



House Bill No. 6941

Public Act No. 23-204

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The following sums are appropriated from the GENERAL FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
LEGISLATIVE		
LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT		
Personal Services	57,412,819	61,511,563
Other Expenses	19,480,241	21,149,147
Equipment	3,110,000	3,295,000
Flag Restoration	65,000	65,000
Minor Capital Improvements	3,800,000	3,800,000
Interim Salary / Caucus Offices	710,622	582,025
Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering	206,000	212,000
Old State House	750,000	800,000
Capitol Child Development Center	263,000	

House Bill No. 6941

Translators	150,000	150,000
Wall of Fame	10,000	10,000
Statues	100,000	
Interstate Conference Fund	462,822	468,822
New England Board of Higher Education	203,988	211,488
AGENCY TOTAL	86,724,492	92,255,045
AUDITORS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS		
Personal Services	13,818,275	14,588,644
Other Expenses	451,727	451,727
AGENCY TOTAL	14,270,002	15,040,371
COMMISSION ON WOMEN, CHILDREN, SENIORS, EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY		
Personal Services	936,820	969,868
Other Expenses	110,000	60,000
AGENCY TOTAL	1,046,820	1,029,868
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE		
Personal Services	3,796,288	3,838,460
Other Expenses	635,401	635,401
New England Governors' Conference	70,672	70,672
National Governors' Association	101,270	101,270
AGENCY TOTAL	4,603,631	4,645,803
SECRETARY OF THE STATE		
Personal Services	4,095,070	4,122,878
Other Expenses	2,473,561	2,507,561
Commercial Recording Division	5,205,370	5,254,148
Early Voting	1,300,000	1,320,000
AGENCY TOTAL	13,074,001	13,204,587
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S OFFICE		
Personal Services	707,051	718,522

House Bill No. 6941

Other Expenses	46,323	46,323
AGENCY TOTAL	753,374	764,845
ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION		
Elections Enforcement Commission	4,185,420	4,233,756
OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS		
Office of State Ethics	1,935,050	1,964,230
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION		
Freedom of Information Commission	2,186,521	2,211,809
STATE TREASURER		
Personal Services	3,496,103	3,548,309
Other Expenses	359,854	359,854
AGENCY TOTAL	3,855,957	3,908,163
STATE COMPTROLLER		
Personal Services	27,950,681	28,313,099
Other Expenses	8,749,826	7,381,334
AGENCY TOTAL	36,700,507	35,694,433
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SERVICES		
Personal Services	60,456,316	61,221,998
Other Expenses	5,117,358	5,117,358
AGENCY TOTAL	65,573,674	66,339,356
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY		
Personal Services	400,000	400,000
Other Expenses	25,098	25,098
Child Fatality Review Panel	131,925	133,461
Contracting Standards Board	732,030	737,052
Judicial Review Council	152,906	153,663

House Bill No. 6941

Judicial Selection Commission	112,800	113,989
Office of the Child Advocate	813,221	824,852
Office of the Victim Advocate	491,095	497,908
Board of Firearms Permit Examiners	141,616	143,138
AGENCY TOTAL	3,000,691	3,029,161
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT		
Personal Services	20,051,539	20,450,385
Other Expenses	1,557,822	1,414,922
Automated Budget System and Data Base Link	20,438	20,438
Justice Assistance Grants	800,741	800,967
Tax Relief For Elderly Renters	25,020,226	25,020,226
Private Providers		53,300,000
Reimbursement Property Tax - Disability Exemption	364,713	364,713
Distressed Municipalities	1,500,000	1,500,000
Property Tax Relief Elderly Freeze Program	6,000	6,000
Property Tax Relief for Veterans	2,708,107	2,708,107
Municipal Restructuring	7,300,000	7,300,000
AGENCY TOTAL	59,329,586	112,885,758
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS		
Personal Services	22,647,484	22,917,263
Other Expenses	3,066,113	3,066,113
SSMF Administration	546,396	546,396
Veterans' Rally Point	500,000	500,000
Burial Expenses	6,666	6,666
Headstones	307,834	307,834
AGENCY TOTAL	27,074,493	27,344,272
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
Personal Services	88,346,043	89,255,808
Other Expenses	28,856,256	28,856,256
Loss Control Risk Management	88,003	88,003

House Bill No. 6941

Employees' Review Board	17,611	17,611
Surety Bonds for State Officials and Employees	71,225	125,184
Refunds Of Collections	20,381	20,381
Rents and Moving	5,610,985	4,610,985
W. C. Administrator	5,000,000	5,000,000
State Insurance and Risk Mgmt Operations	16,226,971	17,831,771
IT Services	54,954,786	56,891,618
Firefighters Fund	400,000	400,000
AGENCY TOTAL	199,592,261	203,097,617
ATTORNEY GENERAL		
Personal Services	37,290,388	37,821,931
Other Expenses	1,034,810	1,034,810
AGENCY TOTAL	38,325,198	38,856,741
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE		
Personal Services	53,702,215	54,541,281
Other Expenses	5,102,201	5,102,201
Witness Protection	164,148	164,148
Training And Education	147,398	147,398
Expert Witnesses	135,413	135,413
Medicaid Fraud Control	1,418,759	1,439,442
Criminal Justice Commission	409	409
Cold Case Unit	276,673	282,227
Shooting Taskforce	1,324,837	1,353,731
AGENCY TOTAL	62,272,053	63,166,250
REGULATION AND PROTECTION		
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION		
Personal Services	179,988,878	184,655,407
Other Expenses	33,068,106	33,479,480
Fleet Purchase	6,833,975	7,736,272
Criminal Justice Information System	4,990,355	4,990,355

House Bill No. 6941

Fire Training School - Willimantic	242,176	242,176
Maintenance of County Base Fire Radio Network	19,528	19,528
Maintenance of State-Wide Fire Radio Network	12,997	12,997
Police Association of Connecticut	172,353	172,353
Connecticut State Firefighter's Association	176,625	176,625
Fire Training School - Torrington	172,267	172,267
Fire Training School - New Haven	108,364	108,364
Fire Training School - Derby	50,639	50,639
Fire Training School - Wolcott	171,162	171,162
Fire Training School - Fairfield	127,501	127,501
Fire Training School - Hartford	176,836	176,836
Fire Training School - Middletown	70,970	70,970
Fire Training School - Stamford	75,541	75,541
Volunteer Firefighter Training	140,000	140,000
AGENCY TOTAL	226,598,273	232,578,473
MILITARY DEPARTMENT		
Personal Services	3,368,243	3,413,875
Other Expenses	2,344,823	2,344,823
Honor Guards	561,600	561,600
Veteran's Service Bonuses	100,000	100,000
AGENCY TOTAL	6,374,666	6,420,298
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION		
Personal Services	15,781,283	16,030,358
Other Expenses	1,967,440	1,717,440
AGENCY TOTAL	17,748,723	17,747,798
LABOR DEPARTMENT		
Personal Services	15,757,110	15,725,667
Other Expenses	3,393,100	2,443,100
CETC Workforce	585,595	590,125
Workforce Investment Act	35,339,550	35,339,550

House Bill No. 6941

Job Funnels Projects	712,774	712,857
Connecticut's Youth Employment Program	5,267,892	10,268,488
Jobs First Employment Services	13,145,177	13,153,107
Apprenticeship Program	573,510	580,431
Connecticut Career Resource Network	145,025	146,775
STRIVE	88,754	88,779
Opportunities for Long Term Unemployed	4,620,756	4,621,184
Veterans' Opportunity Pilot	245,047	245,047
Second Chance Initiative	326,756	327,038
Cradle To Career	100,000	100,000
New Haven Jobs Funnel	750,000	750,000
Healthcare Apprenticeship Initiative	500,000	500,000
Manufacturing Pipeline Initiative	4,623,476	4,624,271
AGENCY TOTAL	86,174,522	90,216,419
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES		
Personal Services	7,812,605	7,919,578
Other Expenses	248,527	248,527
Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission	5,977	5,977
AGENCY TOTAL	8,067,109	8,174,082
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
Personal Services	4,458,616	4,518,302
Other Expenses	2,298,332	1,898,332
Senior Food Vouchers	517,562	517,671
Dairy Farmer - Agriculture Sustainability	1,000,000	1,000,000
WIC Coupon Program for Fresh Produce	247,938	247,938
AGENCY TOTAL	8,522,448	8,182,243
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION		
Personal Services	22,249,623	22,589,573
Other Expenses	984,229	997,261

House Bill No. 6941

Mosquito Control	272,144	274,924
State Superfund Site Maintenance	399,577	399,577
Laboratory Fees	122,565	122,565
Dam Maintenance	146,735	148,083
Emergency Spill Response	7,294,110	7,405,416
Solid Waste Management	3,956,339	3,985,129
Underground Storage Tank	1,034,310	1,045,684
Clean Air	4,201,320	4,261,769
Environmental Conservation	4,622,640	4,688,695
Environmental Quality	6,725,138	6,867,631
Fish Hatcheries	3,429,352	3,446,925
Interstate Environmental Commission	3,333	3,333
New England Interstate Water Pollution Commission	26,554	26,554
Northeast Interstate Forest Fire Compact	3,082	3,082
Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission	30,295	30,295
Thames River Valley Flood Control Commission	45,151	45,151
AGENCY TOTAL	55,546,497	56,341,647
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		
Personal Services	8,986,308	9,100,611
Other Expenses	611,278	611,278
Spanish-American Merchants Association	442,194	442,194
Office of Military Affairs	211,240	213,992
CCAT-CT Manufacturing Supply Chain	1,585,000	2,585,000
Capital Region Development Authority	10,699,942	10,845,022
Manufacturing Growth Initiative	166,717	169,780
Hartford 2000	20,000	20,000
Office of Workforce Strategy	1,218,864	1,234,379
Black Business Alliance	442,194	442,194
Hartford Economic Development Corporation	442,194	442,194
CONNSTEP	500,000	500,000
Various Grants	10,840,000	8,275,000

House Bill No. 6941

MRDA	600,000	600,000
AdvanceCT	2,000,000	2,000,000
AGENCY TOTAL	38,765,931	37,481,644
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING		
Personal Services	2,363,601	2,384,817
Other Expenses	112,210	112,210
Elderly Rental Registry and Counselors	1,011,170	1,011,170
Homeless Youth	3,154,590	3,154,590
Subsidized Assisted Living Demonstration	2,676,000	2,733,000
Congregate Facilities Operation Costs	11,311,668	11,441,710
Elderly Congregate Rent Subsidy	1,978,210	2,011,839
Housing/Homeless Services	92,602,789	87,882,789
Project Longevity - Housing	2,500,000	2,500,000
Housing/Homeless Services - Municipality	675,409	675,409
AGENCY TOTAL	118,385,647	113,907,534
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION		
Personal Services	6,991,785	7,087,352
Other Expenses	941,499	941,499
Mosquito and Tick Disease Prevention	740,270	746,270
Wildlife Disease Prevention	127,221	129,011
AGENCY TOTAL	8,800,775	8,904,132
HEALTH		
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH		
Personal Services	40,148,381	40,945,779
Other Expenses	7,242,287	7,605,228
Gun Violence Prevention	3,900,000	3,900,000
Lung Cancer Detection and Referrals	453,215	477,857
Community Health Services	1,851,235	1,851,235
Rape Crisis	600,893	600,893
Local and District Departments of Health	7,192,101	7,192,101
School Based Health Clinics	11,544,057	11,544,057
AGENCY TOTAL	72,932,169	74,117,150

House Bill No. 6941

OFFICE OF HEALTH STRATEGY		
Personal Services	3,421,050	3,454,529
Other Expenses	13,042	13,042
Covered Connecticut Program	1,000,000	1,000,000
AGENCY TOTAL	4,434,092	4,467,571
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER		
Personal Services	8,561,135	8,666,281
Other Expenses	2,104,257	2,104,257
Equipment	29,213	24,846
Medicolegal Investigations	22,150	22,150
AGENCY TOTAL	10,716,755	10,817,534
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES		
Personal Services	228,166,757	231,016,245
Other Expenses	23,010,369	21,197,718
Housing Supports and Services	1,400,000	1,400,000
Family Support Grants	3,700,840	3,700,840
Clinical Services	2,337,724	2,337,724
Behavioral Services Program	12,946,979	12,146,979
Supplemental Payments for Medical Services	2,608,132	2,558,132
ID Partnership Initiatives	2,529,000	2,529,000
Emergency Placements	5,912,745	5,933,002
Rent Subsidy Program	5,152,312	5,262,312
Employment Opportunities and Day Services	363,670,235	373,156,038
Community Residential Services	786,298,119	800,445,845
Provider Bonuses	50,000,000	50,000,000
AGENCY TOTAL	1,487,733,212	1,511,683,835
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES		
Personal Services	242,882,161	246,638,398
Other Expenses	28,865,945	28,143,895

House Bill No. 6941

Housing Supports and Services	27,763,723	27,763,723
Managed Service System	70,857,234	71,494,588
Legal Services	745,911	745,911
Connecticut Mental Health Center	9,229,406	9,229,406
Professional Services	16,400,697	16,400,697
Behavioral Health Recovery Services	25,979,688	26,066,287
Nursing Home Screening	652,784	652,784
Young Adult Services	92,012,071	93,332,231
TBI Community Services	9,190,172	9,208,125
Behavioral Health Medications	7,220,754	7,220,754
Medicaid Adult Rehabilitation Option	4,419,683	4,419,683
Discharge and Diversion Services	40,945,054	40,945,054
Home and Community Based Services	24,495,278	25,475,421
Nursing Home Contract	1,152,856	1,152,856
Katie Blair House	16,608	16,608
Forensic Services	11,157,536	11,192,080
Grants for Substance Abuse Services	35,824,604	35,824,604
Grants for Mental Health Services	74,937,619	74,937,619
Employment Opportunities	9,635,549	9,635,549
AGENCY TOTAL	734,385,333	740,496,273
PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD		
Personal Services	344,435	350,159
Other Expenses	24,943	24,943
AGENCY TOTAL	369,378	375,102
HUMAN SERVICES		
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES		
Personal Services	151,160,321	154,061,290
Other Expenses	172,372,594	155,393,116
Genetic Tests in Paternity Actions	81,906	81,906
HUSKY B Program	31,050,000	38,230,000
Substance Use Disorder Waiver Reserve	10,000	18,370,000
Medicaid	3,190,404,431	3,287,715,431
Old Age Assistance	46,950,000	51,346,541

House Bill No. 6941

Aid To The Blind	568,800	619,721
Aid To The Disabled	48,320,000	50,543,338
Temporary Family Assistance - TANF	57,990,000	69,641,000
Emergency Assistance	1	1
Food Stamp Training Expenses	9,341	9,341
DMHAS-Disproportionate Share	108,935,000	108,935,000
Connecticut Home Care Program	46,340,000	46,720,000
Human Resource Development-Hispanic Programs	1,043,704	1,043,704
Safety Net Services	1,462,802	1,462,802
Refunds Of Collections	89,965	89,965
Services for Persons With Disabilities	301,953	301,953
Nutrition Assistance	1,000,000	1,000,000
State Administered General Assistance	13,300,000	14,710,000
Connecticut Children's Medical Center	11,138,737	11,138,737
Community Services	6,320,625	6,335,965
Human Services Infrastructure Community Action Program	4,177,301	4,177,301
Teen Pregnancy Prevention	1,361,787	1,361,787
Domestic Violence Shelters	7,459,941	7,459,941
Hospital Supplemental Payments	568,300,000	568,300,000
Teen Pregnancy Prevention - Municipality	98,281	98,281
AGENCY TOTAL	4,470,247,490	4,599,147,121
DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES		
Personal Services	7,898,080	8,572,621
Other Expenses	1,398,575	1,398,575
Educational Aid for Children - Blind or Visually Impaired	4,827,409	4,873,907
Employment Opportunities - Blind & Disabled	406,594	406,594
Vocational Rehabilitation - Disabled	7,895,382	7,895,382
Supplementary Relief and Services	44,847	44,847
Special Training for the Deaf Blind	258,825	258,825
Connecticut Radio Information Service	70,194	70,194
Independent Living Centers	1,000,000	1,000,000

House Bill No. 6941

Programs for Senior Citizens	4,423,247	4,423,247
Elderly Nutrition	3,404,171	4,904,171
Aging in Place Pilot Program	150,000	150,000
Communication Advocacy Network	100,000	100,000
AGENCY TOTAL	31,877,324	34,098,363
EDUCATION		
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
Personal Services	20,361,195	20,580,254
Other Expenses	8,910,963	10,075,963
Development of Mastery Exams Grades 4, 6, and 8	10,630,694	10,643,533
Primary Mental Health	345,288	345,288
Leadership, Education, Athletics in Partnership (LEAP)	312,211	312,211
Adult Education Action	194,534	194,534
Connecticut Writing Project	95,250	95,250
CT Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs	1,000,000	1,000,000
Sheff Settlement	23,068,530	18,684,967
Parent Trust Fund Program	267,193	267,193
Commissioner's Network	9,869,398	9,869,398
Local Charter Schools	957,000	957,000
Bridges to Success	27,000	27,000
Talent Development	2,252,524	2,257,823
School-Based Diversion Initiative	900,000	900,000
EdSight	1,131,361	1,133,236
Sheff Transportation	70,825,009	75,465,173
Curriculum and Standards	2,215,782	2,215,782
Non-Sheff Transportation	14,944,797	15,675,787
Aspiring Educators Diversity Scholarship Program	4,000,000	10,000,000
Education Finance Reform		150,000,000
Assistance to Paraeducators		5,000,000
American School For The Deaf	10,757,514	11,557,514
Regional Education Services	262,500	262,500

House Bill No. 6941

Family Resource Centers	6,802,710	6,352,710
Charter Schools	135,077,285	137,514,785
Child Nutrition State Match	2,354,000	2,354,000
Health Foods Initiative	4,151,463	4,151,463
Vocational Agriculture	18,824,200	18,824,200
Adult Education	23,263,310	23,386,642
Health and Welfare Services Pupils Private Schools	3,438,415	3,438,415
Education Equalization Grants	2,233,420,315	2,287,900,235
Bilingual Education	3,832,260	3,832,260
Priority School Districts	30,818,778	30,818,778
Interdistrict Cooperation	1,537,500	1,537,500
School Breakfast Program	2,158,900	2,158,900
Excess Cost - Student Based	181,119,782	181,119,782
Open Choice Program	31,189,780	31,472,503
Magnet Schools	284,942,141	287,484,265
After School Program	5,750,695	5,750,695
Extended School Hours	2,919,883	2,919,883
School Accountability	3,412,207	3,412,207
AGENCY TOTAL	3,158,342,367	3,381,949,629
CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM		
Personal Services	161,877,298	164,583,764
Other Expenses	26,918,577	26,918,577
AGENCY TOTAL	188,795,875	191,502,341
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD		
Personal Services	10,021,638	10,147,924
Other Expenses	1,319,731	1,319,731
Birth to Three	32,952,407	32,452,407
Evenstart	545,456	545,456
2Gen - TANF	572,500	572,500
Nurturing Families Network	12,139,479	12,139,479
OEC Parent Cabinet	150,000	150,000
Head Start Services	5,083,238	5,083,238

House Bill No. 6941

Care4Kids TANF/CCDF	73,727,096	112,827,096
Child Care Quality Enhancements	5,954,530	5,954,530
Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership	1,500,000	1,500,000
Early Care and Education	174,645,249	190,137,329
Smart Start	3,325,000	3,325,000
AGENCY TOTAL	321,936,324	376,154,690
STATE LIBRARY		
Personal Services	5,806,266	5,884,263
Other Expenses	1,392,223	1,392,223
State-Wide Digital Library	1,675,090	1,709,210
Interlibrary Loan Delivery Service	359,430	364,209
Legal/Legislative Library Materials	574,540	574,540
Library for the Blind	100,000	100,000
Support Cooperating Library Service Units	124,402	124,402
Connecticard Payments	703,638	703,638
AGENCY TOTAL	10,735,589	10,852,485
OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION		
Personal Services	1,757,383	1,811,589
Other Expenses	1,318,175	1,081,175
Minority Advancement Program	1,655,313	1,659,292
National Service Act	291,032	296,810
Minority Teacher Incentive Program	570,134	570,134
CT Loan Forgiveness		6,000,000
Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Fund	24,888,637	24,888,637
Health Care Adjunct Grant Program	500,000	500,000
AGENCY TOTAL	30,980,674	36,807,637
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT		
Operating Expenses	213,505,868	216,977,564
Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy	550,000	550,000
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory	250,000	250,000
UConn Veterans Program	250,000	250,000
Health Services - Regional Campuses	1,400,000	1,400,000
Puerto Rican Studies Initiative	210,000	210,000

House Bill No. 6941

AGENCY TOTAL	216,165,868	219,637,564
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH CENTER		
Operating Expenses	110,965,137	113,460,246
AHEC	423,455	429,735
AGENCY TOTAL	111,388,592	113,889,981
TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BOARD		
Personal Services	2,166,318	2,198,913
Other Expenses	465,503	497,003
Retirement Contributions	1,554,542,000	1,558,960,000
Retirees Health Service Cost	13,041,691	16,030,802
Municipal Retiree Health Insurance Costs	9,840,000	9,840,000
AGENCY TOTAL	1,580,055,512	1,587,526,718
CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES		
Charter Oak State College	3,127,472	3,182,468
Community Tech College System	208,495,341	217,494,271
Connecticut State University	176,054,688	178,635,888
Board of Regents	460,084	466,906
Developmental Services	10,042,069	10,190,984
Outcomes-Based Funding Incentive	1,354,341	1,374,425
O'Neill Chair	315,000	315,000
Debt Free Community College	23,500,000	28,500,000
AGENCY TOTAL	423,348,995	440,159,942
CORRECTIONS		
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION		
Personal Services	438,803,761	446,837,256
Other Expenses	71,631,901	72,751,901
Inmate Medical Services	129,654,329	130,559,989
Board of Pardons and Paroles	7,601,751	7,702,157
STRIDE	80,181	80,181

House Bill No. 6941

Aid to Paroled and Discharged Inmates	3,000	3,000
Legal Services To Prisoners	797,000	797,000
Volunteer Services	87,725	87,725
Community Support Services	46,869,958	46,869,958
AGENCY TOTAL	695,529,606	705,689,167
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES		
Personal Services	305,497,883	309,141,905
Other Expenses	29,505,812	28,837,956
Family Support Services	1,037,746	1,037,746
Differential Response System	9,140,302	9,140,302
Regional Behavioral Health Consultation	1,792,453	1,792,453
Community Care Coordination	8,734,955	8,734,955
Health Assessment and Consultation	1,558,211	1,558,211
Grants for Psychiatric Clinics for Children	17,749,403	17,749,403
Day Treatment Centers for Children	8,014,992	8,014,992
Child Abuse and Neglect Intervention	9,751,391	9,751,391
Community Based Prevention Programs	9,212,132	9,212,132
Family Violence Outreach and Counseling	3,926,815	3,926,815
Supportive Housing	20,805,454	20,805,454
No Nexus Special Education	2,327,768	2,396,390
Family Preservation Services	7,062,473	7,062,473
Substance Abuse Treatment	9,738,188	9,738,188
Child Welfare Support Services	2,804,494	2,804,494
Board and Care for Children - Adoption	106,884,511	106,884,511
Board and Care for Children - Foster	121,399,713	121,399,713
Board and Care for Children - Short-term and Residential	68,855,247	68,855,247
Individualized Family Supports	3,821,264	3,821,264
Community Kidcare	47,294,772	47,294,772
Covenant to Care	181,332	181,332
Juvenile Review Boards	6,000,000	6,000,000
Youth Transition and Success Programs	991,421	991,421
Youth Service Bureaus	2,733,240	2,733,240
Youth Service Bureau Enhancement	1,115,161	1,115,161

House Bill No. 6941

AGENCY TOTAL	807,937,133	810,981,921
JUDICIAL		
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT		
Personal Services	372,837,571	374,558,158
Other Expenses	64,226,164	64,212,164
Forensic Sex Evidence Exams	1,348,010	1,348,010
Alternative Incarceration Program	56,757,585	58,257,585
Justice Education Center, Inc.	503,435	503,435
Juvenile Alternative Incarceration	30,584,377	30,584,377
Probate Court	81,024	13,281,024
Workers' Compensation Claims	6,042,106	6,042,106
Victim Security Account	8,792	8,792
Children of Incarcerated Parents	529,174	529,174
Legal Aid	1,397,144	1,397,144
Youth Violence Initiative	5,453,217	5,453,217
Youth Services Prevention	7,283,132	7,283,132
Children's Law Center	150,000	150,000
Project Longevity	4,774,373	4,774,373
Juvenile Planning	775,000	775,000
Juvenile Justice Outreach Services	26,272,371	26,272,371
Board and Care for Children - Short-term and Residential	8,287,605	8,287,605
Counsel for Domestic Violence	1,250,000	1,250,000
LGBTQ Justice and Opportunity Network	250,000	250,000
AGENCY TOTAL	588,811,080	605,217,667
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION		
Personal Services	49,144,096	51,267,598
Other Expenses	1,565,163	1,565,163
Assigned Counsel - Criminal	32,314,004	33,764,004
Expert Witnesses	2,775,604	2,775,604
Training And Education	119,748	119,748
AGENCY TOTAL	85,918,615	89,492,117

House Bill No. 6941

NON-FUNCTIONAL		
DEBT SERVICE - STATE TREASURER		
Debt Service	1,990,441,881	1,985,729,226
UConn 2000 - Debt Service	212,668,144	226,542,388
CHEFA Day Care Security	4,000,000	4,000,000
Pension Obligation Bonds - TRB	315,671,921	330,190,921
Municipal Restructuring	51,251,706	47,910,459
AGENCY TOTAL	2,574,033,652	2,594,372,994
STATE COMPTROLLER - MISCELLANEOUS		
Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals	8,048,485	38,998,570
STATE COMPTROLLER - FRINGE BENEFITS		
Unemployment Compensation	5,018,242	5,054,729
State Employees Retirement Contributions	2,308,873	2,180,602
Higher Education Alternative Retirement System	14,616,179	15,396,159
Pensions and Retirements - Other Statutory	2,125,719	2,188,946
Judges and Compensation Commissioners Retirement	35,251,783	37,436,431
Insurance - Group Life	10,021,586	10,428,278
Employers Social Security Tax	195,369,118	198,253,601
State Employees Health Service Cost	635,463,503	708,256,659
Retired State Employees Health Service Cost	699,403,210	737,999,520
Tuition Reimbursement - Training and Travel	4,073,500	4,123,500
Other Post Employment Benefits	43,636,426	43,945,893
SERS Defined Contribution Match	18,340,824	24,500,480
State Employees Retirement Contributions - Normal Cost	177,212,110	182,006,295
State Employees Retirement Contributions - UAL	1,463,453,121	1,420,805,152
AGENCY TOTAL	3,306,294,194	3,392,576,245

House Bill No. 6941

RESERVE FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENTS		
Reserve For Salary Adjustments	19,092,700	48,184,698
WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
Workers' Compensation Claims	8,259,800	8,259,800
Workers' Compensation Claims - University of Connecticut	2,271,228	2,271,228
Claims - University of Connecticut Health Center	3,460,985	3,460,985
Workers' Compensation Claims - Board of Regents Higher Ed	3,289,276	3,289,276
Claims - Department of Children and Families	10,286,952	10,286,952
Workers' Compensation Claims Mental Health & Addiction Serv	18,543,291	18,561,027
Claim Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	3,723,135	3,723,135
Claims - Department of Developmental Services	15,773,417	15,773,417
Workers' Compensation Claims - Department of Correction	34,089,120	34,122,823
AGENCY TOTAL	99,697,204	99,748,643
TOTAL - GENERAL FUND	22,239,296,540	22,988,572,293
LESS:		
Unallocated Lapse	-48,715,570	-48,715,570
Unallocated Lapse - Judicial	-5,000,000	-5,000,000
Reflect Historical Staffing	-80,000,000	-129,000,000
NET - GENERAL FUND	22,105,580,970	22,805,856,723

Sec. 2. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

House Bill No. 6941

	2023-2024	2024-2025
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT		
Personal Services	730,483	740,945
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
Personal Services	3,042,478	3,090,648
State Insurance and Risk Mgmt Operations	13,736,781	14,626,561
IT Services	953,999	953,999
AGENCY TOTAL	17,733,258	18,671,208
REGULATION AND PROTECTION		
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES		
Personal Services	56,937,597	57,600,854
Other Expenses	18,881,902	18,957,262
Equipment	468,756	468,756
Commercial Vehicle Information Systems and Networks Project	324,676	324,676
AGENCY TOTAL	76,612,931	77,351,548
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION		
Personal Services	3,595,046	3,627,535
Other Expenses	708,490	715,006
AGENCY TOTAL	4,303,536	4,342,541
TRANSPORTATION		
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION		
Personal Services	228,130,866	231,453,386

House Bill No. 6941

Other Expenses	57,528,900	57,534,586
Equipment	1,376,329	1,376,329
Minor Capital Projects	449,639	449,639
Highway Planning And Research	3,060,131	3,060,131
Rail Operations	232,295,358	284,183,528
Bus Operations	253,013,487	261,931,227
ADA Para-transit Program	40,449,564	40,449,564
Non-ADA Dial-A-Ride Program	576,361	576,361
Pay-As-You-Go Transportation Projects	17,972,797	18,028,794
Port Authority	400,000	400,000
Transportation Asset Management	3,000,000	3,000,000
Transportation to Work	2,370,629	2,370,629
Town Aid Road Grants - TF	60,000,000	60,000,000
AGENCY TOTAL	900,624,061	964,814,174
NON-FUNCTIONAL		
DEBT SERVICE - STATE TREASURER		
Debt Service	887,510,468	951,115,534
STATE COMPTROLLER - MISCELLANEOUS		
Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals	784,314	3,800,359
STATE COMPTROLLER - FRINGE BENEFITS		
Unemployment Compensation	360,000	360,000
Insurance - Group Life	408,000	414,000
Employers Social Security Tax	18,808,470	19,025,570
State Employees Health Service Cost	64,773,000	71,541,000
Other Post Employment Benefits	2,973,119	2,989,257
SERS Defined Contribution Match	1,245,804	1,538,880
State Employees Retirement Contributions - Normal Cost	20,485,465	21,096,029
State Employees Retirement Contributions - UAL	155,690,019	146,129,193
AGENCY TOTAL	264,743,877	263,093,929

House Bill No. 6941

RESERVE FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENTS		
Reserve For Salary Adjustments	634,300	7,736,356
WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
Workers' Compensation Claims	6,723,297	6,723,297
TOTAL - SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	2,160,400,525	2,298,389,891
LESS:		
Unallocated Lapse	-12,000,000	-12,000,000
NET - SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	2,148,400,525	2,286,389,891

Sec. 3. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT AND MOHEGAN FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT		
Grants To Towns	52,541,796	52,541,796

Sec. 4. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the BANKING FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		

House Bill No. 6941

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
Personal Services	322,364	323,657
Fringe Benefits	290,128	291,292
IT Services	397,738	360,334
AGENCY TOTAL	1,010,230	975,283
REGULATION AND PROTECTION		
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING		
Personal Services	14,145,315	14,628,566
Other Expenses	1,373,010	1,375,510
Equipment	44,900	44,900
Fringe Benefits	13,295,049	13,763,422
Indirect Overhead	319,072	319,072
AGENCY TOTAL	29,177,346	30,131,470
LABOR DEPARTMENT		
Opportunity Industrial Centers	738,553	738,708
Customized Services	965,384	965,689
AGENCY TOTAL	1,703,937	1,704,397
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING		
Fair Housing	670,000	670,000
JUDICIAL		
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT		
Foreclosure Mediation Program	2,158,656	2,158,656
NON-FUNCTIONAL		
STATE COMPTROLLER - MISCELLANEOUS		

House Bill No. 6941

Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals	39,790	192,800
TOTAL - BANKING FUND	34,759,959	35,832,606

Sec. 5. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the INSURANCE FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT		
Personal Services	360,051	363,008
Other Expenses	6,012	6,012
Fringe Benefits	277,130	277,130
AGENCY TOTAL	643,193	646,150
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
Personal Services	775,605	776,947
Fringe Benefits	706,368	707,589
IT Services	514,136	514,136
AGENCY TOTAL	1,996,109	1,998,672
REGULATION AND PROTECTION		
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT		
Personal Services	17,235,304	17,459,258
Other Expenses	1,609,489	1,609,489
Equipment	140,500	62,500
Fringe Benefits	15,942,656	16,149,814
Indirect Overhead	247,375	247,375
AGENCY TOTAL	35,175,324	35,528,436

House Bill No. 6941

OFFICE OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVOCATE		
Personal Services	378,000	387,000
Other Expenses	65,500	65,500
Fringe Benefits	391,000	401,000
Indirect Overhead	22,500	22,500
AGENCY TOTAL	857,000	876,000
OFFICE OF THE HEALTHCARE ADVOCATE		
Personal Services	1,851,701	1,876,329
Other Expenses	292,991	292,991
Equipment	5,000	5,000
Fringe Benefits	1,807,652	1,831,655
Indirect Overhead	49,885	49,885
AGENCY TOTAL	4,007,229	4,055,860
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING		
Crumbling Foundations	177,592	178,788
HEALTH		
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH		
Needle and Syringe Exchange Program	501,629	501,629
Children's Health Initiatives	3,297,866	3,315,046
AIDS Services	5,284,470	5,284,470
Breast and Cervical Cancer Detection and Treatment	2,500,594	2,503,761
Immunization Services	34,186,580	64,201,121
X-Ray Screening and Tuberculosis Care	970,931	970,931
Venereal Disease Control	201,791	201,791
AGENCY TOTAL	46,943,861	76,978,749
OFFICE OF HEALTH STRATEGY		

House Bill No. 6941

Personal Services	1,966,556	1,982,363
Other Expenses	9,823,324	9,829,264
Equipment	20,000	10,000
Fringe Benefits	1,924,234	1,939,640
AGENCY TOTAL	13,734,114	13,761,267
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES		
Managed Service System	451,181	451,181
HUMAN SERVICES		
DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES		
Fall Prevention	382,660	382,660
NON-FUNCTIONAL		
STATE COMPTROLLER - MISCELLANEOUS		
Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals	72,835	352,916
TOTAL - INSURANCE FUND	104,441,098	135,210,679

Sec. 6. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT		
Personal Services	194,591	194,591
Other Expenses	2,000	2,000
Fringe Benefits	196,074	196,074
AGENCY TOTAL	392,665	392,665

House Bill No. 6941

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
Personal Services	103,008	105,448
Fringe Benefits	91,101	93,259
AGENCY TOTAL	194,109	198,707
REGULATION AND PROTECTION		
OFFICE OF CONSUMER COUNSEL		
Personal Services	2,173,125	2,193,528
Other Expenses	332,907	332,907
Equipment	2,200	2,200
Fringe Benefits	1,975,644	1,991,474
Indirect Overhead	90,972	90,972
AGENCY TOTAL	4,574,848	4,611,081
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION		
Personal Services	15,671,792	16,349,130
Other Expenses	1,479,367	1,479,367
Equipment	19,500	19,500
Fringe Benefits	14,342,053	14,496,004
Indirect Overhead	203,340	203,340
AGENCY TOTAL	31,716,052	32,547,341
NON-FUNCTIONAL		
STATE COMPTROLLER - MISCELLANEOUS		
Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals	39,892	193,293
TOTAL - CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND	36,917,566	37,943,087

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 7. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
Personal Services	661,354	661,609
Fringe Benefits	637,440	637,686
IT Services	199,938	199,938
AGENCY TOTAL	1,498,732	1,499,233
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE		
Personal Services	450,597	454,159
Other Expenses	10,428	10,428
Fringe Benefits	485,949	489,396
AGENCY TOTAL	946,974	953,983
REGULATION AND PROTECTION		
LABOR DEPARTMENT		
Occupational Health Clinics	707,690	708,113
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION		
Personal Services	10,054,076	10,144,612
Other Expenses	2,476,091	2,476,091
Equipment	1	1
Fringe Benefits	10,388,943	10,482,494
Indirect Overhead	495,277	495,277
AGENCY TOTAL	23,414,388	23,598,475
HUMAN SERVICES		

House Bill No. 6941

DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES		
Personal Services	606,119	613,572
Other Expenses	48,440	48,440
Rehabilitative Services	1,000,721	1,000,721
Fringe Benefits	590,724	597,987
AGENCY TOTAL	2,246,004	2,260,720
NON-FUNCTIONAL		
STATE COMPTROLLER - MISCELLANEOUS		
Nonfunctional - Change to Accruals	22,210	107,617
TOTAL - WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND	28,835,998	29,128,141

Sec. 8. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
JUDICIAL		
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT		
Criminal Injuries Compensation	2,934,088	2,934,088

Sec. 9. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the TOURISM FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		

House Bill No. 6941

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		
Statewide Marketing	4,500,000	4,500,000
Hartford Urban Arts Grant	242,371	242,371
New Britain Arts Council	39,380	39,380
Main Street Initiatives	145,000	145,000
Neighborhood Music School	200,540	200,540
Greater Hartford Community Foundation Travelers Championship	150,000	150,000
Nutmeg Games	40,000	40,000
Discovery Museum	196,895	196,895
National Theatre of the Deaf	78,758	78,758
Connecticut Science Center	546,626	546,626
CT Flagship Producing Theaters Grant	259,951	259,951
Performing Arts Centers	787,571	787,571
Performing Theaters Grant	1,400,600	550,600
Arts Commission	1,497,298	1,497,298
Art Museum Consortium	687,313	687,313
Litchfield Jazz Festival	29,000	29,000
Arte Inc.	20,735	20,735
CT Virtuosi Orchestra	15,250	15,250
Barnum Museum	50,000	50,000
Various Grants	1,775,000	1,275,000
Creative Youth Productions	150,000	150,000
Music Haven	100,000	100,000
West Hartford Pride	40,000	40,000
Amistad Center for Arts and Culture	100,000	100,000
Greater Hartford Arts Council	74,079	74,079
Stepping Stones Museum for Children	80,863	80,863
Maritime Center Authority	803,705	803,705
Connecticut Humanities Council	850,000	850,000
Amistad Committee for the Freedom Trail	36,414	36,414
New Haven Festival of Arts and Ideas	414,511	414,511
New Haven Arts Council	77,000	77,000
Beardsley Zoo	400,000	400,000
Mystic Aquarium	322,397	322,397

House Bill No. 6941

Northwestern Tourism	400,000	400,000
Eastern Tourism	400,000	400,000
Central Tourism	400,000	400,000
Twain/Stowe Homes	81,196	81,196
Cultural Alliance of Fairfield	52,000	52,000
Stamford Downtown Special Services District	50,000	50,000
AGENCY TOTAL	17,494,453	16,144,453

Sec. 10. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The following sums are appropriated from the CANNABIS SOCIAL EQUITY AND INNOVATION FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		
Personal Services	1,276,351	1,276,351
Other Expenses	3,279,717	7,679,717
Fringe Benefits	1,243,932	1,243,932
AGENCY TOTAL	5,800,000	10,200,000

Sec. 11. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The following sums are appropriated from the CANNABIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY SERVICES FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
HEALTH		
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES		
Fringe Benefits	221,000	221,000
Cannabis Prevention	2,137,000	3,137,000
AGENCY TOTAL	2,358,000	3,358,000

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 12. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the CANNABIS REGULATORY FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SERVICES		
Personal Services	450,000	484,188
ATTORNEY GENERAL		
Personal Services	396,362	396,362
REGULATION AND PROTECTION		
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION		
Personal Services	1,109,758	1,109,758
Other Expenses	124,000	124,000
AGENCY TOTAL	1,233,758	1,233,758
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES		
Personal Services	522,583	522,583
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION		
Personal Services	5,567,341	5,656,047
Other Expenses	348,769	348,769
AGENCY TOTAL	5,916,110	6,004,816
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		
Personal Services	100,000	100,000

House Bill No. 6941

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION		
Personal Services	248,669	248,669
Other Expenses	65,000	65,000
AGENCY TOTAL	313,669	313,669
HEALTH		
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH		
Personal Services	187,959	187,959
Other Expenses	247,700	275,700
AGENCY TOTAL	435,659	463,659
TRANSPORTATION		
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION		
Other Expenses	550,000	550,000
EDUCATION		
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH CENTER		
Operating Expenses	178,385	178,385
TOTAL - CANNABIS REGULATORY FUND	10,096,526	10,247,420

Sec. 13. (Effective July 1, 2023) The following sums are appropriated from the MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING FUND for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	2023-2024	2024-2025
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT		
Tiered PILOT	339,410,167	339,410,167

House Bill No. 6941

Motor Vehicle Tax Grants	154,562,410	154,562,410
Supplemental Revenue Sharing Grants	74,672,470	74,672,470
AGENCY TOTAL	568,645,047	568,645,047

Sec. 14. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may make reductions in allotments for the executive branch for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, in order to achieve budget savings in the General Fund of \$48,715,570 during each such fiscal year.

(b) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may make reductions in allotments for the judicial branch for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, in order to achieve budget savings in the General Fund of \$5,000,000 during each such fiscal year. Such reductions shall be achieved as determined by the Chief Justice and Chief Public Defender.

Sec. 15. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may make reductions in executive branch expenditures, for Personal Services, in the General Fund for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, in order to reduce expenditures by \$80,000,000 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and by \$129,000,000 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Sec. 16. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the Department of Social Services and the Department of Children and Families may, with the approval of the Office of Policy and Management, and in compliance with any advanced planning document approved by the federal Department of Health and Human Services, establish receivables for the reimbursement anticipated from approved projects.

Sec. 17. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-85 of the general statutes, the Secretary of the Office of Policy

House Bill No. 6941

and Management shall not allot funds appropriated in sections 1 to 13, inclusive, of this act for Nonfunctional – Change to Accruals.

Sec. 18. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may transfer amounts appropriated for Personal Services in sections 1 to 13, inclusive, of this act from agencies to the Reserve for Salary Adjustments account to specifically provide for the impact of collective bargaining and related costs.

(b) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may transfer funds appropriated in section 1 of this act, for Reserve for Salary Adjustments, to any agency in any appropriated fund to give effect to salary increases, other employee benefits, agency costs related to staff reductions, including accrual payments, achievement of agency personal services reductions or other personal services adjustments authorized by this act, any other act or other applicable statute.

Sec. 19. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) That portion of unexpended funds, as determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, appropriated in special act 21-15, as amended by public act 22-118, that relate to collective bargaining agreements and related costs, shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and such funds shall continue to be available for such purpose during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

(b) That portion of unexpended funds, as determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, appropriated in section 1 of this act, that relate to collective bargaining agreements and related costs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall not lapse on June 30, 2024, and such funds shall continue to be available for such purpose during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Sec. 20. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Any appropriation, or portion thereof, made to any agency, under sections 1 to 13, inclusive, of this act, may be

House Bill No. 6941

transferred at the request of such agency to any other agency by the Governor, with the approval of the Finance Advisory Committee, to take full advantage of federal matching funds, provided both agencies shall certify that the expenditure of such transferred funds by the receiving agency will be for the same purpose as that of the original appropriation or portion thereof so transferred. Any federal funds generated through the transfer of appropriations between agencies may be used for reimbursing appropriated expenditures or for expanding program services or a combination of both as determined by the Governor, with the approval of the Finance Advisory Committee.

Sec. 21. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Any appropriation, or portion thereof, made to any agency under sections 1 to 13, inclusive, of this act, may be adjusted by the Governor, with approval of the Finance Advisory Committee, in order to maximize federal funding available to the state, consistent with the relevant federal provisions of law.

Sec. 22. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) All funds appropriated to the Department of Social Services for DMHAS - Disproportionate Share shall be expended by the Department of Social Services in such amounts and at such times as prescribed by the Office of Policy and Management. The Department of Social Services shall make disproportionate share payments to hospitals in the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for operating expenses and for related fringe benefit expenses. Funds received by the hospitals in the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, for fringe benefits, shall be used to reimburse the Comptroller. All other funds received by the hospitals in the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall be deposited to grants other than federal accounts. All disproportionate share payments not expended in grants other than federal accounts shall lapse at the end of the fiscal year.

Sec. 23. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) During the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, \$1,000,000 of the federal funds received by the

House Bill No. 6941

Department of Education, from Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), shall be transferred to the Office of Early Childhood in each such fiscal year, for the Birth-to-Three program, in order to carry out Part B responsibilities consistent with the IDEA.

Sec. 24. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the distribution of priority school district grants, pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-266p of the general statutes, shall be as follows: (1) For priority school districts in the amount of \$30,818,778, (2) for extended school building hours in the amount of \$2,919,883, and (3) for school accountability in the amount of \$3,412,207.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the distribution of priority school district grants, pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-266p of the general statutes, shall be as follows: (1) For priority school districts in the amount of \$30,818,778, (2) for extended school building hours in the amount of \$2,919,883, and (3) for school accountability in the amount of \$3,412,207.

Sec. 25. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17a-17 of the general statutes, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the provisions of said section shall not be considered in any increases or decreases to residential rates or allowable per diem payments to private residential treatment centers licensed pursuant to section 17a-145 of the general statutes.

Sec. 26. Subdivision (44) of subsection (b) of section 29 of special act 21-15, as amended by subdivision (44) of subsection (b) of section 308 of public act 21-2 of the June special session and subdivision (44) of subsection (b) of section 12 of public act 22-118, is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(44) Up to \$6,150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to \$5,050,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Department

House Bill No. 6941

of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, to be made available for the following grants in said fiscal years:

Grantee	Grant	Grant
	Amount	Amount
	2021-2022	2022-2023
RYASAP Bridgeport	150,000	150,000
Cradle to Career Stamford	100,000	100,000
Color a Positive Thought Bridgeport	100,000	100,000
Project Longevity	350,000	350,000
EMERGE	100,000	100,000
Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective	100,000	100,000
Queer Youth Programming of CT	100,000	100,000
New Haven Pride Center	100,000	100,000
Wilson Gray YMCA SDE	250,000	250,000
Jewish Federation DSS	100,000	100,000
Upper Albany	250,000	250,000
Youth Service Bureaus & Juvenile Review Boards	500,000	500,000
r Kids	100,000	100,000
CT Violence Intervention Program	100,000	100,000
Hartford Communities that Care	100,000	100,000
Street Safe Bridgeport	100,000	100,000
New Covenant Center	35,000	35,000
House of Bread - Hartford	50,000	50,000
Parent Trust Fund	100,000	100,000
Reach out and read	150,000	150,000
Walter Lockett Foundation	100,000	100,000
AHM Andover, Marlborough, Hebron Columbia	100,000	100,000
Prudence Crandall Center	100,000	100,000
Madonna Place	100,000	100,000
[Boys & Girls Club of Southeastern Connecticut] <u>Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club of New London</u>	100,000	100,000
Charter Oak Temple Restoration Association, Inc.	250,000	250,000

House Bill No. 6941

Lebanon Library	1,000,000	-
Hartford Boys and Girls Club	100,000	100,000
Applied Behavioral Rehabilitation Institute, Inc.	100,000	100,000
SAMA	50,000	50,000
Blue Hills Civic Association	200,000	200,000
SAVE - Norwalk	100,000	100,000
Meriden Boys and Girls Club	100,000	100,000
Sound Waters Summer Camp	50,000	50,000
100 Girls Leading, Inc. Bridgeport	50,000	50,000
Stamford Public Education Foundation Summer Start Program	100,000	-
Justice Education Center	50,000	50,000
Schoke Jewish Family Services	15,000	15,000
Nature Center Trumbull	75,000	75,000
PRIDE Willimantic Police Department	50,000	50,000
Annex Little League Baseball	50,000	50,000
Dom Aitro League Baseball	50,000	50,000
Marine Cadets of America Company A First Battalion	50,000	50,000
MARC	50,000	50,000
TEAM Inc	50,000	50,000
Fixing Fathers - Hamden	75,000	75,000
Boys & Girls Club of Stamford	100,000	100,000

Sec. 27. (*Effective from passage*) Up to \$1,000,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Administrative Services, for Rents and Moving, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall not lapse on June 30, 2024, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, to support an emergency vehicle operations course for the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

Sec. 28. (*Effective from passage*) The unexpended balance of funds appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Labor Department, for the Connecticut Youth Employment Program, for the fiscal year ending

House Bill No. 6941

June 30, 2024, shall not lapse on June 30, 2024, and shall be carried forward and made available for the same purpose during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Sec. 29. (*Effective from passage*) The following sum is appropriated from the General Fund for the purpose herein specified for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

GENERAL FUND	2022-2023
DEBT SERVICE - STATE TREASURER	
Debt Service	211,700,000
TOTAL - GENERAL FUND	211,700,000

Sec. 30. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of \$211,700,000 appropriated in section 29 of this act to Debt Service - State Treasurer, for Debt Service, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, shall be made available for the redemption of outstanding GAAP Conversion Bonds - 2013 Series A. Any unexpended balance of such sum shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and shall continue to be available for such purpose during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Sec. 31. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The amounts appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for MRDA, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, may be used to support the personal services and fringe benefits costs for staff at the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

Sec. 32. (*Effective from passage*) Up to \$3,323,985 of the amount appropriated to the Labor Department, for the Workforce Investment

House Bill No. 6941

Act, in section 1 of special act 21-15, as amended by section 1 of public act 22-118, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and shall be transferred to the Labor Department, for Personal Services, and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to support additional unemployment insurance program support costs.

Sec. 33. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (j) of section 45a-82 of the general statutes, any balance in the Probate Court Administration Fund on June 30, 2023, shall remain in said fund and shall not be transferred to the General Fund, regardless of whether such balance is in excess of an amount equal to fifteen per cent of the total expenditures authorized pursuant to subsection (a) of section 45a-84 of the general statutes for the immediately succeeding fiscal year.

Sec. 34. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-28e of the general statutes, the sum of \$550,000 shall be distributed from the Tobacco Settlement Fund to the Tobacco Litigation Settlement Account, for the purpose of the Office of the Attorney General's tobacco enforcement activities during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

Sec. 35. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section, the sum of \$5,000,000 transferred to the Department of Agriculture, pursuant to subdivision (1) of section 55 of public act 22-118, shall be distributed to certain farms associated with the anaerobic digester project in the town of Franklin as follows:

(1) To Cushman farm (A) the sum of \$139,165 for manure collection system improvements, pumps and appurtenances, drives, control panel tie-in, level controls and trenching, (B) the sum of \$600,000 for design and installation of a one million gallon storage tank;

House Bill No. 6941

(2) To Stearns farm, the sum of \$600,000 for design and installation of a one million gallon storage tank;

(3) To Graywall farm, the sum of \$25,000 for optimization of a collection system;

(4) To Mapleleaf farm, the sum of \$415,000 for design and installation of a five hundred thousand gallon storage tank;

(5) To Spielman farm, the sum of \$600,000 for design and installation of a one million gallon storage tank;

(6) To Square A farm, the sum of \$600,000 for design and installation of a one million gallon storage tank;

(7) To Beriah-Lewis farm, the sum of \$25,000 for optimization of a collection system; and

(8) To all farms, the sum of \$1,300,000, which shall be distributed to each farm the sum of \$200 per stall, for bedding and mattresses.

Sec. 36. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of \$500,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the State Library, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30 2025, shall be made available for grants in equal amounts to the following library-related programs: (1) United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut, for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library; (2) Read to Grow; and (3) Reach Out and Read.

Sec. 37. (*Effective from passage*) The unexpended balance of funds carried forward and transferred to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, and made available for a grant to Batterson Park, pursuant to section 29 of special act 21-15, as amended by section 308 of public act 21-2 of the June special session and section 12 of public act 22-118, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022,

House Bill No. 6941

and carried forward pursuant to subsection (e) of said section, shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, (1) up to \$650,000 shall be made available for the purpose of conducting a study, and (2) the remainder shall be made available for actions deemed necessary as a result of such study.

Sec. 38. (Effective July 1, 2023) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the total grants paid to municipalities from the moneys available in the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established by section 3-55i of the general statutes shall be as follows:

Grantee	Grant Amount	
	2023-2024	2024-2025
Andover	6,680	6,680
Ansonia	113,045	113,045
Ashford	12,010	12,010
Avon	-	-
Barkhamsted	6,728	6,728
Beacon Falls	12,467	12,467
Berlin	-	-
Bethany	881	881
Bethel	-	-
Bethlehem	4,125	4,125
Bloomfield	94,314	94,314
Bolton	3,244	3,244
Bozrah	9,143	9,143
Branford	-	-
Bridgeport	5,606,925	5,606,925
Bridgewater	3,734	3,734
Bristol	400,282	400,282
Brookfield	-	-
Brooklyn	191,703	191,703
Burlington	-	-
Canaan	6,202	6,202

House Bill No. 6941

Canterbury	15,208	15,208
Canton	-	-
Chaplin	73,052	73,052
Cheshire	1,962,440	1,962,440
Chester	3,278	3,278
Clinton	-	-
Colchester	23,167	23,167
Colebrook	6,045	6,045
Columbia	4,857	4,857
Cornwall	4,434	4,434
Coventry	13,336	13,336
Cromwell	-	-
Danbury	678,398	678,398
Darien	-	-
Deep River	4,490	4,490
Derby	207,304	207,304
Durham	1,003	1,003
Eastford	7,529	7,529
East Granby	987	987
East Haddam	3,042	3,042
East Hampton	6,742	6,742
East Hartford	156,898	156,898
East Haven	82,006	82,006
East Lyme	270,204	270,204
Easton	-	-
East Windsor	1,015,432	1,015,432
Ellington	4,081	4,081
Enfield	1,224,751	1,224,751
Essex	-	-
Fairfield	114,941	114,941
Farmington	-	-
Franklin	9,738	9,738
Glastonbury	-	-
Goshen	2,687	2,687
Granby	-	-
Greenwich	-	-
Griswold	55,478	55,478
Groton	1,232,069	1,232,069

House Bill No. 6941

Guilford	-	-
Haddam	908	908
Hamden	725,946	725,946
Hampton	8,881	8,881
Hartford	6,136,523	6,136,523
Hartland	6,593	6,593
Harwinton	3,676	3,676
Hebron	3,350	3,350
Kent	1,298	1,298
Killingly	94,184	94,184
Killingworth	-	-
Lebanon	13,139	13,139
Ledyard	1,391,000	1,391,000
Lisbon	11,287	11,287
Litchfield	-	-
Lyme	1,997	1,997
Madison	-	-
Manchester	412,450	412,450
Mansfield	179,151	179,151
Marlborough	1,807	1,807
Meriden	698,609	698,609
Middlebury	-	-
Middlefield	5,616	5,616
Middletown	1,060,747	1,060,747
Milford	236,690	236,690
Monroe	-	-
Montville	1,446,162	1,446,162
Morris	5,059	5,059
Naugatuck	147,899	147,899
New Britain	1,980,822	1,980,822
New Canaan	-	-
New Fairfield	-	-
New Hartford	822	822
New Haven	5,503,352	5,503,352
Newington	164,924	164,924
New London	1,667,837	1,667,837
New Milford	2,049	2,049
Newtown	829,098	829,098

House Bill No. 6941

Norfolk	8,899	8,899
North Branford	2,647	2,647
North Canaan	12,383	12,383
North Haven	86,789	86,789
North Stonington	880,690	880,690
Norwalk	577,059	577,059
Norwich	2,360,229	2,360,229
Old Lyme	-	-
Old Saybrook	-	-
Orange	6,408	6,408
Oxford	-	-
Plainfield	82,099	82,099
Plainville	27,635	27,635
Plymouth	33,955	33,955
Pomfret	9,172	9,172
Portland	2,902	2,902
Preston	1,165,290	1,165,290
Prospect	1,085	1,085
Putnam	75,902	75,902
Redding	-	-
Ridgefield	-	-
Rocky Hill	213,545	213,545
Roxbury	2,188	2,188
Salem	7,370	7,370
Salisbury	-	-
Scotland	11,620	11,620
Seymour	24,111	24,111
Sharon	2,001	2,001
Shelton	-	-
Sherman	109	109
Simsbury	-	-
Somers	1,564,515	1,564,515
Southbury	-	-
Southington	7,160	7,160
South Windsor	-	-
Sprague	17,479	17,479
Stafford	60,839	60,839
Stamford	625,635	625,635

House Bill No. 6941

Sterling	24,317	24,317
Stonington	30,000	30,000
Stratford	30,567	30,567
Suffield	2,760,598	2,760,598
Thomaston	16,872	16,872
Thompson	38,307	38,307
Tolland	-	-
Torrington	196,642	196,642
Trumbull	-	-
Union	19,013	19,013
Vernon	79,820	79,820
Voluntown	80,641	80,641
Wallingford	33,058	33,058
Warren	4,369	4,369
Washington	-	-
Waterbury	2,637,435	2,637,435
Waterford	-	-
Watertown	11,631	11,631
Westbrook	-	-
West Hartford	27,820	27,820
West Haven	807,097	807,097
Weston	-	-
Westport	-	-
Wethersfield	137,556	137,556
Willington	17,399	17,399
Wilton	-	-
Winchester	49,474	49,474
Windham	793,155	793,155
Windsor	-	-
Windsor Locks	387,713	387,713
Wolcott	16,939	16,939
Woodbridge	-	-
Woodbury	-	-
Woodstock	5,694	5,694
Golden Hill Paugussett	20,000	20,000
Paucatuck Eastern Pequot	20,000	20,000

House Bill No. 6941

Schaghticoke	20,000	20,000
TOTALS	52,532,789	52,532,789

(b) The grants in subsection (a) of this section are expressly subject to the provisions of subsection (l) of section 3-55j of the general statutes, subsection (b) of section 22a-27j of the general statutes and subsection (d) of section 12-62 of the general statutes.

Sec. 39. (Effective July 1, 2023) The amounts appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Judicial Department, for Youth Services Prevention, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year for the following grants:

Grantee	Grant
Danbury Youth Services, Inc.	75,000
Friends of the Bethel Public Library Inc.	75,000
Family Centers, Inc.	25,000
Greenwich Alliance for Education	25,000
Barbara's House Inc.	100,000
The Walter E. Lockett Jr. Foundation, Inc.	50,000
ACCESS Educational Services, Inc.	60,000
Business Industry Foundation of Middletown County, Inc.	25,000
Free Center Inc.	10,000
New Horizons	10,000
North End Little League	20,000
Yuke Nation Inc.	15,000
The Bridgeport Police Activities League Inc.	15,000
University of Connecticut	23,000
Save the Sound	15,000
Interdistrict Committee for Project Oceanology (aka 'Project Oceanology')	25,000
Groton Little League	15,000
Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center	5,000
Groton Mystic Youth Football League	25,000
Aluminum Falcon Robotics	2,000

House Bill No. 6941

New England Science & Sailing	7,500
Dr. Martin Luther King Scholarship Trust Fund	30,000
Mystic Community Bikes, Inc. (d.b.a. Bike Groton)	7,500
Project LEARN	7,500
Fitch High School Falcon Music Boosters	2,500
La Grua Center, Inc.	5,000
BAGS Foundation, Inc.	5,000
Girls, Inc. of Western Connecticut	5,000
Hoops4Life, Inc.	5,000
Rivera Memorial Foundation, Inc.	80,500
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Waterbury, Inc.	100,000
Walnut Orange Walsh Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Association, Inc.	80,500
Hispanic Coalition of Greater Waterbury, Inc.	100,000
CO2 Sports Academy, Inc.	5,000
Bregamos Theater	30,000
Edgewood PTA Child Care Program, Inc.	40,000
Puerto Ricans United, Inc.	30,000
City Angels Baseball Academy	50,000
ARTE Inc	50,000
Charter Oak Cultural Center	50,000
Hartford Stage	50,000
Police Activities League of Hartford Inc.	90,000
Stamford Public Education Foundation	103,000
Stamford Alumni Diamond Foundation, Inc.	45,000
LiveGirl	25,000
Hoops 4 All Inc.	30,000
100 Black Men of Stamford, Inc.	25,000
The Bridge Family Center, Inc.	110,000
Town of Avon for Avon Youth Service Bureau	40,000
Bridgeport Caribe Youth Leaders, Inc.	225,000
Cardinal Shehan Center	10,000
Unique and Unified New Era Youth Development, Inc.	25,000
Central Connecticut Coast Young Men's Christian Association Inc.	20,000
Hope Center Foundation For Non-Violence and Social Change	12,500

House Bill No. 6941

Ask Sammy Resources	10,000
Sound Waters, Inc.	50,000
Mill River Park Collaborative	100,000
Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse Inc.	10,000
East End Baptist Tabernacle Church Inc.	40,000
The SYMI Academy	10,000
Save Our Babies Inc.	15,000
Color a Positive Thought Organization	65,000
The Legacy Foundation of Hartford, Inc.	170,000
Friends of Pope Park	60,000
Boys and Girls Club	30,000
Hartford Public Library, Park Street Branch at The Lyric	30,000
Charter Oak Amateur Boxing Academy	30,000
Second Chance Reentry Initiative Program	10,000
Mothers United Against Violence, Inc.	15,000
Hartford Premier and Development League	10,000
Hartford Lions Soccer Academy Inc.	7,500
Hartford Friendship Kids' Camp Inc.	20,000
Blue Hills Civic Association, Inc.	20,000
Artists Collective, Inc.	10,000
Hartford Communities That Care Inc.	23,000
Hartford Health Initiative Inc.	14,500
Upon This Rock	15,000
The Bread Room, Inc.	17,500
Ready Inc.	33,000
Good Shepherd Ministries	27,000
Teach Kids Music	20,000
Christ Christian Church Inc.	20,000
West Haven Seahawks	15,000
Garde Arts Center New London Talent Show Enrichment Program	15,000
Drop-In Community Learning & Resource Center Inc.	10,000
Higher Edge Inc.	15,000
Hispanic Alliance of Southeastern CT Inc.	10,000
Historically Black College Alumni	10,000
NAACP Linwood Bland Youth Council	10,000

House Bill No. 6941

New London Babe Ruth Baseball League	10,000
New London Youth Football League Cheerleaders	10,000
New London Youth Football League Players	10,000
New London Little League, Inc.	10,000
Positive Adversity	10,000
Safe Futures Inc., Boys, Girls & Kids Club Program	10,000
Whalers Helping Whalers	10,000
Stamford Boys & Girls Club	30,000
Domus Kids, Inc.	25,000
My Architecture Workshops	30,000
Jackie Robinson Park of Fame	25,000
Communities For Generations, Inc. (CFG)	50,000
We Are The Village, Inc.	50,000
Sports Academy, Inc.	50,000
Serving All Vessels Equally Inc. (S.A.V.E.)	70,000
EJ's H.E.A.R.T. Inc.	30,000
Y.L.T.R.A.P.P.E.D., Inc.	50,000
Town of Manchester-YSB	75,000
Town of East Hartford-YSB	75,000
Hip Hop 1001	10,000
Puerto Rican Parade of Fairfield County	20,000
McGivney Community Center Inc.	10,000
The Young Women's Christian Association of New Britain	10,000
Opportunities Industrialization Center of New Britain, Inc.	35,000
New Life II Teaching You Another Way	25,000
Boys & Girls Club of New Britain Inc.	80,000
New Britain Legacies Corp	25,000
New Britain ROOTS, Inc.	45,000
New Britain Police Athletic League	25,000
Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc.	30,000
Latinas & Power Corp	5,000
Connecticut Institute for Community Development - Puerto Rican Parade	5,000
St. George Armenian Apostolic Church/Diocese of the Armenian Church	20,000
Organized Parents Make a Difference, Inc.	55,000

House Bill No. 6941

Maria Reina de la Paz Parish Corporation	25,000
Meriden Police Cadets	10,000
Beat the Street Community Center Inc.	25,000
Advocacy Autism Academy	15,000
Women and Families Center	20,000
Girls Inc. of Meriden	10,000
Meriden-New Britain-Berlin Young Men's Christian Association Inc.	35,000
Ball Headz Inc.	25,000
Rushford Center Inc.	10,000
Meriden's Children First	5,000
Meriden Wallingford Chrysalis Inc.	10,000
Boys & Girls Club of Meriden	10,000
Friends of the Danbury Museum & Historical Society Authority	50,000
Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut	50,000
Danbury Youth Baseball	50,000
Travis Simms Foundation	150,000
Dixwell Avenue United Church of Christ	100,000
Solar Youth, Inc.	50,000
Night Flight Basketball League, Inc.	8,000
Norwich Youth Football League	15,000
Norwich Public Schools Education Foundation Inc.	15,000
DHW Athletics	5,000
Integrated Day Charter School Foundation	18,000
Sankofa Education and Leadership, Inc.	58,000
Norwich Free Academy	15,000
Bully Busters	3,000
Little League Baseball of Norwich Inc.	3,000
William E. Edwards Academic Tours, Inc.	12,000
Project Music, Inc.	40,000
RF Youth Boxing	60,000
Kingdom Life Christian Church	150,000
Yellow Mill Village Scholarship Foundation Inc.	10,000
Unique & Unified New Era Youth Movement	15,000
The Dominican American Coalition of Connecticut, Inc.	10,000
100 Girls Leading	15,000

House Bill No. 6941

East End NRZ Market & Cafe	60,000
Creative Youth Productions Inc. (CYP)	15,000
Village Initiative Project Inc.	132,500
Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater	40,000
Bloomfield Raiders Youth Football	10,000
Hartford Hurricanes Youth Football	15,000
MPact Mentoring, Inc.	30,000
Goodework, Inc.	20,000
Ebony Horsewomen Inc.	30,000
Dream Big College	40,000
BSA Troops 149 & 1149 Windsor/Bloomfield	5,000
The Willie and Sandra McBride Foundation	75,000
Bernard Buddy Jordan Foundation	75,000
The Kiyama Movement, Inc.	50,000
Ice the Beef - Elm Shakespeare	50,000
Barack Obama Magnet University School	50,000
Young Men's Christian Association of Northern Middlesex County Inc.	365,000
Newhallville Neighborhood Corporation	50,000
Casa Otonal Inc.	200,000
Junta For Progressive Action Inc.	175,000
Fellowship Place Inc.	100,000
R Kids Inc.	100,000
Comunidad Hispana de Wallingford Inc.	150,000

Sec. 40. (Effective July 1, 2023) The amounts appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Judicial Department, for Youth Violence Initiative, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year for the following grants:

Grantee	Grant
Bridgeport City Hall for Lighthouse Program	375,000
Bridgeport Caribe Youth Leaders	200,000
Danbury Police Activity League	150,000
Boys & Girls Club of New Britain Inc.	30,000
Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc.	50,000

House Bill No. 6941

Meriden-New Britain-Berlin Young Men's Christian Association Inc.	40,000
New Britain ROOTS, Inc.	20,000
Opportunities Industrialization Center of New Britain, Inc.	50,000
The Young Women's Christian Association of New Britain	30,000
Friendship Service Center, Inc.	70,000
Hartford Knights Corp	400,000
Boys & Girls Club of Meriden	50,000
Girls Inc. of Meriden	50,000
Casa Boricua de Meriden Inc.	50,000
Beat the Street Community Center Inc.	50,000
Sports Academy	250,000
EMERGE Connecticut, Inc.	250,000
333 Valley Street Center, An Intergenerational Organization	300,000
CT Violence Intervention Program, Inc.	250,000
Annex Little League Inc.	50,000
Farnam-Neighborhood House Inc.	150,000
Youth Continuum Inc.	100,000
Music Haven Inc.	100,000
Dom Aitro Baseball League Inc.	50,000
Marine Cadets of America Inc.	50,000
City of New Haven for Youth Connect	200,000
City of New Haven for Youth at Work	200,000
Community Level Up Inc.	30,000
Samaritan House Inc.	50,000
Heavy Hitters USA Inc.	30,000
Shiloh Development Corporation STAR Program	50,000
Sankofa Education and Leadership. Inc.	50,000
Norwich Free Academy	50,000
Kids Christmas Inc.	10,000
Sikh Art Gallery Inc.	20,000
Gallery at the Wauregan Inc.	10,000
Castle Church Inc.	30,000
The Village Drillteam Corporation Ect.	15,000
Alexander Jordan Jamieson Foundation Inc.	10,000

House Bill No. 6941

West Haven PTA Council	25,000
Teach Kids Music	20,000
West Haven Seahawks RTMFL	11,000
City of West Haven Youth Services	27,000
Do Good Feel Good Inc.	2,000
Umbrella Impact, Inc.	10,000
West Haven Rotary Foundation Inc.	3,000
Bridges Healthcare Inc.	10,000
Hispanic Coalition of Greater Waterbury, Inc.	77,000
Hoops4Life, Inc.	15,000
Madre Latina, Inc.	20,000
Rivera Memorial Foundation, Inc.	40,000
St. Margaret Willow Plaza Association, Inc.	57,000
Waterbury Police Activity League	50,000
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Waterbury, Inc.	70,000
Waterbury Youth Services Inc.	20,000
Waterbury Patriots Football League Inc.	7,000
Waterbury Knights Youth Football & Cheer Inc.	7,000
Ungroup Society	14,000
Yeshiva Gedolah of Waterbury	10,000
We Believe Academy Inc.	10,000
Helping Hands with Open Hearts Inc.	10,000
A13 Leadership Academy, LLC	10,000
Reality Based Services, LLC	10,000
Granville Academy of Waterbury Inc.	10,000
Gathering Festival Inc.	10,000
Connecticut Junior Republic Association Incorporated	10,000
The Connecticut Justice Alliance	75,000

Sec. 41. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall identify unexpended funds totaling \$339,572,439 from the amounts appropriated in section 1 of special act 21-15, as amended by section 1 of public act 22-118, which shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and such funds shall be transferred and made available as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

House Bill No. 6941

(b) (1) The sum of \$32,000,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Medicaid, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide temporary grants, which shall be equally distributed, to all federally qualified health centers and look-alikes;

(2) The sum of \$1,200,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to make necessary temporary family assistance program system changes related to extending the benefit time limit;

(3) The sum of \$1,800,000 to the Secretary of the State, for Early Voting, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide grants of up to \$10,500 to each municipality for early voting;

(4) The sum of \$150,000 to the Department of Agriculture, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, for Brass City Charter Regional Food Hub;

(5) The sum of \$1,305,461 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Amistad for repairs;

(6) The sum of \$235,489 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, to provide a grant to the International Festival of Arts and Ideas;

(7) The sum of \$250,000 to the Auditors of Public Accounts, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to upgrade computer systems and software;

(8) The sum of \$200,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to establish the Law Enforcement Memorial Account;

House Bill No. 6941

(9) The sum of \$100,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Police Officer Standards and Training Council to develop guidelines for domestic violence protective orders;

(10) The sum of \$3,000,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide grants to municipalities to remove PFAS from fire apparatus;

(11) The sum of \$150,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Greater Hartford Foundation for the Travelers Championship;

(12) The sum of \$175,000 to the Department of Housing, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Angel of Edgewood, Inc.;

(13) The sum of \$2,000,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide grants to the three state-recognized tribes, The Schaghticoke, the Paucatuck Eastern Pequot and the Golden Hill Paugussett, for work on their reservations;

(14) The sum of \$100,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide funding to support a study on the Medicaid for Employees with Disabilities program, which is known as MED-Connect, and the potential for expanding program eligibility;

(15) The sum of \$2,500,000 to the Office of Early Childhood, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, for the workforce pipeline pilot program;

House Bill No. 6941

(16) The sum of \$40,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and up to \$20,000,000, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, to The University of Connecticut, for Operating Expenses, for temporary operating support;

(17) The sum of \$55,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and up to \$27,500,000, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, to the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, for Operating Expenses, for temporary operating support;

(18) The sum of \$35,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and up to \$17,500,000, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, to The University of Connecticut Health Center, for Operating Expenses, for temporary operating support;

(19) The sum of \$70,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Friends of the Shetucket River Valley for renovations and repairs to facilities for the Sprague land preserve;

(20) The sum of \$60,000 to the Teachers' Retirement Board, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for a board election;

(21) The sum of \$5,000,000 to the Office of the State Comptroller, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, for paraeducators' health care;

(22) The sum of \$53,300,000 to the Office of Policy and Management, for Private Providers, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide one-time support for private providers;

(23) The sum of \$12,500,000 to the Office of Policy and Management, for Supplemental Revenue Sharing Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide grants in the amount of \$7,000,000 to the city

House Bill No. 6941

of Bridgeport and the amount of \$5,500,000 to the city of Waterbury;

(24) The sum of \$100,000 to the Office of Policy and Management, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to study the transfer of registration and oversight of homemaker-companion agencies from the Department of Consumer Protection to the Department of Public Health;

(25) The sum of \$150,000 to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for a food waste diversion pilot program in Greenwich public schools;

(26) The sum of \$5,000,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for flood damage remediation;

(27) The sum of \$38,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Cetacean Society International for costs associated with relocation;

(28) The sum of \$50,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to develop a historic preservation toolkit;

(29) The sum of \$25,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Community Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to Brian's Angels for operational support;

(30) The sum of \$50,000 to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Boys and Girls Club of Bristol for operational support;

(31) The sum of \$100,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Community Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide

House Bill No. 6941

a grant to Branford Counseling and Community Services for programming;

(32) The sum of \$150,000 to the Department of Aging and Disability Services, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to East Windsor Senior Center for bus replacement;

(33) The sum of \$50,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Lutz Children's Museum for operational support;

(34) The sum of \$2,000,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Community Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to Harriott Home Health Services for operational support;

(35) The sum of \$500,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the town of Manchester for the consolidation of eighth utilities special services taxing district;

(36) The sum of \$250,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to study issues facing fire services in the state;

(37) The sum of \$75,000 to the Judicial Department, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to Scrip, Inc. for facility improvements and programming;

(38) The sum of \$200,000 to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to FreeAgentNow;

(39) The sum of \$25,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Community Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide

House Bill No. 6941

a grant to Food2Kids for operational support;

(40) The sum of \$5,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the town of Orange Historical Society for cleaning historic gravestones;

(41) The sum of \$150,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the town of East Hartford for improvements to youth athletic and recreational facilities;

(42) The sum of \$350,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the city of Fairfield for senior center facility renovations and programming;

(43) The sum of \$230,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Connecticut Afghanistan, Iraq War Veterans Monument Fund for the war memorial;

(44) The sum of \$200,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the town of Avon for softball field improvements;

(45) The sum of \$100,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Sterling Opera House for renovations and repairs;

(46) The sum of \$254,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the town of Berlin for

House Bill No. 6941

improvements to properties owned by the town and the Board of Education;

(47) The sum of \$250,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to VFW Post 10059 in the town of Trumbull for facility improvements;

(48) The sum of \$500,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to YMCA Camp Sloper in the town of Southington for pond dredging;

(49) The sum of \$250,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Boy Scouts of America for Camp Shelton capital support;

(50) The sum of \$100,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Community Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to Human Resources Agency of New Britain for campus improvements;

(51) The sum of \$225,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to Friends of Ambler Farm in the town of Wilton;

(52) The sum of \$150,000 to The University of Connecticut, for Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for the institute to develop a hate crimes database;

(53) The sum of \$60,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for the purpose of providing a grant to the town of Simsbury for a

House Bill No. 6941

Federal Emergency Management Agency hazard mitigation study;

(54) The sum of \$350,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to Bridgeport Economic Development Corporation for cultural events;

(55) The sum of \$300,000 to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the Charter Oak Boxing Academy;

(56) The sum of \$150,000 to the Judicial Department, for LGBTQ Justice and Opportunity Network, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the network;

(57) The sum of \$5,000,000 to the Department of Administrative Services, for Firefighters Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for the firefighters cancer relief account to support program benefit expenses;

(58) The sum of \$604,000 to the Department of Public Health, for School Based Health Centers, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, to provide a grant to InterCommunity Health Care for operations support in the town of East Hartford.

(59) The sum of \$600,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to provide a grant to the town of Cheshire for economic development projects; and

(60) The sum of \$2,000,000 to the Office of Early Childhood, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for Childhood Collaboratives.

(c) The unexpended balance of any amount transferred and made

House Bill No. 6941

available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, shall not lapse on said date and shall continue to be available for the same purpose during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

(d) Except as provided in sections 27, 37 and 42 to 45, inclusive, of this act, the unexpended balance of any amount carried forward pursuant to section 29 of special act 21-15, as amended by section 308 of public act 21-2 of the June special session and section 12 of public act 22-118, shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and shall continue to be available for the same purpose during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Sec. 42. (*Effective from passage*) Up to \$7,800,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated to the Office of Early Childhood, for the Early Care and Education account, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and shall be carried forward to the Care4Kids TANF/CCDF account and made available to meet the costs of the family child care provider agreement during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Sec. 43. (*Effective from passage*) Up to \$2,000,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated to the Department of Housing, for the Housing and Homeless Services account, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and shall be carried forward and made available for administering the emergency rental assistance program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Sec. 44. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The unexpended balance of funds carried forward to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, and transferred pursuant to subsection (b) of section 29 of special act 21-15, as amended by section 308 of public act 21-2 of the June special session and section 12 of public act 22-118, to support the establishment of nonstop air service to Jamaica, shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and such funds shall continue

House Bill No. 6941

to be available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for the same purpose.

Sec. 45. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The unexpended balance of funds carried forward to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, and transferred pursuant to subsection (b) of section 29 of special act 21-15, as amended by section 308 of public act 21-2 of the June special session and section 12 of public act 22-118, to provide a grant-in-aid to the town of Sprague for streetscape improvements that consist of LED lighting for all the streetlights in the town of Sprague, utilizing the same type of fixtures as those utilized in the village of Baltic, shall not lapse on June 30, 2023, and such funds shall be made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for a grant-in-aid to the town of Sprague for recreation field and park lighting.

Sec. 46. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Not less than \$3,500,000 of the amount allocated to the Department of Economic and Community Development for the Connecticut Summer at the Museum Program pursuant to section 41 of special act 21-15, as amended by section 306 of public act 21-2 of the June special session, section 10 of public act 22-118, and section 48 of this act shall be made available for grants-in-aid to for-profit entities as part of said program.

Sec. 47. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The sum of \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Girls on the Run Greater Hartford for operational support.

(b) The sum of \$350,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Big Brothers and

House Bill No. 6941

Big Sisters of Connecticut to provide mentoring opportunities in the cities of Hartford and New Haven.

(c) The sum of \$200,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Middletown Youth Programming.

(d) The sum of \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to the Boys and Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley for operational support.

(e) The sum of \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Hartford Knights.

(f) The sum of \$15,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Hartford Youth Programming.

(g) The sum of \$150,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Active City for youth athletics.

(h) The sum of \$75,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made

House Bill No. 6941

available in each said fiscal year for robotics.

(i) The sum of \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Serving All Vessels Equally (SAVE) in Norwalk.

(j) The sum of \$2,000,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year for ECE recruitment and after school K-2 reading tutoring.

(k) The sum of \$75,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to Bridgeport Caribe Youth Leaders.

(l) The sum of \$60,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to Student with Academic Growth, Inc.

(m) The sum of \$25,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to EdAdvance.

(n) The sum of \$350,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to Bloomfield Public Schools for summer school.

(o) The sum of \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of

House Bill No. 6941

this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to Youth Summer Workforce.

(p) The sum of \$210,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Stamford Public Education Foundation.

(q) The sum of \$50,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to Sound Waters Summer Camp.

(r) The sum of \$1,000,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to Full Circle Youth Empowerment.

(s) The sum of \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse.

(t) The sum of \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Solar Youth.

(u) The sum of \$200,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to New Haven Reads.

House Bill No. 6941

(v) The sum of \$300,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to New Britain High School for the vocational technical department.

(w) The sum of \$50,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to We are Village, Inc. in the city of Hamden.

(x) The sum of \$120,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year to provide a grant to Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference.

(y) The sum of \$500,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Family Resource Center, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to North Branford Family Resource Center.

(z) The sum of \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year for a virtual reality study.

(AA) The sum of \$200,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year for Thompson Alliance District.

(BB) The sum of \$50,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Family Resource Center, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal

House Bill No. 6941

year for alliance districts.

(CC) The sum of \$487,500 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, shall be made available in each said fiscal year for promotion and marketing of teaching.

(DD) Up to \$1,000,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Magnet Schools, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide a grant to Capitol Region Education Council for operating expenses.

(EE) The sum of \$3,000,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Magnet Schools, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to the department to cover the excess per student tuition described in subdivision (2) of subsection (p) of section 10-264~~l~~ of the general statutes.

(FF) The sum of \$15,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be made available in said fiscal year to provide the grant described in section 17 of public act 23-101.

