

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

October 20, 2023

The Honorable Sean Scanlon State Comptroller 165 Capitol Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Comptroller Scanlon:

Section 4-66 of the General Statutes requires that my office provide information on the state's General Fund for Fiscal Year 2024. An analysis of the Special Transportation Fund is also provided here due to the significance of this fund.

FY 2024 Projection									
			(in millions)						
				Change	in C	Oct. Est.			
				Estimat	e - V	ariance			
		Sep.	Oct.	Oct. v	5.	from			
General Fund	<u>Budget</u>	Estimate	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Sep.</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Budget</u>			
Revenues	\$22,505.3	\$22,586.8	\$ 22,586.8	\$	- \$	81.5			
Expenditures	22,105.6	22,302.3	22,374.7	72	.4	269.1			
Operating Results - Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 399.7	\$ 284.5	\$ 212.1	\$ (72	.4) \$	(187.6)			
Budget Reserve Fund									
Deposits		\$ 967.7	\$ 895.3	\$ (72	.4)				
Withdrawals		(1,918.1)	(1,870.5)	1. 47	<u>.6</u>				
Proj. Net Deposit/(Withdrawal) 6/30		\$ (950.4)	\$ (975.2)	\$ (24	.8)				
Special Transportation Fund									
Revenues	\$ 2,352.6	\$ 2,352.6	\$ 2,352.6	\$	- \$	-			
Expenditures	2,148.4	2,148.4	2,148.7		.3	0.3			
Operating Results - Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 204.2	\$ 204.2	\$ 203.9	\$ (0	.3) \$	(0.3)			
Proj. Fund Balance 6/30		\$ 874.2	\$ 873.9	\$ (0	.3)				
Notes:			-	•					

Notes:

1. BRF withdrawal includes the projected transfer out of \$1,870.3 million in FY 2024 pursuant to Sec. 4-30a, CGS, as the FY 2023 ending balance exceeds the statutory 15% cap. This sum will be deposited as additional contributions to the State Employees Retirement Fund and the Teachers' Retirement Fund.

General Fund

The adopted FY 2024 budget anticipated a \$399.7 million balance at year end - 1.8% of General Fund appropriations. We currently project a surplus of \$212.1 million, \$187.6 million below the budgeted amount and \$72.4 million below last month's estimate, largely as a result of an increase in anticipated expenditure requirements within the Department of Social Services' Medicaid account.

Budget Reserve Fund

Our forecast of the Budget Reserve Fund (BRF) balance is depicted below. We project that, after transfers out of the fund and into the State Employees and Teachers' Retirement Systems pursuant to the close-out of FY 2023 and transfers into the fund pursuant to the statutory volatility cap and the estimated FY 2024 operating surplus, the fund balance and the end of FY 2024 will be \$4.21 billion, or 19.1% of net General Fund appropriations for the current year and 18.5% of adopted FY 2025 appropriations. Since this projected balance would exceed the statutory 15% floor for the Budget Reserve Fund by approximately \$790 million during FY 2025, the excess funds would be split evenly between additional transfers to the Budget Reserve Fund and transfers to the State Employees Retirement Fund and/or the Teachers' Retirement Fund during the close-out period for FY 2024, prior to reaching the 18% BRF cap per Public Act 23-1.

Budget Reserve Fund		
	(in	millions)
Estimated BRF Starting Balance - FY 2024 (OSC 9/30/23 Est.)	\$	5,186.3
Deposit to SERS/TRS pursuant to Sec. 4-30a, C.G.S. (OSC 9/30/23 Est.)	\$	(1,870.5)
Projected Operating Surplus - FY 2024 (OPM 10/20/23 Est.)	\$	212.1
Volatility Cap Deposit - FY 2024 (OPM 10/20/23 Est.)	\$	683.2
Estimated BRF Ending Balance - FY 2024	\$	4,211.2
BRF as % of current year GF appropriations		19.1%

Revenues

No change in General Fund revenues is forecast this month. Note that my office and the Office of Fiscal Analysis will jointly release a consensus forecast next month which could materially alter our projections.

Expenditures

We forecast that FY 2024 net expenditures will, in aggregate, be \$269.1 million above the level anticipated in the adopted budget and \$72.4 million above last month's projection. A description of projected shortfalls and lapses follows.

Deficiencies: Shortfalls totaling \$196.7 million are forecast in the following agencies.

