

# HEALTH CARE CABINET

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MAY 10, 2022

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## 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: BY THE NUMBERS...

- 85 Days—shortest, short session
- 999 Bills
- \$24.2 Billion
- 53 Public Health Bills Reported Out of Committee (Original Jurisdiction)



# HEALTH CARE POLICY: OVERVIEW

- Key Budget Investments
    - Behavioral Health
    - Workforce Development
    - Safety Net
  - Governor's Bills
  - Health Care Delivery, Practitioners, Facilities
  - Medicaid & Private Insurance
  - Other Public Health Initiatives
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# KEY BUDGET INVESTMENTS: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

**Approximately \$300 million in investments in FY 22 – FY 23, representing a 10% increase over prior biennium, including:**

- ✓ Additional \$26.2 million for adult/pediatric mobile crisis investments to complete 24/7 statewide coverage and support linkages with schools and police
- ✓ \$21 million for children’s behavioral health urgent crisis centers in DCF to operationalize four centers including sub-acute capacity
- ✓ \$15 million to CCMC to establish a new 12-bed psychiatric / medical unit
- ✓ \$3.7 million to provide stabilization funding for residential care homes (RCHs)
- ✓ New grant programs to support families, fill coverage gaps and help pay for care

## KEY BUDGET INVESTMENTS: WORKFORCE

- ✓ \$35 million—\$20 million in FY 2023 and \$15 million in FY 2024 to CSCU to support Healthcare Workforce Development
  - ✓ \$2 million for Child Psychiatrist Workforce Development to DPH
  - ✓ Expanded Student Loan Repayment Program at DPH
  - ✓ \$123.5 million for private provider support in addition to the nearly \$111 million in FY 2022 for salary increases, enhanced benefits and infrastructure improvements
  - ✓ DPH grant-in-aid program for a children's hospital in the state to coordinate a behavioral health training and consultation program
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# KEY BUDGET INVESTMENTS: SAFETY NET

- ✓ 150 new slots in DSS for the Autism waiver
- ✓ \$2 million to expand recreational and community engagement opportunities in DDS
- ✓ \$5.5 million to support expansion in TFA eligibility and benefit levels
- ✓ \$4.5 million to strengthen spousal financial protections under Medicaid
- ✓ Eliminated additional recoveries against public assistance recipients (\$8.5 million revenue loss)
- ✓ Strengthened women's access to health care through improved rates and prevention activities
- ✓ \$300,000 for OHS telehealth study
- ✓ \$500,000 in FY 23 and \$650,000 in FY 24 Funding to begin the Race, Ethnicity, & Language (REL) data implementation

# GOVERNOR'S BILLS

- ✓ Reducing Lead Poisoning—H.B. 5045
  - ✓ Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Physicians)—S.B. 2, Section 43
  - ✓ Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact—S.B. 2, Section 42
  - ✓ Health Care Benchmarks to Promote Transparency and Affordable Care—HB 5506, as amended by LCO 6212 and 6345, Sections 219-225
  - ✓ Use of Opioid Litigation Proceeds—H.B. 5044
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# MEDICAID & PRIVATE INSURANCE COVERAGE

- ✓ Immigrant Health Care Coverage—H.B. 5506, Sections 234 & 235
    - Up to 201% FPL (mirroring HUSKY A eligibility); or
    - 201% - 323% FPL (mirroring HUSKY B limits)
    - Expands coverage to children up to age 12, previously up to age 8
    - Grandfathering provision covers children up to age 19
  - ✓ Dental Rate Increases & Bundled Services to Streamline/Improve Access—H.B. 5506, Section 241
  - ✓ Medicaid Services by Associate Licensed Behavioral Health Clinicians—S.B. 2, Section 25
  - ✓ Required health insurance coverage for breast and ovarian cancer screening—S.B. 358
  - ✓ Use of Captive Insurance Companies To Reduce Premium Rate Increases For Connecticut Partnership LTC Policies—H.B. 5389, Section 1
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# HEALTH CARE DELIVERY, PRACTITIONERS, PROVIDERS AND FACILITIES

- ✓ Strike Planning & Preparation at Health Care Institutions—H.B. 5500, Section 10
  - ✓ Scope of Practice Review for Non-Nurse Midwifery—H.B. 5500, Section 14
  - ✓ Revisions to Scope of Practice Review Process—H.B. 5500, Sections 16, 17 and 55
  - ✓ Recommendations/Revisions to Hospital Community Benefits Programs—H.B. 5500, Section 50
  - ✓ Establishment of Technical Standards for Medical Diagnostic Equipment to Promote Accessibility in Health Care Facilities—H.B. 5500, Section 73
  - ✓ Certificate of Need Taskforce—H.B. 5506, Section 124
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# HEALTH CARE DELIVERY, PRACTITIONERS, PROVIDERS AND FACILITIES (CONTINUED)

- ✓ Connecticut Valley and Whiting Forensic Hospitals—S.B. 450
  - ✓ Temporary Nursing Services Agencies, Reporting of Involuntary Transfers and Discharges from Nursing Homes and Residential Care Homes, Elder Abuse Training, Legal Rights of Long-Term Care Applicants and a Study of Managed Residential Community Issues—H.B. 5313
  - ✓ Restricting No-Hire Clauses in Home Care Contracts—H.B. 5506, Sections 246 & 247
  - ✓ Immunization Information System—H.B. 5506, Sections 512-515, House Amend. C
  - ✓ DMHAS Regional Behavioral Health Action Organizations—H.B. 5419
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# QUALITY, ACCESS, & CONSUMER PROTECTIONS

- ✓ Requiring Express Written Consent to the Intimate Examination of a Patient Who Is Under Deep Sedation or Anesthesia or Unconscious—H.B. 5278
  - ✓ Residential Care Home Transfers and Discharge Protections—H.B. 5500, Section 46
  - ✓ Nursing Home Administrators CEU Requirements—H.B. 5500, Section 11
  - ✓ Doula Advisory Committee—H.B. 5500, Section 40
  - ✓ Study of Homemaker-Companion Agency Issues—S.B. 262
  - ✓ Combating Opioid Epidemic—H.B. 5430
  - ✓ LTC Community Ombudsman—S.B. 9, Section 7, LCO 6537 (amending H.B. 5506)
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## **OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES**

- ✓ Respectful Disposition of Unclaimed Remains—H.B. 5500, Sections 56 & 57
  - ✓ Cremation Fee Waiver for Children—H.B. 5274
  - ✓ Private and Semipublic Well Testing—H.B. 5500, Section 60
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# CONCLUSION

- ✓ Bold Investments in Health Care Coverage, Workforce, and Equity
  - ✓ Regulatory Reforms & Studies
  - ✓ Innovation and Transparency
  - ✓ Removing Barriers to Care, Facilitation of Telehealth and Cross-State Clinician Mobility
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