Sec. 48. Section 41 of special act 21-15, as amended by section 306 of public act 21-2 of the June special session, section 3 of special act 22-2, section 10 of public act 22-118, section 1 of public act 22-146, section 2 of public act 22-1 of the November special session, and section 1 of public act 23-1, is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

The following sums are allocated, in accordance with the provisions of special act 21-1, from the federal funds designated for the state pursuant to the provisions of section 602 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the

House Bill No. 6941

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
BOARD OF REGENTS				
Enhance Student Retention at Community Colleges	6,500,000	6,500,000	6,500,000	
Education Technology Training at Gateway		100,000		
CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES				
Healthcare Workforce Needs - both public and private schools		20,000,000	15,000,000	
Higher Education - CSCU	10,000,000	5,000,000	<u>147,700,000</u>	<u>48,800,000</u>
Provide Operating Support		118,000,000		
Provide Support to Certain Facilities		5,000,000		
Temporary Support - Charter Oak		500,000		
Temporary Support - CT State Universities		14,500,000		
Temporary Support - Community Colleges		9,000,000		
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE				
Senior Food Vouchers	100,000	100,000		
Farmer's Market Nutrition	100,000	100,000		
Farm-to-School Grant	250,000	500,000		
Food Insecurity Grants to Food Pantries and Food Banks	1,000,000			
<u>Oyster Cultch Management Program</u>			<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Container Gardens</u>			<u>2,000,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES				
Enhance Community Engagement Opportunities		2,000,000		
Improve Camps		2,000,000		
Respite Care for Family Caregivers	3,000,000	-		
One Time Stabilization Grant		20,000,000		
Vista		500,000		
<u>Northwestern Transportation Service Pilot</u>			<u>250,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Beardsley Zoo	246,121	246,121		
Amistad	200,000	200,000		
Maritime Center Authority	196,295	196,295		
Mystic Aquarium	177,603	177,603		
Music Haven	100,000	100,000		
Norwalk Symphony	50,000	50,000		
Riverfront Recapture	250,000	250,000		
Connecticut Main Street Center	350,000	350,000		
Middletown Downtown Business District	100,000	100,000		
CRDA Economic Support for Venues	5,000,000	2,500,000		
Working Cities Challenge	1,000,000	1,000,000		
Charter Oak Temple Restoration Association	100,000	100,000		
West Haven Veterans Museum	25,000	25,000		

House Bill No. 6941

VFW Rocky Hill	15,000	15,000		
Playhouse on Park	15,000	15,000		
Family Justice Center	50,000	50,000		
East Hartford Little League	50,000			
Hartford YMCA	1,000,000			
ESF/Dream Camp of Hartford	100,000			
Beta Iota Boule Foundation -Youth Services	100,000			
Legacy Foundation of Hartford	100,000			
Connecticut Center for Advanced Technologies	1,000,000			
Middlesex YMCA	50,000			
Shatterproof	100,000			
Summer Experience at Connecticut's Top Venues	15,000,000			
Statewide Marketing	7,107,000			
Governor's Workforce Initiatives	70,000,000			
CT Hospitality Industry Support	30,000,000			
Regulatory Modernization	1,000,000			
Historic Wooster Square Association	500,000			
Humane Commission/ Animal Shelter of New Haven	500,000			
Ball and Sockets - Cheshire	200,000			
Junta for Progressive Action	750,000			
International Festival of Arts and Ideas New Haven		200,000		
CT Summer at the Museum Program		15,000,000	<u>10,000,000</u>	
CT Next		2,000,000		

House Bill No. 6941

Hartford YMCA Family Programming		500,000		
Future, Inc.		1,300,000		
Sons of Thunder		100,000		
Youth Service Corp		1,100,000		
Northside Institution Neighborhood Alliance - Historic Preservation		100,000		
Amistad Center		200,000		
Charter Oak Cultural Center		200,000		
City Seed of New Haven		200,000		
Beta Iota Boule Foundation		500,000		
Legacy Foundation of Hartford		500,000		
Bartlem Park South		250,000		
Team, Inc. - Derby		250,000		
YWCA of Hartford		250,000		
WBDC		250,000		
Concat New Haven		250,000		
Montville Parks and Rec Tennis Courts		500,000		
Vietnam Memorial Cheshire		200,000		
Norwich Historical Society		500,000		
Friends of FOSRV		44,000		
Dixwell Church Historic Preservation		2,000,000		
Opportunities Industrialization Center		150,000		
Bernard Buddy Jordan		50,000		
Bridgeport Arts Cultural Council		50,000		
McBride Foundation		100,000		
Artreach		300,000		
Ball and Sockets		400,000		
Bridgeport Youth LaCrosse Academy		25,000		

House Bill No. 6941

Cape Verdean Women's Association		25,000		
Cardinal Shehan Center		250,000		
Caribe		100,000		
Cheshire - Plan for Municipal Parking Lot		150,000		
Compass Youth Collaborative		350,000	<u>350,000</u>	
Dixwell Community Center		200,000		
Emery Park		100,000		
Farnam Neighborhood House		100,000		
Flotilla 73, INC		5,000		
Municipal Outdoor Recreation		4,200,000		
Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises		50,000		
Lebanon Pines		300,000		
Madison Cultural Art		60,000		
Minority Construction Council, Inc		100,000		
Nellie McKnight Museum		25,000		
Blue Hills Civic Association	500,000	500,000		
IMHOTEP CT National Medical Association Society	200,000	200,000		
Upper Albany Neighborhood Collaborative	125,000	125,000		
Noah Webster		100,000		
Norwalk International Cultural Exchange / NICE Festival		50,000		
Nutmeg Games		50,000		
Parenting Center - Stamford		250,000		
Ridgefield Playhouse		100,000		
Sisters at the Shore		50,000		
Taftville VFW Auxiliary		100,000		

House Bill No. 6941

The Knowlton		25,000		
The Legacy Foundation of Hartford, Inc	125,000	125,000	<u>350,000</u>	
The Ridgefield Theatre Barn		250,000		
Youth Business Initiative		50,000		
<u>CT Main Street</u>			<u>350,000</u>	<u>350,000</u>
<u>Special Olympics</u>			<u>3,000,000</u>	
<u>CCAT</u>			<u>500,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>
<u>Theaters</u>			<u>3,500,000</u>	<u>2,625,000</u>
<u>Masters Table Community Meals</u>			<u>5,000</u>	
<u>Real Art Ways</u>			<u>100,000</u>	
<u>New Britain Museum of Art</u>			<u>100,000</u>	
<u>Hartford Stage</u>			<u>75,000</u>	
<u>Farmington Ave in Hartford</u>			<u>1,800,000</u>	
<u>Bushnell Theater</u>			<u>750,000</u>	
<u>Life Health and Wellness Center</u>			<u>5,000</u>	
<u>Municipal Outdoor Recreation in Hartford</u>			<u>4,500,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>
<u>Team, Inc</u>			<u>100,000</u>	
<u>West Indian Foundation, Inc.</u>			<u>150,000</u>	
<u>Lutz Childrens Museum</u>			<u>50,000</u>	
<u>Foundry 66</u>			<u>500,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION				
Right to Read		12,860,000	12,860,000	
Faith Acts Priority School Districts	5,000,000	5,000,000		
CT Writing Project	79,750	79,750		
Ascend Mentoring - Windsor	150,000	150,000		
Women in Manufacturing - Platt Tech Regional	65,000	65,000		

House Bill No. 6941

Vocational Technical School				
Elevate Bridgeport	200,000	200,000		
Grant to RHAM Manufacturing Program	22,000	-		
East Hartford Youth Services	200,000			
Student Achievement Through Opportunity	100,000			
Summer Camp Scholarships for Families	3,500,000			
[New Haven Local Little League]	[500,000]			
<u>New Haven Police Athletic League</u>			<u>250,000</u>	
<u>Magnet Schools - New Britain, New London</u>			<u>3,500,000</u>	
Hamden Before and After School Programming	400,000			
Hamden Pre-K Programming	100,000			
Expand Support for Learner Engagement and Attendance Program (LEAP)		7,000,000	<u>7,000,000</u>	
Increase College Opportunities Through Dual Enrollment		3,500,000	<u>3,500,000</u>	
Provide Funding for the American School for the Deaf		1,115,000		
Provide Funding to Support FAFSA Completion		500,000		
Big Brothers / Big Sisters		2,000,000		
Social Worker Grant SB 1		5,000,000		
School Mental Health Workers		15,000,000		
School Mental Health Services Grant		8,000,000		
RESC Trauma Coordinators		1,200,000		

House Bill No. 6941

ParaEducational Professional Development HB 5321		1,800,000		
Leadership Education Athletic Partnership		400,000		
Sphere Summer Program		500,000		
Dream Camp Foundation		1,000,000		
[Student Achievement Through Opportunities]		[300,000]		
Keane Foundation		300,000		
Greater Hartford YMCA		300,000		
Free Meals for Students		[90,000,000] <u>65,000,000</u>	<u>16,000,000</u>	
Summer Enrichment Funds [to cover fifty per cent required match]		8,000,000		
YWCA of New Britain		200,000		
FRLP/Direct Certification Census Assistance		200,000		
Drug and Alcohol Counseling - Woodstock Academy		200,000		
Hartford Knights		100,000		
BSL Educational Foundation		100,000		
Magnets - Tuition Coverage for 1 year		11,000,000		
Bridgeport Education Fund		100,000		
Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department		15,000		
Hall Neighborhood House		75,000		
New Haven Board of Education Adult Education Facility		500,000		
New Haven Reads		50,000		
Solar Youth		100,000		
Bullard-Havens Technical High School for Operating		50,000		

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Education Workforce Development</u>			<u>5,000,000</u>	
<u>Teacher Residency</u>			<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>
<u>Hartford Public Library - Flooding Restoration</u>			<u>1,795,000</u>	
<u>CERC Public Transition Program Report</u>			<u>300,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION				
[Air Quality Study]	[20,000]	[-]		
Swimming Lessons to DEEP	500,000	500,000	500,000	
Health and Safety Barriers to Housing Remediation	7,000,000	-		
Efficient Energy Retrofit for Housing	7,000,000	-		
Quinnipiac Avenue Canoe Launch	250,000			
Outdoor Recreation with \$1,000,000 for East Rock Park and \$1,000,000 for West Rock Park for maintenance, repair and renovations		22,500,000		
Engineering Study for Dam Removal on Papermill Pond		500,000		
Land Trust Boardwalk Installation		200,000		
Clinton Town Beach		55,000		
Crystal Lake & Bob Tedford Park Renovations		50,000		
Ludlowe Park		75,000		
Lighthouse Park		500,000		
Park Commission Edgewood Park		800,000		
<u>Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Management</u>			<u>5,000,000</u>	

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Accessibility Equipment for State Parks</u>			<u>500,000</u>	
<u>Climate Equity Urban Forestry</u>			<u>500,000</u>	
<u>Case Mountain Bridge Replacement and Masonry</u>			<u>330,000</u>	
<u>Nature Center at Keney Park</u>			<u>200,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING				
Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen	200,000			
Hands on Hartford	100,000			
[Angel of Edgewood]		[175,000]		
Homeless Youth Transitional Housing		1,000,000		
Homeless Services		5,000,000		
Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance		500,000		
Support for Affordable Housing		50,000,000		
[Rental Assistance Program]		[1,000,000]		
<u>Flexible Funding Subsidy Pool for Housing and Homeless Support</u>			<u>2,000,000</u>	
<u>Housing Support Services</u>			<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>
<u>Rapid Rehousing</u>			<u>1,000,000</u>	
<u>Housing Initiatives</u>			<u>10,000,000</u>	
<u>Rocky Hill Senior and Disabled Housing</u>			<u>55,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH				
DPH Loan Repayment	500,000	5,100,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Obesity & COVID-19 Study	500,000	500,000		
Cornell Scott - Hill Health	250,000			

House Bill No. 6941

Community Violence Prevention Programs		1,000,000		
Promote Healthy and Lead-Safe Homes		20,000,000	10,000,000	
Provide Funding to Address and Respond to an Increase in Homicides		1,500,000		
School Based Health Centers		10,000,000		
Storage and Maintenance Costs of COVID 19 Preparedness Supplies		325,000		
CCMC Pediatrician Training		150,000		
Gaylord Hospital Electronic Records		2,600,000		
HB 5272 - Menstrual Products		2,000,000		
Pilot Program for Promoting Social Workers and Pediatrician Offices		2,500,000		
ICHC School Based Health Centers		604,000		
Durational Loan Manager		100,000		
<u>Connecticut Public Health Association</u>		<u>100,000</u>		
[Community Health Worker Association of Connecticut]		[100,000]		
Child Psychiatrist Workforce Development		2,000,000		
CT VIP Street Outreach		300,000		
E-cigarette and Marijuana Prevention Pilot Program conducted by Yale to be in Stamford, Milford, East Haven		300,000		
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION				
Groton Water Taxi	100,000	100,000		

House Bill No. 6941

Free Bus Service for July and August 2022		5,000,000		
Outfit M8 Rail Cars with 5G		[23,000,000] <u>2,750,000</u>		
Extend Free Bus Service		18,900,000		
Replace Infrastructure Match		150,000,000		
Free Bus Public Transportation Services	8,100,000			
<u>IDD Needs Transit Study</u>		<u>200,000</u>		
<u>IDD Non-Medical Transit Study</u>		<u>100,000</u>		
<u>Bus Stop Shelter Study</u>		<u>75,000</u>		
LABOR DEPARTMENT				
Domestic Worker Grants	200,000	200,000		
[Veterans Employment Opportunity PILOT]	[350,000]	[350,000]		
Opportunities for Long Term Unemployed Returning Citizens	750,000	750,000		
TBICO Danbury Women's Employment Program	25,000	25,000		
Boys and Girls Club Workforce Development - Milford	50,000	50,000		
Women's Mentoring Network - Strategic Life Skills Workshop	5,000	5,000		
Senior Jobs Bank - West Hartford	10,000	10,000		
Greater Bridgeport OIC Job Development and Training Program	250,000	100,000		
Unemployment Trust Fund	155,000,000	-		
Unemployment Support	15,000,000			
Reduce State UI Tax on Employers		40,000,000		
CDL Training at Community Colleges		1,000,000		

House Bill No. 6941

Bridgeport Workplace		750,000		
YouthBuild		750,000		
<u>Infrastructure for MFT- Regional Workforce Training Initiative</u>			<u>800,000</u>	
<u>Build With Our Hands</u>			<u>500,000</u>	
[Cradle to Career - Bridgeport]		[150,000]		
<u>Temporary UI Staff</u>			<u>2,500,000</u>	
<u>Youth Employment for Regional Workforce Boards</u>			<u>500,000</u>	
LABOR DEPARTMENT - BANKING FUND				
Customized Services for Mortgage Crisis Jobs Training Program	550,000	550,000		
<u>SECRETARY OF STATE</u>				
<u>Voting Access</u>			<u>1,680,447</u>	<u>1,379,128</u>
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD				
Care4Kids Parent Fees	5,300,000	-		
Parents Fees for 3-4 Year Old's at State Funded Childcare Centers	3,500,000	-		
Universal Home Visiting	8,000,000	2,300,000		
Expand Access - Apprenticeship		5,000,000		
Care4Kids		10,000,000	<u>35,000,000</u>	
Early Childhood - Facility Renovation and Construction		15,000,000		
Capitol Child Day Care Center		75,000		
Childcare Apprenticeship Program		1,500,000		
School Readiness		30,000,000		

House Bill No. 6941

[Seed Childrens Services Fund]		[20,000,000]		
Start Early - Early Childhood Development Initiatives		20,000,000		
<u>Cradle to Career</u>			<u>150,000</u>	
<u>Childhood Collaboratives</u>				<u>2,000,000</u>
OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION				
Roberta Willis Need-Based Scholarships	20,000,000	40,000,000	<u>18,000,000</u>	
Summer College Corps	1,500,000	-		
Higher Education Mental Health Services		3,000,000		
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT				
Private Providers	30,000,000	30,000,000		
[PPE & Supplies]	[10,000,000]	[10,000,000]		
State Employee Essential Workers and National Guard Premium Pay	20,000,000	15,000,000		
Audits of ARPA Recipients		1,250,000		
COVID Response Measures		[157,500,000] <u>51,900,000</u>		
<u>Provide Funding for Medical Debt Erasure</u>			<u>6,500,000</u>	
<u>Housing Study</u>			<u>250,000</u>	
Provide Private Provider Support - One Time Payments		20,000,000		
Evidence Based Evaluation of Initiatives		928,779		
Support ARPA Grant Administration		800,000		
Statewide GIS Capacity for Broadband Mapping/Data and Other Critical Services		9,532,000		

House Bill No. 6941

Invest Connecticut		[62,715,214] -	<u>1,666,331</u>	
Bethany Town Hall Auditorium		350,000		
Bethany Town Hall Windows		350,000		
Durham Town Website		25,000		
Hall Memorial Library Reading and Meditation Garden		66,626		
Orange Fire Department Clock purchase		10,000		
Resources to develop a combined Grammar School Support between Hampton and Scotland		25,000		
Senior Center Outdoor Fitness Area - Ellington		57,418		
South Windsor Riverfront Linear Park Study and Planning		100,000		
Valley Regional High School Tennis Courts		300,000		
Lebanon Historical Society		300,000		
Bloomfield Social and Youth Services		100,000		
Bridgeport - Revenue Replacement		2,200,000		
<u>Funding for Grants and Contracts Specialist Positions for State Agency Support</u>			<u>2,868,000</u>	
<u>Provide Funding to Stamford</u>			<u>1,500,000</u>	
<u>IDD Employment Opportunities Study</u>			<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
<u>Level of Needs and Statutory Definitions Study</u>			<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
<u>CSCU System Study</u>			<u>250,000</u>	

House Bill No. 6941

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES				
IT Modernization		3,000,000		
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT				
Higher Education - UConn	20,000,000	5,000,000		
Temporary Support		33,200,000	<u>42,200,000</u>	<u>11,100,000</u>
Social Media Impact Study		500,000		
Puerto Rican Studies Initiative UConn Hartford		500,000		
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH CENTER				
Revenue Impact	35,000,000			
University of Connecticut Health Center	38,000,000	-		
Temporary Support		72,700,000	<u>51,500,000</u>	<u>25,700,000</u>
STATE LIBRARY				
Mary Cheney Library		500,000		
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES				
Fostering Community	10,000	10,000		
Casa Boricua-Meriden	50,000	50,000		
Children's Mental Health Initiatives	10,500,000			
Child First	5,100,000	5,100,000		
Expand Mobile Crisis Intervention Services		8,600,000	8,600,000	<u>8,600,000</u>
Support Additional Urgent Crisis Centers and Sub-Acute Crisis Stabilization Units		21,000,000		

House Bill No. 6941

Support for Improved Outcomes for Youth (YSBs and JRBs)		2,000,000		
Social Determinant Mental Health Fund		1,000,000	1,000,000	
Family Assistance Grants		1,000,000		
Expand Access Mental Health		990,000		
Resource Guide		50,000		
Peer to Peer Training for Students		150,000		
Respite for non-DCF Children		85,000		
Children in Placement, Inc.		25,000		
[Valley Save Our Youth]		[70,000]		
Girls for Technology		100,000		
R-Kids		100,000		
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT				
Mothers Against Violence	25,000	25,000		
Legal Representation for Tenant Eviction	10,000,000	10,000,000		
New Haven Police Activities League	100,000			
Provide Funding to Build Out the Juvenile Intake Custody and Probable Cause Applications		377,742	363,752	
Provide Funding to Continue Temporary Staffing for the Foreclosure Mediation Program		3,410,901	3,444,293	
Provide Funding to Enhance Contracts for Direct Service Partnership for Households and Families		200,000	200,000	

House Bill No. 6941

Provide Funding to Enhance Technology for Citations and Hearings in the Criminal Infractions Bureau		606,915		
Provide Funding to Enhance the Department's Case Management and Scheduler Application		1,382,900		
Provide Funding to Establish Video Conferencing for Municipal Stations for Bail and Support Services		60,000		
Provide Funding to Expand Housing Opportunities for Individuals on Bail		2,915,614	2,915,614	
Provide Funding to Hire Assistant Clerks and Family Relations Counselors to Reduce Family and Support Matter Case Backlogs		3,294,851	3,294,851	
Provide Funding to Support Application Development for Monitor Note-Taking and Recording		923,467	226,337	
Provide Increased Funding for Victim Service Providers		14,865,300	<u>13,175,000</u>	<u>20,000,000</u>
Provide Remote Equipment to Reduce Child Support Backlog		121,600		
Inspire Basketball		2,000,000		
Children's Law Center		190,000		
Brother Carl Hardrick Institute - Violence Prevention		400,000		
Community Resources for Justice (Family Reentry)		300,000		

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Equipment to Livestream Supreme Court Proceedings</u>			<u>350,000</u>	
<u>Modernize and Upgrade IT and Courthouse Security</u>			<u>1,250,000</u>	
<u>Family Re-Entry of New Haven</u>			<u>350,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION				
TRUE Unit - Cheshire CI	500,000	500,000		
WORTH Program York CI	250,000	250,000		
Vocational Village Dept Corrections	20,000,000	-		
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES				
Fair Haven Clinic	10,000,000	-		
Workforce Development, Education and Training	1,000,000			
Nursing Home Facility Support	10,000,000			
MyCT Resident One Stop	2,500,000			
New Reach Life Haven Shelter	500,000			
Mary Wade	750,000			
Community Action Agencies	5,000,000			
Expand Medical/Psychiatric Inpatient Unit at Connecticut Children's Medical Center		15,000,000		
Provide Additional Supports for Victims of Domestic Violence		2,900,000		
Provide Support for Infant and Early		5,000,000		<u>4,000,000</u>

House Bill No. 6941

Childhood Mental Health Services				
Strengthen Family Planning		2,000,000		
Community Action Agencies - Community Health Workers	3,000,000	4,000,000		
Charter Oak Urgent Care		[330,000] <u>100,000</u>		
Charter Oak Health Care			<u>230,000</u>	
ROCA		500,000		
Waterbury Seed Funds for Wheeler Clinic		650,000		
Provide Support for Residential Care Homes (RCH)		3,700,000		
Brain Injury Alliance of CT		300,000		
Hartford Communities that Care		500,000		
Hebrew Senior Care		150,000		
Connecticut Health Foundation		500,000		
Health Equity Solutions		500,000		
CT Oral Health Initiative		300,000		
Day Kimball Hospital		5,000,000		
Mothers United Against Violence		300,000		
Fair Haven		10,000,000		
Adult Day		3,000,000		
HRA		150,000		
Hands on Hartford		100,000		
Human Resources Agency of New Britain		300,000		
Teeg		200,000		
[Home Heating Energy Assistance Supplemental Reserve]		[30,000,000]		
<u>Client Support Funds - Community Action Agencies</u>			<u>10,000,000</u>	

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Two Months of Premium Assistance under Access Health CT</u>			<u>10,000,000</u>	
<u>Capital Funding for RCHs Grandfathered under Outdated Codes</u>			<u>5,000,000</u>	
<u>Nursing Home Specialized Unit Infrastructure Fund</u>			<u>4,000,000</u>	
<u>Migrant Support</u>			<u>3,250,000</u>	
<u>Supports for Public Health Emergency Unwind</u>			<u>1,000,000</u>	
<u>Support HUSKY Eligibility</u>			<u>150,000</u>	
<u>Provide Capital Grants for Mobile Vans for Free Health Clinics</u>			<u>500,000</u>	
<u>Provide Funding for Provider Rate Study and Implementation Strategy</u>			<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>
<u>Day Kimball Hospital</u>			<u>8,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>
<u>Hospital Based Autism Service Pilot</u>			<u>500,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>
LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT				
CTN	1,000,000	-		
Review of Title 7		27,000		
<u>Strategic Higher Education Study</u>			<u>250,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES				
DMHAS Private Providers	25,000,000	[25,000,000] <u>18,660,000</u>		
Enhance Mobile Crisis Services- Case Management		3,200,000		<u>1,600,000</u>

House Bill No. 6941

Enhance Respite Bed Services for Forensic Population		4,292,834		
Expand Availability of Privately-Provided Mobile Crisis Services		6,000,000		<u>3,000,000</u>
Fund Supportive Services to Accompany New Housing Vouchers		1,125,000	1,125,000	[562,500] <u>1,125,000</u>
Provide Mental Health Peer Supports in Hospital Emergency Departments		2,400,000		
Implement Electronic Health Records		16,000,000		
Public Awareness Grants		1,000,000		
Peer-to-Peer		500,000		
United Services Pilot on Crisis Intervention		200,000		
Clifford Beers		200,000		
The Pathfinders Association		100,000		
Fellowship Place New Haven		150,000		
<u>Enhance Respite Bed Services for Forensic Population</u>				<u>954,567</u>
DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES				
Blind and Deaf Community Supports	2,000,000			
Senior Centers		10,000,000		
Meals on Wheels		3,000,000		
Respite Care for Alzheimers		1,000,000		
Area Agencies on Aging		4,000,000		
Avon Senior Center		100,000		
Dixwell Senior Center		100,000		
Eisenhower Senior Center		100,000		
Orange Senior Center		100,000		

House Bill No. 6941

Sullivan Senior Center		100,000		
<u>Elderly Nutrition</u>			<u>2,250,000</u>	
<u>Prevalence of Autism Study</u>			<u>10,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION				
Provide Funding for a Mobile Crime Laboratory		995,000		
Provide Funding for the Gun Tracing Task Force		2,500,000		
Provide Funding to State and Local Police Departments to Address Auto Theft and Violence		2,600,000	2,600,000	
Upgrade Forensic Technology at the State Crime Lab		1,500,000	1,343,000	
Rural Roads Speed Enforcement		2,600,000		
Expand Violent Crimes Task Force		1,108,000		
Online Abuse Grant SB 5		500,000		
Fire Data Collection		300,000		
P.O.S.T. High School Recruitment Program for Police		200,000		
Poquetanuck Volunteer Fire Department		150,000		
Preston City Volunteer Fire Department		150,000		
<u>Clean Slate Phase 2 Information Technology Needs</u>			<u>1,500,000</u>	
<u>Sensory Kit Pilot</u>			<u>36,000</u>	
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SERVICES				

House Bill No. 6941

Provide Payments to Filers Eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit		42,250,000		
<u>ABLE Accounts Software</u>			<u>75,000</u>	
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE				
Provide Funding to Reduce Court Case Backlogs Through Temporary Prosecutors and administrative staff		2,199,879	2,126,550	
OFFICE OF HEALTH STRATEGY				
Improve Data Collection and Integration with HIE		500,000	650,000	
Study Behavioral Health Coverage by Private Insurers		200,000		
Payment Parity Study		655,000		
Telehealth Study		300,000		
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER				
Testing and Other COVID-Related Expenditures		860,667		
PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION				
Provide Funding to Reduce Court Backlogs Through Temporary Public Defenders		2,023,821	1,956,360	
POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL				
Time Limited Police Loan Forgiveness		1,000,000		

House Bill No. 6941

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES				
Support School Air Quality		75,000,000		
<u>Interagency Portal</u>			<u>50,000</u>	
<u>Capital Area Heating System Study</u>			<u>2,000,000</u>	
OFFICE OF WORKFORCE STRATEGY				
HVAC Training Agency		300,000		
Revenue		[314,900,000]		
		=		

Sec. 49. Section 307 of public act 21-2 of the June special session, as amended by section 11 of public act 22-118 and section 17 of public act 22-146, is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

The following sums are allocated, in accordance with the provisions of special act 21-1, from the federal funds designated for the state pursuant to the provisions of section 604 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT				
Multi-purpose community facility projects		25,000,000		
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION				

House Bill No. 6941

Low-Income/Multi-family Curb-to-home and Business Broadband infrastructure buildout and underserved area broadband infrastructure grants	20,000,000	22,966,125		
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES				
Connecticut Education Network Wi-Fi connectivity and broadband for public spaces	10,000,000	719,936		
Expand CEN Broadband to Remaining Municipalities and Libraries		8,025,474	6,600,000	6,600,000
Upgrade the Connecticut Education Network (CEN)		[20,060,884] <u>20,060,882</u>	19,025,000	2,024,000
CEN Charter School Fiber Internet Connectivity Program		441,195	300,000	170,000

Sec. 50. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The sum of \$2,500,000, appropriated in section 1 of this act, to the Department of Social Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be paid, not later than September 30, 2023, to Bristol Hospital to assist in the preparation of a plan for maintaining essential health services aligned with community need and the most current community needs health assessment and a path to financial viability. The plan shall consider the feasibility of providing access to twenty-four-hour emergency services, obstetrics, behavioral health, population-relevant specialty care and primary care services and, upon completion, shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

(b) Upon approval of the plan described in subsection (a) of this section by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, the Department of

House Bill No. 6941

Public Health and the Office of Health Strategy, an additional sum of \$2,500,000, appropriated in section 1 of this act, to the Department of Social Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be paid, to Bristol Hospital.

(c) The sum of \$2,000,000, appropriated in section 1 of this act, to the Department of Social Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, shall be paid, to Bristol Hospital, for activities related to the implementation of the approved plan, provided the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management certifies progress is being made toward implementation of the plan with a clear path to financial viability.

Sec. 51. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The sum of \$4,000,000, allocated in section 48 of this act, to the Department of Social Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be paid, not later than September 30, 2023, to Day Kimball Hospital to assist in the preparation of a plan for maintaining essential health services aligned with community need and the most current community needs health assessment and a path to financial viability. The plan shall address the need for access to twenty-four-hour emergency services, obstetrics, behavioral health, population-relevant specialty care and primary care services and, upon completion, shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

(b) Upon submission and review of the plan described in subsection (a) of this section by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, the Department of Public Health and the Office of Health Strategy, an additional sum of \$4,000,000, allocated in section 48 of this act to the Department of Social Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, shall be paid to Day Kimball Hospital for implementation of the plan.

(c) The sum of \$2,000,000, allocated in section 48 of this act, for the

House Bill No. 6941

fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, shall be paid to Day Kimball Hospital, for ongoing activities, provided the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management certifies progress is being made toward implementation of the plan with a clear path to financial viability.

Sec. 52. Section 29-1ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

[On and after July 1, 2022, the] The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall, within available resources, administer a grant program to provide grants-in-aid to eligible municipalities for speed enforcement activities on rural roads. Any municipality that has a population of less than twenty-five thousand [that has a law enforcement unit or resident state trooper] may apply for such grants in such manner as the department prescribes. The department shall award grants of up to five thousand dollars to eligible municipalities, and may award not more than a total of ten grants to any such municipality. The department shall continue to award grants until all resources dedicated to such grant program have been expended.

Sec. 53. (*Effective from passage*) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the Commissioner of Public Health shall increase the maximum allowable rates for the conveyance and treatment of patients by licensed ambulance services and invalid coaches and such rates for certified ambulance services and paramedic intercept services established pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (9) of section 19a-177 of the general statutes by ten per cent.

Sec. 54. Section 19a-89e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Department" means the Department of Public Health; [and]

House Bill No. 6941

(2) "Hospital" means an establishment for the lodging, care and treatment of persons suffering from disease or other abnormal physical or mental conditions and includes inpatient psychiatric services in general hospitals;

(3) "Assistive personnel" means personnel who are not licensed by the Department of Public Health and who engage in specifically delegated patient care activities; and

(4) "Direct care registered nurse" means a registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378 whose primary responsibility is to provide direct patient care.

(b) Each hospital licensed by the department pursuant to chapter 368v shall report, not later than January first and July first annually, to the department on a prospective nurse staffing plan with a written certification that the nurse staffing plan developed pursuant to subsections (d) and (e) of this section is sufficient to provide adequate and appropriate delivery of health care services to patients in the ensuing period of licensure. Such plan shall promote a collaborative practice in the hospital that enhances patient care and the level of services provided by nurses and other members of the hospital's patient care team.

(c) (1) Each hospital shall establish a dedicated hospital staffing committee to assist in the preparation of the nurse staffing plan required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. [Registered] Direct care registered nurses employed by the hospital [whose primary responsibility is to provide direct patient care] shall account for not less than fifty per cent and an odd number of members of the membership of each hospital's staffing committee. [In order to comply with the requirement that a hospital establish a hospital staffing committee, a hospital may utilize an existing committee or committees to assist in the preparation of the nurse staffing plan, provided not less than fifty per

House Bill No. 6941

cent of the members of such existing committee or committees are registered nurses employed by the hospital whose primary responsibility is to provide direct patient care.] The total number of direct care registered nurses shall be one more than the total number of nondirect care registered nurses of such committee. Each hospital's staffing committee shall include broad-based representation across hospital services. When registered nurses employed by the hospital are members of a collective bargaining unit, (A) the collective bargaining unit shall select the direct care registered nurse members that comprise not less than fifty per cent of the total number of members of such committee, provided such selection is not prohibited conduct under the National Labor Relations Act, 29 USC 151, et seq., as amended from time to time, 5 USC 71, as amended from time to time, or the State Employee Relations Act, section 5-270, et seq., as amended from time to time, and (B) a representative of the collective bargaining unit shall provide the hospital with a list of multiple names of direct care registered nurses from which hospital management shall select the one additional direct care registered nurse member beyond the fifty per cent of the direct care registered nurse members. Direct care registered nurses who are not members of a collective bargaining unit shall be selected for the committee through a process determined by the direct care registered nurses of the hospital. The hospital staffing committee that was in existence prior to October 1, 2023, shall solicit feedback from all direct care registered nurses employed by the hospital regarding what such process should entail. The direct care registered nurses who are members of such existing hospital staffing committee shall decide, by majority vote, the parameters of such process. Hospital management shall select the remaining members of such committee.

(2) Each hospital shall pay each employee who serves on the hospital staffing committee such employee's regular rate of pay, including differentials, for participation on the committee and consider, to the extent possible by the hospital, the time such employee serves on the

House Bill No. 6941

committee as part of such employee's regularly scheduled work week. Each hospital shall ensure that direct care registered nurses have coverage to attend hospital staffing committee meetings.

(3) Each hospital staffing committee shall include two cochairpersons who have direct patient care experience, one of whom is a direct care registered nurse at the hospital who shall be elected by members of the committee who are direct care registered nurses, and one of whom shall be elected by members of the committee who are not direct care registered nurses. The committee shall take minutes of every meeting, make such minutes available to any member of the hospital staff upon request and submit such minutes to the Department of Public Health when requested by the department. A majority of the members of the staffing committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of staffing committee business. A decision made by the hospital staffing committee shall be made by a vote of a majority of the members present at the meeting. If a quorum of members present at a meeting comprises an equal number of members who are direct care registered nurses and members who are not direct care registered nurses, a sufficient number of members who are not direct care registered nurses shall abstain from voting to allow a majority of the voting members to consist of direct care registered nurses.

(4) Each hospital shall notify each nurse on the nurse's date of hire, and annually thereafter, about the hospital staffing committee, including, but not limited to, the purpose of the committee, the criteria and process for becoming a member of the committee, the hospital's process for internal review of the nurse staffing plan and the hospital's mechanism for obtaining input from direct care staff, including direct care registered nurses and other members of the hospital's patient care team, in the development of the nurse staffing plan.

(d) Each hospital staffing committee shall develop the nurse staffing plan for the hospital. In developing such plan, the committee shall

House Bill No. 6941

evaluate the most recent research regarding patient outcomes, share with hospital staff the procedures for communicating concerns to the committee regarding such plan and staffing assignments and review all reports regarding any such concerns and any objections or refusals by a registered nurse to participate in a staffing assignment made pursuant to subsection (h) of this section that were communicated to the committee. Each hospital [, in collaboration with its staffing committee, shall develop and] shall implement [to the best of its ability the prospective nurse staffing] such plan. Such plan shall: (1) Include the minimum professional skill mix for each patient care unit in the hospital, including, but not limited to, inpatient services, critical care and the emergency department; (2) identify the hospital's employment practices concerning the use of temporary and traveling nurses; (3) set forth the level of administrative staffing in each patient care unit of the hospital that ensures direct care staff are not utilized for administrative functions; (4) set forth the hospital's process for internal review of the nurse staffing plan; and (5) include the hospital's mechanism of obtaining input from direct care staff, including nurses and other members of the hospital's patient care team, in the development of the nurse staffing plan. In addition to the information described in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of this subsection, nurse staffing plans developed and implemented after January 1, 2016, shall include: (A) The number of registered nurses providing direct patient care and the ratio of patients to such registered nurses by patient care unit; (B) the number of licensed practical nurses providing direct patient care and the ratio of patients to such licensed practical nurses, by patient care unit; (C) the number of assistive personnel providing direct patient care and the ratio of patients to such assistive personnel, by patient care unit; (D) the method used by the hospital to determine and adjust direct patient care staffing levels; and (E) a description of [supporting] assistive personnel [assisting] on each patient care unit. In addition to the information described in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of this subsection and subparagraphs (A) to (E), inclusive, of this subdivision, nurse staffing

House Bill No. 6941

plans developed and implemented after January 1, 2017, shall include: (i) A description of any differences between the staffing levels described in the staffing plan and actual staffing levels for each patient care unit; and (ii) any actions the hospital intends to take to address such differences or adjust staffing levels in future staffing plans.

(e) On and after January 1, 2024, in addition to the information required pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, each nurse staffing plan shall include:

(1) Information about any objections to or refusals to comply with the nurse staffing plan by hospital staff that were communicated to the hospital staffing committee;

(2) Measurements of and evidence to support successful implementation of the nurse staffing plan;

(3) Retention, turnover and recruitment metrics for direct care registered nursing staff, including, but not limited to, the turnover rate per hospital unit during the preceding twelve months and the average years of experience of permanent direct care registered nursing staff per unit;

(4) The number of instances since the last nurse staffing plan was submitted when the hospital was not in compliance with such plan, including, but not limited to, the nurse staffing ratios set forth in such plan, and a description of how and why such plan was not complied with and plans to avoid future noncompliance with such plan; and

(5) Certification that the hospital and its hospital staffing committee are meeting the requirements set forth in this section and a description of how each requirement is being met.

(f) Each hospital shall post the nurse staffing plan developed and adopted pursuant to subsections (d) and (e), inclusive, of this section on

House Bill No. 6941

each patient care unit in a conspicuous location visible and accessible to staff, patients and members of the public. Each hospital shall maintain accurate records, for not less than the preceding three years, of the ratios of patients to direct care registered nurses and patients to assistive personnel providing patient care in each direct care unit for each shift. Such records shall include the number of (1) patients in each unit on each shift, (2) direct care registered nurses assigned to each patient in each unit on each shift, and (3) assistive personnel providing patient care assigned to each patient in each unit on each shift. Each hospital shall make such records available, upon request, to the Department of Public Health, the staff of the hospital, any collective bargaining unit representing such staff, the patients of the hospital and members of the general public.

(g) No hospital shall require a registered nurse to undertake any patient care task that is beyond the scope of the nurse's license.

(h) A registered nurse may object to or refuse to participate in any activity, policy, practice or task assigned by a hospital if the registered nurse is not competently able based on education, training or experience to participate in the activity, policy, practice or task without compromising the safety of a specific patient. If a registered nurse objects or refuses to participate, the nurse shall immediately contact a supervisor for assistance or to allow the hospital to find a suitable replacement. Not later than twelve hours after objecting or refusing to participate, the registered nurse shall submit a form, developed by the hospital and approved by the Department of Public Health, that includes the following: (1) A detailed statement of the reasons that the nurse objects or refuses to participate in the activity, policy, practice or task; (2) a description of how performing the activity, policy, practice or task would have compromised patient safety; and (3) the ways in which the activity, policy, practice or task was not consistent with the nurse's education, training, experience or job description. A hospital shall

House Bill No. 6941

review and analyze each form submitted pursuant to this subsection through one or more of the hospital's committees or functions, including, but not limited to, the quality assessment and performance improvement program, risk management or patient safety, and make adjustments to nurse staffing assignments if necessary to improve patient safety. Each hospital shall provide the Department of Public Health with confidential access to the forms submitted to the hospital pursuant to this subsection upon request.

(i) If a registered nurse reasonably believes his or her participation in an activity, policy, practice or task would violate a provision of a nurse staffing plan or policy approved by the hospital's nurse staffing committee, the nurse may file a complaint with the nurse staffing committee on a form developed by the hospital and approved by the Department of Public Health. The hospital and its nurse staffing committee shall analyze the complaint and provide the Department of Public Health with an analysis of actions taken in response to such complaint. The department shall submit all complaint forms provided to it pursuant to this subsection with its biannual report required pursuant to subsection (n) of this section.

(j) No hospital shall discharge, retaliate against, discriminate against or take any other adverse action against a registered nurse or any aspect of the registered nurse's employment, including, but not limited to, discharge, promotion, reduction in compensation or changes to terms, conditions or privileges of employment, as a result of such nurse taking any of the actions described in this section, participation by the registered nurse in a hospital staffing committee or raising of concerns by the registered nurse regarding unsafe staffing or workplace violence, racism or bullying.

(k) Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow a nurse to abandon a patient or refuse to perform patient care activities (1) during an ongoing surgical procedure until such procedure is completed; (2) in

House Bill No. 6941

a critical care unit, labor and delivery or emergency department until such nurse is relieved by another nurse; (3) in the case of a public health emergency; (4) in the case of an institutional emergency; or (5) in any instance where inaction or abandonment by the nurse would jeopardize patient safety.

(l) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a hospital, the Department of Public Health or the State Board of Examiners for Nursing from requiring a nurse to obtain additional training or continuing education consistent with the nurse's assigned roles and job description.

[(d) On or before] (m) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Public Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health concerning hospital compliance with reporting requirements under this section and recommendations concerning any additional reporting requirements.

(n) Not later than October 1, 2024, and biannually thereafter, a hospital shall report to the Department of Public Health, in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, whether it has been in compliance, for the previous six months, with at least eighty per cent of the nurse staffing assignments as required by any component outlined in the nurse staffing plan developed pursuant to subsections (d) and (e) of this section.

(o) For a failure by a hospital to (1) establish or maintain a hospital staffing committee pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, (2) submit the report required by subsection (n) of this section to the Department of Public Health, (3) post the staffing plan pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, or (4) comply with at least eighty per cent of the nurse staffing assignments set forth in the nurse staffing plan, the Commissioner of Public Health shall issue an order that: (A) Requires

House Bill No. 6941

the hospital to submit a corrective action plan to correct such noncompliance and implement such plan unless disapproved by the department not later than twenty business days after its submission; and (B) (i) imposes a civil penalty of three thousand five hundred dollars for the first violation, or (ii) imposes a civil penalty of five thousand dollars for each subsequent violation.

(p) (1) A hospital shall, not later than five business days after receipt of an order pursuant to subsection (o) of this section, submit a request in writing to the Department of Public Health for a hearing to contest the order. If the hospital fails to submit such a request not later than five business days after such receipt, the order shall be deemed a final order of the department, effective upon the expiration of such five business days. After receipt of a timely request for a hearing, the department shall set the matter down for a hearing as a contested case in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

(2) Each hospital shall pay any civil penalties imposed pursuant to subsection (o) of this section not later than fifteen days after the final date by which an appeal may be taken as provided in section 4-183 or, if an appeal is taken, not later than fifteen days after the final judgment on such appeal. If such penalties or the expenses of an audit ordered under subsection (q) of this section are not paid by the hospital, the Commissioner of Public Health shall notify the Commissioner of Social Services who shall be authorized to immediately withhold from the hospital's next medical assistance payment, an amount equal to the amount of the civil penalty and audit expenses.

(q) The Commissioner of Public Health may order an audit of the nurse staffing assignments of each hospital to determine compliance with the nurse staffing assignments for each hospital unit set forth in the nurse staffing plan developed pursuant to subsections (d) and (e) of this section. Such audit may include an assessment of the hospital's compliance with the requirements of this section for the content of such

House Bill No. 6941

plan, accuracy of reports submitted to the department and the membership of the hospital staffing committee. In determining whether to order an audit, the commissioner shall consider whether there has been consistent noncompliance by the hospital with the nurse staffing plan, fear of false reporting by the hospital, or any other health care quality safety concerns. The hospital that is subject to the audit shall pay the cost of the audit. The audit shall not affect the conduct by the hospital of peer review as defined in section 19a-17b.

Sec. 55. Section 19a-490l of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Nurse" means a registered nurse or a practical nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378, or a nurse's aide registered pursuant to chapter 378a; [and]

(2) "Hospital" has the same meaning as set forth in section 19a-490; and

(3) "Overtime" means working (A) in excess of a predetermined scheduled work shift, regardless of the length of such scheduled work shift, provided such scheduled work shift is determined and communicated not less than forty-eight hours prior to the commencement of such scheduled work shift, (B) more than twelve hours in a twenty-four-hour period, or (C) more than forty-eight hours in any hospital-defined work week.

(b) [No] Except as provided in this section, no hospital [may] shall require a nurse to work [in excess of a predetermined scheduled work shift, provided such scheduled work shift is determined and promulgated not less than forty-eight hours prior to the commencement of such scheduled work shift] overtime. No hospital shall discriminate against, discharge, discipline, threaten to discharge or discipline or

House Bill No. 6941

otherwise retaliate against a nurse for refusing to work overtime.

(c) Any nurse may volunteer or agree to work [hours in addition to such scheduled work shift but the refusal by a nurse to accept such additional hours shall not be grounds for discrimination, dismissal, discharge or any other penalty or employment decision adverse to the nurse] overtime.

[(c) The] (d) When the safety of a patient requires and when there is no reasonable alternative, the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply: (1) To any nurse participating in [a] an ongoing surgical procedure until such procedure is completed; (2) to any nurse working in a critical care unit until such nurse is relieved by another nurse who is commencing a scheduled work shift; (3) in the case of a public health emergency; (4) in the case of an institutional emergency, including, but not limited to, adverse weather conditions, catastrophe or widespread illness, that in the opinion of the hospital administrator will significantly reduce the number of nurses available for a scheduled work shift, provided the hospital administrator has made a good faith effort to mitigate the impact of such institutional emergency on the availability of nurses; or (5) to any nurse employed at a behavioral health facility operated by a state agency who is covered by a collective bargaining agreement that contains provisions addressing the issue of mandatory overtime.

(e) Before requiring a nurse to work overtime in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, a hospital shall make a good faith effort to have such overtime hours covered on a voluntary basis. Mandatory overtime shall not be required as a regular practice for providing appropriate staffing for the necessary level of patient care or in any situation that is the result of routine staffing needs caused by typical staffing patterns, expected levels of absenteeism or time off typically approved by the hospital for vacation, holidays, sick leave and personal leave.

House Bill No. 6941

(f) (1) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to alter or impair the terms of any bona fide collective bargaining agreement that places additional restrictions or limitations on the use of mandatory overtime.

(2) The provisions of this section shall not prohibit mandatory overtime with respect to any nurse who is covered by a bona fide collective bargaining agreement that is in effect prior to October 1, 2023, or by a bona fide collective bargaining agreement entered into pursuant to section 5-278 that is in effect prior to June 1, 2027, and contains provisions addressing the issue of mandatory overtime, until the expiration date of the collective bargaining agreement.

Sec. 56. Section 4-68bb of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) For purposes of this section, "Project Longevity Initiative" means a comprehensive community-based initiative that is designed to reduce gun violence in [the state's cities and "secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management] state municipalities.

(b) [(1) Until June 30, 2022, pursuant to the provisions of section 4-66a, the secretary shall (A) provide planning and management assistance to municipal officials in the city of New Haven in order to ensure the continued implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in said city and the secretary may utilize state and federal funds as may be appropriated for such purpose; and (B) do all things necessary to apply for and accept federal funds allotted to or available to the state under any federal act or program which support the continued implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in the city of New Haven.

(2) On and after July 1, 2022, the] The Chief Court Administrator shall [(A)] (1) provide planning and management assistance to municipal

House Bill No. 6941

officials in the city of New Haven in order to ensure the continued implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in said city and the Chief Court Administrator may utilize state and federal funds as may be appropriated for such purpose; and [(B)] (2) do all things necessary to apply for and accept federal funds allotted to or available to the state under any federal act or program which support the continued implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in the city of New Haven.

(c) [(1) Until June 30, 2022, the secretary, or the secretary's designee, in consultation with the United States Attorney for the district of Connecticut, the Chief State's Attorney, the Commissioner of Correction, the executive director of the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch, the mayors of the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport and Waterbury, and clergy members, nonprofit service providers and community leaders from the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport and Waterbury, shall implement the Project Longevity Initiative in the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport and Waterbury.

(2) On and after July 1, 2022, the] The Chief Court Administrator, or the Chief Court Administrator's designee, in consultation with the United States Attorney for the district of Connecticut, the Chief State's Attorney, the Commissioner of Correction, the executive director of the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch, the mayors of the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport, [and] Waterbury, Norwich and New London and clergy members, nonprofit service providers and community leaders from [the] said cities [of Hartford, Bridgeport and Waterbury,] shall implement the Project Longevity Initiative in [the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport and Waterbury] said cities.

(d) [(1) Until June 30, 2022, pursuant to the provisions of section 4-66a, the secretary shall (A) provide planning and management assistance to municipal officials in the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport and Waterbury in order to ensure implementation of the Project Longevity

House Bill No. 6941

Initiative in said cities and the secretary may utilize state and federal funds as may be appropriated for such purpose; and (B) do all things necessary to apply for and accept federal funds allotted to or available to the state under any federal act or program which will support implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport and Waterbury.

(2) On and after July 1, 2022, the] The Chief Court Administrator shall [(A)] (1) provide planning and management assistance to municipal officials in the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport, [and] Waterbury, Norwich and New London in order to ensure implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in said cities and the Chief Court Administrator may utilize state and federal funds as may be appropriated for such purpose; and [(B)] (2) do all things necessary to apply for and accept federal funds allotted to or available to the state under any federal act or program which will support implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative in [the cities of Hartford, Bridgeport and Waterbury] said cities.

(e) [(1) Until June 30, 2022, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may accept and receive on behalf of the office, subject to the provisions of section 4b-22, any bequest, devise or grant made to the Office of Policy and Management to further the objectives of the Project Longevity Initiative and may hold and use such property for the purpose specified, if any, in such bequest, devise or gift.

(2) On and after July 1, 2022, the] The Chief Court Administrator may accept and receive on behalf of the Judicial Branch, any bequest, devise or grant made to the Judicial Branch to further the objectives of the Project Longevity Initiative and may hold and use such property for the purpose specified, if any, in such bequest, devise or gift.

(f) (1) Until June 30, 2022, the secretary, in consultation with the federal and state officials described in subsection (c) of this section, shall

House Bill No. 6941

create a plan for implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative on a state-wide basis. Such plan shall, at a minimum, consider how to provide clients served by the Project Longevity Initiative with access to courses of instruction and apprentice programs provided by, but not limited to, a college, a university, a community college or the Technical Education and Career System. [Not later than February 1, 2022, the] The secretary shall submit such plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

(2) In the event that the secretary failed to submit the plan required under subdivision (1) of this subsection, on and after July 1, 2022, the Chief Court Administrator in consultation with the federal and state officials described in subsection (c) of this section, shall create a plan for implementation of the Project Longevity Initiative on a state-wide basis. Such plan shall, at a minimum, consider how to provide clients served by the Project Longevity Initiative with access to courses of instruction and apprentice programs provided by, but not limited to, a college, a university, a community college or the Technical Education and Career System. Not later than January 1, 2023, the Chief Court Administrator shall submit such plan to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security and the judiciary in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

[(g) On and after July 1, 2022, in accordance with the provisions of section 4-38d, all powers and duties of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management under the provisions of this section, shall be transferred to the Chief Court Administrator.]

Sec. 57. Subsection (g) of section 5-259 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the Probate Court Administration Fund established in accordance with section 45a-82, shall pay for each probate judge and each probate court employee not more than one hundred per cent of the portion of the premium charged for the judge's or employee's individual coverage and not more than [fifty] seventy per cent of any additional cost for the judge's or employee's form of coverage. The remainder of the premium for such coverage shall be paid by the probate judge or probate court employee to the State Treasurer. Payment shall be credited by the State Treasurer to the fund established by section 45a-82. The total premiums payable shall be remitted by the Probate Court Administrator directly to the insurance company or companies or nonprofit organization or organizations providing the coverage. The Probate Court Administrator shall issue regulations governing group hospitalization and medical and surgical insurance pursuant to subsection (b) of section 45a-77.

Sec. 58. Section 29-6d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) For purposes of this section and section 7-277b:

(1) "Law enforcement unit" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-294a;

(2) "Police officer" means a sworn member of a law enforcement unit or any member of a law enforcement unit who performs police duties;

(3) "Body-worn recording equipment" means an electronic recording device that is capable of recording audio and video;

(4) "Dashboard camera" means a dashboard camera with a remote recorder, as defined in section 7-277b;

(5) "Digital data storage device or service" means a device or service that retains the data from the recordings made by body-worn recording

House Bill No. 6941

equipment using computer data storage; and

(6) "Police patrol vehicle" means any state or local police vehicle other than an administrative vehicle in which an occupant is wearing body-worn camera equipment, a bicycle, a motor scooter, an all-terrain vehicle, an electric personal assistive mobility device, as defined in subsection (a) of section 14-289h, or an animal control vehicle.

(b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the Police Officer Standards and Training Council shall jointly evaluate and approve the minimal technical specifications of body-worn recording equipment that shall be worn by police officers pursuant to this section, dashboard cameras that shall be used in each police patrol vehicle and digital data storage devices or services that shall be used by a law enforcement unit to retain the data from the recordings made by such equipment. The commissioner and council shall make such minimal technical specifications available to each law enforcement unit in a manner determined by the commissioner and council. The commissioner and council may revise the minimal technical specifications when the commissioner and council determine that revisions to such specifications are necessary.

(c) (1) Each police officer shall use body-worn recording equipment while interacting with the public in such sworn member's law enforcement capacity, except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, or in the case of a municipal police department, in accordance with the department's policy adopted by the department and based on guidelines maintained pursuant to subsection (j) of this section, concerning the use of body-worn recording equipment.

(2) Each police officer shall wear body-worn recording equipment on such officer's outer-most garment and shall position such equipment above the midline of such officer's torso when using such equipment.

House Bill No. 6941

(3) Body-worn recording equipment used pursuant to this section shall conform to the minimal technical specifications approved pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, except that a police officer may use body-worn recording equipment that does not conform to the minimal technical specifications approved pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, if such equipment was purchased prior to January 1, 2016, by the law enforcement unit employing such officer.

(4) Each law enforcement unit shall require usage of a dashboard camera in each police patrol vehicle used by any police officer employed by such unit in accordance with the unit's policy adopted by the unit and based on guidelines maintained pursuant to subsection (j) of this section, concerning dashboard cameras.

(d) Except as required by state or federal law, no person employed by a law enforcement unit shall edit, erase, copy, share or otherwise alter or distribute in any manner any recording made by body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera or the data from such recording.

(e) A police officer may review a recording from his or her body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera in order to assist such officer with the preparation of a report or otherwise in the performance of his or her duties.

(f) (1) If a police officer is giving a formal statement about the use of force or if a police officer is the subject of a disciplinary investigation in which a recording from body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera is being considered as part of a review of an incident, the officer shall have the right to review (A) such recording in the presence of the officer's attorney or labor representative, and (B) recordings from other body-worn recording equipment capturing the officer's image or voice during the incident. Not later than forty-eight hours following an officer's review of a recording under subparagraph

House Bill No. 6941

(A) of this subdivision, or if the officer does not review the recording, not later than ninety-six hours following the initiation of such disciplinary investigation, whichever is earlier, such recording shall be disclosed, upon request, to the public, subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of this section.

(2) If a request is made for public disclosure of a recording from body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera of an incident about which (A) a police officer has not been asked to give a formal statement about the alleged use of force, or (B) a disciplinary investigation has not been initiated, any police officer whose image or voice is captured on the recording shall have the right to review such recording in the presence of the officer's attorney or labor representative. Not later than forty-eight hours following an officer's review of a recording under this subdivision, or if the officer does not review the recording, not later than ninety-six hours following the request for disclosure, whichever is earlier, such recording shall be disclosed to the public, subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of this section.

(g) (1) Except as otherwise provided by any agreement between a law enforcement unit and the federal government, no police officer shall use body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera, if applicable, to intentionally record (A) a communication with other law enforcement unit personnel, except that which may be recorded as the officer performs his or her duties, (B) an encounter with an undercover officer or informant or an officer performing detective work described in guidelines developed pursuant to subsection (j) of this section, (C) when an officer is on break or is otherwise engaged in a personal activity, (D) a person undergoing a medical or psychological evaluation, procedure or treatment, (E) any person other than a suspect to a crime if an officer is wearing such equipment in a hospital or other medical facility setting, or (F) in a mental health facility, unless responding to a call involving a suspect to a crime who is thought to be present in the facility.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) No record created using body-worn recording equipment or a dashboard camera of (A) an occurrence or situation described in subparagraphs (A) to (F), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of this subsection, (B) a scene of an incident that involves (i) a victim of domestic or sexual abuse, (ii) a victim of homicide or suicide, or (iii) a deceased victim of an accident, if disclosure could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy in the case of any such victim described in this subparagraph, or (C) a minor, shall be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and any such record shall be confidential, except that a record of a minor shall be disclosed if (i) the minor and the parent or guardian of such minor consent to the disclosure of such record, (ii) a police officer is the subject of an allegation of misconduct made by such minor or the parent or guardian of such minor, and the person representing such officer in an investigation of such alleged misconduct requests disclosure of such record for the sole purpose of preparing a defense to such allegation, or (iii) a person is charged with a crime and defense counsel for such person requests disclosure of such record for the sole purpose of assisting in such person's defense and the discovery of such record as evidence is otherwise discoverable.

(h) No police officer shall use body-worn recording equipment prior to being trained in accordance with section 7-294s in the use of such equipment and in the retention of data created by such equipment. A law enforcement unit shall ensure that each police officer such unit employs receives such training at least annually and is trained on the proper care and maintenance of such equipment.

(i) If a police officer is aware that any body-worn recording equipment or dashboard camera is lost, damaged or malfunctioning, such officer shall inform such officer's supervisor in writing as soon as is practicable. Upon receiving such information, the supervisor shall ensure that the body-worn recording equipment or dashboard camera

House Bill No. 6941

is inspected and repaired or replaced, as necessary. Each police officer shall inspect and test body-worn recording equipment prior to each shift to verify proper functioning, and shall notify such officer's supervisor of any problems with such equipment.

(j) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the Police Officer Standards and Training Council shall jointly maintain guidelines pertaining to the use of body-worn recording equipment and dashboard cameras, including the type of detective work an officer might engage in that should not be recorded, retention of data created by such equipment and dashboard cameras and methods for safe and secure storage of such data. The guidelines shall not require a law enforcement unit to store such data for a period longer than one year, except in the case where the unit knows the data is pertinent to any ongoing civil, criminal or administrative matter. Each law enforcement unit and any police officer and any other employee of such unit who may have access to such data shall adhere to such guidelines. The commissioner and council may update and reissue such guidelines, as the commissioner and council determine necessary. The commissioner and council shall, upon issuance of such guidelines or any update to such guidelines, submit such guidelines in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and public safety.

(k) (1) Not later than October 1, 2023, the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, in consultation with the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut, shall prescribe a form to be used by law enforcement units to report each unit's compliance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. Such form shall require the compilation of information including, but not limited to, (A) the number of body-worn recording devices in operation in a law enforcement unit, (B) the number of dashboard cameras in operation in

House Bill No. 6941

a law enforcement unit, (C) the number of police patrol vehicles not equipped with a dashboard camera in a law enforcement unit and the reasons such vehicles are not so equipped, (D) information regarding any incidents in which a police officer of a law enforcement unit was found in an internal investigation conducted by such unit to have violated such unit's policy regarding the use of body-worn recording equipment or dashboard cameras, and (E) any other information deemed necessary.

(2) Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, each law enforcement unit shall submit a report on the form prescribed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection concerning the unit's compliance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section to the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut. The institute shall post such reports on the institute's Internet web site.

(3) Not later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut shall, within available appropriations, review the reports submitted pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, and report the results of such review and any recommendations as a result of such review to the Governor, the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division within the Office of Policy and Management and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and public safety and security.

Sec. 59. (*Effective from passage*) The amount appropriated in section 9 of this act to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for State-wide Marketing, shall be used to support tourism programs throughout the state and shall not be used to support marketing of the department.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 60. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Social Services shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies concerning the implementation of Appendix K emergency preparedness and response amendments for the applicable home and community-based services waivers under Medicaid.

Sec. 61. Section 5-200c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall take into account any further wage inequities identified as part of the [five year] five-year review process in accordance with section 5-200a. In each fiscal year, upon the request of the commissioner with the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the General Assembly shall appropriate sufficient funds to the reserve for salary adjustments account in the annual appropriations act for such fiscal year to be designated for use in modifications to the compensation plan for state service, as identified by the findings of (1) the objective job evaluation process conducted by the Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to section 5-200a, and (2) other studies negotiated under collective bargaining agreements. Inequities shall not be eliminated through the downgrading of any job classification or salaries.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2024, and quarterly thereafter, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies on the status of the reserve for salary adjustments account. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The total amount of appropriated and carryforward funds available within the account; and (2) the amounts

House Bill No. 6941

distributed to each agency during the previous calendar quarter. The first quarterly report submitted each year shall also include a year-end reconciliation for the previous calendar year.

Sec. 62. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Public Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies on the state's pandemic preparedness.

Sec. 63. Section 22a-246c of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (e) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(NEW) (e) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, within available appropriations, any organization that serves persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities shall be eligible for a grant pursuant to this section.

Sec. 64. Section 10a-11b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established a Planning Commission for Higher Education to develop and ensure the implementation of a higher education strategic master plan in Connecticut.

(1) The commission shall consist of the following voting members: (A) The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the president of The University of Connecticut, or their designees from the Board of Regents and Board of Trustees; (B) the provost of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and the provost of The University of Connecticut; (C) the chair of the Board of Regents for the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, and the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut, or the chairs' designees; (D) the president, [vice president] provost or chair of the board of a large

House Bill No. 6941

independent institution of higher education in the state, to be selected by the president [of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges] pro tempore of the Senate; (E) the president, [vice president] provost or chair of the board of a small independent institution of higher education in the state, to be selected by the [president of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges] speaker of the House of Representatives; (F) a representative from a private career school, to be selected by the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of Higher Education; (G) a teaching faculty representative from the Connecticut State Universities, to be selected by the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities; (H) a teaching faculty representative from the regional community-technical colleges, to be selected by the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities; (I) a teaching faculty representative from The University of Connecticut, to be selected by the president of The University of Connecticut; (J) a teaching faculty representative from a private career school in the state, to be selected by the [Commissioner of Education] executive director of the Office of Higher Education; (K) one member appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall be a representative of a large manufacturing employer in the state; (L) one member appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a large financial or insurance services employer in the state; (M) one member appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be a representative of an information technology or digital media employer in the state; (N) one member appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a representative of a small business employer in the state; (O) one member appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a health care employer in the state; and (P) one member appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of a small business employer in the state. The commission membership shall, where feasible, reflect the state's geographic, racial and ethnic diversity.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) The following persons shall serve as ex-officio nonvoting members on the commission: (A) The Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the Labor Commissioner, or their designees; (B) [the president of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, or the president's designee] a representative of an association of the state's independent institutions of higher education, appointed by the Governor; (C) a member of the State Board of Education, as designated by the chairperson of the state board; (D) the superintendent of the technical high school system, or the superintendent's designee; (E) the chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, or the chief executive officer's designee; (F) the executive director of the Office of Higher Education; (G) the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement; [and] (H) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee; and (I) the Chief Workforce Officer.

(3) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson from among the commission's voting members. The commission shall elect a vice-chairperson at its first meeting. Any vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority. The term of each appointed member of the commission shall be three years from the date of appointment. The commission members shall serve without compensation. The commission may seek the advice and participation of any person, organization or state or federal agency it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. The commission may, within available appropriations, retain consultants to assist in carrying out its duties. The commission may receive funds from any public or private sources to carry out its activities. The commission shall be within the Office of Higher Education and shall be responsible for implementing any policies developed by the commission.

House Bill No. 6941

(b) The commission shall [develop and ensure the implementation of a] revise and update the higher education strategic master plan [that] adopted in 2015. Such strategic master plan shall:

(1) [Examines] Examine the impact of demographic, workforce and education trends on higher education in the state;

(2) (A) [Establishes] Assess progress toward the numerical goals established for [2015,] the years 2020 and 2025 under the strategic master plan adopted in 2015 and revise or establish numerical goals for the years 2025 and 2030 to (i) increase the number of people earning a bachelor's degree, associate degree or certificate, [increases] (ii) increase the number of people successfully completing coursework at the community college level and the number of people entering the state's workforce, and [eliminates] (iii) eliminate the postsecondary achievement gap between minority students and the general student population, and (B) [includes] include specific strategies for meeting such goals, as well as strategies for meeting the goals pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10a-6 and section 10a-11c;

(3) [Examines and recommends] Examine and recommend changes to funding policies, practices and accountability in order to (A) align policies and practices with the goals set forth in subsection (b) of section 10a-6 and section 10a-11c; (B) determine how the constituent units shall annually report to the General Assembly and the public in a transparent and thorough manner regarding each constituent unit's expenditures, staffing and state support, including the state appropriation, personnel expenses, personnel fringe benefits, capital improvement bonds and financial aid to students; and (C) improve coordination of appropriation, tuition and financial aid and seek ways to maximize funding through federal and private grants to accomplish state goals; and

(4) [Recommends] Recommend ways in which each constituent unit

House Bill No. 6941

of the state system of higher education and independent institution of higher education in the state can, in a manner consistent with such institution's mission, expand such institution's role in advancing the state's economic growth.

(c) In [developing] updating the higher education strategic master plan, the commission shall review the plans pursuant to sections 10a-6 and 10a-11. In addition, the commission may consider the following: (1) Establishing incentives for institutional performance and productivity; (2) increasing financial aid, [incentive programs,] especially in workforce shortage areas and for minority and first-generation students; (3) [implementing mandatory college preparatory curricula] expanding dual credit and career pathway opportunities in high schools and aligning such [curricula with curricula in] opportunities with institutions of higher education; (4) [seeking] promoting partnerships with the business community and [public] institutions of higher education to [serve the needs of workforce retraining that may include bridge programs in which businesses work directly with higher education institutions to move students into identified workforce shortage areas] expand work-based learning opportunities for students and retraining and development opportunities for employees; (5) establishing collaborative partnerships between public high schools, community organizations and institutions of higher education to expand college access for underserved and first-generation students; (6) [implementing] assessing and promoting programs in high school to assist high school students seeking a college track or alternative pathways for post-secondary education, such as vocational and technical opportunities; (7) developing policies to promote and measure retention and graduation rates of students, including graduation rates for students who have transferred among two or more constituent units or public institutions of higher education; (8) developing policies to promote [the] Transfer and Articulation [program] programs and the [Guaranteed Admission] Connecticut Automatic Admissions program

House Bill No. 6941

state wide; (9) addressing the educational needs of minority, underserved and first-generation students and nontraditional students, including, but not limited to, part-time students, incumbent workers, adult learners, former inmates and immigrants, in order to increase enrollment and retention in institutions of higher education; [and] (10) addressing the affordability of tuition at institutions of higher education and the issue of increased student indebtedness; and (11) developing policies to award credits for prior learning and experience.

(d) Not later than [~~June 1, 2014~~] September 1, 2024, the commission shall submit a preliminary report on the development of the update of the higher education strategic master plan and, not later than [~~September 1, 2014~~] December 1, 2024, the commission shall submit the higher education strategic master plan, including specific goals and benchmarks for the years ending [~~2020 and~~] 2025 and 2030, together with any recommendations for appropriate legislation and funding to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement, education, commerce, labor and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

(e) Not later than January 1, [~~2016~~] 2026, and annually thereafter, the commission shall submit a report to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement, education, commerce, labor and appropriations, in accordance with section 11-4a, on the implementation of the plan and progress made toward achieving the goals specified in the plan. The commission may periodically suggest changes to the goals as necessary.

(f) Not later than January 1, 2018, for purposes of implementing the higher education strategic master plan pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the commission, in collaboration with the Office of Policy and Management, shall establish two standing subcommittees and may

House Bill No. 6941

establish any working groups necessary to supplement the work of the subcommittees or work. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the commission shall appoint the members of the standing subcommittees and working groups, and may appoint members to such standing subcommittees and working groups who are not members of the commission.

(1) One standing subcommittee shall focus on data, metrics and accountability, and build upon the work of the Preschool through 20 and Workforce Information Network in its measures and data. Such measures shall be used to assess the progress of each public institution of higher education toward meeting the commission's goals. The subcommittee shall collaborate with the Labor Department to (A) produce periodic reports, capable of being sorted by student age, on the employment status, job retention and earnings of students enrolled in academic and noncredit vocational courses and programs, both prior to enrollment and after completion of such courses and programs, who leave the constituent units upon graduation or otherwise, and (B) develop an annual affordability index for public higher education that is based on state-wide median family income. The subcommittee shall submit annual reports to the commission and the constituent units.

(2) One standing subcommittee shall focus on the higher education strategic master plan, analyzing the plans submitted since 2014 and making recommendations to the commission on key areas. The commission may recommend key areas of focus each year and require the standing subcommittee to report to the commission on such key areas.

(g) The commission may appoint advisory committees with representatives from public and independent institutions of higher education to study methods and proposals for coordinating efforts of the public institutions of higher education and the independent institutions of higher education to implement the goals identified in

House Bill No. 6941

section 10a-11c.

(h) The commission may review its goals and plans and determine how best to align its work with the work of the Higher Education Innovation and Entrepreneurship Working Group and the Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee, established pursuant to sections 32-39s and 32-39t.

Sec. 65. Section 13b-79u of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Commissioner of Transportation is authorized and directed, in consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and with the approval of the Governor, to enter into any agreements with the National Rail Passenger Corporation or its successor in interest that are necessary for the operation of rail passenger service on the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail line.

(b) The commissioner is authorized and directed, in consultation with the secretary and with approval of the Governor, to enter into any agreements with the commonwealth of Massachusetts, or any entity authorized to act on its behalf, or the state of Vermont, or any entity authorized to act on its behalf, that are necessary for the state's participation in the provision of rail passenger service on the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail line.

(c) The commissioner is authorized and directed, in consultation with the secretary and with the approval of the Governor, to select through a competitive process and contract with an operator or operators for rail service on the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail line.

(d) The commissioner is authorized and directed to select through a competitive process and contract with an operator or operators for rail service on the Shore Line East rail line.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 66. (*Effective from passage*) The Legislative Commissioners' Office shall, in codifying the provisions of this act, make such technical, grammatical and punctuation changes as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this act, including, but not limited to, correcting inaccurate internal references.

Sec. 67. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Office of Higher Education shall pay from the private career school student protection account a stipend to each person who (1) graduated from the practical nurse education program at Stone Academy, also known as Career Training Specialists, LLC, during the period commencing November 1, 2021, and ending February 28, 2023, (2) has taken or passed the examination for licensure as a licensed practical nurse, and (3) meets any requirements established by the executive director of the Office of Higher Education. The amount that may be paid by the office pursuant to this subsection shall be determined by the executive director, but shall not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars in the aggregate.

(b) The Office of Higher Education shall pay from the private career school student protection account a refund of tuition, pursuant to the process established under section 10a-22v of the general statutes, to each applicant who (1) was enrolled in, but did not graduate from, the practical nurse education program at Stone Academy, also known as Career Training Specialists, LLC, during the period commencing November 1, 2021, and ending February 28, 2023, and (2) completed a course or unit of instruction at Stone Academy that was not in compliance with applicable statutes and regulations concerning such course or unit of instruction. If the executive director of the Office of Higher Education finds that the applicant is entitled to a refund of tuition pursuant to this subsection, the executive director shall determine the amount of an appropriate refund which shall not exceed the tuition paid for such course or unit of instruction. Such refund of tuition shall be paid in the manner and subject to the terms specified in

House Bill No. 6941

section 10a-22v of the general statutes.

(c) The state may take appropriate action, including, but not limited to, an action in Superior Court, against said private career school or its owner or owners to reimburse the private career school student protection account for the stipends, refunds and administrative costs that are paid from the account pursuant to this section and to reimburse the state for the reasonable and necessary expenses in undertaking such action. The state shall reimburse the private career school student protection account up to an amount equal to such stipends, refunds and administrative costs from any funds it collects through such action. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any right or remedy available to the state arising from the operations of said private career school.

Sec. 68. Subsection (l) of section 4a-60g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

(l) On or before ~~[August]~~ June thirtieth of each year, the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall provide each awarding agency setting aside contracts or portions of contracts under subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section ~~[shall prepare]~~ a preliminary report establishing small and minority business state set-aside program goals for the twelve-month period beginning July first in the same year. ~~[Each]~~ On or before September thirtieth of each year, each such awarding agency shall submit a final version of such report ~~[shall be submitted]~~ to the Commissioner of Administrative Services, the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and the cochairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development and government administration.

Sec. 69. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working

House Bill No. 6941

group to study the State Historic Preservation Officer's role in administering historic preservation review processes related to sections 22a-1 to 22a-1h, inclusive, of the general statutes and the regulations adopted thereunder, and to make recommendations concerning changes to such statutes and regulations. The study shall include, but need not be limited to, the development of recommendations concerning (1) the historic preservation consultation process; (2) timelines for historic preservation reviews; (3) definitions of the roles of parties involved in the historic preservation review process; (4) an outline of the steps in the historic preservation review process; (5) specific goals and outcomes of the historic preservation review process; and (6) an appeals process for municipalities to appeal determinations made by the State Historic Preservation Officer pursuant to sections 22a-1 to 22a-1h, inclusive, of the general statutes and the regulations adopted thereunder, concerning the renovation or rehabilitation of historic buildings or properties.

(b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

(1) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce;

(2) The ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, or the ranking members' designees;

(3) The State Historic Preservation Officer, or the officer's designee;

(4) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's designee;

(5) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee;

(6) A representative of the Office of the Governor, who has expertise

House Bill No. 6941

overseeing the administration of sections 22a-1 to 22a-1h, inclusive, of the general statutes and the regulations adopted thereunder, who shall be appointed by the Governor;

(7) A representative of the Council on Environmental Quality, who shall be appointed by the Governor;

(8) A representative of an organization that advocates on behalf of municipalities in the state, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working group;

(9) A representative of an organization that advocates on behalf of small towns and communities in the state, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working group;

(10) A representative of an organization that advocates for revitalizing historic commercial districts and downtowns in the state, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working group;

(11) A representative of a municipal historic preservation commission, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working group;

(12) A representative of an association representing businesses and industries in the state, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working group;

(13) Two municipal economic development officers, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working group;

(14) A representative of a property development organization, who has expertise in construction and renovations, who shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the working group;

(15) A representative of the brownfields working group established pursuant to section 32-770 of the general statutes, who shall be

House Bill No. 6941

appointed by the chairpersons of the working group; and

(16) A representative from each of the following Indian tribes, who shall be appointed by the tribe: The Schaghticoke, the Paucatuck Eastern Pequot, the Mashantucket Pequot, the Mohegan and the Golden Hill Paugussett.

(c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13) or (14) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall be the chairpersons of the working group. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than ninety days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

(g) Not later than February 1, 2024, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or February 1, 2024, whichever is later.

Sec. 70. Subsection (a) of section 4-124w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) There is established an Office of Workforce Strategy. The office shall be within the [Office of the Governor] Department of Economic and Community Development, for administrative purposes only.

Sec. 71. Section 4-68hh of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall, within available appropriations, aggregate data related to existing federal and state housing programs in the state to analyze the impact of such programs on economic and racial segregation. Such review shall include, but need not be limited to, data relating to (1) housing development programs, (2) housing affordability initiatives, (3) communities where low-income housing tax credits and rental assistance are spent, and (4) specific neighborhood racial and economic demographics. In collecting and measuring such data, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall implement tools such as the dissimilarity index and the five dimensions of segregation used by the United States Bureau of the Census.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2022, and [biennially thereafter] not later than January 1, 2024, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing. Such report shall include a summary of any findings and recommendations relating to the data collected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 72. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 32-285a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(c) (1) The Community Investment Fund 2030 Board shall establish an application and review process with guidelines and terms for funds

House Bill No. 6941

provided from the bond proceeds under subsection (d) of this section for eligible projects. Such funds shall be used for costs related to an eligible project recommended by the board and approved by the Governor pursuant to this subsection [and] but shall not be used to pay or to reimburse the administrator for administrative costs under this section. The Department of Economic and Community Development shall pay for administrative costs within available appropriations.

Sec. 73. Subparagraph (L) of subdivision (1) of section 12-408 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(L) (i) For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2021, but prior to July 1, 2023, the commissioner shall deposit into the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66l seven and nine-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from the tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, including such amounts received on or after July 1, 2023, attributable to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023; and

(ii) For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2023, the commissioner shall deposit into the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund established pursuant to section 4-66p seven and nine-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from the tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision; and

Sec. 74. Subparagraph (K) of subdivision (1) of section 12-411 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(K) (i) For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2021, but prior to July 1, 2023, the commissioner shall deposit into [said] the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66l seven and nine-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from

House Bill No. 6941

the tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, including such amounts received on or after July 1, 2023, attributable to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023; and

(ii) For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2023, the commissioner shall deposit into the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund established pursuant to section 4-66p seven and nine-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from the tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision; and

Sec. 75. Section 4-66p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established a fund to be known as the "Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing fund. The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund. Moneys in the fund shall be expended by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for the purposes of providing grants pursuant to [section 4-66l and section 12-18b] subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, ten million dollars shall be transferred from such fund not later than April fifteenth for the purposes of grants under section 10-262h.

(c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make motor vehicle property tax grants payable to municipalities pursuant to subsection (c) of section 4-66l shall be expended not later than August first annually by the secretary.

(d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make the grants payable pursuant to subsections (d) and (e) of section 12-18b shall be expended by the secretary.

