the
45 provisions of said subsection (a), (B) the person did not contribute to the
46 creation of such circumstances in reckless disregard to the requirements

47 pursuant to said subsection (a), and (C) such person was in compliance
48 with the provisions of said subsection (a) as soon as such circumstances
49 ceased to exist.

50 Sec. 3. Subsection (d) of section 54-252 of the general statutes is
51 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
52 *1, 2026*):

53 (d) (1) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be
54 guilty of a class [D felony] C misdemeanor, except that, if such person
55 violates the provisions of this section by failing to notify the
56 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection without
57 undue delay of a change of name, address or status or another
58 reportable event, such person shall only be subject to such penalty if
59 such failure continues for five business days.

60 (2) Any person who does not receive by mail an address verification
61 form described in subsection (c) of section 54-257, as amended by this
62 act, may request that the Department of Emergency Services and Public
63 Protection mail such form to such person. The department shall mail
64 such form to such person not later than five business days after
65 receiving such request.

66 (3) The court shall dismiss any charges against a person for a violation
67 of the provisions of this section if such person (A) has no prior
68 conviction for a violation of this section, and (B) is in compliance with
69 the provisions of this section not later than twenty business days
70 following the arraignment of such person on such charges.

71 (4) In any prosecution of a person for a violation of this section, it
72 shall be an affirmative defense that (A) uncontrollable circumstances
73 prevented the person from complying with the provisions of this
74 section, (B) the person did not contribute to the creation of such
75 circumstances in reckless disregard to the requirements pursuant to this
76 section, and (C) such person was in compliance with the provisions of
77 this section as soon as such circumstances ceased to exist.

78 Sec. 4. Subsection (e) of section 54-253 of the general statutes is
79 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
80 *1, 2026*):

81 (e) (1) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be
82 guilty of a class [D felony] C misdemeanor, except that, if such person
83 violates the provisions of this section by failing to register with the
84 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection without
85 undue delay or notify the Commissioner of Emergency Services and
86 Public Protection without undue delay of a change of name, address or
87 status or another reportable event, such person shall only be subject to
88 such penalty if such failure continues for five business days.

89 (2) Any person who does not receive by mail an address verification
90 form described in subsection (c) of section 54-257, as amended by this
91 act, may request that the Department of Emergency Services and Public
92 Protection mail such form to such person. The department shall mail
93 such form to such person not later than five business days after
94 receiving such request.

95 (3) The court shall dismiss any charges against a person for a violation
96 of the provisions of this section if such person (A) has no prior
97 conviction for a violation of this section, and (B) is in compliance with
98 the provisions of this section not later than twenty business days
99 following the arraignment of such person on such charges.

100 (4) In any prosecution of a person for a violation of this section, it
101 shall be an affirmative defense that (A) uncontrollable circumstances
102 prevented the person from complying with the provisions of this
103 section, (B) the person did not contribute to the creation of such
104 circumstances in reckless disregard to the requirements pursuant to this
105 section, and (C) such person was in compliance with the provisions of
106 this section as soon as such circumstances ceased to exist.

107 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 54-254 of the general statutes is
108 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*

109 1, 2026):

110 (b) (1) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be
111 guilty of a class [D felony] C misdemeanor, except that, if such person
112 violates the provisions of this section by failing to notify the
113 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection without
114 undue delay of a change of name, address or status or another
115 reportable event, such person shall only be subject to such penalty if
116 such failure continues for five business days.

117 (2) Any person who does not receive by mail an address verification
118 form described in subsection (c) of section 54-257, as amended by this
119 act, may request that the Department of Emergency Services and Public
120 Protection mail such form to such person. The department shall mail
121 such form to such person not later than five business days after
122 receiving such request.

123 (3) The court shall dismiss any charges against a person for a violation
124 of the provisions of this section if such person (A) has no prior
125 conviction for a violation of this section, and (B) is in compliance with
126 the provisions of this section not later than twenty business days
127 following the arraignment of such person on such charges.

128 (4) In any prosecution of a person for a violation of this section, it
129 shall be an affirmative defense that (A) uncontrollable circumstances
130 prevented the person from complying with the provisions of this
131 section, (B) the person did not contribute to the creation of such
132 circumstances in reckless disregard to the requirements pursuant to this
133 section, and (C) such person was in compliance with the provisions of
134 this section as soon as such circumstances ceased to exist.

135 Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of section 54-257 of the general statutes is
136 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
137 *1, 2026*):

138 (c) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the

139 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall verify
140 the residence address of each registrant by mailing a nonforwardable
141 address verification form to the registrant at the registrant's last
142 reported residence address. Such form shall require the registrant to
143 sign a statement that the registrant continues to reside at the registrant's
144 last reported residence address and return the form by mail, facsimile
145 or electronic mail by a date which is [ten] thirty days after the date [such]
146 of the postmark on the form that was mailed to the registrant. The form
147 shall contain (1) a statement that failure to return the form or providing
148 false information is a violation of section 54-251, as amended by this act,
149 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254,
150 as amended by this act, as the case may be, and (2) a statement in bold
151 text explaining that such form can be returned by mail, facsimile or
152 electronic mail and provide the mailing address, facsimile number and
153 electronic mail address for return of such form. In the case of a registrant
154 who resides at a residence address for which there is no residential mail
155 delivery, the local police department or the state police troop having
156 jurisdiction where the registrant resides shall verify in person such
157 registrant's residence address. Each person required to register under
158 section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act,
159 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, shall
160 have such person's residence address verified in such manner every
161 ninety days after such person's initial registration date. In the event that
162 a registrant fails to return the residence address verification form, the
163 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall notify
164 the local police department or the state police troop having jurisdiction
165 over the registrant's last reported residence address, and that agency
166 shall apply for a warrant to be issued for the registrant's arrest under
167 section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act,
168 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, as the
169 case may be. The Department of Emergency Services and Public
170 Protection shall not notify the local police department or the state police
171 troop, as the case may be, of any registrant's failure to register until at
172 least thirty days have elapsed from the date of the postmark on the form

