



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

**NED LAMONT**  
**GOVERNOR**

**NANCY NAVARRETTA, MA, LPC, NCC**  
**COMMISSIONER**

**Legislative Update #3**

**March 16, 2023**

The DMHAS legislative team is happy to share the information below related to bill of note to the behavioral health community.

[HB-6562](#) AN ACT CONCERNING TELEHEALTH. Heard in Public Health on 2/22/2023. Voted out of Committee and pending on the House calendar.

[HB-6600](#) AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ACTION ORGANIZATIONS. Heard in Public Health on 2/22/2023, referred to the Appropriations Committee

**Opioid Settlement Money bills of interest.**

[PA 22-48](#) Provided a structure for the approval and distribution of opioid settlement money via a multi-stakeholder Opioid Settlement Advisory Council. Several bills have been introduced in reference to the settlement dollars. They are:

[SB-176](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS.

[HB-5315](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF FUNDING FROM THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND TO BE USED TO SUPPLY A PATIENT WHO HAS BEEN PRESCRIBED AN OPIOID DRUG WITH A PERSONAL-USE PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL SYSTEM.

[HB-5869](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE UTILIZATION OF THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND.

[HB-6696](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND AND PERSONAL OPIOID DRUG DEACTIVATION AND DISPOSAL PRODUCTS.

[HB-6718](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, CANNABIS AND CANNABIS PRODUCTS.

[HB-6698](#) AN ACT CONCERNING DRUG POLICY, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND PEER SUPPORT SERVICES AND MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES FOR CERTAIN DRUG-RELATED CRIMES.

Please feel free to contact Mary Kate Mason at [Mary.Mason@ct.gov](mailto:Mary.Mason@ct.gov) or Kelly Ramsey Fuhlbrigge at [Kelly.Ramsey-Fuhlbrigge@ct.gov](mailto:Kelly.Ramsey-Fuhlbrigge@ct.gov) if you have questions about any of the information contained in the legislative updates.