

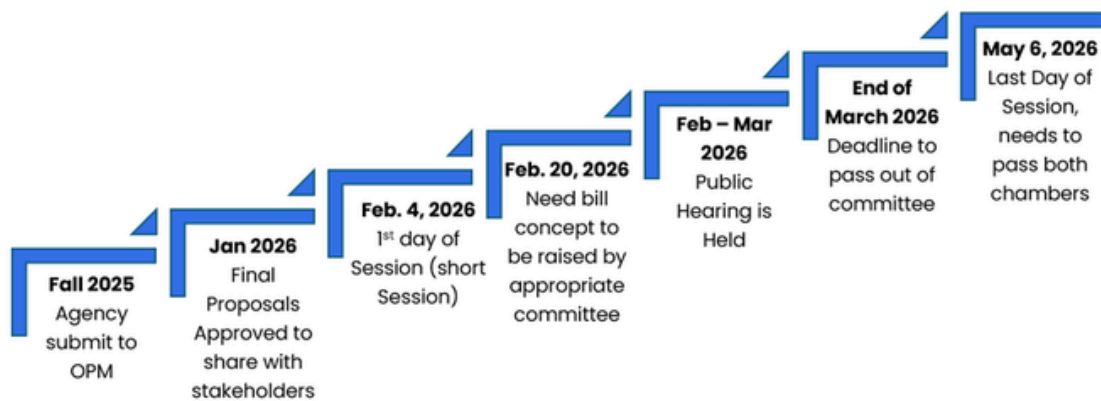
# DMHAS Legislative Newsletter

## Greetings to DMHAS Staff and Partners!

Welcome back! The legislature is back in full swing, and committees are already holding public hearings. The deadline committees have to “raise concepts” or vote to draft bills is also quickly approaching! By this Friday, committees will need to finish that part of their business and focus on public hearings and moving bills out of committee.

For a visual on our own agency proposal journey this session, see below:

### Overview of Proposal Journey



## Agency Budget Presentations Explained

Once the Governor releases the budget and the OPM Secretary testifies before the Appropriations Committee, individual state agencies are invited to appear before the Committee to explain how the proposed budget affects their operations and to respond to questions. Members of the public are also given an opportunity to testify on the Governor’s budget before the Committee.

*DMHAS’ budget presentation will be held on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:30AM–11:30AM. The public hearing will begin at 2 PM.*

## **Public Health Committee Public Hearing & Committee Meeting**

The Public Health Committee will be having its first public hearing tomorrow, Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. [The public hearing agenda](#) states which bills will be heard tomorrow. [The Connecticut Network \(CT-N\)](#), which is a streaming service that provides coverage of Connecticut state government and public affairs, may cover the public hearing.

The Public Health Committee has met this session a few times to raise bills. They will also be meeting tomorrow before the public hearing at 10:00AM to raise bills.



### **Legislative Resources**



As mentioned earlier, committees have started scheduling public hearings that let the public, agencies, and other stakeholders formally weigh in on bills.

To subscribe to committee updates and stay in the loop on committee and public hearing agendas, visit the [Connecticut General Assembly website to create a personalized mailing list](#).

You can also track specific bills through the [CGA Bill Tracking System](#) and sign up for text or email notifications on bill action.

The Policy and Governmental Affairs Team reviews, tracks, and reads all bills daily for impact on DMHAS operations or the populations we serve on behalf of the agency.



### **Did You Know?**

[Larry Pemberton](#) was recently elected to the House of Representatives representing the 139th District. He is also the first Native American elected to the Connecticut General Assembly. Rep. Pemberton will serve on the Education and General Law Committee.

**Have a great week!**

*In partnership, Chandra & Kelly*