

# Fiscal Accountability Report FY 2026 - FY 2030

Secretary Jeffrey R. Beckham

December 4, 2025

### **Presentation Overview**

- FY 2026 Operating Results
- FY 2027 FY 2030 Projections
- Budget Reserve Fund and Recession Stress
   Test
- Long-Term Obligations and Major Cost Drivers
- Conclusion

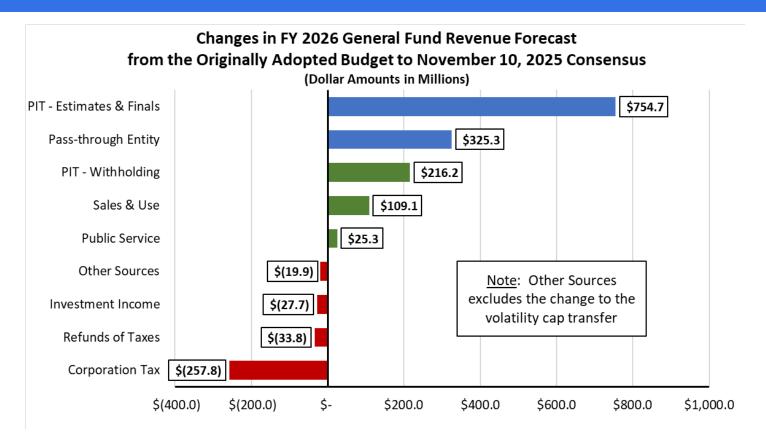
# FY 2026 Operating Results

#### FY 2026 Estimated Results – General Fund

FY 2026 - GENERAL FUND									
(in millions)									
				OPM	٧	'ariance			
		Budget		from					
		<u>Plan</u>	11	L/20/2025		<u>Budget</u>			
Revenue	\$	24,345.4	\$	24,356.8	\$	11.4			
Expenditures	_	24,036.4		24,192.4		156.0			
Operating Results - Surplus/(Deficit)	\$	309.1	\$	164.4	\$	(144.6)			

- Adopted budget anticipated a \$309.1 million balance at year-end – 1.3% of General Fund appropriations
- OPM's November 20, 2025, forecast reflects a \$164.4 million operating surplus – 0.7% of General Fund appropriations
- In accordance with P.A. 25-93, this surplus will be transferred to the Early Childhood Education Endowment

### FY 2026 General Fund Revenue Changes



- Overall FY 2026 General Fund revenues are up \$11.4 million compared to the originally adopted budget
- Corporation tax revenues are down \$257.8 million
  - \$136.9 million is due to the research & experimental expenditures (R&E) expensing provisions outlined in P.L. 119-21, effective retroactive to 1/1/2025
  - \$120.9 million is due to weak economic performance unrelated to the adoption of P.L. 119-21 on 7/4/2025

# FY 2026 General Fund – Agency Deficiencies

#### GENERAL FUND - Recognized Deficiencies as of 11/20/2025

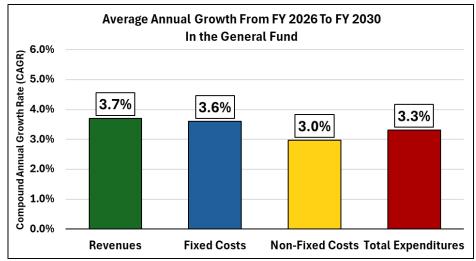
Department of Social Services	\$ 78,380,000
Department of Correction	14,750,000
State Comptroller - Miscellaneous	14,000,000
Department of Housing	12,500,000
Workers' Compensation Claims - DAS	9,550,000
Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services	7,020,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits	7,000,000
Technical Education and Career System	3,800,000
Judicial Department	1,935,000
Office of Early Childhood	1,840,000
Department of Labor	500,000
Department of Public Health	500,000
Department of Education	37,979
Total	\$ 151,812,979



### General Fund Revenues vs. Expenditures

			(in	millions)							
	E	stimated	С	urr. Svcs.	Projected						
		FY 2026		FY 2027		FY 2028		FY 2029		FY 2030	
Consensus Revenue Forecast	\$	24,356.8	\$	25,960.3	\$	26,589.0	\$	27,311.2	\$	28,167.5	
Projected Expenditures		24,192.4		25,500.6		26,243.0		26,893.9		27,553.4	
Revenue less Expenditures	\$	164.4	\$	459.7	\$	346.0	\$	417.3	\$	614.1	

