



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 7205**

January Session, 2019



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ACCESSIBILITY OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN CONNECTICUT.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 4a-67d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 (a) The fleet average for cars or light duty trucks purchased by the  
4 state shall: (1) On and after October 1, 2001, have a United States  
5 Environmental Protection Agency estimated highway gasoline mileage  
6 rating of at least thirty-five miles per gallon and on and after January 1,  
7 2003, have a United States Environmental Protection Agency estimated  
8 highway gasoline mileage rating of at least forty miles per gallon, (2)  
9 comply with the requirements set forth in 10 CFR 490 concerning the  
10 percentage of alternative-fueled vehicles required in the state motor  
11 vehicle fleet, and (3) obtain the best achievable mileage per pound of  
12 carbon dioxide emitted in its class. The alternative-fueled vehicles  
13 purchased by the state to comply with said requirements shall be  
14 capable of operating on natural gas or electricity or any other system  
15 acceptable to the United States Department of Energy that operates on  
16 fuel that is available in the state.

17 (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, (1) on and  
18 after January 1, 2008: (A) At least fifty per cent of all cars and light  
19 duty trucks purchased or leased by the state shall be alternative-fueled,  
20 hybrid electric or plug-in electric vehicles, (B) all alternative-fueled

21 vehicles purchased or leased by the state shall be certified to the  
22 California Air Resources Board's Low Emission Vehicle II Ultra Low  
23 Emission Vehicle Standard, and (C) all gasoline-powered light duty  
24 and hybrid vehicles purchased or leased by the state shall, at a  
25 minimum, be certified to the California Air Resource Board's Low  
26 Emission Vehicle II Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Standard, [and] (2) on  
27 and after January 1, 2012, one hundred per cent of such cars and light  
28 duty trucks shall be alternative-fueled, hybrid electric or plug-in  
29 electric vehicles, and (3) on and after January 1, 2030, at least fifty per  
30 cent of such cars and light duty trucks shall be zero-emission vehicles.

31 (c) On and after January 1, 2030, at least thirty per cent of all buses  
32 purchased or leased by the state shall be zero-emission buses.

33 (d) If the Commissioner of Administrative Services determines that  
34 the vehicles required by the provisions of [this subsection] subsections  
35 (b) and (c) of this section are not available for purchase or lease, the  
36 Commissioner of Administrative Services shall include an explanation  
37 of such determination in the annual report described in subsection [(e)]  
38 (g) of this section.

39 [(c)] (e) The provisions of subsections (a) [and (b)] to (c), inclusive,  
40 of this section shall not apply to any emergency vehicle.

41 [(d)] (f) As used in this section, (1) the terms "car" and "light duty  
42 truck" have the same meaning as provided in the United States  
43 Department of Energy Publication DOE/CE-0019/8, or any successor  
44 publication, (2) "emergency vehicle" means a vehicle used by the  
45 Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Emergency Services and  
46 Public Protection, Department of Energy and Environmental  
47 Protection, Department of Correction, State Capitol Police, Department  
48 of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of  
49 Developmental Services, Department of Social Services, Department of  
50 Children and Families, Department of Transportation, Judicial  
51 Department, Board of Pardons and Paroles, Board of Regents for  
52 Higher Education, The University of Connecticut or The University of

53 Connecticut Health Center for law enforcement or emergency response  
54 purposes, [and] (3) "hybrid" means a passenger car that draws  
55 acceleration energy from two on-board sources of stored energy that  
56 consists of either an internal combustion or heat engine which uses  
57 combustible fuel and a rechargeable energy storage system, and, for  
58 any passenger car or light duty truck with a model year of 2004 or  
59 newer, that is certified to meet or exceed the California LEV (Low  
60 Emission Vehicle) II LEV Standard, and (4) "zero-emission vehicle"  
61 means a battery electric vehicle, hybrid electric vehicle, range-extended  
62 electric vehicle and any vehicle that meets the requirements of section  
63 22a-174-36 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies.

64 [(e)] (g) On or before January 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, the  
65 Commissioner of Administrative Services, in consultation with the  
66 Commissioner of Transportation, shall file a report with the joint  
67 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
68 matters relating to government administration, the environment and  
69 energy that includes: (1) Details on the composition of the state fleet,  
70 including, but not limited to, a listing of all vehicles owned, leased or  
71 used by the Departments of Transportation and Emergency Services  
72 and Public Protection, the make, model and fuel type of vehicles that  
73 compose the state fleet and the amount of fuel, including alternative  
74 fuels, that each vehicle uses, (2) any changes to the determination  
75 made by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection  
76 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 35 of public act 07-4 of the June  
77 special session or any update concerning the waiver application  
78 submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of section 35 of public act 07-4 of  
79 the June special session, as applicable, (3) any changes or amendments  
80 to the plan required by subsection (b) of section 35 of public act 07-4 of  
81 the June special session, [and] (4) any changes or amendments to the  
82 plan required by subsection (c) of section 35 of public act 07-4 of the  
83 June special session, (5) a vehicle purchasing and procurement three-  
84 year plan that aligns with the requirements of subdivision (3) of  
85 subsection (b) of this section and subsection (c) of this section, and (6)  
86 an assessment of the availability of zero-emission medium and heavy

87 duty trucks and the feasibility of the state purchasing or leasing zero-  
88 emission medium and heavy duty trucks. The Departments of  
89 Transportation and Emergency Services and Public Protection shall  
90 submit all data requested of said departments by the Department of  
91 Administrative Services in connection with the preparation of such  
92 report.

