

The Connecticut General Assembly



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REP. ADAMS & REP. TONG APPLAUD HOUSE PASSAGE OF H.B. 5403

Bill would increase the fine for motorists who fail to yield to pedestrians

State Representatives Terry Adams (D-Stamford) and Representative William Tong (D-Stamford, Darien) are pleased to announce that a pedestrian safety bill they championed for has passed the House of Representatives.

H.B.5403, An Act Increasing Penalties For Failure to Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalks and Failure to Exercise Due Care to Avoid Hitting a Pedestrian or Cyclist, is a common sense measure and will ensure that pedestrians of all ages feel safe when trying to navigate our local streets.

The bill would increase the fine for a motorist who fails to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk and would also increase the fine for a motorist who fails to exercise care to avoid colliding with a pedestrian or a cyclist. Payments for these violations would be collected by the municipality where the violation occurred and will be punishable by up to \$500.

“I would like to thank the Judiciary Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and the rest of the committee for voting unanimously in favor of this bill,” **Rep Adams said**. “I also want to thank the Stamford delegation for their unwavering support on H.B.5403 and for helping it receive a favorable vote in the House. The bill will strengthen our public safety laws and make residents of any age feel safer crossing the street.”

“We need to make sure people are safe,” **Rep. Tong** said. “When motorists drive too fast and fail to look out for a pedestrian, someone can easily be maimed or killed. We have to protect people, especially when there’s no way they can protect themselves in a crosswalk. This legislation, I hope, will drive home the message that ignoring basic safety laws will not be tolerated.”

The bill will now be sent to the Senate for a vote.