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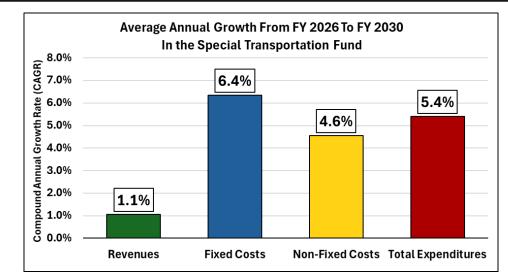


- Forecast revenue growth is approximately equal to forecast increases in expenditure requirements over the next four years
- Revenues in FY 2027 & beyond include \$235 million of budgeted revenue related to the hospital tax without a corresponding expenditure provision related to the hospital tax increase

### Special Transportation Fund Revenues vs. Expenditures

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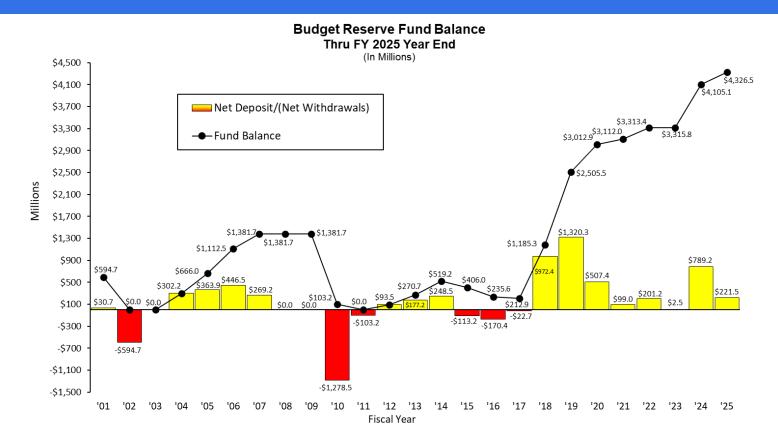
		(	ın m	illions)						
	Es	stimated	Cι	ırr. Svcs.	Projected					
		FY 2026		FY 2027	F	Y 2028	F	FY 2029		Y 2030
Consensus Revenue Forecast	\$	2,328.8	\$	2,428.2	\$	2,348.1	\$	2,387.7	\$	2,428.3
Projected Expenditures	_	2,285.1		2,445.1		2,610.4		2,712.0		2,820.9
Revenue less Expenditures	\$	43.7	\$	(16.9)	\$	(262.3)	\$	(324.3)	\$	(392.6)



- Revenue growth in the Special Transportation Fund is inadequate to support current spending trends
- Debt service is projected to grow at an average annual rate of 7.6% from FY 2026 to FY 2030

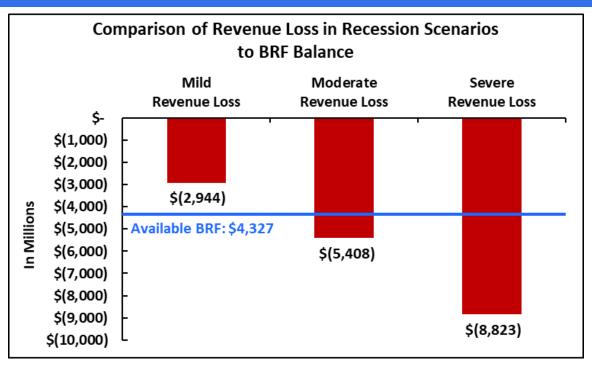
# Budget Reserve Fund and Recession Stress Test

### **Budget Reserve Fund**



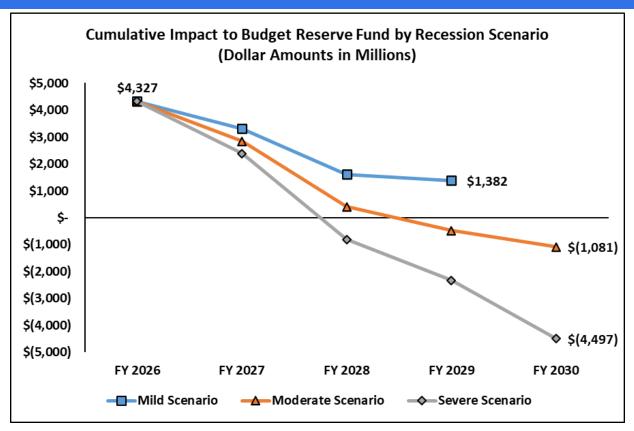
- Following the closeout of FY 2025, the BRF remains at its statutory maximum threshold of 18%
- The BRF has been at its maximum threshold for the last 6 fiscal years

