Governor Dannel P. Malloy signed the following legislation of the 2018 Regular Session on May 25:

**While Governor Malloy signed this bill, he wrote a letter to the members of the General Assembly regarding its content. Scroll down to view that letter.**

HB 5210 PA 18-10  
AN ACT MANDATING INSURANCE COVERAGE OF ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS AND EXPANDING MANDATED HEALTH BENEFITS FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS.  
This bill takes effect January 1, 2019.

SB 376 PA 18-69  
AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PROSTHETIC DEVICES.  
This bill is takes effect January 1, 2019.

HB 5184 PA 18-12  
AN ACT PERMITTING THE AMENDMENT OF MUNICIPAL ChARTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MODIFYING BUDGET ADOPTION DATES.  
This bill is effective from passage.

SB 437 PA 18-19  
AN ACT CONCERNING A TWO-GENERATIONAL INITIATIVE.  
This bill is effective from passage.

SB 244 PA 18-17  
AN ACT REQUIRING BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS TO BE MANDATED REPORTERS OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.  
This bill takes effect July 1, 2018.

HB 5205 PA 18-13  
AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION.  
This bill takes effect July 1, 2018.

HB 5230 PA 18-21  
AN ACT HONORING CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS.  
This bill is effective March 25, 2019.
HB 5211  PA 18-14  
AN ACT CONCERNING JUDICIAL PROCEDURES RELATING TO INITIATION OF
AN ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, DISSOLUTION OF CIVIL
UNION OR LEGAL SEPARATION.
This bill takes effect October 1, 2018.

HB 5245  SA 18-3  
AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY BEST PRACTICES FOR
PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, SENIOR
CITIZENS AND VETERANS.
This bill is effective from passage.

As of this date, the Governor has signed twenty-nine (29) bills of the 2018 Regular Session.
May 25, 2018

Dear Honorable Members of the Connecticut General Assembly:


While these two pieces of legislation will help ensure some citizens of Connecticut have access to important medical care, protection of these services is meaningless if our citizens cannot afford insurance coverage in the first place. Thanks to the disastrous, piecemeal unraveling of the Affordable Care Act by the Trump administration and Republicans in Congress, and the resulting uncertainty in the health coverage marketplace, the people of our state already face skyrocketing health care costs. As you know, these increasing costs and the repeal of the individual mandate are expected to depress participation in exchanges across the country, hurting the neediest among us. Policy makers must focus on maintaining access to needed care while protecting consumers from these rising costs.

With cost and access in mind, we must approach any new health insurance mandate with caution. As I did last year, I strongly urge you to create a process through which such additional mandated benefits can be vetted, their costs analyzed, and their impact fully understood before enactment. Such a process would enable state policymakers to ensure that our citizens are receiving health insurance coverage that is both comprehensive and affordable. Adding new benefits without the aid of a full actuarial cost analysis will lead to increased burdens on our already strained consumers.

Additionally, the Affordable Care Act requires that the state defray the cost of any benefit a state mandates beyond the ones previously established as of December 31, 2011 for any plan sold through our health insurance exchange, Access Health CT. The mandates in these two bills alone will require the state to pay at least $2 million each year. Public Act 18-81 did not include funds to pay for this expense, and I will be asking the Office of Policy and Management to identify ways to offset this unbudgeted cost.

Let me be clear: the goals of these two pieces of legislation are undoubtedly noble and those who advocated for them were entirely well intentioned. However, this is a warning - we must proceed
cautiously when taking legislative action may put vital health insurance out of reach for low-income and middle-income individuals in our state.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor