



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES
A Healthcare Service Agency

NED LAMONT
GOVERNOR

MIRIAM E. DELPHIN-RITTMON, Ph.D.
COMMISSIONER

Legislative Update # 2

February 7, 2020

There is the potential that the Appropriations hearing on the proposed FY 2021 DMHAS budget scheduled for February 21, 2020 may be postponed. As there is no way to determine which day(s) of the week of February 17 will be impacted by a proposed session day, it is not possible to solidify the Appropriations hearing date for DMHAS. I will provide news related to the DMHAS Appropriations hearing soon as it becomes available. Thank you for staying tuned!

In other news, bill proposals are beginning to be posted and committee meetings and hearings are commencing. Future legislative updates will inform you about opportunities for public comment related to these bills. Below are proposed bill that may be of interest to the DMHAS advocacy community:

[HB-5004](#) AN ACT DECREASING FEES FOR COPYING PUBLIC RECORDS', to reduce to reasonable levels the fees paid by the public for copies of public records.

[SB-6](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGALIZATION AND TAXATION OF THE RETAIL SALE OF MARIJUANA', to legalize and tax the retail sale of marijuana.

[HB-5016](#) AN ACT EXPANDING ACCESS TO MEDICAL SPECIALISTS FOR MEDICAID BENEFICIARIES IN SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT', to ensure adequate access to medical specialists in southeastern Connecticut.

[HB-5019](#) AN ACT CONCERNING FAIR FUTURES FOLLOWING ERASURE OF CRIMINAL RECORDS', to implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[HB-5020](#) AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PUBLIC HEALTH', to implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[HB-5017](#) AN ACT INCREASING ACCESS TO FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS', to provide feminine hygiene products to women who otherwise may not be able to afford such products.

[HB-5014](#) HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TAX CREDIT FOR PROVIDERS OF CLINICAL NURSING EXPERIENCES', to provide a tax credit to preceptors who provide clinical nursing experiences to nursing students earning a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree from an institution of higher education in the state.

[SB-16](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADULT USE OF CANNABIS', to implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about any of the information contained in the legislative updates. I can be reached at (860) 418-6839 or mary.mason@ct.gov. During session, you may want to try to reach me on my cell phone at (860) 985-2120 since I am often at the Capitol and away from my desk phone.