

# How To Track Bills in the CT Legislature

## Section A – Creating An Account

#A1 - Go to the Connecticut General Assembly Website... [cga.ct.gov](http://cga.ct.gov)

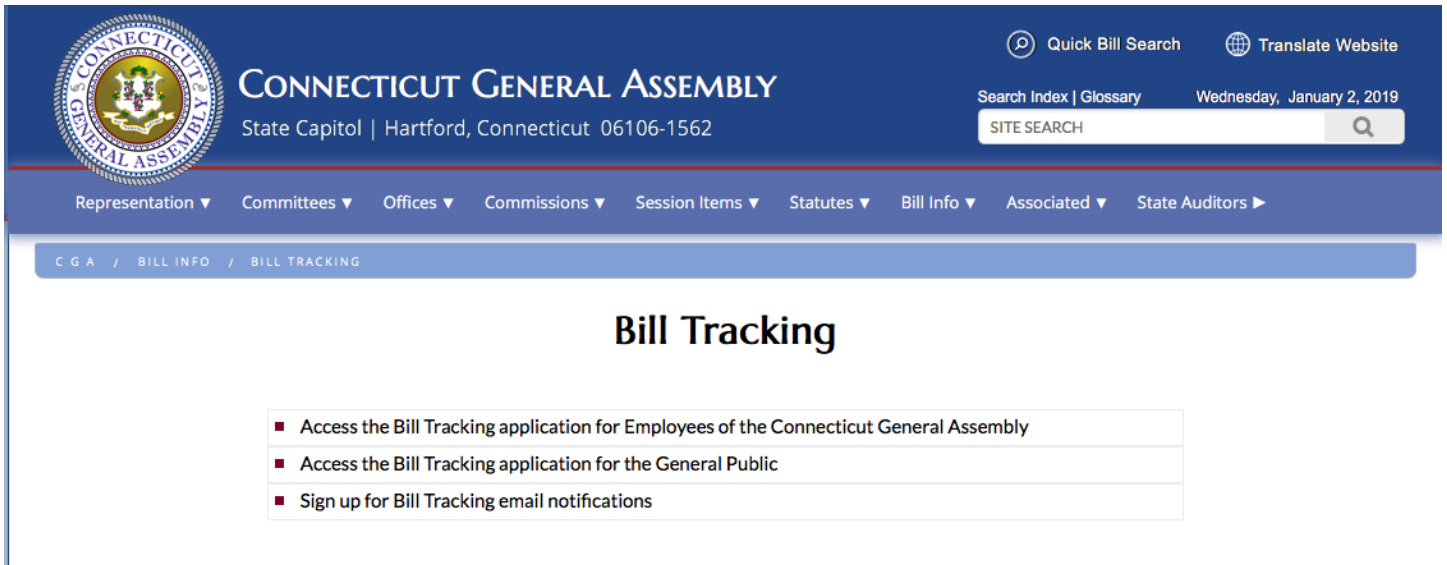
The screenshot shows the homepage of the Connecticut General Assembly website. At the top left is the state seal. The main header reads "CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY" with the address "State Capitol | Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1562". On the right, there are links for "Quick Bill Search" and "Translate Website", along with the date "Wednesday, January 2, 2019" and a search bar labeled "SITE SEARCH". A navigation menu below the header includes: Representation, Committees, Offices, Commissions, Session Items, Statutes, Bill Info, Associated, and State Auditors. The main content area features a large banner for "League of Women Voters® of Connecticut" advertising "Connecticut State Capitol Tours and Information" with the phone number "(860) 240-0222". To the right of the banner is a "Broadcast Media" section with buttons for "House Stream", "Senate Stream", and "CT-N". At the bottom of the banner area, there is a link for "CGA Daily Records for Wednesday, January 2, 2019".

#A2 - Click on “Bill Info”. A menu will appear...

The screenshot shows a blue dropdown menu for the "Bill Info" section. It is divided into three columns. The first column, titled "Find", contains links for "Bill Information Search", "Bills by Subject", and "Bill Tracking". The second column, titled "List", contains links for "File Copies" and "Public and Special Acts". The third column, titled "Search", contains links for "Advanced Bill and Document Search" and "Basic Bill and Document Search". The menu is flanked by the state seal on both sides.

#A3 - The menu has 3 sections – Find, List and Search.

In the “Find” section, click on “Bill Tracking”. The Bill Tracking screen will give you 3 choices...