House Bill No. 6941

(e) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, each municipality or district listed below shall receive the following supplemental revenue sharing grant payable not later than October thirty-first annually:

<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Grant Amount</u>
<u>Andover</u>	<u>43,820</u>
<u>Ansonia</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Ashford</u>	<u>44,498</u>
<u>Avon</u>	<u>142,054</u>
<u>Barkhamsted</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Beacon Falls</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Berlin</u>	<u>258,989</u>
<u>Bethany</u>	<u>26,746</u>
<u>Bethel</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Bethlehem</u>	<u>40,552</u>
<u>Bloomfield</u>	<u>291,027</u>
<u>Bolton</u>	<u>11,053</u>
<u>Bozrah</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Branford</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Bridgeport</u>	<u>6,059,559</u>
<u>Bridgewater</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Bristol</u>	<u>234,651</u>
<u>Brookfield</u>	<u>272,396</u>
<u>Brooklyn</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Burlington</u>	<u>34,417</u>
<u>Canaan</u>	<u>24,132</u>
<u>Canaan Fire District</u>	<u>100,000</u>
<u>Canterbury</u>	<u>94,624</u>
<u>Canton</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Chaplin</u>	<u>34,779</u>
<u>Cheshire</u>	<u>241,134</u>
<u>Chester</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Clinton</u>	<u>288,473</u>
<u>Colchester</u>	<u>134,167</u>
<u>Colebrook</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Columbia</u>	<u>28,393</u>

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Cornwall</u>	-
<u>Coventry</u>	<u>113,156</u>
<u>Cromwell</u>	-
<u>Danbury</u>	<u>1,218,855</u>
<u>Darien</u>	-
<u>Deep River</u>	-
<u>Derby</u>	<u>205,327</u>
<u>Durham</u>	<u>244,059</u>
<u>Eastford</u>	-
<u>East Granby</u>	-
<u>East Haddam</u>	-
<u>East Hampton</u>	<u>120,397</u>
<u>East Hartford</u>	<u>200,959</u>
<u>East Haven</u>	-
<u>East Lyme</u>	<u>524,097</u>
<u>Easton</u>	-
<u>East Windsor</u>	-
<u>Ellington</u>	-
<u>Enfield</u>	-
<u>Essex</u>	-
<u>Fairfield</u>	<u>191,245</u>
<u>Farmington</u>	<u>802,461</u>
<u>Franklin</u>	<u>25,666</u>
<u>Glastonbury</u>	<u>385,930</u>
<u>Goshen</u>	-
<u>Granby</u>	-
<u>Greenwich</u>	-
<u>Griswold</u>	-
<u>Groton</u>	<u>466,668</u>
<u>Guilford</u>	<u>496,560</u>
<u>Haddam</u>	-
<u>Hamden</u>	<u>1,646,236</u>
<u>Hampton</u>	<u>28,585</u>
<u>Hartford</u>	<u>15,792,632</u>
<u>Hartland</u>	<u>76,110</u>
<u>Harwinton</u>	<u>39,036</u>
<u>Hebron</u>	<u>125,020</u>
<u>Kent</u>	-
<u>Killingly</u>	<u>268,063</u>

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Killingworth</u>	155,954
<u>Lebanon</u>	162,740
<u>Ledyard</u>	-
<u>Lisbon</u>	139,316
<u>Litchfield</u>	46,905
<u>Lyme</u>	-
<u>Madison</u>	175,790
<u>Manchester</u>	780,354
<u>Mansfield</u>	3,291,730
<u>Marlborough</u>	48,977
<u>Meriden</u>	622,306
<u>Middlebury</u>	15,067
<u>Middlefield</u>	14,971
<u>Middletown</u>	-
<u>Milford</u>	1,130,086
<u>Monroe</u>	443,723
<u>Montville</u>	20,897
<u>Morris</u>	-
<u>Naugatuck</u>	283,399
<u>New Britain</u>	2,176,332
<u>New Canaan</u>	-
<u>New Fairfield</u>	265,666
<u>New Hartford</u>	-
<u>New Haven</u>	16,921,822
<u>Newington</u>	-
<u>New London</u>	1,112,913
<u>New Milford</u>	-
<u>Newtown</u>	267,960
<u>Norfolk</u>	9,911
<u>North Branford</u>	152,031
<u>North Canaan</u>	11,334
<u>North Haven</u>	-
<u>North Stonington</u>	-
<u>Norwalk</u>	1,780,046
<u>Norwich</u>	210,834
<u>Old Lyme</u>	-
<u>Old Saybrook</u>	-
<u>Orange</u>	221,467
<u>Oxford</u>	267,543

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Plainfield</u>	-
<u>Plainville</u>	-
<u>Plymouth</u>	-
<u>Pomfret</u>	<u>23,434</u>
<u>Portland</u>	-
<u>Preston</u>	-
<u>Prospect</u>	<u>73,271</u>
<u>Putnam</u>	<u>71,039</u>
<u>Redding</u>	<u>57,277</u>
<u>Ridgefield</u>	<u>117,659</u>
<u>Rocky Hill</u>	<u>65,602</u>
<u>Roxbury</u>	-
<u>Salem</u>	<u>132,694</u>
<u>Salisbury</u>	-
<u>Scotland</u>	<u>13,960</u>
<u>Seymour</u>	-
<u>Sharon</u>	-
<u>Shelton</u>	-
<u>Sherman</u>	-
<u>Simsbury</u>	-
<u>Somers</u>	<u>240,198</u>
<u>Southbury</u>	<u>74,062</u>
<u>Southington</u>	-
<u>South Windsor</u>	<u>57,854</u>
<u>Sprague</u>	-
<u>Stafford</u>	-
<u>Stamford</u>	<u>1,846,049</u>
<u>Sterling</u>	-
<u>Stonington</u>	<u>218,992</u>
<u>Stratford</u>	-
<u>Suffield</u>	<u>206,051</u>
<u>Thomaston</u>	-
<u>Thompson</u>	<u>4,459</u>
<u>Tolland</u>	<u>322,977</u>
<u>Torrington</u>	<u>72,539</u>
<u>Trumbull</u>	<u>604,706</u>
<u>Union</u>	-
<u>Vernon</u>	<u>330,755</u>
<u>Voluntown</u>	-

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Wallingford</u>	-
<u>Warren</u>	-
<u>Washington</u>	-
<u>Waterbury</u>	<u>5,582,559</u>
<u>Waterford</u>	-
<u>Watertown</u>	-
<u>Westbrook</u>	-
<u>West Hartford</u>	-
<u>West Haven</u>	-
<u>Weston</u>	<u>70,181</u>
<u>Westport</u>	<u>66,133</u>
<u>Wethersfield</u>	-
<u>Willington</u>	-
<u>Wilton</u>	<u>93,135</u>
<u>Winchester</u>	<u>105,432</u>
<u>Windham</u>	<u>1,349,376</u>
<u>Windsor</u>	<u>357,943</u>
<u>Windsor Locks</u>	<u>150,116</u>
<u>Wolcott</u>	<u>136,938</u>
<u>Woodbridge</u>	<u>120,477</u>
<u>Woodbury</u>	-
<u>Woodstock</u>	-
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>74,672,468</u>

(2) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and district in accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subdivision, the amount of the grant payable to each municipality and district shall be reduced proportionately.

(f) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys remaining in the municipal revenue sharing fund, including moneys accrued to the fund during such fiscal year but received after the end of such fiscal year, shall be expended not later than October first following the end of each such fiscal year by the secretary for the purposes of the municipal revenue sharing grants established pursuant to subsection (d) of section 4-66l.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) The amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be reduced proportionately in the event that the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount available for such grants in the municipal revenue sharing fund established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 76. Section 12-18b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "College and hospital property" means all real property described in subsection (a) of section 12-20a;

(2) "Equalized net grand list per capita" means the grand list of a municipality upon which taxes were levied for the general expenses of such municipality three years prior to the fiscal year in which a grant under this section is to be paid, equalized in accordance with the provisions of section 10-261a and divided by the total population of such municipality;

(3) "Municipality" means any town, city, borough, consolidated town and city and consolidated town and borough;

(4) "State, municipal or tribal property" means all real property described in subsection (a) of section 12-19a;

(5) "Tier one municipality" means a municipality with an equalized net grand list per capita of less than one hundred thousand dollars;

(6) "Tier two municipality" means a municipality with an equalized net grand list per capita of one hundred thousand dollars to two hundred thousand dollars; and

(7) "Tier three municipality" means a municipality with an equalized net grand list per capita of greater than two hundred thousand dollars.

House Bill No. 6941

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 12-19a and 12-20a, on or before [May] September thirtieth, annually, all funds appropriated for state grants in lieu of taxes shall be payable to municipalities and fire districts pursuant to the provisions of this section. On or before January first, annually, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall determine the amount due, as a state grant in lieu of taxes, to each municipality and fire district in this state wherein college and hospital property is located and to each municipality and fire district in this state wherein state, municipal or tribal property, except that which was acquired and used for highways and bridges, but not excepting property acquired and used for highway administration or maintenance purposes, is located. Such determination shall be calculated based on assessed values provided to the Office of Policy and Management prior to the preceding April first, pursuant to section 12-19b.

(1) The grant payable to any municipality or fire district for state, municipal or tribal property under the provisions of this section in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, shall be equal to the total of:

(A) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to any facility designated by the Commissioner of Correction, on or before August first of each year, to be a correctional facility administered under the auspices of the Department of Correction or a juvenile detention center under direction of the Department of Children and Families that was used for incarcerative purposes during the preceding fiscal year. If a list containing the name and location of such designated facilities and information concerning their use for purposes of incarceration during the preceding fiscal year is not available from the Secretary of the State on August first of any year, the Commissioner of Correction shall, on said date, certify to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management a list containing such information;

House Bill No. 6941

(B) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to that portion of the John Dempsey Hospital located at The University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington that is used as a permanent medical ward for prisoners under the custody of the Department of Correction. Nothing in this section shall be construed as designating any portion of The University of Connecticut Health Center John Dempsey Hospital as a correctional facility;

(C) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid on any land designated within the 1983 Settlement boundary and taken into trust by the federal government for the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation on or after June 8, 1999;

(D) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to the property and facilities owned by the Connecticut Port Authority;

(E) Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 12-19a, sixty-five per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to the buildings and grounds comprising Connecticut Valley Hospital and Whiting Forensic Hospital in Middletown;

(F) With respect to any municipality in which more than fifty per cent of the property is state-owned real property, one hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to such state-owned property;

(G) Forty-five per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to all municipally owned airports; except for the exemption applicable to such property, on the assessment list in such municipality for the assessment date two years prior to the commencement of the state fiscal year in which such grant is payable. The grant provided pursuant to this section for any municipally owned airport shall be paid to any municipality in which the airport is located,

House Bill No. 6941

except that the grant applicable to Sikorsky Airport shall be paid one-half to the town of Stratford and one-half to the city of Bridgeport;

(H) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to any land designated within the 1983 Settlement boundary and taken into trust by the federal government for the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation prior to June 8, 1999, or taken into trust by the federal government for the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, provided the real property subject to this subparagraph shall be the land only, and shall not include the assessed value of any structures, buildings or other improvements on such land; and

(I) Forty-five per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to all other state-owned real property.

(2) The grant payable to any municipality or fire district for college and hospital property under the provisions of this section in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and each fiscal year thereafter, shall be equal to the total of seventy-seven per cent of the property taxes that, except for any exemption applicable to any college and hospital property under the provisions of section 12-81, would have been paid with respect to college and hospital property on the assessment list in such municipality or fire district for the assessment date two years prior to the commencement of the state fiscal year in which such grant is payable.

(c) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall list municipalities, boroughs and fire districts based on the equalized net grand list per capita. Boroughs and fire districts shall have the same equalized net grand list per capita as the town, city, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough in which such borough or fire district is located.

(d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter:

House Bill No. 6941

(1) The total amount of the grants paid to a municipality or fire district pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall not be lower than the total amount of the payment in lieu of taxes grants received by such municipality or fire district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

(2) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the provisions of [subsection] subsections (b) and (e) of this section exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subsection for a fiscal year:

(A) Each tier one municipality shall receive fifty per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section;

(B) Each tier two municipality shall receive forty per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section; and

(C) Each tier three municipality shall receive thirty per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section.

(3) Each municipality designated as an alliance district pursuant to section 10-262u or in which more than fifty per cent of the property is state-owned real property shall be classified as a tier one municipality.

(4) Each fire district shall receive the same percentage of the grant amount payable to the municipality in which it is located.

(5) (A) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subsection, but such appropriated amount exceeds the amount required for grants payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection, the

House Bill No. 6941

amount of the grant payable to each municipality and fire district shall be increased proportionately.

(B) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subdivisions, the amount of the grant payable to each municipality and fire district shall be reduced proportionately, except that no grant shall be reduced below the amount set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, of this section and sections 12-19b and 12-20b:

(1) The grant payable to any municipality or fire district with respect to a campus of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Connecticut Healthcare Systems shall be one hundred per cent;

(2) For any municipality receiving payments under section 15-120ss, property located in such municipality at Bradley International Airport shall not be included in the calculation of any state grant in lieu of taxes pursuant to this section; [and]

(3) The city of Bridgeport shall be due five million dollars, [on or before the thirtieth day of September,] annually, which amount shall be in addition to the amount due such city pursuant to the provisions of [subsections] subsection (b) or (d) of this section;

(4) There shall be an amount due the town of Voluntown, with respect to any state-owned forest, of an additional sixty thousand dollars, annually, for reimbursement to municipalities for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property;

(5) The amount due the town of Branford, with respect to the Connecticut Hospice located in said town, shall be one hundred

House Bill No. 6941

thousand dollars, annually, for reimbursement to municipalities for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property; and

(6) The amount due the city of New London, with respect to the United States Coast Guard Academy located in said city, shall be one million dollars, annually, for reimbursement to municipalities for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property.

(f) For purposes of this section, any real property that is owned by The University of Connecticut Health Center Finance Corporation established pursuant to the provisions of sections 10a-250 to 10a-263, inclusive, or by one or more subsidiary corporations established pursuant to subdivision (13) of section 10a-254 and that is free from taxation pursuant to the provisions of section 10a-259 shall be deemed to be state-owned real property.

Sec. 77. Section 12-19b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

[(a)] Not later than April first in any assessment year, any town, borough or fire district to which a grant is payable under the provisions of section 12-18b or 12-19a shall provide the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management with the assessed valuation of the real property eligible therefor as of the first day of October immediately preceding, adjusted in accordance with any gradual increase in or deferment of assessed values of real property implemented in accordance with section 12-62c, which is required for computation of such grant. Any town, borough or fire district that neglects to transmit to the secretary the assessed valuation as required by this section shall forfeit two hundred fifty dollars to the state, provided the secretary may waive such forfeiture in accordance with procedures and standards adopted by regulation in accordance with chapter 54. Said secretary may, on or before the first day of August of the state fiscal year in which such grant is payable, reevaluate any such property when, in the secretary's

House Bill No. 6941

judgment, the valuation is inaccurate and shall notify such town, borough or fire district of such reevaluation by certified or registered mail. Any town, borough or fire district aggrieved by the action of the secretary under the provisions of this section may, not later than ten business days following receipt of such notice, appeal to the secretary for a hearing concerning such reevaluation. Such appeal shall be in writing and shall include a statement as to the reasons for such appeal. The secretary shall, not later than ten business days following receipt of such appeal, grant or deny such hearing by notification in writing, including in the event of a denial, a statement as to the reasons for such denial. Such notification shall be sent by certified or registered mail. If any town, borough or fire district is aggrieved by the action of the secretary following such hearing or in denying any such hearing, the town, borough or fire district may not later than ten business days after receiving such notice, appeal to the superior court for the judicial district wherein such town, borough or fire district is located. Any such appeal shall be privileged.

[(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-18b or subsection (a) of this section, there shall be an amount due the municipality of Voluntown, on or before the thirtieth day of September, annually, with respect to any state-owned forest, of an additional sixty thousand dollars, which amount shall be paid from the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66l, for reimbursement to towns for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property.]

Sec. 78. Section 12-20b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

[(a)] Not later than April first in each year, any municipality to which a grant is payable under the provisions of section 12-18b or 12-20a shall provide the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management with the assessed valuation of the tax-exempt real property as of the immediately preceding October first, adjusted in accordance with any gradual

House Bill No. 6941

increase in or deferment of assessed values of real property implemented in accordance with section 12-62c, which is required for computation of such grant. Any municipality which neglects to transmit to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management the assessed valuation as required by this section shall forfeit two hundred fifty dollars to the state, provided the secretary may waive such forfeiture in accordance with procedures and standards adopted by regulation in accordance with chapter 54. Said secretary may, on or before the first day of August of the state fiscal year in which such grant is payable, reevaluate any such property when, in his or her judgment, the valuation is inaccurate and shall notify such municipality of such reevaluation. Any municipality aggrieved by the action of said secretary under the provisions of this section may, not later than ten business days following receipt of such notice, appeal to the secretary for a hearing concerning such reevaluation, provided such appeal shall be in writing and shall include a statement as to the reasons for such appeal. The secretary shall, not later than ten business days following receipt of such appeal, grant or deny such hearing by notification in writing, including in the event of a denial, a statement as to the reasons for such denial. If any municipality is aggrieved by the action of the secretary following such hearing or in denying any such hearing, the municipality may not later than two weeks after such notice, appeal to the superior court for the judicial district in which the municipality is located. Any such appeal shall be privileged. [Said secretary shall certify to the Comptroller the amount due each municipality under the provisions of section 12-18b or under any recomputation occurring prior to September fifteenth which may be effected as the result of the provisions of this section, and the Comptroller shall draw his or her order on the Treasurer on or before the fifth business day following September fifteenth and the Treasurer shall pay the amount thereof to such municipality on or before the thirtieth day of September following.] If any recomputation is effected as the result of the provisions of this section on or after the January first following the date on which the

House Bill No. 6941

municipality has provided the assessed valuation in question, any adjustments to the amount due to any municipality for the period for which such adjustments were made shall be made in the next payment the Treasurer shall make to such municipality pursuant to this section.

[(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-18b or subsection (a) of this section, the amount due the municipality of Branford, on or before the thirtieth day of September, annually, with respect to the Connecticut Hospice, in Branford, shall be one hundred thousand dollars, which amount shall be paid from the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66l, for reimbursement to towns for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-18b or subsection (a) of this section, the amount due the city of New London, on or before the thirtieth day of September, annually, with respect to the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, shall be one million dollars, which amount shall be paid from the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66l, for reimbursement to towns for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property.]

Sec. 79. Subsection (b) of section 4-66l of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) There is established an account to be known as the "municipal revenue sharing account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. The secretary shall set aside and ensure availability of moneys in the account in the following order of priority and shall transfer or disburse such moneys as follows:

(1) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2022, and [each fiscal year thereafter] June 30, 2023, moneys sufficient to make motor vehicle

House Bill No. 6941

property tax grants payable to municipalities pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be expended not later than August first annually by the secretary;

(2) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2022, and [each fiscal year thereafter] June 30, 2023, moneys sufficient to make the grants payable pursuant to subsection (d) of section 12-18b, subdivisions (1) and (3) of subsection (e) of section 12-18b, subsection (b) of section 12-19b and subsections (b) and (c) of section 12-20b shall be expended by the secretary; and

(3) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2022, and [each fiscal year thereafter] June 30, 2023, moneys in the account remaining shall be expended annually by the secretary for the purposes of the municipal revenue sharing grants established pursuant to subsection (d) of this section. Any such moneys deposited in the account for municipal revenue sharing grants, including moneys accrued to the account during each fiscal year but received after the end of such fiscal year, shall be distributed to municipalities not later than October first following the end of each fiscal year. Any municipality may apply to the Office of Policy and Management on or after July first for early disbursement of a portion of such grant. The Office of Policy and Management may approve such an application if it finds that early disbursement is required in order for a municipality to meet its cash flow needs. No early disbursement approved by said office may be issued later than September thirtieth.

Sec. 80. Subsection (g) of section 4-66l of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(g) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2020, [and each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30, 2023, inclusive, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection (d)

House Bill No. 6941

of this section shall be reduced proportionately in the event that the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount available for such grants in the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

Sec. 81. Section 51-47 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The judges of the Superior Court, judges of the Appellate Court and judges of the Supreme Court shall receive annually salaries as follows:

[(1) On and after July 1, 2021, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred fifteen thousand nine hundred fifteen dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred seven thousand four hundred eighty dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, one hundred ninety-nine thousand seven hundred eighty-one dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred ninety-seven thousand five hundred seventy-one dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred eighty-seven thousand six hundred sixty-three dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred eighty-four thousand two hundred nine dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred eighty thousand four hundred sixty dollars.]

[(2)] (1) On and after July 1, 2022, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred twenty-six thousand seven hundred eleven dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred seventeen thousand eight hundred fifty-four dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, two hundred nine thousand seven hundred seventy dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred seven thousand four hundred fifty dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, one

House Bill No. 6941

hundred ninety-seven thousand forty-six dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred ninety-three thousand four hundred twenty dollars; and (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred eighty-nine thousand four hundred eighty-three dollars.

(2) On and after July 1, 2023, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred thirty-three thousand five hundred twelve dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred twenty-four thousand three hundred ninety dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, two hundred sixteen thousand sixty-three dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred thirteen thousand six hundred seventy-four dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred two thousand nine hundred fifty-seven dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred ninety-nine thousand two hundred twenty-three dollars; and (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred ninety-five thousand one hundred sixty-seven dollars.

(3) On and after July 1, 2024, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred forty thousand five hundred eighteen dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred thirty-one thousand one hundred twenty-one dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, two hundred twenty-two thousand five hundred forty-five dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred twenty thousand eighty-four dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred nine thousand forty-six dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, two hundred five thousand one hundred ninety-nine dollars; and (G) each judge of the Superior Court, two hundred one thousand twenty-three dollars.

[(b) (1) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under

House Bill No. 6941

subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2021, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand two hundred thirty dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand two hundred thirty dollars in additional compensation and each Superior Court judge designated as the chief administrative judge for facilities, administrative appeals, judicial marshal service or judge trial referees or for the Family, Juvenile, Criminal or Civil Division of the Superior Court shall receive one thousand two hundred thirty dollars in additional compensation.]

[(2)] (b) (1) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2022, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand two hundred ninety-two dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand two hundred ninety-two dollars in additional compensation and each Superior Court judge designated as the chief administrative judge for facilities, administrative appeals, judicial marshal service or judge trial referees or for the Family, Juvenile, Criminal or Civil Division of the Superior Court shall receive one thousand two hundred ninety-two dollars in additional compensation.

(2) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2023, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand three hundred thirty-one dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand three hundred thirty-one dollars in additional compensation and each Superior Court judge designated as the chief administrative judge for

House Bill No. 6941

facilities, administrative appeals, judicial marshal service or judge trial referees or for the Family, Juvenile, Criminal or Civil Division of the Superior Court shall receive one thousand three hundred thirty-one dollars in additional compensation.

(3) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2024, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand three hundred seventy-one dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand three hundred seventy-one dollars in additional compensation and each Superior Court judge designated as the chief administrative judge for facilities, administrative appeals, judicial marshal service or judge trial referees or for the Family, Juvenile, Criminal or Civil Division of the Superior Court shall receive one thousand three hundred seventy-one dollars in additional compensation.

(c) Each such judge shall be an elector and a resident of this state, shall be a member of the bar of the state of Connecticut and shall not engage in private practice, nor on or after July 1, 1985, be a member of any board of directors or of any advisory board of any state bank and trust company, state bank or savings and loan association, national banking association or federal savings bank or savings and loan association. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude a senior judge from participating in any alternative dispute resolution program approved by STA-FED ADR, Inc.

(d) Each such judge, excluding any senior judge, who has completed not less than ten years of service as a judge of either the Supreme Court, the Appellate Court, or the Superior Court, or of any combination of such courts, or of the Court of Common Pleas, the Juvenile Court or the Circuit Court, or other state service or service as an elected officer of the state, or any combination of such service, shall receive semiannual

House Bill No. 6941

longevity payments based on service as a judge of any or all of such six courts, or other state service or service as an elected officer of the state, or any combination of such service, completed as of the first day of July and the first day of January of each year, as follows:

(1) A judge who has completed ten or more years but less than fifteen years of service shall receive one-quarter of three per cent of the annual salary payable under subsection (a) of this section.

(2) A judge who has completed fifteen or more years but less than twenty years of service shall receive one-half of three per cent of the annual salary payable under subsection (a) of this section.

(3) A judge who has completed twenty or more years but less than twenty-five years of service shall receive three-quarters of three per cent of the annual salary payable under subsection (a) of this section.

(4) A judge who has completed twenty-five or more years of service shall receive three per cent of the annual salary payable under subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 82. Subsection (f) of section 52-434 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(f) Each judge trial referee shall receive, for acting as a referee or as a single auditor or committee of any court or for performing duties assigned by the Chief Court Administrator with the approval of the Chief Justice, for each day the judge trial referee is so engaged, in addition to the retirement salary: (1) (A) [on and after July 1, 2021, the sum of two hundred seventy-one dollars, and (B)] on and after July 1, 2022, the sum of two hundred eighty-five dollars, (B) on and after July 1, 2023, the sum of two hundred ninety-four dollars, and (C) on and after July 1, 2024, the sum of three hundred two dollars; and (2) expenses, including mileage. Such amounts shall be taxed by the court making the

House Bill No. 6941

reference in the same manner as other court expenses.

Sec. 83. Subsection (h) of section 46b-231 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

[(h) (1) On and after July 1, 2021, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred fifty-seven thousand seventy-eight dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred forty-nine thousand four hundred ninety-eight dollars.]

[(2)] (h) (1) On and after July 1, 2022, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred sixty-four thousand nine hundred thirty-two dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred fifty-six thousand nine hundred seventy-three dollars.

(2) On and after July 1, 2023, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred sixty-nine thousand eight hundred eighty dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred sixty-one thousand six hundred eighty-two dollars.

(3) On and after July 1, 2024, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred seventy-four thousand nine hundred seventy-six dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred sixty-six thousand five hundred thirty-three dollars.

Sec. 84. Subsection (b) of section 46b-236 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

[(b) (1) On and after July 1, 2021, each family support referee shall

House Bill No. 6941

receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred thirty-three dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.]

[(2)] (b) (1) On and after July 1, 2022, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred forty-five dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

(2) On and after July 1, 2023, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred fifty-two dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

(3) On and after July 1, 2024, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred sixty dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

Sec. 85. Section 10a-11 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

[(a)] The Office of Higher Education shall, in consultation with the institutions of the state system of higher education and the constituent unit boards of trustees, develop a strategic plan, consistent with the affirmative action plan submitted to the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities in accordance with section 46a-68, to ensure that students, faculty, administrators and staff at each institution are representative of the racial and ethnic diversity of the total population of the state. For each institution, there shall be an approved plan which shall include goals, programs and timetables for achieving those goals, and a procedure to monitor annually the results of these programs and

House Bill No. 6941

a procedure to take corrective action if necessary. The Office of Higher Education shall also develop policies to guide equal employment opportunity officers and programs in all constituent units and at each institution of public higher education.

(b) The Office of Higher Education shall report annually to the Governor and General Assembly on the activities undertaken by the office in accordance with subsection (a) of this section. The report shall include institutional goals and plans for attaining such goals, as well as changes in enrollment and employment at the state's institutions of public higher education. If it is determined that an institution has failed to achieve the goals set out pursuant to this section, such institution shall develop a plan of corrective procedures to ensure that such goals are achieved, subject to the approval of the Office of Higher Education.] The Office of Higher Education may establish a minority advancement program to reward and support efforts by institutions of higher education within the state system of higher education [towards meeting the goals established in the strategic plan developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section] to ensure that students, faculty, administrators and staff of each institution of higher education are representative of the racial and ethnic diversity of the total population of the state.

Sec. 86. Subsection (c) of section 10a-11b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(c) In developing the higher education strategic master plan, the commission shall review the [plans] plan developed pursuant to [sections 10a-6 and 10a-11] section 10a-6. In addition, the commission may consider the following: (1) Establishing incentives for institutional performance and productivity; (2) increasing financial aid incentive programs, especially in workforce shortage areas and for minority students; (3) implementing mandatory college preparatory curricula in

House Bill No. 6941

high schools and aligning such curricula with curricula in institutions of higher education; (4) seeking partnerships with the business community and public institutions of higher education to serve the needs of workforce retraining that may include bridge programs in which businesses work directly with higher education institutions to move students into identified workforce shortage areas; (5) establishing collaborative partnerships between public high schools and institutions of higher education; (6) implementing programs in high school to assist high school students seeking a college track or alternative pathways for post-secondary education, such as vocational and technical opportunities; (7) developing policies to promote and measure retention and graduation rates of students, including graduation rates for students who have transferred among two or more constituent units or public institutions of higher education; (8) developing policies to promote the Transfer and Articulation program and the Guaranteed Admission program state wide; (9) addressing the educational needs of minority students and nontraditional students, including, but not limited to, part-time students, incumbent workers, adult learners, former inmates and immigrants, in order to increase enrollment and retention in institutions of higher education; and (10) addressing the affordability of tuition at institutions of higher education and the issue of increased student indebtedness.

Sec. 87. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section, "surplus property" means any land, improvement to land or interest in land that is (1) in the custody and control of an institution of higher education within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, and (2) determined by the Board of Regents for Higher Education to not be required for the discharge of any duty or function of such institution.

(b) Notwithstanding section 4b-21 of the general statutes, the Board of Regents for Higher Education may, upon the review and approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, sell, exchange,

House Bill No. 6941

lease or otherwise transfer and convey any surplus property to a bona fide purchaser for a price and on terms that said board determines are (1) reflective of the fair market value of the surplus property based on at least two appraisals conducted not earlier than three months prior to such sale, exchange, lease or other transfer and conveyance, (2) in the best interests of the state and the institution of higher education that has custody and control over the surplus property, and (3) consistent with the objectives and purposes of such institution.

(c) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall use the proceeds from any sale, exchange, lease or other transfer and conveyance of surplus property in the following order of priority: (1) To pay any outstanding bonds or other debt associated with the surplus property or any improvements to such property, (2) for any costs associated with such sale, exchange, lease or other transfer and conveyance, and (3) for any capital expenditure that is consistent with said board's plan for campus development.

Sec. 88. Subsection (b) of section 21a-420f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) (1) There is established an account to be known as the "social equity and innovation account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account.

[Moneys] (A) During the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, moneys in the account shall be allocated by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the Social Equity Council, to state agencies for the purpose of [(A)] (i) paying costs incurred by the Social Equity Council, [(B)] (ii) administering programs under RERACA to provide [(i)] (I) access to capital for businesses, [(ii)] (II) technical assistance for the start-up and operation of a business, [(iii)]

House Bill No. 6941

~~(III)~~ funding for workforce education, and ~~[(iv)]~~ ~~(IV)~~ funding for community investments, and ~~[(C)]~~ ~~(iii)~~ paying costs incurred to implement the activities authorized under RERACA.

(B) During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, moneys in the account shall be allocated by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for purposes that the Social Equity Council determines, in the Social Equity Council's sole discretion, further the principles of equity, as defined in section 21a-420, which purposes may include, but need not be limited to, providing (i) access to capital for businesses, (ii) technical assistance for the start-up and operation of a business, (iii) funding for workforce education, (iv) funding for community investments, and (v) funding for investments in disproportionately impacted areas.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 21a-420e and 21a-420o, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the following shall be deposited in the social equity and innovation account: All fees received by the state pursuant to sections 21a-420l, 21a-420o and 21a-420u and subdivisions (12) and (13) of subsection (c) of section 21a-420e.

(3) At the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, five million dollars shall be transferred from the social equity and innovation account to the General Fund, or, if the account contains less than five million dollars, all remaining moneys in the account. ~~[All]~~ At the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, all remaining moneys in the account ~~[not transferred to the General Fund pursuant to this subdivision]~~ shall be transferred to the Social Equity and Innovation Fund established under subsection (c) of this section.

Sec. 89. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the fringe benefit costs for all employees of the

House Bill No. 6941

constituent units of the state system of higher education shall be funded as follows: (1) The Comptroller shall fund, from resources appropriated for the State Comptroller-Fringe Benefits, retirement of such employees, including, but not limited to, hazardous duty employees, in the state employees retirement system, an alternative retirement program, as defined in section 5-154 of the general statutes, or the teachers' retirement system, and (2) the constituent unit of the state system of higher education shall fund (A) coverage of employees under a group life insurance policy and the group hospitalization and medical and surgical insurance plans procured by the Comptroller pursuant to section 5-259 of the general statutes, (B) unemployment compensation, and (C) employers' Social Security Tax.

Sec. 90. Section 12-801 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

As used in section 12-563a and sections 12-800 to 12-818, inclusive, [and section 12-853a,] the following terms have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

(1) "Board" or "board of directors" means the board of directors of the corporation;

(2) "Corporation" means the Connecticut Lottery Corporation as created under section 12-802;

(3) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;

(4) "Division" means the former Division of Special Revenue in the Department of Revenue Services;

(5) "Fantasy contest" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-850;

(6) "Lottery" means (A) the Connecticut state lottery conducted prior

House Bill No. 6941

to the transfer authorized under section 12-808 by the Division of Special Revenue, (B) after such transfer, the Connecticut state lottery conducted by the corporation pursuant to sections 12-563a and 12-800 to 12-818, inclusive, and section 12-853, (C) the state lottery referred to in subsection (a) of section 53-278g, and (D) keno conducted by the corporation pursuant to section 12-806c, or sections 12-851 and 12-853;

(7) "Keno" means a lottery game in which a subset of numbers are drawn from a larger field of numbers by a central computer system using an approved random number generator, wheel system device or other drawing device;

(8) "Lottery and gaming fund" means a fund or funds established by, and under the management and control of, the corporation, into which all lottery, sports wagering and fantasy contest revenues of the corporation are deposited [, other than revenues derived from online lottery ticket sales,] from which all payments and expenses of the corporation are paid [, other than those payments and expenses related to online lottery ticket sales,] and from which transfers to the General Fund or the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund, established in section 10-183vv, are made pursuant to section 12-812; [, but "lottery and gaming fund" does not include the online lottery ticket sales fund established under section 12-853a;]

(9) "Online lottery ticket sales" means the sale of lottery tickets for lottery draw games through the corporation's Internet web site, an online service or a mobile application, pursuant to a license issued to the corporation under section 12-853;

(10) "Online sports wagering" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-850;

(11) "Operating revenue" means total revenue received from lottery

House Bill No. 6941

sales and sports wagering less all cancelled sales and amounts paid as prizes but before payment or provision for payment of any other expenses;

(12) "Retail sports wagering" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-850; and

(13) "Skin" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-850.

Sec. 91. Subsection (a) of section 12-806 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The purposes of the corporation shall be to: (1) Operate and manage the lottery, and retail sports wagering, online sports wagering and fantasy contests if licensed pursuant to section 12-853, in an entrepreneurial and business-like manner free from the budgetary and other constraints that affect state agencies; (2) provide continuing and increased revenue to the people of the state through the lottery, and retail sports wagering, online sports wagering and fantasy contests if licensed pursuant to section 12-853, by being responsive to market forces and acting generally as a corporation engaged in entrepreneurial pursuits; (3) pay to the trustee of the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund, established in section 10-183vv, the amounts, if any, required pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-812; [(4) transfer to the debt-free community college account, established pursuant to section 10-174a, the amounts required by subsection (d) of section 12-812; and (5)] and (4) ensure that the lottery, and retail sports wagering, online sports wagering and fantasy contests, if licensed pursuant to section 12-853, continue to be operated with integrity and for the public good.

Sec. 92. Section 12-812 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) (1) The president of the corporation, subject to the direction of the board, shall conduct daily, weekly, multistate, special instant or other lottery games and shall determine the number of times a lottery shall be held each year, the form and price of the tickets and the aggregate amount of prizes, which shall not be less than forty-five per cent of the sales unless required by the terms of any agreement entered into for the conduct of multistate lottery games. The proceeds of the sale of tickets [, other than from online lottery ticket sales,] shall be deposited in the lottery and gaming fund of the corporation from which prizes shall be paid, upon vouchers signed by the president, or by either of two persons designated and authorized by him, in such numbers and amounts as the president determines. The corporation may limit its liability in games with fixed payouts and may cause a cessation of sales of tickets of certain designation when such liability limit has been reached.

(2) The president of the corporation, subject to the direction of the board, shall conduct retail sports wagering, online sports wagering and fantasy contests, if licensed to do so pursuant to section 12-853. The proceeds of such wagering and contest activities shall be deposited in the lottery and gaming fund of the corporation from which winnings shall be paid and from which the payments required by sections 12-867 and 12-868 shall be made.

(b) The president, subject to the direction of the board, may enter into agreements for the sale of product advertising on lottery tickets, play slips and other lottery media.

(c) On a weekly basis, the president shall estimate, and certify to the State Treasurer, that portion of the balance in the lottery and gaming fund which exceeds the current needs of the corporation for the payment of prizes and winnings, the payments required by sections 12-867 and 12-868, the payment of current operating expenses and funding of approved reserves of the corporation. The corporation shall transfer the amount so certified from the lottery and gaming fund of the

House Bill No. 6941

corporation to the General Fund upon notification of receipt of such certification by the Treasurer, except that if the amount on deposit in the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund, established in section 10-183vv, is less than the required minimum capital reserve, as defined in subsection (b) of said section, the corporation shall pay such amount so certified to the trustee of the fund for deposit in the fund. If the corporation transfers any moneys to the General Fund at any time when the amount on deposit in said capital reserve fund is less than the required minimum capital reserve, the amount of such transfer shall be deemed appropriated from the General Fund to the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund.

[(d) The proceeds of online lottery ticket sales shall be deposited in the online lottery ticket sales fund of the corporation established pursuant to section 12-853a. On a weekly basis, the president shall estimate, and certify to the State Treasurer, that portion of the balance in such fund which exceeds the current needs of the corporation for the payment of prizes, the payment of current operating expenses and funding of approved reserves of the corporation related to online lottery ticket sales. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, upon notification of receipt of such certification by the State Treasurer, the corporation shall transfer the amount so certified to the General Fund. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the corporation shall, upon notification of receipt of such certification by the State Treasurer, (1) transfer the amount so certified to the debt-free community college account established pursuant to section 10a-174a, until the corporation has transferred a total of fourteen million dollars in a fiscal year to said account, and (2) transfer any amount remaining after the transfers required by subdivision (1) of this subsection to the General Fund.]

[(e)] (d) On a monthly basis, the president shall estimate and certify

House Bill No. 6941

to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the amount that the corporation transferred to the General Fund, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and section 12-867, that was from the proceeds of retail sports wagering at a retail sports wagering facility at the XL Center in Hartford that exceeds the payment of prizes and winnings, the payment of any federal excise taxes applicable to such sums received, the payment of current operating expenses and the funding of approved reserves of the corporation.

Sec. 93. Section 4-66k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established an account to be known as the "regional planning incentive account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. [Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, moneys] Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for the purposes of first providing funding to regional planning organizations in accordance with the provisions of [subsections (b), (c) and (d) of] this section and then to providing grants under the regional performance incentive program established pursuant to section 4-124s.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional planning organization, as defined in section 4-124i of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars. Any regional council of governments that is comprised of any two or more regional planning organizations that voluntarily consolidate on or before December 31, 2013, shall receive an additional payment in an amount equal to the amount the regional planning organizations would have received if such regional planning organizations had not voluntarily consolidated.

House Bill No. 6941

(c) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional council of governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j, in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars plus fifty cents per capita, using population information from the most recent federal decennial census. Any regional council of governments that is comprised of any two or more regional planning organizations, as defined in section 4-124i of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, that voluntarily consolidated on or before December 31, 2013, shall receive a payment in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars for each such regional planning organization that voluntarily consolidated on or before said date.

(d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional council of governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j, in the amount of one hundred eighty-five thousand five hundred dollars plus sixty-eight cents per capita, using population information from the most recent federal decennial census.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to the regional council of governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j, in the amount totaling seven million dollars. Such funds shall be distributed under a formula determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management in consultation with the regional council of governments, that includes (A) a base payment amount payable to each such regional council, and (B) a per capita payment amount to each such regional council based upon population data for each such regional council from the most recent federal decennial census. Such formula shall be reviewed and updated every five years after the initial adoption of such formula.

[(2)] (3) Not later than July 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, each

House Bill No. 6941

regional council of governments shall submit to the secretary a proposal for expenditure of the funds described in subdivision (1) of this subsection. Such proposal may include, but need not be limited to, a description of (A) functions, activities or services currently performed by the state or municipalities that may be provided in a more efficient, cost-effective, responsive or higher quality manner by such council, a regional educational service center or similar regional entity; (B) anticipated cost savings relating to the sharing of government services, including, but not limited to, joint purchasing; (C) the standardization and alignment of various regions of the state; or (D) any other initiatives that may facilitate the delivery of services to the public in a more efficient, cost-effective, responsive or higher quality manner.

[(e) There is established a regionalization subaccount within the regional planning incentive account. If the Connecticut Lottery Corporation offers online its existing lottery draw games through the corporation's Internet web site, online service or mobile application, and after any payment to the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund required pursuant to section 12-812, the revenue from such online offering that exceeds an amount equivalent to the costs of the debt-free community college program under section 10a-174 shall be transferred to the subaccount, or, if such online offering is not established, the amount provided under subsection (b) of section 364 of public act 19-117 for regionalization initiatives shall be deposited in the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount shall be expended only for the purposes recommended by the task force established under section 4-66s.]

Sec. 94. Subsection (i) of section 32-602 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(i) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, on behalf of the state, shall enter into an agreement with the authority concerning

House Bill No. 6941

the proceeds of the operation of retail sports wagering at the XL Center in Hartford. Notwithstanding any funds that may be appropriated to the authority for the operation of the XL Center in Hartford, any such agreement shall provide that the state shall distribute to the authority a sum equal to the amount certified pursuant to subsection [(e)] (d) of section 12-812 for the operation of the XL Center in Hartford. The Office of Policy and Management shall distribute such sums to the authority on a quarterly basis and in such manner as specified in the agreement, and the authority shall use such sums for the operation of the XL Center in Hartford.

Sec. 95. Section 10a-44d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Open educational resource" means a [college level resource made available on an Internet web site to be used by students, faculty and members of the public on an unlimited basis at a cost lower than the market value of the printed textbook or other educational resource, including full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software and other similar teaching, learning and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under a creative commons attribution license that permits the free use and repurposing of such resources] teaching, learning or research resource that is (A) offered freely to users in at least one form, and (B) either (i) in the public domain, or (ii) released under a creative commons attribution license or other open copyright license;

(2) "Creative commons attribution license" means a copyright [crediting the author of a digital work product] license that allows for the free use, reuse, modification and distribution of [such] a work product, provided the original author is credited; [and]

House Bill No. 6941

(3) "Open copyright license" means any copyright license that is not a creative commons attribution license, but allows for the free use, reuse, modification and distribution of a work product, provided the original author is credited;

~~[(3)]~~ (4) "High-impact course" means a course of instruction for which open educational resources would make a significant positive financial impact on the students taking the course due to the number of students taking the course or the market value of the printed textbook or other educational resources required for such course;

(5) "Course utilizing open educational resources" means a course in which all required learning materials are an open educational resource; and

(6) "President" means the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities.

(b) There is established the Connecticut Open Educational Resource Coordinating Council, which shall be part of the [Executive Department] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities. The [executive director of the Office of Higher Education] president shall appoint the members of the council which shall consist of the following: (1) A state-wide coordinator, who shall collaborate with all institutions of higher education to promote open educational resources and administer grants; (2) one faculty member, one administrator and one staff member from The University of Connecticut; (3) one faculty member, one administrator and one staff member from the regional community-technical college system; (4) one faculty member, one administrator and one staff member from Charter Oak State College; (5) one faculty member, one administrator and one staff member from the Connecticut State University System; (6) one faculty member, one administrator and one staff member from the independent institutions of higher education; and (7) one student from any public or independent

House Bill No. 6941

institution of higher education in the state. All initial appointments to the council shall be made not later than September 1, 2019, and shall expire on August 30, 2022, regardless of when the initial appointment was made. Any member of the council may serve more than one term.

(c) The state-wide coordinator appointed by the [executive director of the Office of Higher Education] president shall serve as the chairperson of the council. The chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the council, which shall be held not later than October 1, 2019. The administrative staff of the [Office of Higher Education] Connecticut State Colleges and Universities shall serve as administrative staff of the council. The state-wide coordinator may employ a part-time staff person as necessary to assist and support the Connecticut Open Educational Resource Coordinating Council.

(d) Appointed members of the council shall serve for three-year terms which shall commence on the date of appointment, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section. Members shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled by the [executive director of the Office of Higher Education] president. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term. A majority of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. The members of the council shall serve without compensation, but shall, within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

(e) The council shall perform the following functions:

(1) Identify high-impact courses for which open educational resources will be developed, converted or adopted;

(2) Establish a program of competitive grants for faculty members of institutions of higher education in the state for the development,

House Bill No. 6941

conversion or adoption of open educational resources for high-impact courses with any funds identified by the council and within available appropriations;

(3) Accept, review and approve competitive grant applications, provided any faculty member who is approved for a competitive grant shall license such open educational resources through a creative commons attribution license or other open copyright license;

(4) Administer a standardized review and approval process for the development, conversion or adoption of open educational resources; [and]

(5) Promote strategies for the production, use and access of open educational resources; and

(6) Develop a model policy for adoption by institutions of higher education that establishes (A) definitions for terms related to open educational resources, (B) methods for data collection concerning the use and availability of open educational resources, and (C) ways to present online course catalogs to students to clearly identify each course utilizing open educational resources.

(f) The council shall meet quarterly, or as often as deemed necessary by a majority of the council.

(g) Not later than February 1, [2022] 2024, and [annually] biennially thereafter, the council shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education regarding (1) the number and percentage of [high-impact courses for which open educational resources have been developed] courses utilizing open educational resources, (2) the degree to which institutions of higher education promote the use and access to open educational resources, (3) the amount of grants awarded by the council

House Bill No. 6941

and the number of open educational resources developed by grant recipients, and (4) its recommendations for any amendments to the general statutes necessary to develop open educational resources.

Sec. 96. Subsection (l) of section 10a-34 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) to (j), inclusive, of this section and subject to the authority of the State Board of Education to regulate teacher education programs, an independent institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-173, shall not require approval by the Office of Higher Education for any new programs of higher learning or any program modifications proposed by such institution, [until June 30, 2023, and for up to fifteen new programs of higher learning in any academic year or any program modifications proposed by such institution on and after July 1, 2023,] provided (1) the institution maintains eligibility to participate in financial aid programs governed by Title IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time to time, (2) the United States Department of Education has not determined that the institution has a financial responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available, and (3) the institution has been located in the state and accredited as a degree-granting institution in good standing for ten years or more by a regional accrediting association recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education and maintains such accreditation status. Each institution that is exempt from program approval by the Office of Higher Education under this subsection shall [file with the office (A) on and after July 1, 2023, an application for approval of any new program of higher learning in excess of fifteen new programs in any academic year, (B) a program actions form, as created by the office, prior to students enrolling in any new program of higher learning or any

House Bill No. 6941

existing program subject to a program modification, and (C) not later than July first, and annually thereafter, (i) until June 30, 2024, a list and brief description of any new programs of higher learning introduced by the institution in the preceding academic year and any existing programs of higher learning discontinued by the institution in the preceding academic year, (ii)] (A) on or before the last date of each semester, but not less frequently than annually, update the credentials database, established pursuant to the provisions of section 10a-35b, with any new programs of higher learning that were introduced or any existing programs of higher learning that were modified or discontinued during such semester, and (B) not later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, file with the office (i) the institution's current program approval process and all actions of the governing board concerning approval of any new program of higher learning, and [(iii)] (ii) the institution's financial responsibility composite score, as determined by the United States Department of Education, for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available.

Sec. 97. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For purposes of this section, "budgeted agency" has the same meaning as defined in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (11) of section 4-69 of the general statutes and "department head" has the same meaning as provided in section 4-5 of the general statutes. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may execute a memorandum of understanding with the department head of any budgeted agency to assign to such department head the authority to enter into a contract or other written agreement using any funds appropriated to the secretary by any provision of the general statutes, public or special act or authorized by the State Bond Commission for purposes of such contract or agreement, provided such department head otherwise has the authority to contract for the specific purpose that such funds are required to be used for, as set forth in such statute, public or special act or authorization of the State Bond

House Bill No. 6941

Commission.

(b) The department head of a budgeted agency, upon the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, may execute a memorandum of understanding with the department head of another budgeted agency, to assign to such other department head the authority to enter into a contract or other written agreement using any funds appropriated to the assigning budgeted agency by any provision of the general statutes, public or special act or authorization of the State Bond Commission for purposes of such contract or agreement, provided the department head to whom such authority is assigned otherwise has the authority to contract for the specific purpose that such funds are required to be used for, as set forth in such statute, public or special act or authorization of the State Bond Commission.

(c) Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall contain a summary of all assignments of authority made by the secretary under subsection (a) of this section and by other budgeted agencies under subsection (b) of this section during the year immediately preceding such report.

Sec. 98. Subsection (e) of section 4b-13a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(e) State agencies shall assess and collect a fee established under subsection (f) of this section to both public and state employee users of state agency electric vehicle charging stations purchased and installed on or after October 1, 2022, except that any user charging an electric vehicle that is owned or leased by the state shall be exempt from paying

House Bill No. 6941

such fee. The amount of any fees assessed pursuant to this section shall be posted at the charging station. Any fees collected under this section shall be deposited into the fund of the state from which [funds were provided for the acquisition and installation of the charging station] payment is made for the electricity costs of the state agency hosting such state agency electric vehicle charging station.

Sec. 99. Subsection (c) of section 7-277c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) The Office of Policy and Management shall distribute grants-in-aid pursuant to this section during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2021, [June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023] to June 30, 2025, inclusive. Any such grant-in-aid shall be for up to fifty per cent of the cost of such purchase of body-worn recording equipment, digital data storage devices or services or dashboard cameras with a remote recorder if the municipality is a distressed municipality, as defined in section 32-9p, or up to thirty per cent of the cost of such purchase if the municipality is not a distressed municipality, provided the costs of such digital data storage services covered by a grant-in-aid shall not be for a period of service that is longer than one year.

Sec. 100. Section 19a-40a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The [Commissioner] Commissioners of Public Health and Administrative Services shall require each applicant for employment in, and each employee applying for transfer to, the vital records unit of the Department of Public Health to (1) state whether such applicant or employee has ever been convicted of a crime or whether criminal charges are pending against such applicant or employee at the time of application for employment or transfer, and (2) submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records

House Bill No. 6941

checks required pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a.

Sec. 101. Section 18-81l of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The [Department] Commissioners of Correction and Administrative Services shall (1) require each applicant for a position that will involve direct contact with inmates to state whether such person has ever been convicted of a crime or whether criminal charges are pending against such person at the time of such person's application, and (2) require each applicant to submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records checks required pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a.

Sec. 102. Subsection (a) of section 14-9a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The [Department] Departments of Motor Vehicles and Administrative Services shall, subject to the provisions of section 31-51i, require each external applicant for a position of employment with the [department] Department of Motor Vehicles (1) to state whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a crime, to state whether criminal charges are pending against the applicant at the time of the application and, if so, to identify the charges and court in which they are pending, and (2) if offered employment with the [department] Department of Motor Vehicles, to be fingerprinted and to submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records checks required by this section shall be in accordance with section 29-17a.

Sec. 103. Section 12-3c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The [Commissioner] Commissioners of Revenue Services and

House Bill No. 6941

Administrative Services shall, subject to the provisions of section 31-51i, require each applicant for a position of employment with the Department of Revenue Services, each employee applying for transfer to said department and, at least once every [ten] five years or more often if required by the United States Department of the Treasury, each current employee of, the Department of Revenue Services, to (1) state in writing whether such applicant or employee has ever been convicted of a crime or whether criminal charges are pending against such applicant or employee and, if so, to identify the charges and court in which such charges are pending, and (2) be fingerprinted and submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records checks required by this section shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a.

(b) If a contractor or subcontractor has a contract with the Department of Revenue Services to perform work for the department that entails such contractor or subcontractor or any employee thereof to access federal tax information or return or return information, as such terms are defined in section 12-15, such contractor or subcontractor and any such employee shall be subject to the requirements of subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of this section prior to commencing such work and as often thereafter as required by subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 104. Subsection (a) of section 17a-6a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The [Commissioner] Commissioners of Children and Families and Administrative Services shall (1) require each applicant for a position with the [department] Department of Children and Families to state in writing whether such person has ever been convicted of a crime or whether criminal charges are pending against such person at the time such person submits an application, and (2) require each applicant to submit to state and national criminal history records checks, in

House Bill No. 6941

accordance with section 29-17a. The [commissioner] Commissioner of Children and Families shall also check the state child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k for the name of such applicant.

Sec. 105. Section 17a-227a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The [Commissioner] Commissioners of Developmental Services and Administrative Services shall require each applicant who has been made an offer of conditional employment by the [department] Department of Developmental Services to be fingerprinted and submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records checks required by this section shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. Employment by the department shall be considered conditional until the results of the criminal history records checks are received and reviewed by the department.

(b) The [commissioner] Commissioner of Developmental Services may require providers licensed or funded by the department to provide residential, day or support services to persons with intellectual disability, to require each applicant who has been made an offer of conditional employment and will have direct and ongoing contact with persons and families receiving such services to submit to a check of such applicant's state criminal background. If the [department] Department of Developmental Services requires such providers to have such applicants who have been made an offer of conditional employment submit to such checks, the administrative costs associated with such checks shall be considered an allowable cost on the annual cost report. Employment by a provider licensed or funded by the department shall be considered conditional until the results of the background checks have been received and reviewed by the provider.

Sec. 106. Section 5-207a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) For each position of employment with the state of Connecticut that involves exposure to federal tax information, the employing agency and, in the case where the Department of Administrative Services is the provider of human resources services for such employing agency, the Department of Administrative Services, shall, subject to the provisions of section 31-51i, require each applicant for, each employee applying for transfer to, and, at least every [ten] five years, or more often if required by the United States Department of the Treasury, each current employee of such a position, to (1) state in writing whether such applicant or employee has been convicted of a crime or whether criminal charges are pending against such applicant or employee at the time of application for employment or transfer and, if so, to identify the charges and court in which such charges are pending, and (2) be fingerprinted and submit to state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records checks required by this section shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a.

(b) If a contractor or subcontractor has a contract with an agency to perform work for the agency that entails such contractor or subcontractor or any employee thereof to access federal tax information, such contractor or subcontractor and any such employee shall be subject to the requirements of subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of this section prior to commencing such work and as often thereafter as required by subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 107. Section 4-214 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

Each personal service agreement executed on or after [July 1, 1994] January 1, 2024, and having a cost of not more than [twenty] fifty thousand dollars [and a term of not more than one year] shall be based, when possible, on competitive negotiation or competitive quotations.

Sec. 108. Section 4-216 of the general statutes is repealed and the

House Bill No. 6941

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) No state agency may execute a personal service agreement having a cost of more than fifty thousand dollars [or a term of more than one year,] without the approval of the secretary. A state agency may apply for an approval by submitting the following information to the secretary: (1) A description of the services to be purchased and the need for such services; (2) an estimate of the cost of the services and the term of the agreement; (3) whether the services are to be on-going; (4) whether the state agency has contracted out for such services during the preceding two years and, if so, the name of the contractor, term of the agreement with such contractor and the amount paid to the contractor; (5) whether any other state agency has the resources to provide the services; (6) whether the agency intends to purchase the services by competitive negotiation and, if not, why; and (7) whether it is possible to purchase the services on a cooperative basis with other state agencies. [The secretary shall approve or disapprove an application within fifteen business days after receiving it and any necessary supporting information, provided if the secretary does not act within such fifteen-day period the application shall be deemed to have been approved. The secretary] In the case of a proposed personal services agreement for audit services, the agency shall [immediately] notify the Auditors of Public Accounts [of any application which the secretary receives for approval] of a proposed personal services agreement for audit services and give said auditors an opportunity to review the application [during such fifteen-day period] and advise the [secretary as to] agency whether such audit services are necessary and, if so, could be provided by said auditors.

(b) Each personal service agreement having a cost of more than fifty thousand dollars [or a term of more than one year] shall be based on competitive negotiation or competitive quotations, unless the state agency purchasing the personal services determines that a sole source

House Bill No. 6941

purchase is required and applies to the secretary for a waiver from such requirement and the secretary grants the waiver. [in accordance with the guidelines adopted under section 4-215.] The secretary shall adopt guidelines for determining the types of services that may qualify for such waivers. The qualifying services shall include, but not be limited to, (1) services for which the cost to the state of a competitive selection procedure would outweigh the benefits of such procedure, as documented by the state agency, (2) proprietary services, (3) services to be provided by a contractor mandated by the general statutes or a public or special act, and (4) emergency services, including services needed for the protection of life or health. The secretary shall post any approvals of requests for a waiver received under this section on the State Contracting Portal. Not later than January 15, 2024, and annually thereafter, the secretary shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and government administration and the State Contracting Standards Board listing any such waiver requests received during the prior year and the justification for the grant or denial of such request.

(c) The secretary shall establish an incentive program for nonprofit providers of human services that shall (1) allow providers who otherwise meet contractual requirements to retain any savings realized by the providers from the contracted cost for services, and (2) provide that future contracted amounts from the state for the same types of services are not reduced solely to reflect savings achieved in previous contracts by such providers. For purposes of this subsection, "nonprofit providers of human services" includes, but is not limited to, nonprofit providers of services to persons with intellectual, physical or mental disabilities or autism spectrum disorder. Any nonprofit provider of human services allowed to retain savings under the incentive program shall submit a report to the secretary on how excess funds were

House Bill No. 6941

reinvested to strengthen quality, invest in deferred maintenance and make asset improvements.

Sec. 109. Section 2-90d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

On and after October 1, 2021, any state agency proposing to enter into or amend a contract for the purchase of auditing services shall (1) notify the Auditors of Public Accounts of such contract at least fifteen days prior to entering into or amending such contract, and (2) not enter into or amend such contract until the Auditors of Public Accounts have advised the agency whether the auditing services could be provided by said auditors. As used in this section, "state agency" has the same meaning as provided in section 4-37e and "contract" does not include any personal service agreement subject to section [4-215 or] 4-216.

Sec. 110. Section 4-67i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

Not later than January 1, 2020, and every three years thereafter, each state agency, as defined in section 4-212, shall submit to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for approval an agency procurement plan that includes, but is not limited to, a list of all services and programs the agency intends to contract for over the three-year period next succeeding such report, and a planned schedule of procurements indicating whether such procurements shall be based on competitive negotiation or competitive quotations, or whether the state agency has determined that a sole source purchase of services is required and the agency intends to apply to the secretary for a waiver in accordance with the guidelines adopted under section [4-215] 4-216.

Sec. 111. Subsection (c) of section 4-217 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

House Bill No. 6941

(c) A request for proposals issued under section 4-214 [, 4-215] or 4-216 shall include, but not be limited to, an outline of the work to be performed, the required minimum qualifications for the personal service contractor, criteria for review of proposals by the state agency, the format for proposals and the deadline for submitting proposals. Each state agency which prepares a request for proposals shall establish a screening committee to evaluate the proposals submitted in response to the request for proposals. The screening committee shall rank all proposals in accordance with the criteria set forth in the request for proposals and shall submit the names of the top three proposers to the executive head of the agency, who shall select the personal service contractor from among such names.

Sec. 112. Subsection (i) of section 31-417 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(i) Any money expended from the General Fund for the purpose of administering the Connecticut Retirement Security Program [, or providing compensation for covered employees,] shall be reimbursed to the General Fund [not later than October 1, 2023] according to a plan established and agreed upon by both the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the Comptroller. Such plan shall (1) include a schedule for reimbursement of any money expended from the General Fund to the program, and (2) incorporate any previously agreed upon terms between the Comptroller and the Treasurer to pay back the General Fund for any request for an advance made pursuant to section 6 of public act 18-169. Payments to reimburse the General Fund shall continue according to the terms of such plan until all money expended from the General Fund to the program is reimbursed. The program may pay any unpaid amounts earlier than the established repayment plan requires.

Sec. 113. Section 29-252a of the general statutes is repealed and the

House Bill No. 6941

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The State Building Code, including any amendment to said code adopted by the State Building Inspector and Codes and Standards Committee, shall be the building code for all state agencies, [and] the Connecticut Airport Authority and the Connecticut Port Authority.

(b) (1) No state, [or] Connecticut Airport Authority or Connecticut Port Authority building or structure or addition to a state, [or] Connecticut Airport Authority or Connecticut Port Authority building or structure: (A) That exceeds the threshold limits contained in section 29-276b and requires an independent structural review under said section, or (B) that includes residential occupancies for twenty-five or more persons, shall be constructed until an application has been filed by (i) the commissioner of an agency authorized to contract for the construction of buildings under the provisions of section 4b-1 or 4b-51, [or] (ii) the executive director of the Connecticut Airport Authority, or (iii) the executive director of the Connecticut Port Authority, with the State Building Inspector and a building permit is issued by the State Building Inspector. Plans and specifications for the building, structure or addition to be constructed shall accompany the application. The commissioner of any such agency, [or] the executive director of the Connecticut Airport Authority or the executive director of the Connecticut Port Authority, as applicable, shall certify that such plans and specifications are in substantial compliance with the provisions of the State Building Code and, where applicable, with the provisions of the Fire Safety Code. The State Building Inspector shall review the plans and specifications for the building, structure or addition to be constructed to verify their compliance with the requirements of the State Building Code and, not later than thirty days after the date of application, shall issue or refuse to issue the building permit, in whole or in part. The State Building Inspector may request that the State Fire Marshal review such plans to verify their compliance with the Fire

House Bill No. 6941

Safety Code.

(2) On and after July 1, 1999, the State Building Inspector shall assess an education fee on each building permit application. [During the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1999, the amount of such fee shall be sixteen cents per one thousand dollars of construction value as declared on the building permit application, and the] The State Building Inspector shall remit such fees, quarterly, to the Department of Administrative Services, for deposit in the General Fund. Upon deposit in the General Fund, the amount of such fees shall be credited to the appropriation to the Department of Administrative Services and shall be used for the code training and educational programs established pursuant to section 29-251c. On and after July 1, 2000, the assessment shall be made in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-251c.

(c) All state agencies authorized to contract for the construction of any buildings or the alteration of any existing buildings under the provisions of section 4b-1 or 4b-51 or, for any such Connecticut Airport Authority building, the Connecticut Airport Authority or, for any such Connecticut Port Authority building, the Connecticut Port Authority, shall be responsible for substantial compliance with the provisions of the State Building Code, the Fire Safety Code and the regulations lawfully adopted under said codes for such building or alteration to such building, as the case may be. Such agencies, [and] the Connecticut Airport Authority and the Connecticut Port Authority shall apply to the State Building Inspector for a certificate of occupancy for all buildings or alterations of existing buildings for which a building permit is required under subsection (b) of this section and shall certify compliance with the State Building Code, the Fire Safety Code and the regulations lawfully adopted under said codes for such building or alteration to such building, as the case may be, to the State Building Inspector prior to occupancy or use of the facility.

House Bill No. 6941

(d) (1) No state or Connecticut Airport Authority building or structure erected or altered on and after July 1, 1989, and no Connecticut Port Authority building or structure erected or altered on and after July 1, 2023, for which a building permit has been issued pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, shall be occupied or used in whole or in part, until a certificate of occupancy has been issued by the State Building Inspector, certifying that such building or structure substantially conforms to the provisions of the State Building Code and the regulations lawfully adopted under said code and the State Fire Marshal has verified substantial compliance with the Fire Safety Code and the regulations lawfully adopted under said code for such building or alteration to such building, as the case may be.

(2) No state or Connecticut Airport Authority building or structure erected or altered on and after July 1, 1989, and no Connecticut Port Authority building or structure erected or altered on and after July 1, 2023, for which a building permit has not been issued pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be occupied or used in whole or in part, until the commissioner of the agency erecting or altering the building or structure or, for any Connecticut Airport Authority building or structure, the executive director of the Connecticut Airport Authority or, for any Connecticut Port Authority building or structure, the executive director of the Connecticut Port Authority, certifies to the State Building Inspector that the building or structure substantially complies with the provisions of the State Building Code, the Fire Safety Code and the regulations lawfully adopted under said codes for such building or alteration to such building, as the case may be.

(e) The State Building Inspector or said inspector's designee may inspect or cause to be inspected any construction of buildings or alteration of existing buildings by state agencies, [or] the Connecticut Airport Authority or the Connecticut Port Authority, except that said inspector or designee shall inspect or cause an inspection if the building

House Bill No. 6941

being constructed includes residential occupancies for twenty-five or more persons. The State Building Inspector may order any state agency, [or] the Connecticut Airport Authority or the Connecticut Port Authority to comply with the State Building Code. The commissioner may delegate such powers as the commissioner deems expedient for the proper administration of this part and any other statute related to the State Building Code to The University of Connecticut, provided the commissioner and the president of The University of Connecticut enter into a memorandum of understanding concerning such delegation of powers in accordance with section 10a-109ff.

(f) The joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the Department of Administrative Services may annually review the implementation date in subsection (b) of this section to determine the need, if any, for revision.

(g) Any person aggrieved by any refusal to issue a building permit or certificate of occupancy under the provisions of this section or by an order to comply with the State Building Code or the Fire Safety Code may appeal, de novo, to the Codes and Standards Committee not later than seven days after the issuance of any such refusal or order.

(h) State agencies, [and] the Connecticut Airport Authority and the Connecticut Port Authority shall be exempt from the permit requirements of section 29-263 and the certificate of occupancy requirement under section 29-265.

Sec. 114. (*Effective from passage*) From the effective date of this section until the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, when assessing the best interests of the state pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 4-30a of the general statutes, the Treasurer shall determine that it is in the best interests of the state to appropriate excess funds as follows:

House Bill No. 6941

(1) First, to the State Employees Retirement Fund, in addition to the contributions required pursuant to section 5-156a of the general statutes, but not exceeding five per cent of the unfunded past service liability of the state employees retirement system as set forth in the most recent actuarial valuation certified by the State Employee Retirement Commission;

(2) Second, to the Teachers' Retirement Fund, in addition to the payments required pursuant to section 10-183z of the general statutes, but not exceeding five per cent of the unfunded past service liability of the teachers' retirement system as set forth in the most recent actuarial valuation prepared for the Teachers' Retirement Board; and

(3) Third, to make additional payments toward unfunded past service liability of the state employees retirement system.

Sec. 115. Subsection (b) of section 16-243p of the general statutes, as amended by section 2 of public act 23-102, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) [No public service company] For any rate proceeding initiated on or after January 1, 2024, no electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline company or water company with more than seventy-five thousand customers shall recover through rates its direct or indirect costs associated with its attendance in, participation in, preparation for, or appeal of [any] such rate proceeding. [conducted before the authority.] Such costs shall include, but need not be limited to, attorneys' fees, fees to engage expert witnesses or consultants, the portion of employee salaries associated with such attendance, participation, preparation or appeal of a rate proceeding and related costs identified by the authority.

Sec. 116. Section 3 of public act 23-102 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) No [public service company] electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline company or water company, as such terms are defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, shall recover through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with membership, dues, sponsorships or contributions to a business or industry trade association, group or related entity incorporated under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time.

(b) No [public service company] electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline company or water company, as such terms are defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, shall recover through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with lobbying or legislative action, as such terms are defined in section 1-91 of the general statutes.

(c) No [public service company] electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline company or water company, as such terms are defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, shall recover through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with advertising, marketing, communications that seek to influence public opinion or any other related costs identified by the authority, unless such marketing, advertising, communications or related costs are specifically approved or ordered by the authority or the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

(d) No [public service company] electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline company or water company, as such terms are defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, shall recover through rates any direct or indirect cost associated with (1) travel, lodging or food and beverage expenses for such company's board of directors and officers or the board of directors and officers of such company's parent company; (2) entertainment or gifts; (3) any owned, leased or chartered aircraft for such company's board of directors and officers or the board

House Bill No. 6941

of directors and officers of such company's parent company; or (4) investor relations.

(e) On or before January 15, 2024, and annually thereafter, each [public service company] electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline company or water company, as such terms are defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, with more than seventy-five thousand customers shall report to the authority an itemized list of costs associated with the activities described in this section and subsection (b) of section 16-243p of the general statutes, as amended by [this act] public act 23-102, in a form prescribed by the authority. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) Any costs spent by the parent company or affiliates of the public service company directly billed or allocated to the public service company; (2) a list of the title, job description and salary of any employees of the public service company who performed work associated with the activities described in this section or in subsection (b) of section 16-243p of the general statutes, as amended by [this act] public act 23-102, and the hours attributed to such work; (3) a list of the title, job description and salary of any employees of the parent company or affiliate who performed work associated with the activities described in this section or in subsection (b) of section 16-243p of the general statutes, as amended by [this act] public act 23-102, and the hours attributed to such work that were directly billed or allocated to the public service company; (4) an itemized list of costs that the public service company made to all third-party vendors for any expenses associated with the activities described in this section or in subsection (b) of section 16-243p of the general statutes, as amended by [this act] public act 23-102, including unredacted billing amounts, billing dates, payees and explanation of the expenditure in detail sufficient to describe the purpose of the cost; and (5) any other itemized information deemed relevant by the authority. No [public service company] electric distribution company, gas company, pipeline company or water company, as such terms are defined in section 16-1 of the general

House Bill No. 6941

statutes, shall recover through rates any costs associated with the preparation of such report.

Sec. 117. Subsection (a) of section 16-245d of the general statutes, as amended by section 14 of public act 23-102, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) (1) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, by regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 54, develop a standard billing format that enables customers to compare pricing policies and charges among electric suppliers. The authority shall alter or repeal any relevant regulation in conjunction with the implementation of a redesigned standard billing format described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection. The authority shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to provide that an electric supplier shall provide direct billing and collection services for electric generation services and related federally mandated congestion charges that such suppliers provide to their customers or may choose to obtain such billing and collection service through an electric distribution company and pay its pro rata share in accordance with the provisions of subsection (f) of section 16-244c. Any customer of an electric supplier, which is choosing to provide direct billing, who paid for the cost of billing and other services to an electric distribution company shall receive a credit on their monthly bill.

(2) On or before July 1, 2014, the authority shall initiate a docket to redesign (A) the standard billing format for residential customers implemented pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection to better enable such residential customers to compare pricing policies and charges among electric suppliers, and (B) the account summary page of a residential customer located on the electric distribution company's Internet web site. The authority shall issue a final decision on such docket not later than six months after its initiation. Such final decision shall include the placement of the following items on the first page of

House Bill No. 6941

each bill for each residential customer receiving electric generation service from an electric supplier: (i) The electric generation service rate; (ii) the term and expiration date of such rate; (iii) any change to such rate effective for the next billing cycle; (iv) the cancellation fee, if applicable, provided there is such a change; (v) notification that such rate is variable, if applicable; (vi) the standard service rate; (vii) the term and expiration date of the standard service rate; (viii) the dollar amount that would have been billed for the electric generation services component had the customer been receiving standard service; and (ix) an electronic link or Internet web site address to the rate board Internet web site described in section 16-244d and the toll-free telephone number and other information necessary to enable the customer to obtain standard service. Such final decision shall also include the feasibility of (I) an electric distribution company transferring a residential customer receiving electric generation service from an electric supplier to a different electric supplier in a timely manner and ensuring that the electric distribution company and the relevant electric suppliers provide timely information to each other to facilitate such transfer, and (II) allowing residential customers to choose how to receive information related to bill notices, including United States mail, electronic mail, text message, an application on a cellular telephone or a third-party notification service approved by the authority. On or before July 1, 2020, and every five years thereafter, the authority shall reopen such docket to ensure the standard billing format and Internet web site for a customer's account summary remains a useful tool for customers to compare pricing policies and charges among electric suppliers.

(3) Not later than August 1, 2023, each electric distribution company shall use a total of four categories as part of the standard billing format for all residential customers, one of which shall relate to charges for generation of electricity, one of which shall relate to charges for local distribution of electricity, one of which shall relate to charges for transmission of electricity, and one of which shall relate to system

House Bill No. 6941

benefits and the subset of federally mandated congesting charges approved by the authority pursuant to any provision of the general statutes, public act or special act. The authority shall require that each electric distribution company's standard billing format for residential customers identify each charge and the corresponding category in accordance with the authority's determinations. The authority, in a docket reopened pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, may modify the categories described in this subdivision if the authority finds that such modification improves customer understanding of the components of the electric bill or customer understanding of what costs are causing increases to the total amount of a customer's bill.

(4) An electric supplier that chooses to provide billing and collection services shall, in accordance with the billing format developed by the authority, include the following information in each customer's bill: (A) The total amount owed by the customer, which shall be itemized to show (i) the electric generation services component and any additional charges imposed by the electric supplier, and (ii) federally mandated congestion charges applicable to the generation services; (B) any unpaid amounts from previous bills, which shall be listed separately from current charges; (C) the rate and usage for the current month and each of the previous twelve months in bar graph form or other visual format; (D) the payment due date; (E) the interest rate applicable to any unpaid amount; (F) the toll-free telephone number of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority for questions or complaints; and (G) the toll-free telephone number and address of the electric supplier. On or before October 1, 2013, the authority shall conduct a review of the costs and benefits of suppliers billing for all components of electric service, and report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy regarding the results of such review. Any such report may be submitted electronically.

House Bill No. 6941

(5) An electric distribution company shall, in accordance with the billing format developed by the authority, include the following information in each customer's bill: (A) The total amount owed by the customer, which shall be itemized using the categories described in subdivision (3) of this subsection; (B) any unpaid amounts from previous bills which shall be listed separately from current charges; (C) except for customers subject to a demand charge, the rate and usage for the current month and each of the previous twelve months in the form of a bar graph or other visual form; (D) the payment due date; (E) the interest rate applicable to any unpaid amount; (F) the toll-free telephone number of the electric distribution company to report power losses; (G) the toll-free telephone number of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority for questions or complaints; and (H) if a customer has a demand of five hundred kilowatts or less during the preceding twelve months, a statement about the availability of information concerning electric suppliers pursuant to section 16-245p.

(6) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall conduct a study that analyzes the components of the delivery portion of the electric bill for customers of each electric distribution company. Such study shall consider what additional informational items should be available to customers on a state-run Internet web site, on an Internet web site of an electric distribution company or at other locations that aim to increase transparency concerning the costs and benefits of programs funded through certain charges on a customer's electric bill. Such study may include recommendations for a detailed plan aimed at educating customers regarding how to access programs funded through such charges. Not later than January 15, 2025, the chairperson shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, that contains the chairperson's analysis and recommendations.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 118. Subsection (b) of section 16-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) [The authority shall elect] Not later than June 30, 2023, and between June first and June thirtieth in each odd-numbered year thereafter, the Governor shall select the chairperson of the authority from among the utility commissioners. The chairperson shall serve a two-year term starting on July first of the same year. Each June, the utility commissioners shall choose, from among said commissioners, a [chairperson and] vice-chairperson, [each June] who shall serve for a one-year [terms] term starting on July first of the same year. The vice-chairperson shall perform the duties of the chairperson in his or her absence.

Sec. 119. Subsection (e) of section 54-142a of the general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 23-134, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(e) (1) (A) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, whenever any person has been convicted in any court of this state of a classified or unclassified misdemeanor offense or a motor vehicle violation for which a maximum term of imprisonment of not more than one year could have been imposed, or a class D or E felony or an unclassified felony offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of not more than five years could have been imposed or a motor vehicle violation for which a maximum term of imprisonment greater than one year and not more than five years could have been imposed, any police or court record and record of the state's or prosecuting attorney or the prosecuting grand juror pertaining to such conviction, or any record pertaining to court obligations arising from such conviction held by the Board of Pardons and Paroles shall be erased as follows: (i) For any classified or unclassified misdemeanor offense or a motor vehicle violation for which a maximum term of

House Bill No. 6941

imprisonment of not more than one year could have been imposed, except for a violation of section 14-227a, such records shall be erased seven years from the date on which the court entered the convicted person's most recent judgment of conviction (I) by operation of law, if such offense occurred on or after January 1, 2000, or (II) upon the filing of a petition on a form prescribed by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, if such offense occurred prior to January 1, 2000; and (ii) for any class D or E felony, unclassified felony offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of not more than five years could have been imposed or a motor vehicle violation for which a maximum term of imprisonment in excess of one year and not more than five years could have been imposed, or any violation of section 14-227a, such records shall be erased ten years from the date on which the court entered the convicted person's most recent judgment of conviction (I) by operation of law, if such offense occurred on or after January 1, 2000, or (II) upon the filing of a petition on a form prescribed by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, if such offense occurred prior to January 1, 2000.

(B) For purposes of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the classification of the offense, and the maximum sentence that could have been imposed for a conviction of such offense, shall be determined based on the law that was in effect at the time the offense was committed.

(2) Convictions for the following offenses shall not be eligible for erasure pursuant to this subsection:

(A) Any conviction, on or after January 1, 2000, designated as a family violence crime, as defined in section 46b-38a;

(B) Any conviction for an offense that is a nonviolent sexual offense or a sexually violent offense, each as defined in section 54-250;

House Bill No. 6941

(C) Any conviction for a violation of section 29-33, 53a-60a, 53a-60b, 53a-60c, 53a-61a, 53a-64bb, 53a-64cc, 53a-72a, 53a-90a, 53a-103a, 53a-181c, 53a-191, 53a-196, 53a-196d, 53a-196f, 53a-211, 53a-212, 53a-216, 53a-217, 53a-217a, 53a-217c, 53a-322, 53a-323, 54-251, 54-252, 54-253 or 54-254 or subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 53a-189a; or

(D) Any conviction for a violation of section 14-227a [within the preceding ten years of any arrest] if the defendant has been convicted for [the] another violation of section 14-227a within the ten years following such conviction.

(3) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply to any conviction for any offense until the defendant:

(A) Has completed serving any period of incarceration, parole, special parole, medical parole, compassionate parole or transitional supervision associated with any sentence for such offense and any other offense for which the defendant has been convicted on or after January 1, 2000, in this state;

(B) Has completed serving any period of probation for any sentence for any crime or crimes for which the defendant has been convicted on or after January 1, 2000, in this state; and

(C) Is not the subject of any pending state criminal charge in this state.

(4) If a person has been convicted of a violation of subsection (c) of section 21a-279 prior to October 1, 2015, such conviction shall not be considered as a most recent offense when evaluating whether a sufficient period of time has elapsed for an offense to qualify for erasure pursuant to this subsection.

(5) Nothing in this subsection shall limit any other procedure for erasure of criminal history record information, as defined in section 54-142g, or prohibit a person from participating in any such procedure,

House Bill No. 6941

even if such person's criminal history record information has been erased pursuant to this section.

(6) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require the Department of Motor Vehicles to erase criminal history record information on an operator's driving record. When applicable, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall make such criminal history record information available through the Commercial Driver's License Information System.

(7) Nothing in this subsection shall terminate a defendant's obligation to register as a person convicted of an offense committed with a deadly weapon pursuant to section 54-280a, a felony for a sexual purpose pursuant to section 54-254 or a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor pursuant to section 54-251.

(8) No erasure under this subsection shall be construed to terminate a defendant's obligation to abide by a standing criminal protective order imposed under section 53a-40e or terminate a defendant's obligation to pay any unremitted fine imposed as part of the court's sentence.

(9) Notwithstanding any provision of this section and the provisions of section 54-142c, any record required to substantiate any defendant's conviction shall be available to law enforcement, the court and the state's attorney for the purpose of (A) verifying such defendant's obligation to register pursuant to section 54-251, 54-254 or 54-280a and prosecuting any such defendant for violating any provision of such sections, and (B) verifying such defendant's obligation to abide by any standing criminal protective order imposed under section 53a-40e and prosecuting any such defendant for a violation of section 53a-223a.

Sec. 120. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 21a-420f of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(c) (1) On and after July 1, 2022, there is established a fund to be known as the ["Social Equity and Innovation Fund" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing fund] "Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund". The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Amounts in the fund may be expended only pursuant to appropriation by the General Assembly. Any balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the fund for the fiscal year next succeeding. Moneys in the fund shall be appropriated for the purposes of providing the following: Access to capital for businesses; technical assistance for the start-up and operation of a business; funding for workforce education; funding for community investments; and paying costs incurred to implement the activities authorized under RERACA. All such appropriations shall be dedicated to expenditures that further the principles of equity, as defined in section 21a-420.

(2) (A) For the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the Social Equity Council shall transmit, for even-numbered years, estimates of expenditure requirements and for odd-numbered years, recommended adjustments and revisions, if any, of such estimates, to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in the manner prescribed for a budgeted agency under subsection (a) of section 4-77. The council shall recommend for each fiscal year commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, appropriate funding for all credits payable to angel investors that invest in cannabis businesses pursuant to section 12-704d.

(B) The Office of Policy and Management may not make adjustments to any such estimates or adjustments and revisions of such estimates transmitted by the council. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act, the Governor shall not reduce the

House Bill No. 6941

allotment requisitions or allotments in force pursuant to section 4-85 or make reductions in allotments in order to achieve budget savings in the General Fund, concerning any appropriations made by the General Assembly for the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(d) On and after July 1, 2022, there is established a fund to be known as the ["Prevention and Recovery Services Fund" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing fund] "Cannabis Prevention and Recovery Services Fund". The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Amounts in the fund may be expended only pursuant to appropriation by the General Assembly. Any balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the fund for the fiscal year next succeeding. Moneys in the fund shall be appropriated for the purposes of (1) substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery services, and (2) collection and analysis of data regarding substance use. The Social Equity Council may make recommendations to any relevant state agency regarding expenditures to be made for the purposes set forth in this subsection.

Sec. 121. Subsection (i) of section 12-330*ll* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(i) The tax received by the state under this section shall be deposited as follows:

(1) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, in the cannabis regulatory and investment account established under section 21a-420f;

(2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2026, sixty per cent of such tax received in the Cannabis Social Equity

House Bill No. 6941

and Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f, twenty-five per cent of such tax received in the Cannabis Prevention and Recovery Services Fund established under section 21a-420f and fifteen per cent in the General Fund;

(3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2027, and June 30, 2028, sixty-five per cent of such tax received in the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f, twenty-five per cent of such tax received in the Cannabis Prevention and Recovery Services Fund and ten per cent in the General Fund; and

(4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, and each fiscal year thereafter, seventy-five per cent of such tax received in the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f and twenty-five per cent of such tax received in the Cannabis Prevention and Recovery Services Fund established under section 21a-420f.

Sec. 122. Subsection (e) of section 21a-420e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and thereafter, fees collected by the department under this section shall be paid to the State Treasurer and credited to the General Fund, except that the fees collected under subdivisions (12) and (13) of subsection (c) of this section shall be deposited in the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f.

Sec. 123. Subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) Thirty days after the Social Equity Council posts the criteria for social equity applicants on its Internet web site, the department shall open up a three-month application period for cultivators during which

House Bill No. 6941

a social equity applicant may apply to the department for a provisional cultivator license and final license for a cultivation facility located in a disproportionately impacted area without participating in a lottery or request for proposals. Such application for a provisional license shall be granted upon (1) verification by the Social Equity Council that the applicant meets the criteria for a social equity applicant; (2) the applicant submitting to and passing a criminal background check; and (3) payment of a three-million-dollar fee to be deposited in the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund established in section 21a-420f. Upon granting such provisional license, the department shall notify the applicant of the project labor agreement requirements of section 21a-421e.

Sec. 124. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) On and after July 1, 2023, there is established a fund to be known as the "Cannabis Regulatory Fund" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing fund. The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Moneys in the fund shall be appropriated to state agencies for the purposes of paying costs incurred to implement the activities authorized under RERACA, as defined in section 21a-420 of the general statutes.

Sec. 125. (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) The Department of Correction shall operate a pilot program in order to screen, assess and treat persons with alcohol use disorder who are in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction. Not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to treat such persons with medications approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

(b) Not later than December 1, 2025, the department shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the judiciary. Such

House Bill No. 6941

report shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The total number of persons who received such treatment; (2) the number of persons who requested such treatment, but were not approved for such treatment; (3) the reasons for any denials of treatment; and (4) initiatives to expand and improve access to medications for alcohol use disorder for persons in the custody of the commissioner.

Sec. 126. (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) The Department of Correction shall operate a pilot program in order to treat persons suffering from severe mental illness who are in the custody of the Commissioner of Correction. Not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to treat such persons with clinically appropriate long-acting injectable medications.

(b) Not later than December 1, 2025, the department shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the judiciary. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) The total number of persons who received such treatment; (2) the number of persons who requested such treatment, but were not approved for such treatment; (3) the reasons for any denials of treatment; and (4) initiatives to expand and improve access to clinically appropriate long-acting injectable medications for persons in the custody of the commissioner.

Sec. 127. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2023, the Department of Correction, in consultation with a subcommittee concerning incarceration of children of the Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee, established pursuant to section 46b-121n of the general statutes, shall develop and submit the commissary implementation plan described in subsection (b) of this section to the Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee, established pursuant to said section.

(b) The plan developed in accordance with this section shall provide

House Bill No. 6941

for the following in relation to youths in Department of Correction facilities: (1) An integrated positive behavior motivation system to engage and reinforce positive youth behaviors and expectations that can be used as payment for commissary goods in place of a monetary system; (2) revised commissary policies and procedures to include the development and implementation of positive behavior motivation policies and procedures; (3) increased incentives to promote good health and recognize a diverse range of ethnic groups, races, sexes and cultural backgrounds; (4) (A) identification of youth within the institution that do not have equitable access to commissary, including those who are indigent, without family supports or with disabilities that contribute to their lack of access to commissary, and (B) strategies to implement equitable access to commissary; (5) menstrual products in a manner pursuant to sections 18-69e and 18-99b of the general statutes; (6) transition of saved commissary allocations, including how associated saved funds can be transitioned and accessed when a youth is transferred to an adult facility; (7) ongoing training and assistance, such as those provided through the Capitol Region Education Council's Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports; (8) continuous quality improvement system for ongoing implementation of the plan pursuant to this subsection; and (9) biannual surveys or focus groups to obtain feedback from youth in Department of Correction facilities on ways to improve its system and concerning the implementation of such plan.

(c) The Department of Correction shall immediately implement procedures for more equitable commissary options for youth described in subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section and shall fully implement the plan not later than November 1, 2023.

Sec. 128. Subsection (c) of section 23-15b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) On or before [October 1, 2010] July 1, 2023, and [semiannually]

House Bill No. 6941

quarterly thereafter, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall report to the Office of Fiscal Analysis and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies on the state parks for which funds have been collected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such report shall include (1) the amount of funds received into the Passport to the Parks account, itemized by subaccount, (2) the amount of funds the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has expended from the account for each park, [and] (3) the projects for which such funds have been expended, (4) projected end-of-fiscal year balances for the account and each subaccount, and (5) position counts funded through the account, whether filled or unfilled or permanent or seasonal in nature. Said commissioner shall post the same information on the department's Internet web site.

Sec. 129. Subsection (a) of section 8-37r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) There shall be a Department of Housing, [which shall be within the Department of Economic and Community Development for administrative purposes only,] which shall be the lead agency for all matters relating to housing. The department head shall be the Commissioner of Housing, who shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, with the powers and duties therein prescribed. Said commissioner shall be responsible at the state level for all aspects of policy, development, redevelopment, preservation, maintenance and improvement of housing and neighborhoods. Said commissioner shall be responsible for developing strategies to encourage the provision of housing in the state, including housing for very low, low and moderate income families.

Sec. 130. Section 32-1b of the general statutes is repealed and the

House Bill No. 6941

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established a Department of Economic and Community Development. The department head shall be the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, who shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, with the powers and duties prescribed in said sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive.

[(b) Except as provided in section 8-37r, said department shall constitute a successor department to the Department of Housing in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-38d, 4-38e and 4-39.]

[(c)] (b) Said department shall constitute a successor department to the Department of Economic Development in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-38d, 4-38e and 4-39.

[(d)] (c) Whenever the term "Commissioner of Economic Development" is used or referred to in the general statutes, the term "Commissioner of Economic and Community Development" shall be substituted in lieu thereof. Whenever the term "Department of Economic Development" is used or referred to in the general statutes, the term "Department of Economic and Community Development" shall be substituted in lieu thereof.

[(e)] (d) If the term "Commissioner of Housing" or "Commissioner of Economic Development" is used or referred to in any public or special act of 1995 or 1996, or in any section of the general statutes which is amended in 1995 or 1996, it shall be deemed to mean or refer to the "Commissioner of Economic and Community Development".

[(f)] (e) If the term "Department of Housing" or "Department of Economic Development" is used or referred to in any public or special act of 1995 or 1996, or in any section of the general statutes which is amended in 1995 or 1996, it shall be deemed to mean or refer to the

House Bill No. 6941

"Department of Economic and Community Development".

Sec. 131. Section 4-38c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

There shall be within the executive branch of state government the following departments: Office of Policy and Management, Department of Administrative Services, Department of Aging and Disability Services, Department of Revenue Services, Department of Banking, Department of Agriculture, Department of Children and Families, Department of Consumer Protection, Department of Correction, Department of Economic and Community Development, State Board of Education, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Department of Housing, Department of Public Health, Board of Regents for Higher Education, Insurance Department, Labor Department, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of Developmental Services, Department of Social Services, Department of Transportation, Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Veterans Affairs and the Technical Education and Career System.

Sec. 132. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) On and after January 1, 2024, notwithstanding any provision of title 10a of the general statutes, each public institution of higher education shall consider any licensed health care provider who (1) has not less than ten years of clinical health care experience in a field in which such provider is licensed, and (2) applies for a position as an adjunct faculty member at such institution of higher education in a health care related field in which such provider has such experience, to be a qualified applicant for such position and give such provider the same consideration as any other qualified applicant for such position. As used in this section, "public institution of higher education" means those constituent units identified in subdivisions (1) and (2) of section 10a-1 of the general statutes.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 133. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) On or before January 1, 2024, the Office of Higher Education shall establish and administer, within available appropriations, an adjunct professor incentive grant program. The program shall provide an incentive grant in an amount of twenty thousand dollars to each licensed health care provider who (1) accepts a position as an adjunct professor at a public institution of higher education that was offered to such provider after being considered as an applicant for such position pursuant to section 132 of this act, and (2) remains in such position for not less than one academic year. Each licensed health care provider who receives a grant under this subsection shall be eligible for an additional grant in an amount of twenty thousand dollars if the provider remains in such position for not less than two academic years. The executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall establish the application process for the grant program.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health regarding the number and demographics of the adjunct professors who applied for and received incentive grants from the adjunct professor grant program established under subsection (a) of this section, the number and types of classes taught by such adjunct professors, the institutions of higher education employing such adjunct professors and any other information deemed pertinent by the executive director.

Sec. 134. Section 10a-174 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Award" means the greater of: (A) The unpaid portion, if any, of a qualifying student's eligible institutional costs after subtracting his or

House Bill No. 6941

her financial aid, or (B) a minimum award of two hundred fifty dollars for a full-time student or one hundred fifty dollars for a part-time student;

(2) "Eligible institutional costs" means the tuition and required fees incurred each semester by an individual student that are established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education for the regional community-technical colleges;

(3) "Financial aid" means the sum of all scholarships, grants and federal, state and institutional aid received by a qualifying student. "Financial aid" does not include any federal, state or private student loans received by a qualifying student;

(4) "Qualifying student" means any person who (A) graduated from a public or nonpublic high school in the state, (B) enrolls as a full-time or part-time student for the fall semester of 2020, or any semester thereafter, [for the first time] at a regional community-technical college in a program leading to a degree or certificate, [and continues to be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student at a regional community-technical college,] (C) is classified as an in-state student pursuant to section 10a-29, (D) is making satisfactory academic progress while enrolled at a regional community-technical college, (E) has completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, and (F) has accepted all available financial aid;

(5) "Full-time student" means a student who is enrolled at a regional community-technical college and (A) is carrying twelve or more credit hours in a semester, or (B) has a learning disability documented with the regional community-technical college in which he or she is enrolled and is enrolled in the maximum number of credit hours that is feasible for such student to attempt in a semester, as determined by such student's academic advisor;

House Bill No. 6941

(6) "Semester" means the fall or spring semester of an academic year. "Semester" does not include a summer semester or session; and

(7) "Part-time student" means a student who is enrolled at a regional community-technical college and is carrying not less than six but fewer than twelve credit hours in a semester.

(b) [Not later than January 1, 2020, the] The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall (1) establish a debt-free community college program to make awards to qualifying students each semester, (2) adopt rules, procedures and forms necessary to implement the debt-free community college program, and (3) submit a report outlining such rules, procedures and forms, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education.

(c) For the fall semester of 2020, and each semester thereafter, the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall make awards to qualifying students within available appropriations. An award shall be available to a qualifying student for the first seventy-two credit hours earned by the qualifying student [during the first forty-eight months that such student is enrolled] at a regional community-technical college, provided the qualifying student meets and continues to meet the requirements of this section. The board shall not use an award to supplant any financial aid, including, but not limited to, state or institutional aid, otherwise available to a qualifying student.

[(d) (1) Any qualifying student who takes an administratively approved medical or personal leave of absence from a regional community-technical college may continue to qualify for the debt-free community college program upon resuming his or her enrollment as a student at a regional community-technical college, provided such student (A) continues to meet the requirements of this section upon reenrollment, and (B) the total amount of time of all approved leaves of

House Bill No. 6941

absence does not exceed six months.

(2) Any qualifying student who is a member of the armed forces called to active duty during any semester may continue to qualify for the debt-free community college program upon resuming his or her enrollment as a student at a regional community-technical college, provided such student (A) continues to meet the requirements of this section upon reenrollment, and (B) reenrolls not later than four years after the date on which such student is released from active duty.]

[(e)] (d) Not later than March 1, 2021, and October 1, 2021, and each semester thereafter, the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement and appropriations and the budgets of the state agencies regarding the debt-free community college program, including, but not limited to, (1) the number of qualifying students enrolled at the regional community-technical colleges during each semester, (2) the number of qualifying students receiving minimum awards and the number of qualifying students receiving awards for the unpaid portion of eligible institutional costs, (3) the average number of credit hours the qualifying students enrolled in each semester and the average number of credit hours the qualifying students completed each semester, (4) the average amount of the award made to qualifying students under this section for the unpaid portion of eligible institutional costs, and (5) the completion rates of qualifying students receiving awards under this section by degree or certificate program.

Sec. 135. Section 10a-173 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

House Bill No. 6941

(1) "Family contribution" means the expected family contribution for educational costs as computed from [the] a student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid;

(2) "Student aid index" means the index used to determine eligibility for financial aid as computed from a student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid;

[(2) "Full-time or part-time undergraduate student"] (3) "Eligible student" means a student who is (A) a resident of the state, (B) enrolled at an institution of higher education in a course of study leading to such student's first associate or bachelor's degree, and [who is] (C) carrying, for a full-time student, twelve or more semester credit hours, or, for a part-time student, between six and eleven semester credit hours at such institution of higher education;

[(3)] (4) "Independent institution of higher education" means a nonprofit institution established in this state (A) that has degree-granting authority in this state; (B) that has its main campus located in this state; (C) that is not included in the Connecticut system of public higher education; and (D) whose primary function is not the preparation of students for religious vocation;

[(4)] (5) "Public institution of higher education" means the constituent units of the state system of higher education identified in subdivisions (1) and (2) of section 10a-1, except the regional community-technical colleges;

[(5)] (6) "Eligible educational costs" means the tuition and required fees for an individual student that are published by each public or independent institution of higher education participating in the grant program established under this section, plus a fixed amount for required books and educational supplies as determined by the Office of Higher Education.

House Bill No. 6941

(b) [The state, acting through the] The Office of Higher Education [,] shall establish the [Governor's] Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program to annually make need-based financial aid available for eligible educational costs [for Connecticut residents] to eligible students enrolled at Connecticut's public and independent institutions of higher education. [as full-time or part-time undergraduate students beginning with new or transfer students in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. On and after July 1, 2016, said program shall be known as the "Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program". Any award made to a student in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, under the capitol scholarship grant program, established under section 10a-169 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, the Connecticut aid to public college students grant program, established under section 10a-164a of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, Connecticut aid to Charter Oak, established under subsection (c) of section 10a-164a of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, or the Connecticut independent college student grant program, established under section 10a-36 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, shall be offered under the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program and be renewable for the life of the original award, provided such student meets and continues to meet the need and academic standards established for purposes of the program under which such student received the original award.]

[(c)] Within available [appropriations] funds, the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program shall include a need and merit-based grant, a need-based grant and a Charter Oak grant. The need and merit-based grant shall be funded at not less than twenty per cent but not more than thirty per cent of available [appropriations] funds or ten million dollars, whichever is greater. The need-based grant shall be funded at up to eighty per cent of available [appropriations] funds. The Charter Oak grant shall be not less than one hundred thousand dollars of available [appropriations] funds. There shall be an administrative allowance

House Bill No. 6941

based on one-quarter of one per cent of the available [appropriations] funds, but [(1) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, not less than three hundred fifty thousand dollars, and (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter,] not less than one hundred thousand dollars annually. [In addition to the amount of the annual appropriation allocated to the regional community-technical colleges under subsection (e) of this section, and to regional community-technical college students under subsection (d) of this section, not less than two and one-half per cent of the annual appropriation shall be allocated to the regional community-technical colleges to be used for financial aid purposes.] For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the Office of Higher Education shall first make awards pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and allocate funds pursuant to subsections (d) and (f) of this section from any funds allocated to the office from the federal funds designated for the state pursuant to the provisions of Section 602 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, until such funds are exhausted, prior to making any awards or allocating any funds from appropriations from the General Fund.

[(d)] (c) The Roberta B. Willis Scholarship need and merit-based grant shall be available to any [Connecticut resident who is a full-time or part-time undergraduate] eligible student at any public or independent institution of higher education. The Office of Higher Education shall determine [eligibility by] qualification for financial need based on family contribution prior to July 1, 2024, and, on and after July 1, 2024, based on student aid index and [eligibility by] qualification for merit based on either previous high school academic achievement or performance on standardized academic aptitude tests. The Office of Higher Education shall make awards according to a sliding scale, annually determined by said office, up to a maximum family contribution or student aid index and based on available [appropriations and] funds and the number of eligible students who

House Bill No. 6941

qualify for an award. The Roberta B. Willis Scholarship need and merit-based grant shall be awarded in a higher amount than the need-based grant awarded pursuant to subsection [(e)] (d) of this section. Recipients of the need and merit-based grant shall not be eligible to receive an additional need-based award. The order of institutions of higher education provided by [a] an eligible student on [the] such student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid shall not affect the student's [eligibility] qualification for an award under this subsection. The [accepting] institution of higher education in which an eligible student enrolls shall disburse sums awarded under the need and merit-based grant for payment of [the] such student's eligible educational costs.

[(e)] (d) The Roberta B. Willis Scholarship need-based grant shall be available to any [Connecticut resident who is a full-time or part-time undergraduate] eligible student at any public or independent institution of higher education. The amount of the annual [appropriation] funds to be allocated to each institution of higher education shall be determined by its actual full-time equivalent enrollment of [undergraduate students who are Connecticut residents] eligible students with a family contribution or student aid index during the fall semester of the fiscal year two years prior to the grant year of an amount not greater than two hundred per cent of the maximum family contribution or student aid index eligible for a federal Pell grant award for the academic year one year prior to the grant year. Not later than July first, annually, each institution of higher education shall report such enrollment data to the Office of Higher Education. Not later than October first, annually, the Office of Higher Education shall (1) publish such enrollment data on its Internet web site, [and] (2) notify each institution of higher education of the proportion of the annual [appropriation] funds that such institution of higher education will receive the following fiscal year, and (3) publish the proportions for each institution of higher education on its Internet web site. Participating institutions of higher education shall make awards (A) to eligible full-time students in an amount up to four

House Bill No. 6941

thousand five hundred dollars, and (B) to eligible part-time students in an amount that is prorated according to the number of credits each student will earn for completing the course or courses in which such student is enrolled, such that a student enrolled in a course or courses earning (i) at least nine but less than twelve credits is eligible for up to seventy-five per cent of the maximum award, and (ii) at least six but less than nine credits is eligible for up to fifty per cent of the maximum award. Each participating institution of higher education shall expend all of the moneys received under the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program as direct financial assistance only for eligible educational costs.

[(f)] (e) Participating institutions of higher education shall annually provide the Office of Higher Education with data and reports on all [Connecticut] eligible students who applied for financial aid, including, but not limited to, students receiving a Roberta B. Willis Scholarship grant, in a form and at a time determined by said office. If an institution of higher education fails to submit information to the Office of Higher Education as directed, such institution shall be prohibited from participating in the scholarship program in the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which such institution failed to submit such information. Each participating institution of higher education shall maintain, for a period of not less than three years, records substantiating the reported number of [Connecticut] eligible students and documentation utilized by the institution of higher education in determining [eligibility] qualification of the student grant recipients. Such records shall be subject to audit or review. Funds not obligated by an institution of higher education shall be returned by May first in the fiscal year the grant was made to the Office of Higher Education for reallocation. Financial aid provided to [Connecticut residents] eligible students under this program shall be designated as a grant from the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program.

[(g)] (f) The Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Charter Oak grant shall be

House Bill No. 6941

available to any [full-time or part-time undergraduate] eligible student enrolled in Charter Oak State College. The Office of Higher Education shall allocate any [appropriation] funds to Charter Oak State College to be used to provide grants for eligible educational costs to [residents of this state] eligible students who demonstrate substantial financial need and who are matriculated in a degree program at Charter Oak State College. Individual awards shall not exceed a student's calculated eligible educational costs. Financial aid provided to [Connecticut residents] eligible students under this program shall be designated as a grant from the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program.

[(h)] (g) In administering the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program, the Office of Higher Education shall develop and utilize fiscal procedures designed to ensure accountability of the public funds expended. Such procedures shall include provisions for compliance reviews that shall be conducted by the Office of Higher Education on any institution of higher education that participates in the program. Commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and biennially thereafter, each such institution of higher education shall submit the results of an audit done by an independent certified public accountant for each year of participation in the program. Any institution of higher education determined by the Office of Higher Education not to be in substantial compliance with the provisions of the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program shall be ineligible to receive funds under the program for the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the institution of higher education was determined not to be in substantial compliance. Funding shall be restored when the Office of Higher Education determines that the institution of higher education has returned to substantial compliance.

Sec. 136. Subsection (f) of section 4-89 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(f) The provisions of this section shall not apply to appropriations to (1) the Office of Higher Education for (A) student financial assistance for the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program established under section 10a-173, or (B) the minority advancement program established under subsection (b) of section 10a-11, (2) the Board of Regents for Higher Education for (A) Connecticut higher education centers of excellence established under section 10a-25h, or (B) the debt-free community college program established pursuant to section 10a-174, (3) the operating funds of the constituent units of the state system of higher education established pursuant to sections 10a-105, 10a-99 and 10a-77, or (4) the Connecticut Open Educational Resource Coordinating Council established under section 10a-44d. Such appropriations shall not lapse until the end of the fiscal year succeeding the fiscal year of the appropriation except that (A) centers of excellence appropriations deposited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education in the Endowed Chair Investment Fund, established under section 10a-20a, shall not lapse but shall be held permanently in the Endowed Chair Investment Fund, [and] (B) any moneys remaining in higher education operating funds of the constituent units of the state system of higher education shall not lapse but shall be held permanently in such funds, and (C) any appropriations to the Office of Higher Education for the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program shall not lapse but shall be held permanently for such program. On or before September first, annually, the Office of Higher Education and Board of Regents for Higher Education shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, through the Office of Fiscal Analysis, concerning the amount of each such appropriation carried over from the preceding fiscal year.

Sec. 137. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Biorepository" means a facility that, for laboratory research,

House Bill No. 6941

collects, catalogs and stores samples of biological material from humans, including, but not limited to, urine, blood, tissue, cells, DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid), RNA (ribonucleic acid) and protein, that is coded without individual identifiers and linked with phenotypic data; and

(2) "Phenotypic data" means clinical information about a person, coded without individual identifiers, that includes disease history, symptoms and demographic data including, but not limited to, age, sex, race and ethnicity.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2024, The University of Connecticut Health Center, in collaboration with an independent, nonprofit biomedical research institution in the state engaged in endometriosis research with said health center, shall establish an endometriosis data and biorepository program in the state to enable and promote research regarding (1) early detection of endometriosis in adolescents and adults, and (2) the development of therapeutic strategies to improve clinical management of endometriosis.

(c) The endometriosis data and biorepository program established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall:

(1) (A) Design a comprehensive longitudinal sample and clinical data collection protocol to characterize endometriosis and cellular functions of individuals with endometriosis, and (B) collect from patients with endometriosis and control patients without endometriosis and code (i) endometrial tissue specimens, (ii) fluids, including, but not limited to, blood and urine, and (iii) clinical and demographic data and questionnaires regarding symptoms of endometriosis and quality of life;

(2) (A) Develop standard operating procedures concerning samples of biological material, including, but not limited to, transportation, coding, processing, long-term retention and storage of such samples,

House Bill No. 6941

and (B) establish data transmission and onboarding operations necessary for institutions in the state to participate in banking with and accessing data from the data and biorepository program;

(3) Curate biological samples of endometriosis from a diverse cross-section of communities in the state to ensure representation of all groups affected by endometriosis, including such under-represented populations as African American and black persons, Latino, Latina and Latinx persons, Puerto Rican persons, other persons of color, transgender and gender diverse persons, and persons with disabilities;

(4) Raise awareness regarding endometriosis in such under-represented populations and promote research of better diagnostic and therapeutic options, including through communications with health care providers and persons impacted by endometriosis concerning information about the latest therapeutic options for persons diagnosed with endometriosis;

(5) Create opportunities for collaborative research among institutions in the state focused on the pathogenesis, pathophysiology, progression, prognosis and prevention of endometriosis and the discovery of noninvasive diagnostic biomarkers, novel targeted therapeutics and improved medical and surgical interventions;

(6) Serve as a centralized resource for endometriosis information and a conduit to promote education and raise public awareness regarding endometriosis;

(7) Facilitate collaboration among researchers and health care providers, educators, students, patients and other individuals impacted by endometriosis through conferences and continuing medical education programs regarding best practices for the diagnosis, care and treatment of endometriosis;

(8) Collect information on the impact of endometriosis on residents

House Bill No. 6941

of the state, including, but not limited to, its impact on health and comorbidity, health care costs and overall quality of life; and

(9) Apply for and accept grants, gifts and bequests of funds for the purpose of performing its functions pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (8), inclusive, of this subsection.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, The University of Connecticut Health Center shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, regarding the implementation of the endometriosis data and biorepository program established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

Sec. 138. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3-55i and 3-55j of the general statutes and in addition to any payments made to towns from the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall distribute the amount of twenty thousand dollars from the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund to each of the three tribes identified as The Schaghticoke, the Paucatuck Eastern Pequot and the Golden Hill Paugussett during each fiscal year. Said tribes shall utilize such amounts for the purpose of management of their properties and shall not use such amounts in connection with any legal claim made by said tribe against the state or federal government or to support any petition for federal recognition.

Sec. 139. Subsection (d) of section 12-18b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year

House Bill No. 6941

thereafter:

(1) The total amount of the grants paid to a municipality or fire district pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall not be lower than the total amount of the payment in lieu of taxes grants received by such municipality or fire district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

(2) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subsection for a fiscal year:

(A) Each tier one municipality shall receive [fifty] fifty-three per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section;

(B) Each tier two municipality shall receive [forty] forty-three per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section; and

(C) Each tier three municipality shall receive thirty three per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section.

(3) Each municipality designated as an alliance district pursuant to section 10-262u or in which more than fifty per cent of the property is state-owned real property shall be classified as a tier one municipality.

(4) Each fire district shall receive the same percentage of the grant amount payable to the municipality in which it is located.

(5) (A) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subsection, but such appropriated amount exceeds the amount required for grants

House Bill No. 6941

payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection, the amount of the grant payable to each municipality and fire district shall be increased proportionately.

(B) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subdivisions, the amount of the grant payable to each municipality and fire district shall be reduced proportionately, except that no grant shall be reduced below the amount set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

Sec. 140. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in consultation with the city of Hartford and other interested municipalities, shall study the feasibility of, and recommend options for the provision of, public recreational access to the Batterson Park property located in the city of New Britain and the town of Farmington.

(b) Such study shall evaluate various redevelopment options for such park including, but not limited to, public and public-private partnerships for such redevelopment. The study shall assess: (1) Recreational uses, including passive and active uses, (2) the water quality of Batterson Park Pond, (3) on-site and off-site measures necessary to support swimming in Batterson Park Pond, (4) existing and new infrastructure and capital investments needed to accommodate public recreation and public access to such park, (5) ongoing operation and maintenance costs for such park, (6) any associated public safety concerns, (7) funding needs associated with each redevelopment option, and (8) any other issues or topics the commissioner deems necessary to provide a detailed assessment of the feasibility of different options. In conducting such evaluation and assessment, each parcel of Batterson Park owned by the city of Hartford in the city of New Britain and the

House Bill No. 6941

town of Farmington shall be considered by the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner shall hold not less than one meeting to accept public comments concerning such redevelopment in each of the following municipalities: Hartford, New Britain and Farmington. Not later than fourteen days prior to each such meeting, a notice specifying the time and place of the meeting shall be posted on the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Internet web site and on the Internet web site of the host municipality.

(d) Not later than January 15, 2024, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall submit a report concerning such study, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment.

Sec. 141. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall, upon the availability of funding pursuant to the Clean Water Act or otherwise, develop and administer a program to provide financial assistance to the Metropolitan District of Hartford County for the payment of costs associated with certain repairs and improvements to sewerage systems in the city of Hartford, including, but not limited to, the repair of components of such sewerage system located on private property. The department and the district shall jointly identify projects to undertake pursuant to the program and prioritize those projects that will mitigate or prevent flooding and sewerage back-ups within residential dwellings. Each contract for any such repairs or improvements shall be executed in accordance with the provisions of section 4a-60 of the general statutes.

(b) Not later than February 1, 2024, and monthly thereafter, the Metropolitan District of Hartford County shall submit a report to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the joint

House Bill No. 6941

standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment and planning and development, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report shall include (1) a description of any repairs and improvements begun or completed in the previous month under the program developed pursuant to this section, (2) an itemized accounting of expenditures relating to such repairs and improvements, and (3) a list of any repairs and improvements that the district has begun but has been unable to complete due to permitting issues, and the nature of any such issues. The initial report submitted pursuant to this subsection shall additionally include a detailed description of the scope of all projects the district anticipates undertaking pursuant to the program and an estimated schedule for commencement and completion of each project. After submitting such initial report, the district shall not be required to submit a report for any month in which it did not undertake repairs or improvements pursuant to such program.

(c) The program and associated funding described in subsection (a) of this section shall be separate and distinct from the funding provided to the Metropolitan District of Hartford County pursuant to the Clean Water Act and used exclusively for capital costs associated with any and all measures necessary to comply with a certain consent decree executed by and between the district and the United States Environmental Protection Agency and a certain consent order executed by and between the district and the State of Connecticut relating to the reduction of nitrogen discharged from district wastewater treatment facilities as required by the general permit for nitrogen discharges issued by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection on December 21, 2005, as such decree and order may be amended from time to time.

(d) The program developed pursuant to this section shall terminate upon the exhaustion of the funding made available pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 142. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Comptroller shall establish the Hartford Sewerage System Repair and Improvement Fund. Said fund may contain any moneys required or permitted by law to be deposited in the fund and any funds received from any public or private contributions, gifts, grants, donations, bequests or devises to the fund. The moneys in said fund shall be expended by the Comptroller for the purposes of (1) developing and administering the program established pursuant to section 143 of this act, (2) providing compensation to the administrator appointed pursuant to section 143 of this act, (3) reimbursing the Metropolitan District of Hartford County and eligible applicants for costs associated with providing and hiring inspectors pursuant to section 143 of this act, and (4) providing compensation to any administrator hired pursuant to section 143 of this act.

(b) The city of Hartford may contribute funds to the Hartford Sewerage System Repair and Improvement Fund established pursuant to this section.

Sec. 143. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Comptroller shall develop a grant program to provide financial (1) assistance to eligible owners of real property in the city of Hartford to pay for repairs to such property necessitated by flood damage caused on or after January 1, 2021, and (2) reimbursement to residents of the city of Hartford for costs associated with damage to personal property due to flooding occurring on or after said date.

(b) The Governor shall appoint an administrator to administer the program developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section not later than August 1, 2023. The administrator shall be a resident of the city of Hartford and have experience in environmental justice issues and insurance policy claims determinations. Not later than July 15, 2023, the state representatives and state senators for the city of Hartford shall provide the Governor a list of not fewer than two candidates for consideration and the Governor may select and appoint one of such

House Bill No. 6941

candidates as the administrator or select and appoint a candidate of the Governor's own choosing. The administrator shall be employed pursuant to a personal service agreement and compensated at a per diem rate commensurate with the per diem compensation provided a senior judge pursuant to section 51-47b of the general statutes, for each day's service performed in connection with such appointment.

(c) (1) The administrator shall develop an application process and eligibility criteria for the grant program. Such process and criteria shall be approved by the Comptroller. Such application shall include, but need not be limited to, if applicable, a copy of any determination made on any claim for such damage against any property and casualty insurance policy issued to an applicant, including any amounts paid to such applicant pursuant to such claim. Such eligibility criteria shall include, but need not be limited to, requirements that any such property owner (A) is a resident of the city of Hartford, and (B) owned real or personal property in the city of Hartford that was damaged by flooding on or after January 1, 2021. No applicant shall be deemed ineligible solely because such (i) applicant's property was not insured at the time such damage occurred, or (ii) applicant did not receive payment pursuant to any such claim.

(2) The administrator shall review applications for participation in the grant program and determine each applicant's eligibility for the grant program in accordance with the eligibility criteria developed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection not later than thirty days after receipt of any such application.

(3) If the administrator determines that an applicant requesting assistance to pay for repairs to real property is eligible, (A) an inspector employed by the Metropolitan District of Hartford County, or (B) at such eligible applicant's option, an inspector with experience assessing flood damage who is approved by the administrator and hired by such eligible applicant, shall evaluate the damage to the applicant's property

House Bill No. 6941

and provide a report concerning such damage to the administrator. Such report shall be in a form and manner prescribed by the administrator, and shall include, but need not be limited to, a description of the damage to such eligible applicant's property and the estimated cost to repair such damage. Not later than thirty days after the receipt of such report, the administrator may award a grant to the eligible applicant in accordance with a formula established by the Comptroller, which shall include a reduction in the amount of any such award equal to any payments received by the applicant pursuant to any claim made against a property and casualty insurance policy held by such applicant for such damage.

(4) Not later than thirty days after a determination that an applicant is eligible for reimbursement for costs associated with damage to personal property pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the administrator shall award a grant to the eligible applicant in accordance with a formula established by the Comptroller, which may include a reduction in the amount of any such award equal to any payments received by the applicant pursuant to any claim made against a property and casualty insurance policy held by such applicant for such damage.

(5) Any eligible applicant that hires a licensed inspector pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection may request reimbursement for the costs of such inspection in a form and manner prescribed by the administrator. The administrator shall reimburse such eligible applicant for any such reasonable costs.

(d) Any applicant may appeal a decision of the administrator concerning such applicant's eligibility for the grant program or the amount of an award granted to such applicant, to the Comptroller, in accordance with procedures set forth by the Comptroller. Any such appeal shall be made not later than thirty days after the issuance of such decision and any decision concerning any such appeal shall be final. The Comptroller may hire an administrator for the purpose of conducting

House Bill No. 6941

such appeals. Findings of the administrator made pursuant to subdivisions (3) and (4) of subsection (c) of this section shall not be admissible in any administrative or judicial proceeding.

(e) Upon the request of a tenant residing in a residential building or occupying a commercial property that was damaged by flooding on or after January 1, 2021, the administrator shall notify the owner of such residential building of the availability of the program developed and administered pursuant to this section by mail or electronic mail, if such owner's mailing address or electronic mail address are known to the administrator.

(f) The program established pursuant to this section shall terminate upon the exhaustion of the Hartford Sewerage System Repair and Improvement Fund established pursuant to section 142 of this act.

Sec. 144. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Metropolitan District of Hartford County shall designate an employee of the district to serve as a community outreach liaison. Such employee shall (1) respond to inquiries relating to the grant program developed in section 143 of this act, (2) assist owners of real and personal property in applying to participate in such program, and (3) engage in activities to promote community awareness of the availability of such program, including, but not limited to, contacting individuals known to have experienced real or personal property damage due to flooding and sewerage back-up issues in order to provide information concerning the grant program and the availability of licensed inspectors.

Sec. 145. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2024, the city of Hartford and Metropolitan District of Hartford County shall jointly submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment and planning and development and the Department of Energy and

House Bill No. 6941

Environmental Protection. Such report shall include a description of (1) the status of any long-term projects planned or underway in the city of Hartford that are intended to improve the city's sewerage or stormwater infrastructure, and (2) the city and district's plan to mitigate or prevent future flooding issues, which shall include, but need not be limited to, an analysis of the feasibility of investing in green infrastructure. Such report shall be published on the Internet web sites of the department and the district.

Sec. 146. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 142 of this act, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the Comptroller shall provide a grant-in-aid in the amount of seventy-five thousand dollars from the Hartford Sewerage System Repair and Improvement Fund, established pursuant to section 142 of this act, to the Blue Hills Civic Association for the purposes of community outreach services concerning assistance for property repair and reimbursement for costs associated with damage to property caused by flooding in the city of Hartford.

Sec. 147. Section 19a-132 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer [Health and Human Services] Justice and Opportunity Network to make recommendations to the state legislative, executive and judicial branches of government concerning the delivery of [health and human] access and opportunity services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons in the state.

(b) The network shall work to build a more just, safer and healthier environment for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer persons by (1) conducting a needs analysis, within available appropriations, (2) collecting additional data on the [health and human services] access and opportunity needs of such persons as necessary, (3) informing state

House Bill No. 6941

policy through reports submitted at least biennially, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary, public health, human services, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, other legislative committees as necessary, the Governor and the Chief Court Administrator, and (4) building organizational member capacity, leadership and advocacy across the geographic and social spectrum of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community.

(c) The network shall include, but need not be limited to, the following members, or their designees:

(1) The president of Connecticut Latinas/os Achieving Rights and Opportunities (CLARO);

(2) The executive director of the Safe Harbor Project;

(3) The executive director of the New Haven Pride Center;

[(4) The executive director of True Colors, Inc.;

[(5)] (4) The executive director of the Triangle Community Center in Norwalk;

[(6)] (5) The executive director of [AIDS Connecticut] Advancing CT Together;

[(7)] (6) The executive director of the Connecticut chapter of the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN);

[(8)] (7) The executive director of the Rainbow Center at The University of Connecticut;

[(9)] (8) The executive director of the Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective;

House Bill No. 6941

[(10)] (9) The executive director of the Connecticut Transadvocacy Coalition;

[(11)] (10) The president of OutCT in New London;

[(12)] (11) The executive director of the Queer Unity Empowerment Support Team;

[(13)] (12) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity;

[(14)] (13) A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer physician, licensed pursuant to chapter 370, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

[(15)] An LGBT Veteran Care coordinator assigned to a health care facility in the state administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(16) (14) A member of the LGBT Aging Advocacy coalition, appointed by the Governor; [and]

[(17)] (15) The president of Connecticut Community Care;

(16) The executive director of A Place to Nourish Your Health;

(17) The executive director of Kamora's Cultural Corner;

(18) A lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer provider of mental health services, licensed pursuant to chapter 370 or 383;

(19) The executive director of Apex Community Care; and

(20) The executive director of Queer Youth Program of Connecticut.

(d) Members shall serve at the will of the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate, who may

House Bill No. 6941

each appoint additional members and set term limits for each member. Appointments to the network shall be made not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. Members shall choose chairpersons. Any vacancy shall be filled by the speaker of the House of Representatives, acting in consultation with the president pro tempore of the Senate.

(e) The administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall, within available appropriations, provide administrative support to the network.

Sec. 148. Section 10-183vv of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) There is established the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund, [which shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund, including, but not limited to, deposits from the Connecticut Lottery Corporation in accordance with section 12-812.] The purpose of the fund shall be to provide, and it is determined that such fund does provide, adequate provision for the protection of the holders of bonds of the state issued pursuant to section 10-183qq and any bonds refunding such bonds. The fund shall secure the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds and shall be held in trust for the benefit of the holders of the bonds secured thereby, separate and apart from other funds of the state.

(2) The fund established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall contain (A) any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund, including, but not limited to, deposits from the Connecticut Lottery Corporation in accordance with section 12-812, and (B) any financial guaranty or guaranties obtained by the Treasurer for purposes of the fund, which may include any letter of credit, surety bond, insurance policy, guaranty or similar instrument, issued by a bond or insurance company or other financial institution that has a long-term

House Bill No. 6941

rating within the top two rating categories of at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization at the time of issuance of such financial guaranty, as determined by the Treasurer to be in the best interest of the state. Such financial guaranty shall be in a form prescribed by the Treasurer, valued at par and payable or available to be drawn upon on or before any date by which debt service on the bonds secured thereby is required to be paid. In connection with such financial guaranty, the Treasurer may enter into any other necessary or appropriate agreements on behalf of the state, including intercreditor provisions if there is more than one financial guaranty. The Treasurer may pledge the full faith and credit of the state, and pledge the moneys required to be deposited in the fund to the state's payment obligations under any agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision. As part of the contract of the state with the other parties to any agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision for which the full faith and credit of the state is pledged to the state's payment obligations under such agreement, appropriation of all amounts necessary for the punctual payment of the obligations of the state under any such agreement is hereby made and the Treasurer shall pay such amounts as the same become due. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the costs of any agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision may be paid from amounts in the fund.

(3) The Superior Court shall have jurisdiction to enter judgment against the state founded upon any agreement entered into pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. Any action brought under this subdivision shall be brought in the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford. The jurisdiction conferred on the Superior Court by this subdivision includes any set-off, claim or demand on the part of the state against any plaintiff commencing an action under this subdivision. Such action shall be tried to the court without a jury. All legal defenses, except governmental immunity, shall be reserved to the state. Any action brought under this subdivision shall be privileged in respect to

House Bill No. 6941

assignment for trial upon motion of either party.

(4) After obtaining a financial guaranty or guaranties pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, if the moneys deposited in the fund, together with the amount available under such financial guaranty or guaranties, exceeds the required minimum capital reserve, the amount of such excess may be released as provided in subsection (d) of this section. It is determined that the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund, if so funded in whole or in part by such a financial guaranty or guaranties, continues to provide, and does provide, adequate provision for the protection of the holders of bonds of the state issued pursuant to section 10-183qq and any bonds refunding such bonds.

(5) During any period when any bonds secured by the fund remain outstanding, amounts on deposit in the fund or available under a financial guaranty shall not be commingled with other state funds and the state shall have no claim to or against, or interest in, the fund, except as hereinafter provided. Amounts in such fund shall be deposited in a separate account or accounts in a trust company or bank having the powers of a trust company within the state, which shall serve as the trustee of the fund. The Treasurer shall enter into an agreement with such trust company or bank in accordance with the provisions of this section, sections 10-183b, 10-183z, 10-183ww, 12-801, 12-806 and 12-812 and section 90 of public act 19-117.

(b) The moneys held in the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund or available under a financial guaranty, except as provided in this section, shall be pledged to payment on bonds secured by the fund and shall be used solely for the payment of the principal of bonds secured by the fund as such bonds become due by reason of maturity or sinking fund redemption, the purchase of such bonds, the payment of interest on such bonds and the payment of any redemption premium required to be paid when such

House Bill No. 6941

bonds are redeemed prior to maturity. In the event the state has not otherwise timely made available moneys to pay principal or interest due on such bonds, the Treasurer shall direct the trustee of the fund to transfer from the fund to the paying agent for such bonds, or draw under such financial guaranty, to the extent available therefor, the amount necessary to timely pay such principal or interest then due. Except for the payment of the principal of bonds secured by the fund as such bonds become due and the payment of interest on such bonds, no moneys shall be withdrawn from the fund in such amount as would reduce the total amount on deposit in the fund plus the amount available under a financial guaranty or guaranties to less than the required minimum capital reserve. The pledge made by the state pursuant to this section shall be valid and binding from the time when the pledge is made. The lien of such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the state, irrespective of whether the parties have notice of the claims. Notwithstanding any provision of the Uniform Commercial Code, no instrument by which such pledge is created need be recorded or filed. Any moneys so pledged and later received by the state shall be subject immediately to the lien of the pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act and such lien shall have priority over all other liens. For the purpose of evaluation of such fund, obligations acquired as an investment shall be valued at market. For purposes of this section, "required minimum capital reserve" means the maximum amount of principal and interest becoming due on bonds of the state issued pursuant to section 10-183qq, and any bonds refunding such bonds then outstanding, by reason of maturity or a required sinking fund installment in any succeeding fiscal year.

(c) The amounts payable from the Connecticut Lottery Corporation into such fund as provided in section 12-812 shall be sufficient for the payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds secured by the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve

House Bill No. 6941

Fund when due, whether at maturity or by mandatory sinking fund installments.

(d) The Treasurer shall certify to the Governor, the Teachers' Retirement Board and the president of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation whenever the total amount on deposit in the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund [when such amount first equals or] plus the amount available under a financial guaranty or guaranties exceeds the required minimum capital reserve [. Whenever the amount on deposit in the fund is in excess of the required minimum capital reserve, the Treasurer may] and then shall direct the trustee for the fund to remit to the Treasurer for deposit into the [General Fund any amount in excess of the required minimum capital reserve] Connecticut Baby Bond Trust, established under section 3-36b, any such excess amount.

(e) The Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund shall terminate and, after payment of any payment obligations under any agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, upon direction of the Treasurer, any moneys remaining therein shall be transferred to the [Budget Reserve Fund, established in section 4-30a] Connecticut Baby Bond Trust: (1) Upon payment in full of the principal and interest on all bonds secured by the fund; (2) if there has been deposited in an irrevocable trust for the benefit of the holders of the bonds secured by the fund either (A) moneys in an amount that shall be sufficient to pay, when due, the principal of and interest on such bonds, and any redemption premium required to be paid when such bonds are redeemed prior to maturity, or (B) noncallable and nonprepayable direct obligations of, or obligations the timely payment of principal of and interest on which are unconditionally guaranteed by, the United States of America, the principal of and the interest on which when due, without reinvestment, will provide moneys that together with the moneys, if any, deposited with the trustee at the same time,

House Bill No. 6941

shall be sufficient to pay when due the principal of and interest on such bonds, and any redemption premium required to be paid when such bonds are redeemed prior to maturity; or (3) if the amount of the annual required contribution to the fund for the Connecticut teachers' retirement system is determined in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 10-183l and section 10-183z, as such sections were in effect on April 30, 2008. [; or (4) if the Teachers' Retirement Board fails to approve the credited interest percentage for member accounts and return assumption in accordance with subsection (a) of section 10-183ww] The Treasurer shall direct the trustee of the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund to enter into such contract with the trustee of the Connecticut Baby Bond Trust as the Treasurer deems necessary or appropriate to provide for such transfer so as to protect the interest of beneficiaries of the Connecticut Baby Bond Trust, subject to the use of amounts in the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund for purposes of paying principal and interest on bonds secured by the fund.

(f) Pending the use or application of amounts in the fund, moneys in the fund may be invested and reinvested at the direction of the Treasurer in such obligations, securities and investments as are set forth in subsection (f) of section 3-20 and in participation certificates in the Short Term Investment Fund created under section 3-27a.

(g) The state pledges to the holders of the bonds of the state issued pursuant to section 10-183qq, and any bonds refunding such bonds, that the state shall not limit or alter the rights of such holders under this section or reduce the transfer or deposit of moneys into the fund pursuant to section 10-183ww or section 12-812 until all such bonds are fully paid or until provision for the payment of such bonds has been made as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this section, provided nothing contained in this section shall preclude such limitation, alteration or reduction if adequate provision is made by law

House Bill No. 6941

for the protection of the holders of such bonds.

Sec. 149. Section 3-36a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

As used in this section and sections 3-36b to [3-36i] 3-36h, inclusive:

(1) "Designated beneficiary" means an individual born on or after July 1, 2023, whose birth was subject to medical coverage provided under HUSKY Health, as defined in section 17b-290;

(2) "Eligible expenditure" means an expenditure associated with any of the following, each as prescribed by the Treasurer: (A) Education of a designated beneficiary; (B) purchase of a home in Connecticut by a designated beneficiary; (C) investment in a business in Connecticut by a designated beneficiary; or (D) any investment in financial assets or personal capital that provides long-term gains to wages or wealth; and

(3) "Trust" means the Connecticut Baby Bond Trust.

Sec. 150. Section 3-36b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Commencing July 1, 2023, there is established the Connecticut Baby Bond Trust. The trust shall constitute an instrumentality of the state and shall perform essential governmental functions as provided in sections 3-36a to 3-36h, inclusive. The trust shall receive and hold all payments and deposits or contributions intended for the trust, as well as gifts, bequests, endowments or federal, state or local grants and any other funds from any public or private source and all earnings until disbursed in accordance with [section] sections 3-36c, 3-36d and 3-36g.

(b) The amounts on deposit in the trust shall not constitute property of the state and the trust shall not be construed to be a department, institution or agency of the state. Amounts on deposit in the trust shall

House Bill No. 6941

not be commingled with state funds and the state shall have no claim to or against, or interest in, such funds. Any contract entered into by or any obligation of the trust shall not constitute a debt or obligation of the state and the state shall have no obligation to any designated beneficiary or any other person on account of the trust and all amounts obligated to be paid from the trust shall be limited to amounts available for such obligation on deposit in the trust. The amounts on deposit in the trust may only be disbursed in accordance with the provisions of [section] sections 3-36c, 3-36d and 3-36g. The trust shall continue in existence as long as it holds any deposits or has any obligations and until its existence is terminated by law and upon termination any unclaimed assets shall return to the state. Property of the trust shall not be governed by section 3-61a.

(c) The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt, maintenance, administration, investing and disbursements of amounts from the trust. The trust shall not receive deposits in any form other than cash.

Sec. 151. Section 3-36c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The Treasurer, on behalf of the trust and for purposes of the trust, may:

(1) Receive and invest moneys in the trust in any instruments, obligations, securities or property in accordance with section 3-36d;

(2) Enter into one or more contractual agreements, including contracts for legal, actuarial, accounting, custodial, advisory, management, administrative, advertising, marketing and consulting services for the trust and pay for such services from the assets of the trust;

(3) Procure insurance in connection with the trust's property, assets, activities or deposits to the trust;

House Bill No. 6941

(4) Apply for, accept and expend gifts, grants or donations from public or private sources to enable the trust to carry out its objectives;

(5) Adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 for purposes of sections 3-36b to [3-36i] 3-36h, inclusive;

(6) Sue and be sued;

(7) Establish one or more funds within the trust; and

(8) Take any other action necessary to carry out the purposes of sections 3-36b to [3-36i] 3-36h, inclusive, and incidental to the duties imposed on the Treasurer pursuant to said sections.

Sec. 152. Section 3-36e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[The property of the trust and the earnings on] Disbursements from the trust shall be exempt from all taxation by the state and all political subdivisions of the state.

Sec. 153. Section 18-85 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) The Commissioner of Correction, after consultation with the Commissioner of Administrative Services and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, shall establish a schedule of compensation for services performed on behalf of the state by inmates of any institution or facility of the department. Such schedule shall (1) recognize degrees of merit, diligence and skill in order to encourage inmate incentive and industry, and (2) establish a pay range of not less than five dollars per week, but not greater than ten dollars per week.

(b) Compensation so earned shall be deposited, under the direction of the Commissioner of Correction, in an account in a savings bank or state bank and trust company in this state or an account administered

House Bill No. 6941

by the State Treasurer. Any compensation so earned shall be paid to the inmate on the inmate's release from incarceration in the form of a debit card, except that the commissioner may, while the inmate is in custody, disburse any compensation earned by such inmate in accordance with the following priorities: (1) Federal taxes due; (2) restitution or payment of compensation to a crime victim ordered by any court of competent jurisdiction; (3) payment of a civil judgment rendered in favor of a crime victim by any court of competent jurisdiction; (4) victims compensation through the criminal injuries account administered by the Office of Victim Services; (5) state taxes due; (6) support of the inmate's dependents, if any; (7) the inmate's necessary travel expense to and from work and other incidental expenses; (8) costs of such inmate's incarceration under section 18-85a and regulations adopted in accordance with said section; and (9) payment to the clerk of the court in which an inmate, confined in a correctional facility only for payment of a fine, was convicted, such portion of such compensation as is necessary to pay such fine. Any interest that accrues shall be credited to any institutional fund established for the welfare of inmates. Compensation under this section shall be in addition to any compensation received or credited under section 18-50.

Sec. 154. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) As used in this section:

(1) "Food insecurity" means a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to sufficient and nutritionally adequate food;

(2) "Food insecurity program" means a nutrition program in the state intended for households with limited or uncertain access to sufficient and nutritionally adequate food;

(3) "Food desert" means an area identified as a food desert in the Food Access Research Atlas produced by the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service;

House Bill No. 6941

(4) "Food as medicine" means nutritional and meal preparation planning directed by a qualified health professional to treat chronic health conditions, including, but not limited to, cardiovascular conditions, cardiopulmonary conditions, prediabetes, diabetes, obesity and renal conditions.

(5) "Food recovery organization" means a public or private entity, including, but not limited to, a community-based organization, food bank, food pantry or soup kitchen, that, on a nonprofit basis and in the ordinary course of such entity's business or operations, provides nutritional assistance to individuals in the state who are in need of such assistance, free of charge; and

(6) "Nutritionally adequate food" means food that provides sufficient nutrients and proteins consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Sec. 155. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on Legislative Management pursuant to section 2-127 of the general statutes, shall recruit and employ a person to serve as a food and nutrition policy analyst to help coordinate efforts in the state to reduce food insecurity, reduce or eliminate the number of food deserts, promote food as medicine and provide data on access to nutritionally adequate food.

(b) The food and nutrition policy analyst shall, at a minimum, have a bachelor's degree in public health or public administration or equivalent experience in food and health policy, including, but not limited to, demonstrated knowledge of food insecurity issues, the impact of the availability of nutritionally adequate food on public health, and policies surrounding Medicaid coverage of food as medicine. Duties of the

House Bill No. 6941

analyst shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Creating an interactive program that allows a user to insert a home address and receive data on local food recovery organizations, food insecurity programs, farmers markets, supermarkets and information on available government programs, including, but not limited to, supplemental nutrition assistance, the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children and free or reduced cost school meal programs;

(2) Creating an interactive map program that provides comparative food insecurity data by city, county or census tract within the state by average distance that must be traveled within such area for nutritionally adequate food, number and location of food deserts and costs of nutritionally adequate food in such area compared to the state or county average of such cost;

(3) Creating a database and updating such database not less frequently than every two years listing food recovery organizations, food insecurity programs, supermarket locations and agricultural producers of food available for sale directly to the public;

(4) Producing and submitting to the executive director an annual report on the state of food insecurity in the state;

(5) Administering a community-focused work group comprised of an equal number of representatives from local food recovery organizations, local food insecurity programs, local supermarket owners, agricultural producers of food and representatives of other working groups appointed by the General Assembly or executive branch to develop new best practices and initiatives concerning food security;

(6) Promoting public awareness of access to nutritionally adequate food and food as medicine, including planning public events focused on solutions to food insecurity; and

House Bill No. 6941

(7) Working with state agencies involved in food security efforts and the executive director and staff of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity to enhance public health by promoting equitable access to nutritionally adequate food.

(c) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall include on the commission's Internet web site links to any programs, data and reports produced by the food and nutrition policy analyst pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. Not later than January 15, 2024, and annually thereafter, the food and nutrition policy analyst shall compile such data into a report and the executive director shall submit the report along with recommendations to reduce food insecurity, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, the environment, human services, planning and development and public health.

Sec. 156. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Bona fide labor organization" means a labor union that is representing or actively seeking to represent grocery store workers in the state with the following factors indicative, but not determinative, of a finding that a labor organization is a bona fide labor organization: The organization (A) represents employees in this state with regard to wages, hours and working conditions, (B) has officers elected by a secret ballot or otherwise in a manner consistent with federal law, (C) is free of domination or interference by any employer and has received no improper assistance or support from any employer, (D) has been recognized or certified as the bargaining representative for grocery store employees in the state, (E) has executed a current collective bargaining agreement or agreements with grocery store employers in the state, (F) has spent resources as part of a current and active attempt or attempts to organize and represent grocery store workers in the state, (G) has filed

House Bill No. 6941

the annual report required by 29 USC 431(b) for the three years immediately preceding any labor peace agreement entered into with a grocery store seeking a tax abatement pursuant to this section, (H) has audited financial reports for the three years immediately preceding any labor peace agreement entered into with a grocery store seeking a tax abatement pursuant to this section, (I) has written bylaws or a constitution for the three years immediately preceding any labor peace agreement entered into with a grocery store seeking a tax abatement pursuant to this section, and (J) is affiliated with a regional or national association of unions, including, but not limited to, central labor councils.

(2) "Food desert" means an area identified as a food desert in the Food Access Research Atlas produced by the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service.

(3) "Grocery store" means a retail facility (A) (i) at which at least ninety per cent of square footage is used for the display and sale of food products with (ii) at least twenty per cent of such square footage used to display and sell fresh produce, dairy and meat products; and (B) that is constructed, rehabilitated, remodeled or refurbished in accordance with the prevailing wage standard for the same work in the same trade or occupation in the town in which such construction, remodeling or refurbishment project is being undertaken.

(4) "Labor peace agreement" means an agreement between the business owner or operator of a grocery store and a bona fide labor organization, which requires, for the duration of the agreement, that (A) any participating bona fide labor organization and its members agree to refrain from (i) picketing, (ii) work stoppages, (iii) boycotts, or (iv) other economic interference against the business; and (B) the business owner agrees to (i) maintain a neutral posture with respect to efforts of any participating bona fide labor organization to represent employees at the grocery store, (ii) permit the labor organization to have access to the

House Bill No. 6941

employees, and (iii) guarantee to the labor organization the right to obtain recognition as the exclusive collective bargaining representative of the employees at such grocery store by demonstrating that a majority of workers at such store have shown their preference for the labor organization to be their representative by signing authorization cards indicating such preference.

(b) Any municipality may, by ordinance, provide for the abatement, in part or in whole, of real property taxes on any new grocery store established in a food desert for the assessment years beginning on October 1, 2023, and October 1, 2024, provided any grocery store exceeding twenty thousand square feet in size shall be required to enter into a labor peace agreement with any bona fide labor organization that is representing or actively seeking to represent the grocery store's employees in order to be eligible for such abatement. Such ordinance shall prescribe any additional requirements for such abatement and an application process.

Sec. 157. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) The state, acting by and in the discretion of the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, may, within available appropriations, enter into a contract with a municipality for state financial assistance in the form of a state grant-in-aid to the municipality not to exceed the amount of taxes abated by the municipality pursuant to section 156 of this act for the assessment years beginning on October 1, 2023, and October 1, 2024. Such grant-in-aid shall be paid to the municipality in an amount not to exceed the amount of taxes abated for each such year.

Sec. 158. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section, (1) "food desert" and "grocery store" have the same meanings as provided in section 156 of this act, and (2) "nutritionally adequate food" has the same meaning as provided in section 154 of this act.

(b) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,

House Bill No. 6941

in consultation with the Commissioner of Agriculture, shall develop a strategic plan to (1) provide incentives for the construction of a grocery store in a food desert, and (2) expand opportunities for residents of food deserts to gain access to nutritionally adequate food.

(c) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall file a report on the strategic plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, not later than January 1, 2024, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, the environment, finance, revenue and bonding, human services and planning and development.

Sec. 159. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Firefighter" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-313g of the general statutes;

(2) "Compensation" has the same meaning as provided in section 31-275 of the general statutes;

(3) "Municipal employer" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-467 of the general statutes; and

(4) "Interior structural firefighter" means an individual who performs fire suppression, fire rescue, or both, either inside of buildings or in closed structures that are involved in a fire station beyond the incident stage.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 568 of the general statutes, a firefighter diagnosed with any condition of cancer affecting the brain, skeletal system, digestive system, endocrine system, respiratory system, lymphatic system, reproductive system, urinary system or hematological system resulting in such firefighter's death or temporary or permanent total or partial disability, or such firefighter's

House Bill No. 6941

dependents, as the case may be, shall receive (1) compensation and benefits from the account, established pursuant to section 7-313h of the general statutes, in the same amount and in the same manner that would be provided under chapter 568 of the general statutes if such death or disability was caused by a personal injury which arose out of and in the course of such firefighter's employment and was suffered in the line of duty and within the scope of such firefighter's employment, and (2) (A) the same retirement or survivor benefits, from the municipal or state retirement system under which such firefighter is covered, or (B) the disability benefits available from the Connecticut State Firefighters Association pursuant to section 3-123 of the general statutes, that would have been paid under such system if such death or disability was caused by a personal injury which arose out of and in the course of such firefighter's employment and was suffered in the line of duty and within the scope of such firefighter's employment, provided such firefighter has:

(i) Submitted to a physical examination subsequent to such member's entry into service that failed to reveal any evidence of or a propensity for such cancer;

(ii) Has not used cigarettes, as defined in section 12-285 of the general statutes, during the fifteen-year period prior to such diagnosis;

(iii) Was employed for at least five years as (I) an interior structural firefighter at a paid municipal, state or volunteer fire department, or (II) a local fire marshal, deputy fire marshal, fire investigator, fire inspector or such other class of inspectors or investigators for whom the State Fire Marshal and the Codes and Standards Committee, acting jointly, have adopted minimum standards of qualification pursuant to section 29-298 of the general statutes; and

(iv) Has submitted to annual medical health screenings as recommended by such firefighter's medical provider.

House Bill No. 6941

(c) Any individual who is no longer actively serving as a firefighter but who otherwise would be eligible for compensation or benefits pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section may apply for such benefits or compensation not more than five years from the date such individual last served as a firefighter.

(d) To apply for compensation or benefits pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, a firefighter shall provide notice to the Workers' Compensation Commission and the municipality in which such firefighter is employed, in the same manner as workers' compensation claims under chapter 568 of the general statutes.

(e) (1) The municipality in which the firefighter is employed shall administer claims submitted pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section in the same manner as workers' compensation claims under chapter 568 of the general statutes. Such municipality shall (A) pay to the firefighter the compensation or benefits such firefighter is entitled to, and (B) submit, in a form and manner provided by the State Treasurer, an application for reimbursement from the firefighters cancer relief account. Payments for reimbursement shall be processed not later than forty five days after such application is received.

(2) Any costs associated with a firefighter's treatment of cancer that are not covered by such firefighter's personal or group health insurance shall be reimbursed, pursuant to this subsection, by the firefighters cancer relief account.

(3) If the firefighters cancer relief account becomes insolvent, a municipality shall have no obligation to continue providing compensation and benefits pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section and subsection (c) of this section.

(f) A firefighter may request that a denial of compensation or benefits made pursuant to subsection (e) of this section be reconsidered in the

House Bill No. 6941

same manner as workers' compensation claims under chapter 568 of the general statutes.

(g) If a physical examination was required by an employer at the time of the firefighter's employment, as a condition for such employment, or required annually for means of continued employment, a firefighter shall not be required to show proof of such examination in the maintenance of a claim under subsection (b) or (c) of this section or under such municipal or state retirement system.

(h) Any benefits provided under subsection (b) or (c) of this section shall be offset by any other benefits a firefighter or such firefighter's dependents may be entitled to receive from such firefighter's municipal employer under the provisions of chapter 568 of the general statutes or the municipal or state retirement system under which they are covered as a result of any condition or impairment of health caused by occupational cancer resulting in such firefighter's death or permanent total or partial disability.

(i) The State Treasurer shall have the authority to audit reimbursements provided by the account pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

(j) No payment of compensation made under this section shall be used as evidence in support of any future claim under chapter 568 of the general statutes.

(k) Except as provided in subsections (l) and (m) of this section, any firefighter that receives compensation under this section shall be prohibited from filing a claim under chapter 568 of the general statutes for a diagnosis of cancer.

(l) If the firefighters cancer relief account becomes insolvent, a firefighter that was receiving compensation under this section may file a claim under chapter 568 of the general statutes, within one year of

House Bill No. 6941

receiving notice from the municipality of the firefighters cancer relief account becoming insolvent, for continuation of compensation.

(m) (1) Any survivors of a firefighter that has died from cancer and was receiving compensation under this section may file a claim under chapter 568 of the general statutes within one year of such firefighter's death. Until such claim is approved, such survivor shall continue to receive benefits from the firefighters cancer relief account.

(2) If the survivors of a firefighter that has died from cancer and was receiving compensation under this section do not file a claim under chapter 568 of the general statutes within one year of such firefighter's death, such survivors may continue to receive benefits from the firefighters cancer relief account.

Sec. 160. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a firefighters cancer relief fund advisory committee to annually evaluate the financial solvency of the firefighters cancer relief account established in section 7-313h of the general statutes. Such evaluation shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) analyzing the fund balance, claims data and the quarterly report provided by the State Treasurer pursuant to section 161 of this act, (2) identifying the need for a new funding mechanism for the firefighters cancer relief account, and (3) determining the necessity of purchasing insurance to help maintain the solvency of the account.

(b) The advisory committee shall consist of the following members:

(1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall have experience in investment fund management;

(2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall have expertise in the state's workers' compensation program;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of

House Bill No. 6941

Representatives, who shall have expertise in maintaining solvency;

(4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall have expertise in making investments;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(7) Two representatives of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities;

(8) One representative of the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut;

(9) One representative of the Connecticut State Firefighters Association;

(10) The State Treasurer, or the State Treasurer's designee;

(11) The Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee; and

(12) One representative of the Governor's office.

(c) Any member of the advisory committee appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the advisory committee shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the advisory committee from among the members of the advisory committee. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the advisory committee,

House Bill No. 6941

which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees shall serve as administrative staff of the advisory committee.

(g) Not later than January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the advisory committee shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 161. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Connecticut State Firefighters Association, shall submit a report to the advisory committee established pursuant to section 160 of this act on the status of the firefighters cancer relief account established pursuant to section 7-313h of the general statutes and the firefighters cancer relief program established pursuant to section 7-313j of the general statutes. Such report shall include (1) the balance of the account, (2) the projected and actual participation in the program, and (3) the demographic information of each firefighter who receives benefits pursuant to such program, including gender, age, town of residence and income level.

(b) If the State Treasurer determines that the firefighters cancer relief account is approaching insolvency, the State Treasurer shall provide notice to (1) all municipalities currently providing compensation pursuant to section 159 of this act, (2) the Governor's office, (3) the Workers' Compensation Commission, and (4) the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 162. Section 7-313h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established an account to be known as the "firefighters cancer relief account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by (1) the cancer relief subcommittee of the Connecticut State Firefighters Association, established pursuant to section 7-313i, for the purposes of providing wage replacement benefits to firefighters who are diagnosed with a condition of cancer described in section 7-313j, and (2) by the State Treasurer for purposes of providing reimbursement to municipalities that provide compensation and benefits to firefighters diagnosed with a condition of cancer in accordance with section 159 of this act.

(b) The State Treasurer shall invest the moneys deposited in the firefighters cancer relief account in a manner reasonable and appropriate to achieve the objectives of such account, exercising the discretion and care of a prudent person in similar circumstances with similar objectives. The State Treasurer shall give due consideration to rate of return, risk, term or maturity, diversification of the total portfolio within such account, liquidity, the projected disbursements and expenditures, and the expected payments, deposits, contributions and gifts to be received. The moneys in such account shall be continuously invested and reinvested in a manner consistent with the objectives of such account until disbursed in accordance with [section] sections 3-123 and [section] 7-313i and section 159 of this act.

(c) The moneys in the firefighters cancer relief account shall be used solely for the purposes of (1) providing wage replacement benefits to firefighters who are diagnosed with a condition of cancer described in section 7-313j, (2) providing reimbursement to municipalities for payment of compensation and benefits as described in section 159 of this

House Bill No. 6941

act, and (3) to fund the expenses of administering the firefighters cancer relief program established pursuant to section 7-313j and section 159 of this act.

Sec. 163. Section 31-22r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) (1) Each person who registered as an apprentice with the Labor Department before July 1, 2003, and has not completed an apprenticeship as of July 9, 2003, shall pay to the Labor Department a registration fee of twenty-five dollars on or before July 1, 2003, and a renewal registration fee of twenty-five dollars on or before July first of each subsequent year until (A) such registration is withdrawn, or (B) such person has completed an apprenticeship and possesses a valid journeyman card of occupational license, if required.

(2) Each person who initially registers as an apprentice with the Labor Department on or after July 1, 2003, shall pay to the Labor Department a registration fee of fifty dollars at the time of registration and an annual renewal registration fee of fifty dollars until (A) such registration is withdrawn, or (B) such person has completed an apprenticeship and possesses a valid journeyman card of occupational license, if required.

(b) Each person sponsoring an apprenticeship program registered with the Labor Department as of July 1, 2003, shall pay to the Labor Department an annual registration fee of sixty dollars for each apprentice participating in such program until the apprentice has completed the apprenticeship and possesses a valid journeyman card of occupational license, if required, or such program is cancelled by the sponsor or deregistered for cause by the Labor Department in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter, whichever is earlier.

House Bill No. 6941

(c) Each person sponsoring an apprenticeship program registered with the Labor Department as of or on or after July 1, 2024, shall annually submit the following information along with such sponsor's annual registration fee: (1) The current minimum completion rate of such sponsor's apprenticeship program, (2) the number of registered apprentices currently participating in such sponsor's program, (3) the number of licensed journeypersons currently employed by such sponsor, (4) the number of registered apprentices participating in such program who have advanced a year since the date of such sponsor's previous registration, or year to date for new sponsors, (5) the number of apprentices who have separated from such sponsor's program since the date of such sponsor's previous registration, or year to date for new sponsors, (6) the number of apprentices who have completed an apprenticeship program with such sponsor since the date of such sponsor's previous registration, or year to date for new sponsors, and (7) the number of apprentices who completed such sponsor's program who have been issued an occupational license by the Department of Consumer Protection and are currently employed by such sponsor. All information shall be submitted in a form and manner as prescribed by the commissioner and disaggregated by gender identity, race and ethnicity. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1-210, such information provided by a sponsor shall be considered a public record and all persons shall have the right to inspect and copy such records in accordance with the provisions of section 1-212.

[(c)] (d) Fifty per cent of any amount collected by the Labor Department pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the General Fund and fifty per cent of such amount shall be credited to a separate nonlapsing appropriation to the Labor Department, for the purpose of administering the department's apprentice training program and sections 31-22m to 31-22p, inclusive.

Sec. 164. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of this

House Bill No. 6941

section, "lung cancer screening and referral services" means necessary lung cancer screening services and referral services for a procedure intended to treat cancer of the human lung, including, but not limited to, surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy and related medical follow-up services.

(b) There is established, within available appropriations, a lung cancer early detection and treatment referral program within the Department of Public Health to (1) promote screening, detection and treatment of lung cancer for persons who are fifty to eighty years of age, while giving priority consideration to populations who exhibit higher rates of lung cancer than the general population, (2) educate the public regarding lung cancer and the benefits of early detection, and (3) provide counseling and referral services for treatment.

(c) The program shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) Establishment of a public education and outreach initiative to publicize (A) lung cancer early detection services and the extent of coverage for such services by health insurance, (B) the benefits of early detection of lung cancer and the recommended frequency of screening services, and (C) the medical assistance program and other public and private programs that may assist with the costs of lung cancer screening and referral services;

(2) Development of professional education programs, including the benefits of early detection of lung cancer and the recommended frequency of lung cancer screening;

(3) Establishment of a system to track and follow up on all persons screened for lung cancer in the program. The system shall include, but need not be limited to, follow-up of abnormal screening tests and referral to treatment when needed and tracking persons to be screened at recommended screening intervals; and

House Bill No. 6941

(4) Assurance that all participating providers of lung cancer screening and referral services are in compliance with national and state quality assurance legislative mandates.

(d) The Department of Public Health shall, within existing appropriations, and through contracts with health care providers, provide lung cancer screening and referral services to persons fifty to eighty years of age, while giving priority consideration to populations who exhibit higher rates of lung cancer than the general population.

Sec. 165. Section 17b-428 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Social Services;

(2) "PACE program" has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 1395eee, as amended from time to time, and includes a program of all-inclusive care for the elderly;

[(2)] (3) "Eligible individual" means "PACE program eligible individual", as defined in [Subtitle I of Public Law 105-33] 42 USC 1395eee, as amended from time to time, or in a [waiver application] Medicaid state plan amendment approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services;

[(3)] "PACE program" means "PACE program", as defined in Subtitle I of Public Law 105-33, as amended from time to time, and includes a program of all-inclusive care for the elderly;]

(4) "PACE program agreement" means "PACE program agreement", as defined in [Subtitle I of Public Law 105-33] 42 USC 1395eee, as amended from time to time;

(5) "PACE provider" means "PACE provider", as defined in [Subtitle

House Bill No. 6941

I of Public Law 105-33] 42 USC 1395eee, as amended from time to time;
and

[(6) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services;]

[(7)] (6) "State administering agency" means "state administering agency", as defined in [Subtitle I of Public Law 105-33] 42 USC 1395eee, as amended from time to time.

(b) [Not later than July 1, 1998, the] The commissioner [shall establish a pilot program in which PACE providers deliver] may submit a Medicaid state plan amendment to add PACE program services, within available appropriations, to [eligible individuals in this state pursuant to a PACE program agreement. Under said program, the commissioner, in consultation with the Insurance Commissioner, may initially enter into contracts with integrated service networks which have successfully completed a feasibility study, in conjunction with a PACE technical assistance center, for the provision of PACE program services] the Medicaid state plan.

(c) The Department of Social Services shall be the state administering agency for the state of Connecticut responsible for administering PACE program [agreements in this state. The department, upon request, shall assist the secretary in establishing procedures for entering into, extending and terminating PACE program agreements for the operation of PACE programs by PACE providers in this state] agreement services. Upon approval of the Medicaid state plan amendment, the department shall establish participation criteria for eligible individuals and PACE providers and make payments for PACE program services from funds appropriated to the Medicaid account.

[(d) The commissioner shall provide medical assistance under this section for PACE program services to eligible individuals who are

House Bill No. 6941

eligible for medical assistance in this state and enrolled in a PACE program under a PACE program agreement. The commissioner shall seek any waiver from federal law necessary to permit federal participation for Medicaid expenditures for PACE programs in this state.]

[(e)] (d) The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section. The commissioner, pursuant to section 17b-10, may implement policies and procedures to implement the provisions of this section while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form, provided the commissioner posts notice of the intent to adopt the regulation on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of implementation. Such policies and procedures shall be valid until the time final regulations are adopted.

Sec. 166. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Banking Commissioner;

(2) "Consumer collection agency" has the same meaning as provided in section 36a-800 of the general statutes;

(3) "Postsecondary education expense" means any expense associated with a student's enrollment in, or attendance at, a postsecondary educational institution;

(4) "Private education lender" means any person engaged in the business of making or extending private education loans. "Private education lender" does not include: (A) Any bank, out-of-state bank, Connecticut credit union, federal credit union or out-of-state credit union; (B) any wholly owned subsidiary of any such bank or credit union; (C) any operating subsidiary where each owner of such operating subsidiary is wholly owned by the same bank or credit union; or (D) the

House Bill No. 6941

Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority, as described in section 10a-179a of the general statutes;

(5) "Private education loan" means credit that: (A) Is extended to a consumer expressly, in whole or in part, for postsecondary educational expenses, regardless of whether the credit is provided by the postsecondary educational institution that the student attends; and (B) is not made, insured or guaranteed under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time to time. "Private education loan" does not include a loan that is secured by real property, regardless of the purpose of the loan;

(6) "Private education loan borrower" means any resident of the state, including a student loan borrower, who has received or agreed to pay a private education loan for the resident's own postsecondary education expenses;

(7) "Private education loan creditor" means any person to whom a private education loan is sold or assigned, or any person who otherwise acquires a private education loan. "Private education loan creditor" does not include: (A) A bank, as defined in 12 USC 1841(c), as amended from time to time; (B) a Connecticut credit union, a federal credit union or an out-of-state credit union, as those terms are defined in section 36a-2 of the general statutes; (C) a consumer collection agency licensed pursuant to section 36a-801 of the general statutes; (D) a private student loan servicer licensed pursuant to section 36a-847 of the general statutes; or (E) any department or agency of the United States, this state, any other state or any political subdivision thereof; and

(8) "Student loan servicer" has the same meaning as provided in section 36a-846 of the general statutes.

(b) Except for a public or private nonprofit postsecondary educational institution, for which the commissioner may prescribe an

House Bill No. 6941

alternative registration process and fee structure, a private education lender or a private education loan creditor shall, prior to making a private education loan to, or purchasing or assuming a private education loan owed by, a resident of the state:

(1) Register with the commissioner and pay a fee in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, which may include registration using the National Multistate Licensing System and Registry and the payment of any fees thereto; and

(2) Renew such registration for each year that such private education lender or private education loan creditor continues to act as a private education lender or private education loan creditor.

(c) For each year in which a private education lender registers with, or renews such registration with, the commissioner pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, such private education lender shall, at the time of such registration or renewal, and at other times upon the commissioner's request, provide to the commissioner, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, the following documents and information:

(1) A list of all schools attended by the private education loan borrowers with outstanding private education loans made by such private education lender;

(2) The number and dollar amount of all outstanding private education loans such private education lender made to private education loan borrowers;

(3) For each school listed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the number and dollar amount of all outstanding private education loans such private education lender made to private education loan borrowers who attended such school;

House Bill No. 6941

(4) The number and dollar amount of all private education loans such private education lender made during the prior year to private education loan borrowers;

(5) For each school listed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the number and dollar amount of all private education loans such private education lender made during the prior year to private education loan borrowers who attended such school;

(6) The spread of interest rates for the private education loans such private education lender made during the prior year;

(7) The percentage of private education loan borrowers who received each rate within the spread of interest rates provided pursuant to subdivision (6) of this subsection;

(8) The number of private education loans with a cosigner that such private education lender made during the prior year;

(9) The default rate for private education loan borrowers obtaining private education loans from the private education lender, and, for each school listed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the default rate for private education loans made to private education loan borrowers who attended such school;

(10) The number of private education loan borrowers against whom such private education lender brought legal action in the prior year to collect a debt owed pursuant to a private education loan, and the amount sought in each such action;

(11) A copy of each model promissory note, agreement, contract or other instrument used by the private education lender during the prior year to substantiate that a new private education loan has been extended to a private education loan borrower or that a private education loan borrower owes a debt to such lender; and

House Bill No. 6941

(12) The name and address of: (A) Such private education lender; (B) each officer, director or partner of such private education lender; and (C) each owner of a controlling interest in such private education lender.

(d) For each year in which a private education loan creditor registers with, or renews such registration with, the commissioner pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, such private education loan creditor shall, at the time of such registration or renewal, and at other times upon the commissioner's request, provide to the commissioner, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, the following documents and information:

(1) A list of all schools attended by the private education loan borrowers with outstanding private education loans assumed or acquired by such private education loan creditor;

(2) The number and dollar amount of all outstanding private education loans owed by private education loan borrowers to such private education loan creditor;

(3) For each school listed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the number and dollar amount of all outstanding private education loans owed to such private education loan creditor by private education loan borrowers who attended such school;

(4) The number and dollar amount of all private education loans: (A) Such private education loan creditor assumed or acquired during the prior year; and (B) owed to such private education loan creditor by private education loan borrowers;

(5) For each school listed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the number and dollar amount of all private education loans: (A) Such private education loan creditor assumed or acquired during the prior year; and (B) owed to such private education loan creditor by private education loan borrowers who attended such school;

House Bill No. 6941

(6) The number of private education loans with a cosigner that such private education loan creditor assumed or acquired during the prior year;

(7) The default rate for private education loan borrowers whose private education loans were assumed or acquired by such private education loan creditor, and, for each school listed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the default rate for private education loans owed by private education loan borrowers who attended such school;

(8) The number of private education loan borrowers against whom such private education loan creditor brought legal action in the prior year to collect a debt owed pursuant to a private education loan, and the amount sought in each such action; and

(9) The name and address of: (A) Such private education loan creditor; (B) each officer, director or partner of such private education loan creditor; and (C) each owner of a controlling interest in such private education loan creditor.

(e) The commissioner shall create, and periodically update, a publicly accessible Internet web site that includes the following information about private education lenders and private education loan creditors registered in the state:

(1) The name, address, telephone number and Internet web site address for all registered private education lenders and private education loan creditors;

(2) A summary of the information and documents provided pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section; and

(3) Copies of all model promissory notes, agreements, contracts and other instruments provided to the commissioner in accordance with

House Bill No. 6941

subdivision (11) of subsection (c) of this section.

(f) The commissioner may take action pursuant to section 36a-50 of the general statutes to enforce the provisions of this section.

(g) The commissioner may order that any person who has been found to have violated any provision of this section and has thereby caused financial harm to a consumer be barred for a term not exceeding ten years from acting as a private education lender, private education loan creditor or a stockholder, officer, director, partner or other owner or employee of a private education lender or private education loan creditor.

Sec. 167. Section 36a-25 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) [The Banking Commissioner shall, within available appropriations, designate a] There is established an Office of the Student Loan Ombudsman, which shall be within the Department of Banking for administrative purposes only, to provide timely assistance to any student loan borrower, as defined in section 36a-846, of any student education loan, as defined in section 36a-846. The Banking Commissioner shall appoint a Student Loan Ombudsman who shall be selected from among individuals with expertise and experience in a field concerning student loans to head the office.

(b) The Office of the Student Loan Ombudsman [, in consultation with the commissioner,] shall:

(1) Receive, review and attempt to resolve any complaints from student loan borrowers, including, but not limited to, attempts to resolve such complaints in collaboration with institutions of higher education, student loan servicers, as defined in section 36a-846, and any other participants in student loan lending, including, but not limited to, The University of Connecticut, the Board of Regents for Higher

House Bill No. 6941

Education, the Office of Higher Education or the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority;

(2) Compile and analyze data on student loan borrower complaints as described in subdivision (1) of this subsection;

(3) Assist student loan borrowers to understand their rights and responsibilities under the terms of student education loans;

(4) Provide information to the public, agencies, legislators and others regarding the problems and concerns of student loan borrowers and make recommendations for resolving those problems and concerns;

(5) Analyze and monitor the development and implementation of federal, state and local laws, regulations and policies relating to student loan borrowers and recommend any changes the Student Loan Ombudsman deems necessary;

(6) Review the complete student education loan history for any student loan borrower who has provided written consent for such review;

(7) Disseminate information concerning the availability of the Office of the Student Loan Ombudsman to assist student loan borrowers and potential student loan borrowers, as well as public institutions of higher education, student loan servicers and any other participant in student education loan lending, with any student loan servicing concerns; and

(8) Take any other actions necessary to fulfill the duties of the Office of the Student Loan Ombudsman and the Student Loan Ombudsman as set forth in this subsection.