#### **General Fund Revenue Stress Test**



- The Budget Reserve Fund (BRF) balance was \$4.3 billion at the closeout of FY 2025
- The dollar amounts listed for the 3 recession scenarios above reflect the cumulative net impact to General Fund revenues after accounting for the reduction in volatility cap-related revenues that would first reduce the volatility cap transfer to the BRF (i.e., the 'buffer')
- In a <u>mild</u> recession scenario, the BRF would be <u>sufficient</u> to cover the cumulative revenue loss
- In a <u>moderate or severe</u> recession scenario, the BRF would be <u>insufficient</u> to cover the cumulative revenue loss

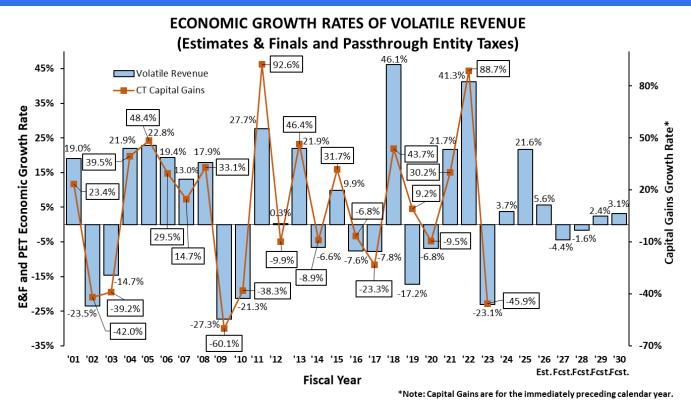
#### General Fund Revenue Stress Test – Cont'd



Similar to the previous slide, after accounting for the volatility cap buffer, the BRF balance is estimated to be:

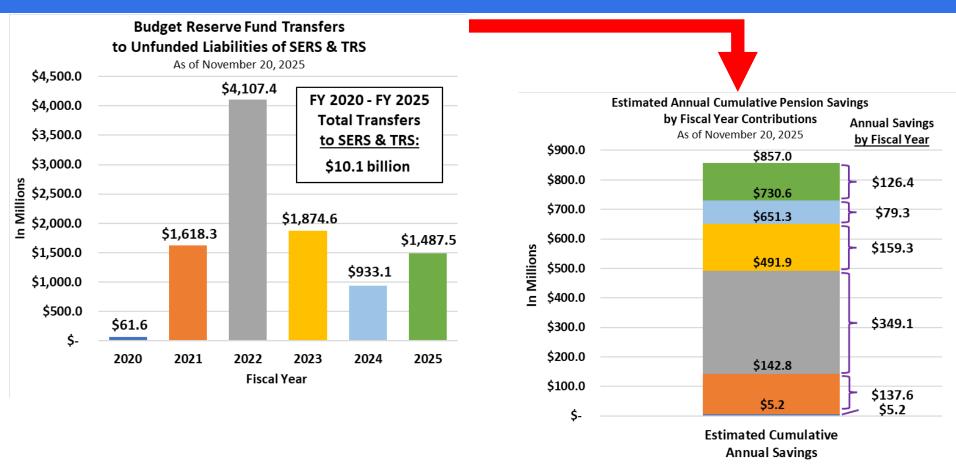
- \$1.38 billion under a <u>mild</u> recession scenario (<u>sufficient</u> to cover the cumulative revenue loss) by the end of FY 2029
- <u>Insufficient</u> under a <u>moderate</u> recession scenario, requiring \$1.08 billion of additional resources by the end of FY 2030
- <u>Insufficient</u> under a <u>severe</u> recession scenario, requiring \$4.5 billion of additional resources by the end of FY 2030

