

State of Connecticut
Regulation of
Department of Transportation
Concerning
Office of the State Traffic Administration

Section 1: Section 14-298-3a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14-298-3a. Traffic control devices and measures at grade crossings

Traffic control devices and traffic control measures shall be installed on state highways at railroad grade crossings as prescribed by the [state traffic commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration. The violation of this regulation shall come within the intent of section 14-314 of the 1969 supplement to the general statutes.

Sec. 2. Section 14-298-235 to 14-298-251 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14-298-235. Speed

The maximum speed limit for all vehicles on limited access state highways shall be 55 miles per hour, except as otherwise established by the [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration.

Sec. 14-298-236. Definitions

As used in sections 14-298-237 to 14-298-252, inclusive, the following terms shall be construed as follows:

- (a) “[c]Camper” means any motor vehicle primarily equipped, designed, converted or used for private living quarters by one or more individuals;
- (b) “[c]Commercial motor vehicle” means any motor vehicle designed for the transportation of merchandise or freight and bearing commercial motor vehicle registration;
- [(c)] “[c]Commission” means state traffic commission;
- (d) “[c]Commissioner” means the [c]Commissioner of [t]Transportation;
- (e) “[e]Emergency vehicle” means all police and ambulance vehicles and fire apparatus responding to an official call or performing an actual service;
- (f) “[h]Highway right-of-way” means the entire area, including highways, bridges, buildings, structures and lands encompassed by the lateral property lines purchased and owned by the state for the construction and maintenance of highways, bridges and access to service facilities. Where “highway” is used herein, it shall be interpreted as meaning or including the highway right-of-way;
- (g) “[l]Limited access state highway” means any state highway so designated under the provisions of section [13-27] 13b-27 of the general statutes of Connecticut, as revised, so as to allow access only at highway intersections or designated points;
- (h) “[m]Median divider” means the portion of a divided highway separating the traveled ways for traffic in opposite directions;
- (i) “[m]Motor scooter” or “motorized bicycle” means any motor vehicle having a saddle or seat

for the use of the operator and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground at a maximum sustained speed of less than fifty-five miles per hour;

(j) “[m]Motor vehicle” means any vehicle propelled or drawn by motor power, specifically designated for transportation of passengers or commodities, not including agricultural tractors or farm implements, electric wheel chairs, motorized bicycles and motor scooters;

(k) “Office” means the Office of the State Traffic Administration;

[(k)](l) “[p]Parked vehicle” means a motor vehicle in a stationary position within the limits of the highway right of way;

[(l)](m) “[p]Parkway” means any state highway receiving special treatment in landscaping and marginal planting, especially designed for, and devoted exclusively to, the use and accommodation of noncommercial motor vehicle traffic, and to which access may be allowed only at highway intersections designated by the commissioner and designed by him so as to eliminate cross traffic of vehicles;

[(m)](n) “[p]Passenger motor vehicle” means a motor vehicle designed and used for the purpose of transporting persons with their necessary personal belongings;

[(n)](o) “[p]Passenger and commercial motor vehicle” means a motor vehicle designed for use and used for passenger and commercial purposes;

[(o)](p) “[p]Pedestrian” means any person on foot;

[(p)](q) “[s]Shoulder” means that portion of a highway for emergency use immediately adjacent and contiguous to the travel lanes;

[(q)](r) “[t]Travel lane” means that portion of the highway for the forward movement of a single line of vehicles;

[(r)](s) “[w]Wrecker or wrecker vehicle” means a vehicle which is properly registered, designed, equipped and used exclusively for the purpose of towing for compensation wrecked or disabled motor vehicles.

Sec. 14-298-237. Compliance

All persons using limited access state highways shall comply with the [commission] Office rules and regulations, signs, signals and markings except as follows:

(a) When engaged in official duties, personnel of the [commission] Office, [d]Department of [t]Transportation, motor vehicle department, state and local police departments and operators of emergency vehicles shall be exempt from these regulations;

(b) Contractors and their employees engaged in construction, maintenance and/or landscaping or surveys directly related to traffic with the written approval of the commissioner or his authorized representative shall be exempt from these regulations.

Sec. 14-298-250. Authorized tasks

Persons may, with written permission of the [commission] Office perform such tasks on a limited access state highway as are authorized in said written permission subject to such restrictions as set forth by the [commission] Office. A copy of said written permission shall be carried by such persons.

Sec. 14-298-251. Parkway permits

Permits for entry upon and use of the parkways by vehicles normally excluded therefrom may be issued by the [commission] Office when, in its opinion, the interests of public necessity are served thereby. Such permits shall be in writing and shall specify the period of validity of such permit, the parkway or portion thereof and the identity of the vehicle concerned. A copy of the permit shall be carried in the vehicle.

Sec. 3. Section 14-298-262 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14-298-262. Use of state highways

(a) As used in this section “special event” means a gathering of persons assembled for patriotic, religious, athletic, political, memorial or civic purposes.

(b) The [legal] local traffic authority of any municipality shall obtain permission from the [state traffic commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration to use a state highway for a parade, a bike-a-thon, a walk-a-thon, or a special event.

(c) Such required permission shall be requested not less than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled event.

(d) The [state traffic commission] the Office of the State Traffic Administration shall in cooperation with the [legal] local traffic authority and/or state police, determine the necessity for an alternate route for through traffic on state highways, the location and type of traffic control devices and for uniform traffic personnel required.

(e) The [legal] local traffic authority shall be responsible for seeing that all requirements of the [state traffic commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration are complied with and all emergency services and public utilities which could be affected are notified.

(f) The [state traffic commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration may waive any one or more of the above requirements upon showing of justification for such action.

