



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

DANNEL P. MALLOY
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

September 28, 2017

BILL NOTIFICATION
RELEASE No. 18

For Immediate Release

Governor Dannel P. Malloy vetoed the following legislation of the 2017 June Special Session on September 28:

HB 7501 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING
JSS PA 17-1 JUNE 30, 2019, APPROPRIATIONS AND IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS
THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE
FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES.

This bill had various effective dates. The Governor vetoed the bill. Scroll down to read the veto message.

As of this date, the Governor has signed two hundred sixty two (262) bills and vetoed four (4) bills of the 2017 Legislative Session. The Governor has vetoed one (1) bill of the 2017 June Special Session.

lose \$6.8 million at a time when its financial future is in peril, almost certainly forcing it into bankruptcy.

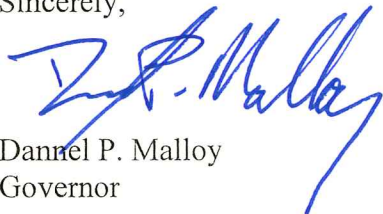
In fact, taking help away from those with the greatest need is a common theme in this budget. It deprioritizes areas where we have made significant progress in helping our most vulnerable residents, such as affordable housing, fighting homelessness, assistance to the elderly, and critical early childhood programs. In addition to dismantling highly successful energy policy reforms, it sweeps funding from the nationally acclaimed Connecticut Green Bank, diverting money from a surcharge that helps businesses and homeowners transition to clean, renewable energy. The budget also fails to lay the groundwork for the state's future success as it contains no plan to stabilize the Special Transportation Fund, endangering our ability to maintain and improve critical transportation infrastructure – a key factor that companies consider when choosing to maintain and grow their businesses in Connecticut.

In sum, this budget is unbalanced, unsustainable, and unwise. It cuts hundreds of millions of dollars from our colleges and universities, endangering our economic competitiveness; it creates the near-certainty that our capital city will be plunged into bankruptcy; and it eviscerates proven funding and improvement programs for school districts with the greatest needs while sending more money to the wealthiest towns. It creates the illusion of fiscal responsibility, but what lurks behind that illusion is increased fiscal uncertainty, perilous constitutional and contractual risks, and a reversal of the real reforms we have made. Like so much of Connecticut's past fiscal decision-making, it sacrifices our state's future prosperity in order to achieve an ostensible short-term fix.

I cannot overstate the urgency of the need for all parties to come together to negotiate a realistic, responsible budget that addresses our state's fiscal issues, distributes education aid equitably, and balances without the use of illusory gimmicks. And I must note that failure to reach a deal soon could risk federal approval for \$343.9 million in increased provider tax revenue and \$366.5 million in federal Medicaid reimbursement, which are critical to balancing the budget and increasing reimbursements to providers. I remain committed to engaging in honest dialogue with legislative leaders to reach an agreement that achieves these goals.

For all of these reasons, I disapprove of House Bill 7501, *An Act Concerning the State Budget For the Biennium Ending June 30, 2019, Appropriations and Implementing Provisions Therefor and Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State For Various Purposes*. Pursuant to Section 15 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I am returning House Bill 7501 without my signature.

Sincerely,



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor