



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION**



**M. JODI RELL**  
**GOVERNOR**

**LEGISLATIVE**  
**AFFAIRS**

*June 2, 2006*

*To: Interested Persons*

*From: Christine Pollio, DMR Legislative Program Manager*

*Re: 2006 Legislative Session*

The following bills passed during the 2006 regular session of the General Assembly and in some way impact upon, or might be of interest to, DMR consumers and/or DMR employees. Copies of these bills in Public Act form are attached. If you are reading this online or via email, I have included the link to each Public Act. [Bracketed] language indicates a deletion. Underlined language or the word "NEW" indicates new language. Also, I have attached a list of bills that we were tracking that did not pass as of the end of session on May 3, 2006 and a link to the bill history page. If you have questions on these or any other bills from the 2006 legislative session, please call me at (860) 418-6066 or email me at [christine.pollio@po.state.ct.us](mailto:christine.pollio@po.state.ct.us).

**AGENCY BILL THAT PASSED:**

**PUBLIC ACT (PA) 06-92 (HB 5478) AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION.** This bill requires the DMR commissioner to gather information from DMR clients, their families, and other interested parties about changing the department's name. He must do this within available appropriations and report his findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Office of Policy and Management, and the Public Health Committee by January 1, 2007. The findings must include an estimate of the costs of changing the name. The bill also specifies that the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR) is not precluded from determining that a person has mental retardation just because his school or medical records do not contain a diagnosis of, or reference to, mental retardation or intellectual or developmental disability. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00092-R00HB-05478-PA.htm>. You can find the most up-to-date information regarding the DMR name change on the DMR website at <http://www.dmr.state.ct.us/NameChange.htm>.

***BILLS THAT PASSED:***

**PA 06-18 (SB 380) AN ACT CONCERNING SPECIAL EDUCATION.** This bill makes the state statutes concerning the provision of special education, special education due process hearings and evaluations, the State Special Education Advisory Council, and surrogates in schools comply with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00018-R00SB-00380-PA.htm>

**PA 06-28 (HB 5468) AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATE OF NEED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE THRESHOLDS.** This bill raises to \$3 million the capital and major medical equipment expenditure threshold that triggers an Office of Healthcare Access (OHCA) certificate of need (CON) review. The previous threshold was \$1 million for capital costs and \$400,000 for major medical equipment. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00028-R00HB-05468-PA.htm>

**PA 06-32 (HB 5738) AN ACT CONCERNING RECONSIDERED AGENCY DECISIONS AND APPEALS UNDER THE UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT.**

This bill caps, at 90 days, the maximum time a state agency has to issue a new decision in a contested case it decides to reconsider. By law, agencies can decide to reconsider a final decision in a contested case on their own or pursuant to a petition from a party to the case. With one exception, the act provides that a decision an agency issues in a contested case on reconsideration replaces its original decision as the final decision from which an appeal may be taken. The exception applies if an agency fails to render a decision on reconsideration within the 90-day period the act establishes. In this case, the original decision is the final decision for purpose of an appeal. By law, an appeal may be based on a number of issues, including issues the agency (1) decided in its original final decision that were not the subject of the reconsideration; (2) was requested, but declined, to address on reconsideration; and (3) reconsidered but did not modify. Lastly, the act establishes a deadline for filing an appeal after a petition for reconsideration is filed. The deadline is 45 days after (1) the petition is denied, (2) a decision made after reconsideration is mailed or personally delivered, or (3) the 90-day deadline for the decision. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00032-R00HB-05738-PA.htm>

**PA 06-36 (SB 359) AN ACT CONCERNING COMPETENCY TO STAND TRIAL.** This revises certain procedures for determining the competency of a criminal defendant to stand trial in order to allow psychiatric hospitals to identify a larger number of defendants admitted for restoration of competency as being eligible for civil commitment, to clarify options of the court and the content of various treatment facility reports and to make technical changes.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00036-R00SB-00359-PA.htm>

**PA 06-38 (SB 422) AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BREAST CANCER SCREENING.** This bill is ensures the provision of appropriate coverage for breast cancer examinations. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00038-R00SB-00422-PA.htm>

**PA 06-56 (HB 5194) AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY BOARD.** This bill allows the director of the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities to establish an accessibility advisory board. The bill requires the advisory board to be comprised of design professionals, people with disabilities, people whose family members have disabilities, and anyone else the director believes would provide valuable insight and input on matters relating to accessibility. The board must meet periodically, at times and places the director designates, to advise him on accessibility matters relating to housing, transportation, government programs and services, and any other matters the director or the board deems advisable.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00056-R00HB-05194-PA.htm>

**PA 06-62 (SB 314) AN ACT EXTENDING FEDERAL PROTECTIONS TO STATE SERVICE MEMBERS.** This bill provides National Guard members the more extensive civil and employment protections that federal armed service members have.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00062-R00SB-00314-PA.htm>

**PA 06-63 (SB 373) AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTHY FOOD AND BEVERAGES IN SCHOOLS.** This bill (1) restricts the types of beverages that may be sold to students in school; (2) requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to set nutritional standards for food sold to students in schools; and (3) provides a financial incentive for local and regional school boards, charter school, endowed academy, and interdistrict magnet school governing authorities, and the regional vocational-technical school system (V-T system) to certify that their schools meet the SDE standards. The legislation supersedes the existing requirement that school boards provide nutritious and low fat drink options whenever drinks are available for purchase by students. It extends the requirement that boards provide nutritious and low-fat food options to the governing authorities of state charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006 <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00063-R00SB-00373-PA.htm>

**PA 06-64 (SB 386) AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS STATUTES.** This bill makes a number of changes to the Office of Health Care Access' (OHCA) certificate of need (CON) program. The act amends the CON process by (1) modifying the letter of intent phase of CON in emergency situations, (2) allowing OHCA to waive CON for specific termination or relocation of certain services, and (3) modifying the existing waiver from CON for replacement equipment.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00064-R00SB-00386-PA.htm>

**PA 06-77 (SB 311) AN ACT DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH AND CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLIC UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD BANK.** This bill directs the public health (DPH) commissioner, in consultation with the Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee, to establish an ad hoc committee concerning a public umbilical cord blood bank in the state. The bill also requires the governor to designate November as Lung Cancer Awareness Month to heighten public awareness that lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death of both men and women in the United States. The act specifies that suitable events must be held in the State Capitol and

other places the governor designates. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00077-R00SB-00311-PA.htm>

**PA 06-84 (SB 25) AN ACT CONCERNING SOCIAL SECURITY OFFSETS UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.** The bill eliminates the offset of Social Security old age benefits from Workers' Compensation total incapacity benefits for certain individuals. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00084-R00SB-00025-PA.htm>

**PA 06-86 (HB 5051) AN ACT CONCERNING LUMINAIRES AT STATE AGENCIES.** The bill bans, with some exceptions, the use of state funds to install or replace certain outdoor lights or lighting units on state building or facility grounds. It also extends the deadline by which violators must comply with laws regulating the use of floodlights on private property. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00086-R00HB-05051-PA.htm>

**PA 06-102 (HB 5011) AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES, SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER IN THE CARE AND SUPERVISION OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, PERMANENCY PLANS FOR CHILDREN, AND EMPLOYMENT ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.** This bill provides a leave of absence for state employees due to the serious illness of a foster child, provided such leave does not exceed four weeks during any one-year period. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00102-R00HB-05011-PA.htm>

**PA 06-110 (HB 5477) AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.** This bill revises the supervision requirements for physician assistants (PAs) by (1) making a distinction between supervision in a hospital versus other settings and (2) eliminating a requirement that the supervision in any setting be at the specific location where the PA is practicing. By law, each PA must have a clearly identified supervising physician, registered with the Department of Public Health (DPH), who has final responsibility for patient care and the PA's performance. A physician may supervise up to six full-time PAs concurrently or the equivalent part-time number, if medically appropriate. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00110-R00HB-05477-PA.htm>

**PA 06-129 (SB 623) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DISABLED AND DISADVANTAGED EMPLOYMENT SECURITY POLICY GROUP.** This bill establishes a pilot program consisting of certain janitorial contracts, which will be performed by qualified partnerships that employ a specified number of persons with disabilities and persons with a disadvantage. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00129-R00SB-00623-PA.htm>

**PA 06-131 (HB 5114) AN ACT CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH CANCER.** This bill provides enhanced coverage under the HUSKY Plan and individual and group health insurance policies for children with cancer. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00131-R00HB-05114-PA.htm>

**PA 06-132 (HB 5652) AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC AGENCY TERMINATION, SUSPENSION OR SEPARATION AGREEMENTS.** This bill prohibits confidentiality provisions in termination, separation or suspension agreements between a public agency and an employee or personal services contractor. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00132-R00HB-05652-PA.htm>

**PA 06-136 (HB 5844) AN ACT CONCERNING THE ROADMAP FOR CONNECTICUT'S ECONOMIC FUTURE.** This bill makes a major investment in transportation projects related to economic growth. It authorizes \$2.3 billion in bonding for a variety of specified projects and initiatives. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00136-R00HB-05844-PA.htm>

**PA 06-137 (SB 66) AN ACT CONCERNING THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM LEGISLATION AND CERTAIN ELECTION LAW AND ETHICS PROVISIONS.** <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00137-R00SB-00066-PA.htm>

**PA 06-146 (SB 459) AN ACT CONCERNING ACCRUED LEAVE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES SERVING IN THE MILITARY.** This bill ensures that state employees serving in active military service continue to accrue leave time. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00146-R00SB-00459-PA.htm>

**PA 06-154 (SB 455) AN ACT CONCERNING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION WORKFORCE.** This bill expands the number of early childhood education teachers in Connecticut. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00154-R00SB-00455-PA.htm>

**PA 06-169 (HB 5617) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES.** This bill allows advanced practice registered nurses to request, sign for, receive and dispense professional drug samples in all settings. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00169-R00HB-05617-PA.htm>

**PA 06-170 (HB 5639) AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNCIL TO ADVISE THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF THE MEDICARE PART D PROGRAM.** This bill establishes a council that shall advise the Commissioner of Social Services on matters relating to the implementation and operation of the Medicare Part D program. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00170-R00HB-05639-PA.htm>

**PA 06-171 (HB 5647) AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION CLAIMANTS WITH A DISABILITY.** This bill allows a claimant for unemployment compensation to limit work availability to sixteen hours per week if such claimant has a permanent or long-term physical or mental impairment. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00171-R00HB-05647-PA.htm>

**PA 06-179 (HB 5254) AN ACT CONCERNING STATE INVESTMENT IN PREVENTION AND CHILD POVERTY REDUCTION AND THE MERGER OF THE STATE PREVENTION AND CHILD POVERTY COUNCILS.** This bill (1) amends the budgeting process related to state prevention services for children, youth and families to require that certain budgetary benchmarks are met, and (2) expands the membership of the State Prevention Council. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00179-R00HB-05254-PA.htm>

**PA 06-182 (HB 5532) AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH POLICY AND THE KINSHIP NAVIGATOR PROGRAM.** This bill require the Office of Policy and Management to be the lead state agency in the development of youth policy and in the coordination of efforts among state agencies to achieve positive outcomes for youth. (House "B" requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF), in consultation with the Departments of Social Services (DSS), Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and Mental Retardation (DMR), to establish a kinship navigator program, within available appropriations, and report on the program by 1/1/08 and annually thereafter.) <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00182-R00HB-05532-PA.htm>

**PA 06-194 (HB 5814) AN ACT CONCERNING THE BONDING PROCESS, CONFIDENTIALITY OF TAX RETURN INFORMATION, LOANS FOR MOBILE MANUFACTURED HOMES, VARIOUS TAXES ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SERVICES, CREATION OF A SPECIAL DISTRICT IN DERBY, TAXATION OF LAND PURCHASED FROM THE STATE BY A TOWN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGHWAY RAILROAD CROSSING.** This bill increases accountability for projects using state bond funds, and makes conforming technical changes. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00194-R00HB-05814-PA.htm>

**PA 06-195 (SB 317) AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.** This bill contains several revisions to Department of Public Health statutes. Sections 520-542 amends and updates Connecticut law on health care decision making by: 1. combining the authority of the health care agent and attorney-in-fact for health care decisions into a unified proxy known as the "health care representative"; 2. expanding the scope of a living will from covering only decisions concerning life support to include any aspect of health care; 3. conferring on the health care representative the authority to make any and all health care decisions for a person incapable of expressing those wishes himself; 4. clarifying that (a) a conservator must comply with the previously executed advance directives of a ward and (b) a decision of a health care representative takes precedence over that of a conservator; 5. providing for recognition of advance directives validly executed elsewhere that are not contrary to Connecticut policy; and 6. specifying that advance directives properly executed before October 1, 2006 remain valid. The legislation that passed pertaining to this issue contained no substantive changes that would alter the way DMR conducts the processes contained in the bill in regards to advance directives including administration and oversight of clients as related to the health care directive statutes. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00195-R00SB-00317-PA.htm>

**PA 06-196 (HB 5820) AN ACT CONCERNING THE REVISOR'S TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS AND CERTAIN OTHER CHANGES TO THE GENERAL STATUTES, THE 2006 SUPPLEMENT TO THE GENERAL STATUTES AND CERTAIN PUBLIC ACTS.** This bill makes various technical changes concerning grammar, clarity, accuracy of internal references and consistency in the general statutes and the 2006 supplement to the general statutes. Sections 115 and 239 are sections referring to DMR. The changes are technical.  
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00196-R00HB-05820-PA.htm>

***BUDGET:***

**PA 06-186 (HB 5845) AN ACT MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO STATE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2007.** The budget bill that passed was amended by House Amendments A, B, C, and E. You can click on the amendments from the link as well as related fiscal notes. "House A" is the main one. In short, the recommended increases over the DMR budget that passed last year stayed in. There is an autism pilot funded at \$1 million; \$60,000 for a dental coordinator; \$989,000 for a half-year Birth to Three rate increase; \$51,000 for workers' comp/social security offset; and a 2% COLA for private providers effective Oct. 1, 2006 (3% for ICF-MR and Nursing Homes). Additionally, the 18% cap on A&G remains in place. <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00186-R00HB-05845-PA.htm>

• **DMR related budget highlights include:**

1. Autism pilot funded at \$1million
2. \$60,000 for a dental coordinator
3. \$989,000 for a half-year Birth to Three rate increase
4. \$51,000 for workers' compensation/social security offset
5. 2% COLA for private providers effective October 1, 2006 (3% for ICF-MR and nursing homes)
6. 18% cap on A&G remains in place

**Personal Services:**

- The Department's Fiscal year 2007 Appropriation provides sufficient funding within the Personal Services SID to adequately fund the Department's Program and Administrative infrastructures in order to better serve the Department's consumer population.
- The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget makes a Technical Adjustment of \$6,940,694 to fund settlements with employee Bargaining Units that will be paid in Fiscal Year 2007.
- The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget adds \$60,000 to support a Dental Care Coordinator position to increase capacity and utilization among individuals with mental retardation.

**Other Expenses:**

The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget makes a Technical Adjustment of \$2,308,132. The adjustment will fund \$1,768,636 for the needs associated with increasing energy costs, and \$539,496 is allocated to address the increase in vehicle rental fees charged by DAS.

**Early Intervention:**

The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget added \$989,000 to increase reimbursements for contracted services effective January 1, 2007.

**Workers Compensation:**

The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget increased Workers Compensation by \$51,000 to reflect the elimination of the Social Security offset for state employees receiving Workers Compensation benefits.

**Pilot Program for Autism Services:**

The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget provided \$1 million to fund a pilot program to serve adults with autism spectrum disorders who do not also have mental retardation. Approximately 25 - 50 individuals will be provided services.

**Residential Services:**

- **Wait List:**
  - A. The Department's Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriation funds \$4.1 million for the annualization of residential and enhanced family support, and Rent Subsidy Wait List placements that will be made in Fiscal Year 2006.
  - B. The Department's Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriation funds \$4.6 million to fund 150 new residential and 100 enhanced family support, and new Rent Subsidy Wait List placements in Fiscal Year 2007.
  
- **Age Outs:**
  - A. The Department's Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriation funds \$3.34 million to fully fund the annualization of residential Age Out placements that will be made during Fiscal Year 2006.
  - B. The Original Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriation funds \$1.58 million to fund 26 new Age Outs in Fiscal Year 2007.

- C. The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget makes an Expansion Adjustment of \$1,928,502 to fund 24 additional placements that will occur during Fiscal Year 2007.

**Day Services:**

- **High School Grads:**
  - A. The Department's Fiscal year 2007 Appropriation funds \$846,973 for the annualization of Fiscal Year 2006 Day Services High School Grads.
  - B. The Department's Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriation funds \$4.8 million to fund 229 new High School Grad placements in Fiscal Year 2007.
- **Age Outs:**
  - A. The Department's Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriation funds \$309,549 for the annualization of the Fiscal Year 2006 Day Services Age Outs.
  - B. The Department's Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriation funds \$1.88 million for 52 new Day Services Age Out placements in Fiscal Year 2007.
  - C. The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget makes an Expansion Adjustment to add \$166,832 to fund 11 new Day Program Age Out cases that were identified that will occur during fiscal year 2007.

**Private Provider COLA:** The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget funds a 2% COLA totaling \$7,844,554 for private agencies effective October 1, 2006. \$4,209,351 of the COLA funds are recommended in the Department's Mid-Term budget, and \$3,635,203 will be transferred to the Department in Fiscal Year 2007 from OPM's Contingency Needs account.

**Grant In Aid For Day Programs:** The Bond Act passed last session funded an additional \$2 million for the Department's Grant In Aid program that provides private non-profit day program agencies grants to fund capital repairs at their day program sites. (This amount was maintained)

**DCF Voluntary Service Program:** The Fiscal Year 2007 Mid-Term Budget made a \$3.6 million transfer to DMR from DCF to continue an initiative that began in Fiscal Year 2006 that transferred individuals currently being served in the DCF Voluntary Services Program.

(Other non-DMR specific budget items can be found by using the link at the bottom of this document to the "Office of Fiscal Analysis's highlights of the Revised 2005-2007 Biennial Budget, May 3, 2006.")

**PA 06-187 (HB 5846) AN ACT CONCERNING GENERAL BUDGET AND REVENUE IMPLEMENTATION PROVISIONS.** <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00187-R00HB-05846-PA.htm>

This is the OPM Budget Implementer Bill which has several components to it. You can view the whole bill at the link above, but here are a couple of sections that I though might be of interest.

§ 22 – ELECTRONIC MESSAGE REGISTRY STUDY. This section requires the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) commissioner to study the feasibility of establishing a registry in which Connecticut residents could register email and Internet messaging addresses and fax, wireless telephone, and pager numbers that they do not want to receive unsolicited electronic messages. The commissioner must consult with the attorney general and submit a report to the Judiciary, General Law, and Children's committees by January 1, 2007.

#### §§ 52 - 62 – REGISTRATION OF HOMEMAKER-COMPANION AGENCIES

These sections require homemaker-companion agencies to register annually with the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). It specifies application procedures and gives the DCP commissioner authority to suspend, revoke, or deny the certificate of registration or take other disciplinary measures in response to violations of the bill. It sets the registration fee at \$ 300. Under the act, the agencies must maintain a surety bond, require employees hired on or after October 1, 2006 to undergo comprehensive background checks, and require these employees to complete and sign a form containing questions about their criminal convictions or certain disciplinary actions against them. They must provide their clients with written individualized contracts or service plans that identify the anticipated services' scope, type, frequency, and duration. They must also make their records accessible to DCP. The bill imposes penalties on agencies that provide such services without registering or make certain misrepresentations. The bill requires the DCP commissioner to adopt implementing regulations and to report on the implementation to the Aging Committee and the governor by January 1, 2008. The bill exempts from its contract and service plan requirements homemaker or companion services provided under the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders administered by the Department of Social Services. EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2006

**PA 06-188 (SB 703) AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF STATE SOCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS AND DEPARTMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE EXPENDITURES OF SUCH INSTITUTIONS AND DEPARTMENTS AND THE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED OR SERVICES PROVIDED BY SUCH INSTITUTIONS AND DEPARTMENTS.** <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2006/ACT/PA/2006PA-00188-R00SB-00703-PA.htm>

This is the DSS/DPH budget implementer bill which has several components to it that might impact DMR consumers on a broader level:

§§ 1-5 — LONG-TERM CARE INSTITUTION REIMBURSEMENT RATES (NURSING HOMES, ICF-MR, AND RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES). For FY 07, these sections of the bill (1) increase reimbursement rates for nursing homes by 3% over FY 06, (2) leave current reimbursement rates in effect until September 30, 2006 for intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded (ICF-MRs) and then caps the increase at 3% for the rest of FY 07 starting October 1, 2006, and (3) leave current reimbursement rates in effect until September 30, 2006 for residential care homes and then caps the increase at 4% for the rest of FY 07 starting October 1, 2006. For all three types of facilities, the bill makes an exception to the increases for facilities

that have interim rates; if these would have received a lower rate on the increase's effective date because of their interim rate status, they will still receive that lower rate. It requires the DSS commissioner, when considering an interim rate increase request from a nursing home, to consider the facility's ability to meet wage and benefit costs, in addition to existing mandatory factors. It eliminates the prohibition against considering the facility's immediate profitability. It also eliminates an existing prohibition on the commissioner's granting an interim rate increase on and after July 1, 2005. In cases where a nursing home is in receivership and the reimbursement rate in effect for the facility at the time the receivership is imposed is greater than the median rate for the facility's peer grouping, the bill allows the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, after review of area nursing home bed availability and other pertinent factors to authorize the DSS commissioner to set an increased interim rate. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§§ 6-7 — NURSING HOME PROVIDER USER FEE. These sections require DSS to set the amount of the nursing home provider user fee by July 1 every two years instead of annually. The initial assessment, which was approximately \$ 16 per bed per day, was set in 2005. Most nursing homes must pay the assessment, which is collected quarterly and is roughly 6% of their gross revenues. The bill requires the DSS commissioner, by July 1, 2007, to report to the Appropriations and Human Services committees on the detrimental effect, if any, a biennial fee adjustment has on nursing home residents who are "private payors." EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§ 8 — EXPANSION OF UNDER-65 MEDICAID PCA WAIVER FOR THE DISABLED. This section removes the upper age limit on the state's Medicaid personal care assistance (PCA) waiver, which currently covers eligible disabled people age 18 through 64. Under the bill, with federal approval, the waiver covers disabled people age 18 or older. (Currently, people who "age out" of the Medicaid PCA waiver when they turn 65 have no option for continuing their PCA services except to apply for the purely state-funded 150-person pilot elderly PCA program for people age 65 and older. PCA services are a "consumer-directed" alternative to nursing homes or home care through an agency. In such a program, the client chooses his own assistant to help him with personal care and activities of daily living. The client employs, trains, supervises, and may fire the attendant, but a financial intermediary takes care of the paperwork. The age change also applies to working disabled people currently receiving PCA services because they are participating in the Medicaid for Employed Disabled (MED) "buy in" program under CGS § 17b-597 (See § 27 below) EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§ 9 - EXPANSION OF STATE-FUNDED ELDERLY PCA PILOT increases the maximum number of participants from 150 to 250 in a state-funded "consumer-directed" PCA pilot program that, since 2000, has allowed seniors to hire their own attendant instead of going through a home health care agency. To be eligible, people must be age 65 or over and meet the same functional and financial qualifications as are required under the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders, which provides home health care and homemaker-companion through home health care agencies. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§ 12 — REIMBURSEMENT TO PHARMACIES SERVING LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES FOR UNIT DOSE PACKAGING. This section allows the DSS commissioner to

reimburse pharmacies and pharmacists for prescription drug costs in unit dose packaging, including blister packs and other special packaging, for clients residing in nursing facilities, chronic disease hospitals, and ICF-MRs. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§ 13 - DSS PAYMENT FOR DENIED MEDICARE PART D PLAN NONFORMULARY DRUGS AND CONTRACT WITH ENTITY TO UNDERTAKE APPEALS requires DSS, in accordance with the Medicare Part D Supplemental Needs Fund law, to pay claims for prescription drugs for Part D beneficiaries who (1) are also Medicaid or ConnPACE recipients and (2) are denied coverage by the Part D plan in which they are enrolled because a drug is not on the plan's formulary. It requires DSS's initial payment to be for a 30-day supply, subject to any applicable copayment. Beneficiaries must appoint the DSS commissioner as their representative for appealing Part D denials and for any other purposes (1) allowed by the federal law and (2) the commissioner deems necessary.

§ 15 - PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FOR HOME HEALTH CARE. By law, the DSS commissioner must establish prior authorization (PA) procedures in the Medicaid program for home health care. Current law specifies that (1) PA is required for more than two skilled nursing visits per week and (2) providers cannot be required to submit PA requests more than once a month unless the PA is revised during that month. The bill adds PA for home health aide visits that exceed 14 hours per week. (Currently, DSS policy allows up to 20 hours of home health aide services per week without PA.) And it allows providers to submit PA requests no more than once a month but only if they are for the same client. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§ 24 — USE OF MEDICAID FUNDS TO PAY DENTAL LAWSUIT SETTLEMENT. This section authorizes DSS, with General Assembly approval, to use money in its Medicaid FY 07 appropriation to pay for any settlement agreement in the Mary Carr et. al v. Patricia Wilson-Coker lawsuit. DSS must report to the Appropriations, Human Services, and Public Health committees within six months of the settlement date on a plan to achieve compliance. By law, any lawsuit settlement resulting in more than \$ 2. 5 million in General Fund expenditures must receive General Assembly approval. In 2000, legal aid lawyers sued DSS, alleging that its failure to comply with the Medicaid law resulted in a critical shortage of dental providers willing or able to service children and adults receiving Medicaid. In January 2006, the court granted DSS summary judgment on some of the counts on limited legal and technical grounds. It denied other counts concerning the Medicaid law's Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program.

§ 27 - MEDICAID FOR EMPLOYED DISABLED permits DSS to expand who is eligible for the Medicaid for Employed Disabled (MED) "buy in" program. Currently, the law requires the MED program to operate under rules set in a 1999 federal law, commonly referred to as "Ticket to Work. " This law limits eligibility for the buy-in to adults under age 65. The bill authorizes the MED program to operate under Section 4733 of PL 105-33 (codified in 42 USC § 1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii) ). This law created an earlier Medicaid buy-in option for states, which does not have an age limit, but whose income limit is 250% of the FPL, well below the \$ 75,000 annual income limit for the current MED program. Another federal law, Section 1902 (r)(2) of the Social Security Act, permits states to have less restrictive eligibility criteria in their Medicaid programs. Combining Section 4733 with this other section, the state can open MED enrollment

to older working individuals, using the same, more liberal financial eligibility criteria. PA 00-213 (CGS § 17b-597) created the MED program, which is designed to provide affordable health care coverage to working people with severe disabilities. Before its passage, individuals could get Medicaid, but even limited wages often forced them into paying high "spend-down" amounts before benefits would be available. (Medicare pays for most of these individuals' health care; Medicaid generally covers everything else.) EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§§ 32 & 53 - HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES allows the DSS commissioner to seek to amend the state Medicaid plan or obtain a Medicaid waiver, whichever approach is most expeditious, to offer Medicaid home- and community-based services to adults with severe and persistent psychiatric disabilities who are diverted or discharged from nursing homes. The services can include housing assistance if needed. She must do this in consultation with the DMHAS commissioner and the Community Mental Health Strategy Board.

The DSS commissioner, again in consultation with the DMHAS commissioner, must annually report to the Public Health Committee on the status of the waiver or plan amendment and the program's implementation. The first report is due by January 1, 2007. The bill requires spending up to \$ 1,725,000 of the DMHAS FY 07 appropriation for the Community Mental Health Strategy Board to establish this program. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the funding provision is effective July 1, 2006

**§ 37 - AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER PILOT PROGRAM** requires the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR) commissioner to establish a pilot program to provide coordinated services and support to people with autism spectrum disorders who do not also have mental retardation. The program must serve up to 50 people who are not eligible for DMR services. There is \$1,000,000 in the budget (HB 5845) to support the pilot program for autism services (including service coordination, supported employment, supported living and transportation). The annual cost per person may vary from an average of \$15,000 - \$30,000. The \$1 million funding in FY 07 supports a phase-in of services starting October 1, 2006. The pilot program must begin by October 1, 2006 and must end by October 1, 2008. When establishing the program, the DMR commissioner must consult with the DSS and DMHAS commissioners and any other commissioner he believes appropriate. He must establish eligibility requirements for program participation, identify appropriate services and supports for each participant and his or her family, and coordinate the provision of those services and supports. He may designate someone to perform the identification and coordination components. The bill requires the commissioner to report to the Public Health Committee on the pilot program's results by January 1, 2009. The report must contain recommendations about a system to address this population's needs, including (1) creating an independent council to advise DMR on system design, implementation, and quality enhancement; (2) establishing procedural safeguards; (3) designing and implementing a quality enhancement and improvement process; and (4) designing and implementing an interagency data and information management system. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§ 38 - LONG-TERM CARE COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS ASSESSMENT transfers the existing duty to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of unmet long-term care (LTC) needs and project future demand for such services from the Office of Policy and Management to the General Assembly. It requires the General Assembly to contract for the assessment, rather than

conduct it, and to do so after consulting with the Commission on Aging, the Long-Term Care Advisory Council, and the Long-Term Care Planning Committee. It specifies numerous items that the assessment must include. The bill requires the comprehensive needs assessment to include: 1. the number of people (a) presently at risk for having unmet LTC needs and (b) potentially at risk for having LTC needs over the next 30 years; 2. both costs and public and private resources available to meet the LTC needs, including adequacy of current resources, projected costs, and projected resources needed to address LTC needs over the next 30 years; 3. the existing services available to people with LTC needs; 4. existing and potential future models of public and private service delivery systems for people with LTC needs; 5. state government's programmatic structure in meeting the needs of people requiring LTC; 6. strategies that may assist families in providing for their own LTC needs at reasonable cost; and 7. the service needs of the state's elderly population with long-term care needs with emphasis on healthcare, housing, transportation, nutrition, employment, prevention, and recreation services; and 8. recommendations on qualitative and quantitative changes that should be made to existing programs or service delivery systems, including recommendations on new programs or service delivery systems to better serve persons with LTC needs. The bill removes a requirement of current law that the assessment specifically include a review of the Department of Mental Retardation's waiting list. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§ 44 - MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON PILOT allows the DSS commissioner to submit an application to the secretary of the federal Department of Health and Human Services to establish a "Money Follows the Person" demonstration project, as authorized in the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. If the state is selected to participate in the demonstration and DSS elects to participate, the bill restricts the project to no more than 100 participants and requires it to be designed to achieve the federal law's objectives. The bill requires the demonstration project's services to include personal care assistance (PCA) services. It allows the commissioner to apply for a Medicaid Section 1115 research and demonstration waiver or to modify any existing Medicaid home or community-based waiver, if that is needed to implement the demonstration. "Money follows the person" is a concept that allows money that would have been spent on people's long-term care in nursing homes or other institutions to be spent on the services they need to live in the community. The newly authorized "Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration" allows states to apply for competitive federal grants for demonstrations that have the objectives of (1) increasing the use of home and community-based, rather than institutional long-term care services; (2) eliminating barriers or mechanisms that prevent or restrict the flexible use of Medicaid funds to enable people to receive the services they need in the setting they choose; (3) to provide continuity of services for people moving from an institution to the community; and (4) to ensure and improve service quality (PL 109-171, § 6071). EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§§ 47-48 - MEDICAL HOME PILOT PROGRAM permits the DSS commissioner, in consultation with the managed care organization administering the HUSKY A program, to establish a medical home pilot program in on Connecticut region on or after January 1, 2007 and within any available federal or private funds. The program is to enhance the health outcome of children, including those with special needs, by ensuring that each child has a primary care physician (PCP) to provide continuous comprehensive health care services. The DSS and public health commissioner must, no later than one year after beginning the pilot program, evaluate the

pilot program to determine improved health outcomes and any cost efficiencies. Within 30 days of the evaluation the public health commissioner must report to the Public Health and Appropriations committees on the evaluation. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage for the establishing the pilot program; October 1, 2006 for the evaluation.

§ 49 — EPSDT. This section requires the DSS commissioner to provide people under age 21 and eligible for Medicaid's Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) services (including medical, vision, dental, and hearing services), which are required under federal law. Under federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) requirements, state Medicaid programs (HUSKY A in Connecticut) must provide comprehensive health and developmental assessments and vision, dental, and hearing services to children and youth up to age 21. The medical screen must include a comprehensive physical and mental health and development assessment and history; a comprehensive unclothed medical examination; appropriate immunizations; laboratory tests, including lead blood testing; and health guidance. Other EPSDT services include eye examinations and eye glasses; teeth restoration and maintenance of dental health; and diagnosis and treatment of hearing problems, including hearing aids. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006.

§ 50 - MEDICAID PAYMENTS FOR HOME HEALTH AIDES IN NON-HOME SETTINGS requires the DSS commissioner to provide Medicaid reimbursement for children's home health care services provided in the Medicaid recipient's home or a "substantially equivalent environment." The bill specifies that the latter setting can include, at a minimum, licensed child day care facilities and after-school programs. It is not clear whether federal Medicaid matching funds would be available for services provided outside the recipient's home since the regulations (42 CFR § 440. 70) define home health services for Medicaid reimbursement purposes as those services provided at the place of residence. As a result of a recent court case, DSS has been paying for skilled nursing services provided outside of the home. The agreement says nothing about home health aide services. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

§ 54 — DEPARTMENT ON AGING. This section postpones the effective date of the 2005 law that requires establishment of a Department on Aging by six months, from January 1, 2007 to July 1, 2007. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

#### ***BILLS VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR:***

To date (6/2/06), the Governor has vetoed three public acts passed in the 2006 session. They are:

**PA 06-1 (HB 5684) AN ACT CONCERNING REFORM OF THE STATE CONTRACTING PROCESS.** This bill was Emergency Certified on March 1, 2006. The Governor vetoed the Public Act on March 16, 2006.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5684&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5684&which_year=2006)

**SA 06-3 (SB 617) AN ACT CONCERNING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING REGARDING THE PENSIONS OF ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEYS, DEPUTY ASSISTANT**