• <u>Department of Social Services</u>. A net shortfall of \$113.9 million is anticipated. A \$120.0 million deficit is forecast in the Medicaid account as a result of several factors including the cost of Medicare Part D clawback billing by the federal government pursuant to the *Carr v. Becerra* federal court decision as well as costs associated with the transition to a new fiscal intermediary and a shift in costs for undocumented individuals from the HUSKY B account to the Medicaid account which results in a forecast surplus in the HUSKY B account of \$15.4 million. We also project shortfalls of \$4.3 million in Aid to the Disabled and \$2.8 million in State Administered General Assistance due to higher caseload

and costs per case than had been budgeted, \$1.4 million in Connecticut Home Care Program primarily due to higher caseloads, and \$800,000 in Temporary Family Assistance primarily due to higher costs per case.

- Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. A \$10.0 million shortfall is projected, with \$6.0 million in the Other Expenses account as a result of higher than anticipated food, utilities and maintenance costs and \$4.0 million in the Professional Services account due to the cost of contracted doctors and nurses needed to cover staffing vacancies.
- <u>Department of Correction</u>. A net shortfall of \$18.0 million is forecast. With \$15 million in the Other Expenses account and \$5 million in the Inmate Medical Services account primarily due to inflationary increases in fixed costs and pharmaceuticals. Partially offsetting those shortfalls are forecast lapses of \$1.0 million in both the Board of Pardons and Paroles and Community Support Services accounts.
- <u>State Comptroller Miscellaneous</u>. We estimate \$36.7 million in expenditures for Adjudicated Claims including the anticipated settlement of two claims against the State for wrongful conviction totaling \$25.2 million, assuming approval by the General Assembly. No appropriation was made in the enacted budget for payment of these claims.
- <u>State Comptroller Fringe Benefits</u>. A net shortfall of \$90.5 million is anticipated, with \$75.0 million forecast in the Higher Education Alternative Retirement System account primarily due to a change in the accounting treatment for these expenditures, which were originally budgeted as revenue reimbursements but instead will be reflected as expenditures. In addition, an \$18.0 million shortfall is forecast in the Other Post Employment Benefits account as a result of a decrease in the ARP and SERS recovery rates. Partially offsetting those amounts are forecast lapses of \$1.0 million in the Unemployment Compensation account and \$1.5 million in the SERS Defined Contribution Match account.

Lapses: Public Act 23-204 included bottom-line savings targets totaling \$133.7 million. We project that aggregate lapses will remain in line with that budgeted amount; in addition to funds withheld from agencies as part of the rollout of the FY 2024 budget, the lapses identified below are anticipated to partially satisfy the budgeted unallocated lapse.

- Office of Legislative Management. A \$2.0 million lapse is projected in the Personal Services account.
- Secretary of State. A \$450,000 lapse is forecast in the Personal Services account.
- <u>Department of Revenue Services</u>. An \$8.0 million lapse is forecast in the Personal Services account.
- Office of Higher Education. A \$300,000 lapse is forecast in the Other Expenses account as a result of the transfer of responsibility for certain Information Technology contracts to the Department of Administrative Services.
- <u>Teachers' Retirement Board</u>. A \$500,000 lapse is forecast in the Municipal Retiree Health Insurance account due to enrollment.
- <u>Public Defender Services Commission</u>. A total lapse of \$1.375 million is forecast, with \$1.172 million in the Assigned Counsel Criminal account and \$203,000 in the Expert Witness account as a result of decreases in the number of costly jury trials.

Special Transportation Fund

The adopted budget anticipated a \$204.2 million balance from operations. We currently forecast an operating balance of \$203.9 million, \$300,000 less than the budgeted figure and attributable to anticipated expenditure requirements in the Other Post Employment Benefits account within the Comptroller's Fringe Benefits accounts. We do not currently forecast any deviation from the adopted budget for revenues, although my office and the Office of Fiscal Analysis will jointly release a consensus forecast next month which could materially alter our projections.

We project that the Transportation Fund balance on June 30, 2024, will be \$873.9 million.

