

New law bars sharing of plate data with ICE

By Ella Napack
STAFF WRITER

Gov. Ned Lamont signed into a law on Monday a series of regulations on how police departments in the state can use automated license plate cameras.

The cameras capture images of the back of vehicles as they drive by and are used by dozens of police departments across the state for criminal investigations.

The regulations, sandwiched into a larger bill on federal immigration enforcement, will prohibit police departments with the cameras from sharing their license plate data with out-of-state agencies that use the data to investigate immigration violations.

The legislation follows a CT Insider investigation that found Connecticut police departments using cameras from Atlanta-based company Flock Safety were sharing data to a "national network" that allowed out-of-state agencies to access their data. The data was searched thousands of times by out-of-state agencies for "ICE," "ICE-



Dave Zajac/Hearst Connecticut Media

A license plate reader in Cheshire.

assist" and "immigration" purposes, the reporting found. "We have a strong Trust Act in Connecticut," said Rep. Steve Stafstrom, D-Bridgeport, referring to the state's law restricting what information local police can share with immigration agencies. "Simply uploading into the Flock system for anyone to access certainly

circumvents that, so it's important that we closed that loophole." Under the new law, Connecticut law enforcement agencies will only be able to share license plate data with Massachusetts, New York or Rhode Island, given the states agree to not use the

Sharing continues on A7



Photos by Natasha Sokoloff/Hearst Connecticut Media

Above, homeschooling families sit in the Senate gallery Monday night as lawmakers debate a bill to tighten homeschooling regulations in Connecticut. Below, families protest the bill in the state Capitol on April 30.

Property tax relief promised — but fine print stirs questions

One of the hallmark touches in the state budget adopted Saturday allows cities and towns to use \$290 million in added state aid to cut their local property tax rates, even if they have already set the levy.



Dan Haar

COMMENTARY

That's the measure that allows state lawmakers and Gov. Ned Lamont to say no, it isn't true that we failed to deliver significant tax cuts. Here it is, a trickle-down slice of relief for anyone whose town uses the new money to offset higher spending with a local tax reduction.

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Lawmakers OK stricter rules for homeschooling

By Natasha Sokoloff
STAFF WRITER

HARTFORD — Connecticut lawmakers voted to tighten the state's long-standing, loose homeschooling rules in an effort to break a pattern of abuse cases carried out under the guise of homeschooling.

The state Senate voted 22-14, mainly along party lines, just before midnight Monday to grant final legislative approval to a bill that would bring Connecticut's homeschooling regulations more in line with those in other states. The decision came after nearly six hours of Republican pushback.

The bill now heads to Gov. Ned Lamont's desk for final



approval. Legislators pushing stricter laws have framed the bill as a

response to high-profile cases of what they say are examples of children falling through

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State budget adds free school breakfasts, ends sales tax on school supplies. **A3**

the cracks as people abuse the state's minimally regulated homeschool system.

One was 11-year-old Jacqueline "Mimi" Torres-Garcia — whose remains were found in October but whose death went unnoticed for a year because she was no longer enrolled in school. In another case, a man set fire to his own confined space in Waterbury in February 2025, saying he had been held captive for 20 years since he was pulled out of public school to be home-

Stricter continues on A7

DeCicco & Sons starts hiring in Greenwich

Glenville grocery to open this summer

By Luther Turmelle
STAFF WRITER

A Pelham, N.Y. grocery chain that is opening its first Connecticut store this summer has begun hiring workers for the new supermarket.

DeCicco & Sons will hold a pair of job fairs this week at the supermarket on 21 Glenville St. in Greenwich, according to company officials. This week's job fair will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday at the store, which is under construction.

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Worker focus of state probe of Troconis strip search

By Lisa Backus
STAFF WRITER

The Connecticut Department of Correction employee who strip searched Michelle Troconis, convicted in the death of Jennifer Dulos, last year prior to a visit with her sister is under investigation by the agency's security division over the incident, the interim commissioner

said. While responding to a report issued by the state's correctional ombudsman DeVaughn Ward on the strip search, interim DOC Commissioner Sharonda Carlos said the agency had already addressed many of the concerns in regard to strip searches and that new training and a staff announcement requiring "professional" behavior

had either been issued or was in the works. "Please note that the administration at York C.I. (Correctional Institution) also issued a roll call notice on April 15, 2026, reminding staff of the requirement that 'each employee of the Department shall act in a professional, ethical, and responsible manner at all times,'" said Carlos in the response.

"Unprofessional behavior with supervisors, subordinates, the public, and inmates will not be tolerated. This expectation extends to all duties, including the conduct of strip searches. Strip searches must be conducted in a professional, respectful, and policy-compliant manner at all times, ensuring the dignity of the inmate is maintained

while adhering to safety and security requirements. Any deviation from these standards will not be tolerated." Carlos also noted that the staff member who conducted the strip search is under investigation and that the facility could not initiate discipline without a review by a separate entity. The staff member was

Worker continues on A4



Hearst Conn. Media file photo
Michelle Troconis