**STATE'S ATTORNEYS AND JUVENILE PROSECUTORS.** To allow the employee organization representing assistant state's attorneys, deputy assistant state's attorneys and juvenile prosecutors employed by the Division of Criminal Justice to bargain collectively concerning the issue of pensions. The Governor vetoed the Public Act on May 19, 2006.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=617&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=617&which_year=2006)

**PA 06-71 (SB 4) AN ACT PROVIDING CERTAIN ADULT ADOPTED PERSONS WITH ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN THEIR ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATES.** To permits adults who were adopted in this state to obtain a copy of their unaltered original birth certificate. The Governor vetoed the Public Act on May 30, 2006.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=4&which\\_year=2006&SUBMIT1.x=17&SUBMIT1.y=4](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=4&which_year=2006&SUBMIT1.x=17&SUBMIT1.y=4)

***BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS:*** To further check the bill history of bills that did not pass (\*or were incorporated into another bill) this session, log on to [www.cga.ct.gov](http://www.cga.ct.gov), type the bill number in the upper right hand box and click on “go.” This will bring you to the bill history which shows where the bill died, (in committee, on the house or senate calendar, etc.) any substitute language, and any amendments (whether or not they were called). The following bills did NOT pass this session. Please note that, for other than a handful of exceptions, I did not include bills that were not voted out of their committee of origin with a favorable report:

**SB 22 AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEES OF MUNICIPALITIES.** To extend the family and medical leave available to state employees to employees of municipalities. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=22&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=22&which_year=2006)

**SB 23 AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES.** To allow state employees to use up to two weeks of accumulated sick leave while on family and medical leave due to the birth or adoption of a child or to care for a seriously ill child, spouse or parent. This bill was recommitted to the Labor Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=23&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=23&which_year=2006)

**\*SB 44 AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTRATION OF HOMEMAKER-COMPANION AGENCIES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.** A version of this bill was incorporated into the OPM Budget Implementer, PA 06-187 (HB 5846). See sections 52-62 of PA 06-187 above.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=44&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=44&which_year=2006)

**SB 63 AN ACT REGARDING STATUTES AND REGULATIONS THAT REFER TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.** The self advocates "respectful language bill" (originally SB 63) was incorporated into a larger bill, SB 67 (sec 30) which stated that "Any general statute, local law, ordinance, charter or regulation adopted by the state or any political subdivision of the state that refers to persons with disabilities shall utilize language that does not: (1) Imply that such persons are disabled as a whole, (2) equate persons with their condition, or (3) have negative overtones or have a derogatory or demeaning effect. " The larger bill, SB 67 died on the House floor the last night of the session.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=63&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=63&which_year=2006)

**SB 67 AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION.** Section 30 of this bill as amended by Senate A and B, would have required new or revised state or local laws, ordinances, charters, or regulations that refer to individuals with disabilities to use language that does not (1) imply that such people are disabled as a whole, (2) equate people with their condition, or (3) have a negative overtone or derogatory or demeaning effect. The bill does not specify a list of prohibited terms. This bill died on the House Calendar.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=67&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=67&which_year=2006)

**SB 71 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF SENSITIVE RECORDS.** To give the Commissioner of Emergency Management and Homeland Security the authority to decide whether to disclose certain sensitive records under the FOI statutes and to make certain emergency related information from private sources exempt from FOI disclosure. This bill died on the House Calendar.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=71&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=71&which_year=2006)

**SB 148 AN ACT CONCERNING LEGISLATIVE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF WAIVER APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.** To ensure that any waiver application submitted by the Commissioner of Social Services pursuant to section 17b-8 of the general statutes is in accordance with any recommendations made by the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and appropriations and the budgets of the state agencies. This bill died in the Legislative Management Committee.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=148&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=148&which_year=2006)

**SB 161 AN ACT EXPANDING DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION AND SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CLINIC SERVICES.** To increase services to persons with mental retardation. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=161&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=161&which_year=2006)

**SB 165 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME.** This bill would have required the Commissioner of Mental Retardation, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, to develop a public awareness campaign designed to (1) educate people about fetal alcohol syndrome, the most common known cause of mental retardation, (2) reduce the number of women who drink alcohol during pregnancy, and (3) reduce the incidence of fetal alcohol syndrome in the state. This bill died in the Public Health Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=165&whi\\_ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=165&whi_ch_year=2006)

**SB 166 AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS FOR ADULT DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION CLIENTS.** To ensure that community-based programs are available for adult clients of the Department of Mental Retardation. This bill died in the Public Health Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=166&whi\\_ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=166&whi_ch_year=2006)

**SB 188 AN ACT CONCERNING ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR CERTAIN STATE LAND TRANSFERS.** To require an environmental impact evaluation to be performed before the sale or transfer of certain parcels of state land. This bill died on the House Calendar.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=188&whi\\_ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=188&whi_ch_year=2006)

**SB 201 AN ACT CONCERNING THE BIRTH-TO-THREE PROGRAM.** To amend the criteria for eligibility and provider qualifications under the birth-to-three program. This bill died in the Children's Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=201&whi\\_ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=201&whi_ch_year=2006)

**SB 217 AN ACT CONCERNING DISCRETIONARY BENEFITS UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.** To give the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Commission sole discretion in determining awards for permanent partial disability benefits for body parts not included on the schedule of injuries listed in subsection (b) of section 31-308 of the general statutes. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=217&whi\\_ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=217&whi_ch_year=2006)

**SB 221 AN ACT CONCERNING LIGHT DUTY WORK UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.** To require light duty work under the Workers' Compensation Act to be offered during days and hours comparable to those worked by the injured employee at the time of the injury. This bill died in the Planning and Development Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=221&whi\\_ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=221&whi_ch_year=2006)

**SB 342 AN ACT CONCERNING SELF-SUSTAINING COMMUNITY-BASED REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.** To create an advisory committee that shall

assist the Commissioner of Social Services in the development, planning and implementation of the financially self-sustaining community-based regional transportation systems established pursuant to section 55 of public act 05-280. This bill was recommitted to the Select Committee on Aging.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=342&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=342&which_year=2006)

**SB 346 AN ACT CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS ASSESSMENT.** To: (1) Revise the scope of the long-term care needs assessment, (2) provide an appropriation of three hundred thousand dollars to conduct said assessment, and (3) revise the effective date with respect to the Department on Aging. This bill was recommitted to the Select Committee on Aging.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=346&which\\_year=2006&SUBMIT1.x=11&SUBMIT1.y=6](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=346&which_year=2006&SUBMIT1.x=11&SUBMIT1.y=6)

**SB 369 AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSITION AND COORDINATION OF CARE BY THE DEPARTMENTS OF MENTAL RETARDATION, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES.** To provide for the development and implementation of interagency agreements between the Departments of Children and Families and Mental Retardation with respect to children and youth under the care and supervision of both departments. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=369&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=369&which_year=2006)

**SB 371 AN ACT CONCERNING RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.** To enact a moratorium on the closure of existing residential facilities or construction or planning of new residential facilities for the Department of Children and Families unless prior legislative approval is granted. This bill died on the House Calendar.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=371&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=371&which_year=2006)