(c) (1) On or before October 1, 2016, the Student Loan Ombudsman, in consultation with the commissioner, shall, within available appropriations, establish and maintain a student loan borrower

House Bill No. 6941

education course that shall include educational presentations and materials regarding student education loans. Such program shall include, but not be limited to, key loan terms, documentation requirements, monthly payment obligations, income-based repayment options, loan forgiveness and disclosure requirements.

(2) Beginning on October 1, 2024, the Office of the Student Loan Ombudsman shall maintain the student loan borrower education course established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(d) (1) On or before January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter until January 1, 2023, the Banking Commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to banking and higher education. The commissioner shall report on: [(1)] (A) The implementation of this section; [(2)] (B) the overall effectiveness of the Student Loan Ombudsman position; and [(3)] (C) additional steps that need to be taken for the Department of Banking to gain regulatory control over the licensing and enforcement of student loan servicers.

(2) Beginning on January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Student Loan Ombudsman shall submit the report required under subdivision (1) of this subsection, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to banking and higher education. The ombudsman shall report on: (A) The implementation of this section; (B) the overall effectiveness of the Office of the Student Loan Ombudsman; and (C) additional steps that need to be taken for the Department of Banking to gain regulatory control over the licensing and enforcement of student loan servicers.

(e) (1) There is established an account to be known as the "student loan ombudsman account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing

House Bill No. 6941

account within the Banking Fund. The account shall contain the moneys described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and any other moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Banking Commissioner for the purpose of administering the provisions of this section.

(2) The account established under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall contain any licensing or investigation fees collected pursuant to subsection (b) of section 36a-847.

Sec. 168. Section 36a-846 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

As used in this section and sections 36a-847 to 36a-855, inclusive:

(1) "Advertise" or "advertising" has the same meaning as provided in section 36a-485;

(2) "Branch office" means a location other than the main office at which a licensee or any person on behalf of a licensee acts as a student loan servicer;

(3) "Consumer report" has the same meaning as provided in Section 603(d) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC, 1681a, as amended from time to time;

(4) "Control person" has the same meaning as provided in section 36a-485;

(5) "Cosigner" has the same meaning as provided in 15 USC 1650(a), as amended from time to time;

(6) "Federal student education loan" means any student education loan (A) (i) made pursuant to the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, 20 USC 1087a, et seq., as amended from time to time, or (ii) purchased by the United States Department of Education pursuant to 20

House Bill No. 6941

USC 1087i-1(a), as amended from time to time, and (B) owned by the United States Department of Education;

(7) "Federal student loan servicer" means any student loan servicer responsible for the servicing of a federal student education loan to a student loan borrower pursuant to a contract awarded [to such person] by the United States Department of Education under 20 USC 1087f, as amended from time to time;

(8) "Main office" has the same meaning as provided in section 36a-485;

(9) "Private student education loan" means any student education loan that is not a federal student education loan;

(10) "Private student education loan servicer" means any student loan servicer responsible for the servicing of a private student education loan to a student loan borrower;

(11) "Student loan borrower" means any individual who resides within this state who has agreed to repay a student education loan;

(12) "Student loan servicer" means any person, wherever located, responsible for the servicing of any student education loan to any student loan borrower;

(13) "Servicing" means (A) receiving any scheduled periodic payments from a student loan borrower pursuant to the terms of a student education loan; (B) applying the payments of principal and interest and such other payments with respect to the amounts received from a student loan borrower, as may be required pursuant to the terms of a student education loan; (C) maintaining account records for and communicating with the student loan borrower concerning the student education loan during the period when no scheduled periodic payments are required; (D) interacting with a student loan borrower for purposes

House Bill No. 6941

of facilitating the servicing of a student education loan, including, but not limited to, assisting a student loan borrower to prevent such borrower from defaulting on obligations arising from the student education loan; or (E) performing other administrative services with respect to a student education loan;

(14) "Student education loan" means any loan primarily for personal use to finance education or other school-related expenses; and

(15) "Unique identifier" has the same meaning as provided in section 36a-485.

Sec. 169. Subsection (d) of section 36a-847a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(d) Each registrant shall notify the commissioner in writing of the expiration, revocation or termination of any contract awarded [to the registrant] by the United States Department of Education pursuant to 20 USC 1087f, as amended from time to time, pursuant to which such registrant performs student loan servicing activities, not later than seven days after such expiration, revocation or termination. Any registration based solely upon such contract shall be deemed expired upon the effective date of such expiration, revocation or termination by the United States Department of Education.

Sec. 170. Section 7 of public act 23-137 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For purposes of this section, "emergency services" means law enforcement, fire fighting, medical, ambulance and other emergency services.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall, within available appropriations,

House Bill No. 6941

develop a form for distribution by municipal police departments to parents and guardians of children [and adults] with intellectual disabilities or other developmental disabilities, including, but not limited to, autism spectrum disorder, cognitive impairments and nonverbal learning disorders. [and adults with such disabilities not represented by a parent, guardian or other authorized representative.] Such form shall record information that may assist emergency services personnel in their interactions with such [individuals] children and shall contain a section in which a parent or guardian of such [individual under the age of eighteen, such individuals age eighteen or older with legal decision-making capacity, or, if they lack legal decision-making capacity, a person with legal decision-making authority for such individual,] child may consent to release of information, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) The [individual's] child's name, nickname, date of birth, sex, height, weight, eye color, hair color and address and any scars or identifying marks the [individual] child has;

(2) The name of a person who may be contacted by such personnel in an emergency pertaining to the [individual] child, and such person's telephone number;

(3) The [individual's] child's language and communication skills, including, but not limited to, whether the individual (A) is verbal or nonverbal, (B) speaks American Sign Language, and (C) can read or write, communicate by pointing to pictures, repeat questions or respond "yes" or "no" to questions;

(4) Whether the [individual] child is sensitive to noise, touch, light, crowds or other stimuli;

(5) Conditions, circumstances or items the [individual] child dislikes or avoids, including, but not limited to, eye contact, being wet or dirty,

House Bill No. 6941

interacting with strangers and certain clothing or shoes;

(6) Atypical behaviors the [individual] child exhibits, including, but not limited to, speaking loudly, self-injury, running if chased, vocal stimming, making high-pitched noises, disregarding or having no sense of danger and sensory seeking;

(7) Pertinent medical information, including, but not limited to, whether the [individual] child is hearing or visually impaired or has a seizure disorder, motor or vocal tics or a high pain tolerance; and

(8) Methods such personnel may use to calm the [individual] child, including, but not limited to, use of a calm and quiet voice or noise-canceling headphones, providing the [individual] child with time alone or specific food items and asking the [individual] child how such personnel can help the [individual] child.

(c) Not later than July 1, 2024, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall publish the form developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section on its Internet web site. On and after July 15, 2024, any municipal police department may make copies of such form available in a publicly accessible area of such department.

(d) If the municipal police department in a municipality in which a child [or adult] with an intellectual disability or other developmental disabilities, including, but not limited to, autism spectrum disorder, a cognitive impairment or nonverbal learning disorder resides has made copies of the form developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section available pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, or maintains an electronic database pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, the parent or guardian of such child [under the age of eighteen, adult age eighteen and older with legal decision-making capacity, or if such adult lacks legal decision-making capacity, a person with legal decision-making authority for such adult,] may complete such form and return it to such

House Bill No. 6941

department.

(e) (1) Upon receipt of a completed form returned pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, including the date of birth of a child and signed consent section of such form pursuant to subsection [(d)] (b) of this section, a participating municipal police department shall record the information provided on such form in a searchable electronic database maintained by such police department, and make such database available to [(1)] (A) each police officer employed by such department for purposes of determining whether [a child or adult] an individual with an intellectual disability or other developmental disabilities, including, but not limited to, autism spectrum disorder, a cognitive impairment or nonverbal learning disorder, resides at an address to which such police officer is responding, and [(2)] (B) the public safety answering point established and operated by the municipality pursuant to section 28-25a of the general statutes in which such police department is located for use in accordance with section 8 of [this act] public act 23-137. A municipal police department shall remove information pertaining to [(A)] (i) a child [under the age of eighteen] from such database, at the request of the parent or guardian of such child, or [(B)] an adult age eighteen and over from such database, at the request of such adult with legal decision-making capacity, or, if such adult lacks legal decision-making capacity, a person with legal decision-making authority for such adult] (ii) an individual who has attained eighteen years of age from such database, pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(2) Not later than thirty days after an individual whose information was recorded in a searchable electronic database pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection attains the age of eighteen, the municipal police department that recorded such information shall notify such individual, in writing, at such individual's last known address (A) that information concerning such individual is included in

House Bill No. 6941

the database and the nature of such information, (B) of the purpose of the database, (C) that such individual's information will be removed from the database ninety-five days after such individual's eighteenth birthday unless such individual returns a signed opt-in authorization to such department not later than ninety days after such individual's eighteenth birthday, and (D) that, if such individual returns such signed opt-in authorization, such individual may subsequently request the removal of information concerning such individual from the database, in writing, at any time. Such opt-in authorization shall be in a form and manner prescribed by such department and a copy of such opt-in authorization shall be included with such notice. Upon the timely receipt of such signed opt-in authorization, such department shall retain information concerning such individual in the database until such individual requests the removal of such information in writing. If such department (i) does not timely receive such signed opt-in authorization, such department shall remove all information concerning such individual from the database ninety-five days after such individual's eighteenth birthday, or (ii) receives a written request from such individual to remove information concerning such individual from the database, such department shall remove all information concerning such individual from the database not later than two weeks after receipt of such request. Such department shall ensure that information removed from the database is not accessible to the public safety answering point established and operated by the municipality.

(f) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, within available appropriations, shall establish a grant-in-aid program to provide funding to municipalities and local police departments to establish and implement a local voluntary registration system for residents with an intellectual disability or other developmental disabilities pursuant to subsection (d) of this section. The commissioner shall prescribe requirements and an application process for such program.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 171. Section 60 of public act 23-137 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) As used in this section, (1) "legally responsible relative" means a spouse, parent or legal guardian of a person enrolled in a Medicaid waiver program, and (2) "Medicaid waiver program" means any of the three programs established under Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act to provide home and community-based services to clients of the Department of Developmental Services.

(b) Not later than November 1, 2023, the Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Developmental Services, shall [apply for a] amend the current Medicaid waiver programs to authorize [, subject to the approval of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services,] compensation for family caregivers providing personal care assistance services to participants in the Medicaid waiver programs, including, but not limited to, family caregivers who are legally responsible relatives. Such amendment shall be implemented upon approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. For purposes of this section, "family caregiver" means a caregiver related by blood or marriage or a legal guardian of a participant in a Medicaid waiver program.

Sec. 172. Subsection (a) of section 19a-507b of the general statutes, as amended by section 68 of public act 23-137, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) No [(1)] community residence, as defined in section 19a-507a, except a community residence that [(A) houses eight or fewer persons with intellectual disability and necessary staff persons and that is licensed under the provisions of section 17a-227, or (B)] houses eight or fewer persons receiving mental health or addiction services and necessary staff persons paid for or provided by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services that has been issued a license by

House Bill No. 6941

the Department of Public Health under the provisions of section 19a-491 [; or (2) child-care residential facility, except for a child-care residential facility that houses eight or fewer children with mental or physical disabilities and necessary staff persons and that is licensed under sections 17a-145 to 17a-151, inclusive, established pursuant to section 8-3e, as amended by this act,] shall be established within one thousand feet of any other community residence. If more than one community residence is proposed to be established in any municipality, the total capacity of all community residences in the municipality in which such residence is proposed to be established shall not exceed one-tenth of one per cent of the population of such municipality.

Sec. 173. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding any municipal charter, ordinance, regulation or resolution, special act or provision of title 8 of the general statutes, no municipality with a population of more than six thousand and less than eight thousand, as determined by the most recent federal decennial census, or board or commission of any such municipality authorized to regulate planning, zoning or land use, shall approve the siting, construction, permitting, operation or use of a warehousing or distribution facility exceeding an area of one hundred thousand square feet if such (1) facility is located on one or more parcels of land that are less than one hundred fifty acres in total, (2) parcels contain more than five acres of wetlands in total, and (3) parcel or parcels are located not more than two miles from an elementary school.

Sec. 174. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) On or before January 1, 2025, the executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall establish, within available appropriations, a program to reimburse certain persons for student loan payments. The Office of Higher Education may approve the participation of any person in the student loan reimbursement program who (1) (A) attended a state college or university and graduated with a bachelor's degree, (B) left such college

House Bill No. 6941

or university in good academic standing before graduation, or (C) holds an occupational or professional license or certification issued pursuant to title 20 of the general statutes; (2) is a resident of the state, as defined in section 12-701 of the general statutes and has been a resident of the state for not less than five years; (3) has (A) a Connecticut adjusted gross income of not more than one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars and files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual or a married individual filing separately, or (B) a Connecticut adjusted gross income of not more than one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars and files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household, a married individual filing jointly or a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time; and (4) has a student loan. For the purposes of this section "state college or university" means any public or private college or university in the state.

(b) Persons who qualify under subsection (a) of this section may apply to the Office of Higher Education to participate in the student loan reimbursement program at such time and in such manner as the executive director of said office prescribes.

(c) (1) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall award grants to persons approved to participate in the student loan reimbursement program on a first-come, first-served basis, provided such person meets the requirements of this subsection.

(2) Each participant in the program shall volunteer for a nonprofit organization in the state for not less than fifty unpaid hours for each year of participation in the student loan reimbursement program. For purposes of this section, "volunteer hours" shall include, but need not be limited to, service on the board of directors for a nonprofit organization and military service.

House Bill No. 6941

(3) Each participant in the program shall annually submit receipts of payment on student loans and evidence of having completed such volunteer hours to the Office of Higher Education in the manner prescribed by the executive director.

(4) The Office of Higher Education shall reimburse each program participant who meets the requirements of this section for student loan payments an amount of not more than five thousand dollars, annually, provided no person shall participate in the student loan reimbursement program for more than four years or receive more than twenty thousand dollars in aggregate reimbursement for student loan payments.

(d) The Office of Higher Education may use up to two and one-half per cent of the funds appropriated for purposes of this section, annually, for program administration, promotion and recruitment activities.

(e) Not later than July 1, 2026, and each January and July thereafter, the executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies on the operation and effectiveness of the program and any recommendations to expand the program.

Sec. 175. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 12-701 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

(B) There shall be subtracted therefrom:

(i) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any income with respect to which taxation by any state is prohibited by federal law;

House Bill No. 6941

(ii) To the extent allowable under section 12-718, exempt dividends paid by a regulated investment company;

(iii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any refund or credit for overpayment of income taxes imposed by this state, or any other state of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia;

(iv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes and not otherwise subtracted from federal adjusted gross income pursuant to clause (x) of this subparagraph in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, any tier 1 railroad retirement benefits;

(v) To the extent any additional allowance for depreciation under Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for property placed in service after September 27, 2017, was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ix) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such additional allowance for depreciation in each of the four succeeding taxable years;

(vi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any interest income from obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut;

(vii) To the extent properly includable in determining the net gain or loss from the sale or other disposition of capital assets for federal income tax purposes, any gain from the sale or exchange of obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or

House Bill No. 6941

similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut, in the income year such gain was recognized;

(viii) Any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry obligations or securities the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such interest on indebtedness is not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and is attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(ix) Ordinary and necessary expenses paid or incurred during the taxable year for the production or collection of income which is subject to taxation under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, or the management, conservation or maintenance of property held for the production of such income, and the amortizable bond premium for the taxable year on any bond the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such expenses and premiums are not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and are attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(x) (I) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes;

House Bill No. 6941

(II) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(III) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes; and

(IV) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal

House Bill No. 6941

income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(xi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any amount rebated to a taxpayer pursuant to section 12-746;

(xii) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, any distribution to such beneficiary from any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the state;

(xiii) To the extent allowable under section 12-701a, contributions to accounts established pursuant to any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the state;

(xiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal

House Bill No. 6941

income tax purposes, the amount of any Holocaust victims' settlement payment received in the taxable year by a Holocaust victim;

(xv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes of an account holder, as defined in section 31-51ww, interest earned on funds deposited in the individual development account, as defined in section 31-51ww, of such account holder;

(xvi) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, as defined in section 3-123aa, interest, dividends or capital gains earned on contributions to accounts established for the designated beneficiary pursuant to the Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly established by sections 3-123aa to 3-123ff, inclusive;

(xvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any income received from the United States government as retirement pay for a retired member of (I) the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the United States Code, or (II) the National Guard, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the United States Code;

(xviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, any income from the discharge of indebtedness in connection with any reacquisition, after December 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or instruments, as those terms are defined in Section 108 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to the extent any such income was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xi) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income for a preceding taxable year;

House Bill No. 6941

(xix) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income, the amount of any contribution to a manufacturing reinvestment account established pursuant to section 32-9zz in the taxable year that such contribution is made;

(xx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2015, ten per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, (II) for the taxable years commencing January 1, 2016, to January 1, 2020, inclusive, twenty-five per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, and each taxable year thereafter, fifty per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system or, for a taxpayer whose federal adjusted gross income does not exceed the applicable threshold under clause (xxi) of this subparagraph, the percentage pursuant to said clause of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, whichever deduction is greater;

(xxi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvii) of this subparagraph, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, fourteen per cent of any pension or

House Bill No. 6941

annuity income, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2020, twenty-eight per cent of any pension or annuity income, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, forty-two per cent of any pension or annuity income, and (IV) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022, and each taxable year thereafter, one hundred per cent of any pension or annuity income;

(xxii) The amount of lost wages and medical, travel and housing expenses, not to exceed ten thousand dollars in the aggregate, incurred by a taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the donation to another person of an organ for organ transplantation occurring on or after January 1, 2017;

(xxiii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any financial assistance received from the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund or paid to or on behalf of the owner of a residential building pursuant to sections 8-442 and 8-443;

(xxiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount calculated pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-704g for income received by a general partner of a venture capital fund, as defined in 17 CFR 275.203(l)-1, as amended from time to time;

(xxv) To the extent any portion of a deduction under Section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xiv) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such disallowed portion of the deduction in each of the four succeeding taxable years;

(xxvi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal

House Bill No. 6941

income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, twenty-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, and (IV) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account; [and]

(xxvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022, the amount or amounts paid or otherwise credited to any eligible resident of this state under (I) the 2020 Earned Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the state through the Coronavirus Relief Fund established under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, and (II) the 2021 Earned Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the state pursuant to Section 9901 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2; and

(xxviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal

House Bill No. 6941

income tax purposes, the amount of any student loan reimbursement payment received by a taxpayer pursuant to section 174 of this act.

Sec. 176. Subsection (a) of section 1 of public act 23-5 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective December 1, 2023*):

(a) (1) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a regular election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a period of early voting at each regular election held on or after [January] April 1, 2024.

(B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2 of the general statutes, commence on the fifteenth day prior to and conclude on the second day prior to such regular election, and (ii) consist of such days between and inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, except any legal holiday designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4 of the general statutes, and at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-174 of the general statutes, as amended by [this act] public act 23-5.

(2) (A) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection, any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a primary, other than a presidential preference primary, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a period of early voting at each primary, other than a presidential preference primary, held on or after [January] April 1, 2024.

(B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2 of the general statutes, commence on the eighth day prior to and conclude on the second day prior to such primary, other than a presidential preference primary, and (ii) consist of such days between and inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, except any legal holiday

House Bill No. 6941

designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4 of the general statutes, and at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-174 of the general statutes, as amended by [this act] public act 23-5.

(3) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a special election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a period of early voting at each special election held on or after [January] April 1, 2024.

(B) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection, any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a presidential preference primary, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a period of early voting at each presidential preference primary held on or after [January] April 1, 2024.

(C) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2 of the general statutes, commence on the fifth day prior to and conclude on the second day prior to such special election or such presidential preference primary, except that such commencing and concluding days shall be adjusted to exclude from such period March 31, 2024, and any legal holiday designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4 of the general statutes, and (ii) consist of four total days between and inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, as may be adjusted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and at such times as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of section 9-174 of the general statutes, as amended by [this act] public act 23-5.

(4) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9-19e, 9-23a, 9-26, 9-31a, 9-55, as amended by [this act] public act 23-5, 9-56 and 9-57 of the general statutes:

(i) In the case of an unaffiliated elector who wishes to vote during the

House Bill No. 6941

period of early voting at a primary, such elector shall be eligible to so vote if such elector's application for enrollment with the political party holding such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve o'clock noon on the business day immediately preceding the day on which such period of early voting commences.

(ii) In the case of a person who is not admitted as an elector and who wishes to vote during the period of early voting at a primary, such person shall be eligible to so vote if such person's application for admission as an elector and enrollment with the political party holding such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve o'clock noon on the business day immediately preceding the day during such period of early voting on which such person offers to vote at such primary.

(B) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an individual who enrolls in a political party during a period of early voting at a primary from voting by absentee ballot, if eligible, or in person on the day of such primary.

Sec. 177. Subsection (c) of section 9-174 of the general statutes, as amended by section 3 of public act 23-5, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(c) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act or municipal charter, at any regular election and any primary, other than a presidential preference primary, held on or after [January] April 1, 2024, each location designated for the conduct of early voting pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1 of [this act] public act 23-5 or for same-day election registration pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-19j, as amended by [this act] public act 23-5, shall, during the early voting period, remain open from ten o'clock a.m. to six o'clock p.m., except that such location shall remain open from eight o'clock a.m. to eight o'clock p.m. on the last Tuesday and Thursday prior to the election or primary.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act or municipal charter, at any special election and any presidential preference primary held on or after [January] April 1, 2024, each location designated for the conduct of early voting pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1 of [this act] public act 23-5 shall, during the early voting period, remain open from ten o'clock a.m. to six o'clock p.m.

(3) No voter shall be permitted to cast such voter's vote after the hour prescribed for the closing of the location designated for early voting at any election or primary under subdivision (1) or subdivision (2) of this subsection unless such voter is in line at such prescribed hour. An election or primary official or a police officer of the municipality, who is appointed by the registrars of voters, shall be placed at the end of the line at such prescribed hour. Such official or officer shall not allow any voters who were not in such line at such prescribed hour to enter such line.

Sec. 178. Subsection (a) of section 9-174a of the general statutes, as amended by section 4 of public act 23-5, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) For each municipality, the registrars of voters, in consultation with the municipal clerk, shall create an emergency contingency plan for elections, primaries and referenda to be held within such municipality, including the conduct of early voting, as provided in section 1 of [this act] public act 23-5, at such elections and primaries held on or after [January] April 1, 2024. Such plan shall include, but not be limited to, (1) solutions for ballot or envelope shortages, and (2) strategies to implement in the event of (A) a shortage or absence of election or primary officials at the polling place or the location designated for early voting, as applicable, (B) a loss of power, (C) a fire or the sounding of an alarm within a polling place or a location designated for early voting, (D) voting machine malfunctions, (E) a weather or other natural disaster, (F) the need to remove an election or primary official and to

House Bill No. 6941

replace such official, and (G) disorder in and around the polling place or the location designated for early voting.

Sec. 179. Subsection (a) of section 9-255a of the general statutes, as amended by section 8 of public act 23-5, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) The registrars of voters and municipal clerk from each municipality shall jointly certify, in writing, to the Secretary of the State the number of ballots for each polling place in the municipality that have been ordered for each election or primary to be held within such municipality. Such registrars and clerk shall also so certify the number of ballots for each location designated for the conduct of early voting in the municipality that have been ordered for each election or primary held on or after [January] April 1, 2024. Such certification shall be on a form provided by the Secretary that shall have questions, including, but not limited to, those pertaining to the historical turnout for each such polling place or location, as applicable, in the municipality for the past four elections or primaries of similar nature to the election or primary to be held. The registrars of voters and municipal clerk shall include as part of any such certification any other relevant factors that may be unique to each such polling place or location in their municipality. Such certification shall be provided to the Secretary not later than thirty-one days prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at an election or twenty-one days prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at a primary.

Sec. 180. Section 9-329b of the general statutes, as amended by section 11 of public act 23-5, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective August 1, 2023*):

[(a)] At any time prior to a primary held [before January 1, 2024, and] pursuant to sections 9-423, 9-425 and 9-464, or a special act [,] or prior to any election, [held before January 1, 2024,] the Superior Court may issue

House Bill No. 6941

an order removing a candidate from a ballot where it is shown that [such] said candidate is improperly on the ballot.

[(b) At any time prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at a primary held on or after January 1, 2024, and pursuant to sections 9-423, 9-425 and 9-464, or a special act, or prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at any election held on or after January 1, 2024, the Superior Court may issue an order removing a candidate from a ballot where it is shown that such candidate is improperly on the ballot.]

Sec. 181. Section 9-329b of the general statutes, as amended by section 11 of public act 23-5 and section 180 of this act, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) At any time prior to a primary held before April 1, 2024, and pursuant to sections 9-423, 9-425 and 9-464, or a special act, or prior to any election held before April 1, 2024, the Superior Court may issue an order removing a candidate from a ballot where it is shown that [said] such candidate is improperly on the ballot.

(b) At any time prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at a primary held on or after April 1, 2024, and pursuant to sections 9-423, 9-425 and 9-464, or a special act, or prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at any election held on or after April 1, 2024, the Superior Court may issue an order removing a candidate from a ballot where it is shown that such candidate is improperly on the ballot.

Sec. 182. (*Effective from passage*) Sections 1 and 32 of public act 23-5 shall take effect December 1, 2023.

Sec. 183. (*Effective from passage*) Sections 2 to 9, inclusive, 12, 18, 20 to 26, inclusive, and 28 to 31, inclusive, of public act 23-5 shall take effect January 1, 2024.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 184. Section 17a-674c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established an Opioid Settlement Fund which shall be a separate nonlapsing fund administered by the committee.

(b) Any moneys intended to address opioid use, related disorders or the impact of the opioid epidemic that are received by the state from any judgment, consent decree or settlement paid by any defendant, which is finalized on or after July 1, 2021, related to the production, distribution, dispensing and other activities related to opioids shall be deposited into the fund. Moneys remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of subsection (b) of this section, if the commissioner and the Attorney General certify that the purposes of such judgment, consent decree or settlement are inconsistent with the intent of the provisions of this section and sections 17a-674d to 17a-674f, inclusive, the commissioner and Attorney General (1) shall report in writing to the committee such certification, including any identification by the commissioner and Attorney General of an alternate fund or account and explanation of the reasons for depositing such moneys in such alternate fund or account, and (2) may deposit such moneys into such alternate fund or account. The commissioner and Attorney General shall jointly report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health regarding the intended use of such moneys in such alternate fund or account prior to allocating such moneys for other purposes.

(d) Beginning on December 31, 2022, and annually thereafter, the State Treasurer shall report the following to the committee:

(1) An inventory of fund investments as of the most recent fiscal year;

House Bill No. 6941

and

(2) The net income earned by the fund in the most recent fiscal year.

(e) Moneys in the fund shall be spent only for the following substance use disorder abatement purposes, in accordance with the controlling judgment, consent decree or settlement, as confirmed by the Attorney General's review of such judgment, consent decree or settlement and upon the approval of the committee and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management:

(1) State-wide, regional or community substance use disorder needs assessments to identify structural gaps and needs to inform expenditures from the fund;

(2) Infrastructure required for evidence-based substance use disorder prevention, treatment, recovery or harm reduction programs, services and supports;

(3) Programs, services, supports and resources for evidence-based substance use disorder prevention, treatment, recovery or harm reduction;

(4) Evidence-informed substance use disorder prevention, treatment, recovery or harm reduction pilot programs or demonstration studies that are not evidence-based, but are approved by the committee as an appropriate use of moneys for a limited period of time as specified by the committee, provided the committee shall assess whether the evidence supports funding such programs or studies or whether it provides a basis for funding such programs or studies with an expectation of creating an evidence base for such programs and studies;

(5) Evaluation of effectiveness and outcomes reporting for substance use disorder abatement infrastructure, programs, services, supports and resources for which moneys from the fund have been disbursed,

House Bill No. 6941

including, but not limited to, impact on access to harm reduction services or treatment for substance use disorders or reduction in drug-related mortality;

(6) One or more publicly available data interfaces managed by the commissioner to aggregate, track and report data on (A) substance use disorders, overdoses and drug-related harms, (B) spending recommendations, plans and reports, and (C) outcomes of programs, services, supports and resources for which moneys from the fund were disbursed;

(7) Research on opioid abatement, including, but not limited to, development of evidence-based treatment, barriers to treatment, nonopioid treatment of chronic pain and harm reduction, supply-side enforcement;

(8) Documented expenses incurred in administering and staffing the fund and the committee, and expenses, including, but not limited to, legal fees, incurred by the state or any municipality in securing settlement proceeds, deposited in the fund as permitted by the controlling judgment, consent decree or settlement;

(9) Documented expenses associated with managing, investing and disbursing moneys in the fund; [and]

(10) Documented expenses, including legal fees, incurred by the state or any municipality in securing settlement proceeds deposited in the fund to the extent such expenses are not otherwise reimbursed pursuant to a fee agreement provided for by the controlling judgment, consent decree or settlement; and

(11) Provision of funds to municipal police departments for the purpose of equipping police officers with opioid antagonists, with priority given to departments that do not currently have a supply of opioid antagonists.

House Bill No. 6941

(f) (1) For purposes of this section, the fund balance shall be determined by the State Treasurer as of July first, annually.

(2) Except as permitted by subdivision (8) of subsection (e) of this section, or unless otherwise required by court order to refund to the federal government a portion of the proceeds, moneys in the fund shall be used for prospective purposes and shall not be used to reimburse expenditures incurred prior to July 1, 2022.

(3) Proceeds derived from any state settlement of claims against a defendant shall be allocated and disbursed only to those municipalities that execute an agreement to participate in such settlement and adhere to the terms of such agreement, provided the allocation or disbursement of such settlement proceeds for the benefit of persons within municipalities that do not execute an agreement to participate in such settlement or do not adhere to the terms of such agreement shall not be precluded or limited.

(4) Governmental and nonprofit nongovernmental entities shall be eligible to receive moneys from the fund for programs, services, supports and resources for prevention, treatment, recovery and harm reduction.

(5) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (6) of this subsection, fund disbursements shall be made by the commissioner upon approval of the committee. The commissioner shall not make or refuse to make any disbursement allowable under this subsection without the approval of the committee. The commissioner shall adhere to the committee's decisions regarding disbursement of moneys from the fund, provided such disbursement is a permissible expenditure under this section. The commissioner's role in the distribution of moneys after the distribution has been approved by the committee and after the review and approval required under subsection (e) of this section shall be ministerial and shall not be discretionary.

House Bill No. 6941

(6) Moneys expended from the fund for the purposes set forth in subsection (d) of this section shall be supplemental to, and shall not supplant or take the place of, any other funds, including, but not limited to, insurance benefits or local, state or federal funding, that would otherwise have been expended for such purposes. The commissioner shall not disburse moneys from the fund during any fiscal year unless the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management transmits to the committee a letter verifying that funds appropriated and allocated in such fiscal year's budget for substance use disorder abatement infrastructure, programs, services, supports and resources for prevention, treatment, recovery and harm reduction are in an amount not less than the sum of the funds for such purposes appropriated and allocated in the previous fiscal year's budget. As used in this subdivision, "supplemental" means additional funding, consistent with the provisions of this section, for substance use disorder abatement infrastructure or a substance use disorder abatement program, service, support or resource to ensure that funding in the current fiscal year exceeds the sum of federal, state, and local funds allocated in the previous fiscal year for such substance use disorder abatement infrastructure, program, service, support or resource.

Sec. 185. Subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended by section 36 of public act 23-102, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(20) "Class I renewable energy source" means (A) electricity derived from (i) solar power, (ii) wind power, (iii) a fuel cell, (iv) geothermal, (v) landfill methane gas, anaerobic digestion or other biogas derived from biological sources, (vi) thermal electric direct energy conversion from a certified Class I renewable energy source, (vii) ocean thermal power, (viii) wave or tidal power, (ix) low emission advanced renewable energy conversion technologies, including, but not limited to, zero emission

House Bill No. 6941

low grade heat power generation systems based on organic oil free rankine, kalina or other similar nonsteam cycles that use waste heat from an industrial or commercial process that does not generate electricity, (x) (I) a run-of-the-river hydropower facility that began operation after July 1, 2003, has a generating capacity of not more than sixty megawatts, is not based on a new dam or a dam identified by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection as a candidate for removal, and meets applicable state and federal requirements, including state dam safety requirements and applicable site-specific standards for water quality and fish passage, or (II) a run-of-the-river hydropower facility that received a new license after [the effective date of this section] January 1, 2018, under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rules pursuant to 18 CFR 16, as amended from time to time, is not based on a new dam or a dam identified by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection as a candidate for removal, and meets applicable state and federal requirements, including state dam safety requirements and applicable site-specific standards for water quality and fish passage, (xi) a biomass facility that uses sustainable biomass fuel and has an average emission rate of equal to or less than .075 pounds of nitrogen oxides per million BTU of heat input for the previous calendar quarter, except that energy derived from a biomass facility with a capacity of less than five hundred kilowatts that began construction before July 1, 2003, may be considered a Class I renewable energy source, or (xii) a nuclear power generating facility constructed on or after October 1, 2023, or (B) any electrical generation, including distributed generation, generated from a Class I renewable energy source, provided, on and after January 1, 2014, any megawatt hours of electricity from a renewable energy source described under this subparagraph that are claimed or counted by a load-serving entity, province or state toward compliance with renewable portfolio standards or renewable energy policy goals in another province or state, other than the state of Connecticut, shall not be eligible for compliance with the renewable portfolio standards established pursuant to section

House Bill No. 6941

16-245a;

Sec. 186. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 16-245a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(b) (1) An electric supplier or electric distribution company may satisfy the requirements of this section (A) by purchasing certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation Information System, provided the certificates are for (i) energy produced by a generating unit using Class I or Class II renewable energy sources and the generating unit is located in the jurisdiction of the regional independent system operator, or (ii) energy imported into the control area of the regional independent system operator pursuant to New England Power Pool Generation Information System Rule 2.7(c), as in effect on January 1, 2006; (B) for those renewable energy certificates under contract to serve end use customers in the state on or before October 1, 2006, by participating in a renewable energy trading program within said jurisdictions as approved by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority; or (C) by purchasing eligible renewable electricity and associated attributes from residential customers who are net producers. (2) Not more than ~~[one]~~ two and one-half per cent of the total output or services of an electric supplier or electric distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources eligible as described in subparagraph (A)(x)(II) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 16-1.

Sec. 187. Subsection (b) of section 19a-77 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) For licensing requirement purposes, child care services shall not include such services which are:

House Bill No. 6941

(1) (A) Administered by a public school system, or (B) administered by a municipal agency or department;

(2) Administered by a private school which is in compliance with section 10-188 and is approved by the State Board of Education or is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education, provided the provision of such child care services by the private school is only to those children whose ages are covered under such approval or accreditation;

(3) Classes in music, dance, drama and art that are no longer than two hours in length; classes that teach a single skill that are no longer than two hours in length; library programs that are no longer than two hours in length; scouting; programs that offer exclusively sports activities; rehearsals; academic tutoring programs; or programs exclusively for children thirteen years of age or older;

(4) Informal arrangements among neighbors and formal or informal arrangements among relatives in their own homes, provided the relative is limited to any of the following degrees of kinship by blood, marriage or court order to the child being cared for: Grandparent, great-grandparent, sibling, aunt or uncle;

(5) Supplementary child care operations for educational or recreational purposes and the child receives such care infrequently where the parents are on the premises;

(6) Supplementary child care operations in retail establishments where the parents remain in the same store as the child for retail shopping, provided the drop-in supplementary child-care operation does not charge a fee and does not refer to itself as a child care center;

(7) Administered by a nationally chartered boys' and girls' club that are exclusively for school-age children;

House Bill No. 6941

(8) Religious educational activities administered by a religious institution exclusively for children whose parents or legal guardians are members of such religious institution;

(9) Administered by Solar Youth, Inc., a New Haven-based nonprofit youth development and environmental education organization;

(10) Programs administered by organizations under contract with the Department of Social Services pursuant to section 17b-851a that promote the reduction of teenage pregnancy through the provision of services to persons who are ten to nineteen years of age, inclusive;

(11) Administered by the Cardinal Shehan Center, a Bridgeport-based nonprofit organization that is exclusively for school-age children;

(12) Administered by Organized Parents Make a Difference, Inc., a Hartford-based nonprofit organization that is exclusively for school-age children; [or]

(13) Administered by Leadership, Education and Athletics in Partnership, Inc., a New Haven-based nonprofit youth development organization; or

(14) Administered by Police Athletic League of Stamford, Inc., a Stamford-based nonprofit youth activities organization.

Sec. 188. Section 19a-133a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) There is established a Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health, to document and make recommendations to decrease the effect of racism on public health. The commission shall be part of the Legislative Department.

(b) The commission shall have an advisory body that shall consist of the following members:

House Bill No. 6941

(1) [Two] Three appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative of a nonprofit organization that focuses on health policy and racial equity issues and shall serve as cochairperson of the advisory body, one of whom shall be a representative of a nonprofit organization that focuses on racial equity and community engagement and one of whom shall be [a representative of Health Equity Solutions] an expert in immigration policy and law;

(2) [Two] Three appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be a health disparities expert affiliated with an academic research institution and shall serve as cochairperson of the advisory board, one of whom shall be a representative of a violence intervention program using a health-based approach to examine individuals post-incarceration and policies for integration and one of whom shall be a representative of [the Connecticut Health Foundation] a philanthropic entity that focuses on racial equity;

(3) [One] Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, [who] one of whom shall be a representative of [the Katal Center for Equity, Health, and Justice] a nonpartisan criminal justice policy and research entity and one of whom shall be a biostatistician or epidemiologist with knowledge of the effects of social-structural factors on health;

(4) [One] Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, [who] one of whom shall be a representative of [the Connecticut Children's Office for Community Child Health] a nonprofit that focuses on equitable housing policy and one of whom shall be a medical professional with expertise in diversity, equity and inclusion policy;

(5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be [a physician educator associated with The University of Connecticut who has experience and expertise in infant and maternal care and who has worked on diversity and

House Bill No. 6941

inclusion policy and one of whom shall be a representative of the Partnership for Strong Communities] an expert in environmental impacts on human health who is affiliated with an academic institution and one of whom shall be a representative of a nonprofit that focuses on economic research and policy;

(6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom shall be a [medical professional with expertise in mental health and one of whom shall be a representative of the Open Communities Alliance;] public health educator or researcher affiliated with an academic institution and one of whom shall be a current or former educator, school counselor or school nurse with public policy experience; and

[(7) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health;

(8) Two members of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, appointed by the caucus chairperson;

(9) One appointed by the Governor, who shall be a representative of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of the Connecticut Bar Association;

(10) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee;

(11) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's designee;

(12) The Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's designee;

(13) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee;

(14) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,

House Bill No. 6941

or the commissioner's designee;

(15) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

(16) The Commissioner of Housing, or the commissioner's designee;

(17) The chief executive officer of the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, or the chief executive officer's designee;

(18) The executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's designee;

(19) The executive director of the Office of Health Strategy, or the executive director's designee;

(20) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee;

(21) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or the commissioner's designee; and

(22) The Commissioner of Correction, or the commissioner's designee]

(7) One appointed by the chairperson of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus who shall be an education policy researcher affiliated with an academic research institution.

(c) Any member of the [commission] advisory body appointed under subdivisions (1) to [(8)] (7), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly. All initial appointments to the [commission] advisory body made under subdivisions (1) to [(9)] (7), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section shall be made not later than sixty days after June 14, 2021. Appointed members shall serve a term that is coterminous with the appointing official and may serve more than one term.

House Bill No. 6941

(d) The [Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee, and the representative appointed under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section as a representative of Health Equity Solutions, shall serve as chairpersons of the commission. Such chairpersons] cochairpersons of the advisory body shall schedule the first meeting of the [commission] advisory body, which shall be held not later than sixty days after [June 14, 2021] the effective date of this section. If appointments under subsection (b) of this section are not made within such sixty-day period, the chairpersons may designate individuals with the required qualifications stated for the applicable appointment to serve on the commission until appointments are made pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

(e) Members shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term.

(f) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business and any decision shall be by a majority vote of those present at a meeting, except the commission may establish such committees, subcommittees or other entities as it deems necessary to further the purposes of the commission. The [commission] advisory body may adopt rules of procedure.

(g) The members of the [commission] advisory body shall serve without compensation, but shall, within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

(h) The [commission] advisory body, by majority vote, shall confirm the hire of an executive director [to serve as administrative staff] of the commission, [who shall serve at the pleasure of the commission. The commission may request the assistance of the Joint Committee on

House Bill No. 6941

Legislative Management in hiring the executive director. The executive director may hire not more than two executive assistants to assist in carrying out the duties of the commission.]

(i) The commission shall have the following powers and duties: To (1) support collaboration by bringing together partners from many different sectors to recognize the links between health and other issues and policy areas and build new partnerships to promote health and equity and increase government efficiency; (2) create a comprehensive strategic plan to eliminate health disparities and inequities across sectors, in accordance with section 19a-133b; (3) study the impact that the public health crisis of racism has on vulnerable populations within diverse groups of the state population, including on the basis of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and disability, including, but not limited to, Black American descendants of slavery; (4) obtain from any legislative or executive department, board, commission or other agency of the state or any organization or other entity such assistance as necessary and available to carry out the purposes of this section; (5) accept any gift, donation or bequest for the purpose of performing the duties described in this section; (6) establish bylaws to govern its procedures; and (7) perform such other acts as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the duties described in this section, including, but not limited to, the creation of subcommittees.

(j) The commission shall engage with a diverse range of community members, including people of color who identify as members of diverse groups of the state population, including on the basis of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and disability, who experience inequities in health, to make recommendations to the relevant state agencies or other entities on an ongoing basis concerning the following: (1) Structural racism in the state's laws and regulations impacting public health, where, as used in this subdivision, "structural racism" means a system that structures opportunity and assigns value in a way that

House Bill No. 6941

disproportionally and negatively impacts Black, Indigenous, Latino or Asian people or other people of color; (2) racial disparities in the state's criminal justice system and its impact on the health and well-being of individuals and families, including overall health outcomes and rates of depression, suicide, substance use disorder and chronic disease; (3) racial disparities in access to the resources necessary for healthy living, including, but not limited to, access to adequate fresh food and physical activity, public safety and the decrease of pollution in communities; (4) racial disparities in health outcomes; (5) the impact of zoning restrictions on the creation of housing disparities and such disparities' impact on public health; (6) racial disparities in state hiring and contracting processes; and (7) any suggestions to reduce the impact of the public health crisis of racism within the vulnerable populations studied under subdivision (3) of subsection (i) of this section.

(k) Not later than January 1, 2022, and every six months thereafter, the commission shall submit a report to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, concerning (1) the activities of the commission during the prior six-month period; (2) any progress made in attaining the goal described in subsection (c) of section 19a-133b; (3) any recommended changes to such goal based on the research conducted by the commission, any disparity study performed by any state agency or entity, or any community input received; (4) the status of the comprehensive strategic plan required under section 19a-133b; and (5) any recommendations for policy changes or amendments to state law.

Sec. 189. Section 19a-133b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health, established

House Bill No. 6941

under section 19a-133a, shall develop and periodically update a comprehensive strategic plan to eliminate health disparities and inequities across sectors, including consideration of the following: Air and water quality, natural resources and agricultural land, affordable housing, infrastructure systems, public health, access to quality health care, social services, sustainable communities and the impact of climate change.

(b) Such plan shall address the incorporation of health and equity into specific policies, programs and government decision-making processes including, but not limited to, the following: (1) Disparities in laws and regulations impacting public health; (2) disparities in the criminal justice system; (3) disparities in access to resources, including, but not limited to, healthy food, safe housing, public safety and environments free of excess pollution; and (4) disparities in access to quality health care.

(c) Not later than January 1, [2022] 2024, as part of such plan, the commission shall [determine] report, using available scientifically based measurements, the [percentages] rates of disparity in the state based on race and ethnicity, in the following areas: (1) Education indicators, including kindergarten [readiness] entry inventory, third grade reading proficiency, scores on the mastery examination, administered pursuant to section 10-14n, rates of school-based discipline, high school graduation rates and retention rates after the first year of study for institutions of higher education in the state, as defined in section 3-22a; (2) health care utilization and outcome indicators, including health insurance coverage rates, pregnancy and infant health outcomes, emergency room visits and deaths related to conditions associated with exposure to environmental pollutants, including respiratory ailments, quality of life, life expectancy, lead poisoning and access to adequate healthy nutrition and self-reported well-being surveys; (3) criminal justice indicators, including rates of involvement with the justice system; and (4) economic indicators, including rates of poverty, income

House Bill No. 6941

and housing insecurity. It shall be the goal of the state to attain at least a seventy per cent reduction in the racial [disparities] inequities set forth in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection from the [percentage] rates of disparities determined by the commission on or before January 1, [2022] 2024.

(d) Upon completion of the initial comprehensive strategic plan, and thereafter of any update to such plan, the commission shall submit the plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, and to any other joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relevant to what is contained in such plan, as determined by the commission.

Sec. 190. Section 19a-133c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) As used in this section, "structural racism" means a system that structures opportunity and assigns value in a way that disproportionately and negatively impacts Black, Indigenous, Latino or Asian people or other people of color, and "state agency" has the same meaning as provided in section 1-79. The Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health, established under section 19a-133a, shall [determine] recommend best practices for state agencies to (1) evaluate structural racism within their own policies, practices, and operations, and (2) create and implement a plan, which includes the establishment of benchmarks for improvement, to ultimately eliminate any such structural racism within the agency.

(b) Not later than January 1, [2023] 2024, the commission shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government administration. Such report shall include the best practices [established] recommended by the

House Bill No. 6941

commission under this section and a recommendation on any legislation to implement such practices within state agencies.

Sec. 191. Section 19a-55 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) There is established a newborn screening program. The Commissioner of Public Health shall (1) administer the newborn screening program, (2) direct persons identified through the screening program to appropriate specialty centers for treatments, consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, and (3) set the fees to be charged to institutions to cover all expenses of the comprehensive screening program including testing, tracking and treatment, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. The fees to be charged pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection shall be set at a minimum of ninety-eight dollars.

(b) The administrative officer or other person in charge of each institution caring for newborn infants, a nurse-midwife licensed pursuant to chapter 377 or a midwife shall cause to have administered to every such newborn infant in his or her care a blood spot specimen and an HIV-related test, as defined in section 19a-581, except that the person responsible for testing may omit such test if the mother has had an HIV-related test pursuant to section 19a-90 or 19a-593. The blood spot specimen shall be collected not earlier than twenty-four hours after the birth of the newborn infant and not later than forty-eight hours after the birth of such infant, unless the institution caring for newborn infants, nurse-midwife licensed pursuant to chapter 377 or midwife determines that a situation exists to warrant an early collection of the specimen or if collection of the specimen is medically contraindicated. Situations that warrant early collection of the specimen shall include, but not be limited to, the imminent transfusion of blood products, dialysis, early discharge of the newborn infant from the institution, transfer of the newborn infant to another institution or imminent death. If the newborn infant

House Bill No. 6941

dies before a blood spot specimen can be obtained, the specimen shall be collected as soon as practicable after death. The institution licensed to care for newborn infants, nurse-midwife or midwife shall notify the Department of Public Health when a specimen is not collected within forty-eight hours after the birth of such infant due to: (1) The infant's medical fragility, (2) refusal by the parents when newborn infant screening is in conflict with their religious tenets and practice, (3) the newborn infant receiving comfort measures only, or (4) any other reason. Such notification shall be documented in the department's newborn screening system pursuant to section 19a-53 by the institution caring for newborn infants, nurse-midwife or midwife or sent in writing to the department not later than seventy-two hours after the birth of the newborn infant. The institution caring for newborn infants, nurse-midwife or midwife shall send the blood spot specimen to the state public health laboratory not later than twenty-four hours after the time of collection. The department may request an additional blood spot specimen if: (A) There was an early collection of the specimen, (B) the specimen was collected following a transfusion of blood products, (C) the specimen is unsatisfactory for testing, or (D) the department determines that there is an abnormal result. The state public health laboratory shall make and maintain a record of the date and time of its receipt of each blood spot specimen and make such record available for inspection by the institution caring for newborn infants, nurse-midwife or midwife that sent the blood spot specimen not later than forty-eight hours after such institution, nurse-midwife or midwife submits a request to inspect such record.

(c) The Commissioner of Public Health shall publish a list of all the abnormal conditions for which the department screens newborns under the newborn screening program, which shall include, but need not be limited to, testing for (1) amino acid disorders, including phenylketonuria, organic acid disorders, fatty acid oxidation disorders, including, but not limited to, long-chain 3-hydroxyacyl CoA

House Bill No. 6941

dehydrogenase (L-CHAD) and medium-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase (MCAD), hypothyroidism, galactosemia, sickle cell disease, maple syrup urine disease, homocystinuria, biotinidase deficiency, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, severe combined immunodeficiency disease, adrenoleukodystrophy, spinal muscular atrophy and any other disorder included on the recommended uniform screening panel pursuant to 42 USC 300b-10, as amended from time to time, and as prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, and (2) on and after July 1, 2025, cytomegalovirus.

(d) In addition to the testing requirements prescribed in subsection (b) of this section, the administrative officer or other person in charge of each institution caring for newborn infants shall cause to have administered to [(1)] every such infant in its care a screening test for [(A)] (1) cystic fibrosis, and [(B)] (2) critical congenital heart disease. [, (2) any newborn infant who fails a newborn hearing screening, as described in section 19a-59, a screening test for cytomegalovirus.] Such screening tests shall be administered as soon after birth as is medically appropriate.

(e) [(1)] The clinical laboratory that completes the testing for cystic fibrosis [,] shall report the number of newborn infants screened and the results of such testing, not less than annually, to the Department of Public Health into the newborn screening system pursuant to section 19a-53. The administrative officer or other person in charge of each institution caring for newborn infants who performs the testing for critical congenital heart disease shall enter the results of such test into the newborn screening system pursuant to section 19a-53.

[(2) The administrative officer or other person in charge of each institution caring for newborn infants shall enter any case of cytomegalovirus that is confirmed as a result of a screening test administered pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section to the Department of Public Health into the newborn screening system

House Bill No. 6941

pursuant to section 19a-53. The provisions of this subsection shall apply regardless of the patient's insurance status or source of payment, including self-pay status.]

(f) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any infant whose parents object to the test or treatment as being in conflict with their religious tenets and practice. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

Sec. 192. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Public Health shall convene a working group to study issues concerning cytomegalovirus, including, but not limited to, screening for cytomegalovirus by other states, treatment for newborns with positive asymptomatic screening results, best practices for universal screening, planning for implementation of universal screening and education for health care providers and vulnerable populations. The commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as chairperson of the working group.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Public Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health regarding the findings of the working group.

Sec. 193. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, in collaboration with the two-generational advisory board established pursuant to section 17b-112l of the general statutes, shall (1) not later than September 1, 2023, review and make recommendations regarding the participating and appointed membership of the two-generational initiative, including, but not limited to, specific recommendations regarding family engagement strategies and advisory board composition, and (2) develop a two-

House Bill No. 6941

generational advisory strategic plan that outlines the advisory board's role in identifying short, medium and long-term strategies to maximize state investments in family-driven multigenerational success.

(b) The strategic plan shall include, but need not be limited to, recommendations regarding: (1) Aligning the state two-generational initiative with regional and national initiatives related to two-generational success utilizing collaboration with the private sector, national research and quantitative and qualitative data from other states; (2) a short, medium and long-term resourcing strategy that includes recommendations to leverage existing public, private and philanthropic resources from national state and local partners; (3) expanding the focus of the two-generational initiative to more robustly support family well-being, economic engagement and mobility through expanded public and private partnerships, targeted investment and leveraging of new and existing resources; (4) increasing the public's understanding of, and engagement with, the two-generational initiative; (5) tracking two-generational outcomes of families in the state, including parents involved in the two-generational initiative as members of the advisory board; and (6) developing a constituency for the two-generational initiative across all sectors, public and private, of the state.

(c) Subject to available appropriations, the commission shall develop a data-driven, two-generational policy and outcomes dashboard that tracks (1) the outcomes of families pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (b) of this section in accordance with the data-sharing protocol developed pursuant to section 17b-112l of the general statutes; and (2) other data related to the two-generational initiative.

(d) Not later than September 1, 2024, the executive director of the commission shall present the strategic plan to the advisory board and submit such plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General

House Bill No. 6941

Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, children, housing, human services and labor.

Sec. 194. Section 8-169hh of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

For purposes of this section, ~~[and]~~ sections 8-169ii to 8-169ss, inclusive, ~~and section 195 of this act:~~

(1) "As of right" has the same meaning as provided in section 8-1a;

~~[(1)]~~ (2) "Authority" means the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority established in section 8-169ii;

~~[(2)]~~ (3) "Authority development project" means a project occurring within the boundaries of a Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority development district;

~~[(3)]~~ (4) "Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority development district" or "development district" means the area determined by a memorandum of agreement between the authority and the chief executive officer of the member municipality, or the chief executive officers of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, where such development district is located, provided such area shall be considered a downtown or does not exceed a one-half-mile radius of a transit station;

~~[(4)]~~ (5) "Designated tier III municipality" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-560;

~~[(5)]~~ (6) "Designated tier IV municipality" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-560;

~~[(6)]~~ (7) "Downtown" means a central business district or other commercial neighborhood area of a community that serves as a center

House Bill No. 6941

of socioeconomic interaction in the community, characterized by a cohesive core of commercial and mixed-use buildings, often interspersed with civic, religious and residential buildings and public spaces, that are typically arranged along a main street and intersecting side streets and served by public infrastructure;

[(7)] (8) "Member municipality" means [(A)] any municipality [with a population of seventy thousand or more] that opts to join the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority in accordance with section 8-169ll. [, or (B) any designated tier III or tier IV municipality.] "Member municipality" does not include the city of Hartford or any municipality that is considered part of the capital region, as defined in section 32-600;

(9) "Middle housing" has the same meaning as provided in section 8-1a;

[(8)] (10) "Joint member entity" means two or more municipalities [with a combined population of seventy thousand or more] that together opt to join the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority in accordance with section 8-169ll, provided no such municipality is considered part of the capital region, as defined in section 32-600;

[(9)] (11) "Project" means any or all of the following: (A) The design and construction of transit-oriented development, as defined in section 13b-79kk; (B) the creation of housing units through rehabilitation or new construction; (C) the demolition or redevelopment of vacant buildings; and (D) development and redevelopment;

[(10) State-wide transportation investment program"] (12) "State-wide transportation investment program" means the planning document developed and updated at least every four years by the Department of Transportation in compliance with the requirements of 23 USC 135, listing all transportation projects in the state expected to

House Bill No. 6941

receive federal funding during the four-year period covered by the program; and

[(11)] (13) "Transit station" means any passenger railroad station or bus rapid transit station that is operational, or for which the Department of Transportation has initiated planning or that is included in the state-wide transportation investment program, that is or will be located within the boundaries of a member municipality or the municipalities constituting a joint member entity.

Sec. 195. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 8-169ii of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(b) The powers of the authority shall be vested in and exercised by a board of directors, which shall consist of the following members: [(1) Two appointed jointly by the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be the chief executive officer of a member municipality in New Haven County; (2) two appointed jointly by the majority leaders of the House of Representatives and the Senate, one of whom shall be the chief executive officer of a member municipality in Hartford County; (3) two appointed jointly by the minority leaders of the House of Representatives and the Senate, one of whom shall be the chief executive officer of a member municipality in Fairfield County; (4) two] (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives who has expertise in housing development; (2) one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate who has expertise in planning and zoning; (3) one appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives who is a certified planner; (4) one appointed by the majority leader of the Senate who has expertise in transit-oriented development; (5) one appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives who has expertise in regional planning; (6) one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate who has expertise in economic development; (7) three appointed

House Bill No. 6941

by the Governor; and [(5)] (8) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the Labor Commissioner and the Commissioners of Transportation, Energy and Environmental Protection, Public Health, Housing and Economic and Community Development, or their designees, who shall serve as ex-officio, voting members of the board.

(c) The Governor shall designate the chairperson of the board from among the members. All initial appointments shall be made not later than sixty days after October 1, [2019] 2023. All members shall be appointed by the original appointing authority for four-year terms. Any member of the board shall be eligible for reappointment. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term. The appointing authority for any member may remove such member for misfeasance, malfeasance or wilful neglect of duty.

Sec. 196. Subsection (a) of section 8-169jj of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) The purposes of the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority shall be to: (1) Stimulate economic and transit-oriented development, as defined in section 13b-79kk, within Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority development districts; (2) encourage residential housing development within development districts; (3) manage facilities through contractual agreement or other legal instrument; (4) stimulate new investment within development districts and provide support for the creation of vibrant, multidimensional downtowns; (5) upon request of the legislative body of a member municipality, or the legislative bodies of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, in which a development district is located, work with such municipality or municipalities to assist in development and redevelopment efforts to stimulate the economy of such municipality or municipalities; (6) upon

House Bill No. 6941

request of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and with the approval of the chief executive officer of a member municipality, or the chief executive officers of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, in which a development district is located, enter into an agreement to facilitate development or redevelopment within such development district; (7) encourage development and redevelopment of property within development districts; (8) engage residents of member municipalities, or municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, and other stakeholders in development and redevelopment efforts; [and] (9) market and develop development districts as vibrant and multidimensional; and (10) provide financial support and technical assistance to municipalities to develop housing growth zones.

Sec. 197. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 8-169*ll* of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) (1) Any municipality, [with a population of seventy thousand or more as determined by the most recent decennial census,] except the city of Hartford or any municipality that is considered part of the capital region, as defined in section 32-600, may, by certified resolution of the legislative body of the municipality, opt to join the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority as a member municipality, provided such municipality holds a public hearing prior to any vote on such certified resolution. [Any designated tier III or tier IV municipality, except the city of Hartford or any municipality that is considered part of the capital region as defined in section 32-600, shall be deemed a member municipality.]

(2) The legislative body of each member municipality shall appoint a local development board to serve as liaison to the authority. Such board (A) shall include three individuals representing the municipality and the chief executive officer of such municipality, who shall serve as

House Bill No. 6941

chairperson of the board, and (B) may include, but need not be limited to, representatives from local health or human services organizations, local housing organizations, a local school district or education organization, and a local business organization. Such board shall also include one member of the board of directors of the authority, chosen by the chairperson of the board of directors of the authority. Each legislative body shall make a good faith effort to appoint representatives of minority-owned businesses, advocates for walkable communities and members who are geographically, racially, socioeconomically and gender diverse.

(3) Any municipality that opts to join the authority as a member municipality or that is deemed a member municipality pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall enter into a memorandum of agreement with the authority for the establishment of one or more development districts.

(b) (1) Any two or more municipalities [with a combined population of seventy thousand or more as determined by the most recent decennial census] may, by certified concurrent resolutions of the legislative bodies of each such municipality, together opt to join the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority as a joint member entity, provided (A) no such municipality is considered part of the capital region, as defined in section 32-600, and (B) each such municipality holds a public hearing prior to any vote on the certified resolution from such municipality. The concurrent resolutions shall set forth an agreement of such municipalities as to authority for decisions concerning projects in development districts within such municipalities.

(2) The legislative bodies of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity shall jointly appoint a local development board to serve as liaison to the authority. Such board shall (A) include two individuals representing each such municipality and the chief executive officer of each such municipality, who shall serve as cochairperson of the board

House Bill No. 6941

with the other chief executive officers, and (B) may include, but need not be limited to, representatives from local health or human services organizations, local housing organizations, a local school district or education organization and a local business organization. Such board shall also include one member of the board of directors of the authority, chosen by the chairperson of the board of directors of the authority. The legislative bodies of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity shall make a good faith effort to appoint representatives of minority-owned businesses, advocates for walkable communities and members who are geographically, racially, socioeconomically and gender diverse.

(3) Any two or more municipalities that together opt to join the authority as a joint member entity shall jointly enter into a memorandum of agreement with the authority for the establishment of one or more development districts.

Sec. 198. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section, "housing growth zone" means any area within a municipality in which applicable zoning regulations adopted pursuant to section 8-2 of the general statutes are designed to facilitate substantial development of new dwelling units consistent with subsection (c) of this section. Any housing growth zone shall encompass an entire development district and may include areas outside such district.

(b) Notwithstanding section 8-169jj of the general statutes, prior to the execution of any memorandum of agreement that establishes a development district, any chief executive officer of a member municipality, or the chief executive officers of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, shall create a proposal for a housing growth zone and submit such proposal, including proposed zoning regulations applicable to such zone, for the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority's review and approval.

House Bill No. 6941

(c) (1) The authority shall approve any proposal submitted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section if the authority determines that the proposed zoning regulations applicable to the housing growth zone are likely to substantially increase the production of new dwelling units necessary to meet housing demand within the region.

(2) In making its determination pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the authority shall presume that any proposal that includes the following provisions is likely to substantially increase the production of new dwelling units: (A) The proposal permits middle housing as of right, and (B) except as provided in subparagraph (iv) of this subdivision, the proposal requires only the approval of the zoning board of appeals, planning commission, zoning commission or combined planning and zoning commission for the issuance of any applicable permits for any application that would result in a net increase of dwelling units other than middle housing units, provided such zoning board of appeals, planning commission, zoning commission or combined planning and zoning commission, with respect to any application submitted pursuant to this section, shall (i) have the same power to issue any permit or approval as any other municipal body or official who would otherwise act with respect to such application, (ii) hold a single public hearing not later than thirty days after the receipt of any such application, (iii) by majority vote, determine whether to approve or deny such application not later than thirty days after such public hearing, and (iv) upon the recommendation of the zoning board of appeals, planning commission, zoning commission or combined planning and zoning commission, require concurrent approval from any sewer commission, water commission, municipal wetlands commission, municipal conservation commission or board or municipal historic preservation commission of the municipality pursuant to a joint review process for such application by any such commission or board, as applicable, not later than thirty days after receipt of such application. The applicant shall file any such application with the zoning board of

House Bill No. 6941

appeals, the planning commission, zoning commission or combined planning and zoning commission, which shall forward such application to such applicable commission or board to provide for such joint review if such review is recommended by such zoning board of appeals, planning commission, zoning commission or combined planning and zoning commission.

(3) In making its determination pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection whether a housing growth zone proposal is likely to substantially increase the production of new dwelling units, the authority shall consider whether the proposal (A) allows the development of new dwelling units without the requirement of any off-street parking spaces, (B) requires that ten per cent of units be sold or rented at, or below, prices which will preserve the units as housing for which persons and families pay thirty per cent or less of their annual income, where such income is less than or equal to eighty per cent of the median income, for any application involving a net increase of ten or more dwelling units, and (C) generally promotes residential diversity.

(d) Notwithstanding chapter 130 of the general statutes, no member municipality, nor the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, shall submit an application or request for funds for any authority development project pursuant to section 8-169nn of the general statutes, nor shall any bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority be issued to carry out such project, pursuant to section 8-169oo of the general statutes, until the member municipality, or the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, enacts all of the zoning regulations proposed in the housing zone growth proposal approved by the authority.

Sec. 199. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) (1) Not later than March 31, 2024, and annually thereafter, each municipality shall report to the Department of Economic and Community Development, in a form and manner to be prescribed by the commissioner, for the previous calendar

House Bill No. 6941

year, (A) the number of new dwelling units permitted in such municipality, including specifying how many new dwelling units are located within single family, two-to-four family and more than four-family homes; and (B) the number of dwelling units demolished in such municipality.

(2) Not later than December 31, 2023, each municipality shall report the information specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection for each calendar year from 2018 to 2022, inclusive.

(b) On and after April 1, 2024, the commissioner shall send a notice to any municipality that fails to comply with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section. If any municipality fails to comply with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section more than sixty days after the issuance of such letter by the commissioner, the commissioner shall deem such municipality ineligible for discretionary state funding from the Department of Economic and Community Development for a period lasting until the subsequent reporting deadline required by this section unless such prohibition is expressly waived by the commissioner upon the commissioner's finding of good cause for such failure to comply.

(c) The Department of Economic and Community Development shall collect the reports as provided in subsection (a) of this section and publish such reports on the department's Internet web site.

Sec. 200. (*Effective October 1, 2023*) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the Commissioner of Administrative Services and the Commissioner of Transportation, shall conduct a study of any real property owned by the state, excluding any real property reserved for conservation by the state, to identify properties surplus to state needs and suitable for development for housing to improve housing opportunities for residents in the state, with a particular focus on any property suitable for transit-oriented

House Bill No. 6941

development and affordable housing. Not later than January 1, 2024, the secretary shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor and to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing and planning and development containing the findings of such study.

Sec. 201. Subsection (f) of section 51-297 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(f) (1) As used in this chapter, "indigent defendant" means [(1)] (A) a person who is formally charged with the commission of a crime punishable by imprisonment and who does not have the financial ability at the time of his request for representation to secure competent legal representation and to provide other necessary expenses of legal representation; [(2)] (B) a child who has a right to counsel under the provisions of subsection (a) of section 46b-135 and who does not have the financial ability at the time of his request for representation to secure competent legal representation and to provide other necessary expenses of legal representation; or [(3)] (C) any person who has a right to counsel under section 46b-136 and who does not have the financial ability at the time of his request for representation to secure competent legal representation and to provide other necessary expenses of legal representation.

(2) An assessment determining whether a person has the financial ability to secure competent legal representation and to provide other necessary expenses of legal representation or qualifies as an indigent defendant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be based upon guidelines established by the commission. The commission shall annually establish such guidelines providing that a person whose income, calculated as described in such guidelines, is two hundred fifty per cent or less of the federal poverty level may qualify as an indigent

House Bill No. 6941

defendant. The commission shall make such guidelines available to the public on the Division of Public Defender Service's Internet web site.

Sec. 202. Section 3-124 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) There shall be an Attorney General to be elected in the same manner as other state officers in accordance with the provisions of section 9-181. The Attorney General shall (1) be an elector of this state, [and an attorney at law of at least ten years' active practice at the bar of this state] (2) be a member in good standing of the bar of this state, and (3) have engaged in the practice of law in this state for at least ten years, either consecutively or nonconsecutively.

(b) The office of the Attorney General shall be at the Capitol. On and after January 4, 2023, the Attorney General shall receive an annual salary equal to the annual salary of a judge of the Superior Court under subsection (a) of section 51-47, provided thereafter, no increase in the annual salary of the Attorney General shall take effect until the first Wednesday following the first Monday of the January succeeding the next election of the Attorney General following any increase in the annual salary of a judge of the Superior Court under section 51-47. The Attorney General shall devote full time to the duties of the office and shall give bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars.

Sec. 203. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the Comptroller shall establish a program to provide a subsidy, within available appropriations, to each paraeducator who (1) opens a health savings account, pursuant to Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, (2) is employed by a local or regional board of education, and (3) applies for such program in the form and manner prescribed by the Comptroller. Such subsidy shall be in an amount up to a certain percentage, as specified by the Comptroller,

House Bill No. 6941

of the initial investment made by such paraeducator to open a health savings account, not exceeding an amount specified by the Comptroller. No paraeducator may receive more than one subsidy pursuant to this section.

Sec. 204. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Actuarial value" means the level of coverage provided by a health benefit plan as a percentage of the full actuarial value of the benefits provided under such plan;

(2) "Eligible paraeducator" means a paraeducator who (A) is employed by a local or regional board of education, (B) is ineligible for (i) the Covered Connecticut program, established under section 19a-754c of the general statutes, or (ii) Medicaid, and (C) does not have access to coverage under a health benefit plan that is available (i) through the employer of such paraeducator's spouse and has an actuarial value of at least seventy-five per cent, or (ii) available through an employer of such paraeducator and has an actuarial value that is equivalent to the actuarial value of a qualified health plan that is offered through the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange at a silver level of coverage through any employer;

(3) "Health benefit plan" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1080 of the general statutes;

(4) "Qualified health plan" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1080 of the general statutes; and

(5) "Silver level of coverage" has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 18022(d), as amended from time to time.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Comptroller shall establish a program to provide a stipend to an eligible paraeducator to purchase a qualified health plan

House Bill No. 6941

with a silver level of coverage through the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange. Such stipend shall be (1) available to any eligible paraeducator who is employed by a local or regional board of education that only provides to such paraeducator coverage under a health benefit plan with an actuarial value of less than sixty per cent, except the Comptroller may increase such actuarial value limit if the Comptroller determines that such actuarial value limit results in less than half of eligible paraeducators in the state qualifying for a stipend under this section, and (2) in an amount not to exceed the cost of the qualified health plan the eligible paraeducator purchases through the exchange after the application of any federal or state tax credits applicable to such qualified health plan. The Comptroller shall prescribe forms and procedures through which eligible paraeducators may apply to such program.

Sec. 205. Subsection (b) of section 19a-754a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) The Office of Health Strategy shall be responsible for the following:

(1) Developing and implementing a comprehensive and cohesive health care vision for the state, including, but not limited to, a coordinated state health care cost containment strategy;

(2) Promoting effective health planning and the provision of quality health care in the state in a manner that ensures access for all state residents to cost-effective health care services, avoids the duplication of such services and improves the availability and financial stability of such services throughout the state;

(3) Directing and overseeing the State Innovation Model Initiative and related successor initiatives;

House Bill No. 6941

(4) (A) Coordinating the state's health information technology initiatives, (B) seeking funding for and overseeing the planning, implementation and development of policies and procedures for the administration of the all-payer claims database program established under section 19a-775a, (C) establishing and maintaining a consumer health information Internet web site under section 19a-755b, and (D) designating an unclassified individual from the office to perform the duties of a health information technology officer as set forth in sections 17b-59f and 17b-59g;

(5) Directing and overseeing the Health Systems Planning Unit established under section 19a-612 and all of its duties and responsibilities as set forth in chapter 368z;

(6) Convening forums and meetings with state government and external stakeholders, including, but not limited to, the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, to discuss health care issues designed to develop effective health care cost and quality strategies;

(7) Consulting with the Commissioner of Social Services, Insurance Commissioner and Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange on the Covered Connecticut program described in section 19a-754c; [and]

(8) (A) Setting an annual health care cost growth benchmark and primary care spending target pursuant to section 19a-754g, (B) developing and adopting health care quality benchmarks pursuant to section 19a-754g, (C) developing strategies, in consultation with stakeholders, to meet such benchmarks and targets developed pursuant to section 19a-754g, (D) enhancing the transparency of provider entities, as defined in subdivision (13) of section 19a-754f, (E) monitoring the development of accountable care organizations and patient-centered medical homes in the state, and (F) monitoring the adoption of alternative payment methodologies in the state; and

House Bill No. 6941

(9) Assist local and regional boards of education in enrolling paraeducators for coverage under (A) the qualified health plans for which such paraeducator may be eligible under section 204 of this act, (B) the Covered Connecticut program, established pursuant to section 19a-754c, or (C) Medicaid.

Sec. 206. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Actuarial value" means the level of coverage provided by a health benefit plan as a percentage of the full actuarial value of the benefits provided under such plan;

(2) "Health benefit plan" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1080 of the general statutes;

(3) "Qualified health plan" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1080 of the general statutes; and

(4) "Silver level of coverage" has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 18022(d), as amended from time to time.

(b) There is established a paraeducator health care working group to study health care access, equity and affordability for paraeducators employed by local or regional boards of education. The working group shall consist of at least one representative each from the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange and the Office of Health Strategy, the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee, and at least one member appointed by the two employee organizations that represent paraeducators in the state. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) analysis of the cost to such boards for offering coverage under health benefit plans with an actuarial value of at least seventy-five per cent, (2) consideration of the fees or taxes assessed on a local or regional board of education if the coverage under the health benefit plan offered by such board does not meet the minimum essential coverage requirements set forth in Section 36B(c)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue

House Bill No. 6941

Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, (3) a comparison of the costs to such boards for offering coverage under health benefit plans, by actuarial value, and the cost of a qualified health plan with a silver level of coverage, (4) examination of the feasibility of expanding the Covered Connecticut program, established pursuant to section 19a-654c of the general statutes, or any other premium subsidy program available through the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, to provide affordable coverage for paraeducators and other similarly situated occupations in the state, and (5) assessment of the average out-of-pocket costs for paraeducators under existing cost-sharing subsidy programs.

(c) The representative from the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange shall convene the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than October 1, 2023.

(d) Not later than July 1, 2024, the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, insurance, labor and public employees and education a report on the results of such study, including, but not limited to, any recommendations for legislation related to such results.

Sec. 207. (*Effective from passage*) Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, of public act 23-56, shall take effect October 1, 2023.

Sec. 208. Section 42-525 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) The Attorney General shall have exclusive authority to enforce violations of sections 42-515 to 42-524, inclusive, and section 2 of public act 23-56.

(b) (1) During the period beginning on July 1, 2023, and ending on

House Bill No. 6941

December 31, 2024, the Attorney General shall, prior to initiating any action for a violation of any provision of sections 42-515 to 42-524, inclusive, issue a notice of violation to the controller if the Attorney General determines that a cure is possible. If the controller fails to cure such violation within sixty days of receipt of the notice of violation, the Attorney General may bring an action pursuant to this section.

(2) During the period beginning on October 1, 2023, and ending on December 31, 2024, the Attorney General shall, prior to initiating any action for a violation of any provision of sections 42-515 to 42-524, inclusive, and section 2 of public act 23-56, issue a notice of violation to the consumer health data controller if the Attorney General determines that a cure is possible. If the consumer health data controller fails to cure such violation within sixty days of receipt of the notice of violation, the Attorney General may bring an action pursuant to this section.

(3) Not later than February 1, 2024, the Attorney General shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to general law disclosing: [(1)] (A) The number of notices of violation the Attorney General has issued; [(2)] (B) the nature of each violation; [(3)] (C) the number of violations that were cured during the sixty-day cure period; and [(4)] (D) any other matter the Attorney General deems relevant for the purposes of such report.

(c) Beginning on January 1, 2025, the Attorney General may, in determining whether to grant a controller, [or] processor or consumer health data controller the opportunity to cure an alleged violation described in subsection (b) of this section, consider: (1) The number of violations; (2) the size and complexity of the controller, [or] processor or consumer health data controller; (3) the nature and extent of the controller's, [or] processor's or consumer health data controller's processing activities; (4) the substantial likelihood of injury to the public; (5) the safety of persons or property; [and] (6) whether such alleged

House Bill No. 6941

violation was likely caused by human or technical error; and (7) the sensitivity of the data.

(d) Nothing in sections 42-515 to 42-524, inclusive, or section 2 of public act 23-56, shall be construed as providing the basis for, or be subject to, a private right of action for violations of said sections or any other law.

(e) A violation of the requirements of sections 42-515 to 42-524, inclusive, or section 2 of public act 23-56, shall constitute an unfair trade practice for purposes of section 42-110b and shall be enforced solely by the Attorney General, provided the provisions of section 42-110g shall not apply to such violation.

Sec. 209. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 14-33 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(a) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, if any property tax, or any installment thereof, laid by any city, town, borough or other taxing district upon a registered motor vehicle or snowmobile remains unpaid, the tax collector of such city, town, borough or other taxing district shall notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of such delinquency in accordance with subsection (e) of this section and guidelines and procedures established by the commissioner. The commissioner shall not issue registration for such motor vehicle or snowmobile for the next registration period if, according to the commissioner's records, it is then owned by the person against whom such tax has been assessed or by any person to whom such vehicle has not been transferred by bona fide sale. Unless notice has been received by the commissioner under the provisions of section 14-33a, no such registration shall be issued until the commissioner receives notification that the tax obligation has been legally discharged; nor shall the

House Bill No. 6941

commissioner register any other motor vehicle, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle or vessel in the name of such person, except that the commissioner may continue to register other vehicles owned by a leasing or rental firm licensed pursuant to section 14-15, and may issue such registration to any private owner of three or more paratransit vehicles in direct proportion to the percentage of total tax due on such vehicles which has been paid and notice of payment on which has been received. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may immediately suspend or cancel all motor vehicle, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle or vessel registrations issued in the name of any person (A) who has been reported as delinquent and whose registration was renewed through an error or through the production of false evidence that the delinquent tax on any motor vehicle or snowmobile had been paid, or (B) who has been reported by a tax collector as having paid a property tax on a motor vehicle or snowmobile with a check which was dishonored by a bank and such tax remains unpaid. Any person aggrieved by any action of the commissioner under this section may appeal therefrom in the manner provided in section 14-134. For the purposes of this subsection, "paratransit vehicle" means a motor bus, taxicab or motor vehicle in livery service operated under a certificate of convenience and necessity issued by the Department of Transportation or by a transit district and which is on call or demand or used for the transportation of passengers for hire.

(2) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, if any property tax, or any installment thereof, laid by any city, town, borough or other taxing district upon a motor vehicle remains unpaid, regardless of whether such motor vehicle is classified on the grand list as a registered motor vehicle or personal property pursuant to section 12-41, the tax collector of such city, town, borough or other taxing district shall notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of such delinquency in accordance with subsection (e) of this section and guidelines and procedures established by the commissioner. The

House Bill No. 6941

commissioner shall not issue registration for such motor vehicle for the next registration period if, according to the commissioner's records, it is then owned by the person against whom such tax has been assessed or by any person to whom such vehicle has not been transferred by bona fide sale. Unless notice has been received by the commissioner under the provisions of section 14-33a, no such registration shall be issued until the commissioner receives notification that the tax obligation has been legally discharged; nor shall the commissioner register any other motor vehicle, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle or vessel in the name of such person, except that the commissioner may continue to register other vehicles owned by a leasing or rental firm licensed pursuant to section 14-15, and may issue such registration to any private owner of three or more paratransit vehicles in direct proportion to the percentage of total tax due on such vehicles which has been paid and notice of payment on which has been received. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may immediately suspend or cancel all motor vehicle, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle or vessel registrations issued in the name of any person (A) who has been reported as delinquent and whose registration was renewed through an error or through the production of false evidence that the delinquent tax on any motor vehicle had been paid, or (B) who has been reported by a tax collector as having paid a property tax on a motor vehicle with a check which was dishonored by a bank and such tax remains unpaid.

(b) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the Treasurer and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, may enter into an agreement with the tax collector of any city, town, borough or other taxing district whereby the commissioner shall collect any property tax or any installment thereof on a registered motor vehicle which remains unpaid from any person against whom such tax has been assessed who makes application for registration for such motor vehicle.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) For assessment years commencing on and after October 1, [2023] 2024, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the Treasurer and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, may enter into an agreement with the tax collector of any city, town, borough or other taxing district whereby the commissioner shall collect any property tax or any installment thereof on any motor vehicle which remains unpaid from any person against whom such tax has been assessed who makes application for registration for such motor vehicle.

(3) Any agreement entered into pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection shall include a procedure for the remission of taxes collected to the city, town, borough or other taxing district, on a regular basis, and may provide that a fee be paid by the city, town, borough or other taxing district to the commissioner to cover any costs associated with the administration of the agreement. In the event an agreement is in effect, the commissioner shall immediately issue a registration for a motor vehicle owned by a person against whom such tax has been assessed upon receipt of payment of such tax and a service fee of two dollars, in addition to the fee prescribed for the renewal of the registration.

Sec. 210. Section 14-163 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(a) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, the commissioner shall compile information concerning motor vehicles and snowmobiles subject to property taxation pursuant to section 12-71 using the records of the Department of Motor Vehicles and information reported by owners of motor vehicles and snowmobiles. In addition to any other information the owner of a motor vehicle or snowmobile is required to file with the commissioner by law, such owner shall provide the commissioner with the name of the town in

House Bill No. 6941

which such owner's motor vehicle or snowmobile is to be set in the list for property tax purposes, pursuant to section 12-71. On or before December 1, 2004, and annually thereafter until and including December 1, [2022] 2023, the commissioner shall provide to each assessor in this state a list identifying motor vehicles and snowmobiles that are subject to property taxation in each such assessor's town. Said list shall include the names and addresses of the owners of such motor vehicles and snowmobiles, and the vehicle identification numbers for all such vehicles for which such numbers are available.