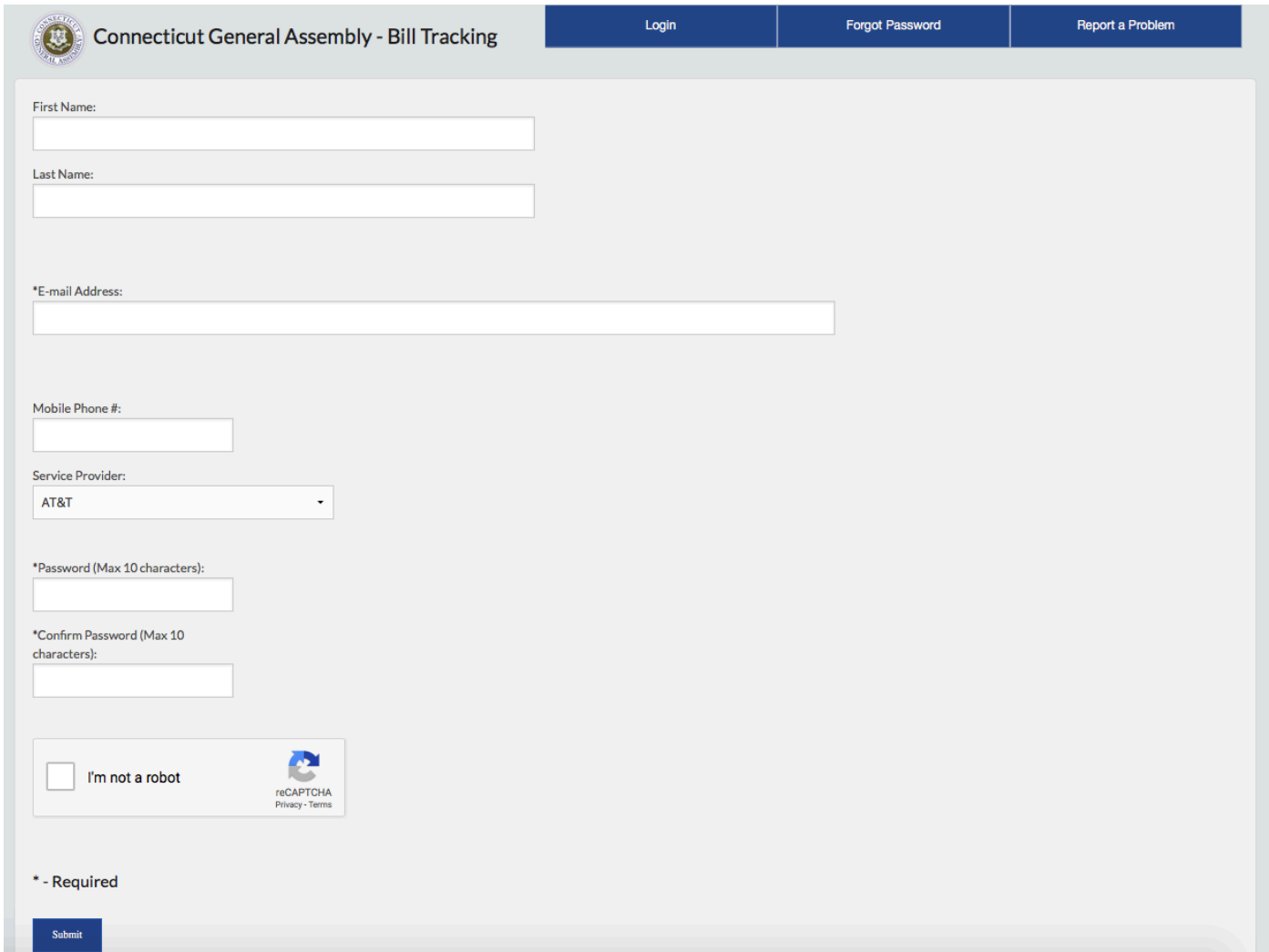


The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Connecticut General Assembly website. On the left is the state seal. The main header reads "CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY" with the address "State Capitol | Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1562". On the right, there are links for "Quick Bill Search" and "Translate Website", along with "Search Index | Glossary" and the date "Wednesday, January 2, 2019". A search box labeled "SITE SEARCH" is also present. Below the header is a dark blue navigation menu with items: Representation, Committees, Offices, Commissions, Session Items, Statutes, Bill Info, Associated, and State Auditors. A breadcrumb trail below the menu reads "C G A / BILL INFO / BILL TRACKING". The main content area features the heading "Bill Tracking" and a list of three options:

- Access the Bill Tracking application for Employees of the Connecticut General Assembly
- Access the Bill Tracking application for the General Public
- Sign up for Bill Tracking email notifications

#A4 - To sign up for email notifications about bills, click on SIGN UP FOR BILL TRACKING EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS. You only need to do this once.

