

DANNEL P. MALLOY GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

June 2, 2016

BILL NOTIFICATION RELEASE No.9

For Immediate Release

Governor Dannel P. Malloy signed the following legislation of the 2016 May Special Session on June 2nd.

SB 504	AN ACT CONVEYING PARCELS OF STATE LAND.
MSS PA 16-1	This bill shall take effect from passage.
SB 502	AN ACT CONCERNING REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2017.
MSS PA 16-3	This bill has various effective dates. Read the text <u>here.</u>

Governor Dannel P. Malloy signed and exercised his line item veto authority on the following legislation of the 2016 May Special Session on June 2nd.

SB 501AN ACT ADJUSTING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2017MSS PA 16-2This bill has various effective dates. Read the text of the bill here.

The Governor has exercised his line item veto authority and has vetoed, Section 1, page 11, "Connecticut Humanities Council", Section 1, page 15, FQHC Supplemental Payments, and Section 1, page 23, Municipal Opportunities and Regional Efficiencies Program. Scroll down to read the line item veto message.

As of this date, the Governor has signed seventy six (76) bills and vetoed one (1) bill of the 2016 Legislative Session. The Governor has signed three (3) bills and has exercised line item veto authority on PA 16-2 of the 2016 May Special Session.

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Dannel P. Malloy GOVERNOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT

June 2, 2016

The Honorable Denise W. Merrill Secretary of the State 30 Trinity Street Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Madam Secretary:

Attached hereto is Emergency Certified Bill 501, An Act Adjusting the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2017. Pursuant to Section 16 of Article Fourth of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, I have signed Emergency Certified Bill 501, but I have exercised my authority, pursuant to said Section 16, to disapprove of the following items in Section 1, each of which makes a distinct appropriation of funds: \$775,000 for Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) Supplemental Payments; \$1,731,172 for the Connecticut Humanities Council; and elimination of a \$20 million lapse in the Municipal Opportunities and Regional Efficiencies (MORE) Program. My disapproval of the item eliminating the lapse in the MORE program restores a reduction of \$20 million in municipal aid that was included in the underlying budget.

Taken as a whole, the budget adjustments represented in this bill, and specifically the drastic reductions in state spending, are important and necessary to meet Connecticut's economic reality. They represent hard work and a clear willingness to make difficult decisions on the part of those who crafted the bill, notably leadership in the Majority Party and the Chairs of the Appropriations and Finance committees. They and all members of the General Assembly who voted in favor of Emergency Certified Bill 501 have my sincere appreciation and gratitude for doing what is necessary to balance our state budget.

At the same time, eliminating the above-listed appropriations is necessary to bring our budget into balance for two reasons:

First, House Bill 5233, An Act Concerning Health Insurance Coverage for Tomosynthesis for Breast Cancer Screenings, will incur in FY 2017 a significant expense to the General Fund that is

not accounted for in Emergency Certified Bill 501. While I have signed HB 5233 into law, adjustments to our budget are necessary to pay for it.

Second, Emergency Certified Bill 501 assumes significant savings resulting from specific criminal justice policy changes proposed by my administration. Unfortunately, the General Assembly has not passed the necessary implementing language for these changes in the time required for action on Emergency Certified Bill 501. Consequently, the budget would be out of balance if these adjustments were not made.

Each day, our state's jails hold approximately 350 prisoners who are charged only with misdemeanors that do not involve failure to appear or family violence charges, who do not otherwise pose a risk to public, but who are too poor to post even a small bond, and who are disproportionately minority. Because of their poverty, these defendants sit in pretrial detention, even though the vast majority of defendants with similar charges and similar records are released on a promise to appear or simply because they have the money to post a bond. And because of General Assembly's inaction on this legislative change, these defendants will continue to spend unnecessary weeks in jail, severely limiting their ability to gain future employment and housing, thereby increasing the risk that they will re-offend – and costing taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars per day.

Reducing the unsentenced pretrial population by 350 would decrease recidivism and help achieve the assumed savings for the FY 2017 budget. If the General Assembly chooses to act on this policy at a later date, I stand ready to discuss additional legislation that might reinstate the line-item appropriations that I am disapproving today.

In summary, Section 16 of Article Fourth of the Constitution gives me authority to disapprove of individual appropriations in this bill, which makes appropriations of money embracing distinct items. In order to keep the FY 2017 budget in balance, I hereby exercise that authority by disapproving of the above-noted items of appropriation within Emergency Certified Bill 501, An Act Adjusting the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2017. This letter serves as my statement of the items disapproved, together with my reasons for such disapproval.

Very truly yours,

Mallex

Dannel P. Malloy Governor