#### Volatile Revenues are Highly Correlated with Capital Gains



- The estimated & finals portion of the income tax and the pass-through entity tax are subject to the volatility cap
- Currently, those sources represent approximately one quarter of net General Fund tax revenue
- Receipts are highly correlated with capital gains, and as a result, are highly volatile
- In FY 2026, 72.3% of volatile revenues will be deposited to the General Fund with the remaining 27.7% subject to the volatility cap (based on November 2025 consensus figures)

#### Additional Contributions to Unfunded Liabilities (Above ADEC)



 \$10.1 billion has been deposited in SERS and TRS over the past 6 years as a result of the BRF reaching the statutory limit, reducing the state's required contributions to the pension systems by approximately \$857 million annually for 25 years

### Fiscal Guardrails Impact – by the Numbers

**Q** Consecutive Budget Surpluses

From FY 2018 through FY 2025, Connecticut achieved eight straight years of General Fund surpluses

**R** Credit Rating Upgrades

Since March 2021, the state's General Obligation ratings were upgraded eight times – the first upgrades in twenty years

18% Budget Reserve Fund her The Budget Reserve Fund her

The Budget Reserve Fund has grown from 1.1% to its statutory maximum 18.0% of the annual General Fund budget

**\$10.1** Reduced Pension Debt

Connecticut has contributed an additional \$10.1 billion since 2020 to reduce unfunded pension liabilities

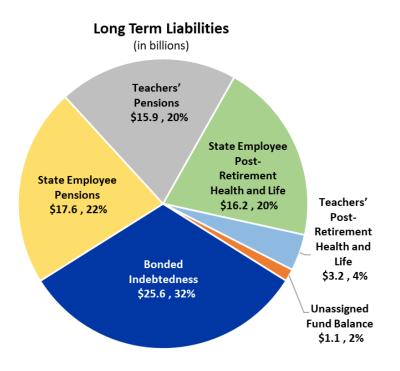
**\$857** Annual Pension Savings

million

Additional contributions to pension systems have reduced required annual contributions by \$857 million per year

### Long-Term Obligations and Major Cost Drivers

### Long-Term Liabilities

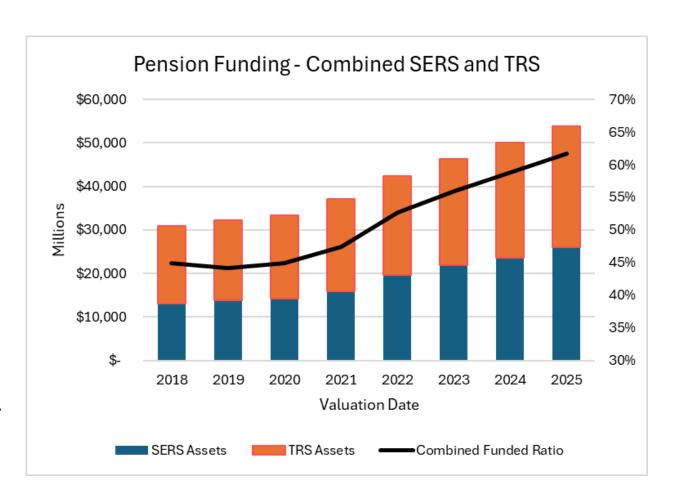


- Long-term liabilities total \$79.6 billion
- Down \$0.2 billion from last year's FAR and \$15.8 billion from the 2021 report
- Since 2021, that represents a 30.9% decrease in inflation adjusted dollars (16.6% nominal decrease)

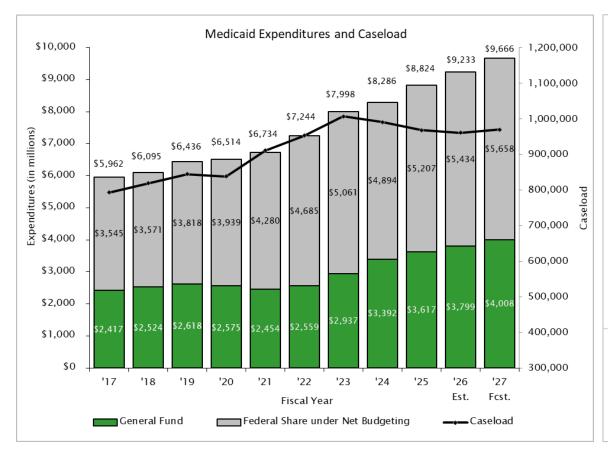
	s in billions									
	N	ov 2021	Ν	ov 2022	N	lov 2023	Ν	ov 2024	N	ov 2025
Long-Term Liability		FAR		FAR		FAR		FAR		FAR
Bonded Indebtedness	\$	27.2	\$	27.0	\$	26.4	\$	26.0	\$	25.6
State Employee Pensions		22.7		22.4		20.9		20.1		17.6
Teachers' Pensions		18.1		17.1		16.4		15.9		15.9
State Employee Post-Retirement Health and Life		23.5		19.5		15.5		15.6		16.2
Teachers' Post-Retirement Health and Life		2.8		1.6		1.6		1.6		3.2
GAAP Deficit		1.1		0.7		0.8		0.6		1.1
Total	\$	95.4	\$	88.3	\$	81.6	\$	79.8	\$	79.6