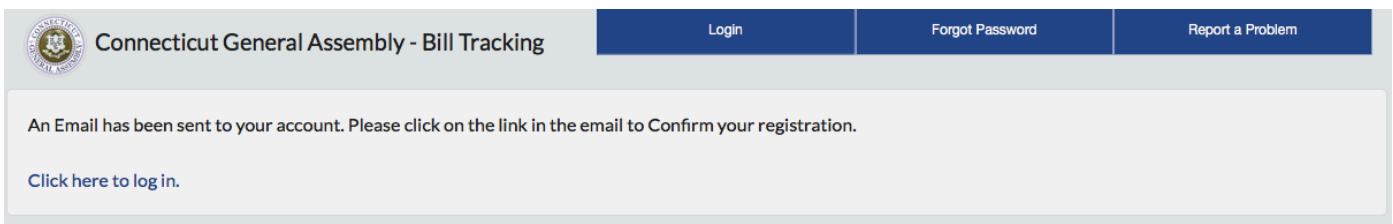
#A5 - The following page will be displayed for you to enter your information...



The registration form includes the following fields and elements:

- Connecticut General Assembly - Bill Tracking header with navigation links: Login, Forgot Password, Report a Problem.
- First Name:
- Last Name:
- \*E-mail Address:
- Mobile Phone #:
- Service Provider:
- \*Password (Max 10 characters):
- \*Confirm Password (Max 10 characters):
- I'm not a robot (reCAPTCHA)
- \* - Required
- Submit button

#A6 - When you click submit, the site will send you an email (to the account you entered on the screen) to confirm your registration...



The confirmation message includes the following text and links:

- Connecticut General Assembly - Bill Tracking header with navigation links: Login, Forgot Password, Report a Problem.
- An Email has been sent to your account. Please click on the link in the email to Confirm your registration.
- [Click here to log in.](#)

#A7 - Go to your email account. You will have an email in your inbox that looks like this. Follow the instructions telling you to click the link at the bottom of the email message...

## CGA Bill Tracking Registration Confirmation » Inbox x

helpdesk@cga.ct.gov

to PJDEAK1524 ▾

Dear Patrick Deak,

This email confirms your registration for usage of the Connecticut General Assembly online Bill Tracking System.

Thank you for choosing to use our online Bill Tracking. We hope you find this procedure simple and very useful.

Please note your username and password below.

Username: [pjdeak1524@gmail.com](mailto:pjdeak1524@gmail.com)

Password: MyBills123

Please click on the link provided below, or copy and paste it into your browser address bar, to complete the registration process:

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/CGABTREG.asp?uid=pjdeak1524@gmail.com>

↩ Reply

➡ Forward

#A8 – Log into the BILL TRACKING LOGIN PAGE using the ID & password you just created.

The screenshot shows the login page for the Connecticut General Assembly Bill Tracking system. At the top left is the state seal and the text "Connecticut General Assembly - Bill Tracking". To the right are three navigation buttons: "Register", "Forgot Password", and "Report a Problem". The main content area is titled "Already a CGA Bill Tracking User?". Below this title are two input fields: "Email Address:" and "Password:". At the bottom left of the form is a blue "Login" button.

NOTE: Until 01/09/2019, you may also see the following message...

ALERT: Please be aware that the Connecticut General Assembly is still operating under 2018 Legislative Session. All Bill Tracking Lists and Items will be deleted immediately prior to the opening of the 2019 Legislative Session.

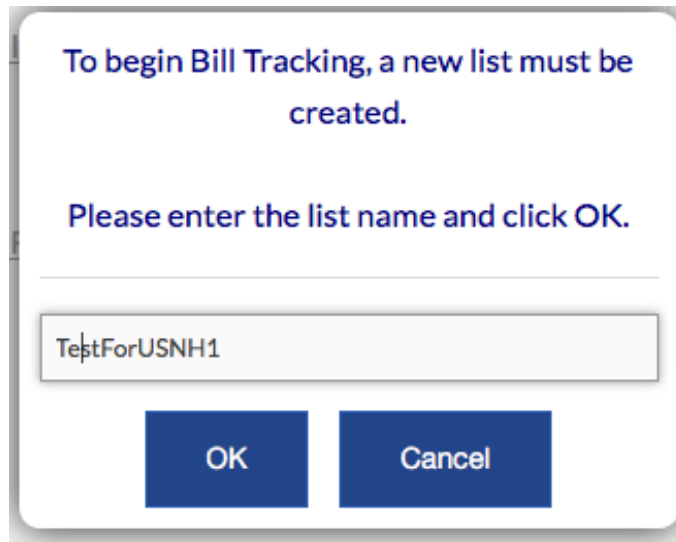
[Close](#)

**\*\*\*CONGRATULATIONS!\*\*\***  
**\*\*\*You Have Created An Account And Logged In!\*\*\***

**Your next step is to set-up a Tracking List**

## Section B – Set-up a Tracking List

#B1 - The site will ask you to name the list your bills will be stored in.



To begin Bill Tracking, a new list must be created.

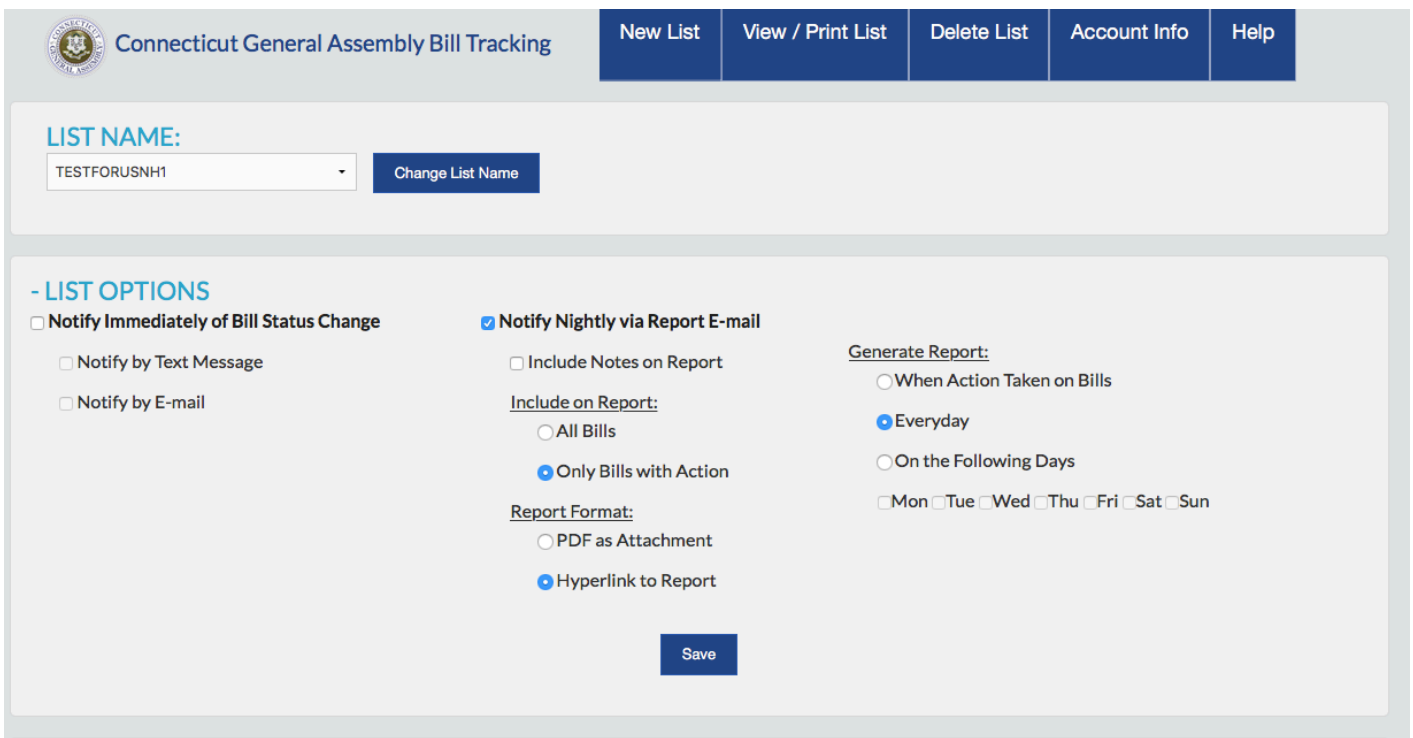
Please enter the list name and click OK.

TestForUSNH1

OK Cancel

#B2 - The page to track your bills has a variety of tools on it to help you find what you want to track.

Your options for how to receive information are in the LIST OPTIONS section. Select the options you want, then hit SAVE...