93 [(f)] (h) The Commissioner of Administrative Services may enter  
94 into any agreement necessary to carry out the provisions of subsection  
95 [(e)] (g) of this section.

96 [(g)] (i) In performing the requirements of this section, the  
97 Commissioners of Administrative Services, [and] Energy and  
98 Environmental Protection and Transportation shall, whenever  
99 possible, consider the use of and impact on Connecticut-based  
100 companies.

101 (j) The Commissioner of Administrative Services, in consultation  
102 with the Commissioner of Transportation, shall study the feasibility of  
103 creating a competitive bid process for the aggregate procurement of  
104 zero-emission vehicles and zero-emission buses and determine  
105 whether such aggregate procurement would achieve a cost savings on  
106 the purchase of such vehicles and buses and related administrative  
107 costs. On or before January 1, 2020, the Commissioner of  
108 Administrative Services shall report, in accordance with the provisions  
109 of section 11-4a, on the results of such study to the joint standing  
110 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
111 relating to government administration and transportation. The  
112 Commissioner of Administrative Services may proceed with such  
113 aggregate procurement if the commissioner determines such aggregate  
114 procurement would achieve a cost savings.

115 Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2019) (a) There is established a  
116 Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate  
117 Board, which shall be within the Department of Energy and  
118 Environmental Protection for administrative purposes only. The board

119 shall consist of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
120 Protection or the commissioner's designee, the Commissioner of  
121 Consumer Protection or the commissioner's designee, the president of  
122 the Connecticut Green Bank or the president's designee and three  
123 members appointed as follows: One representative of an  
124 environmental organization knowledgeable in electric vehicle policy,  
125 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one  
126 representative of an organization that represents the interests of an  
127 environmental justice community, as defined in subsection (a) of  
128 section 22a-20a of the general statutes, appointed by the minority  
129 leader of the House of Representatives, and one representative of an  
130 association representing automotive retailers in the state, appointed by  
131 the speaker of the House of Representatives. The Commissioner of  
132 Energy and Environmental Protection may appoint to the board  
133 additional representatives from other industrial fleet or transportation  
134 companies. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
135 Protection shall serve as chairperson of the board. The board shall  
136 meet at such times as it deems necessary.

137 (b) On and after January 1, 2020, until December 31, 2025, the board  
138 shall, from resources available through state appropriated funds,  
139 establish and administer a program to provide rebates that total at  
140 least three million dollars annually to residents of this state who (1)  
141 purchase or lease a battery electric vehicle, plug-in hybrid electric  
142 vehicle or fuel cell electric vehicle, or (2) purchase a used hydrogen  
143 vehicle or electric vehicle. The board shall establish and revise, as  
144 necessary, appropriate rebate levels and maximum income eligibility  
145 for rebates for used hydrogen vehicles or electric vehicles. The board  
146 shall evaluate such program on an annual basis.

147 (c) There is established an account to be known as the "Connecticut  
148 hydrogen and electric automobile purchase rebate program account"  
149 which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General  
150 Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be  
151 deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by

152 the Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate  
 153 Board for the purposes of administering the program established  
 154 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

155 Sec. 3. Section 22a-201c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
 156 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

157 (a) As used in this section, "motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle, as  
 158 defined in section 14-1, with a gross vehicle weight rating, as defined  
 159 in section 14-1, of ten thousand pounds or less, except for a motorcycle.

160 (b) On and after January 1, [2007] 2020, the Commissioner of Motor  
 161 Vehicles shall charge a fee of [five] ten dollars, in addition to any other  
 162 fees required for registration, for each new motor vehicle. Said fee may  
 163 be identified as the "greenhouse gas reduction fee" on any registration  
 164 form, or combined with the fee specified by subdivision (3) of  
 165 subsection (k) of section 14-164c. All receipts from the payment of such  
 166 fee shall be deposited into the [General Fund] Connecticut hydrogen  
 167 and electric automobile purchase rebate program account established  
 168 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 2 of this act.

169 Sec. 4. (*Effective October 1, 2019*) The sum of three million dollars is  
 170 appropriated to the Department of Energy and Environmental  
 171 Protection, from the General Fund, for the fiscal years ending June 30,  
 172 2020, and June 30, 2021, for deposit in the Connecticut hydrogen and  
 173 electric automobile purchase rebate program account established  
 174 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 2 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	4a-67d
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	22a-201c
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section

**TRA**      *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

**FIN**      *Joint Favorable*