As the year progresses, these estimates will continue to be revised to reflect the impact of changes in the economy, expenditure patterns, and other factors.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Beckham Secretary

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Attachments:

Summary Statements, FY 2024 Revenue and Expenditures

\$

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State of Connecticut Summary of Changes - FY 2024 General Fund and Special Transportation Fund Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023 (In Millions)

,		
General Fund Balance from Operations - Prior Month		\$ 284.5
Revenues No changes	0.0	0.0
Expenditures Additional Requirements Estimated Lapses Miscellaneous Adjustments/Rounding	(72.4) 0.0 0.0	(72.4)
Operating Surplus - FY 2024		212.1
Budget Reserve Fund Fund Balance as of June 30, 2023 Deposit to SERS/TRS Pursuant to Sec. 4-30a, CGS Volatility Cap Deposit FY 2024 Est. Balance from Operations	(1, <mark>918.1)</mark> 683.2 212.1	\$ 5,233.9 (1,022.7)
Estimated Fund Balance - June 30, 2024 Fund Balance as Percentage of FY 2024 General Fund		\$ 4,211.2 19.1%
Special Transportation Fund Fund Balance as of June 30, 2023 Balance from Operations - Prior Month		\$ 670.0 204.2
Revenues No changes	0.0	0.0
Expenditures Additional Requirements Estimated Lapses Miscellaneous Adjustments/Rounding	(0.3) 0.0 0.0	(0.3)

Estimated Fund Balance - June 30, 2024

State of Connecticut General Fund Statement of FY 2024 Revenues, Expenditures, and Results of Operations Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023 (In Millions)

	General Assembly <u>Budget Plan</u> ^{1.}			Revised stimates OPM	(Over/ Under)
REVENUE						
Taxes		2,060.7	\$	22,060.7	\$	-
Less: Refunds		2,078.6)	Φ.	(2,078.6)	Φ.	
Taxes - Net	-	9,982.1	\$	19,982.1	\$	- 04.5
Other Revenue		1,502.9		1,584.4		81.5
Other Sources		1,020.3	Φ.	1,020.3	\$	04.5
TOTAL Revenue	\$ 22	2,505.3	\$	22,586.8	Þ	81.5
EXPENDITURES						
Initial Current Year Appropriations	\$ 22	2,239.3	\$	22,239.3	\$	-
Prior Year Appropriations Continued to FY 2024 2.				829.1		829.1
TOTAL Initial and Continued Appropriations	\$ 22	2,239.3	\$	23,068.4	\$	829.1
Appropriation Adjustments		-		-		-
TOTAL Adjusted Appropriations	\$ 22	2,239.3	\$	23,068.4	\$	829.1
Net Additional Expenditure Requirements				269.1		269.1
Estimated Appropriations Lapsed		(133.7)		(133.7)		-
Estimated Appropriations to be Continued to FY 2025 ²		(10011)		(10011)		_
TOTAL Estimated Expenditures	\$ 22	2,105.6	\$	23,203.8	\$	1,098.2
Net Change in Fund Balance - Continuing Appropriations Miscellaneous Adjustments/Rounding				(829.1)		(829.1)
wiscellaneous Aujustments/Rounding				-		-
Net Change in Unassigned Fund Balance - 6/30/2024	\$	399.7	\$	212.1	\$	(187.6)

^{1.} P.A. 23-204. Note that CGS Sec. 2-33c limits appropriations to 98.75% of General Fund revenue. As a result, the \$399.7 million budgeted surplus is comprised of \$281.3 million due to this 98.75% limitation, plus an additional \$118.4 million operating surplus.

^{2.} CGS Sec. 4-89 and other statutory provisions.

State of Connecticut General Fund FY 2024 Revenue Estimates Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023 (In Millions)