Connecticut General Assembly Bill Tracking

New List View / Print List Delete List Account Info Help

LIST NAME:  
TESTFORUSNH1 Change List Name

- LIST OPTIONS

Notify Immediately of Bill Status Change

Notify by Text Message

Notify by E-mail

Notify Nightly via Report E-mail

Include Notes on Report

Include on Report:

All Bills

Only Bills with Action

Report Format:

PDF as Attachment

Hyperlink to Report

Generate Report:

When Action Taken on Bills

Everyday

On the Following Days

Mon  Tue  Wed  Thu  Fri  Sat  Sun

Save

#B3 - Your options for identifying bills to track are in the TRACK OPTIONS section.

**- TRACK OPTIONS**

Add All Bills Introduced By:   Add All Bills Co-Sponsored By:   Add Bill to List:   Add Keyword to List:

If you want to track all bills introduced by a legislator, select their name & click ADD

If you want to track all bills co-sponsored by a legislator, select their name & click ADD

If you want to track a specific bill, enter its number (*more on that later*) & click ADD

If you want to track bills by keyword, enter each keyword & click ADD

Below the TRACK OPTIONS section, your selections will be displayed...

**- TRACK OPTIONS**

Add All Bills Introduced By:   Add All Bills Co-Sponsored By:   Add Bill to List:   Add Keyword to List:

**- TRACKED BILLS**

	Bill # ↕	Title
	HB-5540	AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS.
	HB-5542	AN ACT CONCERNING BUMP STOCKS AND OTHER MEANS OF ENHANCING THE RATE OF FIRE OF A FIREARM.

**- KEYWORDS / PHRASE**

KEYWORDS / PHRASE ↕

gun

Areas searched for keywords / phrases are the title and statement of purpose.

**- TRACKED INTRODUCERS/CO-SPONSORS**

All Bills Introduced By: ↕	All Bills Co-Sponsored By: ↕
REP. MICHAEL D'AGOSTINO, 91st DIST.	REP. MICHAEL D'AGOSTINO, 91st DIST.

**\*\*\*CONGRATULATIONS!\*\*\***

**\*\*\*You Now Know How To Track Bills!\*\*\***

**Your next step is to actually find some bills to track**

## Section C – Finding Bills To Track

How do you know a bill’s Number? How do you find a bill that you want to track?

#C1 - Go to the Connecticut General Assembly Website... [cga.ct.gov](http://cga.ct.gov)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Connecticut General Assembly website. At the top left is the state seal. The main header reads "CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY" with the address "State Capitol | Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1562". On the right, there are links for "Quick Bill Search" and "Translate Website", along with the date "Wednesday, January 2, 2019" and a "SITE SEARCH" box. A navigation menu includes "Representation", "Committees", "Offices", "Commissions", "Session Items", "Statutes", "Bill Info", "Associated", and "State Auditors". A large banner features a photo of the State Capitol and text for "League of Women Voters® of Connecticut Connecticut State Capitol Tours and Information" with the phone number "(860) 240-0222". To the right of the banner is a "Broadcast Media" section with buttons for "House Stream", "Senate Stream", and "CT-N". At the bottom, a blue bar contains the text "CGA Daily Records for Wednesday, January 2, 2019".

#C2 - Click on “Bill Info”. A menu will appear...

The screenshot shows a blue dropdown menu with three columns of options. On the left and right sides of the menu are the state seals. The first column, titled "Find", includes "Bill Information Search", "Bills by Subject", and "Bill Tracking". The second column, titled "List", includes "File Copies" and "Public and Special Acts". The third column, titled "Search", includes "Advanced Bill and Document Search" and "Basic Bill and Document Search".



#C3 - In the SEARCH section click on BASIC BILL AND DOCUMENT SEARCH.  
This screen will open...

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with the Connecticut General Assembly logo and a search filter set to 'Bill' for the year '2019'. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY Basic Legislative Document Search'. There are two buttons: 'Search' and 'Database Info'. The 'Basic Search' section includes a search input field with the placeholder 'Enter search term or phrase in quotes' and a 'Year' dropdown menu set to '2019'. Below the search section are three columns of filter categories: 'Bills', 'Laws and Related', and 'Other Legislative'. Each column has a '[Select All]' checkbox and a list of sub-categories with checkboxes. In the 'Bills' column, 'Bill Text, Including File Copies' is selected. At the bottom right, there is a 'SEARCH' button.