**SB 392 AN ACT CONCERNING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FOR STATE MANAGERS.** To allow state managers, excluding bureau heads, to bargain collectively. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=392&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=392&which_year=2006)

**SB 396 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ERADICATE CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING IN THIS STATE.** To take steps to eradicate lead exposure in children by establishing a comprehensive plan to screen children for lead exposure and eliminate exposure to lead. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=396&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=396&which_year=2006)

**SB 397 AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSURE OF DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FACILITIES.** To remove all licensure powers and duties from the Department of Children and Families and transfer those powers and duties to the Department of Public Health. This bill was recommitted to the Select Committee on Children.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=397&whi ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=397&whi ch_year=2006)

**SB 409 AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NUTMEG HEALTH PARTNERSHIP INSURANCE PLAN.** To establish the Nutmeg Health Partnership Insurance Plan for the purpose of making health insurance accessible and affordable for Connecticut residents. This bill died on the Senate Calendar.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=409&whi ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=409&whi ch_year=2006)

**SB 432 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR AN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS.** To establish a demonstration project for an Office of Administrative Hearings for purposes of ensuring the impartial administration and conduct of hearings of contested cases. This bill died in the Judiciary Committee.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=432&whi ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=432&whi ch_year=2006)

**SB 463 AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE.** To permit a state employee to take family and medical leave to care for an ill child who is in the care of the employee, such as a custodial grandparent. This bill died on the House Calendar.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=463&whi ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=463&whi ch_year=2006)

**SB 477 AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF OPTIONAL SERVICES UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM.** To expand access to a variety of health care services under the Medicaid program. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=477&whi ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=477&whi ch_year=2006)

**SB 487 AN ACT CONCERNING ETHICS IN STATE GOVERNMENT.** To amend provisions of the state's ethics and campaign finance laws in order to prohibit certain lobbying and campaign contribution soliciting practices. This bill died in the Judiciary Committee.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=487&whi ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=487&whi ch_year=2006)

**SB 588 AN ACT CONCERNING TELECOMMUTING.** To reduce traffic congestion and fuel use by promoting cost-effective telecommuting across state government. This bill died on the House Calendar.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=588&whi ch\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=588&whi ch_year=2006)

**SB 653 AN ACT EXPANDING STATE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.** To provide additional permanent state employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. This bill would have required (1) each state agency to create supported employment positions equal to 0.5% of its full-time positions by January 1, 2007 and (2) the positions to lead to competitive employment with the agency by January 1, 2009. The positions must be in addition to each agency's current full-time allotment. Under the bill, "supported employment" meant state employment for people with disabilities who require on-the-job training and support to complete job requirements. "Competitive employment" was defined as state employment of people with disabilities in integrated settings in full- or part-time positions at the same wage and benefit level paid to those without disabilities doing the same or similar work. Presumably, a person in supported employment in one agency could be placed in competitive employment with another. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=653&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=653&which_year=2006)

**SB 667 AN ACT CONCERNING DETERMINATIONS OF COMPETENCY IN JUVENILE MATTERS.** This bill as written appeared to pose some significant issues by DMR as it sought to create a juvenile justice version of the criminal competency statutes that might have required DMR to have a mandatory role in "competency restoration" and potentially involve residential placement. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee. DMR staff met with Judicial Branch staff who have agreed to include us in discussions regarding this proposal should it move ahead next year.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=667&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=667&which_year=2006)

**HB 5030 AN ACT CONCERNING CAPTIVE AUDIENCE MEETINGS.** To prohibit an employer from coercing employees into attending or participating in communications by the employer about the employer's views on politics, religion or labor organizing activities. This bill died in the Judiciary Committee.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5030&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5030&which_year=2006)

**HB 5033 AN ACT CONCERNING PAID LEAVE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES RETURNING FROM OVERSEAS MILITARY DUTY.** To ensure that state employees returning from active, overseas military duty of eighteen months or longer receive a two-week paid leave of absence. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee. (see PA 06-146, SB 459)  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5033&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5033&which_year=2006)

**HB 5035 AN ACT CONCERNING IMPACT STATEMENTS FOR MAJOR LAYOFFS OR DISMISSALS OF STATE EMPLOYEES.** To require the submission of impact statements to the General Assembly prior to any major layoff or dismissal of state employees. This bill died on the House Calendar.  
[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5035&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5035&which_year=2006)

**HB 5050 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE SET-ASIDE PROGRAM.** This bill would have made several changes to the state small and minority business set-aside program, including requiring certain agencies to explain how they will meet their set-aside program goals, changing the definition of small contractor, requiring an explanation when a set-aside contractor employs a subcontractor who is ineligible for the program, and requiring awarding authorities to send notices of alleged set-aside violations to the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO). This bill died in the Finance Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5050&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5050&which_year=2006)

**HB 5053 AN ACT CONCERNING REFORM OF THE STATE CONTRACTING PROCESS.** To reform the state contracting process. This bill died on the House Calendar.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5053&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5053&which_year=2006)

**HB 5062 AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.** This bill would have changed the name of the Department of Mental Retardation to the Department of Developmental Disabilities. This bill was incorporated into SB 67 which passed the Government Administration and Elections Committee but later died on the House Calendar. (see PA 06-92, HB 5478)

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5062&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5062&which_year=2006)

**HB 5090 AN ACT CONCERNING RATES FOR NURSING POOL SERVICES PROVIDED TO HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS.** To require the Commissioner of Social Services to set annual rate limits for services provided by nursing pools to health care institutions and correctional institutions. This bill died in the Finance Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5090&which\\_year=2006#](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5090&which_year=2006#)

**HB 5092 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMISSION AND CARE OF PATIENTS IN NURSING HOMES.** This bill would have revised procedures concerning the admission and care of nursing home patients with mental illness or mental retardation. This bill died in the Public Health Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5092&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5092&which_year=2006)

**HB 5126 AN ACT CONCERNING CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECKS.** This bill would have given the Department of Public Safety to adopt regulations to implement provisions of one state and three federal laws providing for national criminal history record checks to determine an employee's or volunteer's suitability and fitness to care for the safety and well-being of children, the elderly, and people with disabilities. The federal laws are the 1993 National Child Protection Act, 1994 Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, and 1998 Volunteers for Children Act. The state law is the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact. This bill died in the Government Administration and Elections Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5126&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5126&which_year=2006)

**HB 5191 AN ACT INCREASING REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR DENTISTS PROVIDING SERVICES TO MEDICAID PATIENTS.** To ensure that dentists who participate in the Medicaid program are adequately compensated for the services provided. This bill died in the Human Services Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5191&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5191&which_year=2006)

**HB 5192 AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE SERVICES AS AN OPTIONAL SERVICE UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM.** To require the Commissioner of Social Services to amend the Medicaid state plan to include personal care assistance services as a covered service under the Medicaid program. This bill died in the Human Services Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5192&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5192&which_year=2006)