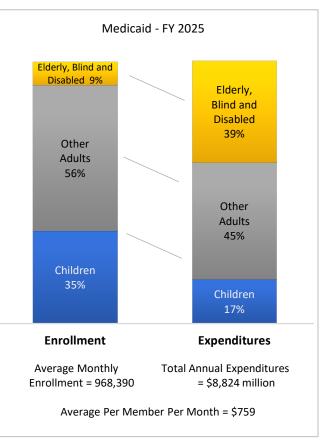
### **Pension Funding**

- Over the past 7
   years, the actuarial
   value of SERS and
   TRS assets has
   grown 74% from
   \$30.9 billion to
   \$53.9 billion
- That growth has improved the combined funding ratio for both plans from 45% to 62%
- Funded ratio improved from 37% to 60% for SERS and from 52% to 64% for TRS between the 2018 and 2025 valuations



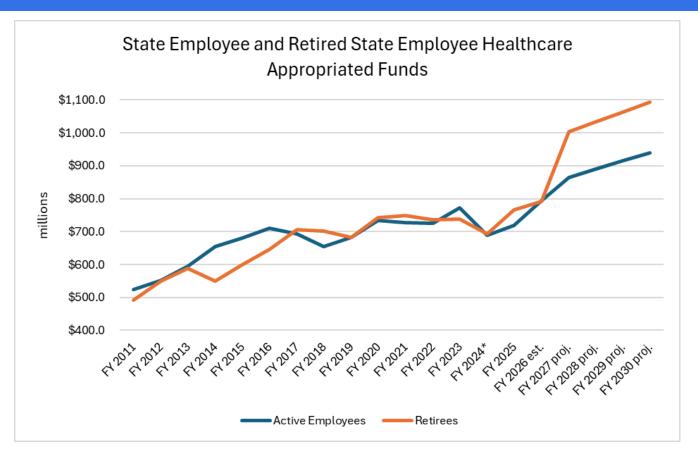
#### Medicaid





- Enrollment has declined recently but remains higher than prepandemic levels and costs / utilization continue to trend upward
- The growth is driven in part by higher costs to serve the elderly, blind and disabled
- Recent federal policy changes are expected to have a state fiscal impact

### State Employee and Retiree Healthcare

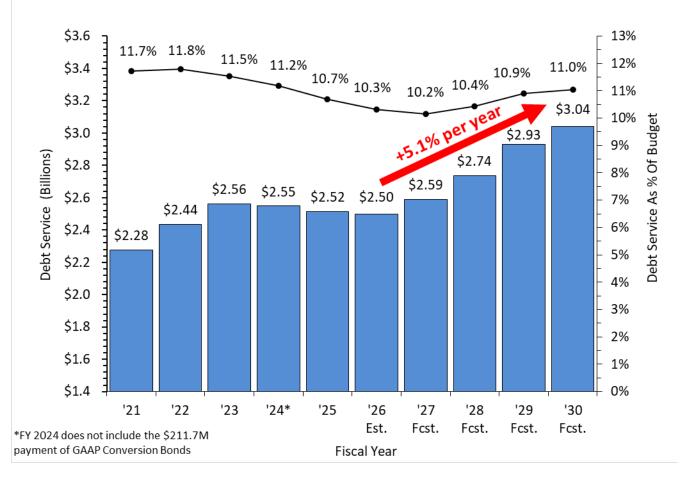


- Modest spending growth through FY 2025
- Significant outyear growth is anticipated particularly for Retiree Healthcare which is projected to experience an increase of more than 30% from FY 2025 to FY 2027

<sup>\*</sup> Note that the decrease in budgeted expenditures for active healthcare between FY 2023 and FY 2024 is driven by change in accounting method for higher education units.