(2) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, the commissioner shall compile information concerning motor vehicles subject to property taxation pursuant to section 12-71, using the records of the Department of Motor Vehicles and information reported by owners of motor vehicles. In addition to any other information the owner of a motor vehicle is required to file with the commissioner by law, such owner shall provide the commissioner with the name of the town in which such owner's motor vehicle is to be set in the list for property tax purposes, pursuant to section 12-71. On or before November 1, [2023] 2024, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall provide to each assessor in this state a list identifying motor vehicles that are subject to property taxation in each such assessor's town. Such list shall include the names and addresses of the owners of such motor vehicles and the vehicle identification numbers and manufacturer's suggested retail price for all such vehicles for which such information is available.

(b) (1) On or before October 1, 2004, and annually thereafter until and including October 1, [2023] 2024, the commissioner shall provide to each assessor in this state a list identifying motor vehicles and snowmobiles in each such assessor's town that were registered subsequent to the first day of October of the assessment year immediately preceding, but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year, and that are subject

House Bill No. 6941

to property taxation on a supplemental list pursuant to section 12-71b. In addition to the information for each such vehicle and snowmobile specified under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section that is available to the commissioner, the list provided under this subsection shall include a code related to the date of registration of each such vehicle or snowmobile.

(2) Not later than November 15, [2023] 2024, and monthly thereafter, the commissioner shall provide to each assessor in this state a list identifying motor vehicles in each such assessor's town that were registered during the immediately preceding month and that are subject to property taxation on a supplemental list pursuant to section 12-71b. In addition to the information for such vehicle specified under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section that is available to the commissioner, the list provided under this subsection shall include a code related to the date of registration of each such vehicle.

(c) No assessor or tax collector shall disclose any information contained in any list provided by the commissioner pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section if the commissioner is not required to provide such information or if such information is protected from disclosure under state or federal law.

Sec. 211. Section 12-71d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(a) Prior to and including October 1, [2022] 2023, on or before the first day of October each year, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall recommend a schedule of motor vehicle values which shall be used by assessors in each municipality in determining the assessed value of motor vehicles for purposes of property taxation. For every vehicle not listed in the schedule the determination of the assessed value of any motor vehicle for purposes of the property tax

House Bill No. 6941

assessment list in any municipality shall continue to be the responsibility of the assessor in such municipality, provided the legislative body of the municipality may, by resolution, approve any change in the assessor's method of valuing motor vehicles. Any appeal from the findings of assessors concerning motor vehicle values shall be made in accordance with provisions related to such appeals under this chapter. Such schedule of values shall include, to the extent that information for such purpose is available, the value for assessment purposes of any motor vehicle currently in use. The value for each motor vehicle as listed shall represent one hundred per cent of the average retail price applicable to such motor vehicle in this state as of the first day of October in such year as determined by said secretary in cooperation with the Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers.

(b) Not later than October 1, [2023] 2024, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall, in consultation with the Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers, recommend a schedule of motor vehicle plate classes, which shall be used by assessors in each municipality in determining the classification of motor vehicles for purposes of property taxation. The value for each motor vehicle shall be determined by the schedule of depreciation described in subdivision (7) of subsection (b) of section 12-63. The determination of the assessed value of any vehicle for which a manufacturer's suggested retail price cannot be obtained for purposes of the property tax assessment list in any municipality shall be the responsibility of the assessor in such municipality, in consultation with the Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers. Any appeal from the findings of assessors concerning motor vehicle values shall be made in accordance with provisions related to such appeals under this chapter.

Sec. 212. Section 12-63 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) The present true and actual value of land classified as farm land pursuant to section 12-107c, as forest land pursuant to section 12-107d, as open space land pursuant to section 12-107e, or as maritime heritage land pursuant to section 12-107g shall be based upon its current use without regard to neighborhood land use of a more intensive nature, provided in no event shall the present true and actual value of open space land be less than it would be if such open space land comprised a part of a tract or tracts of land classified as farm land pursuant to section 12-107c. The present true and actual value of all other property shall be deemed by all assessors and boards of assessment appeals to be the fair market value thereof and not its value at a forced or auction sale.

(b) (1) For the purposes of this subsection, (A) "electronic data processing equipment" means computers, printers, peripheral computer equipment, bundled software and any computer-based equipment acting as a computer, as defined in Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended; (B) "leased personal property" means tangible personal property which is the subject of a written or oral lease or loan on the assessment date, or any such property which has been so leased or loaned by the then current owner of such property for three or more of the twelve months preceding such assessment date; and (C) "original selling price" means the price at which tangible personal property is most frequently sold in the year that it was manufactured.

(2) Any municipality may, by ordinance, adopt the provisions of this subsection to be applicable for the assessment year commencing October first of the assessment year in which a revaluation of all real property required pursuant to section 12-62 is performed in such municipality, and for each assessment year thereafter. If so adopted, the present true and actual value of tangible personal property, other than motor vehicles, shall be determined in accordance with the provisions

House Bill No. 6941

of this subsection. If such property is purchased, its true and actual value shall be established in relation to the cost of its acquisition, including transportation and installation, and shall reflect depreciation in accordance with the schedules set forth in subdivisions (3) to (6), inclusive, of this subsection. If such property is developed and produced by the owner of such property for a purpose other than wholesale or retail sale or lease, its true and actual value shall be established in relation to its cost of development, production and installation and shall reflect depreciation in accordance with the schedules provided in subdivisions (3) to (6), inclusive, of this subsection. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to property owned by a public service company, as defined in section 16-1.

(3) The following schedule of depreciation shall be applicable with respect to electronic data processing equipment:

(A) Group I: Computer and peripheral hardware, including, but not limited to, personal computers, workstations, terminals, storage devices, printers, scanners, computer peripherals and networking equipment:

Assessment Year Following Acquisition	Depreciated Value As Percentage Of Acquisition Cost Basis
First year	Seventy per cent
Second year	Forty per cent
Third year	Twenty per cent
Fourth year and thereafter	Ten per cent

(B) Group II: Other hardware, including, but not limited to, mini-

House Bill No. 6941

frame and main-frame systems with an acquisition cost of more than twenty-five thousand dollars:

Assessment Year Following Acquisition	Depreciated Value As Percentage Of Acquisition Cost Basis
First year	Ninety per cent
Second year	Sixty per cent
Third year	Forty per cent
Fourth year	Twenty per cent
Fifth year and thereafter	Ten per cent

(4) The following schedule of depreciation shall be applicable with respect to copiers, facsimile machines, medical testing equipment, and any similar type of equipment that is not specifically defined as electronic data processing equipment, but is considered by the assessor to be technologically advanced:

Assessment Year Following Acquisition	Depreciated Value As Percentage Of Acquisition Cost Basis
First year	Ninety-five per cent
Second year	Eighty per cent
Third year	Sixty per cent
Fourth year	Forty per cent
Fifth year and thereafter	Twenty per cent

House Bill No. 6941

(5) The following schedule of depreciation shall be applicable with respect to machinery and equipment used in the manufacturing process:

Assessment Year Following Acquisition	Depreciated Value As Percentage Of Acquisition Cost Basis
First year	Ninety per cent
Second year	Eighty per cent
Third year	Seventy per cent
Fourth year	Sixty per cent
Fifth year	Fifty per cent
Sixth year	Forty per cent
Seventh year	Thirty per cent
Eighth year and thereafter	Twenty per cent

(6) The following schedule of depreciation shall be applicable with respect to all tangible personal property other than that described in subdivisions (3) to (5), inclusive, and subdivision (7) of this subsection:

Assessment Year Following Acquisition	Depreciated Value As Percentage Of Acquisition Cost Basis
First year	Ninety-five per cent
Second year	Ninety per cent
Third year	Eighty per cent
Fourth year	Seventy per cent
Fifth year	Sixty per cent

House Bill No. 6941

Sixth year	Fifty per cent
Seventh year	Forty per cent
Eighth year and thereafter	Thirty per cent

(7) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, the following schedule of depreciation shall be applicable with respect to motor vehicles based on the manufacturer's suggested retail price of such motor vehicles, provided no motor vehicle shall be valued at an amount less than five hundred dollars:

Age of Vehicle	Percentage of Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price
Up to year one	Eighty per cent
Year two	Seventy-five per cent
Year three	Seventy per cent
Year four	Sixty-five per cent
Year five	Sixty per cent
Year six	Fifty-five per cent
Year seven	Fifty per cent
Year eight	Forty-five per cent
Year nine	Forty per cent
Year ten	Thirty-five per cent
Year eleven	Thirty per cent
Year twelve	Twenty-five per cent
Year thirteen	Twenty per cent
Year fourteen	Fifteen per cent
Years fifteen to nineteen	Ten per cent
Years twenty and beyond	Not less than five hundred dollars

House Bill No. 6941

(8) The present true and actual value of leased personal property other than motor vehicles shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision. Such value for any assessment year shall be established in relation to the original selling price for self-manufactured property or acquisition cost for acquired property and shall reflect depreciation in accordance with the schedules provided in subdivisions (3) to (6), inclusive, of this subsection. If the assessor is unable to determine the original selling price of leased personal property, the present true and actual value thereof shall be its current selling price.

(9) With respect to any personal property which is prohibited by law from being sold, the present true and actual value of such property shall be established with respect to such property's original manufactured cost increased by a ratio the numerator of which is the total proceeds from the manufacturer's salable equipment sold and the denominator of which is the total cost of the manufacturer's salable equipment sold. Such value shall then be depreciated in accordance with the appropriate schedule in this subsection.

(10) The schedules of depreciation set forth in subdivisions (3) to (6), inclusive, of this subsection shall not be used with respect to videotapes, horses or other taxable livestock or electric cogenerating equipment.

(11) If the assessor determines that the value of any item of personal property, other than a motor vehicle, produced by the application of the schedules set forth in this subsection does not accurately reflect the present true and actual value of such item, the assessor shall adjust such value to reflect the present true and actual value of such item.

(12) Nothing in this subsection shall prevent any taxpayer from appealing any assessment made pursuant to this subsection if such

House Bill No. 6941

assessment does not accurately reflect the present true and actual value of any item of such taxpayer's personal property.

Sec. 213. Section 12-41 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(a) "Municipality", whenever used in this section, includes each town, consolidated town and city, and consolidated town and borough.

(b) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, no person required by law to file an annual declaration of personal property shall include in such declaration motor vehicles that are registered in the office of the state Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. With respect to any vehicle subject to taxation in a town other than the town in which such vehicle is registered, pursuant to section 12-71, information concerning such vehicle may be included in a declaration filed pursuant to this section or section 12-43, or on a report filed pursuant to section 12-57a.

(2) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, any person required to file an annual declaration of tangible personal property shall include in such declaration the motor vehicle listing, pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of section 12-71, of any motor vehicle owned by such person. If, after the annual deadline for filing a declaration, a motor vehicle is deemed personal property by the assessor, such motor vehicle shall be added to the declaration of the owner of such vehicle or included on a new declaration if no declaration was submitted in the prior year. The value of the motor vehicle shall be determined pursuant to section 12-63. If applicable, the value of the motor vehicle for the current assessment year shall be prorated pursuant to section 12-71b, and shall not be considered omitted property, as defined in section 12-53, or subject to a penalty pursuant to subsection (f) of this section.

House Bill No. 6941

(c) The annual declaration of the tangible personal property owned by such person on the assessment date, shall include, but is not limited to, the following property: Machinery used in mills and factories, cables, wires, poles, underground mains, conduits, pipes and other fixtures of water, gas, electric and heating companies, leasehold improvements classified as other than real property and furniture and fixtures of stores, offices, hotels, restaurants, taverns, halls, factories and manufacturers. Tangible personal property does not include a sign placed on a property indicating that the property is for sale or lease. On and after October 1, [2023] 2024, tangible personal property shall include motor vehicles listed on the schedule of motor vehicle plate classes recommended pursuant to section 12-71d. Commercial or financial information in any declaration filed under this section, except for commercial or financial information which concerns motor vehicles, shall not be open for public inspection but may be disclosed to municipal officers for tax collection purposes.

(d) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, the Office of Policy and Management shall, in consultation with the Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers, prescribe a form for the annual declaration of personal property.

(e) Any person required by law to file an annual declaration of personal property may sign and file such declaration electronically, provided the municipality in which such declaration is to be filed (1) has the technological ability to accept electronic signatures, and (2) agrees to accept electronic signatures for annual declarations of personal property.

(f) (1) Any person who fails to file a declaration of personal property on or before the first day of November, or on or before the extended filing date as granted by the assessor pursuant to section 12-42 shall be subject to a penalty equal to twenty-five per cent of the assessment of such property; (2) any person who files a declaration of personal

House Bill No. 6941

property in a timely manner, but has omitted property, as defined in section 12-53, shall be subject to a penalty equal to twenty-five per cent of the assessment of such omitted property. The penalty shall be added to the grand list by the assessor of the town in which such property is taxable; and (3) any declaration received by the municipality to which it is due that is in an envelope bearing a postmark, as defined in section 1-2a, showing a date within the allowed filing period shall not be deemed to be delinquent.

Sec. 214. Subsection (a) of section 12-53 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(a) For purposes of this section: (1) "Omitted property" means property for which complete information is not included in the declaration required to be filed by law with respect to (A) the total number and type of all items subject to taxation, (B) the true original cost and year acquired of all such items, or (C) on or after October 1, ~~2023~~ 2024, the manufacturer's suggested retail price of a motor vehicle plus any applicable after-market alterations to such motor vehicle, (2) "books", "papers", "documents" and "other records" includes, but is not limited to, federal tax forms relating to the acquisition and cost of fixed assets, general ledgers, balance sheets, disbursement ledgers, fixed asset and depreciation schedules, financial statements, invoices, operating expense reports, capital and operating leases, conditional sales agreements and building or leasehold ledgers, and (3) "designee of an assessor" means a Connecticut municipal assessor certified in accordance with subsection (b) of section 12-40a, a certified public accountant, a revaluation company certified in accordance with section 12-2c for the valuation of personal property, or an individual certified as a revaluation company employee in accordance with section 12-2b for the valuation of personal property.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 215. Section 12-71 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(a) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, goods, chattels and effects or any interest therein, including any interest in a leasehold improvement classified as other than real property, belonging to any person who is a resident in this state, shall be listed for purposes of property tax in the town where such person resides, subject to the provisions of sections 12-41, 12-43 and 12-59. Any such property belonging to any nonresident shall be listed for purposes of property tax as provided in section 12-43. Motor vehicles and snowmobiles shall be listed for purposes of the property tax in accordance with subsection (f) of this section.

(2) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, goods, chattels and effects or any interest therein, including any interest in a leasehold improvement classified as other than real property, belonging to any person who is a resident in this state, shall be listed for purposes of property tax in the town where such person resides, subject to the provisions of sections 12-41, 12-43 and 12-59. Any such property belonging to any nonresident shall be listed for purposes of property tax as provided in section 12-43.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by the general statutes, property subject to this section shall be valued at the same percentage of its then actual valuation as the assessors have determined with respect to the listing of real estate for the same year, except that any antique, rare or special interest motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, shall be assessed at a value of not more than five hundred dollars. The owner of such antique, rare or special interest motor vehicle may be required by the assessors to provide reasonable documentation that such motor vehicle is an antique, rare or special interest motor vehicle, provided any motor vehicle for which special number plates have been issued

House Bill No. 6941

pursuant to section 14-20 shall not be required to provide any such documentation. The provisions of this section shall not include money or property actually invested in merchandise or manufacturing carried on out of this state or machinery or equipment which would be eligible for exemption under subdivision (72) of section 12-81 once installed and which cannot begin or which has not begun manufacturing, processing or fabricating; or which is being used for research and development, including experimental or laboratory research and development, design or engineering directly related to manufacturing or being used for the significant servicing, overhauling or rebuilding of machinery and equipment for industrial use or the significant overhauling or rebuilding of other products on a factory basis or being used for measuring or testing or metal finishing or in the production of motion pictures, video and sound recordings.

(c) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, upon payment of the property tax assessed with respect to any property referred to in this section, owned by a resident or nonresident of this state, which is currently used or intended for use in relation to construction, building, grading, paving or similar projects, including, but not limited to, motor vehicles, bulldozers, tractors and any trailer-type vehicle, excluding any such equipment weighing less than five hundred pounds, and excluding any motor vehicle subject to registration pursuant to chapter 246 or exempt from such registration by section 14-34, the town in which such equipment is taxed shall issue, at the time of such payment, for display on a conspicuous surface of each such item of equipment for which such tax has been paid, a validation decal or sticker, identifiable as to the year of issue, which will be presumptive evidence that such tax has been paid in the appropriate town of the state.

(d) (1) Personal property subject to taxation under this chapter shall not include computer software, except when the cost thereof is included,

House Bill No. 6941

without being separately stated, in the cost of computer hardware. "Computer software" shall include any program or routine used to cause a computer to perform a specific task or set of tasks, including without limitation, operational and applicational programs and all documentation related thereto.

(2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be applicable (A) to the assessment year commencing October 1, 1988, and each assessment year thereafter, and (B) to any assessment of computer software made after September 30, 1988, for any assessment year commencing before October 1, 1988.

(3) Nothing contained in this subsection shall create any implication related to liability for property tax with respect to computer software prior to July 1, 1989.

(4) A certificate of correction in accordance with section 12-57 shall not be issued with respect to any property described in subdivision (1) of this subsection for any assessment year commencing prior to October 1, 1989.

(e) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 1992, each municipality shall exempt aircraft, as defined in section 15-34, from the provisions of this chapter.

(f) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, property subject to taxation under this chapter shall include each registered and unregistered motor vehicle and snowmobile that, in the normal course of operation, most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in a town in this state, and any other motor vehicle or snowmobile located in a town in this state, which motor vehicle or snowmobile is not used or is not capable of being used.

(2) (A) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, each municipality shall list motor vehicles registered and classified

House Bill No. 6941

in accordance with section 12-71d, and such motor vehicles shall be valued in the same manner as motor vehicles valued pursuant to section 12-63.

(B) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, any unregistered motor vehicle or motor vehicle that is not used or capable of being used that is located in a municipality in this state, shall be listed and valued in the manner described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

(3) (A) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, any motor vehicle or snowmobile registered in this state subject to taxation in accordance with the provisions of this subsection shall be set in the list of the town where such vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or in which it remains. It shall be presumed that any such motor vehicle or snowmobile most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in the town in which the owner of such vehicle resides, unless a provision of this subsection otherwise expressly provides. As used in this subparagraph, "the town in which the owner of such vehicle resides" means the town in this state where (i) the owner, if an individual, has established a legal residence consisting of a true, fixed and permanent home to which such individual intends to return after any absence, or (ii) the owner, if a company, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, firm or any other type of public or private organization, association or society, has an established site for conducting the purposes for which it was created. In the event such an entity resides in more than one town in this state, it shall be subject to taxation by each such town with respect to any registered or unregistered motor vehicle or snowmobile that most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in such town.

(B) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, any motor vehicle subject to taxation in this state in accordance

House Bill No. 6941

with the provisions of this subsection shall be set in the list of the town where such vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or in which it remains. It shall be presumed that any such motor vehicle most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in the town in which the owner of such vehicle resides, unless a provision of this subsection otherwise expressly provides. As used in this subparagraph, "the town in which the owner of such vehicle resides" means the town in this state where (i) the owner, if an individual, has established a legal residence consisting of a true, fixed and permanent home to which such individual intends to return after any absence, or (ii) the owner, if a company, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, firm or any other type of public or private organization, association or society, has an established site for conducting the purposes for which it was created. In the event such an entity resides in more than one town in this state, it shall be subject to taxation by each such town with respect to any registered or unregistered motor vehicle that most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in such town.

(4) Any motor vehicle owned by a nonresident of this state shall be set in the list of the town where such vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or in which it remains. If such vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in more than one town, it shall be set in the list of the town in which such vehicle is located for the three or more months preceding the assessment day in any year, except that, if such vehicle is located in more than one town for three or more months preceding the assessment day in any year, it shall be set in the list of the town where it is located for the three months or more in such year nearest to such assessment day. In the event a motor vehicle owned by a nonresident is not located in any town for three or more of the months preceding the assessment day in any year, such vehicle shall be set in the list of the town where such vehicle is located on such

House Bill No. 6941

assessment day.

(5) (A) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, notwithstanding any provision of subdivision (3) of this subsection: (i) Any registered motor vehicle that is assigned to an employee of the owner of such vehicle for the exclusive use of such employee and which, in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in such employee's town of residence, shall be set in the list of the town where such employee resides; (ii) any registered motor vehicle that is being operated, pursuant to a lease, by a person other than the owner of such vehicle, or such owner's employee, shall be set in the list of the town where the person who is operating such vehicle pursuant to said lease resides; (iii) any registered motor vehicle designed or used for recreational purposes, including, but not limited to, a camp trailer, camper or motor home, shall be set in the list of the town such vehicle, in the normal course of its operation for camping, travel or recreational purposes in this state, most frequently leaves from and returns to or the town in which it remains. If such a vehicle is not used in this state in its normal course of operation for camping, travel or recreational purposes, such vehicle shall be set in the list of the town in this state in which the owner of such vehicle resides; and (iv) any registered motor vehicle that is used or intended for use for the purposes of construction, building, grading, paving or similar projects, or to facilitate any such project, shall be set in the list of the town in which such project is situated if such vehicle is located in said town for the three or more months preceding the assessment day in any year, provided if such vehicle is located in more than one town in this state for three or more months preceding the assessment day in any year, such vehicle shall be set in the list of the town where it is located for the three months or more in such year nearest to such assessment day, and if such vehicle is not located in any town for three or more of the months preceding the assessment day in any year, such vehicle shall be set in the list of the town where such

House Bill No. 6941

vehicle is located on such assessment day.

(B) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, notwithstanding any provision of subdivision (3) of this subsection: (i) Any motor vehicle that is assigned to an employee of the owner of such vehicle for the exclusive use of such employee and which, in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in such employee's town of residence, shall be set in the list of the town where such employee resides; (ii) any motor vehicle that is being operated, pursuant to a lease, by a person other than the owner of such vehicle, or such owner's employee, shall be set in the list of the town where the person who is operating such vehicle pursuant to said lease resides; (iii) any motor vehicle designed or used for recreational purposes, including, but not limited to, a camper or motor home, shall be set in the list of the town such vehicle, in the normal course of its operation for camping, travel or recreational purposes in this state, most frequently leaves from and returns to or the town in which it remains. If such a vehicle is not used in this state in its normal course of operation for camping, travel or recreational purposes, such vehicle shall be set in the list of the town in this state in which the owner of such vehicle resides; and (iv) any motor vehicle that is used or intended for use for the purposes of construction, building, grading, paving or similar projects, or to facilitate any such project, shall be set in the list of the town in which such project is situated if such vehicle is located in said town for the three or more months preceding the assessment day in any year, provided if such vehicle is located in more than one town in this state for three or more months preceding the assessment day in any year, such vehicle shall be set in the list of the town where it is located for the three months or more in such year nearest to such assessment day, and if such vehicle is not located in any town for three or more of the months preceding the assessment day in any year, such vehicle shall be set in the list of the town where such vehicle is located on such assessment day.

House Bill No. 6941

(6) The owner of a motor vehicle subject to taxation in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (5) of this subsection in a town other than the town in which such owner resides may register such vehicle in the town in which such vehicle is subject to taxation.

(7) (A) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, information concerning any vehicle subject to taxation in a town other than the town in which it is registered may be included on any declaration or report filed pursuant to section 12-41, 12-43 or 12-57a. If a motor vehicle or snowmobile is registered in a town in which it is not subject to taxation, pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (5) of this subsection, the assessor of the town in which such vehicle is subject to taxation shall notify the assessor of the town in which such vehicle is registered of the name and address of the owner of such motor vehicle or snowmobile, the vehicle identification number and the town in which such vehicle is subject to taxation. The assessor of the town in which said vehicle is registered and the assessor of the town in which said vehicle is subject to taxation shall cooperate in administering the provisions of this section concerning the listing of such vehicle for property tax purposes.

(B) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, information concerning any vehicle subject to taxation in a town other than the town in which it is registered may be included on any declaration or report filed pursuant to section 12-41, 12-43 or 12-57a. If a motor vehicle is listed in a town in which it is not subject to taxation, pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (5) of this subsection, the assessor of the town in which such vehicle is listed shall notify the assessor of the town in which such vehicle is listed of the name and address of the owner of such motor vehicle, the vehicle identification number and the town in which such vehicle is taxed. The assessor of the town in which said vehicle is registered and the assessor of the town in which said vehicle is listed shall cooperate in administering the

House Bill No. 6941

provisions of this section concerning the listing of such vehicle for property tax purposes.

Sec. 216. Section 12-71b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(a) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, any person who owns a motor vehicle which is not registered with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles on the first day of October in any assessment year and which is registered subsequent to said first day of October but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year shall be liable for the payment of property tax with respect to such motor vehicle in the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax, in an amount as hereinafter provided, on the first day of January immediately subsequent to the end of such assessment year. The property tax payable with respect to such motor vehicle on said first day of January shall be in the amount which would be payable if such motor vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax on the first day of October in such assessment year if such registration occurs prior to the first day of November. If such registration occurs on or after the first day of November but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year, such tax shall be a pro rata portion of the amount of tax payable if such motor vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of such town on October first in such assessment year to be determined (A) by a ratio, the numerator of which shall be the number of months from the date of such registration, including the month in which registration occurs, to the first day of October next succeeding and the denominator of which shall be twelve, or (B) upon the affirmative vote of the legislative body of the municipality, by a ratio the numerator of which shall be the number of days from the date of such registration, including the day on which the registration occurs, to the first day of October next succeeding

House Bill No. 6941

and the denominator of which shall be three hundred sixty-five. For purposes of this section the term "assessment year" means the period of twelve full months commencing with October first each year.

(2) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, any person who owns a motor vehicle which is not registered with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles on the first day of October in any assessment year and which is registered subsequent to said first day of October but prior to the first day of April in such assessment year shall be liable for the payment of property tax with respect to such motor vehicle in the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax, in an amount as hereinafter provided, on the first day of July in such assessment year. Any person who owns a motor vehicle which is registered with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles on or after the first day of April in any assessment year but prior to the first day of October next succeeding shall be liable for the payment of property tax with respect to such motor vehicle in the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax, in an amount hereinafter provided, on the first day of January immediately subsequent to the end of such assessment year. The property tax payable with respect to a motor vehicle described in this subdivision shall be in the amount which would be payable if such motor vehicle had been entered into the taxable list of the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax on the first day of October in such assessment year if such registration occurs prior to the first day of November. If such registration occurs on or after the first day of November but prior to the first day of October next succeeding, such tax shall be a pro rata portion of the amount of tax payable if such motor vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of such town on October first in such assessment year to be determined (A) by a ratio, the numerator of which shall be the number of months from the date of such registration, including the month in which registration occurs, to the first day of October next succeeding and the denominator of which shall be twelve, or (B) upon the affirmative vote of the legislative body of the

House Bill No. 6941

municipality, by a ratio the numerator of which shall be the number of days from the date of such registration, including the day on which the registration occurs, to the first day of October next succeeding and the denominator of which shall be three hundred sixty-five.

(b) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, whenever any person who owns a motor vehicle which has been entered in the taxable list of the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax in any assessment year and who, subsequent to the first day of October in such assessment year but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year, replaces such motor vehicle with another motor vehicle, hereinafter referred to as the replacement vehicle, which vehicle may be in a different classification for purposes of registration than the motor vehicle replaced, and provided one of the following conditions is applicable with respect to the motor vehicle replaced: (A) The unexpired registration of the motor vehicle replaced is transferred to the replacement vehicle, (B) the motor vehicle replaced was stolen or totally damaged and proof concerning such theft or total damage is submitted to the assessor in such town, or (C) the motor vehicle replaced is sold by such person within forty-five days immediately prior to or following the date on which such person acquires the replacement vehicle, such person shall be liable for the payment of property tax with respect to the replacement vehicle in the town in which the motor vehicle replaced is subject to property tax, in an amount as hereinafter provided, on the first day of January immediately subsequent to the end of such assessment year. If the replacement vehicle is replaced by such person with another motor vehicle prior to the first day of August in such assessment year, the replacement vehicle shall be subject to property tax as provided in this subsection and such other motor vehicle replacing the replacement vehicle, or any motor vehicle replacing such other motor vehicle in such assessment year, shall be deemed to be the replacement vehicle for purposes of this subsection and shall be subject to property tax as

House Bill No. 6941

provided herein. The property tax payable with respect to the replacement vehicle on said first day of January shall be the amount by which (i) is in excess of (ii) as follows: (i) The property tax which would be payable if the replacement vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of the town in which the motor vehicle replaced is subject to property tax on the first day of October in such assessment year if such registration occurs prior to the first day of November, however if such registration occurs on or after the first day of November but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year, such tax shall be a pro rata portion of the amount of tax payable if such motor vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of such town on October first in such assessment year to be determined by a ratio, the numerator of which shall be the number of months from the date of such registration, including the month in which registration occurs, to the first day of October next succeeding and the denominator of which shall be twelve, provided if such person, on said first day of October, was entitled to any exemption under section 12-81 which was allowed in the assessment of the motor vehicle replaced, such exemption shall be allowed for purposes of determining the property tax payable with respect to the replacement vehicle as provided herein; (ii) the property tax payable by such person with respect to the motor vehicle replaced, provided if the replacement vehicle is registered subsequent to the thirty-first day of October but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year such property tax payable with respect to the motor vehicle replaced shall, for purposes of the computation herein, be deemed to be a pro rata portion of such property tax to be prorated in the same manner as the amount of tax determined under (i) above.

(2) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, whenever any person who owns a motor vehicle which has been entered in the taxable list of the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax in any assessment year and who, subsequent to the first day of October in such assessment year but prior to the first day

House Bill No. 6941

of April in such assessment year, replaces such motor vehicle with another motor vehicle, hereinafter referred to as the replacement vehicle, which vehicle may be in a different classification for purposes of registration than the motor vehicle replaced, and provided one of the following conditions is applicable with respect to the motor vehicle replaced: (A) The unexpired registration of the motor vehicle replaced is transferred to the replacement vehicle, (B) the motor vehicle replaced was stolen or totally damaged and proof concerning such theft or total damage is submitted to the assessor in such town, or (C) the motor vehicle replaced is sold by such person within forty-five days immediately prior to or following the date on which such person acquires the replacement vehicle, such person shall be liable for the payment of property tax with respect to the replacement vehicle in the town in which the motor vehicle replaced is subject to property tax pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection, on the first day of July in such assessment year. If a replacement vehicle is replaced by the owner of such replacement vehicle prior to the first day of October next succeeding such assessment year, the replacement vehicle shall be subject to property tax as provided in this subdivision and such other motor vehicle replacing the replacement vehicle, or any motor vehicle replacing such other motor vehicle in such assessment year, shall be deemed to be the replacement vehicle for purposes of this subdivision.

(3) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, whenever any person who owns a motor vehicle which has been entered into the taxable list of the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax in any assessment year and who, on or after the first day of April of such assessment year but prior to the first day of October next succeeding, replaces such motor vehicle with another motor vehicle, hereinafter referred to as the replacement vehicle, which vehicle may be in a different classification for purposes of registration than the motor vehicle replaced, and provided one of the following conditions is applicable with respect to the motor vehicle replaced: (A)

House Bill No. 6941

The unexpired registration of the motor vehicle replaced is transferred to the replacement vehicle, (B) the motor vehicle replaced was stolen or totally damaged and proof concerning such theft or total damage is submitted to the assessor in such town, or (C) the motor vehicle replaced is sold by such person within forty-five days immediately prior to or following the date on which such person acquires the replacement vehicle, such person shall be liable for the payment of property tax with respect to the replacement vehicle in the town in which the motor vehicle replaced is subject to property tax pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection, on the first day of January immediately succeeding such assessment year. If a replacement vehicle is replaced by the owner of such replacement vehicle prior to the first day of October next succeeding such assessment year, the replacement vehicle shall be subject to property tax as provided in this subdivision and such other motor vehicle replacing the replacement vehicle, or any motor vehicle replacing such other motor vehicle in such assessment year, shall be deemed to be the replacement vehicle for purposes of this subdivision.

(4) The property tax payable with respect to a replacement vehicle described in subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection shall be the amount by which (A) is in excess of (B) as follows: (A) The property tax which would be payable if the replacement vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of the town in which the motor vehicle replaced is subject to property tax on the first day of October in such assessment year if such registration occurs prior to the first day of November, however, if such registration occurs on or after the first day of November but prior to the first day of October next succeeding, such tax shall be a pro rata portion of the amount of tax payable if such motor vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of such town on October first in such assessment year to be determined by ratio, the numerator of which shall be the number of months from the date of such registration, including the month in which registration occurs, to the first day of October next succeeding and the denominator of which shall be twelve, provided if such person, on said

House Bill No. 6941

first day of October, was entitled to any exemption under section 12-81 which was allowed in the assessment of the motor vehicle replaced, such exemption shall be allowed for purposes of determining the property tax payable with respect to the replacement vehicle as provided herein; (B) the property tax payable by such person with respect to the motor vehicle replaced, provided if the replacement vehicle is registered subsequent to the thirty-first day of October but prior to the first day of October next succeeding such property tax payable with respect to the motor vehicle replaced shall, for purposes of the computation herein, be deemed to be a pro rata portion of such property tax to be prorated in the same manner as the amount of tax determined under (A) above.

(c) (1) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, any person who owns a commercial motor vehicle which has been temporarily registered at any time during any assessment year and which has not during such period been entered in the taxable list of any town in the state for purposes of the property tax and with respect to which no permanent registration has been issued during such period, shall be liable for the payment of property tax with respect to such motor vehicle in the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax on the first day of January immediately following the end of such assessment year, in an amount as hereinafter provided. The property tax payable shall be in the amount which would be payable if such motor vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax on the first day of October in such assessment year.

(2) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, any person who owns a commercial motor vehicle which has been temporarily registered at any time during any assessment year and which has not during such period been entered in the taxable list of any town in the state for purposes of the property tax and with respect to

House Bill No. 6941

which no permanent registration has been issued during such period, shall be liable for the payment of property tax with respect to such motor vehicle in the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax on the first day of July of such assessment year or the first day of January immediately following such assessment year, as applicable, pursuant to subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (b) of this section. The property tax payable shall be in the amount which would be payable if such motor vehicle had been entered in the taxable list of the town where such motor vehicle is subject to property tax on the first day of October in such assessment year.

(d) Any motor vehicle subject to property tax as provided in this section shall, except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, be subject to such property tax in the town in which such motor vehicle was last registered in the assessment year ending immediately preceding the day on which such property tax is payable as provided in this section.

(e) Whenever any motor vehicle subject to property tax as provided in this section has been replaced by the owner with another motor vehicle in the assessment year immediately preceding the day on which such property tax is payable, each such motor vehicle shall be subject to property tax as provided in this section.

(f) Upon receipt by the assessor in any town of notice from the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in a manner as prescribed by said commissioner, with respect to any motor vehicle subject to property tax in accordance with the provisions of this section and which has not been entered in the taxable grand list of such town, such assessor shall determine the value of such motor vehicle for purposes of property tax assessment and shall add such value to the taxable grand list in such town for the immediately preceding assessment date and the tax thereon shall be levied and collected by the tax collector. Such property tax shall be payable not later than the first day of (1) February following

House Bill No. 6941

the first day of January on which the owner of such motor vehicle becomes liable for the payment of property tax, for assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, and (2) the month succeeding the month in which such property tax became due and payable, for assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, with respect to such motor vehicle in accordance with the provisions of this section, subject to any determination in accordance with section 12-142 that such tax shall be due and payable in installments. Said owner may appeal the assessment of such motor vehicle, as determined by the assessor in accordance with this subsection, to the board of assessment appeals next succeeding the date on which the tax based on such assessment is payable, and thereafter, to the Superior Court as provided in section 12-117a. If the amount of such tax is reduced upon appeal, the portion thereof which has been paid in excess of the amount determined to be due upon appeal shall be refunded to said owner.

(g) Any motor vehicle which is not registered in this state shall be subject to property tax in this state if such motor vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in one or more points within this state, and such motor vehicle shall be subject to such property tax in the town within which such motor vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains, provided when the owner of such motor vehicle is a resident in any town in the state, it shall be presumed that such motor vehicle most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in such town unless evidence, satisfactory to the assessor in such town, is submitted to the contrary.

Sec. 217. Subsection (b) of section 12-71c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

House Bill No. 6941

(b) Any person claiming a property tax credit with respect to a motor vehicle in accordance with subsection (a) of this section shall file with the assessor in the town in which such person is entitled to such property tax credit, documentation satisfactory to the assessor concerning the sale, total damage, theft or removal and registration of such motor vehicle. For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, such documentation shall be filed not later than the thirty-first day of December immediately following the end of the assessment year which next follows the assessment year in which such motor vehicle was sold, damaged, stolen or removed and registered. For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, such documentation shall be filed not later than three years after the date upon which such tax was due and payable for such motor vehicle. Failure to file such claim and documentation as prescribed herein shall constitute a waiver of the right to such property tax credit.

Sec. 218. Subdivision (74) of section 12-81 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(74) (A) (i) For a period not to exceed five assessment years following the assessment year in which it is first registered, any new commercial truck, truck tractor, tractor and semitrailer, and vehicle used in combination therewith, which is used exclusively to transport freight for hire and: Is either subject to the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Transportation pursuant to Chapter 135 of Title 49, United States Code, or any successor thereto, or would otherwise be subject to said jurisdiction except for the fact that the vehicle is used exclusively in intrastate commerce; has a gross vehicle weight rating in excess of twenty-six thousand pounds; and prior to August 1, 1996, was not registered in this state or in any other jurisdiction but was registered in this state on or after said date. (ii) For a period not to exceed five

House Bill No. 6941

assessment years following the assessment year in which it is first registered, any new commercial truck, truck tractor, tractor and semitrailer, and vehicle used in combination therewith, not eligible under subparagraph (A)(i) of this subdivision, that has a gross vehicle weight rating in excess of fifty-five thousand pounds and was not registered in this state or in any other jurisdiction but was registered in this state on or after August 1, 1999. As used in this subdivision, "gross vehicle weight rating" has the same meaning as provided in section 14-1;

(B) Any person who on October first in any year holds title to or is the registrant of a vehicle for which such person intends to claim the exemption provided in this subdivision shall file with the assessor or board of assessors in the municipality in which the vehicle is subject to property taxation, on or before the first day of November in such year, a written application claiming such exemption on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. Such person shall include information as to the make, model, year and vehicle identification number of each such vehicle, and any appurtenances attached thereto, in such application. The person holding title to or the registrant of such vehicle for which exemption is claimed shall furnish the assessor or board of assessors with such supporting documentation as said secretary may require, including, but not limited to, evidence of vehicle use, acquisition cost and registration. Failure to file such application in this manner and form within the time limit prescribed shall constitute a waiver of the right to such exemption for such assessment year, unless an extension of time is allowed as provided in section 12-81k. Such application shall not be required for any assessment year following that for which the initial application is filed, provided if the vehicle is modified, such modification shall be deemed a waiver of the right to such exemption until a new application is filed and the right to such exemption is established as required initially. With respect to any vehicle for which the exemption under this subdivision has

House Bill No. 6941

previously been claimed in a town other than that in which the vehicle is registered on any assessment date, the person shall not be entitled to such exemption until a new application is filed and the right to such exemption is established in said town;

(C) With respect to any vehicle which is not registered on the first day of October in any assessment year and which is registered subsequent to said first day of October but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year, the value of such vehicle for property tax exemption purposes shall be a pro rata portion of the value determined in accordance with subparagraph (D) of this subdivision, to be determined by a ratio, the numerator of which shall be the number of months from the date of such registration, including the month in which registration occurs, to the first day of October next succeeding and the denominator of which shall be twelve. For purposes of this subdivision, "assessment year" means the period of twelve full months commencing with October first each year;

(D) For assessment years commencing prior to October 1, [2023] 2024, notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-71d, the assessor or board of assessors shall determine the value for each vehicle with respect to which a claim for exemption under this subdivision is approved, based on the vehicle's cost of acquisition, including costs related to the modification of such vehicle, adjusted for depreciation;

Sec. 219. Subdivision (82) of section 12-81 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2024*):

(82) For assessment years commencing on or after October 1, [2023] 2024, any snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle or residential utility trailer, provided such property is exclusively for personal use.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 220. Section 38a-591a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

As used in this section, [and] sections 38a-591b to 38a-591n, inclusive, and section 221 of this act:

(1) "Adverse determination" means:

(A) The denial, reduction, termination or failure to provide or make payment, in whole or in part, for a benefit under the health carrier's health benefit plan requested by a covered person or a covered person's treating health care professional, based on a determination by a health carrier or its designee utilization review company:

(i) That, based upon the information provided, (I) upon application of any utilization review technique, such benefit does not meet the health carrier's requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care or effectiveness, or (II) is determined to be experimental or investigational;

(ii) Of a covered person's eligibility to participate in the health carrier's health benefit plan; or

(B) Any prospective review, concurrent review or retrospective review determination that denies, reduces or terminates or fails to provide or make payment, in whole or in part, for a benefit under the health carrier's health benefit plan requested by a covered person or a covered person's treating health care professional.

"Adverse determination" includes a rescission of coverage determination for grievance purposes.

(2) "Authorized representative" means:

(A) A person to whom a covered person has given express written consent to represent the covered person for the purposes of this section

House Bill No. 6941

and sections 38a-591b to 38a-591n, inclusive;

(B) A person authorized by law to provide substituted consent for a covered person;

(C) A family member of the covered person or the covered person's treating health care professional when the covered person is unable to provide consent;

(D) A health care professional when the covered person's health benefit plan requires that a request for a benefit under the plan be initiated by the health care professional; or

(E) In the case of an urgent care request, a health care professional with knowledge of the covered person's medical condition.

(3) "Best evidence" means evidence based on (A) randomized clinical trials, (B) if randomized clinical trials are not available, cohort studies or case-control studies, (C) if such trials and studies are not available, case-series, or (D) if such trials, studies and case-series are not available, expert opinion.

(4) "Case-control study" means a retrospective evaluation of two groups of patients with different outcomes to determine which specific interventions the patients received.

(5) "Case-series" means an evaluation of a series of patients with a particular outcome, without the use of a control group.

(6) "Certification" means a determination by a health carrier or its designee utilization review company that a request for a benefit under the health carrier's health benefit plan has been reviewed and, based on the information provided, satisfies the health carrier's requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care and effectiveness.

House Bill No. 6941

(7) "Clinical peer" means a physician or other health care professional who (A) holds a nonrestricted license in a state of the United States and in the same or similar specialty as typically manages the medical condition, procedure or treatment under review, and (B) for a review specified under subparagraph (B) or (C) of subdivision (38) of this section concerning (i) a child or adolescent substance use disorder or a child or adolescent mental disorder, holds (I) a national board certification in child and adolescent psychiatry, or (II) a doctoral level psychology degree with training and clinical experience in the treatment of child and adolescent substance use disorder or child and adolescent mental disorder, as applicable, or (ii) an adult substance use disorder or an adult mental disorder, holds (I) a national board certification in psychiatry, or (II) a doctoral level psychology degree with training and clinical experience in the treatment of adult substance use disorders or adult mental disorders, as applicable.

(8) "Clinical review criteria" means the written screening procedures, decision abstracts, clinical protocols and practice guidelines used by the health carrier to determine the medical necessity and appropriateness of health care services.

(9) "Cohort study" means a prospective evaluation of two groups of patients with only one group of patients receiving a specific intervention or specific interventions.

(10) "Commissioner" means the Insurance Commissioner.

(11) "Concurrent review" means utilization review conducted during a patient's stay or course of treatment in a facility, the office of a health care professional or other inpatient or outpatient health care setting, including home care.

(12) "Covered benefits" or "benefits" means health care services to which a covered person is entitled under the terms of a health benefit

House Bill No. 6941

plan.

(13) "Covered person" means a policyholder, subscriber, enrollee or other individual participating in a health benefit plan.

(14) "Emergency medical condition" means a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, such that a prudent layperson with an average knowledge of health and medicine, acting reasonably, would have believed that the absence of immediate medical attention would result in serious impairment to bodily functions or serious dysfunction of a bodily organ or part, or would place the person's health or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child, in serious jeopardy.

(15) "Emergency services" means, with respect to an emergency medical condition:

(A) A medical screening examination that is within the capability of the emergency department of a hospital, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate such emergency medical condition; and

(B) Such further medical examination and treatment, to the extent they are within the capability of the staff and facilities available at a hospital, to stabilize a patient.

(16) "Evidence-based standard" means the conscientious, explicit and judicious use of the current best evidence based on an overall systematic review of medical research when making determinations about the care of individual patients.

(17) "Expert opinion" means a belief or an interpretation by specialists with experience in a specific area about the scientific evidence pertaining to a particular service, intervention or therapy.

House Bill No. 6941

(18) "Facility" means an institution providing health care services or a health care setting. "Facility" includes a hospital and other licensed inpatient center, ambulatory surgical or treatment center, skilled nursing center, residential treatment center, diagnostic, laboratory and imaging center, and rehabilitation and other therapeutic health care setting.

(19) "Final adverse determination" means an adverse determination (A) that has been upheld by the health carrier at the completion of its internal grievance process, or (B) for which the internal grievance process has been deemed exhausted.

(20) "Grievance" means a written complaint or, if the complaint involves an urgent care request, an oral complaint, submitted by or on behalf of a covered person regarding:

(A) The availability, delivery or quality of health care services, including a complaint regarding an adverse determination made pursuant to utilization review;

(B) Claims payment, handling or reimbursement for health care services; or

(C) Any matter pertaining to the contractual relationship between a covered person and a health carrier.

(21) (A) "Health benefit plan" means an insurance policy or contract, certificate or agreement offered, delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for or reimburse any of the costs of health care services;

(B) "Health benefit plan" does not include:

(i) Coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (5) to (9), inclusive, (14) and (15) of section 38a-469 or any combination thereof;

House Bill No. 6941

- (ii) Coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance;
- (iii) Liability insurance, including general liability insurance and automobile liability insurance;
- (iv) Workers' compensation insurance;
- (v) Automobile medical payment insurance;
- (vi) Credit insurance;
- (vii) Coverage for on-site medical clinics;
- (viii) Other insurance coverage similar to the coverages specified in subparagraphs (B)(ii) to (B)(vii), inclusive, of this subdivision that are specified in regulations issued pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-191, as amended from time to time, under which benefits for health care services are secondary or incidental to other insurance benefits;
- (ix) (I) Limited scope dental or vision benefits, (II) benefits for long-term care, nursing home care, home health care, community-based care or any combination thereof, or (III) other similar, limited benefits specified in regulations issued pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, P.L. 104-191, as amended from time to time, provided any benefits specified in subparagraphs (B)(ix)(I) to (B)(ix)(III), inclusive, of this subdivision are provided under a separate insurance policy, certificate or contract and are not otherwise an integral part of a health benefit plan; or
- (x) Coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (3) and (13) of section 38a-469 or other fixed indemnity insurance if (I) they are provided under a separate insurance policy, certificate or contract, (II) there is no coordination between the provision of the benefits and any exclusion of benefits under any group health plan maintained by the

House Bill No. 6941

same plan sponsor, and (III) the benefits are paid with respect to an event without regard to whether benefits were also provided under any group health plan maintained by the same plan sponsor.

(22) "Health care center" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-175.

(23) "Health care professional" means a physician or other health care practitioner licensed, accredited or certified to perform specified health care services consistent with state law.

(24) "Health care services" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-478.

(25) "Health carrier" means an entity subject to the insurance laws and regulations of this state or subject to the jurisdiction of the commissioner, that contracts or offers to contract to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for or reimburse any of the costs of health care services, including a sickness and accident insurance company, a health care center, a managed care organization, a hospital service corporation, a medical service corporation or any other entity providing a plan of health insurance, health benefits or health care services.

(26) "Health information" means information or data, whether oral or recorded in any form or medium, and personal facts or information about events or relationships that relate to (A) the past, present or future physical, mental, or behavioral health or condition of a covered person or a member of the covered person's family, (B) the provision of health care services to a covered person, or (C) payment for the provision of health care services to a covered person.

(27) "Independent review organization" means an entity that conducts independent external reviews of adverse determinations and final adverse determinations. Such review entities include, but are not limited to, medical peer review organizations, independent utilization

House Bill No. 6941

review companies, provided such organizations or companies are not related to or associated with any health carrier, and nationally recognized health experts or institutions approved by the Insurance Commissioner.

(28) "Medical or scientific evidence" means evidence found in the following sources:

(A) Peer-reviewed scientific studies published in or accepted for publication by medical journals that meet nationally recognized requirements for scientific manuscripts and that submit most of their published articles for review by experts who are not part of the editorial staff;

(B) Peer-reviewed medical literature, including literature relating to therapies reviewed and approved by a qualified institutional review board, biomedical compendia and other medical literature that meet the criteria of the National Institutes of Health's Library of Medicine for indexing in Index Medicus (Medline) or Elsevier Science for indexing in Excerpta Medicus (EMBASE);

(C) Medical journals recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services under Section 1861(t)(2) of the Social Security Act;

(D) The following standard reference compendia: (i) The American Hospital Formulary Service - Drug Information; (ii) Drug Facts and Comparisons; (iii) The American Dental Association's Accepted Dental Therapeutics; and (iv) The United States Pharmacopoeia - Drug Information;

(E) Findings, studies or research conducted by or under the auspices of federal government agencies and nationally recognized federal research institutes, including: (i) The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; (ii) the National Institutes of Health; (iii) the National

House Bill No. 6941

Cancer Institute; (iv) the National Academy of Sciences; (v) the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; (vi) the Food and Drug Administration; and (vii) any national board recognized by the National Institutes of Health for the purpose of evaluating the medical value of health care services; or

(F) Any other findings, studies or research conducted by or under the auspices of a source comparable to those listed in subparagraphs (E)(i) to (E)(v), inclusive, of this subdivision.

(29) "Medical necessity" has the same meaning as provided in sections 38a-482a and 38a-513c.

(30) "Participating provider" means a health care professional who, under a contract with the health carrier, its contractor or subcontractor, has agreed to provide health care services to covered persons, with an expectation of receiving payment or reimbursement directly or indirectly from the health carrier, other than coinsurance, copayments or deductibles.

(31) "Person" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1.

(32) "Prospective review" means utilization review conducted prior to an admission or the provision of a health care service or a course of treatment, in accordance with a health carrier's requirement that such service or treatment be approved, in whole or in part, prior to such service's or treatment's provision.

(33) "Protected health information" means health information (A) that identifies an individual who is the subject of the information, or (B) for which there is a reasonable basis to believe that such information could be used to identify such individual.

(34) "Randomized clinical trial" means a controlled, prospective study of patients that have been randomized into an experimental

House Bill No. 6941

group and a control group at the beginning of the study, with only the experimental group of patients receiving a specific intervention, and that includes study of the groups for variables and anticipated outcomes over time.

(35) "Rescission" means a cancellation or discontinuance of coverage under a health benefit plan that has a retroactive effect. "Rescission" does not include a cancellation or discontinuance of coverage under a health benefit plan if (A) such cancellation or discontinuance has a prospective effect only, or (B) such cancellation or discontinuance is effective retroactively to the extent it is attributable to the covered person's failure to timely pay required premiums or contributions towards the cost of such coverage.

(36) "Retrospective review" means any review of a request for a benefit that is not a prospective review or concurrent review. "Retrospective review" does not include a review of a request that is limited to the veracity of documentation or the accuracy of coding.

(37) "Stabilize" means, with respect to an emergency medical condition, that (A) no material deterioration of such condition is likely, within reasonable medical probability, to result from or occur during the transfer of the individual from a facility, or (B) with respect to a pregnant woman, the woman has delivered, including the placenta.

(38) "Urgent care request" means a request for a health care service or course of treatment (A) for which the time period for making a non-urgent care request determination (i) could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the covered person or the ability of the covered person to regain maximum function, or (ii) in the opinion of a health care professional with knowledge of the covered person's medical condition, would subject the covered person to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the health care service or treatment being requested, or (B) for a substance use disorder, as described in section

House Bill No. 6941

17a-458, or for a co-occurring mental disorder, or (C) for a mental disorder requiring (i) inpatient services, (ii) partial hospitalization, as defined in section 38a-496, (iii) residential treatment, or (iv) intensive outpatient services necessary to keep a covered person from requiring an inpatient setting.

(39) "Utilization review" means the use of a set of formal techniques designed to monitor the use of, or evaluate the medical necessity, appropriateness, efficacy or efficiency of, health care services, health care procedures or health care settings. Such techniques may include the monitoring of or evaluation of (A) health care services performed or provided in an outpatient setting, (B) the formal process for determining, prior to discharge from a facility, the coordination and management of the care that a patient receives following discharge from a facility, (C) opportunities or requirements to obtain a clinical evaluation by a health care professional other than the one originally making a recommendation for a proposed health care service, (D) coordinated sets of activities conducted for individual patient management of serious, complicated, protracted or other health conditions, or (E) prospective review, concurrent review, retrospective review or certification.

(40) "Utilization review company" means an entity that conducts utilization review.

Sec. 221. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Brand name drug" means a drug that is produced or distributed in accordance with an original new drug application approved under 21 USC 355, as amended from time to time, but does not include a generic drug as defined in 42 CFR 447.502, as amended from time to time;

(2) "Generic drug" means (A) a prescription drug product that is marketed or distributed in accordance with an abbreviated new drug

House Bill No. 6941

application approved under 21 USC 355, as amended from time to time, (B) a generic drug as defined in 42 CFR 447.502, as amended from time to time, or (C) a drug that entered the market before calendar year 1962 that was not originally marketed under a new prescription drug product application; and

(3) "Third-party administrator" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-720 of the general statutes.

(b) No health carrier shall require a prospective or concurrent review of a recurring prescription drug to directly treat any autoimmune disorder, multiple sclerosis or cancer after such health carrier has certified such prescription drug through utilization review. Nothing in this section shall require a health carrier to cover: (1) Any prescription drug to treat any autoimmune disorder, multiple sclerosis or cancer if the terms of coverage completely exclude such prescription drug from the policy's covered benefits; (2) a brand name drug when an equivalent generic drug is available; (3) a prescription drug that was certified through prospective or concurrent review (A) by such covered person's previous health carrier, or (B) under a previous employer's fully insured health plan administered by a third-party administrator that provided coverage to such covered person.

Sec. 222. Section 38a-591d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) (1) Each health carrier shall maintain written procedures for (A) utilization review and benefit determinations, (B) expedited utilization review and benefit determinations with respect to prospective urgent care requests and concurrent review urgent care requests, and (C) notifying covered persons or covered persons' authorized representatives of such review and benefit determinations. Each health carrier shall make such review and benefit determinations within the specified time periods under this section.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) In determining whether a benefit request shall be considered an urgent care request, an individual acting on behalf of a health carrier shall apply the judgment of a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, except that any benefit request (A) determined to be an urgent care request by a health care professional with knowledge of the covered person's medical condition, or (B) specified under subparagraph (B) or (C) of subdivision (38) of section 38a-591a shall be deemed an urgent care request.

(3) (A) At the time a health carrier notifies a covered person, a covered person's authorized representative or a covered person's health care professional of an initial adverse determination that was based, in whole or in part, on medical necessity, of a concurrent or prospective utilization review or of a benefit request, the health carrier shall notify the covered person's health care professional (i) of the opportunity for a conference as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, and (ii) that such conference shall not be considered a grievance of such initial adverse determination as long as a grievance has not been filed as set forth in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision.

(B) After a health carrier notifies a covered person, a covered person's authorized representative or a covered person's health care professional of an initial adverse determination that was based, in whole or in part, on medical necessity, of a concurrent or prospective utilization review or of a benefit request, the health carrier shall offer a covered person's health care professional the opportunity to confer, at the request of the covered person's health care professional, with a clinical peer of such health carrier, provided such covered person, covered person's authorized representative or covered person's health care professional has not filed a grievance of such initial adverse determination prior to such conference. Such conference shall not be considered a grievance of such initial adverse determination.

(b) With respect to a nonurgent care request:

House Bill No. 6941

(1) (A) For a prospective or concurrent review request, a health carrier shall make a determination within a reasonable period of time appropriate to the covered person's medical condition, but not later than [fifteen] seven calendar days after the date the health carrier receives such request, and shall notify the covered person and, if applicable, the covered person's authorized representative of such determination, whether or not the carrier certifies the provision of the benefit.

(B) If the review under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision is a review of a grievance involving a concurrent review request, pursuant to 45 CFR 147.136, as amended from time to time, the treatment shall be continued without liability to the covered person until the covered person has been notified of the review decision.

(2) For a retrospective review request, a health carrier shall make a determination within a reasonable period of time, but not later than thirty calendar days after the date the health carrier receives such request.

(3) (A) The time [periods] period specified in [subdivisions (1) and (2)] subdivision (1) of this subsection may be extended once by the health carrier for up to [fifteen] five calendar days, and the time period specified in subdivision (2) of this subsection may be extended once by the health carrier for up to fifteen calendar days, provided the health carrier:

[(A)] (i) Determines that an extension is necessary due to circumstances beyond the health carrier's control; and

[(B)] (ii) Notifies the covered person and, if applicable, the covered person's authorized representative prior to the expiration of the initial time period, of the circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which the health carrier expects to make a determination.

(B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of

House Bill No. 6941

subdivision (3) of this subsection, the time period specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection may be extended once by the health carrier for up to fifteen calendar days, provided the covered person's health care professional notifies the health carrier that the service will not be performed for at least three months from the date such health carrier received the request.

(4) (A) If the extension pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection is necessary due to the failure of the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative to provide information necessary to make a determination on the request, the health carrier shall:

(i) Specifically describe in the notice of extension the required information necessary to complete the request; and

(ii) Provide the covered person and, if applicable, the covered person's authorized representative with not less than forty-five calendar days after the date of receipt of the notice to provide the specified information.

(B) If the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative fails to submit the specified information before the end of the period of the extension, the health carrier may deny certification of the benefit requested.

(c) With respect to an urgent care request:

(1) (A) Unless the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative has failed to provide information necessary for the health carrier to make a determination and except as specified under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the health carrier shall make a determination as soon as possible, taking into account the covered person's medical condition, but not later than [forty-eight] twenty-four hours after the health carrier receives such request, [or seventy-two hours after such health carrier receives such request if any portion of

House Bill No. 6941

such forty-eight-hour period falls on a weekend,] provided, if the urgent care request is a concurrent review request to extend a course of treatment beyond the initial period of time or the number of treatments, such request is made [at least] not less than twenty-four hours prior to the expiration of the prescribed period of time or number of treatments.

(B) Unless the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative has failed to provide information necessary for the health carrier to make a determination, for an urgent care request specified under subparagraph (B) or (C) of subdivision (38) of section 38a-591a, the health carrier shall make a determination as soon as possible, taking into account the covered person's medical condition, but not later than twenty-four hours after the health carrier receives such request, provided, if the urgent care request is a concurrent review request to extend a course of treatment beyond the initial period of time or the number of treatments, such request is made [at least] not less than twenty-four hours prior to the expiration of the prescribed period of time or number of treatments.

(2) (A) If the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative has failed to provide information necessary for the health carrier to make a determination, the health carrier shall notify the covered person or the covered person's representative, as applicable, as soon as possible, but not later than twenty-four hours after the health carrier receives such request.

(B) The health carrier shall provide the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative, as applicable, a reasonable period of time to submit the specified information, taking into account the covered person's medical condition, but not less than forty-eight hours after notifying the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative, as applicable.

(3) The health carrier shall notify the covered person and, if

House Bill No. 6941

applicable, the covered person's authorized representative of its determination as soon as possible, but not later than forty-eight hours after the earlier of (A) the date on which the covered person and the covered person's authorized representative, as applicable, provides the specified information to the health carrier, or (B) the date on which the specified information was to have been submitted.

(d) (1) Whenever a health carrier receives a review request from a covered person or a covered person's authorized representative that fails to meet the health carrier's filing procedures, the health carrier shall notify the covered person and, if applicable, the covered person's authorized representative of such failure not later than five calendar days after the health carrier receives such request, except that for an urgent care request, the health carrier shall notify the covered person and, if applicable, the covered person's authorized representative of such failure not later than twenty-four hours after the health carrier receives such request. For a nonurgent prospective or concurrent review request, each health carrier shall acknowledge receipt of each such request as soon as practicable, but not later than twenty-four hours after the health carrier receives such request, except that such health carrier shall respond in less time if such a response is required by applicable federal law.

(2) If the health carrier provides such notice orally, the health carrier shall provide confirmation in writing to the covered person and the covered person's health care professional of record not later than [five] three calendar days after providing the oral notice. No health carrier shall require a health care professional or hospital to submit additional information that was not reasonably available to such health care professional or hospital at the time that such health care professional or hospital filed the prospective or concurrent review request with such health carrier.

(e) Each health carrier shall provide promptly to a covered person

House Bill No. 6941

and, if applicable, the covered person's authorized representative a notice of an adverse determination.

(1) Such notice may be provided in writing or by electronic means and shall set forth, in a manner calculated to be understood by the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative:

(A) Information sufficient to identify the benefit request or claim involved, including the date of service, if applicable, the health care professional and the claim amount;

(B) The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination, including, upon request, a listing of the relevant clinical review criteria, including professional criteria and medical or scientific evidence and a description of the health carrier's standard, if any, that were used in reaching the denial;

(C) Reference to the specific health benefit plan provisions on which the determination is based;

(D) A description of any additional material or information necessary for the covered person to perfect the benefit request or claim, including an explanation of why the material or information is necessary to perfect the request or claim;

(E) A description of the health carrier's internal grievance process that includes (i) the health carrier's expedited review procedures, (ii) any time limits applicable to such process or procedures, (iii) the contact information for the organizational unit designated to coordinate the review on behalf of the health carrier, and (iv) a statement that the covered person or, if applicable, the covered person's authorized representative is entitled, pursuant to the requirements of the health carrier's internal grievance process, to receive from the health carrier, free of charge upon request, reasonable access to and copies of all documents, records, communications and other information and

House Bill No. 6941

evidence regarding the covered person's benefit request;

(F) (i) (I) A copy of the specific rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criterion the health carrier relied upon to make the adverse determination, or (II) a statement that a specific rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criterion of the health carrier was relied upon to make the adverse determination and that a copy of such rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criterion will be provided to the covered person free of charge upon request, with instructions for requesting such copy, and (ii) the links to such rule, guideline, protocol or other similar criterion on such health carrier's Internet web site;

(G) If the adverse determination is based on medical necessity or an experimental or investigational treatment or similar exclusion or limit, the written statement of the scientific or clinical rationale for the adverse determination and (i) an explanation of the scientific or clinical rationale used to make the determination that applies the terms of the health benefit plan to the covered person's medical circumstances, or (ii) a statement that an explanation will be provided to the covered person free of charge upon request, and instructions for requesting a copy of such explanation;

(H) A statement explaining the right of the covered person to contact the commissioner's office or the Office of the Healthcare Advocate at any time for assistance or, upon completion of the health carrier's internal grievance process, to file a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction. Such statement shall include the contact information for said offices; and

(I) A statement, expressed in language approved by the Healthcare Advocate and prominently displayed on the first page or cover sheet of the notice using a call-out box and large or bold text, that if the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative chooses to file a grievance of an adverse determination, (i) such appeals are sometimes

House Bill No. 6941

successful, (ii) such covered person or covered person's authorized representative may benefit from free assistance from the Office of the Healthcare Advocate, which can assist such covered person or covered person's authorized representative with the filing of a grievance pursuant to 42 USC 300gg-93, as amended from time to time, (iii) such covered person or covered person's authorized representative is entitled and encouraged to submit supporting documentation for the health carrier's consideration during the review of an adverse determination, including narratives from such covered person or covered person's authorized representative and letters and treatment notes from such covered person's health care professional, and (iv) such covered person or covered person's authorized representative has the right to ask such covered person's health care professional for such letters or treatment notes.

(2) Upon request pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the health carrier shall provide such copies in accordance with subsection (a) of section 38a-591n.

(f) If the adverse determination is a rescission, the health carrier shall include with the advance notice of the application for rescission required to be sent to the covered person, a written statement that includes:

(1) Clear identification of the alleged fraudulent act, practice or omission or the intentional misrepresentation of material fact;

(2) An explanation as to why the act, practice or omission was fraudulent or was an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact;

(3) A disclosure that the covered person or the covered person's authorized representative may file immediately, without waiting for the date such advance notice of the proposed rescission ends, a grievance with the health carrier to request a review of the adverse determination

House Bill No. 6941

to rescind coverage, pursuant to sections 38a-591e and 38a-591f;

(4) A description of the health carrier's grievance procedures established under sections 38a-591e and 38a-591f, including any time limits applicable to those procedures; and

(5) The date such advance notice of the proposed rescission ends and the date back to which the coverage will be retroactively rescinded.

(g) (1) Whenever a health carrier fails to strictly adhere to the requirements of this section with respect to making utilization review and benefit determinations of a benefit request or claim, the covered person shall be deemed to have exhausted the internal grievance process of such health carrier and may file a request for an external review in accordance with the provisions of section 38a-591g, regardless of whether the health carrier asserts it substantially complied with the requirements of this section or that any error it committed was de minimis.

(2) A covered person who has exhausted the internal grievance process of a health carrier may, in addition to filing a request for an external review, pursue any available remedies under state or federal law on the basis that the health carrier failed to provide a reasonable internal grievance process that would yield a decision on the merits of the claim.

Sec. 223. Section 38a-490 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) Each individual health insurance policy delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), [(6),] (10), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 for a family member of the insured or subscriber shall, as to such family member's coverage, also provide that the health insurance benefits applicable for children shall be payable

House Bill No. 6941

with respect to a newly born child of the insured or subscriber from the moment of birth.

(b) Coverage for such newly born child shall consist of coverage for injury and sickness including necessary care and treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects and birth abnormalities within the limits of the policy.

(c) If payment of a specific premium or subscription fee is required to provide coverage for a child, the policy or contract may require that notification of birth of such newly born child and payment of the required premium or fees shall be furnished to the insurer, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation or health care center not later than [sixty-one] ninety-one days after the date of birth in order to continue coverage beyond such [sixty-one-day] period, provided failure to furnish such notice or pay such premium or fees shall not prejudice any claim originating within such [sixty-one-day] period.

Sec. 224. Section 38a-516 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) Each group health insurance policy delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), [(6),] (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 for a family member of the insured or subscriber shall, as to such family member's coverage, also provide that the health insurance benefits applicable for children shall be payable with respect to a newly born child of the insured or subscriber from the moment of birth.

(b) Coverage for such newly born child shall consist of coverage for injury and sickness including necessary care and treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects and birth abnormalities within the limits of the policy.

(c) If payment of a specific premium fee is required to provide

House Bill No. 6941

coverage for a child, the policy may require that notification of birth of such newly born child and payment of the required premium or fees shall be furnished to the insurer, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation or health care center not later than [sixty-one] ninety-one days after the date of birth in order to continue coverage beyond such [sixty-one-day] period, provided failure to furnish such notice or pay such premium shall not prejudice any claim originating within such [sixty-one-day] period.

Sec. 225. Subsection (a) of section 38a-510 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) No insurance company, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity delivering, issuing for delivery, renewing, amending or continuing an individual health insurance policy or contract that provides coverage for prescription drugs may:

(1) Require any person covered under such policy or contract to obtain prescription drugs from a mail order pharmacy as a condition of obtaining benefits for such drugs; or

(2) Require, if such insurance company, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity uses step therapy for such drugs, the use of step therapy [for] (A) for any prescribed drug for longer than [sixty] thirty days, [or] (B) for a prescribed drug for cancer treatment for an insured who has been diagnosed with stage IV metastatic cancer provided such prescribed drug is in compliance with approved federal Food and Drug Administration indications, or (C) for the period commencing January 1, 2024, and ending January 1, 2027, inclusive, for the treatment of schizophrenia, major depressive disorder or bipolar disorder, as defined in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's

House Bill No. 6941

"Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders".

(3) At the expiration of the time period specified in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of this subsection or for a prescribed drug described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of subdivision (2) of this subsection, an insured's treating health care provider may deem such step therapy drug regimen clinically ineffective for the insured, at which time the insurance company, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity shall authorize dispensation of and coverage for the drug prescribed by the insured's treating health care provider, provided such drug is a covered drug under such policy or contract. If such provider does not deem such step therapy drug regimen clinically ineffective or has not requested an override pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, such drug regimen may be continued. For purposes of this section, "step therapy" means a protocol or program that establishes the specific sequence in which prescription drugs for a specified medical condition are to be prescribed.

Sec. 226. Subsection (a) of section 38a-544 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) No insurance company, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity delivering, issuing for delivery, renewing, amending or continuing a group health insurance policy or contract that provides coverage for prescription drugs may:

(1) Require any person covered under such policy or contract to obtain prescription drugs from a mail order pharmacy as a condition of obtaining benefits for such drugs; or

(2) Require, if such insurance company, hospital service corporation,

House Bill No. 6941

medical service corporation, health care center or other entity uses step therapy for such drugs, the use of step therapy [for] (A) for any prescribed drug for longer than [sixty] thirty days, [or] (B) for a prescribed drug for cancer treatment for an insured who has been diagnosed with stage IV metastatic cancer provided such prescribed drug is in compliance with approved federal Food and Drug Administration indications, or (C) for the period commencing January 1, 2024, and ending January 1, 2027, inclusive, for the treatment of schizophrenia, major depressive disorder or bipolar disorder, as defined in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders".

(3) At the expiration of the time period specified in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of this subsection or for a prescribed drug described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of subdivision (2) of this subsection, an insured's treating health care provider may deem such step therapy drug regimen clinically ineffective for the insured, at which time the insurance company, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity shall authorize dispensation of and coverage for the drug prescribed by the insured's treating health care provider, provided such drug is a covered drug under such policy or contract. If such provider does not deem such step therapy drug regimen clinically ineffective or has not requested an override pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, such drug regimen may be continued. For purposes of this section, "step therapy" means a protocol or program that establishes the specific sequence in which prescription drugs for a specified medical condition are to be prescribed.

Sec. 227. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to study data collection efforts regarding step therapy. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, data collection regarding step therapy edits, rejections and appeals of behavioral health drugs and the

House Bill No. 6941

best methods to collect such data.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall be a health care provider with expertise in mental health;

(2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall be a health care provider with expertise in mental health;

(3) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a pharmacist licensed under chapter 400j of the general statutes;

(4) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a representative of the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry;

(5) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health and insurance, or their designees;

(6) The executive director of the Office of Health Strategy, or the executive director's designee;

(7) The Insurance Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

(8) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioner's designee;

(9) One representative of the insurance industry, to be appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance;

(10) One representative of the insurance industry, to be appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance;

House Bill No. 6941

(11) One representative of the pharmaceutical industry, to be appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance;

(12) One representative of the pharmaceutical industry, to be appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance;

(13) One mental health care provider, to be appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health;

(14) One mental health care provider, to be appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health;

(15) One representative of a mental health advocacy group, who shall be an impacted individual, to be appointed by the House ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health; and

(16) One representative of a mental health advocacy group, who shall be an impacted individual, to be appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health.

(c) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall

House Bill No. 6941

schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

(f) Not later than February 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations concerning subsection (a) of this section to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance and public health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or on February 1, 2024, whichever is earlier.

Sec. 228. Section 38a-478c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) On or before May first of each year, each managed care organization shall submit to the commissioner:

(1) A report on its quality assurance plan that includes, but is not limited to, information on complaints related to providers and quality of care, on decisions related to patient requests for coverage and on prior authorization statistics. Statistical information shall be submitted in a format prescribed by the commissioner and in a manner permitting comparison across plans and shall include, but not be limited to: (A) The ratio of the number of complaints received to the number of enrollees; (B) a summary of the complaints received related to providers and delivery of care or services and the action taken on the complaint; (C) the ratio of the number of prior authorizations denied to the number of prior authorizations requested; (D) a list of health care services that required prior authorization in the prior calendar year; (E) the percentage of services that required prior authorization in the prior

House Bill No. 6941

calendar year compared to the total overall number of services covered in the prior calendar year; (F) the number of utilization review determinations made by or on behalf of a managed care organization not to certify an admission, service, procedure or extension of stay, and the denials upheld and reversed on appeal within the managed care organization's utilization review procedure; [(E)] (G) the percentage of those employers or groups that renew their contracts within the previous twelve months; and [(F)] (H) notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, on or before July first of each year, all data required by the National Committee for Quality Assurance for its Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set. If an organization does not provide information for the National Committee for Quality Assurance for its Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set, then it shall provide such other equivalent data as the commissioner may require by regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. The commissioner shall find that the requirements of this subdivision have been met if the managed care plan has received a one-year or higher level of accreditation by the National Committee for Quality Assurance and has submitted the Health Plan Employee Data Information Set data required by subparagraph [(F)] (H) of this subdivision;

(2) A model contract that contains the provisions currently in force in contracts between the managed care organization and preferred provider networks in this state, and the managed care organization and participating providers in this state and, upon the commissioner's request, a copy of any individual contracts between such parties, provided the contract may withhold or redact proprietary fee schedule information;

(3) A written statement of the types of financial arrangements or contractual provisions that the managed care organization has with hospitals, utilization review companies, physicians, preferred provider

House Bill No. 6941

networks and any other health care providers including, but not limited to, compensation based on a fee-for-service arrangement, a risk-sharing arrangement or a capitated risk arrangement;

(4) Such information as the commissioner deems necessary to complete the consumer report card required pursuant to section 38a-478*l*. Such information may include, but need not be limited to: (A) The organization's characteristics, including its model, its profit or nonprofit status, its address and telephone number, the length of time it has been licensed in this and any other state, its number of enrollees and whether it has received any national or regional accreditation; (B) a summary of the information required by subdivision (3) of this subsection, including any change in a plan's rates over the prior three years, its state medical loss ratio and its federal medical loss ratio, as both terms are defined in section 38a-478*l*, how it compensates health care providers and its premium level; (C) a description of services, the number of primary care physicians and specialists, the number and nature of participating preferred provider networks and the distribution and number of hospitals, by county; (D) utilization review information, including the name or source of any established medical protocols and the utilization review standards; (E) medical management information, including the provider-to-patient ratio by primary care provider and specialty care provider, the percentage of primary and specialty care providers who are board certified, and how the medical protocols incorporate input as required in section 38a-478*e*; (F) the quality assurance information required to be submitted under the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section; (G) the status of the organization's compliance with the reporting requirements of this section; (H) whether the organization markets to individuals and Medicare recipients; (I) the number of hospital days per thousand enrollees; and (J) the average length of hospital stays for specific procedures, as may be requested by the commissioner;

House Bill No. 6941

(5) A summary of the procedures used by managed care organizations to credential providers; [and]

(6) A report on claims denial data for lives covered in the state for the prior calendar year, in a format prescribed by the commissioner, that includes: (A) The total number of claims received; (B) the total number of claims denied; (C) the total number of denials that were appealed; (D) the total number of denials that were reversed upon appeal; (E) (i) the reasons for the denials, including, but not limited to, "not a covered benefit", "not medically necessary" and "not an eligible enrollee", (ii) the total number of times each reason was used, and (iii) the percentage of the total number of denials each reason was used; and (F) other information the commissioner deems necessary; and

(7) A report, in a format prescribed by the commissioner, that contains a summary of (A) the actuarial analysis utilized in setting the standards for any procedures subject to prior authorization in the prior calendar year, and (B) any estimated premium savings that resulted from prior authorization and other utilization review protocols used in the prior calendar year.

(b) The information required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be consistent with the data required by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) for its Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS).

(c) The commissioner may accept electronic filing for any of the requirements under this section and may revise such filing requirements to facilitate implementation of the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.

(d) No managed care organization shall be liable for a claim arising out of the submission of any information concerning complaints concerning providers, provided the managed care organization

House Bill No. 6941

submitted the information in good faith.

(e) The information required under subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of this section shall be posted on the Insurance Department's Internet web site.

Sec. 229. Section 38a-478*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) Not later than October fifteenth of each year, the Insurance Commissioner, after consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, shall develop and distribute a consumer report card on all managed care organizations. The commissioner shall develop the consumer report card in a manner permitting consumer comparison across organizations.

(b) (1) The consumer report card shall be known as the "Consumer Report Card on Health Insurance Carriers in Connecticut" and shall include (A) all health care centers licensed pursuant to chapter 698a, (B) the fifteen largest licensed health insurers that use provider networks and that are not included in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, (C) the state medical loss ratio of each such health care center or licensed health insurer, (D) the federal medical loss ratio of each such health care center or licensed health insurer, (E) the information required under [subdivision (6)] subdivisions (6) and (7) of subsection (a) of section 38a-478c, and (F) information concerning mental health services, as specified in subsection (c) of this section. The insurers selected pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision shall be selected on the basis of Connecticut direct written health premiums from such network plans.

(2) For the purposes of this section and sections 38a-477c, 38a-478c and 38a-478g:

(A) "State medical loss ratio" means the ratio of incurred claims to earned premiums for the prior calendar year for managed care plans

House Bill No. 6941

issued in the state. Claims shall be limited to medical expenses for services and supplies provided to enrollees and shall not include expenses for stop loss coverage, reinsurance, enrollee educational programs or other cost containment programs or features;

(B) "Federal medical loss ratio" has the same meaning as provided in, and shall be calculated in accordance with, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended from time to time, and regulations adopted thereunder.

(c) With respect to mental health services, the consumer report card shall include information or measures with respect to the percentage of enrollees receiving mental health services, utilization of mental health and chemical dependence services, inpatient and outpatient admissions, discharge rates and average lengths of stay. Such data shall be collected in a manner consistent with the National Committee for Quality Assurance Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set measures.

(d) The commissioner shall test market a draft of the consumer report card prior to its publication and distribution. As a result of such test marketing, the commissioner may make any necessary modification to its form or substance. The Insurance Department shall prominently display a link to the consumer report card on the department's Internet web site.

(e) The commissioner shall analyze annually the data submitted under subparagraphs (E) and (F) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section for the accuracy of, trends in and statistically significant differences in such data among the health care centers and licensed health insurers included in the consumer report card. The commissioner may investigate any such differences to determine whether further action by the commissioner is warranted.

Sec. 230. Section 38a-591c of the general statutes is amended by

House Bill No. 6941

adding subsection (e) as follows (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(NEW) (e) Each participating provider shall utilize a health carrier's electronic program that securely accommodates the processing of utilization review requests, provided such participating provider's failure to utilize such health carrier's electronic program shall not contribute to an adverse determination.

Sec. 231. Section 4-67f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall establish a program for the purpose of financing state agency projects to reduce costs and increase efficiencies through capital investment, including, but not limited to, projects to use new technologies, improved equipment and energy efficiency measures. Any state agency may submit a request for such funding to the secretary.

(b) The secretary shall establish a program for the purpose of allocation of awards to individual state employees or groups of state employees who present ideas for innovations within their agencies which improve the delivery of services or reduce agency costs.

[(c) There is established an innovations review panel consisting of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management or his designee, two representatives of state agencies selected by the secretary, two representatives of collective bargaining units representing state employees selected by the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition and five public members, including at least two representatives of the business community. The Governor, president pro tempore of the Senate, minority leader of the Senate, speaker of the House of Representatives and minority leader of the House of Representatives shall each appoint one such public member. Said panel shall review and evaluate requests for funding for projects and awards pursuant to

House Bill No. 6941

subsections (a) and (b) of this section and recommend projects and awards to the secretary.

(d) Not later than June 30, 1995, and annually thereafter, the innovations review panel shall identify and quantify the savings realized through the implementation of employee recommendations sponsored by the panel, and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall certify the accuracy of such quantification. On July 1, 1995, and annually thereafter, fifty per cent of the unexpended savings realized during the preceding fiscal year through the implementation of an employee recommendation sponsored by the innovations review panel shall accrue to the agency which implemented the recommendation, provided such savings (1) shall so accrue only for the first year of the project, and (2) shall not exceed two million dollars in the aggregate for any one agency in any year.]

