

**A PROCLAMATION FROM HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR**

WHEREAS, Section 163 of Public Act 24-151, An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State and Concerning Provisions Related to State and Municipal Tax Administration, General Government and School Building Projects, amends C.G.S. 10-287, in part, by removing a provision that barred construction managers from bidding on any work on municipally administered school construction projects they oversee; and

WHEREAS, the removal of this provision permits construction managers to select themselves to complete subcontracting work on school construction projects; and

WHEREAS, this process, known as self-performance, can lead to a lack of competition, a lack of transparency, higher costs, a higher risk of self-dealing, and exclusion of smaller subcontractors from the market; and

WHEREAS, self-performance in municipally administered school construction projects should be prohibited to ensure a competitive and transparent market; and

WHEREAS, Sections 497 to 509 of Public Act 22-118, beginning October 1, 2023, made changes to the way municipalities tax motor vehicles and PA 23-304, sections 209 to 219, delayed these changes by one year, until the 2024 assessment year; and

WHEREAS, the changes to motor vehicle assessments enacted by Sections 497 to 509 of Public Act 22-118 significantly alter the process by which motor vehicles are valued and assessed; and

WHEREAS, corrective changes to Sections 497 to 509 of Public Act 22-118 are needed to facilitate the implementation of the changes to the process by which motor vehicles are assessed and taxed by municipalities; and

WHEREAS, current law permits a municipality to establish a mill rate for motor vehicles that is lower than its mill rate for real property and personal property other than motor vehicles, and some municipalities establish such rates; and

WHEREAS, every municipal chief elected official may not be aware of the option to do so; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut's Uninsured Bank Charter continues to attract interest from financial technology companies because it provides customized regulatory solutions; and

WHEREAS, expressly allowing for a bank holding the uninsured bank charter to accept and hold non-retail deposits and secure deposit insurance from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation will align with competing bank charters offered by other states and ensure that Connecticut-chartered banks are able to satisfy the requirements of card network associations involved in facilitating payment transactions; and

WHEREAS, changing the name of the uninsured bank charter will better reflect the flexible nature of the charter and the scope of banking activities it can accommodate; and

WHEREAS, the Comptroller, on behalf of the Connecticut Retirement Savings Program, anticipates entering into cooperative agreements with other states that have authorized similar retirement security programs; and

WHEREAS, the state of Connecticut would become a host state to other states that have authorized similar retirement security programs for the purpose of reducing administrative costs and leveraging economies of scale for both participants in the Connecticut Retirement Savings Program and participants in states seeking to partner with Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, by entering into such cooperative agreements the Connecticut State Retirement Program can enhance its own operational efficiency and make retirement savings more accessible and affordable to Connecticut residents; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Water Authority is chartered under Special Act 77-98 which defines its governance and provides a framework for what the Regional Water Authority can do and how it can operate; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Water Authority has a successful 44-year track record that demonstrates the benefits of government ownership, local control and organizational stability with public control; and

WHEREAS, changes to the Regional Water Authority enabling legislation are necessary to improve economies of scale, operational efficiencies and access to a broader customer base; and

WHEREAS, the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, as amended by the Taxpayer Certainty and Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2020, established a refundable employee retention tax credit available to certain businesses and tax-exempt organizations that paid employees between March 13, 2020, and December 31, 2021, inclusive; and

WHEREAS, businesses and tax-exempt organizations filing amended 2020 and 2021 returns as necessitated by federal guidance relating to that program face significant interest payments due to the timing and complexities of the federal program rather than any willful underpayment by the taxpayer; and

WHEREAS, C.G.S. 38a-48 directs the Commissioner of Revenue Services to render annually to the Insurance Commissioner a statement certifying the amount of taxes or charges imposed on each domestic insurance company or other domestic entity under chapter 207 on business done in Connecticut during the preceding calendar year and the Insurance Commissioner to rely on such statement to allocate fee assessments; and

WHEREAS, there are multiple reasonable constructions of C.G.S. 38a-48 and it is in the interest of both the state and the domestic insurance companies and other domestic entities covered by that section to clarify its meaning; and

WHEREAS, directing the Commissioner of Revenue Services to render information based on returns filed for the preceding year, which may be subsequently amended, makes the assessment

process more volatile and less certain that it could be were the Commissioner of Revenue Services directed to render information based on returns filed for the calendar year immediately preceding the prior calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the State Historic Preservation Office conducts environmental reviews under the Connecticut Environment Policy Act regarding impacts on historic properties; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut supports the preservation and redevelopment of historic properties.

NOW THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me under Article III of the Amendments to the Constitution of Connecticut and Section 2-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I, in order to preserve orderly and decent government, do hereby:

Convene the General Assembly in Special Session in Hartford on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. to:

1. Enact legislation to prohibit self-performance in municipally administered school construction projects and make other changes to C.G.S. 10-287; and
2. Enact legislation amending Sections 497 to 509 of Public Act 22-118 making changes to the motor vehicle assessments and property tax billing procedures that will take effect on October 1, 2024; and
3. Enact legislation more clearly restating current law, which permits a municipality or district to establish a mill rate for motor vehicles that is lower than its mill rate for real property and personal property other than motor vehicles, and directing the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to notify municipal chief elected officials of that option; and
4. Enact legislation amending C.G.S. 36a-70 and 36a-2 of the 2024 Supplement to expressly allow a bank holding the uninsured bank charter to accept and hold non-retail deposits and secure deposit insurance from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and
5. Enact legislation amending the banking statutes to change the name of the uninsured bank charter to better reflect the scope of permissible activities; and
6. Enact legislation authorizing the State Comptroller, on behalf of the Connecticut Retirement Savings Program, to enter into cooperative agreements with other states that have similar retirement savings programs, aiming to reduce administrative costs and leverage economies of scale for mutual benefit; and
7. Enact legislation updating the enabling legislation for the South-Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority; and
8. Enact legislation establishing that in the case of any underpayment of tax by a taxpayer under chapter 208, 228z, or 229, no interest shall be imposed under such chapters to the extent such underpayment was due to the filing of an amended return necessitated by Internal Revenue Service guidance concerning the employee retention credit program; and
9. Enact legislation amending C.G.S. 38a-48 to clarify that it applies to total tax prior to any adjustment for tax credits and to direct the commissioner of revenue services to base

his statement on returns filed during the calendar year immediately preceding the prior calendar year; and

10. Enact legislation modifying the process by which the State Historic Preservation Office reviews historic properties under the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act.

Given under my hand and Seal of the State at the City of Hartford, this 21st day of June in the year two thousand and twenty-four.

Gov Ned Lamont

Ned Lamont
Governor