



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 276

LCO No. 1569



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT REQUIRING DRIVERS OF PARATRANSIT VEHICLES TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE, NEGLECT OR EXPLOITATION OF ELDERLY PERSONS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-451 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2020*):

4 (a) A mandatory reporter [, as defined in this section,] who has
5 reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any elderly person has been
6 abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned, or is in a condition that is
7 the result of such abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, or is in
8 need of protective services, shall, not later than seventy-two hours after
9 such suspicion or belief arose, report such information or cause a report
10 to be made in any reasonable manner to the Commissioner of Social
11 Services or to the person or persons designated by the commissioner to
12 receive such reports. [The term "mandatory reporter" means (1) any
13 physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, (2)
14 any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or

15 not so licensed, (3) any registered nurse, (4) any nursing home
16 administrator, nurse's aide or orderly in a nursing home facility or
17 residential care home, (5) any person paid for caring for a resident in a
18 nursing home facility or residential care home, (6) any staff person
19 employed by a nursing home facility or residential care home, (7) any
20 residents' advocate, other than a representative of the Office of the Long-
21 Term Care Ombudsman, as established under section 17a-405,
22 including the State Ombudsman, (8) any licensed practical nurse,
23 medical examiner, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, social
24 worker, clergyman, police officer, pharmacist, psychologist or physical
25 therapist, (9) any person paid for caring for an elderly person by any
26 institution, organization, agency or facility, including without
27 limitation, any employee of a community-based services provider,
28 senior center, home care agency, homemaker and companion agency,
29 adult day care center, village-model community and congregate
30 housing facility, and (10) any person licensed or certified as an
31 emergency medical services provider pursuant to chapter 368d or
32 chapter 384d, including any such emergency medical services provider
33 who is a member of a municipal fire department.] Any mandatory
34 reporter who fails to make such report within the prescribed time period
35 shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, except that, if such
36 person intentionally fails to make such report within the prescribed time
37 period, such person shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor for the first
38 offense and a class A misdemeanor for any subsequent offense. Any
39 institution, organization, agency or facility employing individuals to
40 care for persons sixty years of age or older shall provide mandatory
41 training on detecting potential abuse, neglect, exploitation and
42 abandonment of such persons and inform such employees of their
43 obligations under this section. For purposes of this subsection, (1)
44 "mandatory reporter" means any (A) physician or surgeon licensed
45 under the provisions of chapter 370, (B) resident physician or intern in
46 any hospital in this state, whether or not so licensed, (C) registered
47 nurse, (D) nursing home administrator, nurse's aide or orderly in a
48 nursing home facility or residential care home, (E) person paid for
49 caring for a resident in a nursing home facility or residential care home,

50 (F) staff person employed by a nursing home facility or residential care
 51 home, (G) residents' advocate, other than a representative of the Office
 52 of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, as established under section 17a-
 53 405, including the State Ombudsman, (H) licensed practical nurse,
 54 medical examiner, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, social
 55 worker, clergyman, police officer, pharmacist, psychologist or physical
 56 therapist, (I) person paid for caring for an elderly person by any
 57 institution, organization, agency or facility, including without
 58 limitation, any employee of a community-based services provider,
 59 senior center, home care agency, homemaker and companion agency,
 60 adult day care center, village-model community and congregate
 61 housing facility, (J) person licensed or certified as an emergency medical
 62 services provider pursuant to chapter 368d or 384d, including any such
 63 emergency medical services provider who is a member of a municipal
 64 fire department, and (K) driver of a paratransit vehicle, as defined in
 65 section 13b-38k; and (2) "person paid for caring for an elderly person by
 66 any institution, organization, agency or facility" includes an employee
 67 of a community-based services provider, senior center, home health care
 68 agency, homemaker and companion agency, adult day care center,
 69 village-model community and congregate housing facility.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2020	17b-451(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To make drivers of paratransit vehicles mandated reporters of suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment of elderly persons.

[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.]