Sec. 232. Section 4-68s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) Not later than October 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, the Departments of Correction, Children and Families, Mental Health and Addiction Services and Social Services and the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch shall compile a program inventory of each of said agency's programs and shall categorize them as evidence-based, research-based, promising or lacking any evidence. Each program inventory shall include a complete list of all agency programs, including the following information for each such program for the prior fiscal year, as applicable: (1) A detailed description of the program, (2) the names of providers, (3) the intended treatment population, (4) the intended outcomes, (5) the method of assigning participants, (6) the total annual program expenditures, (7) a description of funding sources, (8) the cost per participant, (9) the annual number of participants, (10) the annual capacity for participants, and (11) the estimated number of persons eligible for, or needing, the program.

House Bill No. 6941

(b) Each program inventory required by subsection (a) of this section shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, human services, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and finance, revenue and bonding, the Office of Fiscal Analysis, and the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut.

(c) Not later than November 1, 2018, and annually thereafter by November first, the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut shall submit a report containing a cost-benefit analysis of the programs inventoried in subsection (a) of this section to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and finance, revenue and bonding, and the Office of Fiscal Analysis, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

(d) The Office of Policy and Management and the Office of Fiscal Analysis may include the cost-benefit analysis provided by the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut under subsection (c) of this section in their reports submitted to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and finance, revenue and bonding on or before November fifteenth annually, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 2-36b.

(e) Not later than January 1, 2019, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall create a pilot program that applies the principles of the Pew-MacArthur Results First cost-benefit analysis model, with the overall goal of promoting cost-effective policies and programming by the state, to at least eight grant programs financed by the state selected by the secretary. Such grant programs shall include, but need

House Bill No. 6941

not be limited to, programs that provide services for families in the state, employment programs and at least one contracting program that is provided by a state agency with an annual budget of over two hundred million dollars.

[(f) Not later than April 1, 2019, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, a description of the grant programs the secretary has included in the pilot program described in subsection (e) of this section, the status of the pilot program and any recommendations.]

Sec. 233. Subdivision (2) of subsection (g) of section 4e-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(2) In addition to the duties set forth by the board, the Chief Procurement Officer shall (A) oversee state contracting agency compliance with the provisions of statutes and regulations concerning procurement; (B) monitor and assess the performance of the procurement duties of each agency procurement officer; (C) administer the certification system and monitor the level of agency compliance with the requirements of statutes and regulations concerning procurement, including, but not limited to, the education and training, performance and qualifications of agency procurement officers; (D) review and monitor the procurement processes of each state contracting agency, quasi-public agencies and institutions of higher education; and (E) serve as chairperson of the Contracting Standards Advisory Council. [and an ex-officio member of the Vendor and Citizen Advisory Panel.]

Sec. 234. Section 8-37yy of the general statutes is repealed and the

House Bill No. 6941

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The Department of Housing shall [, in consultation with the State-Assisted Housing Sustainability Advisory Committee, established pursuant to section 8-37zz,] establish and maintain the State-Assisted Housing Sustainability Fund for the purpose of the preservation of eligible housing. The moneys of the fund shall be available to the department to provide financial assistance to the owners of eligible housing for the maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, and modernization of eligible housing and for other activities consistent with preservation of eligible housing, including, but not limited to, (1) emergency repairs to abate actual or imminent emergency conditions that would result in the loss of habitable housing units, (2) major system repairs or upgrades, including, but not limited to, repairs or upgrades to roofs, windows, mechanical systems and security, (3) reduction of vacant units, (4) remediation or abatement of hazardous materials, including lead, (5) increases in development mobility and sensory impaired accessibility in units, common areas and accessible routes, (6) relocation costs and alternative housing for not more than sixty days, necessary because of the failure of a major building system, and (7) a comprehensive physical needs assessment. Financial assistance shall be awarded to applicants consistent with standards and criteria adopted in consultation with the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing. On and after July 1, 2009, the department shall prepare an administrative budget for the program.

[(b) In each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, and June 30, 2009, the department may expend not more than seven hundred fifty thousand dollars from the fund for reasonable administrative costs related to the operation of the fund, including the expenses of the State-Assisted Housing Sustainability Advisory Committee, the development of analytic tools and research concerning the capital and operating needs of eligible housing for the purpose of advising the General

House Bill No. 6941

Assembly on policy regarding eligible housing and the study required by section 107 of public act 07-4 of the June special session. Thereafter, the department shall prepare an administrative budget.]

[(c)] (b) The department may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section and sections 8-37xx [, 8-37zz] and 8-37aaa. Such regulations shall establish guidelines for grants and loans, and a process for certifying an emergency condition in not more than forty-eight hours and for committing emergency funds, including costs of resident relocation, if necessary, not more than five business days after application by the owner of eligible housing for emergency repair financial assistance.

[(d)] (c) In reviewing applications and providing financial assistance under this section, the department, in consultation with the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing, shall consider the long-term viability of the eligible housing and the likelihood that financial assistance will assure such long-term viability. As used in this section, "viability" includes, but is not limited to, continuous habitability and adequate operating cash flow to maintain the existing physical plant and any capital improvements and to provide basic services required under the lease and otherwise required by local codes and ordinances.

[(e)] (d) Annually, on or before March thirty-first, the department shall submit a report on the operation of the fund, for the previous calendar year, to the General Assembly, in accordance with section 8-37qqq. The report shall include an analysis of the distribution of funds and an evaluation of the performance of said fund and may include recommendations for modification to the program.

Sec. 235. Section 8-37aaa of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) The Department of Housing shall design and administer a program of grants to owners of eligible housing to pay the cost of a comprehensive physical needs assessment for each eligible housing development. [The final design of this program shall be subject to review by the State-Assisted Housing Sustainability Advisory Committee established pursuant to section 8-37zz.] Such assessment may be a twenty-year life cycle analysis covering all physical elements, adjusted for observed conditions, and shall include, at a minimum, an evaluation of (1) dwelling units; building interiors and building envelopes; community buildings and amenities; site circulation and parking; site amenities such as lots; mechanical systems, including an analysis of technological options to reduce energy consumption and pay-back periods on new systems that produce heat and domestic hot water; and site conditions, (2) compliance with physical accessibility guidelines under Title II of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, and (3) hazardous materials abatement, including lead paint abatement. The costs of such needs assessments shall be paid from the fund.

(b) A copy of each completed comprehensive physical needs assessment shall be submitted to the Department of Housing in a format prescribed by the department. The format shall be designed by the department so that a baseline of existing and standardized conditions of eligible housing can be prepared and annually updated to reflect changes in the consumer price index and annual construction costs.

Sec. 236. Subsection (b) of section 12-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) The commissioner may disclose (1) returns or return information to (A) an authorized representative of another state agency or office, upon written request by the head of such agency or office, when required in the course of duty or when there is reasonable cause to believe that any state law is being violated, or (B) an authorized

House Bill No. 6941

representative of an agency or office of the United States, upon written request by the head of such agency or office, when required in the course of duty or when there is reasonable cause to believe that any federal law is being violated, provided no such agency or office shall disclose such returns or return information, other than in a judicial or administrative proceeding to which such agency or office is a party pertaining to the enforcement of state or federal law, as the case may be, in a form which can be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer except that the names and addresses of jurors or potential jurors and the fact that the names were derived from the list of taxpayers pursuant to chapter 884 may be disclosed by the Judicial Branch; (2) returns or return information to the Auditors of Public Accounts, when required in the course of duty under chapter 23; (3) returns or return information to tax officers of another state or of a Canadian province or of a political subdivision of such other state or province or of the District of Columbia or to any officer of the United States Treasury Department or the United States Department of Health and Human Services, authorized for such purpose in accordance with an agreement between this state and such other state, province, political subdivision, the District of Columbia or department, respectively, when required in the administration of taxes imposed under the laws of such other state, province, political subdivision, the District of Columbia or the United States, respectively, and when a reciprocal arrangement exists; (4) returns or return information in any action, case or proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction, when the commissioner or any other state department or agency is a party, and when such information is directly involved in such action, case or proceeding; (5) returns or return information to a taxpayer or its authorized representative, upon written request for a return filed by or return information on such taxpayer; (6) returns or return information to a successor, receiver, trustee, executor, administrator, assignee, guardian or guarantor of a taxpayer, when such person establishes, to the satisfaction of the commissioner, that such person has a material interest which will be

House Bill No. 6941

affected by information contained in such returns or return information; (7) information to the assessor or an authorized representative of the chief executive officer of a Connecticut municipality, when the information disclosed is limited to (A) a list of real or personal property that is or may be subject to property taxes in such municipality, or (B) a list containing the name of each person who is issued any license, permit or certificate which is required, under the provisions of this title, to be conspicuously displayed and whose address is in such municipality; (8) real estate conveyance tax return information or controlling interest transfer tax return information to the town clerk or an authorized representative of the chief executive officer of a Connecticut municipality to which the information relates; (9) estate tax returns and estate tax return information to the Probate Court Administrator or to the court of probate for the district within which a decedent resided at the date of the decedent's death, or within which the commissioner contends that a decedent resided at the date of the decedent's death or, if a decedent died a nonresident of this state, in the court of probate for the district within which real estate or tangible personal property of the decedent is situated, or within which the commissioner contends that real estate or tangible personal property of the decedent is situated; (10) returns or return information to the (A) Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for purposes of subsection (b) of section 12-7a, and (B) Office of Fiscal Analysis for purposes of, and subject to the provisions of, subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of section 12-7b; (11) return information to the Jury Administrator, when the information disclosed is limited to the names, addresses, federal Social Security numbers and dates of birth, if available, of residents of this state, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-701; (12) returns or return information to any person to the extent necessary in connection with the processing, storage, transmission or reproduction of such returns or return information, and the programming, maintenance, repair, testing or procurement of equipment, or the providing of other services, for purposes of tax administration; (13) without written request and unless

House Bill No. 6941

the commissioner determines that disclosure would identify a confidential informant or seriously impair a civil or criminal tax investigation, returns and return information which may constitute evidence of a violation of any civil or criminal law of this state or the United States to the extent necessary to apprise the head of such agency or office charged with the responsibility of enforcing such law, in which event the head of such agency or office may disclose such return information to officers and employees of such agency or office to the extent necessary to enforce such law; (14) names and addresses of operators, as defined in section 12-407, to tourism districts, as defined in section 10-397; (15) names of each licensed dealer, as defined in section 12-285, and the location of the premises covered by the dealer's license; (16) to a tobacco product manufacturer that places funds into escrow pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of section 4-28i, return information of a distributor licensed under the provisions of chapter 214 or chapter 214a, provided the information disclosed is limited to information relating to such manufacturer's sales to consumers within this state, whether directly or through a distributor, dealer or similar intermediary or intermediaries, of cigarettes, as defined in section 4-28h, and further provided there is reasonable cause to believe that such manufacturer is not in compliance with section 4-28i; (17) [returns, which shall not include a copy of the return filed with the commissioner, or return information for purposes of section 12-217z; (18)] returns or return information to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, upon written request by said commission, when necessary to investigate suspected violations of state election laws; [(19)] (18) returns or return information for purposes of, and subject to the conditions of, subsection (e) of section 5-240; and [(20)] (19) to the extent allowable under federal law, return information to another state agency or to support a data request submitted through CP20 WIN, established in section 10a-57g, in accordance with the policies and procedures of CP20 WIN for the purposes of evaluation or research, provided the recipient of such data enters into a data sharing agreement pursuant to section 4-67aa if such

House Bill No. 6941

recipient is not a state agency.

Sec. 237. Section 16a-46j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) On or after October 27, 2011, and upon the allocation of the proceeds of the bonds authorized by section 49 of public act 11-1 of the October special session, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall establish an energy efficiency fuel oil furnace and boiler replacement, upgrade and repair program to provide replacement furnaces and boilers, and repairs and upgrades to existing furnaces or boilers to meet the standards for replacement units specified in this subsection, to (1) nonprofit organizations that own their own buildings, and (2) housing authorities for use in dwelling units owned by such housing authorities. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall [, upon terms acceptable to the commissioner, enter into a written agreement with the Fuel Oil Conservation Board, established pursuant to section 16a-22n, to] provide for the purchase and installation of energy efficient oil furnaces and boilers or upgrades or repairs to existing furnaces and boilers, as appropriate. Such replacement energy efficient oil furnaces or boilers shall be equipped with electronically commutated blower motors and have an efficiency rating of not less than eighty-six per cent. Such energy efficient oil furnaces and boilers shall be equipped with thermal purge or temperature reset controls and have an efficiency rating of not less than eighty-six per cent. If upgrades or repairs are possible in a manner that will achieve an efficiency rating of seventy-five per cent or more, units shall be upgraded or repaired rather than replaced.

(b) On or before December 1, 2011, the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority shall provide the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection a list of housing authorities in the state that own dwelling units that are heated with a fuel oil furnace or boiler.

House Bill No. 6941

(c) (1) On or before January 1, 2012, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection [, in conjunction with the Fuel Oil Conservation Board,] shall (A) develop a process for identifying and notifying each nonprofit organization and housing authority that may be eligible for the program, and (B) implement a method to process applications for a replacement furnace or boiler or repairs or upgrades to existing furnaces or boilers pursuant to this section. [The board shall begin to make preliminary determinations on the eligibility of any applicants not later than January 1, 2012.]

(2) As a condition of eligibility for the program, each nonprofit organization or housing authority applying for the program pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall, at the time of submission of its application, verify that it (A) has applied for, and (B) agrees to accept the services of any available conservation program administered pursuant to section 7-233y or 16-245m.

(3) The [Fuel Oil Conservation Board] commissioner shall act on completed applications in the order received, except that the [board] commissioner may act immediately in emergencies where the nonprofit organization has no heat or has a furnace or boiler that is unsafe or inoperable, or the housing authority owns a dwelling unit that has no heat or such dwelling unit's furnace or boiler is unsafe or inoperable.

(d) The [Fuel Oil Conservation Board, in conjunction with the] Connecticut Energy Conservation Management Board, shall (1) establish criteria for determining (A) the condition of a nonprofit organization's oil furnace or boiler and fuel oil tank, or the condition of an oil furnace or boiler and fuel oil tank in a dwelling unit owned by a housing authority, and (B) whether such furnace, boiler or tank is inoperable or unsafe, or whether such furnace or boiler has an efficiency rating of less than sixty-five per cent, and (2) if the unsafe or inoperability circumstances of an oil furnace or boiler involve oil tank replacement, determine on the basis of a five-year payback whether it

House Bill No. 6941

would be more cost effective for such applicant to connect to a natural gas pipeline, if available. If it is determined that it is not cost effective for such applicant to connect to a natural gas pipeline, or if no pipeline is available, the [boards] board may elect to replace the applicant's oil tank. When the [boards elect] board elects to replace an oil furnace or boiler with a gas furnace or boiler, such gas furnace shall have not less than a ninety-five per cent annual fuel utilization efficiency and such gas boiler shall have not less than a ninety per cent annual fuel utilization efficiency.

(e) The [Fuel Oil Conservation Board] commissioner shall issue a request for proposals for the anticipated furnaces, boilers and equipment needed to meet the obligations of the program established under this section.

Sec. 238. Section 19a-32n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

[(a)] A physician or other health care provider who provides health care services to a pregnant woman during the last trimester of her pregnancy, which health care services are directly related to her pregnancy, shall provide the woman with timely, relevant and appropriate information sufficient to allow her to make an informed and voluntary choice regarding options to bank or donate umbilical cord blood following the delivery of a newborn child.

[(b) The Connecticut Umbilical Cord Blood Collection Board, established pursuant to section 19a-32q, shall, within available appropriations, engage in public education and marketing activities that promote and raise awareness among physicians and pregnant women of the umbilical cord blood collection program established pursuant to section 19a-32r.]

Sec. 239. Subsection (a) of section 25-156 of the general statutes is

House Bill No. 6941

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established the Long Island Sound Foundation, Inc., a nonstock, nonprofit corporation, organized under the laws of the state of Connecticut as a state chartered foundation. The Long Island Sound Foundation, Inc. shall be a successor organization to the Long Island Sound Assembly established under section 25-155, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2023.

Sec. 240. Section 32-411l of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

[(a) (1) There is established a Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee. The committee shall consist of the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee, the chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, or the chief executive officer's designee, and eight members who shall be appointed as follows: Two by the Governor, one of whom shall have background and experience in stem cell or regenerative medicine research and one of whom shall have background and experience in business or financial investments; one each by the president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall have background and experience in private sector regenerative medicine research and development; one each by the majority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives, who shall be academic researchers specializing in regenerative medicine research; one by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall have background and experience in either private or public sector regenerative medicine research and development or related research fields, including, but not limited to, embryology, genetics or cellular biology; and one by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall have background and experience in the field of bioethics. Members shall serve for a term of four years commencing on October first, except that

House Bill No. 6941

members first appointed by the Governor and the majority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives shall serve for a term of two years. No member may serve for more than two consecutive four-year terms. All initial appointments to the committee shall be made by October 1, 2005. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(2) The Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee shall include eight additional members who shall be appointed as follows: Two by the Governor, who shall have backgrounds and experience in business or financial investments; one each by the president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall have background and experience in private sector regenerative medicine research and development; one each by the majority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives, who shall be academic researchers specializing in regenerative medicine research; one by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall have background and experience in either private or public sector regenerative medicine research and development or related research fields, including, but not limited to, embryology, genetics or cellular biology; and one by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall have background and experience in business, law or ethics. Members shall serve for a term of four years, except that (A) members first appointed by the Governor and the majority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives pursuant to this subdivision shall serve for a term of two years and three months, and (B) members first appointed by the remaining appointing authorities shall serve for a term of four years and three months. No member appointed pursuant to this subdivision may serve for more than two consecutive four-year terms. All initial appointments to the committee pursuant to this subdivision shall be made by July 1, 2006. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(b) The chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations,

House Bill No. 6941

Incorporated, or the chief executive officer's designee, shall serve as chairperson of the Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee.

(c) All members appointed to said advisory committee shall work to advance regenerative medicine research. Any member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend fifty per cent of all meetings held during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from said advisory committee.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, it shall not constitute a conflict of interest for a trustee, director, partner, officer, stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee of any eligible institution, or for any other individual with a financial interest in any eligible institution, to serve as a member of said advisory committee. All members shall be deemed public officials and shall adhere to the code of ethics for public officials set forth in chapter 10. Members may participate in the affairs of said advisory committee with respect to the review or consideration of applications for financial assistance, including the approval or disapproval of such applications, except that no member shall participate in the affairs of said advisory committee with respect to the review or consideration of any application for financial assistance filed by such member or by any eligible institution in which such member has a financial interest, or with whom such member engages in any business, employment, transaction or professional activity.

(e) The Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee] (a) The chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall (1) develop [, in consultation with Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated,] a donated funds program to encourage the development of funds other than state appropriations for regenerative medicine research in the state, (2) examine and identify specific ways to improve and promote for-profit and not-for-profit regenerative medicine

House Bill No. 6941

research and research in related areas in the state, including, but not limited to, identifying both public and private funding sources for such research, maintaining existing regenerative medicine-related businesses, recruiting new regenerative medicine-related businesses to the state and recruiting scientists and researchers in such field to the state, (3) administer a regenerative medicine research assistance program that shall provide financial assistance to eligible institutions for the advancement of regenerative medicine research in the state pursuant to section 32-41kk, (4) monitor the regenerative medicine research conducted by eligible institutions that receive such financial assistance, and (5) prepare a comprehensive strategic plan for the Regenerative Medicine Research Fund, established pursuant to section 32-41kk, and financial assistance awarded from said fund that shall include, but need not be limited to, identification of specific methods or strategies to (A) achieve the scientific and economic development objective of said fund, (B) build innovation capacity, and (C) sustain investments of moneys received by said fund.

[(f)] (b) Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall serve as administrator of the Regenerative Medicine Research Fund and shall: [in consultation with the Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee:] (1) Develop the application for the financial assistance authorized under subsection (b) of section 32-41kk; (2) review such applications; (3) review recommendations of peer reviewers pursuant to section 32-41mm; (4) prepare and execute any assistance agreements or other agreements in connection with the awarding of such financial assistance; (5) develop performance metrics and systems to collect data from recipients of such financial assistance; and (6) collect information from such recipients concerning each recipient's employment statistics, business accomplishments and performance outcomes, peer review articles and papers published, partnerships and collaborations with other entities, licenses, patents and invention disclosures, scientific progress as it relates to the commercialization of intellectual property

House Bill No. 6941

funded by such financial assistance, efforts to commercialize such intellectual property, and other funds received for research. [; and (7) performing such other administrative duties as the Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee deems necessary.]

Sec. 241. Subsection (b) of section 32-41kk of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) The [Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee established pursuant to section 32-41ll] chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall develop an application for financial assistance under this section for the purpose of conducting regenerative medicine research and may receive applications from eligible institutions for such financial assistance. The [Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee] chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall require any applicant for financial assistance under this section to conduct regenerative medicine research to submit (1) a complete description of the applicant's organization, (2) the applicant's plans for regenerative medicine research and proposed funding for such research from sources other than the state, (3) proposed arrangements concerning financial benefits to the state as a result of any patent, royalty payment or similar rights developing from any proposed research made possible by the awarding of such financial assistance, and (4) a form attesting to compliance with subsections (c) and (d) of section 32-41jj if the regenerative medicine research involves the use of embryonic stem cells. [The Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee shall direct the chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, with respect to the awarding of such financial assistance after considering recommendations from peer reviewers pursuant to section 32-41mm.]

Sec. 242. Section 32-41mm of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) Prior to the awarding of any financial assistance in response to an application submitted pursuant to section 32-41kk, the [Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee, established pursuant to section 32-41ll] chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall contract with a third party for the selection of peer reviewers to review such application and make recommendations to [said advisory committee] said officer with respect to the ethical and scientific merit of such application.

(b) Such peer reviewers shall: (1) Have a demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the ethical and medical implications of regenerative medicine research or related research fields, including, but not limited to, embryology, genetics or cellular biology; (2) have practical research experience in regenerative medicine research or related research fields, including, but not limited to, embryology, genetics or cellular biology; (3) work to advance regenerative medicine research; and (4) become and remain fully cognizant of the National Academies' Guidelines for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research, as amended from time to time, and shall utilize said guidelines to evaluate any application pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(c) No peer reviewer shall review any application filed by such peer reviewer or by any eligible institution in which such peer reviewer has a financial interest, or with which such peer reviewer engages in any business, employment, transaction or professional activity.

(d) Such peer reviewers may receive compensation from Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, for reviewing applications submitted pursuant to section 32-41kk. The rate of compensation shall be established by the board of directors of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated.

(e) The [Regenerative Medicine Research Advisory Committee] chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall

House Bill No. 6941

establish guidelines for the rating and scoring of such applications. In establishing such guidelines, said [advisory committee] officer may consult with a third party contracted for the selection of peer reviewers pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 243. Subsection (b) of section 46a-56 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) The commission may, when it is deemed in the best interests of the state, exempt a contractor from the requirements of complying with any or all of the provisions of section 4a-60, 4a-60a, 46a-68c, 46a-68d or 46a-68e in any specific contract. Exemptions under the provisions of this section may include, but not be limited to, the following instances: (1) If the work is to be or has been performed outside the state and no recruitment of workers within the limits of the state is involved; (2) those involving less than specified amounts of money or specified numbers of workers; (3) to the extent that they involve subcontracts below a specified tier. The commission may also exempt facilities of a contractor which are in all respects separate and distinct from activities of the contractor related to the performance of the contract, provided such an exemption shall not interfere with or impede the effectuation of the purposes of this section and sections 4a-60, 4a-60a, 4a-60g [, 4a-62] and 46a-68b to 46a-68k, inclusive.

Sec. 244. Section 46a-68b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

As used in this section and sections 4a-60, 4a-60a, [4a-62,] 46a-56 and 46a-68c to 46a-68k, inclusive: "Public works contract" means any agreement between any individual, firm or corporation and the state or any political subdivision of the state other than a municipality for construction, rehabilitation, conversion, extension, demolition or repair of a public building, highway or other changes or improvements in real

House Bill No. 6941

property, or which is financed in whole or in part by the state, including, but not limited to, matching expenditures, grants, loans, insurance or guarantees and "municipal public works contract", "quasi-public agency project" and "awarding agency" have the same meanings as provided in section 4a-60g.

Sec. 245. Section 46a-68c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) In addition to the provisions of section 4a-60, each contractor with fifty or more employees awarded a public works contract, municipal public works contract or contract for a quasi-public agency project in excess of fifty thousand dollars in any fiscal year, but not subject to the provisions of section 46a-68d, shall develop and file an affirmative action plan with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities [an affirmative action plan] which shall comply with regulations adopted by the commission. The executive director or the executive director's designee shall review and formally approve, conditionally approve or disapprove the content of the affirmative action plan not later than one hundred twenty days following the date of the submission of the plan to the commission. If the executive director or the executive director's designee fails to approve, conditionally approve or disapprove a plan within such one-hundred-twenty-day period, the plan shall be deemed to be either approved or deficient without consequence. The executive director or the executive director's designee shall, not later than fifteen days after the date of deeming an affirmative action plan approved or deficient without consequence, provide the contractor with written notification of the action taken with respect to such plan. Failure to develop an affirmative action plan that is either approved or deficient without consequence shall act as a bar to bidding on or the award of future contracts until such requirement has been met.

(b) When the executive director or the executive director's designee approves an affirmative action plan pursuant to this section, the

House Bill No. 6941

executive director or the executive director's designee shall issue a certificate of compliance to the contractor. Such certificate shall be prima facie proof of the contractor's eligibility to bid or be awarded contracts for a period of two years from the date of the certificate. Such certificate shall not excuse the contractor from monitoring by the commission or from the reporting and record-keeping requirements of sections 46a-68e and 46a-68f. The executive director or the executive director's designee may revoke the certificate of a contractor if the contractor does not implement its affirmative action plan in compliance with this section and sections 4a-60, 4a-60g, [4a-62,] 46a-56, 46a-68b, 46a-68d, and 46a-68e to 46a-68k, inclusive.

Sec. 246. Subsection (h) of section 46b-121n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(h) The committee shall complete its duties under this section after consultation with one or more organizations that focus on relevant issues regarding children and youths, such as the University of New Haven and any of the university's institutes. The committee may accept administrative support and technical and research assistance from any such organization. The committee shall work in collaboration with any results first initiative implemented pursuant to [section 2-111 or] any public or special act.

Sec. 247. (*Effective from passage*) The following sums are appropriated from the GENERAL FUND for the purposes herein specified for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

GENERAL FUND	2022-2023
STATE COMPTROLLER	
Personal Services	2,750,000

House Bill No. 6941

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	
Other Expenses	100,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	
Emergency Spill Response	750,000
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
Other Expenses	247,000
Capital Region Development Authority	2,250,000
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING	
Congregate Facilities Operation Costs	400,000
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER	
Other Expenses	50,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	
Other Expenses	13,000,000
Temporary Family Assistance - TANF	1,400,000
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM	
Other Expenses	1,000,000
OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION	
Other Expenses	225,000
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION	
Personal Services	26,100,000
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT	
Other Expenses	2,000,000
STATE COMPTROLLER - FRINGE BENEFITS	
Higher Education Alternative Retirement System	1,000,000
Employers Social Security Tax	16,000,000

House Bill No. 6941

WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS – DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	
Workers Comp Claims - DOC	4,460,000
TOTAL - GENERAL FUND	71,732,000

Sec. 248. (*Effective from passage*) The amounts appropriated to the following agencies in section 1 of public act 22-118 are reduced by the following amounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

GENERAL FUND	2022-2023
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT	
Personal Services	2,000,000
DEBT SERVICE - STATE TREASURER	
Debt Service	300,000
UConn 2000 - Debt Service	2,600,000
STATE COMPTROLLER - FRINGE BENEFITS	
Retired State Employees Health Service Cost	66,832,000
TOTAL - GENERAL FUND	71,732,000

Sec. 249. (*Effective from passage*) The following sums are appropriated from the SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND for the purposes herein specified for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	2022-2023
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	
State Insurance and Risk Management Operations	5,000,000

House Bill No. 6941

STATE COMPTROLLER – FRINGE BENEFITS	
Employers Social Security Tax	100,000
TOTAL – SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	5,100,000

Sec. 250. (*Effective from passage*) The amount appropriated to the following agency in section 2 of public act 22-118 is reduced by the following amount for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	2022-2023
DEBT SERVICE – STATE TREASURER	
Debt Service	5,100,000
TOTAL – SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	5,100,000

Sec. 251. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) As used in this section and sections 252 to 254, inclusive, of this act:

(1) "Assistance program" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (a) of section 19a-12a of the general statutes;

(2) "Chemical dependency" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (a) of section 19a-12a of the general statutes;

(3) "Health care professionals" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (a) of section 19a-12a of the general statutes;

(4) "Hospital" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-490 of the general statutes;

(5) "Medical review committee" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (a) of section 19a-12a of the general statutes;

House Bill No. 6941

(6) "Pharmacist" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-571 of the general statutes;

(7) "Pharmacy" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-571 of the general statutes; and

(8) "Pharmacy intern" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-571 of the general statutes.

Sec. 252. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) Any pharmacist or pharmacy intern may access the assistance program, provided the assistance program: (1) Satisfies the requirements established in this section; and (2) includes at least one medical review committee that satisfies the requirements established in subsections (b) to (h), inclusive, of this section.

(b) (1) Prior to admitting any pharmacist or pharmacy intern into the assistance program, a medical review committee shall: (A) Determine whether such pharmacist or pharmacy intern is an appropriate candidate for rehabilitation and participation in such program; and (B) establish the terms and conditions for such pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's participation in such program.

(2) No action taken by a medical review committee pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be construed as the practice of medicine or mental health care.

(c) (1) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a medical review committee shall not admit into the assistance program any pharmacist or pharmacy intern who: (A) Has any pending disciplinary charges, prior history of disciplinary action or consent order issued by any professional licensing, registering or disciplinary body; (B) has been charged with, or convicted of, (i) any felony under the laws of this state, or (ii) any offense committed outside of this state that, if committed within this state, would constitute a felony under the laws of this state;

House Bill No. 6941

or (C) is alleged to have harmed a patient.

(2) A medical review committee shall refer any pharmacist or pharmacy intern who satisfies the criteria established in subdivision (1) of this subsection to the Department of Consumer Protection, and shall submit to the department all records and files maintained by such committee concerning such pharmacist or pharmacy intern. Such referral may include the medical review committee's recommendations concerning which intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services are appropriate for such pharmacist or pharmacy intern.

(d) (1) The assistance program shall regularly review the sources of information available to such program to determine whether, and a pharmacist or pharmacy intern participating in such program shall immediately send notice to such program if: (A) Any disciplinary charges are filed against such pharmacist or pharmacy intern; (B) any professional licensing, registering or disciplinary body takes any disciplinary action against such pharmacist or pharmacy intern; or (C) such pharmacist or pharmacy intern is charged with, or convicted of, (i) any felony under the laws of this state, or (ii) any offense committed outside of this state that, if committed within this state, would constitute a felony under the laws of this state.

(2) Upon determining that a pharmacist or pharmacy intern satisfies the criteria established in, or receiving any notice sent by a pharmacist or pharmacy intern pursuant to, subdivision (1) of this subsection, the assistance program shall refer the pharmacist or pharmacy intern to the Department of Consumer Protection and submit to the department all records and files maintained by the assistance program concerning such pharmacist or pharmacy intern.

(e) The assistance program shall refer a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to the Department of Consumer Protection, and shall submit to

House Bill No. 6941

the department all records and files maintained by such program concerning the pharmacist or pharmacy intern, if: (1) The assistance program determines that such pharmacist or pharmacy intern (A) is unable to practice such pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's profession with skill and safety or poses a threat to the health and safety of any person or patient in the health care or pharmacy setting, and (B) does not refrain from practicing such pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's profession or fails to participate in a recommended program of rehabilitation; or (2) such pharmacist or pharmacy intern fails to comply with the terms or conditions of, or refuses to participate in, the assistance program.

(f) Upon receiving a referral under subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section, subsection (e) of this section or subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of section 19a-12b of the general statutes, the Department of Consumer Protection shall determine if the pharmacist or pharmacy intern is eligible to participate in, or continue participating in, the assistance program and whether such participation shall be treated as confidential as set forth in subsection (h) of this section. The Department of Consumer Protection may seek the advice of the assistance program and professional health care societies or organizations in determining which intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services are appropriate for the pharmacist or pharmacy intern. If the Department of Consumer Protection determines that the pharmacist or pharmacy intern is an appropriate candidate for confidential participation in the assistance program, and such pharmacist or pharmacy intern participates in such program in accordance with the terms agreed upon by such program, the department and such pharmacist or pharmacy intern, the entire record of the referral and investigation of such pharmacist or pharmacy intern shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except at the request of such pharmacist or pharmacy intern, for the duration of such pharmacist's or

House Bill No. 6941

pharmacy intern's participation in, and following successful completion of, such assistance program.

(g) Upon written notice to the Department of Consumer Protection by the oversight committee that the assistance program is in compliance with a corrective action plan developed pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 19a-12b of the general statutes, the department may refer pharmacists and pharmacy interns to the assistance program for continued intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services and shall submit to the assistance program all records and files concerning such pharmacists and pharmacy interns.

(h) (1) All information given or received in connection with any intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services provided by the assistance program pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, the identity of any pharmacist or pharmacy intern seeking or receiving such intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services, shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed: (A) To any third person or entity, unless such disclosure is reasonably necessary for the purposes of (i) such intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services, or (ii) an audit conducted in accordance with subsection (j) of this section; or (B) in any civil or criminal case or proceeding or in any administrative or other legal proceeding unless (i) the pharmacist or pharmacy intern seeking or obtaining such intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services waives such confidentiality, or (ii) such disclosure is otherwise required by law.

(2) Except as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, no person shall request or require in any civil or criminal case or proceeding, or in any administrative or other legal proceeding, disclosure of any information given or received in connection with the intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services provided pursuant to this section.

House Bill No. 6941

(3) The proceedings of a medical review committee shall not be subject to discovery or introduced into evidence in any civil action for or against a pharmacist or pharmacy intern arising out of matters that are subject to evaluation and review by such committee, and no person who was in attendance at such proceedings shall be permitted or required to testify in any such civil action as to the content of such proceedings. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to preclude in any civil action: (A) The use of any writing recorded independently of such proceedings; (B) the testimony of any person concerning such person's knowledge, acquired independently of such proceedings, about the facts that form the basis for instituting such civil action; (C) arising out of allegations of patient harm caused by health care or pharmacy services rendered by a pharmacist or pharmacy intern who, at the time such services were rendered, had been requested to refrain from practicing such pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's profession or whose practice of such profession was restricted, the disclosure of such request to refrain from practicing or such restriction; or (D) against a pharmacist or pharmacy intern, disclosure of the fact that the pharmacist or pharmacy intern participated in the assistance program, the dates of participation, the reason for participation and confirmation of successful completion of the assistance program, provided a court of competent jurisdiction has determined that good cause exists for such disclosure after (i) notification to such pharmacist or pharmacy intern of the request for such disclosure, and (ii) a hearing concerning such disclosure at the request of any party, and provided further, the court imposes appropriate safeguards against unauthorized disclosure or publication of such information.

(4) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the assistance program from disclosing any information in connection with any administrative proceeding related to the imposition of any disciplinary action against any pharmacist or pharmacy intern whom the assistance program refers to the Department of Consumer Protection

House Bill No. 6941

pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section, subsection (e) of this section or subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of section 19a-12b of the general statutes.

(i) (1) The assistance program shall report annually to the appropriate professional licensing or registering board or commission or, in the absence of such board or commission, to the Department of Consumer Protection: (A) On the number of pharmacists and pharmacy interns participating in the assistance program who are under the jurisdiction of such board or commission or, in the absence of such board or commission, the Department of Consumer Protection; (B) the purposes for participating in the assistance program; and (C) whether participants are practicing their profession with skill and safety, and without posing a threat to the health and safety of any person or patient, in the health care or pharmacy setting.

(2) On or before December thirty-first, annually, the assistance program shall report the information described in subdivision (1) of this subsection to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to general law, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

(j) (1) If the Department of Public Health notifies the Department of Consumer Protection that the Department of Public Health has waived the annual audit requirement established in subsection (l) of section 19a-12a of the general statutes, the Department of Consumer Protection may require an audit of the assistance program for the year that is the subject of such waiver for the purposes of examining the quality control of such program and ensuring compliance with the requirements established in this section. Each audit conducted pursuant to this subsection shall: (A) Be conducted on the premises of the assistance program by an auditor (i) who has been selected by the assistance program, and (ii) whom the assistance program and the Department of Consumer Protection have

House Bill No. 6941

jointly determined is qualified to conduct such audit; and (B) consist of a random sampling of at least twenty per cent of the assistance program's files for pharmacists and pharmacy interns or ten such files, whichever is greater.

(2) Prior to conducting an audit pursuant to this subsection, the auditor shall agree, in writing: (A) Not to copy any of the assistance program's files or records; (B) not to remove any of the assistance program's files or records from the premises of such program; (C) to destroy all personally identifying information about pharmacists and pharmacy interns participating in the assistance program upon completion of the audit; (D) not to disclose any personally identifying information about any pharmacist or pharmacy intern participating in the assistance program to any person or entity other than a person employed by the assistance program who is authorized by such program to receive such disclosure; and (E) not to disclose in any audit report any personally identifying information about any pharmacist or pharmacy intern participating in the assistance program.

(3) Upon completion of an audit conducted pursuant to this subsection, the auditor shall submit a written audit report to the assistance program, the Department of Consumer Protection, the Professional Assistance Oversight Committee established under section 19a-12b of the general statutes, and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to general law, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 253. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) (1) Any health care professional, hospital, pharmacy, pharmacist or pharmacy intern shall, and any other person may, file a petition with the Department of Consumer Protection when such health care professional, hospital, pharmacy, pharmacist, pharmacy intern or other person has any information that appears to show that a pharmacist or pharmacy intern is, or may be, unable to practice such pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's

House Bill No. 6941

profession with reasonable skill or safety for any of the following reasons: (A) Physical illness or loss of motor skill, including, but not limited to, deterioration through the aging process; (B) emotional disorder or mental illness; (C) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including, but not limited to, alcohol, narcotics or other chemicals; (D) illegal, incompetent or negligent conduct in the practice of such pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's profession; (E) possession, use, prescription for use or distribution of controlled substances or legend drugs, except for therapeutic or other medically proper purposes; (F) misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact in obtaining or reinstating a license or registration to practice such pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's profession; or (G) violation of any provision of chapter 400j of the general statutes or any regulation adopted under said chapter.

(2) A health care professional, hospital, pharmacy, pharmacist or pharmacy intern shall, and any other person may, file a petition described in subdivision (1) of this subsection not later than thirty days after obtaining the information to support such petition. Each petition shall be filed with the Department of Consumer Protection in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

(b) Any health care professional, hospital, pharmacy, pharmacist or pharmacy intern that refers a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to the assistance program for intervention shall be deemed to have satisfied the obligations imposed on such health care professional, hospital, pharmacy, pharmacist or pharmacy intern under subsection (a) of this section with respect to the pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's inability to practice such pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's profession with reasonable skill or safety due to chemical dependency, emotional or behavioral disorder or physical or mental illness.

(c) Any pharmacist or pharmacy intern who has been the subject of an arrest arising out of an allegation of the possession, use, prescription

House Bill No. 6941

for use or distribution of alcohol, a controlled substance or a legend drug shall, not later than thirty days after such arrest, send notice to the Department of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, disclosing such arrest. Such pharmacist or pharmacy intern shall be deemed to have satisfied such notice requirement if such pharmacist or pharmacy intern seeks intervention with the assistance program during such thirty-day period.

(d) If a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of any state, the District of Columbia, a United States possession or territory or a foreign jurisdiction takes any disciplinary action against a pharmacist or pharmacy intern that is similar in nature to any action specified in section 20-579 of the general statutes, the pharmacist or pharmacy intern shall report such disciplinary action to the Department of Consumer Protection not later than thirty days after such agency takes such action. Any failure to report in accordance with the provisions of this subsection may constitute grounds for disciplinary action under chapter 400j of the general statutes.

(e) No health care professional, hospital, pharmacy, pharmacist, pharmacy intern or other person who files a petition pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or provides any information to the Department of Consumer Protection or the assistance program, shall, without a showing of malice, be liable for damage or injury to the pharmacist or pharmacy intern for filing such petition or providing such information. The assistance program shall not be liable for damage or injury to the pharmacist or pharmacy intern without a showing of malice.

(f) The Department of Consumer Protection shall investigate each petition filed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with the provisions of section 21a-11 of the general statutes, to determine if probable cause exists to issue a statement of charges and institute proceedings against the pharmacist or pharmacy intern under

House Bill No. 6941

subsection (i) of this section.

(g) As part of an investigation of a petition filed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Department of Consumer Protection may order the pharmacist or pharmacy intern to submit to a physical or mental examination to be performed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse chosen from a list approved by the department. The Department of Consumer Protection may seek the advice of established medical organizations or health care professionals in determining the nature and scope of any diagnostic examinations to be used as part of any such physical or mental examination. The chosen physician or advanced practice registered nurse shall make a written statement of such physician's or advanced practice registered nurse's findings.

(h) If the pharmacist or pharmacy intern fails to obey the Department of Consumer Protection's order to submit to an examination or attend a hearing, the department may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to order such examination or attendance and said court, or any judge assigned to said court, shall have jurisdiction to issue such order.

(i) Subject to the provisions of section 4-182 of the general statutes, the Department of Consumer Protection shall not restrict, suspend or revoke any license or registration, or limit a pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's right to practice the pharmacist's or pharmacy intern's profession, until the pharmacist or pharmacy intern has been given notice and opportunity for hearing in accordance with said section.

Sec. 254. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) There is established an account to be known as the "pharmacy professional assistance program account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be paid by the

House Bill No. 6941

Commissioner of Consumer Protection to the assistance program for the provision of education, prevention, intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation and support services to pharmacists and pharmacy interns who have a chemical dependency, an emotional or behavioral disorder or a physical or mental illness.

Sec. 255. Section 19a-12a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section and section 19a-12b:

(1) "Assistance program" means the program established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section to provide education, prevention, intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services to health care professionals, pharmacists and pharmacy interns who have a chemical dependency, emotional or behavioral disorder or physical or mental illness;

[(1)] (2) "Chemical dependency" means abusive or excessive use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals, that results in physical or psychological dependence;

[(2) "Department" means the Department of Public Health;]

(3) "Health care professionals" includes any person licensed or who holds a permit pursuant to chapter 370, 372, 373, 375, 375a, 376, 376a, 376b, 376c, 377, 378, 379, 379a, 380, 381, 381a, 382a, 383, 383a, 383b, 383c, 384, 384a, 384b, 384c, 384d, 385, 398 or 399;

(4) "Medical review committee" means any committee that reviews and monitors participation by health care professionals, pharmacists or pharmacy interns in the assistance program, including a medical review committee described in section 19a-17b; [and]

[(5) "Assistance program" means the program established pursuant

House Bill No. 6941

to subsection (b) of this section to provide education, prevention, intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services to health care professionals who have a chemical dependency, emotional or behavioral disorder or physical or mental illness.]

(5) "Pharmacist" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-571; and

(6) "Pharmacy intern" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-571.

(b) State or local professional societies or membership organizations of health care professionals, pharmacists and pharmacy interns, or any combination thereof, may establish a single assistance program to serve all health care professionals, pharmacists and pharmacy interns, provided the assistance program (1) operates in compliance with the provisions of this section and sections 251 to 253, inclusive, of this act, and (2) includes one or more medical review committees that comply with the applicable provisions of (A) subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section, and (B) subsections (b) to (h), inclusive, of section 252 of this act. The program shall ~~[(A)]~~ (i) be an alternative, voluntary and confidential opportunity for the rehabilitation of health care professionals, ~~[and] persons who have applied to become health care professionals,~~ pharmacists and pharmacy interns, and ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) include mandatory, periodic evaluations of each participant's ability to practice with skill and safety and without posing a threat to the health and safety of any person or patient in the health care or pharmacy setting.

(c) Prior to admitting a health care professional into the assistance program, a medical review committee shall (1) determine if the health care professional is an appropriate candidate for rehabilitation and participation in the program, and (2) establish the participant's terms and conditions for participating in the program. No action taken by the medical review committee pursuant to this subsection shall be

House Bill No. 6941

construed as the practice of medicine or mental health care.

(d) A medical review committee shall not admit into the assistance program any health care professional who has pending disciplinary charges, prior history of disciplinary action or a consent order by any professional licensing or disciplinary body or has been charged with or convicted of a felony under the laws of this state, or of an offense that, if committed within this state, would constitute a felony. A medical review committee shall refer such health care professional to the [department] Department of Public Health and shall submit to the department all records and files maintained by the assistance program concerning such health care professional. Upon such referral, the [department] Department of Public Health shall determine if the health care professional is eligible to participate in the assistance program and whether such participation should be treated as confidential pursuant to subsection (h) of this section. The [department] Department of Public Health may seek the advice of professional health care societies or organizations and the assistance program in determining what intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services are appropriate for such health care professional. If the [department] Department of Public Health determines that the health care professional is an appropriate candidate for confidential participation in the assistance program, the entire record of the referral and investigation of the health care professional shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except at the request of the health care professional, for the duration of the health care professional's participation in and upon successful completion of the program, provided such participation is in accordance with terms agreed upon by the department, the health care professional and the assistance program.

(e) Any health care professional participating in the assistance program shall immediately notify the assistance program upon (1) being made aware of the filing of any disciplinary charges or the taking of any

House Bill No. 6941

disciplinary action against such health care professional by a professional licensing or disciplinary body, or (2) being charged with or convicted of a felony under the laws of this state, or of an offense that, if committed within this state, would constitute a felony. The assistance program shall regularly review available sources to determine if disciplinary charges have been filed, or disciplinary action has been taken, or felony charges have been filed or substantiated against any health care professional who has been admitted to the assistance program. Upon such notification, the assistance program shall refer such health care professional to the [department] Department of Public Health and shall submit to the department all records and files maintained by the assistance program concerning such health care professional. Upon such referral, the [department] Department of Public Health shall determine if the health care professional is eligible to continue participating in the assistance program and whether such participation should be treated as confidential in accordance with subsection (h) of this section. The [department] Department of Public Health may seek the advice of professional health care societies or organizations and the assistance program in determining what intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services are appropriate for such health care professional. If the [department] Department of Public Health determines that the health care professional is an appropriate candidate for confidential participation in the assistance program, the entire record of the referral and investigation of the health care professional shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except at the request of the health care professional, for the duration of the health care professional's participation in and upon successful completion of the program, provided such participation is in accordance with terms agreed upon by the department, the health care professional and the assistance program.

(f) A medical review committee shall not admit into the assistance program any health care professional who is alleged to have harmed a

House Bill No. 6941

patient. Upon being made aware of such allegation of harm a medical review committee and the assistance program shall refer such health care professional to the [department] Department of Public Health and shall submit to the department all records and files maintained by the assistance program concerning such health care professional. Such referral may include recommendations as to what intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services are appropriate for such health care professional. Upon such referral, the [department] Department of Public Health shall determine if the health care professional is eligible to participate in the assistance program and whether such participation should be provided in a confidential manner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (h) of this section. The [department] Department of Public Health may seek the advice of professional health care societies or organizations and the assistance program in determining what intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services are appropriate for such health care professional. If the [department] Department of Public Health determines that the health care professional is an appropriate candidate for confidential participation in the assistance program, the entire record of the referral and investigation of the health care professional shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except at the request of the health care professional, for the duration of the health care professional's participation in and upon successful completion of the program, provided such participation is in accordance with terms agreed upon by the department, the health care professional and the assistance program.

(g) The assistance program shall report annually to the appropriate professional licensing board or commission or, in the absence of such board or commission, to the Department of Public Health on the number of health care professionals participating in the assistance program who are under the jurisdiction of such board or commission or in the absence of such board or commission, the [department] Department of Public

House Bill No. 6941

Health, the purposes for participating in the assistance program and whether participants are practicing health care with skill and safety and without posing a threat to the health and safety of any person or patient in the health care setting. Annually, on or before December thirty-first, the assistance program shall report such information to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

(h) (1) All information given or received in connection with any intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services provided by the assistance program pursuant to this section, including the identity of any health care professional seeking or receiving such intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed (A) to any third person or entity, unless disclosure is reasonably necessary for the accomplishment of the purposes of such intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services or for the accomplishment of an audit in accordance with subsection (l) of this section, or (B) in any civil or criminal case or proceeding or in any legal or administrative proceeding, unless the health care professional seeking or obtaining intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services waives the confidentiality privilege under this subsection or unless disclosure is otherwise required by law. Unless a health care professional waives the confidentiality privilege under this subsection or disclosure is otherwise required by law, no person in any civil or criminal case or proceeding or in any legal or administrative proceeding may request or require any information given or received in connection with the intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services provided pursuant to this section.

(2) The proceedings of a medical review committee shall not be subject to discovery or introduced into evidence in any civil action for

House Bill No. 6941

or against a health care professional arising out of matters that are subject to evaluation and review by such committee, and no person who was in attendance at such proceedings shall be permitted or required to testify in any such civil action as to the content of such proceedings. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to preclude (A) in any civil action, the use of any writing recorded independently of such proceedings; (B) in any civil action, the testimony of any person concerning such person's knowledge, acquired independently of such proceedings, about the facts that form the basis for the instituting of such civil action; (C) in any civil action arising out of allegations of patient harm caused by health care services rendered by a health care professional who, at the time such services were rendered, had been requested to refrain from practicing or whose practice of medicine or health care was restricted, the disclosure of such request to refrain from practicing or such restriction; or (D) in any civil action against a health care professional, disclosure of the fact that a health care professional participated in the assistance program, the dates of participation, the reason for participation and confirmation of successful completion of the program, provided a court of competent jurisdiction has determined that good cause exists for such disclosure after (i) notification to the health care professional of the request for such disclosure, and (ii) a hearing concerning such disclosure at the request of any party, and provided further, the court imposes appropriate safeguards against unauthorized disclosure or publication of such information.

(3) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the assistance program from disclosing information in connection with administrative proceedings related to the imposition of disciplinary action against any health care professional referred to the [department] Department of Public Health by the assistance program pursuant to subsection (d), (e), (f) or (i) of this section or by the Professional Assistance Oversight Committee pursuant to subsection (e) of section 19a-12b.

House Bill No. 6941

(i) If at any time, (1) the assistance program determines that a health care professional is not able to practice with skill and safety or poses a threat to the health and safety of any person or patient in the health care setting and the health care professional does not refrain from practicing health care or fails to participate in a recommended program of rehabilitation, or (2) a health care professional who has been referred to the assistance program fails to comply with terms or conditions of the program or refuses to participate in the program, the assistance program shall refer the health care professional to the [department] Department of Public Health and shall submit to the department all records and files maintained by the assistance program concerning such health care professional. Upon such referral, the [department] Department of Public Health shall determine if the health care professional is eligible to participate in the assistance program and whether such participation should be provided in a confidential manner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (h) of this section. The [department] Department of Public Health may seek the advice of professional health care societies or organizations and the assistance program in determining what intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services are appropriate for such health care professional. If the [department] Department of Public Health determines that the health care professional is an appropriate candidate for confidential participation in the assistance program, the entire record of the referral and investigation of the health care professional shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except at the request of the health care professional, for the duration of the health care professional's participation in and upon successful completion of the program, provided such participation is in accordance with terms agreed upon by the department, the health care professional and the assistance program.

(j) (1) Any physician, hospital or state or local professional society or organization of health care professionals that refers a physician for intervention to the assistance program shall be deemed to have satisfied

House Bill No. 6941

the obligations imposed on the person or organization pursuant to subsection (a) of section 20-13d, with respect to a physician's inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill or safety due to chemical dependency, emotional or behavioral disorder or physical or mental illness.

(2) Any physician, physician assistant, hospital or state or local professional society or organization of health care professionals that refers a physician assistant for intervention to the assistance program shall be deemed to have satisfied the obligations imposed on the person or organization pursuant to subsection (a) of section 20-12e, with respect to a physician assistant's inability to practice with reasonable skill or safety due to chemical dependency, emotional or behavioral disorder or physical or mental illness.

(k) The assistance program established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall meet with the Professional Assistance Oversight Committee established under section 19a-12b on a regular basis, but not less than four times each year.

(l) (1) On or before November [1, 2007, and] first, annually, [thereafter,] the assistance program shall select a person determined to be qualified by the assistance program and the [department] Department of Public Health to conduct an audit on the premises of the assistance program for the purpose of examining quality control of the program and compliance with all requirements of this section. [On or after November 1, 2011, the department, with the agreement of the Professional Assistance Oversight Committee established under section 19a-12b,] The Department of Public Health may waive the audit requirement, provided (A) the Professional Assistance Oversight Committee established under section 19a-12b has agreed to such waiver, in writing, and (B) the Department of Public Health has notified the Department of Consumer Protection of such waiver, in writing.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) Any audit conducted pursuant to this subsection shall consist of a random sampling of at least twenty per cent of the assistance program's files or ten files, whichever is greater. Prior to conducting the audit, the auditor shall agree in writing ~~[(1)]~~ (A) not to copy any program files or records, ~~[(2)]~~ (B) not to remove any program files or records from the premises, ~~[(3)]~~ (C) to destroy all personally identifying information about health care professionals participating in the assistance program upon the completion of the audit, ~~[(4)]~~ (D) not to disclose personally identifying information about health care professionals participating in the program to any person or entity other than a person employed by the assistance program who is authorized by such program to receive such disclosure, and ~~[(5)]~~ (E) not to disclose in any audit report any personally identifying information about health care professionals participating in the assistance program.

(3) Upon completion of the audit conducted pursuant to this subsection, the auditor shall submit a written audit report to the assistance program, the ~~[department]~~ Department of Public Health, the Professional Assistance Oversight Committee established under section 19a-12b and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

Sec. 256. Section 19a-12b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) The Department of Public Health shall establish a Professional Assistance Oversight Committee for the assistance program. Such committee's duties shall include, but not be limited to, overseeing quality assurance. The oversight committee shall consist of the following members: (1) Three members selected by the ~~[department]~~ Department of Public Health, who are health care professionals with training and experience in mental health or addiction services, (2) three members selected by the assistance program, who are not employees,

House Bill No. 6941

board or committee members of the assistance program and who are health care professionals with training and experience in mental health or addiction services, and (3) one member selected by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services who is a health care professional.

(b) The assistance program shall provide administrative support to the oversight committee.

(c) Beginning January 1, 2008, the oversight committee shall meet with the assistance program on a regular basis, but not fewer than four times each year.

(d) The oversight committee may request and shall be entitled to receive copies of files or such other assistance program records it deems necessary, provided all information pertaining to the identity of any health care professional shall first be redacted by the assistance program. No member of the oversight committee may copy, retain or maintain any such redacted records. If the oversight committee determines that a health care professional is not able to practice with skill and safety or poses a threat to the health and safety of any person or patient in the health care setting, and the health care professional has not refrained from practicing health care or has failed to comply with terms or conditions of participation in the assistance program, the oversight committee shall notify the assistance program to refer the health care professional to the [department] Department of Public Health. Upon such notification, the assistance program shall refer the health care professional to the [department] Department of Public Health, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (i) of section 19a-12a.

(e) (1) If, at any time, the oversight committee determines that the assistance program (A) has not acted in accordance with the provisions of this section, [or] section 19a-12a or sections 251 and 252 of this act, or

House Bill No. 6941

(B) requires remedial action based upon the audit performed under subsection (l) of section 19a-12a or subsection (j) of section 252 of this act, the oversight committee shall notify the assistance program of such determination, in writing, not later than thirty days after such determination.

(2) The assistance program shall develop and submit to the oversight committee a corrective action plan addressing such determination not later than thirty days after the date of such notification. The assistance program may seek the advice and assistance of the oversight committee in developing the corrective action plan. Upon approval of the corrective action plan by the oversight committee, the oversight committee shall provide a copy of the approved plan to the assistance program, [and] the [department] Department of Public Health and, if the approved plan addresses pharmacists or pharmacy interns, the Department of Consumer Protection.

(3) (A) If the assistance program fails to comply with the corrective action plan, the oversight committee may (i) amend the plan, or (ii) direct the assistance program to refer some or all of the records of (I) the health care professionals in the assistance program to the [department] Department of Public Health for a determination under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, or (II) the pharmacists and pharmacy interns in the assistance program to the Department of Consumer Protection for a determination under subsection (f) of section 252 of this act.

(B) Upon such referral, the [department] Department of Public Health shall determine if each referred health care professional is eligible for continued intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services and whether participation in such intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services should be treated as confidential in accordance with subsection (h) of section 19a-12a. If the [department] Department of Public Health determines that a health care professional is an appropriate candidate for confidential participation in continued

House Bill No. 6941

intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services, the entire record of the referral and investigation of the health care professional shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except at the request of the health care professional, for the duration of the health care professional's participation in and upon successful completion of the program, provided such participation is in accordance with terms agreed upon by the department and the health care professional.

(4) Upon written notice to the [department] Department of Public Health by the oversight committee that the assistance program is in compliance with a corrective action plan developed pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, the department may refer health care professionals to the assistance program for continued intervention, rehabilitation, referral assistance or support services and shall submit to the assistance program all records and files concerning such health care professionals.

(f) Records created for, by or on behalf of the oversight committee shall not be deemed public records and shall not be subject to the provisions of section 1-210. Such records shall be treated as confidential in accordance with the provisions of subsection (h) of section 19a-12a and subsection (h) of section 252 of this act.

(g) The proceedings of the oversight committee shall not be subject to discovery or introduced into evidence in any civil action for or against a health care professional, pharmacist or pharmacy intern arising out of matters that are subject to evaluation and review by such committee, and no person who was in attendance at such proceedings shall be permitted or required to testify in any such civil action as to the content of such proceedings. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to preclude (1) in any civil action, the use of any writing recorded independently of such proceedings; (2) in any civil action, the testimony of any person concerning such person's knowledge, acquired independently of such proceedings, about the facts that form the basis

House Bill No. 6941

for the instituting of such civil action; (3) in any civil action arising out of allegations of patient harm caused by health care or pharmacy services rendered by a health care professional, pharmacist or pharmacy intern who, at the time such services were rendered, had been requested to refrain from practicing or whose practice of medicine, [or] health care or pharmacy was restricted, the disclosure of such request to refrain from practicing or such restriction; or (4) in any civil action against a health care professional, pharmacist or pharmacy intern, disclosure of the fact that a health care professional, pharmacist or pharmacy intern participated in the assistance program, the dates of participation, the reason for participation and confirmation of successful completion of the program, provided a court of competent jurisdiction has determined that good cause exists for such disclosure after (A) notification to the health care professional, pharmacist or pharmacy intern of the request for such disclosure, and (B) a hearing concerning such disclosure at the request of any party, and provided further, the court imposes appropriate safeguards against unauthorized disclosure or publication of such information.

Sec. 257. Subsection (a) of section 19a-12e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Assistance program" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (a) of section 19a-12a;

[(1)] (2) "Health care professional" means any individual licensed or who holds a permit pursuant to chapter 368v, 370, 372, 373, 375 to 378, inclusive, 379 to 381b, inclusive, 382a, 383 to 385, inclusive, 388 or 397a to 399, inclusive; and

[(2) "Assistance program" means the program established pursuant

House Bill No. 6941

to section 19a-12a to provide education, prevention, intervention, referral assistance, rehabilitation or support services to health care professionals who have a chemical dependency, emotional or behavioral disorder or physical or mental illness; and]

(3) "Hospital" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-490.

Sec. 258. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 20-593 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(b) A license to practice pharmacy shall expire annually and may be renewed upon completion of an application on a form approved by the department, payment of [one hundred dollars] the fee required in section 20-601 and completion of continuing professional education, as required by sections 20-599 and 20-600.

(c) The commission shall not grant a renewal license to an applicant who has not held a license authorized by the commission within five years of the date of application unless the applicant has passed an examination satisfactory to the commission and has paid the fee required in [subsection (b) of this] section 20-601.

Sec. 259. Section 20-601 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

The department shall collect the following nonrefundable fees:

(1) The fee for issuance of a pharmacist license is two hundred dollars, payable at the date of application for the license.

(2) The fee for renewal of a pharmacist license is [the professional services fee for class A, as defined in section 33-182] one hundred five dollars. Before the commission grants a license to an applicant who has not held a license authorized by the commission within five years of the

House Bill No. 6941

date of application, the applicant shall pay the fee required in subdivision (1) of this section. On or before the last day of January, April, July and October in each year, the commissioner shall transfer five dollars of each renewal fee collected pursuant to this subdivision to the pharmacy professional assistance program account established in section 254 of this act.

(3) The fee for issuance of a pharmacy license is seven hundred fifty dollars.

(4) The fee for renewal of a pharmacy license is one hundred ninety dollars.

(5) The late fee for an application for renewal of a license to practice pharmacy, a pharmacy license or a permit to sell nonlegend drugs is the amount set forth in section 21a-4.

(6) The fee for notice of a change in officers or directors of a corporation holding a pharmacy license is sixty dollars for each pharmacy license held. A late fee for failing to give such notice within ten days of the change is fifty dollars in addition to the fee for notice.

(7) The fee for filing notice of a change in name, ownership or management of a pharmacy is ninety dollars. A late fee for failing to give such notice within ten days of the change is fifty dollars in addition to the fee for notice.

(8) The fee for application for registration as a pharmacy intern is [sixty] sixty-five dollars. On or before the last day of January, April, July and October in each year, the commissioner shall transfer five dollars of each fee collected pursuant to this subdivision to the pharmacy professional assistance program account established in section 254 of this act.

(9) The fee for application for a permit to sell nonlegend drugs is one

House Bill No. 6941

hundred forty dollars.

(10) The fee for renewal of a permit to sell nonlegend drugs is one hundred dollars.

(11) The late fee for failing to notify the commission of a change of ownership, name or location of the premises of a permit to sell nonlegend drugs within five days of the change is twenty dollars.

(12) The fee for issuance of a nonresident pharmacy certificate of registration is seven hundred fifty dollars.

(13) The fee for renewal of a nonresident pharmacy certificate of registration is one hundred ninety dollars.

(14) The fee for notice of a change in officers or directors of a corporation holding a nonresident pharmacy certificate of registration is sixty dollars for each pharmacy license held. A late fee for failing to give such notice within ten days of the change is fifty dollars, in addition to the fee for notice.

(15) The fee for filing notice of a change in name, ownership or management of a nonresident pharmacy is ninety dollars. A late fee for failing to give such notice within ten days of the change is fifty dollars, in addition to the fee for notice.

(16) The fee for application for registration as a pharmacy technician is one hundred dollars.

(17) The fee for renewal of a registration as a pharmacy technician is fifty dollars.

(18) The fee for issuance of a temporary permit to practice pharmacy is two hundred dollars.

Sec. 260. Subsection (c) of section 15-120nn of the general statutes, as

House Bill No. 6941

amended by section 52 of public act 23-135, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(c) The authority may purchase or acquire title in fee simple to, or any lesser estate, interest or right in, any airport, restricted landing area or other air navigation facility owned or controlled by any municipality or by any two or more municipalities jointly or by any other person, except any such purchase or lease of an airport owned or controlled by a municipality, or any political subdivision thereof, shall be subject to the approval of the legislative [body] bodies of the municipality that owns or controls the airport and the municipality within whose territorial limits the airport is located, which such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to displace or supersede an existing agreement that is executed between a municipality, or any political subdivision thereof, that owns or controls an airport and the municipality within whose territorial limits the airport is located with regard to the airport.

Sec. 261. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Office of Policy and Management shall serve as the lead agency to coordinate, where possible, with the state agencies that have responsibility for providing services to persons diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

(b) The Office of Policy and Management may examine and make recommendations regarding the delivery of appropriate and necessary services and programs for all residents of the state with autism spectrum disorder. Such services and programs may include, but need not be limited to: (1) Autism-specific early intervention services for any child under the age of three diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; (2) education, recreation, habilitation, vocational and transition services for individuals age three to twenty-two, inclusive, diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; (3) services for adults over the age of twenty-two diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; (4) housing assistance for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; (5) services that

House Bill No. 6941

address the intersection of autism services and the criminal justice system; (6) coverage of autism services under commercial insurance and by other payors; (7) workforce training specific to autism spectrum disorder; and (8) related autism spectrum disorder services deemed necessary by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

(c) The Office of Policy and Management shall serve as the lead state agency for the purpose of the federal Combating Autism Act, P.L. 109-416, as amended from time to time, and for applying for and receiving funds and performing any related responsibilities concerning autism spectrum disorder that are authorized pursuant to any state or federal law.

(d) The Office of Policy and Management may make recommendations to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services, public health and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies concerning legislation and funding required to provide necessary services to persons diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

(e) The Office of Policy and Management shall research and locate possible funding streams for the continued development and implementation of services for persons diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

Sec. 262. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) There shall be an Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council which shall consist of the following members: (1) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee; (2) the Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's designee; (3) the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee; (4) the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, or the commissioner's designee; (5) the Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee; (6) the Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services, or the

House Bill No. 6941

commissioner's designee; (7) the Commissioner of Developmental Services, or the commissioner's designee; (8) the Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's designee; (9) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee; (10) two persons with autism spectrum disorder, one each appointed by the Governor and the speaker of the House of Representatives; (11) two persons who are parents or guardians of a child with autism spectrum disorder, one each appointed by the Governor and the minority leader of the Senate; (12) two persons who are parents or guardians of an adult with autism spectrum disorder, one each appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate and the majority leader of the House of Representatives; (13) two persons who are advocates for persons with autism spectrum disorder, one each appointed by the Governor and the speaker of the House of Representatives; (14) two persons who are licensed professionals working in the field of autism spectrum disorder, one each appointed by the Governor and the majority leader of the Senate; (15) two persons who provide services for persons with autism spectrum disorder, one each appointed by the Governor and the minority leader of the House of Representatives; (16) two persons who shall be representatives of an institution of higher education in the state with experience in the field of autism spectrum disorder, one each appointed by the Governor and the president pro tempore of the Senate; (17) the executive director of the nonprofit entity designated by the Governor in accordance with section 46a-10b of the general statutes to serve as the Connecticut protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities, or the executive director's designee; and (18) one person who is a physician who treats or diagnoses persons with autism spectrum disorder, appointed by the Governor.

(b) The council shall have three chairpersons who shall be elected by the members of the council, provided not less than two of the persons elected as chairpersons by the members of the council shall be: (1) A person with autism spectrum disorder appointed pursuant to

House Bill No. 6941

subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of this section, (2) a parent or guardian of a child with autism spectrum disorder appointed pursuant to subdivision (11) of subsection (a) of this section, or (3) a parent or guardian of an adult with autism spectrum disorder appointed pursuant to subdivision (12) of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The council shall be within the Office of Policy and Management for administrative purposes only.

(d) The council shall make rules for the conduct of its affairs. The council shall meet not less than four times per year and at such other times as requested by the chairpersons. Council members shall serve without compensation.

(e) The council shall advise the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management concerning policies and programs for persons with autism spectrum disorder and recommendations to improve coordination and address gaps in autism services.

Sec. 263. Section 17a-215c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established a Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services within the Department of Social Services to oversee the operation of Medicaid state plan services and the Medicaid waiver program for autism spectrum disorder services.

(b) The Department of Social Services may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to define the term "autism spectrum disorder", establish eligibility standards and criteria for the receipt of services by any resident of the state diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, regardless of age, and data collection, maintenance and reporting processes. The Commissioner of Social Services may implement policies and procedures necessary to administer the provisions of this section prior to adoption of such regulations,

House Bill No. 6941

provided the commissioner shall publish notice of intent to adopt such regulations not later than twenty days after implementation of such policies and procedures. Any such policies and procedures shall be valid until such regulations are adopted.

[(c) The Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services may, within available appropriations, research, design and implement the delivery of appropriate and necessary services and programs for all residents of the state with autism spectrum disorder. Such services and programs may include the creation of: (1) Autism-specific early intervention services for any child under the age of three diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; (2) education, recreation, habilitation, vocational and transition services for individuals age three to twenty-one, inclusive, diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; (3) services for adults over the age of twenty-one diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; and (4) related autism spectrum disorder services deemed necessary by the Commissioner of Social Services.

(d) The Department of Social Services shall serve as the lead state agency for the purpose of the federal Combating Autism Act, P.L. 109-416, as amended from time to time, and for applying for and receiving funds and performing any related responsibilities concerning autism spectrum disorder which are authorized pursuant to any state or federal law.

(e) The Department of Social Services may make recommendations to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services concerning legislation and funding required to provide necessary services to persons diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

(f) The Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services shall research and locate possible funding streams for the continued development and implementation of services for persons diagnosed with autism spectrum

House Bill No. 6941

disorder but not with intellectual disability. The division shall take all necessary action to secure Medicaid reimbursement for home and community-based individualized support services for adults diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder but not with intellectual disability. Such action may include applying for a Medicaid waiver pursuant to Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, in order to secure the funding for such services.

(g) The Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services shall, within available appropriations: (1) Design and implement a training initiative that shall include training to develop a workforce; and (2) develop a curriculum specific to autism spectrum disorder in coordination with the Board of Regents for Higher Education.]

[(h)] (c) The case records of the Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services maintained by the division for any purpose authorized pursuant to [subsections (b) to (g), inclusive, of] this section shall be subject to the same confidentiality requirements, under state and federal law, that govern all client records maintained by the Department of Social Services.

[(i)] (d) The Commissioner of Social Services may seek approval of an amendment to the [state] Medicaid state plan or a waiver from federal law, whichever is sufficient and most expeditious, to establish and implement a Medicaid-financed home and community-based program to provide community-based services and, if necessary, housing assistance, to adults diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder but not with intellectual disability.

[(j)] On or before January 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Social Services, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services, on the status of any amendment to the state Medicaid plan or

House Bill No. 6941

waiver from federal law as described in subsection (i) of this section and on the establishment and implementation of the program authorized pursuant to subsection (i) of this section.

(k) The Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council, established pursuant to section 17a-215d, shall advise the Commissioner of Social Services on all matters relating to autism.]

[(l)] (e) The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council, shall designate services and interventions that demonstrate, in accordance with medically established and research-based best practices, empirical effectiveness for the treatment of autism spectrum disorder. The commissioner shall update such designations periodically and whenever the commissioner deems it necessary to conform to changes generally recognized by the relevant medical community in evidence-based practices or research.

Sec. 264. Subsection (a) of section 17b-112 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective April 1, 2024*):

(a) The Department of Social Services shall administer a temporary family assistance program under which cash assistance shall be provided to eligible families in accordance with the temporary assistance for needy families program, established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. The Commissioner of Social Services may operate portions of the temporary family assistance program as a solely state-funded program, separate from the federal temporary assistance for needy families program, if the commissioner determines that doing so will enable the state to avoid fiscal penalties under the temporary assistance for needy families program. Families receiving assistance under the solely state-funded portion of the temporary family assistance program shall be subject to the same conditions of eligibility as those receiving assistance

House Bill No. 6941

under the federal temporary assistance for needy families program. Under the temporary family assistance program, benefits shall be provided to a family for not longer than [twenty-one] thirty-six months, except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section. For the purpose of calculating said [twenty-one-month] thirty-six-month time limit, months of assistance received on and after January 1, 1996, pursuant to time limits under the aid to families with dependent children program, shall be included. For purposes of this section, "family" means one or more individuals who apply for or receive assistance together under the temporary family assistance program. If the commissioner determines that federal law allows individuals not otherwise in an eligible covered group for the temporary family assistance program to become covered, such family may also, at the discretion of the commissioner, be composed of (1) a pregnant woman, or (2) a parent, both parents or other caretaker relative and at least one child who is under the age of eighteen, or who is under the age of nineteen and a full-time student in a secondary school or its equivalent. A caretaker relative shall be related to the child or children by blood, marriage or adoption or shall be the legal guardian of such a child or pursuing legal proceedings necessary to achieve guardianship. If the commissioner elects to allow state eligibility consistent with any change in federal law, the commissioner may administratively transfer any qualifying family cases under the cash assistance portion of the state-administered general assistance program to the temporary family assistance program without regard to usual eligibility and enrollment procedures. If such families become an ineligible coverage group under the federal law, the commissioner shall administratively transfer such families back to the cash assistance portion of the state-administered general assistance program without regard to usual eligibility and enrollment procedures to the degree that such families are eligible for the state program.

Sec. 265. Subsection (c) of section 17b-112 of the general statutes is

House Bill No. 6941

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective April 1, 2024*):

(c) A family who is subject to time-limited benefits may petition the Commissioner of Social Services for six-month extensions of such benefits. The commissioner shall grant not more than two extensions to such family who has made a good faith effort to comply with the requirements of the program and despite such effort has a total family income [at a level below the payment standard] below one hundred per cent of the federal poverty level, or has encountered circumstances preventing employment including, but not limited to: (1) Domestic violence or physical harm to such family's children; or (2) other circumstances beyond such family's control. The commissioner shall disregard ninety dollars of earned income in determining applicable family income. The commissioner may grant a subsequent six-month extension if each adult in the family meets one or more of the following criteria: (A) The adult is precluded from engaging in employment activities due to domestic violence or another reason beyond the adult's control; (B) the adult has two or more substantiated barriers to employment including, but not limited to, the lack of available child care, substance abuse or addiction, severe mental or physical health problems, one or more severe learning disabilities, domestic violence or a child who has a serious physical or behavioral health problem; or (C) [the adult is working thirty-five or more hours per week, is earning at least the minimum wage and continues to earn less than the family's temporary family assistance payment standard; or (D)] the adult is employed and works less than thirty-five hours per week due to (i) a documented medical impairment that limits the adult's hours of employment, provided the adult works the maximum number of hours that the medical condition permits, or (ii) the need to care for a disabled member of the adult's household, provided the adult works the maximum number of hours the adult's caregiving responsibilities permit. Families receiving temporary family assistance shall be notified

House Bill No. 6941

by the department of the right to petition for such extensions. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the commissioner shall not provide benefits under the state's temporary family assistance program to a family that is subject to the [twenty-one month] thirty-six-month benefit limit and has received benefits beginning on or after October 1, 1996, if such benefits result in that family's receiving more than sixty months of time-limited benefits unless that family experiences domestic violence, as defined in Section 402(a)(7)(B), P.L. 104-193. For the purpose of calculating said sixty-month limit: (I) A month shall count toward the limit if the family receives assistance for any day of the month, provided any months of temporary family assistance received during the public health emergency declared by Governor Ned Lamont related to the COVID-19 pandemic shall not be included, and (II) a month in which a family receives temporary assistance for needy families benefits that are issued from a jurisdiction other than Connecticut shall count toward the limit.

Sec. 266. Subsection (d) of section 17b-112 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(d) (1) Under said program, no family shall be eligible that has total gross earnings exceeding the federal poverty level, however, in the calculation of the benefit amount for eligible families and previously eligible families that become ineligible temporarily because of receipt of workers' compensation benefits by a family member who subsequently returns to work immediately after the period of receipt of such benefits, earned income shall be disregarded up to the federal poverty level. On and after October 1, 2023, the commissioner shall not deny a family assistance under said program on the basis of such family's assets unless such assets exceed six thousand dollars. Except when determining eligibility for a six-month extension of benefits pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner shall disregard the first fifty dollars

House Bill No. 6941

per month of income attributable to current child support that a family receives in determining eligibility and benefit levels for temporary family assistance. Any current child support in excess of fifty dollars per month collected by the department on behalf of an eligible child shall be considered in determining eligibility but shall not be considered when calculating benefits and shall be taken as reimbursement for assistance paid under this section, except that when the current child support collected exceeds the family's monthly award of temporary family assistance benefits plus fifty dollars, the current child support shall be paid to the family and shall be considered when calculating benefits.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, on and after January 1, 2024, in the first month in which a family's total gross earnings exceed one hundred per cent of the federal poverty level and for a period not to exceed six consecutive months, the department shall disregard, for purposes of eligibility, a family's total gross earnings in an amount not to exceed two hundred thirty per cent of the federal poverty level. If a family's total gross earnings are an amount between one hundred seventy-one per cent and two hundred thirty per cent of the federal poverty level, the department shall reduce the household's benefit by twenty per cent for the months in which earnings are between one hundred seventy-one per cent and two hundred thirty per cent of the federal poverty level.

Sec. 267. Subsection (f) of section 17b-112 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective April 1, 2024*):

(f) A family leaving assistance at the end of (1) said [twenty-one-month] thirty-six-month time limit, [including a family with income above the payment standard,] or (2) the sixty-month limit shall have an interview for the purpose of being informed of services that may continue to be available to such family, including employment services available through the Labor Department. Such interview shall include

House Bill No. 6941

(A) a determination of benefits available to the family provided by the Department of Social Services; and (B) a determination of whether such family is eligible for supplemental nutrition assistance or Medicaid. Information and referrals shall be made to such a family for services and benefits including, but not limited to, the earned income tax credit, rental subsidies emergency housing, employment services and energy assistance.

Sec. 268. Subsection (a) of section 17b-112b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective April 1, 2024*):

(a) An applicant or recipient who is a past or present victim of domestic violence or at risk of further domestic violence, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 17b-112a, shall, for good cause: (1) Be excused from failing to participate in a work activity; or (2) be exempted from child support enforcement requirements pursuant to subsection (e) of section 17b-112. Such an applicant or recipient may, for good cause, be granted an extension of cash assistance beyond [twenty-one] thirty-six months, provided the domestic violence experienced is of sufficient magnitude to reasonably render the individual unable to obtain or maintain employment.

Sec. 269. Section 17b-112e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective April 1, 2024*):

(a) The Department of Social Services shall provide safety net services for certain families identified as having significant barriers to employment and families who are at risk of losing benefits under the temporary family assistance program or no longer receiving program benefits. To be eligible for safety net services, such families shall: (1) Have been identified as having significant barriers to employment during the initial assessment by the department's eligibility worker or during the first twelve months of employment services by an

House Bill No. 6941

employment services case manager; (2) have made a good faith effort to seek and maintain employment but have not been able to do so or be at risk of failing to complete the employment services program; (3) have exhausted their eligibility for temporary family assistance program benefits; or (4) not be eligible for six-month extensions of temporary family assistance benefits due to: (A) The receipt of two sanctions from the department during the first [twenty] thirty-five months of the [twenty-one-month] thirty-six-month time limit of said temporary family assistance program; or (B) the determination by the department that such a family has not made a good faith effort to seek and maintain employment.

(b) Said safety net shall consist of services provided through the existing community service delivery network with additional resources provided by the Department of Social Services. Services shall be provided in-kind or through vendor or voucher payment. Services may include the following: (1) Food, shelter, clothing and employment assistance; (2) eviction prevention; (3) an in-depth family needs assessment; (4) intensive case management that includes visits to the family's home; (5) continuous monitoring for child abuse or neglect; and (6) for families at risk of losing benefits under the temporary family assistance program, individual performance contracts administered by the Labor Department that require job training, job searching, volunteer work, participation in parenting programs or counseling or any other requirements deemed necessary by the Labor Commissioner.

(c) Families successfully meeting the program requirements established by the individual performance contracts in subdivision (6) of subsection (b) of this section prior to the end of the [twenty-one-month] thirty-six-month time limit shall be considered to have made a good faith effort to comply with the requirements of the program for the purposes of qualifying for a six-month extension, provided they have made a good faith effort to comply with the individual performance

House Bill No. 6941

contract or have not incurred a sanction subsequent to completing the individual performance contract.

(d) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement policies and procedures necessary for the purposes of this section while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form, provided the commissioner prints notice of intention to adopt the regulations in the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of implementing such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this subsection shall be valid until the time final regulations are effective.

Sec. 270. Subsection (d) of section 17b-112g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective April 1, 2024*):

(d) A family receiving diversion assistance shall be ineligible to receive monthly temporary family assistance payments for a period of three months from the date of application for temporary family assistance, except that such family shall be eligible to receive temporary family assistance payments within such period if the Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee, in the commissioner's sole discretion, determines that the family has experienced undue hardship. A family that is subject to the [twenty-one-month] thirty-six-month benefit limit under temporary family assistance shall have diversion assistance count as three months toward such limit. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a family receiving diversion assistance that later qualifies for temporary family assistance from qualifying for a six-month extension available to recipients of temporary family assistance who did not receive diversion assistance.

