

## Governor Ned Lamont State of Connecticut



FACT SHEET 2024 Legislative Session

# HOUSE BILL 5047 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### **Summary of Proposal:**

This bill makes the following changes:

**Sections 1 – 13** makes the Connecticut Maritime Authority ("CMA") a successor quasi-public agency to the Connecticut Port Authority. The proposal makes the CMA a subsidiary of the Connecticut Airport Authority ("CAA") and authorizes CAA and CMA to establish policies and procedures for the coordination of management and services to enhance revenues, reduce operating costs and achieve operating efficiencies.

**Section 14** extends the reporting deadline for the study on the feasibility and advisability of creating a new quasi-public state agency or state waste authority for the development of new solid waste infrastructure and the operation and maintenance of new or existing solid waste infrastructure.

**Section 15** increases the maximum grant that a municipality may receive under the small town economic assistance program ("STEAP") from \$500,000 to \$1 million.

**Section 16** authorizes an elected or appointed officer to designate an employee to serve on boards, commissions, councils, authorities, task forces or other bodies.

**Section 17** allows full-time state employees within their working test periods to take vacation or personal leave, provided the employee has accrued such leave time.

**Sections 18 – 19** limits the estimated grants for eligible school buildings included on the annual priority school list to \$500 million per year. The proposal also requires the Department of Administrative Services to adopt regulations on the maximum allowable reimbursable cost per square foot for school building projects.

**Section 20** makes a technical change to apply the same work rules to deputies as are applied to other appointed employees.

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**Section 21** makes technical corrections to the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship to ensure that the Office of Higher Education can properly disburse all funds appropriated or allocated for such purpose.

**Sections 22-23** adopts a fifteen-year layered amortization of unfunded liabilities, effective July 1, 2024, for the retirement system for judges, family support magistrates and administrative law judges.

Section 24 prohibits the disclosure of health records under the Freedom of Information Act.

**Sections 25-28** makes technical corrections to the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority.

**Section 29** allows volunteer public members of the Investment Advisory Council to participate in all aspects of their primary employment and still serve on the council.

**Section 30** Repeals the inactive Council of Advisors on Strategies for the Knowledge Economy. Repeals the Municipal Video Competitive Trust Account along with the unnecessary transfer into, and then back out of, such account.

#### **Reason for Proposal:**

Legislation is required to implement the Governor's mid-term budget adjustments.

#### **Significant Impacts:**

Sections 1 through 13 allow CAA to provide its operational expertise to the reconstituted CMA. Section 17 makes the state a more attractive employer by authorizing the use of accrued vacation and personal leave during an employee's working test period. Sections 18-19 ensure that the state can sustainably support school construction projects. Section 24 protects patients' medical records from disclosure. Section 29 removes an impediment to service on the Investment Advisory Council for individuals with needed knowledge and experience.