



Senate Bill No. 186

Public Act No. 21-38

AN ACT ALLOWING PERSONS SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO OPERATE RIDES AT AMUSEMENT PARKS.

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

Section 1. Section 29-133 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

When used in sections 29-134 to [29-142] 29-143b, inclusive, as amended by this act:

(1) "Amusement" means any circus or carnival presented in the open, including a place where one or more rides or devices capable of accommodating one or more passengers and normally requiring the supervision or services of [an] a ride or device operator are presented for amusement or entertainment purposes, and any circus, carnival or other portable show or exhibition presented under any single tent, air-supported plastic or fabric or other portable shelter, and involving the assembly of one hundred or more persons. "Amusement" does not include an inflatable device leased for private residential use;

(2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer Protection;

(3) "Insurance Commissioner" means the state Insurance

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Commissioner;

(4) "Grandstand" means any structure, either with or without a roof, providing seating for one hundred or more persons;

(5) "Owner" means the proprietor, operator, agent or possessor of such amusement;

(6) "Tent" means any structure with or without side panels having wood or metal supports and using any kind of a textile or similar material for coverage, and having a capacity sufficient to shelter one hundred or more persons or covering a ground area of more than one thousand two hundred square feet; [.]

(7) "Ride or device operator" means the person in charge of a mechanical amusement ride or device who causes such ride or device to operate and has direct control of the starting, stopping or speed of a mechanical amusement ride or device; and

(8) "Carnival" means a transient enterprise that offers portable mechanical amusement rides or devices for public amusement and entertainment purposes, but excluding any enterprise that offers the lease of inflatable devices for private residential use.

Sec. 2. Section 29-143b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Nothing in section 29-133, as amended by this act, or 29-136 shall be construed to preclude the hiring of a ride or device operator under the age of eighteen to operate amusement rides and devices at a location other than a carnival, provided (1) any such amusement ride or device operator is at least sixteen years of age, and (2) an adult of at least eighteen years of age who is trained in normal operating and emergency procedures supervises the area containing such amusement rides and devices.

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(b) Nothing in section 29-133, as amended by this act, or 29-136 shall be construed to preclude the hiring of certified lifeguards under the age of eighteen to oversee aquatic rides and devices such as pools, water slides, lazy rivers, or interactive aquatic play devices, provided an adult of at least eighteen years of age who is trained in normal operating and emergency procedures supervises the area containing such aquatic rides or devices.