



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Raised Bill No. 921

LCO No. 3244



Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by:
(TRA)

***AN ACT PROHIBITING CERTAIN VEHICLE STORAGE AGREEMENTS
AS A PRECONDITION TO VEHICLE TOWING.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 14-66 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2021*):

4 (b) The commissioner, or an inspector authorized by the
5 commissioner, shall examine each wrecker, including its number,
6 equipment and identification, and shall determine the mechanical
7 condition of such wrecker and whether or not it is properly equipped to
8 do the work intended. A wrecker shall be deemed properly equipped if
9 there are two flashing yellow lights installed and mounted on such
10 wrecker that (1) show in all directions at all times, and (2) indicate the
11 full width of such wrecker. Such lights shall be mounted not less than
12 eight feet above the road surface and as close to the back of the cab of
13 such wrecker as practicable. Such lights shall be in operation when such
14 wrecker is towing a vehicle and when such wrecker is at the scene of an
15 accident or the location of a disabled motor vehicle. In addition, each

16 wrecker shall be equipped with a spot light mounted so that its beam of
17 light is directed toward the hoisting equipment in the rear of such
18 wrecker. The hoisting equipment of each wrecker shall be of sufficient
19 capacity to perform the service intended and shall be securely mounted
20 to the frame of such vehicle. A fire extinguisher shall be carried at all
21 times on each wrecker which shall be in proper working condition,
22 mounted in a permanent bracket on each wrecker and have a minimum
23 rating of eight bc. A set of three flares in operating condition shall be
24 carried at all times on each wrecker and shall be used between the
25 periods of one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise
26 when the wrecker is parked on a highway while making emergency
27 repairs or preparing to pick up a disabled vehicle to remove it from a
28 highway or adjoining property. No registrant or operator of any
29 wrecker shall offer to give any gratuities or inducements of any kind to
30 any police officer or other person in order to obtain towing business or
31 recommendations for towing or storage of, or estimating repairs to,
32 disabled vehicles. No licensee shall require the owner to sign a contract
33 for the repair, or for more than twenty-four hours of storage, of such
34 owner's damaged vehicle as part of the towing consideration or to sign
35 an order for the repair of, or authorization for [estimate] estimating
36 repairs to, such vehicle until the tow job has been completed. No
37 licensee shall tow a vehicle in such a negligent manner as to cause
38 further damage to the vehicle being towed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	14-66(b)

Statement of Purpose:

To prohibit a wrecker from requiring a vehicle owner to contract for more than twenty-four hours of vehicle storage as a precondition to towing the owner's vehicle.

[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.]