



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 # 9

February 16, 2021

We have finished unpacking the [Governor's proposed budget](#) for DMHAS. The opportunity for public testimony on the proposed DMHAS budget will be on March 2nd at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom. The link to sign up for testimony will be made available 5 days prior to the hearing. In brief, the budget for DMHAS:

- Provides funding for caseload growth
- Provides funding for prevention and enforcement related to the legalization of cannabis
- Provides funding for not-for-profit providers to adjust for increases in the minimum wage
- Re-allocates funding for DMHAS Human Resource functions and Workman's Compensation to other state agencies with oversight for these functions
- Funds contractual wage adjustments for state employees

There have been several bills related to the Police Accountability bill passed last summer. Bills in this update related to this bill can be found at [SB-775](#), [SB-784](#) and [SB-828](#).

Below are few that may be of interest:

Proposed [HB-6249](#) AN ACT CONCERNING TELEHEALTH.

Proposed [HB-6258](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE MOST EFFECTIVE USE OF PRETRIAL DIVERSIONARY PROGRAMS.

Proposed [HB-6265](#) AN ACT CONCERNING COURT AUTHORITY TO ENTER AN ORDER OF SUPPORT FOR AN ADULT CHILD WHO IS TWENTY-ONE OR OLDER AND HAS AN INTELLECTUAL, MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY.

Proposed [HB-6301](#) AN ACT AUTHORIZING SPORTS WAGERING, INTERNET GAMING, INTERNET LOTTERY AND INTERNET KENO IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

Raised [HB-6317](#) AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCHARGES FROM NURSING HOMES AND RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES TO TEMPORARY OR UNSTABLE HOUSING.

Proposed [HB-6318](#) AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICE ANIMALS.

Proposed [HB-6334](#) AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

Proposed [HB-6363](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THERAPY DOGS FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS.

Raised [SB-764](#) AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID PROVIDERS.

Proposed [SB-772](#) AN ACT CONCERNING UNDUE INFLUENCE.

Proposed [SB-781](#) AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF THE CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING REQUIRED BY THE STATE POLICE ACADEMY AND POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL.

Proposed [SB-810](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE TERM "COMMUNITY RESIDENCE".

The Committee on Housing will have a hearing on February 18th at 11:00 a.m. One of the bills of interest to be heard is [SB-86](#) AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR HOUSING RESOURCES FOR THE HOMELESS AND TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS. To testify on bills being heard please follow the committee process contained in the [Legislative Bulletin](#).

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. While email is the best way to reach me, you can also text or call my cell phone at (860) 985-2120 since I am away from my desk phone.