

May 16, 2025

DMHAS Legislative Newsletter

Greetings to DMHAS Staff and Partners!

Session is in full swing! Please see below what has taken place at the CT General Assembly this week:

This Week at the Capitol

The House and Senate were in session this week and a number of bills were debated and voted on. We have highlighted a few bills below:

In the House, [HB 6894](#), *An Act Establishing an Interagency Council on Homelessness*, was passed unanimously and now goes to the Senate. Similar to the Council established by Governor Lamont in 2024, the bill directs the Council advise and assist the Department of Housing (DOH) Commissioner in improving homelessness prevention and response efforts. The DMHAS Commissioner, or designee, would be a member.



Over in the Senate, [SB 1367](#), *An Act Prohibiting a Bail Bondsman or Agent from Apprehending a Principal on a Bond on the Premises, Grounds or Campus of Any Health Care Facility, School, Institution of Higher Education or House of Worship*, would prohibit bail bondsmen from coming onto the grounds of health care facilities, including DMHAS state-operated facilities, to apprehend an individual on bond. This new prohibition also extends to schools or higher education institutions, as well as places of worship.

Both of these bills now go to the other chamber to be voted on before they are signed into law.

3rd Annual Mental Health and Wellness Fair

Rep. Kai Belton will be hosting the 3rd Annual Mental Health and Wellness Fair at the Capitol on **Tuesday, May 20th**. This event aims to provide support and wellness resources to state legislators, staff, and the public.



Recovery Day at the Capitol

The new rescheduled date for Recovery Day will be held on **Thursday, May 22nd**. Commissioner Navaretta will be speaking at the kick-off press conference which will focus on the value of recovery as a cornerstone of community well-being. Following that, several organizations will host informational tables, giving people the chance to learn more about available recovery services.

What's Happening Next Week?

The House and Senate will be in Session the Following Days:

Monday, May 19th

Tuesday, May 20th

Wednesday, May 21st

Thursday, May 22nd



Did You Know?

In Connecticut, the Lieutenant Governor serves as the *President of the State Senate*, presiding over its sessions. However, the Lieutenant Governor is **not** a member of the legislature and does not vote on legislation—except in the event of a tie, where they cast the deciding vote.

This role is similar to the U.S. Vice President's position in the U.S. Senate.

See You Next Week!

In partnership, Chandra & Kelly