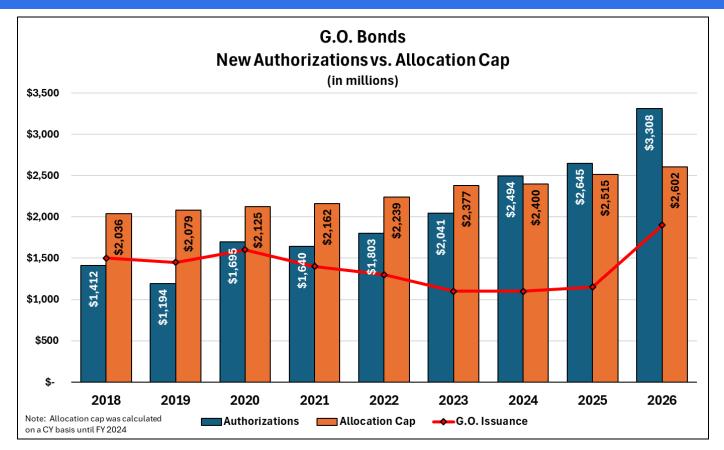
#### **Debt Service**

#### **General Fund Debt Service Expenditures**



- Debt Service is expected to remain relatively flat between FY 2023 and FY 2027
- Beginning in FY 2027
   Debt Service is
   projected to grow an
   estimated \$500M by
   FY 2030
- As bond allocations have risen, debt issuance is also expected to rise, increasing debt service costs

### History of General Obligation Bonding Levels



- Allocation cap has risen by 3.1% annually since its implementation (U.S. CPI less food & energy)
- New authorizations have risen by 11.2% per year over the same period
- Net new authorizations, excluding UCONN 2000 which are outside of the allocation cap, began to exceed the allocation cap in FY 2024

#### **Selected Tax Credits**

#### **Business Tax Credits Claimed in FY 2025**

(in millions)

		% of
Tax Credit Name	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Film Production	\$ 160.6	39.8%
2. Fixed Capital Investment	56.5	14.0%
3. R&E Expenditures	41.0	10.2%
4. Electronic Data Processing Equip.	25.1	6.2%
5. Film Production Infrastructure	22.2	5.5%
6. All Other	98.2	24.3%
7. Total Tax Credits Claimed in FY 2025	\$ 403.6	100.0%

### Personal Income Tax Credits Claimed in FY 2025 (in millions)

% of **Tax Credit Name Amount** Total 1. Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) \$ 195.5 53.2% 2. Property Tax Credit (est.) 146.8 39.9% 3. All Other (est.) 25.3 6.9% 4. Total Tax Credits Claimed in FY 2025 \$ 367.5 100.0%

- In FY 2025, the Film Production Tax Credit accounted for 39.8% of all business tax credit claims
  - This is by far the most expensive business tax credit program for the state
- The Earned Income Tax Credit is the largest Personal Income Tax Credit with claims totaling \$195.5M in FY 2025

# Conclusion

## **Summary of Findings**

### Recession Stress Testing

 Current balance in the BRF would fall to approximately 6% of GF appropriations by FY 2029 in a mild recession and would be insufficient to offset revenue losses predicted through FY 2030 in a moderate or severe recession

### Long-Term Liabilities

- Total long-term liabilities are estimated at \$79.6 billion, down \$15.8 billion from our November 2021 report
- Funded ratio for SERS and TRS stand at approximately 60% and 64%, respectively, up from 37% and 52% as of 6/30/2018

## Summary of Findings

#### • FY 2027 - FY 2030

- Revenue growth in the Special Transportation Fund does not keep pace with projected cost growth
  - Anticipated growth in debt service on transportation improvements exceeds total revenue growth
- Total General Fund revenue growth is roughly aligned with projected growth in combined fixed and non-fixed costs, but FY 2027 will require policy decisions to remain in balance
  - Growth in active and retired state employee healthcare,
     Medicaid, and debt service are the largest contributors to cost growth for FY 2027 through FY 2030