	(
		General Assembly Budget Plan ^{1.}			Revised stimates OPM		Over/ Under)
TAXES			_				
Personal Income - Withholding		\$	8,380.9	\$	8,375.8	\$	(5.1)
Personal Income - Estimates and Finals			2,642.4		2,647.5		5.1
Sales and Use			5,299.5		5,299.5		-
Corporation			1,514.5		1,514.5		-
Pass-through Entity Tax			1,815.6		1,815.6		_
Public Service Corporations			291.6		291.6		-
Inheritance and Estate			178.1		178.1		_
Insurance Companies			262.8		262.8		_
Cigarettes			276.4		276.4		_
Real Estate Conveyance			287.7		287.7		_
Alcoholic Beverages			78.4		78.4		_
Admissions and Dues			31.0		31.0		_
Health Provider Tax			956.4		956.4		_
Miscellaneous			45.4		45.4		_
TOTAL - TAXES		\$	22,060.7	\$	22,060.7	\$	(0.0)
Less: Refunds of Taxes		Ψ	(1,879.5)	Ψ	(1,879.5)	Ψ	-
Earned Income Tax Credit			(191.6)		(191.6)		_
R & D Credit Exchange			(7.5)		(7.5)		_
TOTAL - TAXES - NET		\$	19,982.1	\$	19,982.1	\$	(0.0)
TOTAL TAKES NET		Ψ	10,002.1	Ψ	10,002.1	Ψ	(0.0)
OTHER REVENUE							
Transfers - Special Revenue		\$	406.5	\$	406.5	\$	-
Indian Gaming Payments			283.7		283.7		-
Licenses, Permits, Fees			356.5		356.5		-
Sales of Commodities and Services			16.9		16.9		-
Rents, Fines, Escheats			172.9		172.9		-
Investment Income			198.9		198.9		-
Miscellaneous			153.2		234.7		81.5
Refunds of Payments			(85.7)		(85.7)		-
TOTAL - OTHER REVENUE		\$	1,502.9	\$	1,584.4	\$	81.5
OTUED 0011D050							
OTHER SOURCES		Φ.	4 007 0	Φ	4 007 0	Φ	
Federal Grants		\$	1,867.8	\$	1,867.8	\$	-
Transfer from Tobacco Settlement Fund			(272.7)		108.4		381.1
Transfers From/(To) Other Funds			108.4		(272.7)		(381.1)
Transfers to BRF - Volatility Adjustment 2.			(683.2)		(683.2)		-
TOTAL - OTHER SOURCES		\$	1,020.3	\$	1,020.3	\$	-
TOTAL - GENERAL FUND REVENUE		\$	22,505.3	\$	22,586.8	\$	81.5

^{1.} Sec. 397 of P.A. 23-204.

^{2.} The volatility cap for FY 2024 is \$3,779.9 million. Total revenue from the Estimates and Finals portion of the Personal Income Tax and the Pass-through Entity Tax that exceeds the volatility cap will be deposited into the Budget Reserve Fund.

State of Connecticut - General Fund FY 2024 Appropriation Adjustments - Net Additional Requirements Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services	\$ 10,000,000
Department of Social Services	113,900,000
Department of Correction	18,000,000
State Comptroller - Miscellaneous	36,700,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits	90,500,000

Total \$ 269,100,000

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State of Connecticut General Fund Estimated FY 2024 Lapses Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023

Unallocated Lapse	\$ 36,090,570
Unallocated Lapse - Judicial	5,000,000
Reflect Historical Staffing	80,000,000
Legislative Management	2,000,000
Secretary of the State	450,000
Department of Revenue Services	8,000,000
Office of Higher Education	300,000
Teachers' Retirement Board	500,000
Public Defender Services Commission	1,375,000
Total	\$ 133,715,570

State of Connecticut FY 2024 General Fund Monthly Summary of Operations (In Millions)

	Budget Plan ^{1.}	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023	January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024	June 2024
REVENUE	\$22,505.3	\$ 22,505.3	\$22,586.8	\$22,586.8									
Appropriations	22,239.3	22,239.3	22,239.3	22,239.3									
Additional Requirements	0.0	9.5	196.7	269.1									
Less: Estimated Lapses	(133.7)	(133.7)	(133.7)	(133.7)									
TOTAL - Estimated Expenditures	22,105.6	22,115.1	22,302.3	22,374.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating Polones	399.7	390.2	284.5	212.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating Balance					0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Misc. Adjustments/Rounding	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		· 							
Est. Operating Balance - 6/30/24	\$399.7	\$390.2	\$284.5	\$212.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

^{1.} P.A. 23-204.