173 that was mailed to such registrant. The Department of Emergency
174 Services and Public Protection shall not verify the address of registrants
175 whose last reported residence address was outside this state.

176 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 54-258 of the general statutes is
177 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
178 *1, 2026*):

179 (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes,
180 except subdivisions (3), (4) and (5) of this subsection, the registry
181 maintained by the Department of Emergency Services and Public
182 Protection shall be a public record and shall be accessible to the public
183 during normal business hours. The Department of Emergency Services
184 and Public Protection shall make registry information available to the
185 public through the Internet. Not less than once per calendar quarter, the
186 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall issue
187 notices to all print and electronic media in the state regarding the
188 availability and means of accessing the registry. Each local police
189 department and each state police troop shall keep a record of all
190 registration information transmitted to it by the Department of
191 Emergency Services and Public Protection, and shall make such
192 information accessible to the public during normal business hours.

193 (2) (A) Any state agency, the Judicial Department, any state police
194 troop or any local police department may, at its discretion, notify any
195 government agency, private organization or individual of registration
196 information when such agency, said department, such troop or such
197 local police department, as the case may be, believes such notification is
198 necessary to protect the public or any individual in any jurisdiction from
199 any person who is subject to registration under section 54-251, as
200 amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended
201 by this act, or 54-254, as amended by this act.

202 (B) (i) Whenever a registrant is released into the community, or
203 whenever a registrant changes such registrant's residence address and

204 notifies the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection of
205 such change pursuant to section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252,
206 as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as
207 amended by this act, the Department of Emergency Services and Public
208 Protection shall, by electronic mail, notify the superintendent of schools
209 for the school district in which the registrant resides, or plans to reside,
210 of such release or new residence address, and provide such
211 superintendent with the same registry information for such registrant
212 that the department makes available to the public through the Internet
213 under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

214 (ii) Whenever a registrant is released into the community, or
215 whenever a registrant changes such registrant's residence address and
216 notifies the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection of
217 such change pursuant to section 54-251, as amended by this act, 54-252,
218 as amended by this act, 54-253, as amended by this act, or 54-254, as
219 amended by this act, the Department of Emergency Services and Public
220 Protection shall, by electronic mail, notify the chief executive officer of
221 the municipality in which the registrant resides, or plans to reside, of
222 such release or new residence address, and provide such chief executive
223 officer with the same registry information for such registrant that the
224 department makes available to the public through the Internet under
225 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

226 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this
227 subsection, state agencies, the Judicial Department, state police troops
228 and local police departments shall not disclose the identity of any victim
229 of a crime committed by a registrant or treatment information provided
230 to the registry pursuant to sections 54-102g and 54-250 to 54-258a,
231 inclusive, as amended by this act, except to government agencies for
232 bona fide law enforcement or security purposes.

233 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this
234 subsection, registration information the dissemination of which has
235 been restricted by court order pursuant to section 54-255 and which is

236 not otherwise subject to disclosure, shall not be a public record and shall
237 be released only for law enforcement purposes until such restriction is
238 removed by the court pursuant to said section.

239 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this
240 subsection, a registrant's electronic mail address, instant message
241 address or other similar Internet communication identifier shall not be
242 a public record, except that the Department of Emergency Services and
243 Public Protection may release such identifier for law enforcement or
244 security purposes in accordance with regulations adopted by the
245 department. The department shall adopt regulations in accordance with
246 chapter 54 to specify the circumstances under which and the persons to
247 whom such identifiers may be released including, but not limited to,
248 providers of electronic communication service or remote computing
249 service, as those terms are defined in section 54-260b, and operators of
250 Internet web sites, and the procedure therefor.

251 (6) When any registrant completes the registrant's term of registration
252 or is otherwise released from the obligation to register under section 54-
253 251, as amended by this act, 54-252, as amended by this act, 54-253, as
254 amended by this act, or 54-254, as amended by this act, the Department
255 of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall, not later than five
256 business days after the registrant is released from such obligation, notify
257 any state police troop or local police department having jurisdiction
258 over the registrant's last reported residence address that the person is
259 no longer a registrant, and the Department of Emergency Services and
260 Public Protection, state police troop and local police department shall,
261 not later than five business days after the registrant is released from
262 such obligation, remove the registrant's name and information from the
263 registry.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	54-250(11)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	54-251(e)

Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	54-252(d)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	54-253(e)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	54-254(b)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	54-257(c)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	54-258(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To make a technical correction to the definition of "sexually violent offense" and modify provisions concerning verification of a registrant's address and other information and associated penalties for failure to do so.

[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.]