Sec. 4. Section 14-298-263 to 14-298-266 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14-298-263. Description of organization

The [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration, which derives its authority from Section 14-298 of the Connecticut General Statutes, is [composed of the Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and Commissioner of Public Safety] is the successor to the State Traffic Commission and was established to provide for a uniform system of traffic control signal devices, signs and markings consistent with the provisions of Chapter 249 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Executive Director of the [Commission] Office has the responsibility of the operation of the [State Traffic Commission office] Office of the State Traffic Administration and related functions duly delegated to him by the [Commission] Commissioner of Transportation.

The [State Traffic Commission office] Office of the State Traffic Administration processes all traffic regulatory matters investigated by the Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the [Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Public Safety and the Legal] Local Traffic Authorities of the municipalities. Reports and recommendations are submitted by the Department of Transportation - Bureau of Engineering and [Highway Operations] Construction - Division of Traffic Engineering to the [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration for review [at its regularly scheduled monthly meetings] and consideration.

Sec. 14-298-264. Official address

All communications should be addressed to Executive Director, [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration, P. O. Box 317546, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06131-7546.

Sec. 14-298-265. Public inspection

In addition to publication of the adoption, amendment or repeal of regulations pursuant to Public Act 854, Section 3, of the 1971 General Assembly, a compilation of all regulations, policy statements, final orders, decisions and opinions is available for public inspection at the [State Traffic Commission office] Office of the State Traffic Administration.

Sec. 14-298-266. [Legal] Local traffic authority

All formal requests for traffic studies of a regulatory nature should be made through the [Legal] Local Traffic Authority of each municipality. A copy of the list of [legal] local traffic authorities is available from the [commission's] [office] Office.

Sec. 5. Section 14-298-267 to 14-298-269 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14-298-267. Course and methods of operation: Rules of practice for procedures available; blanket approval**(a) Traffic signal permits**

Application forms for traffic signal permits are available from the [State Traffic Commission office] Office of the State Traffic Administration. Pursuant to Section 14-299 of the Connecticut General Statutes, permits for the installation of approved traffic control signal lights are issued to the traffic authority having jurisdiction.

(b) Speed limit certificates

Application forms for speed limit certificates are available from the [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration. Pursuant to Section 14-218a of the Connecticut General Statutes, speed limit certificates are issued to the local municipalities for approved speed limits on town roads and speed limits are also established on any state highway, bridge or parkway built or maintained by the state.

(c) No Passing zones

No Passing zones on state highways are recommended by engineering study and pursuant to Section 14-234 of the Connecticut General Statutes approved by the [Commission] Office and indicated by appropriate signs and/or markings.

(d) Through truck routes

Pursuant to Section 14-298 of the Connecticut General Statutes the [Commission] Office makes regulations, in cooperation and agreement with local traffic authorities, respecting the use by through truck traffic of streets and highways within the limits of and under the jurisdiction of, any city, town or borough of the state for protection and safety of the public.

(e) Certificate for traffic generator

Upon proper application and subsequent investigation, certificates for traffic generators, as described in Section 14-312-1 of [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration regulations, are issued upon approval pursuant to Section 14-311, 14-311a, and 14-311c of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(f) Miscellaneous permits

Pursuant to Section 14-298 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the following permits are issued: (1) to perform such tasks as are authorized in written permission on a state highway subject to such restrictions as are set forth by the [commission] Office as cited in Section 14-298-250 of the [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration regulations. (2) for use of parkways by vehicles normally excluded therefrom as cited in Section 14-298-251 of the [State Traffic

Commission] Administration of the State Traffic Administration regulations. (3) for use of state highways for special events as authorized in written permission subject to such restrictions as set forth by the [commission] Office as cited in section 14-298-262 of the [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration regulations.

(g) **State-owned properties**

Pursuant to Section 14-298 of the Connecticut General Statutes, regulations are adopted for the use of state highways and roads on state-owned properties.

(h) **Assistance to towns**

The [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration, through the office of the [Commission] commissioner, aids and assists towns on all other traffic regulatory matters which come under its jurisdiction.

(i) The [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration approves various traffic regulatory measures as defined by the federal *Manual On Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, except for those matters of a routine nature for which the commission has granted the Department of Transportation blanket approval to implement. The [Commission] Office shall retain on file a list of such items.

Sec. 14-298-268. Petition for requesting the promulgation, amendment or repeal of regulation

The [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration will accept petitions requesting the promulgation, amendment or repeal of a regulation of said [Commission] Office in the following form:

- (1) A petition must be in writing indicating the manner in which and the date on which it is being filed at the [State Traffic Commission office] Office of the State Traffic Administration.
- (2) The petition shall be signed by the petitioner and shall include his address for purpose of reply.
- (3) The petition shall clearly state the language to be promulgated, amended or repealed.
- (4) The petition may include a statement of facts and arguments in support thereof. When the requirements of the above have been complied with, the [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration shall promptly rule on such petition.

Sec. 14-298-269. Petition for declaratory ruling

The [State Traffic Commission] Office of the State Traffic Administration will accept a petition for declaratory ruling as to the applicability of any statutory provision or of any regulation or order of the agency administered by the [Commission] Office in the following form:

- (1) A petition stating the factual background of the issue must be in writing and include the date on which it is being filed in the [State Traffic Commission office] Office of the State Traffic Administration.
- (2) The petition shall be signed by the petitioner and shall include his address for purpose of reply.
- (3) The petition shall state clearly the question of applicability upon which it seeks a ruling.
- (4) The petition shall state the position of the petitioner with respect to the question of applicability.
- (5) The petition may include an argument in support of the position of the petitioner with such legal citation as may be appropriate.