State of Connecticut Special Transportation Fund Analysis of FY 2024 Budget Plan Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023 (In Millions)

	General Assembly Budget Plan ^{1.}	Revised Estimates <u>OPM</u>	Over/ <u>Inder)</u>
Fund Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$ 670.0	\$ 670.0	\$ -
REVENUE			
Taxes Less: Refunds of Taxes	\$ 1,940.3 (16.9)	\$1,940.3 (16.9)	\$ -
Taxes - Net	1,923.4	1,923.4	-
Other Revenue	429.2	429.2	
TOTAL - Revenue	\$ 2,352.6	\$2,352.6	\$ -
EXPENDITURES			
Appropriations	\$2,160.4	\$2,160.4	\$ -
Prior Year Appropriations Continued to FY 2024 2.		80.9	 80.9
TOTAL Initial and Continued Appropriations Appropriation Adjustments	\$ 2,160.4	\$2,241.3 	\$ 80.9 -
TOTAL Adjusted Appropriations	\$2,160.4	\$2,241.3	\$ 80.9
Net Additional Expenditure Requirements Estimated Appropriations Lapsed	(12.0)	0.3 (12.0)	0.3
Estimated Appropriations to be Continued to FY 2025 ² .	(12.0)	(12.0)	
TOTAL Estimated Expenditures	\$2,148.4	\$2,229.6	\$ 81.2
Net Change in Fund Balance - Continuing Appropriations Miscellaneous Adjustments/Rounding		(80.9)	(80.9)
Net Change in Unassigned Fund Balance - FY 2024	\$ 204.2	\$ 203.9	\$ (0.3)
Estimated Fund Balance - June 30, 2024	\$ 874.2	<u>\$ 873.9</u>	\$ (0.3)

^{1.} P.A. 23-204. Note that CGS Sec. 2-33c limits appropriations to 98.75% of Special Transportation Fund revenue. As a result, the \$204.2 million budgeted surplus is comprised of \$29.4 million due to this limitation, plus an additional \$174.8 million operating surplus.

^{2.} CGS Sec. 4-89 and other statutory provisions.

State of Connecticut Special Transportation Fund FY 2024 Revenue Estimates Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023 (In Millions)

	A	General ssembly get Plan ^{1.}	Revised stimates OPM	Over/ (Under)	
TAXES					
Motor Fuels	\$	495.6	\$ 495.6	\$	-
Oil Companies		387.0	387.0		-
Sales & Use Tax		860.2	860.2		-
Sales Tax DMV		107.5	107.5		-
Highway Use		90.0	90.0		
TOTAL - TAXES		1,940.3	1,940.3		-
Less: Refunds of Taxes		(16.9)	(16.9)		-
TOTAL - TAXES - NET	\$	1,923.4	\$ 1,923.4	\$	-
OTHER REVENUE					
Motor Vehicle Receipts	\$	254.1	\$ 254.1	\$	-
Licenses, Permits, Fees		123.7	123.7		-
Interest Income		59.3	59.3		-
Federal Grants		9.2	9.2		-
Transfers (To)/From Other Funds		(13.5)	(13.5)		-
Refunds of Payments		(3.6)	 (3.6)		-
TOTAL - OTHER REVENUE	\$	429.2	\$ 429.2	\$	-
TOTAL - SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND REVENUE	\$	2,352.6	\$ 2,352.6	\$	-

^{1.} Sec. 398 of P.A. 23-204.

State of Connecticut Special Transportation Fund FY 2024 Appropriation Adjustments - Net Additional Requirements Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023

State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits	\$ 300,000
Total	\$ 300,000

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State of Connecticut Special Transportation Fund FY 2024 Estimated Lapses Projected to June 30, 2024 As of September 30, 2023

Unallocated Lapse	\$ 500,000
Department of Motor Vehicles	5,000,000
Department of Transportation	6,500,000
Total	\$ 12,000,000
	 , -,

State of Connecticut FY 2024 Special Transportation Fund Monthly Summary of Operations (In Millions)

	Budget Plan ^{1.}	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023	January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024	June 2024
Beginning Balance ^{2.}	\$ 670.0	\$ 670.0	\$ 670.0	\$ 670.0									
Revenue	2,352.6	2,352.6	2,352.6	2,352.6									
Total Available	3,022.6	3,022.6	3,022.6	3,022.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Appropriations	2,160.4	2,160.4	2,160.4	2,160.4									
Additional Requirements	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3									
Less: Estimated Lapses	(12.0)	(12.0)	(12.0)	(12.0)									
TOTAL - Estimated Expenditures	2,148.4	2,148.4	2,148.4	2,148.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating Balance	204.2	204.2	204.2	203.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Misc. Adjustments/Rounding	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0									
Estimated Operating Balance 6/30/24	\$874.2	\$874.2	\$874.2	\$873.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

^{1.} P.A. 23-204.

^{2.} Budget plan and July as estimated by the Office of Policy and Management.