**HB 5199 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FATALITY REVIEW BOARD FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.** This bill would have codified the Fatality Review Board as established in Executive Order #25 in February 2002. This bill died in the Judiciary Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5199&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5199&which_year=2006)

**HB 5205 AN ACT CONCERNING RECOVERY OF MISAPPROPRIATED STATE FUNDS.** To provide the state with a means to recover misappropriated state funds. This bill died in the Judiciary Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5205&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5205&which_year=2006)

**HB 5230 AN ACT CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION TO ENHANCE SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PARENTS OF SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN.** To offer support services and financial assistance to families of special needs children. This bill died in the Public Health Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5230&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5230&which_year=2006)

**HB 5238 AN ACT CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION FOR PURPOSES OF ELIMINATING THE WAITING LIST.** To eliminate the Department of Mental Retardation's waiting list. This bill died in the Public Health Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5238&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5238&which_year=2006)

**HB 5282 AN ACT CONCERNING LEAVE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES PROVIDING DISASTER RELIEF SERVICES.** To clarify the length of leave a state employee may be granted to provide disaster relief services for the American Red Cross. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5282&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5282&which_year=2006)

**\* HB 5471 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS.** The autism pilot language (originally HB 5471) that corresponds with the \$1 million included in the budget was passed as part of the DSS/Public Health implementer bill (SB 703, Section 37). See additional information under § 37 of PA 06-188 (SB 703) above. A steering committee, under the direction of DMR's Autism Coordinator, has chosen the Greater New Haven geographic area to target the pilot.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5471&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5471&which_year=2006)

**HB 5576 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONTENT OF MINUTES OF A MEETING UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND THE COPYING OF PUBLIC RECORDS.** To establish a content requirement for the minutes of a meeting of a public agency and to enable individuals to utilize their own equipment to copy public records. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5576&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5576&which_year=2006)

**HB 5583 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF THE RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES OF CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES.** To eliminate the inconsistent application of the Freedom of Information Act as it relates to the disclosure of the residential address of nonelected public officials and employees. This bill was recommitted to the Government Administration and Elections Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5583&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5583&which_year=2006)

**HB 5608 AN ACT CONCERNING FEE INCREASES FOR CERTAIN VITAL RECORDS, AND LIFETIME FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.** To regulate the use of electronic data capturing devices, increase certain fees charged by town clerks and provide lifetime fishing licenses for persons who are blind or mentally retarded and lifetime hunting and fishing licenses for persons who are physically disabled. This bill died on the House Calendar.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5608&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5608&which_year=2006)

**HB 5638 AN ACT CONCERNING A HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED WAIVER FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM OR OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.** To obtain a waiver from federal law that will permit children and adults who have developmental disabilities, but do not qualify for specialized services because they do not have mental retardation, increased access to individualized supports and self-directed services in their homes

and community. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5638&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5638&which_year=2006)

**HB 5641 AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE MEDICAID PROGRAM AND RATES PAID BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES.** To: (1) Remove the upper age limit on the personal care assistance program for persons with disabilities, (2) provide full payment to medical providers who assist dually eligible Medicare and Medicaid recipients, (3) require the Commissioner of Social Services to adopt less restrictive income and resource methodologies when determining eligibility for Medicaid, (4) establish a Medicaid Institute, (5) eliminate provisions that provide for the establishment of a debt due and owing to the Department of Social Services in situations where a transfer of assets results in the imposition of a penalty period, and (6) restore the availability of transitional Medicaid for a two-year period. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=HB05641](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=HB05641)

**HB 5642 AN ACT CONCERNING PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.** To: (1) Revise income eligibility procedures used by the Department of Social Services in program eligibility determinations, (2) prohibit physicians groups affiliated with hospitals that receive disproportionate share payments from discriminating against persons on the basis of source of payment, (3) increase payment rates to private providers contracting with the state for the provision of human services, (4) expand the availability of state insurance payments on behalf of persons with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or human immunodeficiency virus, (5) establish a residential care home pilot program for persons with income that exceeds three hundred per cent of the federal supplemental security income limit, and (6) provide appropriations to the Department of Social Services for the establishment of a dedicated call center for Medicaid recipients. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=HB05642](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=HB05642)

**HB 5649 AN ACT CONCERNING STATE EMPLOYEE DONATION OF VACATION, SICK AND PERSONAL LEAVE AND CERTAIN EMPLOYMENT ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.** To permit a state employee to donate vacation or personal leave to any other state employee, regardless of job classification or membership in a collective bargaining agreement. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5649&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5649&which_year=2006)

**HB 5660 AN ACT CONCERNING WHEELCHAIR TRANSFER SAFETY.** To increase the safe transport of people in wheelchairs. This bill died on the House Calendar.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5660&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5660&which_year=2006)

**5718 AN ACT CONCERNING A PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.** To authorize state or local professional societies and organizations of health care professionals to establish programs for rehabilitating impaired health care professionals. This bill was recommitted to the Public Health Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5718&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5718&which_year=2006)

**HB 5740 AN ACT CONCERNING ERGONOMICS AND WORKPLACE SAFETY.** To require each employer, through its health and safety committee or existing health and safety program, to develop a written ergonomics policy for the workplace. This bill died in the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5740&which\\_year=2006&SUBMIT1.x=8&SUBMIT1.y=3](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5740&which_year=2006&SUBMIT1.x=8&SUBMIT1.y=3)

**HB 5772 AN ACT CONCERNING ACCOUNTABILITY IN CONTRACTING WITH STATE AGENCIES.** To lower the threshold on the dollar value of certain state contracts that are subject to the Freedom of Information Act, provide that salary information relating to employees performing work under such contracts shall be subject to disclosure and require disclosure of certain information by nonprofit agencies who have contracts with the Department of Social Services. This bill died on the House Calendar.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5772&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5772&which_year=2006)

**\*HB 5788 AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH CARE DECISION MAKING.** This language was passed as part of another bill. See **PA 06-195 (SB 317)** above.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5788&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5788&which_year=2006)

**HB 5790 AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTH CARE.** To increase the reimbursement rate for dentists who provide dental services under the state's medical assistance program or the HUSKY Plan and to improve access to oral health care. This bill died in the Appropriations Committee.

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=5790&which\\_year=2006](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=5790&which_year=2006)

**I hope that the above information is helpful. Again, copies of any of the above mentioned or any other bills from this session can be found online at [www.cga.ct.gov](http://www.cga.ct.gov). Enter the bill number and hit "go". This will bring you to the bill history page where you can see end results of any bills from the session including: if it passed both chambers, any amendments that passed, was it signed by the Governor, and any public act numbers that have been assigned. As always, you may contact me at 418-6066 with any questions.**

***OTHER INFORMATION and LINKS:***

The Office of Legislative Research puts together information on 2006 Major Public Acts:

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/olr/>

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/olr/2006actsaffecting.asp>

The Office of Fiscal Analysis puts together highlights of the Revised 2005-2007 Biennial Budget, May 3, 2006:

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa/Documents/BudHlts/BudHts5-3-2006.pdf>