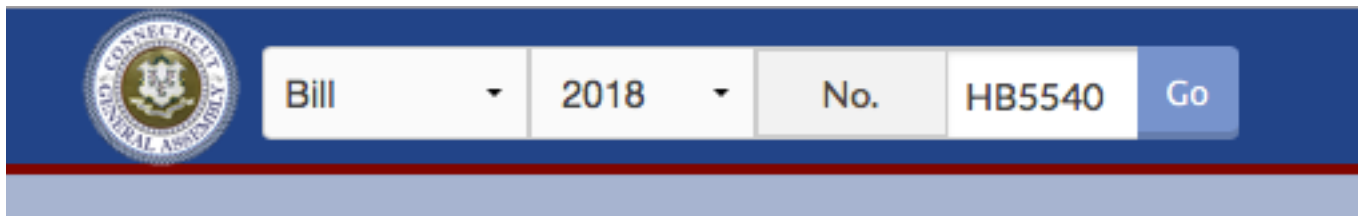
#C4 – The screen to search for bills has 2 sections. The first is all the way at the top...

This close-up screenshot shows the top navigation bar with the Connecticut General Assembly logo. To the right of the logo is a search filter with three dropdown menus: 'Bill', '2019', and 'No.'. A 'Go' button is located to the right of the 'No.' dropdown. Below the navigation bar, the letter 'H' is visible in the left margin.

This section allows you to look-up a bill if you already know the bill number. Make sure the correct year is selected, enter the bill number and click GO.

Note: There are two kinds of bills – house bills (HB) and senate bills (SB). Not only do they start with a different letter, their number system is different so it is easy to tell them apart.

Enter a House Bill number from 2018 like this...



#C5 – When you click GO, the web page for the particular bill will be displayed.

The TEXT OF BILL section includes links to the various versions of the bill that have existed. The top one is the most recent. These links will let you view the various versions of the bill as a web page (if you click on HTM) or as a PDF (if you click on the words).

The COMMITTEE ACTIONS section lists events that occurred while the bill was in committee.

**CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
State Capitol | Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1562

Quick Bill Search | Translate Website  
Search Index | Glossary | Wednesday, January 2, 2019  
SITE SEARCH

Representation | Committees | Offices | Commissions | Session Items | Statutes | Bill Info | Associated | State Auditors

C G A / BILL STATUS

## Substitute for Raised H.B. No. 5540 Session Year 2018

### AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS.

To ban guns without serial numbers and regulate those which are sold in a form requiring the purchaser to finish assembly or that are homemade and to permit local authorities to interview immediate family members as part of a determination of an applicant's suitability.

**Introduced by:**  
Judiciary Committee

**Legend:**  
New today (orange) | 2-4 days old (blue) | 5 days & older (black)

Text of Bill	Committee Actions
File No. 591 [htm]	JUD Joint Fav. Rpt [htm]
JUD Joint Favorable Substitute [htm]	JUD Vote Tally Sheet-A [htm]
Raised Bill [htm]	JUD Vote Tally Sheet [htm]

Further down the page, the BILL HISTORY section lists all of the things that have happened during the life of the bill.

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## Bill History

Date ↕		Action Taken ↕
4/19/2018	(LCO)	File Number 591
4/19/2018		House Calendar Number 392
4/19/2018		Favorable Report, Tabled for the Calendar, House
4/19/2018	(LCO)	Reported Out of Legislative Commissioners' Office
4/13/2018	(LCO)	Referred to Office of Legislative Research and Office of Fiscal Analysis 04/18/18 5:00 PM
4/4/2018	(LCO)	Filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office
4/3/2018	(JUD)	Joint Favorable Substitute
3/19/2018		Public Hearing 03/23
3/15/2018		Referred to Joint Committee on Judiciary

#C6 – If you don't know the bill number, or you are looking for bills on a specific subject, use the SEARCH function.


- Enter a key word or phrase in the SEARCH FOR field.
- Make sure the year is set to the correct year.
- Also make sure the box for BILL TEXT, INCLUDING FILE COPIES is also checked.
- Then click SEARCH.

Basic Search


Search for:  Year:

 Bills ▲

- [Select All]
- Amendments, Called
- Amendments, Uncalled
- Bill Analyses
- Bill Status
- Bill Text, Including File Copies
- Committee Vote Tally Sheets
- Fiscal Notes

 Laws and Related ▲

- [Select All]
- Constitutions
- Public and Special Acts
- Public Act Summaries
- Statutes - Chapter Format

 Other Legislative ▲

- [Select All]
- Bulletins
- Calendars
- Committee Meeting Agendas
- Committee Meeting Minutes
- Joint Favorable (JF) Reports
- Journals
- List of Bills
- Program Review Studies
- Public Hearing Agendas
- Public Hearing Transcripts
- Research Reports, OLR / OFA
- Rules and Precedents
- Transcripts, House and Senate

SEARCH | 🔍

#C7 - Search results will look like this...

New Filter Results Prev Doc Next Doc Print

## CGA Search Results

GUN

Showing 1 to 18 of 18 document(s) retrieved



Item	Year	DB	Num	Name	Title	Hits
1	2018	FC	5540	<a href="#">2018HB-05540-R000591-FC.HTM</a>	AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS. Information on Underlying Bill: <a href="#">HB05540</a> Last Action: 4/19/2018 File Number 591 Sponsors: <b>Judiciary Committee; Rep. Camillo, F. 151 ; Sen. Hwang, T. 528</b> Committees: <b>Judiciary Committee</b>	6
2	2018	FC	5542	<a href="#">2018HB-05542-R000678-FC.HTM</a>	AN ACT CONCERNING BUMP STOCKS AND OTHER MEANS OF ENHANCING THE RATE OF FIRE OF A FIREARM. Information on Underlying Bill: <a href="#">HB05542</a> Last Action: 5/31/2018 Signed by the Governor Sponsors: <b>Judiciary Committee; Rep. Camillo, F. 151 ; Sen. Hwang, T. 528</b> Committees: <b>Judiciary Committee</b>	5
3	2018	FC	5542	<a href="#">2018HB-05542-R000592-FC.HTM</a>	AN ACT CONCERNING BUMP STOCKS AND OTHER MEANS OF ENHANCING THE RATE OF FIRE OF A FIREARM. Information on Underlying Bill: <a href="#">HB05542</a> Last Action: 5/31/2018 Signed by the Governor Sponsors: <b>Judiciary Committee; Rep. Camillo, F. 151 ; Sen. Hwang, T. 528</b> Committees: <b>Judiciary Committee</b>	5
4	2018	TOB	5540	<a href="#">2018HB-05540-R01-HB.HTM</a>	AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS. Information on Underlying Bill: <a href="#">HB05540</a> Last Action: 4/19/2018 File Number 591 Sponsors: <b>Judiciary Committee; Rep. Camillo, F. 151 ; Sen. Hwang, T. 528</b> Committees: <b>Judiciary Committee</b>	4
5	2018	TOB	5540	<a href="#">2018HB-05540-R00-HB.HTM</a>	AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS AND THE PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESS. Information on Underlying Bill: <a href="#">HB05540</a>	4

## SECTION D – WHEN A BILL BECOMES A LAW

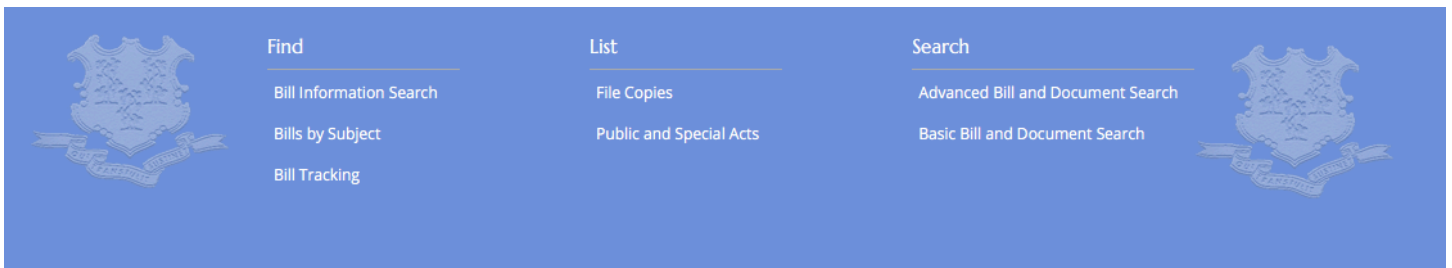
How do I find the text of a bill that has passed the house and senate and been signed into law by the Governor?

#D1 - Go to the Connecticut General Assembly Website... [cga.ct.gov](http://cga.ct.gov)



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#D2 - Click on "Bill Info". A menu will appear...



The screenshot shows a blue dropdown menu with three columns of search options. The first column is titled "Find" and includes "Bill Information Search", "Bills by Subject", and "Bill Tracking". The second column is titled "List" and includes "File Copies" and "Public and Special Acts". The third column is titled "Search" and includes "Advanced Bill and Document Search" and "Basic Bill and Document Search". The menu is flanked by the state seal on both sides.

#D3 – In the LIST section, Click on PUBLIC AND SPECIAL ACTS.

A list of all bills that have been signed into law by the governor during the current legislative session will be displayed.

The public act number will be on the right and will be a link to the text of the public act.

NOTE: even though the Public Acts here are listed simply as numbers, a Public Act's number is generally prefaced by its year, so the first public act in the screenshot below would actually be referred to as P.A. 18-187.



## Public and Special Acts

All Acts as of 1/2/2019 9:49:03 pm

### 2018 Regular Session

Bill No. ↕	Bill Title ↕	Public Act
HB05475	AN ACT CONCERNING THE BODY-WORN RECORDING EQUIPMENT TASK FORCE.	Public Act No. 187
HB05470	AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF TIMELY NOTICE OF CHILD PLACEMENT INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO THE ATTORNEY OR GUARDIAN AD LITEM REPRESENTING THE CHILD IN A CHILD PROTECTION MATTER.	Public Act No. 186
HB05452	AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE ON LIFE-THREATENING FOOD ALLERGIES IN SCHOOLS.	Public Act No. 185
HB05449	AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF CERTAIN EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS AND THE PROVISION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES BY THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.	Public Act No. 184
HB05447	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AUDITORS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS CONCERNING PRIVATE PROVIDERS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION.	Public Act No. 183
HB05446	AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.	Public Act No. 182
HB05360	AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO CERTAIN ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CERTAIN FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP ON MICROFIBER POLLUTION, AUTHORIZING SCHOOL INSTRUCTION AND CURRICULUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE, REQUIRING UPDATED HAZARDOUS MITIGATION PLANS FOR CERTAIN HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL FACILITIES, PERMITTING SUNDAY BOW HUNTING OF DEER THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM ON THE SEPARATE COLLECTION OF GLASS FROM OTHER RECYCLING PROGRAMS.	Public Act No. 181
HB05348	AN ACT REQUIRING THE CONSIDERATION OF CREATING A PORTFOLIO STANDARD FOR THERMAL ENERGY IN THE NEXT INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN.	Public Act No. 180
HB05321	AN ACT CONCERNING THE WRITTEN RESIDENTIAL DISCLOSURE REPORT, THE CAPTIVE INSURANCE COMPANY ESTABLISHED FOR ASSISTING WITH CRUMBLING FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDING FOR LEAD REMOVAL, REMEDIATION AND ABATEMENT.	Public Act No. 179

oto Booth

BILLS

## SECTION E – How To Read A Bill

The pdf of the 2018 “Ghost Guns” bill (HB-5540) is located here...

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2018/FC/pdf/2018HB-05540-R000591-FC.PDF>

Bills are generally written in sections. Each section may be a modification of an existing section of the Connecticut General Statutes OR may be new. Each bill, or sometimes each section of a bill, will include an implementation date – often 07/01, 10/01, 01/01, or “effective from passage”.

When a bill includes modifications to an existing statute, the modifications will begin like this...

- 1 Section 1. Section 53a-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):

and the particular sections being modified will be indicated with underline for added text and [brackets] for removed text, like this...

118 (24) "Frame or lower receiver" means the part of a firearm that  
119 provides the action or housing for the hammer, bolt or breechblock  
120 and firing mechanism, and includes a frame or lower receiver blank,  
121 casting or machined body that requires further machining or molding  
122 to be used as part of a functional firearm, and which is designed and  
123 intended to be used in the "assembly", as that term is defined in section  
124 29-36, as amended by this act, of a functional firearm.

and like this...

149 [(a)] (d) No [person] individual shall remove, deface, alter or  
150 obliterate the name of any maker or model or any maker's number,  
151 unique serial number or other mark of identification on any firearm,  
152 [as defined in section 53a-3.] The possession of any firearm upon  
153 which any identifying mark, number or name has been removed,  
154 defaced, altered or obliterated shall be prima facie evidence that the  
155 [person] individual owning or in possession of such firearm has  
156 removed, defaced, altered or obliterated the same.



When a section of a bill is new, it will be displayed with no underline and no brackets, and will look like this...

184       Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Emergency  
185       Services and Public Protection shall develop and maintain a system to  
186       distribute a unique serial number or other mark of identification to any  
187       individual requesting such number or mark in accordance with section  
188       29-36 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. The department  
189       shall maintain identifying information of the individual requesting the  
190       number or mark and of the firearm for which each such number or  
191       mark is requested.