Sec. 271. Subsection (c) of section 17b-191 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(c) To be eligible for cash assistance under the program, a person shall (1) be (A) eighteen years of age or older; (B) a minor found by a court to be emancipated pursuant to section 46b-150; or (C) under eighteen years of age and the commissioner determines good cause for such person's eligibility, and (2) not have assets exceeding [two hundred fifty] five hundred dollars or, if such person is married, such person and his or her spouse shall not have assets exceeding [five hundred] one thousand dollars. In determining eligibility, the commissioner shall not consider as income (A) Aid and Attendance pension benefits granted to a veteran, as defined in section 27-103, or the surviving spouse of such veteran; and (B) any tax refund or advance payment with respect to a refundable credit to the same extent such refund or advance payment would be disregarded under 26 USC 6409 in any federal program or state or local program financed in whole or in part with federal funds. No person who is a substance abuser and refuses or fails to enter available, appropriate treatment shall be eligible for cash assistance under the program until such person enters treatment. No person whose benefits from the temporary family assistance program have terminated as a result of time-limited benefits or for failure to comply with a program requirement shall be eligible for cash assistance under the program.

Sec. 272. Section 17b-601 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 establishing the method by which payments are made for recipients of the state supplement program who are residents of licensed residential care homes, as defined in section 19a-490, and a rated housing facility, as defined in section 17b-82. Such regulations shall provide for the safeguarding of residents' personal funds with respect to any homes, or rated housing facilities that handle such funds. Regulations concerning payment for

House Bill No. 6941

residents shall provide for payment to the licensed residential care home or rated housing facility for the period during which the recipient makes such home or facility his or her residence, without regard to periods during which the recipient is absent, provided (1) the recipient's bed at the home or facility would otherwise be available during such absence, and (2) the recipient can reasonably be expected to return to the home or facility before the end of the month following the month in which the recipient leaves the home or facility. If the department determines that a resident of a home or rated housing facility who applies for state supplement benefits is eligible for such benefits, the department shall pay the home or facility at a per diem or monthly rate less any applied income due from the resident. The start date of eligibility for state supplement benefits for an individual residing in a home or facility shall be the date the person became a resident in such home or facility and met all eligibility criteria for the state supplement program, but in no event shall the start date be more than ninety days prior to the date the department received the application for assistance. Any retroactive adjustment to the rate of such a home or facility by the commissioner that results in money due to such home or facility shall be made to such home or facility directly, and any such adjustment that results in an overpayment to the home or facility shall be paid by the home or facility to the department. If a retroactive adjustment to the rate of such home or facility results in a current resident becoming eligible for state supplement benefits, and such resident applies for state supplement benefits, the department may determine the start date of eligibility for state supplement benefits to be the later of the resident's admission date or the date ninety days prior to the date the department receives the application.

Sec. 273. Section 17b-244 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The room and board component of the rates to be paid by the state

House Bill No. 6941

to private facilities and facilities operated by regional education service centers which are licensed to provide residential care pursuant to section 17a-227, but not certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, shall be determined annually by the Commissioner of Social Services, except that rates effective April 30, 1989, shall remain in effect through October 31, 1989. Any facility with real property other than land placed in service prior to July 1, 1991, shall, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, receive a rate of return on real property equal to the average of the rates of return applied to real property other than land placed in service for the five years preceding July 1, 1993. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the rate of return on real property for property items shall be revised every five years. The commissioner shall, upon submission of a request by such facility, allow actual debt service, comprised of principal and interest, on the loan or loans in lieu of property costs allowed pursuant to section 17-313b-5 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, whether actual debt service is higher or lower than such allowed property costs, provided such debt service terms and amounts are reasonable in relation to the useful life and the base value of the property. In the case of facilities financed through the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, the commissioner shall allow actual debt service, comprised of principal, interest and a reasonable repair and replacement reserve on the loan or loans in lieu of property costs allowed pursuant to section 17-313b-5 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, whether actual debt service is higher or lower than such allowed property costs, provided such debt service terms and amounts are determined by the commissioner at the time the loan is entered into to be reasonable in relation to the useful life and base value of the property. The commissioner may allow fees associated with mortgage refinancing provided such refinancing will result in state reimbursement savings, after comparing costs over the terms of the existing proposed loans. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, the inflation factor used to

House Bill No. 6941

determine rates shall be one-half of the gross national product percentage increase for the period between the midpoint of the cost year through the midpoint of the rate year. For fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, the inflation factor used to determine rates shall be two-thirds of the gross national product percentage increase from the midpoint of the cost year to the midpoint of the rate year. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, and June 30, 1997, no inflation factor shall be applied in determining rates. The Commissioner of Social Services shall prescribe uniform forms on which such facilities shall report their costs. Such rates shall be determined on the basis of a reasonable payment for necessary services. Any increase in grants, gifts, fund-raising or endowment income used for the payment of operating costs by a private facility in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, shall be excluded by the commissioner from the income of the facility in determining the rates to be paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, provided any operating costs funded by such increase shall not obligate the state to increase expenditures in subsequent fiscal years. Nothing contained in this section shall authorize a payment by the state to any such facility in excess of the charges made by the facility for comparable services to the general public. The service component of the rates to be paid by the state to private facilities and facilities operated by regional education service centers which are licensed to provide residential care pursuant to section 17a-227, but not certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid programs as intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, shall be determined annually by the Commissioner of Developmental Services in accordance with section 17b-244a. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than two per cent greater than the rate in effect for the facility on June 30, 2007, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2007, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2007. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than two per cent greater than the rate in effect

House Bill No. 6941

for the facility on June 30, 2008, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2008, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2008. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2009, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2011, except that (1) the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2009, if a capital improvement required by the Commissioner of Developmental Services for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, or June 30, 2011, and (2) any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2011, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2012, except that (A) the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2011, if a capital improvement required by the Commissioner of Developmental Services for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and (B) any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. Any facility that has a significant decrease in land and building costs shall receive a reduced rate to reflect such decrease in land and building costs. The rate paid to a facility may be increased if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or June 30, 2015, only to the extent such increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2015, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2015, if a capital

House Bill No. 6941

improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, or June 30, 2017, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, and each succeeding fiscal year, any facility that would have been issued a lower rate, due to interim rate status, a change in allowable fair rent or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2017, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2017, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, or June 30, 2019, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2021, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, rates shall be based upon rates in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, inflated by the gross domestic product deflator applicable to each rate year, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report years ending September 30, 2020, and September 30, 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued, or if a rate adjustment for a

House Bill No. 6941

capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, state rates of payment for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, June 30, 2019, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, for residential care homes and community living arrangements that receive the flat rate for residential services under section 17-311-54 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall be set in accordance with section 298 of public act 19-117. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, rates shall be based upon rates in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, inflated by the gross domestic product deflator applicable to each rate year.

(c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each subsequent fiscal year, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report years that are not otherwise included in rates issued.

[(c)] (d) The Commissioner of Social Services and the Commissioner of Developmental Services shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 274. Subsection (h) of section 17b-340 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(h) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with an operating cost component of its rate in excess of one hundred forty per cent of the median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall not receive an operating cost component increase. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with an operating cost component of its rate that is less than one hundred forty per cent of the median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall have an allowance for real wage growth equal to thirty per cent of the increase determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such operating cost component shall not exceed one hundred forty per cent of the median of operating cost components in effect January 1, 1992. Any facility with real property other than land placed in service prior to October 1, 1991, shall, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, receive a rate of return on real property equal to the average of the rates of return applied to real property other than land placed in service for the five years preceding October 1, 1993. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the rate of return on real property for property items shall be revised every five years. The commissioner shall, upon submission of a request, allow actual debt service, comprised of principal and interest, in excess of property costs allowed pursuant to section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such debt service terms and amounts are reasonable in relation to the useful life and the base value of the property. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, and any succeeding fiscal year, the inflation adjustment made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall not be applied to

House Bill No. 6941

real property costs. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the allowance for real wage growth, as determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, shall not be applied. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, no rate shall exceed three hundred seventy-five dollars per day unless the commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Developmental Services, determines after a review of program and management costs, that a rate in excess of this amount is necessary for care and treatment of facility residents. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, rate period, the Commissioner of Social Services shall increase the inflation adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies to update allowable fiscal year 2000 costs to include a three and one-half per cent inflation factor. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, rate period, the commissioner shall increase the inflation adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies to update allowable fiscal year 2001 costs to include a one and one-half per cent inflation factor, except that such increase shall be effective November 1, 2002, and such facility rate in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, shall be paid for services provided until October 31, 2002, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2002, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2002, and have such rate updated effective November 1, 2002, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2003, shall remain in effect, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2003, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2003. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2004, shall remain in

House Bill No. 6941

effect until September 30, 2004. Effective October 1, 2004, each facility shall receive a rate that is five per cent greater than the rate in effect September 30, 2004. Effective upon receipt of all the necessary federal approvals to secure federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (f) of this section, but in no event earlier than October 1, 2005, and provided the user fee imposed under section 17b-320 is required to be collected, each facility shall receive a rate that is four per cent more than the rate the facility received in the prior fiscal year, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1, 2005, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2005. Such rate increase shall remain in effect unless: [(1)] (A) The federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase are no longer available; or [(2)] (B) the user fee created pursuant to section 17b-320 is not in effect. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall remain in effect until September 30, 2006, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2006, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2006. Effective October 1, 2006, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than three per cent greater than the rate in effect for the facility on September 30, 2006, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2006. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, each facility shall receive a rate that is two and nine-tenths per cent greater than the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2007, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2007, than for the rate period ending June 30, 2007, due to interim rate status, or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2007. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, rates in effect for the

House Bill No. 6941

period ending June 30, 2008, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2009, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2009, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2011, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2011, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2012, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2013, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2013, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or June 30, 2015, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. Any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2015, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2015, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, or June 30, 2017, to the extent such rate increases

House Bill No. 6941

are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, and each succeeding fiscal year, any facility that would have been issued a lower rate, due to interim rate status, a change in allowable fair rent or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2017, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2017, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, or June 30, 2019, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2021, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2020, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years

House Bill No. 6941

ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, a facility may receive a rate increase for a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. There shall be no increase to rates based on inflation or any inflationary factor for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023. Notwithstanding any other provisions of chapter 319y, any subsequent increase to allowable operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated by the gross domestic product deflator when funding is specifically appropriated for such purposes in the enacted budget. The rate of inflation shall be computed by comparing the most recent rate year to the average of the gross domestic product deflator for the previous four fiscal quarters ending April thirtieth. Any increase to rates based on inflation shall be applied prior to the application of any other budget adjustment factors that may impact such rates. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the department shall determine facility rates based upon 2022 cost report filings subject to the provisions of this section, adjusted to reflect any rate increases provided after the cost report year ending June 30, 2022, and with the addition of a two per cent adjustment factor. No facility shall receive a rate less than the rate in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the minimum per diem, per bed rate shall remain at five hundred one dollars for a residential facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disability. There shall be no increase to rates based on any inflationary factor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each subsequent fiscal year, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report years that are not otherwise included

House Bill No. 6941

in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the department shall determine facility rates based upon 2023 cost report filings subject to the provisions of this section, adjusted to reflect any rate increases provided after the cost report ending June 30, 2023. A facility may receive a rate that is less than the rate in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, but shall not receive a rate less than the minimum per diem, per bed rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the minimum per diem, per bed rate shall remain at five hundred one dollars for a residential facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disability. There shall be no increase to rates based on any inflationary factor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the department shall determine facility rates based upon 2024 cost report filings subject to the provisions of this section, adjusted to reflect any rate increases provided after the cost report ending June 30, 2024. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, there shall be no minimum per diem, per bed rate for a residential facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disability. There shall be no increase to rates based on any inflationary factor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, a facility may receive a rate increase for a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. Any facility that has a significant decrease in land and building costs shall receive a reduced rate to reflect such decrease in land and building costs. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, June 30, 2013, June 30, 2014, June 30, 2015, June 30, 2016, June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, June 30, 2019, June 30, 2020, June 30, 2021, June 30, 2022, [and] June 30, 2023, June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the

House Bill No. 6941

Commissioner of Social Services may provide fair rent increases to any facility that has undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent and has an approved certificate of need pursuant to section 17b-352, 17b-353, 17b-354 or 17b-355. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services may, within available appropriations, increase or decrease rates issued to intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities to reflect a reduction in available appropriations as provided in subsection (a) of this section. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, the commissioner shall not consider rebasing in determining rates. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, effective July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022, the commissioner shall, within available appropriations, increase rates for the purpose of wage and benefit enhancements for employees of intermediate care facilities. Facilities that receive a rate adjustment for the purpose of wage and benefit enhancements but do not provide increases in employee salaries as described in this subsection on or before July 31, 2021, and July 31, 2022, respectively, may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the adjustment by the commissioner.

(2) The Commissioner of Social Services shall determine whether and to what extent a change in ownership of a facility shall occasion the rebasing of the facility's costs. There shall be no inflation adjustment during a year in which a facility's rates are rebased.

Sec. 275. Subsection (a) of section 17b-340d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement an acuity-based methodology for Medicaid reimbursement of nursing home services effective July 1, 2022. Notwithstanding section 17b-340, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Social Services shall establish Medicaid rates paid to

House Bill No. 6941

nursing home facilities based on cost years ending on September thirtieth in accordance with the following:

(1) Case-mix adjustments to the direct care component, which will be based on Minimum Data Set resident assessment data as well as cost data reported for the cost year ending September 30, 2019, shall be made effective beginning July 1, 2022, and updated every quarter thereafter. After modeling such case-mix adjustments, the Commissioner of Social Services shall evaluate impact on a facility by facility basis and, not later than October 1, 2021, (A) make recommendations to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and (B) submit a report on the recommendations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and human services on any adjustments needed to facilitate the transition to the new methodology on July 1, 2022. This evaluation may include a review of inflationary allowances, case mix and budget adjustment factors and stop loss and stop gain corridors and the ability to make such adjustments within available appropriations.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2022, facilities will be required to comply with collection and reporting of quality metrics as specified by the Department of Social Services, after consultation with the nursing home industry, consumers, employees and the Department of Public Health. Rate adjustments based on performance on quality metrics will be phased in, beginning July 1, 2022, with a period of reporting only. Effective July 1, 2023, the Department of Social Services shall issue individualized reports annually to each nursing home facility showing the impact to the Medicaid rate for such home based on the quality metrics program. A nursing home facility receiving an individualized quality metrics report may use such report to evaluate the impact of the quality metrics program on said facility's Medicaid reimbursement. Not later than June 30, 2025, the department shall submit a report, in

House Bill No. 6941

accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and human services on the quality metrics program. Such report shall include information regarding individualized reports and the anticipated impact on nursing homes if the state were to implement a rate withhold on nursing homes that fail to meet certain quality metrics.

(3) Geographic peer groupings of facilities shall be established by the Department of Social Services pursuant to regulations adopted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

(4) Allowable costs shall be divided into the following five cost components: (A) Direct costs, which shall include salaries for nursing personnel, related fringe benefits and costs for nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency; (B) indirect costs, which shall include professional fees, dietary expenses, housekeeping expenses, laundry expenses, supplies related to patient care, salaries for indirect care personnel and related fringe benefits; (C) fair rent, which shall be defined in regulations adopted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section; (D) capital-related costs, which shall include property taxes, insurance expenses, equipment leases and equipment depreciation; and (E) administrative and general costs, which shall include maintenance and operation of plant expenses, salaries for administrative and maintenance personnel and related fringe benefits. For (i) direct costs, the maximum cost shall be equal to one hundred thirty-five per cent of the median allowable cost of that peer grouping; (ii) indirect costs, the maximum cost shall be equal to one hundred fifteen per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; (iii) fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved pursuant to section 17b-353; (iv) capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and (v) administrative and general costs, the maximum shall be equal to the state-wide median allowable cost. For purposes of this subdivision,

House Bill No. 6941

"temporary nursing services agency" and "nursing personnel" have the same meaning as provided in section 19a-118.

(5) Costs in excess of the maximum amounts established under this subsection shall not be recognized as allowable costs, except that the commissioner may establish rates whereby allowable costs may exceed such maximum amounts for beds which are restricted to use by patients with acquired immune deficiency syndrome, traumatic brain injury or other specialized services.

[(5) For the fiscal year ending] (6) On or after June 30, 2022, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the most recently filed cost report [year ending September 30, 2020,] that are not otherwise included in the rates issued. The commissioner may provide, within available appropriations, pro rata fair rent increases, which may, at the discretion of the commissioner, include increases for facilities which have undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent additions in the most recently filed cost report. The commissioner may allow minimum fair rent as the basis upon which reimbursement associated with improvements to real property is added.

(7) For the purpose of determining allowable fair rent, a facility with allowable fair rent less than the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent shall be reimbursed as having allowable fair rent equal to the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent. Any facility with a rate of return on real property other than land in excess of eleven per cent shall have such allowance revised to eleven per cent. Any facility or its related realty affiliate which finances or refinances debt through bonds issued by the Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority shall report the terms and conditions of such financing or refinancing to the Commissioner of Social Services not later than thirty days after completing such financing or refinancing.

House Bill No. 6941

The commissioner may revise the facility's fair rent component of its rate to reflect any financial benefit the facility or its related realty affiliate received as a result of such financing or refinancing. The commissioner shall determine allowable fair rent for real property other than land based on the rate of return for the cost year in which such bonds were issued. The financial benefit resulting from a facility financing or refinancing debt through such bonds shall be shared between the state and the facility to an extent determined by the commissioner on a case-by-case basis and shall be reflected in an adjustment to the facility's allowable fair rent.

(8) A facility shall receive cost efficiency adjustments for indirect costs and for administrative and general costs if such costs are below the state-wide median costs. The cost efficiency adjustments shall equal twenty-five per cent of the difference between allowable reported costs and the applicable median allowable cost established pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection.

(9) On and after July 1, 2025, costs shall be rebased no more frequently than every two years and no less frequently than every four years, as determined by the commissioner. There shall be no inflation adjustment during a year in which a facility's rates are rebased. The commissioner shall determine whether and to what extent a change in ownership of a facility shall occasion the rebasing of the facility's costs.

(10) The method of establishing rates for new facilities shall be determined by the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

[(6)] (11) There shall be no increase to rates based on inflation or any inflationary factor for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, unless otherwise authorized under subdivision (1) of this subsection. Notwithstanding section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and

House Bill No. 6941

June 30, 2025, there shall be no inflationary increases to rates beyond those already factored into the model for the transition to an acuity-based reimbursement system. Notwithstanding any other provisions of chapter 319y, any subsequent increase to allowable operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated by the gross domestic product deflator when funding is specifically appropriated for such purposes in the enacted budget. The rate of inflation shall be computed by comparing the most recent rate year to the average of the gross domestic product deflator for the previous four fiscal quarters ending April thirtieth. Any increase to rates based on inflation shall be applied prior to the application of any other budget adjustment factors that may impact such rates.

[(7)] (12) For purposes of computing minimum allowable patient days, utilization of a facility's certified beds shall be determined at a minimum of ninety per cent of capacity, except for facilities that have undergone a change in ownership, new facilities, and facilities which are certified for additional beds which may be permitted a lower occupancy rate for the first three months of operation after the effective date of licensure.

[(8)] (13) Rates determined under this section shall comply with federal laws and regulations.

(14) The Commissioner of Social Services may authorize an interim rate for a facility demonstrating circumstances particular to that individual facility impacting facility finances or costs not reflected in the underlying rates.

Sec. 276. (Effective July 1, 2023) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 17b-244 of the general statutes, and subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of section 17b-340 of the general statutes, or any other provisions of chapter 319y of the general statutes, or regulations adopted thereunder, the state rates of payments in effect for the fiscal

House Bill No. 6941

year ending June 30, 2016, for residential care homes, community living arrangements and community companion homes that receive the flat rate for residential services under section 17-311-54 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall remain in effect until June 30, 2024.

Sec. 277. Subsection (i) of section 17b-340 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(i) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any residential care home with an operating cost component of its rate in excess of one hundred thirty per cent of the median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall not receive an operating cost component increase. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any residential care home with an operating cost component of its rate that is less than one hundred thirty per cent of the median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall have an allowance for real wage growth equal to sixty-five per cent of the increase determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such operating cost component shall not exceed one hundred thirty per cent of the median of operating cost components in effect January 1, 1992. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, for the purpose of determining allowable fair rent, a residential care home with allowable fair rent less than the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent shall be reimbursed as having allowable fair rent equal to the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, a residential care home with allowable fair rent less than three dollars and ten cents per day shall be reimbursed as having allowable fair rent equal to three dollars and ten cents per day. Property additions placed in service during the cost year ending September 30, 1996, or any succeeding cost year shall receive a fair rent allowance for such additions as an addition to three dollars and ten cents per day if

House Bill No. 6941

the fair rent for the facility for property placed in service prior to September 30, 1995, is less than or equal to three dollars and ten cents per day. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, a residential care home shall be reimbursed the greater of the allowable accumulated fair rent reimbursement associated with real property additions and land as calculated on a per day basis or three dollars and ten cents per day if the allowable reimbursement associated with real property additions and land is less than three dollars and ten cents per day. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the allowance for real wage growth, as determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, shall not be applied. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the inflation adjustment made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall not be applied to real property costs. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, minimum allowable patient days for rate computation purposes for a residential care home with twenty-five beds or less shall be eighty-five per cent of licensed capacity. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, for the purposes of determining the allowable salary of an administrator of a residential care home with sixty beds or less the department shall revise the allowable base salary to thirty-seven thousand dollars to be annually inflated thereafter in accordance with section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies. The rates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, shall be based upon the increased allowable salary of an administrator, regardless of whether such amount was expended in the 2000 cost report period upon which the rates are based. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, and until the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, inclusive, the inflation adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall be increased by two per cent, and beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, the inflation adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection (c) of said

House Bill No. 6941

section shall be increased by one per cent. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, for the purpose of determining the allowable salary of a related party, the department shall revise the maximum salary to twenty-seven thousand eight hundred fifty-six dollars to be annually inflated thereafter in accordance with section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies and beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, such allowable salary shall be computed on an hourly basis and the maximum number of hours allowed for a related party other than the proprietor shall be increased from forty hours to forty-eight hours per work week. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, each facility shall receive a rate that is two and one-quarter per cent more than the rate the facility received in the prior fiscal year, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2004, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2004. Effective upon receipt of all the necessary federal approvals to secure federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (f) of this section, but in no event earlier than October 1, 2005, and provided the user fee imposed under section 17b-320 is required to be collected, each facility shall receive a rate that is determined in accordance with applicable law and subject to appropriations, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1, 2005, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2005. Such rate increase shall remain in effect unless: (1) The federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase are no longer available; or (2) the user fee created pursuant to section 17b-320 is not in effect. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall remain in effect until September 30, 2006, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2006, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with

House Bill No. 6941

the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2006. Effective October 1, 2006, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than four per cent greater than the rate in effect for the facility on September 30, 2006, except for any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2006. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2009, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2011, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate, except (A) any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the Commissioner of Social Services shall be issued such lower rate; and (B) the commissioner may increase a facility's rate for reasonable costs associated with such facility's compliance with the provisions of section 19a-495a concerning the administration of medication by unlicensed personnel. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2011, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2012, except that (i) any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, due to interim rate status or agreement with the Commissioner of Social Services shall be issued such lower rate; and (ii) the commissioner may increase a facility's rate for reasonable costs associated with such facility's compliance with the provisions of section 19a-495a concerning the administration of medication by unlicensed personnel. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the Commissioner of Social Services may, within available appropriations, provide a rate increase to a residential care home. Any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, due to interim rate status or agreement with the Commissioner of Social Services shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, the Commissioner

House Bill No. 6941

of Social Services may provide fair rent increases to any facility that has undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent and has an approved certificate of need pursuant to section 17b-352, 17b-353, 17b-354 or 17b-355. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, for those facilities that have a calculated rate greater than the rate in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the commissioner may increase facility rates based upon available appropriations up to a stop gain as determined by the commissioner. No facility shall be issued a rate that is lower than the rate in effect on June 30, 2013, except that any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, due to interim rate status or agreement with the commissioner, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year thereafter, a residential care home shall receive a rate increase for any capital improvement made during the fiscal year for the health and safety of residents and approved by the Department of Social Services, provided such rate increase is within available appropriations. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each succeeding fiscal year thereafter, costs of less than ten thousand dollars that are incurred by a facility and are associated with any land, building or nonmovable equipment repair or improvement that are reported in the cost year used to establish the facility's rate shall not be capitalized for a period of more than five years for rate-setting purposes. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, subject to available appropriations, the commissioner may, at the commissioner's discretion: Increase the inflation cost limitation under subsection (c) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such inflation allowance factor does not exceed a maximum of five per cent; establish a minimum rate of return applied to real property of five per cent inclusive of assets placed in service during cost year 2013; waive the standard rate of return under subsection (f) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies for ownership changes or health and safety improvements that exceed one hundred thousand dollars and that are

House Bill No. 6941

required under a consent order from the Department of Public Health; and waive the rate of return adjustment under subsection (f) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies to avoid financial hardship. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2015, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in cost report years ending September 30, 2014, and September 30, 2015, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, and each succeeding fiscal year, any facility that would have been issued a lower rate, due to interim rate status, a change in allowable fair rent or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2017, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2016, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2018, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2017, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2017, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020,

House Bill No. 6941

except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2019, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2020, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, a facility may receive a rate increase for a capital improvement approved by the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, rates shall be based upon rates in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, inflated by the gross domestic product deflator applicable to each rate year, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report years ending September 30, 2020, and September 30, 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, a facility may receive a rate increase for a capital improvement approved by the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the department shall determine facility

House Bill No. 6941

rates based upon 2022 cost report filings subject to the provisions of this section, adjusted to reflect any rate increases provided after the cost report year ending September 30, 2022. There shall be no increase to rates based on any inflationary factor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. Notwithstanding any other provisions of chapter 319y, any subsequent increase to allowable operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated by the gross domestic product deflator when funding is specifically appropriated for such purposes in the enacted budget. The rate of inflation shall be computed by comparing the most recent rate year to the average of the gross domestic product deflator for the previous four fiscal quarters ending April thirtieth. Any increase to rates based on inflation shall be applied prior to the application of any other budget adjustment factors that may impact such rates. The commissioner shall determine whether and to what extent a change in ownership of a facility shall occasion the rebasing of the facility's costs. There shall be no inflation adjustment during a year in which a facility's rates are rebased. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2022, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2023, that are not otherwise included in rates issued.

Sec. 278. Section 17b-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

The Department of Social Services is designated as the state agency for the administration of (1) the Connecticut energy assistance program

House Bill No. 6941

pursuant to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981; (2) the state plan for vocational rehabilitation services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1994; (3) the refugee assistance program pursuant to the Refugee Act of 1980; (4) the legalization impact assistance grant program pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986; (5) the temporary assistance for needy families program pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996; (6) the Medicaid program pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act; (7) the supplemental nutrition assistance program pursuant to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008; (8) the state supplement to the Supplemental Security Income Program pursuant to the Social Security Act; (9) the state child support enforcement plan pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act; (10) the state social services plan for the implementation of the social services block grants and community services block grants pursuant to the Social Security Act; and (11) services for persons with autism spectrum disorder in accordance with [sections 17a-215 and] section 17a-215c.

Sec. 279. Section 17a-215e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

Not later than February 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Social Services shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services concerning the activities of the Department of Social Services' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, established pursuant to section 17a-215c, and the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council, established pursuant to section [17a-215d] 262 of this act. Such report shall include, but not be limited to: (1) The number and ages of persons with autism spectrum disorder who are served by the Department of Social Services' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services and, when practicable to report, the number and ages of such persons who

House Bill No. 6941

are served by other state agencies; (2) the number and ages of persons with autism spectrum disorder on said division's waiting list for Medicaid waiver services; (3) the type of Medicaid waiver services currently provided by the department to persons with autism spectrum disorder; (4) a description of the unmet needs of persons with autism spectrum disorder on said division's waiting list; (5) the projected estimates for a five-year period of the costs to the state due to such unmet needs; (6) measurable outcome data for persons with autism spectrum disorder who are eligible to receive services from said division, including, but not limited to, (A) the number of such persons who are enrolled in postsecondary education, (B) the employment status of such persons, and (C) a description of such persons' living arrangements; and (7) a description of new initiatives and proposals for new initiatives that are under consideration.

Sec. 280. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 38a-488b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(4) "Behavioral therapy" means any interactive behavioral therapies derived from evidence-based research and consistent with the services and interventions designated by the Commissioner of Social Services pursuant to subsection [(l)] (e) of section 17a-215c, including, but not limited to, applied behavior analysis, cognitive behavioral therapy, or other therapies supported by empirical evidence of the effective treatment of individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, that are: (A) Provided to children less than twenty-one years of age; and (B) provided or supervised by (i) a licensed behavior analyst, (ii) a licensed physician, or (iii) a licensed psychologist. For the purposes of this subdivision, behavioral therapy is "supervised by" such licensed behavior analyst, licensed physician or licensed psychologist when such supervision entails at least one hour of face-to-face supervision of the autism spectrum disorder services provider by such licensed behavior

House Bill No. 6941

analyst, licensed physician or licensed psychologist for each ten hours of behavioral therapy provided by the supervised provider.

Sec. 281. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 38a-514b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(4) "Behavioral therapy" means any interactive behavioral therapies derived from evidence-based research and consistent with the services and interventions designated by the Commissioner of Social Services pursuant to subsection [(l)] (e) of section 17a-215c, including, but not limited to, applied behavior analysis, cognitive behavioral therapy, or other therapies supported by empirical evidence of the effective treatment of individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, that are: (A) Provided to children less than twenty-one years of age; and (B) provided or supervised by (i) a licensed behavior analyst, (ii) a licensed physician, or (iii) a licensed psychologist. For the purposes of this subdivision, behavioral therapy is "supervised by" such licensed behavior analyst, licensed physician or licensed psychologist when such supervision entails at least one hour of face-to-face supervision of the autism spectrum disorder services provider by such licensed behavior analyst, licensed physician or licensed psychologist for each ten hours of behavioral therapy provided by the supervised provider.

Sec. 282. Subsection (a) of section 17b-242 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) The Department of Social Services shall determine the rates to be paid to home health care agencies and home health aide agencies by the state or any town in the state for persons aided or cared for by the state or any such town. The Commissioner of Social Services shall establish a fee schedule for home health services to be effective on and after July 1, 1994. The commissioner may annually modify such fee schedule if such

House Bill No. 6941

modification is needed to ensure that the conversion to an administrative services organization is cost neutral to home health care agencies and home health aide agencies in the aggregate and ensures patient access. Utilization may be a factor in determining cost neutrality. The commissioner shall increase the fee schedule for home health services provided under the Connecticut home-care program for the elderly established under section 17b-342, effective July 1, 2000, by two per cent over the fee schedule for home health services for the previous year. On and after January 1, 2024, the commissioner shall increase the fee schedule for complex care nursing services provided to individuals over the age of eighteen such that the rate of reimbursement is equal to the rate for such services provided to individuals age eighteen and under. There shall be no differential in fees paid for such services based on the age of the patient. The commissioner may increase any fee payable to a home health care agency or home health aide agency upon the application of such an agency evidencing extraordinary costs related to (1) serving persons with AIDS; (2) high-risk maternal and child health care; (3) escort services; or (4) extended hour services. In no case shall any rate or fee exceed the charge to the general public for similar services. A home health care agency or home health aide agency which, due to any material change in circumstances, is aggrieved by a rate determined pursuant to this subsection may, within ten days of receipt of written notice of such rate from the Commissioner of Social Services, request in writing a hearing on all items of aggrievement. The commissioner shall, upon the receipt of all documentation necessary to evaluate the request, determine whether there has been such a change in circumstances and shall conduct a hearing if appropriate. The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this subsection. The commissioner may implement policies and procedures to carry out the provisions of this subsection while in the process of adopting regulations, provided notice of intent to adopt the regulations is [published in the Connecticut Law Journal] posted on the eRegulations

House Bill No. 6941

System not later than twenty days after the date of implementing the policies and procedures. Such policies and procedures shall be valid for not longer than nine months. For purposes of this subsection, "complex care nursing services" means intensive, specialized nursing services provided to a patient with complex care needs who requires skilled nursing care at home.

Sec. 283. Subsection (1) of section 17b-261 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(1) On and after January 1, 2023, and until June 30, 2024, the Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available appropriations, provide state-funded medical assistance to any child twelve years of age and younger, regardless of immigration status, (1) whose household income does not exceed two hundred one per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset limit, and (2) who does not otherwise qualify for Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, or an offer of affordable, employer-sponsored insurance, as defined in the Affordable Care Act, as an employee or a dependent of an employee. On and after July 1, 2024, the commissioner shall, within available appropriations, provide state-funded medical assistance to any child fifteen years of age and younger, regardless of immigration status, who qualifies pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection. A child eligible for such assistance under this subsection shall continue to receive such assistance until such child is nineteen years of age, provided the child continues to meet the eligibility requirements prescribed in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection. The provisions of section 17b-265 shall apply with respect to any medical assistance provided pursuant to this subsection.

Sec. 284. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Social Services shall study the costs and benefits of providing medical assistance to any person twenty-five years of age and younger, regardless of immigration status, (1) who, except for immigration status, otherwise would qualify

House Bill No. 6941

for HUSKY A, C or D, as defined in section 17b-290 of the general statutes, and (2) who does not otherwise qualify for the Children's Health Insurance Program, or an offer of affordable, employer-sponsored insurance, as defined in the Affordable Care Act, as an employee or a dependent of an employee. Not later than January 1, 2025, the commissioner shall file a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and human services on (A) the costs and benefits of providing medical assistance to such persons, and (B) a plan to implement medical assistance to such persons.

Sec. 285. Subsection (a) of section 17b-292 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) A child who resides in a household with household income that exceeds one hundred ninety-six per cent of the federal poverty level but does not exceed three hundred eighteen per cent of the federal poverty level may be eligible for benefits under HUSKY B. [Not later than January 1, 2023, the] Until June 30, 2024, the Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available appropriations, provide state-funded medical assistance to any child twelve years of age and younger, regardless of immigration status, (1) with a household income that exceeds two hundred one per cent of the federal poverty level but does not exceed three hundred twenty-three per cent of the federal poverty level, and (2) who does not otherwise qualify for Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, or an offer of affordable, employer-sponsored insurance, as defined in the Affordable Care Act, as an employee or a dependent of an employee. On and after July 1, 2024, the commissioner shall, within available appropriations, provide state-funded medical assistance to any child fifteen years of age and

House Bill No. 6941

younger, regardless of immigration status, who qualifies pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection. A child eligible for such assistance under this subsection shall continue to receive such assistance until such child is nineteen years of age, provided the child continues to meet the eligibility requirements prescribed in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection. The provisions of section 17b-265 shall apply with respect to any medical assistance provided pursuant to this subsection.

Sec. 286. Subsection (a) of section 17b-84 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

(a) Upon the death of any beneficiary under the state supplement or the temporary family assistance program, the Commissioner of Social Services shall order the payment of a sum not to exceed one thousand [three hundred fifty] eight hundred dollars as an allowance toward the funeral and burial expenses of such decedent. The payment for funeral and burial expenses shall be reduced by (1) the amount in any revocable or irrevocable funeral fund, (2) any prepaid funeral contract, (3) the face value of any life insurance policy owned by the decedent that names a funeral home, cemetery or crematory as a beneficiary, (4) the net value of all liquid assets in the decedent's estate, and (5) contributions in excess of three thousand four hundred dollars toward such funeral and burial expenses from all other sources, including friends, relatives and all other persons, organizations, agencies, veterans' programs and other benefit programs. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17b-90, whenever payment for funeral, burial or cremation expenses is reduced due to liquid assets in the decedent's estate, the commissioner may disclose information concerning such liquid assets to the funeral director, cemetery or crematory providing funeral, burial or cremation services for the decedent.

Sec. 287. Subsection (a) of section 17b-131 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

House Bill No. 6941

2024):

(a) When a person in any town, or sent from such town to any licensed institution or state humane institution, dies or is found dead therein and does not leave sufficient estate and has no legally liable relative able to pay the cost of a proper funeral and burial, or upon the death of any beneficiary under the state-administered general assistance program, the Commissioner of Social Services shall give to such person a proper funeral and burial, and shall pay a sum not exceeding one thousand [three hundred fifty] eight hundred dollars as an allowance toward the funeral expenses of such decedent. Said sum shall be paid, upon submission of a proper bill, to the funeral director, cemetery or crematory, as the case may be. Such payment for funeral and burial expenses shall be reduced by (1) the amount in any revocable or irrevocable funeral fund, (2) any prepaid funeral contract, (3) the face value of any life insurance policy owned by the decedent that names a funeral home, cemetery or crematory as a beneficiary, (4) the net value of all liquid assets in the decedent's estate, and (5) contributions in excess of three thousand four hundred dollars toward such funeral and burial expenses from all other sources including friends, relatives and all other persons, organizations, agencies, veterans' programs and other benefit programs. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17b-90, whenever payment for funeral, burial or cremation expenses is reduced due to liquid assets in the decedent's estate, the commissioner may disclose information concerning such liquid assets to the funeral director, cemetery or crematory providing funeral, burial or cremation services for the decedent.

Sec. 288. Section 341 of public act 21-2 of the June special session, as amended by section 249 of public act 22-118, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall allocate available funds for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and

House Bill No. 6941

June 30, 2023, to increase rates to state-contracted providers for the purpose of wage enhancements and related Federal Insurance Contributions Act, workers compensation, and unemployment insurance expenses for employees who provide services to individuals with intellectual disability authorized to receive supports and services through the Department of Developmental Services. [Providers] Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, providers that receive a rate adjustment for the purpose of wage enhancements but do not provide increases in employee salaries as described in this section on or before July 31, 2021, and July 31, 2022, respectively, may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the adjustment by the Commissioner of Developmental Services. In addition, the commissioner shall, within available resources and at the commissioner's discretion, make funds available to support enhanced benefits. Nothing in this section shall require the commissioner to distribute funding in a way that jeopardizes anticipated federal reimbursement.

(b) If, after the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management allocates funds pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, there is a balance of available funds that has not been allocated for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the Office of Policy and Management shall disburse such funds as a cost-of-living adjustment to state-contracted providers that deliver services and supports through the Department of Developmental Services.

(c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, any state-contracted provider who received funds pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may use such funds for the purpose of wage enhancements and related benefits, as described in subsection (a) of this section, for employees working in intermediate care facilities who provide services to individuals with intellectual disability authorized to receive supports and services through the Department of Social Services.

(d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the Department of Social

House Bill No. 6941

Services shall utilize up to five million six hundred thousand dollars of the amount appropriated for Medicaid in section 1 of public act 22-118 for one-time stabilization funds for state-contracted providers who received funds pursuant to subsection (a) of this section for the purpose of wage enhancements and related benefits, as described in subsection (a) of this section, for employees working in intermediate care facilities who provide services to individuals with intellectual disability authorized to receive supports and services through the Department of Social Services.

Sec. 289. Subsection (b) of section 17a-476 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) Upon receipt of the application with the recommendations of the regional behavioral action organization and approval by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the department shall grant such funds by way of a contract or grant-in-aid within the appropriation for any annual fiscal year. [No funds authorized by this section shall be used for the construction or renovation of buildings.]

Sec. 290. Section 17a-861 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

The [Department of Aging and Disability Services] Office of Policy and Management shall establish an outreach program to educate consumers as to: (1) The need for long-term care; (2) mechanisms for financing such care; (3) the availability of long-term care insurance; and (4) the asset protection provided under sections 17b-252 to 17b-254, inclusive, and 38a-475. The [Department of Aging and Disability Services] Office of Policy and Management shall provide public information to assist individuals in choosing appropriate insurance coverage.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 291. Subsection (a) of section 17b-340 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For purposes of this subsection, (1) a "related party" includes, but is not limited to, any company related to a chronic and convalescent nursing home through family association, common ownership, control or business association with any of the owners, operators or officials of such nursing home; (2) "company" means any person, partnership, association, holding company, limited liability company or corporation; (3) "family association" means a relationship by birth, marriage or domestic partnership; and (4) "profit and loss statement" means the most recent annual statement on profits and losses finalized by a related party before the annual report mandated under this subsection. The rates to be paid by or for persons aided or cared for by the state or any town in this state to licensed chronic and convalescent nursing homes, to chronic disease hospitals associated with chronic and convalescent nursing homes, to rest homes with nursing supervision, to licensed residential care homes, as defined by section 19a-490, and to residential facilities for persons with intellectual disability that are licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, for room, board and services specified in licensing regulations issued by the licensing agency shall be determined annually, except as otherwise provided in this subsection by the Commissioner of Social Services, to be effective July first of each year except as otherwise provided in this subsection. Such rates shall be determined on a basis of a reasonable payment for such necessary services, which basis shall take into account as a factor the costs of such services. Cost of such services shall include reasonable costs mandated by collective bargaining agreements with certified collective bargaining agents or other agreements between the employer and employees, provided "employees" shall not include persons employed as managers

House Bill No. 6941

or chief administrators or required to be licensed as nursing home administrators, and compensation for services rendered by proprietors at prevailing wage rates, as determined by application of principles of accounting as prescribed by said commissioner. Cost of such services shall not include amounts paid by the facilities to employees as salary, or to attorneys or consultants as fees, where the responsibility of the employees, attorneys, or consultants is to persuade or seek to persuade the other employees of the facility to support or oppose unionization. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit inclusion of amounts paid for legal counsel related to the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements, the settlement of grievances or normal administration of labor relations. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, allow the inclusion of extraordinary and unanticipated costs of providing services that were incurred to avoid an immediate negative impact on the health and safety of patients. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, based upon review of a facility's costs, direct care staff to patient ratio and any other related information, revise a facility's rate for any increases or decreases to total licensed capacity of more than ten beds or changes to its number of licensed rest home with nursing supervision beds and chronic and convalescent nursing home beds. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, revise the rate of a facility that is closing. An interim rate issued for the period during which a facility is closing shall be based on a review of facility costs, the expected duration of the close-down period, the anticipated impact on Medicaid costs, available appropriations and the relationship of the rate requested by the facility to the average Medicaid rate for a close-down period. The commissioner may so revise a facility's rate established for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, and thereafter for any bed increases, decreases or changes in licensure effective after October 1, 1989. Effective July 1, 1991, in facilities that have both a chronic and convalescent nursing home and a rest home with nursing supervision, the rate for the rest home with nursing supervision shall not exceed such facility's rate for its chronic and convalescent nursing

House Bill No. 6941

home. All such facilities for which rates are determined under this subsection shall report on a fiscal year basis ending on September thirtieth. Such report shall be submitted to the commissioner by February fifteenth. Each for-profit chronic and convalescent nursing home that receives state funding pursuant to this section shall include in such annual report a profit and loss statement from each related party that receives from such chronic and convalescent nursing home fifty thousand dollars or more per year for goods, fees and services. No cause of action or liability shall arise against the state, the Department of Social Services, any state official or agent for failure to take action based on the information required to be reported under this subsection. The commissioner may reduce the rate in effect for a facility that fails to submit a complete and accurate report on or before February fifteenth by an amount not to exceed ten per cent of such rate. If a licensed residential care home fails to submit a complete and accurate report, the department shall notify such home of the failure and the home shall have thirty days from the date the notice was issued to submit a complete and accurate report. If a licensed residential care home fails to submit a complete and accurate report not later than thirty days after the date of notice, such home may not receive a retroactive rate increase, in the commissioner's discretion. The commissioner shall, annually, on or before April first, report the data contained in the reports of such facilities on the department's Internet web site. For the cost reporting year commencing October 1, 1985, and for subsequent cost reporting years, facilities shall report the cost of using the services of any nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency by separating said cost into two categories, the portion of the cost equal to the salary of the employee for whom the nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency is substituting shall be considered a nursing cost and any cost in excess of such salary shall be further divided so that seventy-five per cent of the excess cost shall be considered an administrative or general cost and twenty-five per cent of the excess cost shall be considered a nursing cost, provided if the total

House Bill No. 6941

costs of a facility for nursing personnel supplied by a temporary nursing services agency in any cost year are equal to or exceed fifteen per cent of the total nursing expenditures of the facility for such cost year, no portion of such costs in excess of fifteen per cent shall be classified as administrative or general costs. The commissioner, in determining such rates, shall also take into account the classification of patients or boarders according to special care requirements or classification of the facility according to such factors as facilities and services and such other factors as the commissioner deems reasonable, including anticipated fluctuations in the cost of providing such services. The commissioner may establish a separate rate for a facility or a portion of a facility for traumatic brain injury patients who require extensive care but not acute general hospital care. Such separate rate shall reflect the special care requirements of such patients. If changes in federal or state laws, regulations or standards adopted subsequent to June 30, 1985, result in increased costs or expenditures in an amount exceeding one-half of one per cent of allowable costs for the most recent cost reporting year, the commissioner shall adjust rates and provide payment for any such increased reasonable costs or expenditures within a reasonable period of time retroactive to the date of enforcement. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the Department of Social Services to adjust rates and provide payment for any increases in costs resulting from an inspection of a facility by the Department of Public Health. Such assistance as the commissioner requires from other state agencies or departments in determining rates shall be made available to the commissioner at the commissioner's request. Payment of the rates established pursuant to this section shall be conditioned on the establishment by such facilities of admissions procedures that conform with this section, section 19a-533 and all other applicable provisions of the law and the provision of equality of treatment to all persons in such facilities. The established rates shall be the maximum amount chargeable by such facilities for care of such beneficiaries, and the acceptance by or on behalf of any such facility of any additional

House Bill No. 6941

compensation for care of any such beneficiary from any other person or source shall constitute the offense of aiding a beneficiary to obtain aid to which the beneficiary is not entitled and shall be punishable in the same manner as is provided in subsection (b) of section 17b-97. Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services may, within available appropriations, provide an interim rate increase for a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision for rate periods no earlier than April 1, 2004, only if the commissioner determines that the increase is necessary to avoid the filing of a petition for relief under Title 11 of the United States Code; imposition of receivership pursuant to sections 19a-542 and 19a-543; or substantial deterioration of the facility's financial condition that may be expected to adversely affect resident care and the continued operation of the facility, and the commissioner determines that the continued operation of the facility is in the best interest of the state. The commissioner shall consider any requests for interim rate increases on file with the department from March 30, 2004, and those submitted subsequently for rate periods no earlier than April 1, 2004. When reviewing an interim rate increase request the commissioner shall, at a minimum, consider: (A) Existing chronic and convalescent nursing home or rest home with nursing supervision utilization in the area and projected bed need; (B) physical plant long-term viability and the ability of the owner or purchaser to implement any necessary property improvements; (C) licensure and certification compliance history; (D) reasonableness of actual and projected expenses; and (E) the ability of the facility to meet wage and benefit costs. No interim rate shall be increased pursuant to this subsection in excess of one hundred fifteen per cent of the median rate for the facility's peer grouping, established pursuant to [subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of this section] subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 17b-340d, unless recommended by the commissioner and approved by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management after consultation with the commissioner. Such median rates shall be published by the Department

House Bill No. 6941

of Social Services not later than April first of each year. In the event that a facility granted an interim rate increase pursuant to this section is sold or otherwise conveyed for value to an unrelated entity less than five years after the effective date of such rate increase, the rate increase shall be deemed rescinded and the department shall recover an amount equal to the difference between payments made for all affected rate periods and payments that would have been made if the interim rate increase was not granted. The commissioner may seek recovery of such payments from any facility with common ownership. With the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the commissioner may waive recovery and rescission of the interim rate for good cause shown that is not inconsistent with this section, including, but not limited to, transfers to family members that were made for no value. The commissioner shall provide written quarterly reports to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, human services and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, that identify each facility requesting an interim rate increase, the amount of the requested rate increase for each facility, the action taken by the commissioner and the secretary pursuant to this subsection, and estimates of the additional cost to the state for each approved interim rate increase. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the commissioner from increasing the rate of a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision for allowable costs associated with facility capital improvements or increasing the rate in case of a sale of a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision if receivership has been imposed on such home. For purposes of this section, "temporary nursing services agency" and "nursing personnel" have the same meaning as provided in section 19a-118.

Sec. 292. Section 17b-265 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) In accordance with 42 USC 1396k, the Department of Social Services shall be subrogated to any right of recovery or indemnification that an applicant or recipient of medical assistance or any legally liable relative of such applicant or recipient has against an insurer or other legally liable third party including, but not limited to, a self-insured plan, group health plan, as defined in Section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, service benefit plan, managed care organization, health care center, pharmacy benefit manager, dental benefit manager, third-party administrator or other party that is, by statute, contract or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service, for the cost of all health care items or services furnished to the applicant or recipient, including, but not limited to, hospitalization, pharmaceutical services, physician services, nursing services, behavioral health services, long-term care services and other medical services, not to exceed the amount expended by the department for such care and treatment of the applicant or recipient. In the case of such a recipient who is an enrollee in a care management organization under a Medicaid care management contract with the state or a legally liable relative of such an enrollee, the department shall be subrogated to any right of recovery or indemnification which the enrollee or legally liable relative has against such a private insurer or other third party for the medical costs incurred by the care management organization on behalf of an enrollee. Whenever funds owed to a person are collected pursuant to this section and the person who otherwise would have been entitled to such funds is subject to a court-ordered current or arrearage child support payment obligation in an IV-D support case, such funds shall first be paid to the state for reimbursement of Medicaid funds paid on behalf of such person for medical expenses incurred for injuries related to a legal claim by such person that was the subject of the state's right of subrogation, and remaining funds, if any, shall then be paid to the Office of Child Support Services for distribution pursuant to the federally mandated child support distribution system implemented pursuant to subsection (j) of

House Bill No. 6941

section 17b-179. Any additional claim of the state to the remainder of such funds, if any, shall be paid in accordance with state law.

(b) An applicant or recipient or legally liable relative, by the act of the applicant's or recipient's receiving medical assistance, shall be deemed to have made a subrogation assignment and an assignment of claim for benefits to the department. The department shall inform an applicant of such assignments at the time of application. Any entitlements from a contractual agreement with an applicant or recipient, legally liable relative or a state or federal program for such medical services, not to exceed the amount expended by the department, shall be so assigned. Such entitlements shall be directly reimbursable to the department by [third party] third-party payors. The Department of Social Services may assign its right to subrogation or its entitlement to benefits to a designee or a health care provider participating in the Medicaid program and providing services to an applicant or recipient, in order to assist the provider in obtaining payment for such services. In accordance with subsection (b) of section 38a-472, a provider that has received an assignment from the department shall notify the recipient's health insurer or other legally liable third party including, but not limited to, a self-insured plan, group health plan, as defined in Section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, service benefit plan, managed care organization, health care center, pharmacy benefit manager, dental benefit manager, third-party administrator or other party that is, by statute, contract or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service, of the assignment upon rendition of services to the applicant or recipient. Failure to so notify the health insurer or other legally liable third party shall render the provider ineligible for payment from the department. The provider shall notify the department of any request by the applicant or recipient or legally liable relative or representative of such applicant or recipient for billing information. This subsection shall not be construed to affect the right of an applicant or recipient to maintain an independent cause

House Bill No. 6941

of action against such [third party] third-party tortfeasor.

(c) Claims for recovery or indemnification submitted by the department, or the department's designee, shall not be denied solely on the basis of the date of the submission of the claim, the type or format of the claim, the lack of prior authorization or the failure to present proper documentation at the point-of-service that is the basis of the claim, if (1) the claim is submitted by the state within the three-year period beginning on the date on which the item or service was furnished; and (2) any action by the state to enforce its rights with respect to such claim is commenced within six years of the state's submission of the claim.

(d) (1) A party to whom a claim for recovery or indemnification is submitted for an item or service furnished under the Medicaid state plan, or a waiver of such plan, who requires prior authorization for such item or service shall accept authorization provided by the Department of Social Services that the item or service is covered under such plan or waiver as if such authorization were the prior authorization made by such party for the item or service.

(2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply with respect to a claim for recovery or indemnification submitted to Medicare, a Medicare Advantage plan or a Medicare Part D plan.

~~[(d)]~~ (e) When a recipient of medical assistance has personal health insurance in force covering care or other benefits provided under such program, payment or part-payment of the premium for such insurance may be made when deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of Social Services. The commissioner shall limit reimbursement to medical assistance providers for coinsurance and deductible payments under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to assure that the combined Medicare and Medicaid payment to the provider shall not exceed the maximum allowable under the Medicaid program fee schedules.

House Bill No. 6941

[(e)] (f) No self-insured plan, group health plan, as defined in Section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, service benefit plan, managed care plan, or any plan offered or administered by a health care center, pharmacy benefit manager, dental benefit manager, third-party administrator or other party that is, by statute, contract or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service, shall contain any provision that has the effect of denying or limiting enrollment benefits or excluding coverage because services are rendered to an insured or beneficiary who is eligible for or who received medical assistance under this chapter. No insurer, as defined in section 38a-497a, shall impose requirements on the state Medicaid agency, which has been assigned the rights of an individual eligible for Medicaid and covered for health benefits from an insurer, that differ from requirements applicable to an agent or assignee of another individual so covered.

[(f)] (g) The Commissioner of Social Services shall not pay for any services provided under this chapter if the individual eligible for medical assistance has coverage for the services under an accident or health insurance policy.

[(g)] (h) An insurer or other legally liable third party, upon receipt of a claim submitted by the department or the department's designee, in accordance with the requirements of subsection (c) of this section, for payment of a health care item or service covered under a state medical assistance program administered by the department, shall, not later than [ninety] sixty days after receipt of the claim or not later than [ninety days after the effective date of this section] November 30, 2023, whichever is later, (1) make payment on the claim, (2) request information necessary to determine its legal obligation to pay the claim, or (3) issue a written reason for denial of the claim. Failure to pay, request information necessary to determine legal obligation to pay or issue a written reason for denial of a claim not later than one hundred

House Bill No. 6941

twenty days after receipt of the claim, or not later than [one hundred twenty days after the effective date of this section] January 30, 2024, whichever is later, creates an uncontestable obligation to pay the claim. The provisions of this subsection shall apply to all claims, including claims submitted by the department or the department's designee prior to July 1, 2021.

[(h)] (i) On and after July 1, 2021, an insurer or other legally liable third party who has reimbursed the department for a health care item or service paid for and covered under a state medical assistance program administered by the department shall, upon determining it is not liable and at risk for cost of the health care item or service, request any refund from the department not later than twelve months from the date of its reimbursement to the department.

Sec. 293. Section 17b-265g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

Any health insurer, including a self-insured plan, group health plan, as defined in Section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, service benefit plan, managed care organization, health care center, pharmacy benefit manager, dental benefit manager or other party that is, by statute, contract or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service, and which may or may not be financially at risk for the cost of a health care item or service, shall, as a condition of doing business in the state, be required to:

(1) Provide, with respect to an individual who is eligible for, or is provided, medical assistance under the Medicaid state plan, to all third-party administrators, pharmacy benefit managers, dental benefit managers or other entities with which the health insurer has a contract or arrangement to adjudicate claims for a health care item or service, and to the Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee, any and all information in a manner and format prescribed by

House Bill No. 6941

the commissioner, or commissioner's designee, necessary to determine when the individual, his or her spouse or the individual's dependents may be or have been covered by a health insurer and the nature of the coverage that is or was provided by such health insurer including the name, address and identifying number of the plan;

(2) [accept] Accept the state's right of recovery and the assignment to the state of any right of an individual or other entity to payment from the health insurer for an item or service for which payment has been made under the Medicaid state plan;

(3) [respond to] Respond not later than sixty days after receiving any inquiry [by] from the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, regarding a claim for payment for any health care item or service that is submitted not later than three years after the date of the provision of the item or service; and

(4) [agree] Agree (A) to accept authorization provided by the Department of Social Services that an item or service is covered under the Medicaid state plan, or a waiver of such plan, as if such authorization were the prior authorization made by such health insurer for such item or service, and (B) not to deny a claim submitted by the state solely on the basis of the date of submission of the claim, the type or format of the claim form or a failure to present proper documentation at the point-of-sale that is the basis of the claim, if [(A)] (i) the claim is submitted by the state or its agent within the three-year period beginning on the date on which the item or service was furnished; and [(B)] (ii) any legal action by the state to enforce its rights with respect to such claim is commenced within six years of the state's submission of such claim.

Sec. 294. Subsection (e) of section 12-746 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

House Bill No. 6941

(e) Amounts rebated pursuant to this section shall not be considered income for purposes of sections 8-119*l*, 8-345, 12-170d, 12-170aa, [17b-550,] 47-88d and 47-287.

Sec. 295. Section 16a-41a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall submit to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of energy planning and activities, appropriations, and human services the following on the implementation of the block grant program authorized under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, as amended:

(1) Not later than August first, annually, a Connecticut energy assistance program annual plan which establishes guidelines for the use of funds authorized under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, as amended, and includes the following:

(A) Criteria for determining which households are to receive emergency assistance;

(B) A description of systems used to ensure referrals to other energy assistance programs and the taking of simultaneous applications, as required under section 16a-41;

(C) A description of outreach efforts;

(D) Estimates of the total number of households eligible for assistance under the program and the number of households in which one or more elderly or physically disabled individuals eligible for assistance reside;

(E) Design of a basic grant for eligible households that does not discriminate against such households based on the type of energy used for heating; and

House Bill No. 6941

(F) A payment plan for fuel deliveries beginning November 1, [2018] 2023, that ensures a vendor of deliverable fuel who completes deliveries authorized by a community action agency that contracts with the commissioner to administer a fuel assistance program is [paid] provided the option to be paid electronically by the community action agency and is paid not later than [thirty] ten business days after the date the community action agency receives an authorized fuel slip or invoice for payment from the vendor;

(2) Not later than January thirtieth, annually, a report covering the preceding months of the program year, including:

(A) In each community action agency geographic area, the number of fuel assistance applications filed, approved and denied, and the number of emergency assistance requests made, approved and denied;

(B) In each such area, the total amount of fuel and emergency assistance, itemized by such type of assistance, and total expenditures to date;

(C) For each state-wide office of each state agency administering the program and each community action agency, administrative expenses under the program, by line item, and an estimate of outreach expenditures; and

(D) A list of community action agencies that failed to make timely payments to vendors of deliverable fuel in the Connecticut energy assistance program and the steps taken by the commissioner to ensure future timely payments by such agencies; and

(3) Not later than November first, annually, a report covering the preceding twelve calendar months, including:

(A) In each community action agency geographic area, (i) seasonal totals for the categories of data submitted under subdivision (1) of this

House Bill No. 6941

subsection, (ii) the number of households receiving fuel assistance in which elderly or physically disabled individuals reside, and (iii) the average combined benefit level of fuel, emergency and renter assistance;

(B) The number of homeowners and tenants whose heat or total energy costs are not included in their rent receiving fuel and emergency assistance under the program by benefit level;

(C) The number of homeowners and tenants whose heat is included in their rent and who are receiving assistance, by benefit level; and

(D) The number of households receiving assistance, by energy type and total expenditures for each energy type.

(b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement a program to purchase deliverable fuel for low-income households participating in the Connecticut energy assistance program and the state-appropriated fuel assistance program. The commissioner shall ensure an adequate supply of vendors for the program by (1) establishing county and regional pricing standards for deliverable fuel, (2) reimbursing fuel providers based on the price of the fuel on the date of delivery, and (3) allowing a vendor to electronically submit an authorized fuel slip or invoice for payment.

(c) The commissioner shall ensure that no fuel vendor discriminates against fuel assistance program recipients who are under the vendor's standard payment, delivery, service or other similar plans. The commissioner may take advantage of programs offered by fuel vendors that reduce the cost of the fuel purchased, including, but not limited to, fixed price, capped price, prepurchase or summer-fill programs that reduce program cost and that make the maximum use of program revenues. As funding allows, the commissioner shall ensure that all agencies administering the fuel assistance program shall make payments to program fuel vendors in advance of the delivery of energy

House Bill No. 6941

where vendor provided price-management strategies require payments in advance.

[(c)] (d) Each community action agency administering a fuel assistance program shall submit reports, as requested by the Commissioner of Social Services, concerning pricing information from vendors of deliverable fuel participating in the program. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, the state-wide or regional retail price per unit of deliverable fuel, the reduced price per unit paid by the state for the deliverable fuel in utilizing price management strategies offered by program vendors for all consumers, the number of units delivered to the state under the program and the total savings under the program due to the purchase of deliverable fuel utilizing price-management strategies offered by program vendors for all consumers.

[(d)] (e) If funding allows, the Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, shall require that, each community action agency administering a fuel assistance program begin accepting applications for the program not later than September first of each year.

[(e)] (f) Not later than November 1, [2018] 2023, the Commissioner of Social Services shall require each community action agency administering a fuel assistance program to make payment to a vendor of deliverable fuel not later than [thirty] ten business days after the community action agency receives an authorized fuel slip or invoice for payment from the vendor and to give the vendor the options of (1) being paid electronically, and (2) submitting electronically an authorized fuel slip or invoice for payment.

[(f)] (g) The Commissioner of Social Services shall submit each plan or report described in subsection (a) of this section to the Low-Income Energy Advisory Board, established pursuant to section 16a-41b, not

House Bill No. 6941

later than seven days prior to submitting such plan or report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology, appropriations and human services.

Sec. 296. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) To the extent permissible under federal law and within available appropriations, as the single state Medicaid agency designated under sections 17b-2 and 17b-260 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Social Services may implement a bundled payment for maternity services and associated alternative payment methodology for maternity services that the commissioner determines are designed to improve health quality, equity, member experience, cost containment and coordination of care. Such bundled payment may include payment to physicians and other qualified licensed practitioners for the services of doulas and other nonlicensed practitioners. Such bundled payment shall be designed to reduce unnecessary utilization and avoidable costs, ensure access to necessary services, improve outcomes and improve coordination of care. In designing such bundled payment, and prior to implementation, the commissioner shall first consult with health care providers, advocates for consumers of health care and other stakeholders as set forth in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Consultation shall begin on or after the effective date of this section, and shall include solicitation of input and advice from health care providers, advocates for consumers of health care and other stakeholders covering at least the following topics: (1) The quality measures used to assess the performance of participating practices; (2) reimbursement and financing methods and amounts; and (3) safeguards designed to ensure access and network adequacy. Consultation shall include at least two live, online meeting opportunities for public input noticed at least ten days in advance on the department's Internet web site.

House Bill No. 6941

(c) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes to implement the provisions of this section. The commissioner may implement policies and procedures while in the process of adopting such regulations, provided the commissioner publishes notice of intent to adopt regulations on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of implementation of such policies and procedures. Any policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this section shall be valid until the time final regulations are adopted.

Sec. 297. Section 53a-290 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

A person commits vendor fraud when, with intent to defraud and acting on such person's own behalf or on behalf of an entity, such person provides goods or services to a beneficiary under sections 17b-22, 17b-75 to 17b-77, inclusive, 17b-79 to 17b-103, inclusive, 17b-180a, 17b-183, 17b-260 to 17b-262, inclusive, 17b-264 to 17b-285, inclusive, 17b-357 to 17b-361, inclusive, 17b-600 to 17b-604, inclusive, 17b-749 [, 17b-807] and 17b-808 or provides services to a recipient under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended, and, (1) presents for payment any false claim for goods or services performed; (2) accepts payment for goods or services performed, which exceeds either the amounts due for goods or services performed, or the amounts authorized by law for the cost of such goods or services; (3) solicits to perform services for or sell goods to any such beneficiary, knowing that such beneficiary is not in need of such goods or services; (4) sells goods to or performs services for any such beneficiary without prior authorization by the Department of Social Services, when prior authorization is required by said department for the buying of such goods or the performance of any service; (5) accepts from any person or source other than the state an additional compensation in excess of the amount authorized by law; or (6) having knowledge of the occurrence of any event affecting (A) his or her initial

House Bill No. 6941

or continued right to any such benefit or payment, or (B) the initial or continued right to any such benefit or payment of any other individual in whose behalf he or she has applied for or is receiving such benefit or payment, conceals or fails to disclose such event with an intent to fraudulently secure such benefit or payment either in a greater amount or quantity than is due or when no such benefit or payment is authorized.

Sec. 298. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall appoint and convene a working group of ten members to review and evaluate the incidence and implications of excess licensed bed capacity and any space not presently in use at skilled nursing facilities. Such review and evaluation shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) A survey of excess licensed bed capacity and any space not presently in use that identifies (A) licensed bed capacity, occupancy percentages and the identification and location within the facility of licensed beds not presently in operation in a closed facility wing or elsewhere in the facility, (B) beds voluntarily taken out of service in an open portion of the facility but where the beds remain counted in the facility licensed beds capacity, (C) any other space not presently in use that was formerly used for nursing facility care and services, and operations, and (D) beds made unavailable due to inability to staff at minimum staffing levels, in accordance with section 19a-563h of the general statutes, or operator-preferred staffing levels; (2) a review and evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of Medicaid payment policies that support right-sizing and rebalancing efforts, including, but not limited to (A) minimum occupancy rate-setting requirements, and (B) a price-based component for the administrative and general component of reimbursement based on the median of the peer group spending in the administrative and general component of the rates; (3) a review and evaluation of the mitigating implications of staffing shortages as an impediment to skilled nursing facility admissions and occupancy; and (4) consideration of the physical plant conditions of the

House Bill No. 6941

existing skilled nursing facilities.

(b) The working group shall include: (1) Three representatives from the Department of Social Services, at least one of whom shall be from the certificate of need and rate-setting division; (2) two representatives from the Department of Public Health, one of whom shall be from the facilities licensing division and one of whom shall be from the life safety division; (3) two representatives of an organization or organizations representing long-term care facilities, including, but not limited to, assisted living facilities; and (4) three representatives from an organization representing nonprofit long-term care facilities, at least one of whom shall be a representative of a collective bargaining unit representing nurses. The chairpersons of the working group may invite the participation of others with subject matter knowledge that may be needed in the review and evaluation.

(c) The chairpersons of the working group shall be a representative of the Department of Social Services and another member of the working group chosen by members of the group. The Department of Social Services shall schedule the first meeting of the working group not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(d) Not later than December 31, 2023, the working group shall submit an interim report, and not later than June 30, 2024, a final report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Effective July 1, 2024, the Department of Social Services shall issue individualized reports to each nursing home showing the impact of the implementation of the recommendations to their Medicaid rate based on the final report. A nursing home may use the individualized report to evaluate the impact of the recommendations on the nursing home's Medicaid reimbursement and to make modifications as necessary.

House Bill No. 6941

(e) Not later than December 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Social Services shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services that includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copies of the individualized reports issued to nursing homes pursuant to this section, or a link on the department's Internet web site to the reports, and (2) recommendations for rate adjustments related to excess licensed bed capacity at individual nursing homes.

Sec. 299. Section 38a-1084 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The exchange shall:

(1) Administer the exchange for both qualified individuals and qualified employers;

(2) Commission surveys of individuals, small employers and health care providers on issues related to health care and health care coverage;

(3) Implement procedures for the certification, recertification and decertification, consistent with guidelines developed by the Secretary under Section 1311(c) of the Affordable Care Act, and section 38a-1086, of health benefit plans as qualified health plans;

(4) Provide for the operation of a toll-free telephone hotline to respond to requests for assistance;

(5) Provide for enrollment periods, as provided under Section 1311(c)(6) of the Affordable Care Act;

(6) Maintain an Internet web site through which enrollees and prospective enrollees of qualified health plans may obtain standardized comparative information on such plans including, but not limited to, the

House Bill No. 6941

enrollee satisfaction survey information under Section 1311(c)(4) of the Affordable Care Act and any other information or tools to assist enrollees and prospective enrollees evaluate qualified health plans offered through the exchange;

(7) Publish the average costs of licensing, regulatory fees and any other payments required by the exchange and the administrative costs of the exchange, including information on moneys lost to waste, fraud and abuse, on an Internet web site to educate individuals on such costs;

(8) On or before the open enrollment period for plan year 2017, assign a rating to each qualified health plan offered through the exchange in accordance with the criteria developed by the Secretary under Section 1311(c)(3) of the Affordable Care Act, and determine each qualified health plan's level of coverage in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary under Section 1302(d)(2)(A) of the Affordable Care Act;

(9) Use a standardized format for presenting health benefit options in the exchange, including the use of the uniform outline of coverage established under Section 2715 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 USC 300gg-15, as amended from time to time;

(10) Inform individuals, in accordance with Section 1413 of the Affordable Care Act, of eligibility requirements for the Medicaid program under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) under Title XXI of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, or any applicable state or local public program, and enroll an individual in such program if the exchange determines, through screening of the application by the exchange, that such individual is eligible for any such program;

(11) Collaborate with the Department of Social Services, to the extent possible, to allow an enrollee who loses premium tax credit eligibility

House Bill No. 6941

under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code and is eligible for HUSKY A or any other state or local public program, to remain enrolled in a qualified health plan;

(12) Establish and make available by electronic means a calculator to determine the actual cost of coverage after application of any premium tax credit under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code and any cost-sharing reduction under Section 1402 of the Affordable Care Act;

(13) Establish a program for small employers through which qualified employers may access coverage for their employees and that shall enable any qualified employer to specify a level of coverage so that any of its employees may enroll in any qualified health plan offered through the exchange at the specified level of coverage;

(14) Offer enrollees and small employers the option of having the exchange collect and administer premiums, including through allocation of premiums among the various insurers and qualified health plans chosen by individual employers;

(15) Grant a certification, subject to Section 1411 of the Affordable Care Act, attesting that, for purposes of the individual responsibility penalty under Section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code, an individual is exempt from the individual responsibility requirement or from the penalty imposed by said Section 5000A because:

(A) There is no affordable qualified health plan available through the exchange, or the individual's employer, covering the individual; or

(B) The individual meets the requirements for any other such exemption from the individual responsibility requirement or penalty;

(16) Provide to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States the following:

House Bill No. 6941

(A) A list of the individuals granted a certification under subdivision (15) of this section, including the name and taxpayer identification number of each individual;

(B) The name and taxpayer identification number of each individual who was an employee of an employer but who was determined to be eligible for the premium tax credit under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code because:

(i) The employer did not provide minimum essential health benefits coverage; or

(ii) The employer provided the minimum essential coverage but it was determined under Section 36B(c)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code to be unaffordable to the employee or not provide the required minimum actuarial value; and

(C) The name and taxpayer identification number of:

(i) Each individual who notifies the exchange under Section 1411(b)(4) of the Affordable Care Act that such individual has changed employers; and

(ii) Each individual who ceases coverage under a qualified health plan during a plan year and the effective date of that cessation;

(17) Provide to each employer the name of each employee, as described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (16) of this section, of the employer who ceases coverage under a qualified health plan during a plan year and the effective date of the cessation;

(18) Perform duties required of, or delegated to, the exchange by the Secretary or the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States related to determining eligibility for premium tax credits, reduced cost-sharing or individual responsibility requirement exemptions;

House Bill No. 6941

(19) Select entities qualified to serve as Navigators in accordance with Section 1311(i) of the Affordable Care Act and award grants to enable Navigators to:

(A) Conduct public education activities to raise awareness of the availability of qualified health plans;

(B) Distribute fair and impartial information concerning enrollment in qualified health plans and the availability of premium tax credits under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code and cost-sharing reductions under Section 1402 of the Affordable Care Act;

(C) Facilitate enrollment in qualified health plans;

(D) Provide referrals to the Office of the Healthcare Advocate or health insurance ombudsman established under Section 2793 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 USC 300gg-93, as amended from time to time, or any other appropriate state agency or agencies, for any enrollee with a grievance, complaint or question regarding the enrollee's health benefit plan, coverage or a determination under that plan or coverage; and

(E) Provide information in a manner that is culturally and linguistically appropriate to the needs of the population being served by the exchange;

(20) Review the rate of premium growth within and outside the exchange and consider such information in developing recommendations on whether to continue limiting qualified employer status to small employers;

(21) Credit the amount, in accordance with Section 10108 of the Affordable Care Act, of any free choice voucher to the monthly premium of the plan in which a qualified employee is enrolled and collect the amount credited from the offering employer;

House Bill No. 6941

(22) Consult with stakeholders relevant to carrying out the activities required under sections 38a-1080 to 38a-1090, inclusive, including, but not limited to:

(A) Individuals who are knowledgeable about the health care system, have background or experience in making informed decisions regarding health, medical and scientific matters and are enrollees in qualified health plans;

(B) Individuals and entities with experience in facilitating enrollment in qualified health plans;

(C) Representatives of small employers and self-employed individuals;

(D) The Department of Social Services; and

(E) Advocates for enrolling hard-to-reach populations;

(23) Meet the following financial integrity requirements:

(A) Keep an accurate accounting of all activities, receipts and expenditures and annually submit to the Secretary, the Governor, the Insurance Commissioner and the General Assembly a report concerning such accountings;

(B) Fully cooperate with any investigation conducted by the Secretary pursuant to the Secretary's authority under the Affordable Care Act and allow the Secretary, in coordination with the Inspector General of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, to:

(i) Investigate the affairs of the exchange;

(ii) Examine the properties and records of the exchange; and

(iii) Require periodic reports in relation to the activities undertaken

House Bill No. 6941

by the exchange; and

(C) Not use any funds in carrying out its activities under sections 38a-1080 to 38a-1089, inclusive, that are intended for the administrative and operational expenses of the exchange, for staff retreats, promotional giveaways, excessive executive compensation or promotion of federal or state legislative and regulatory modifications;

(24) (A) Seek to include the most comprehensive health benefit plans that offer high quality benefits at the most affordable price in the exchange, (B) encourage health carriers to offer tiered health care provider network plans that have different cost-sharing rates for different health care provider tiers and reward enrollees for choosing low-cost, high-quality health care providers by offering lower copayments, deductibles or other out-of-pocket expenses, and (C) offer any such tiered health care provider network plans through the exchange;

(25) Report at least annually to the General Assembly on the effect of adverse selection on the operations of the exchange and make legislative recommendations, if necessary, to reduce the negative impact from any such adverse selection on the sustainability of the exchange, including recommendations to ensure that regulation of insurers and health benefit plans are similar for qualified health plans offered through the exchange and health benefit plans offered outside the exchange. The exchange shall evaluate whether adverse selection is occurring with respect to health benefit plans that are grandfathered under the Affordable Care Act, self-insured plans, plans sold through the exchange and plans sold outside the exchange; [and]

(26) Consult with the Commissioner of Social Services, Insurance Commissioner and Office of Health Strategy, established under section 19a-754a for the purposes set forth in section 19a-754c; and

House Bill No. 6941

(27) On and after January 1, 2024, conduct targeted outreach to residents of the state pursuant to the provisions of section 300 of this act.

Sec. 300. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2024*) (a) The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall revise the tax return form prescribed under chapter 229 of the general statutes to include space on the tax return for residents to authorize the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange to contact such residents regarding enrollment through the exchange. The commissioner, in consultation with the exchange, shall develop language to be included on the tax return form and include in the instructions accompanying the tax return a description of how the authorization provided will be relayed to the exchange.

(b) The Commissioner of Revenue Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services, shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the exchange that sets forth the specific taxpayer information to be disclosed upon authorization pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and contains the terms and conditions for such disclosure. Any return or return information disclosed by the commissioner shall not be redisclosed by the recipient to a third party without permission from the commissioner and shall only be used by the exchange in the manner prescribed in the memorandum of understanding.

Sec. 301. Subsection (b) of section 12-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(b) The commissioner may disclose (1) returns or return information to (A) an authorized representative of another state agency or office, upon written request by the head of such agency or office, when required in the course of duty or when there is reasonable cause to believe that any state law is being violated, or (B) an authorized representative of an agency or office of the United States, upon written

House Bill No. 6941

request by the head of such agency or office, when required in the course of duty or when there is reasonable cause to believe that any federal law is being violated, provided no such agency or office shall disclose such returns or return information, other than in a judicial or administrative proceeding to which such agency or office is a party pertaining to the enforcement of state or federal law, as the case may be, in a form which can be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer except that the names and addresses of jurors or potential jurors and the fact that the names were derived from the list of taxpayers pursuant to chapter 884 may be disclosed by the Judicial Branch; (2) returns or return information to the Auditors of Public Accounts, when required in the course of duty under chapter 23; (3) returns or return information to tax officers of another state or of a Canadian province or of a political subdivision of such other state or province or of the District of Columbia or to any officer of the United States Treasury Department or the United States Department of Health and Human Services, authorized for such purpose in accordance with an agreement between this state and such other state, province, political subdivision, the District of Columbia or department, respectively, when required in the administration of taxes imposed under the laws of such other state, province, political subdivision, the District of Columbia or the United States, respectively, and when a reciprocal arrangement exists; (4) returns or return information in any action, case or proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction, when the commissioner or any other state department or agency is a party, and when such information is directly involved in such action, case or proceeding; (5) returns or return information to a taxpayer or its authorized representative, upon written request for a return filed by or return information on such taxpayer; (6) returns or return information to a successor, receiver, trustee, executor, administrator, assignee, guardian or guarantor of a taxpayer, when such person establishes, to the satisfaction of the commissioner, that such person has a material interest which will be affected by information contained in such returns or return information;

House Bill No. 6941

(7) information to the assessor or an authorized representative of the chief executive officer of a Connecticut municipality, when the information disclosed is limited to (A) a list of real or personal property that is or may be subject to property taxes in such municipality, or (B) a list containing the name of each person who is issued any license, permit or certificate which is required, under the provisions of this title, to be conspicuously displayed and whose address is in such municipality; (8) real estate conveyance tax return information or controlling interest transfer tax return information to the town clerk or an authorized representative of the chief executive officer of a Connecticut municipality to which the information relates; (9) estate tax returns and estate tax return information to the Probate Court Administrator or to the court of probate for the district within which a decedent resided at the date of the decedent's death, or within which the commissioner contends that a decedent resided at the date of the decedent's death or, if a decedent died a nonresident of this state, in the court of probate for the district within which real estate or tangible personal property of the decedent is situated, or within which the commissioner contends that real estate or tangible personal property of the decedent is situated; (10) returns or return information to the (A) Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for purposes of subsection (b) of section 12-7a, and (B) Office of Fiscal Analysis for purposes of, and subject to the provisions of, subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of section 12-7b; (11) return information to the Jury Administrator, when the information disclosed is limited to the names, addresses, federal Social Security numbers and dates of birth, if available, of residents of this state, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-701; (12) returns or return information to any person to the extent necessary in connection with the processing, storage, transmission or reproduction of such returns or return information, and the programming, maintenance, repair, testing or procurement of equipment, or the providing of other services, for purposes of tax administration; (13) without written request and unless the commissioner determines that disclosure would identify a

House Bill No. 6941

confidential informant or seriously impair a civil or criminal tax investigation, returns and return information which may constitute evidence of a violation of any civil or criminal law of this state or the United States to the extent necessary to apprise the head of such agency or office charged with the responsibility of enforcing such law, in which event the head of such agency or office may disclose such return information to officers and employees of such agency or office to the extent necessary to enforce such law; (14) names and addresses of operators, as defined in section 12-407, to tourism districts, as defined in section 10-397; (15) names of each licensed dealer, as defined in section 12-285, and the location of the premises covered by the dealer's license; (16) to a tobacco product manufacturer that places funds into escrow pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of section 4-28i, return information of a distributor licensed under the provisions of chapter 214 or chapter 214a, provided the information disclosed is limited to information relating to such manufacturer's sales to consumers within this state, whether directly or through a distributor, dealer or similar intermediary or intermediaries, of cigarettes, as defined in section 4-28h, and further provided there is reasonable cause to believe that such manufacturer is not in compliance with section 4-28i; (17) returns, which shall not include a copy of the return filed with the commissioner, or return information for purposes of section 12-217z; (18) returns or return information to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, upon written request by said commission, when necessary to investigate suspected violations of state election laws; (19) returns or return information for purposes of, and subject to the conditions of, subsection (e) of section 5-240; [and] (20) to the extent allowable under federal law, return information to another state agency or to support a data request submitted through CP20 WIN, established in section 10a-57g, in accordance with the policies and procedures of CP20 WIN for the purposes of evaluation or research, provided the recipient of such data enters into a data sharing agreement pursuant to section 4-67aa if such recipient is not a state agency; and (21) return information to the

House Bill No. 6941

Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange pursuant to section 300 of this act.

Sec. 302. Subsection (a) of section 17b-261 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

(a) Medical assistance shall be provided for any otherwise eligible person (1) whose income, including any available support from legally liable relatives and the income of the person's spouse or dependent child, is not more than [one hundred forty-three per cent, pending approval of a federal waiver applied for pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, of the benefit amount paid to a person with no income under the temporary family assistance program] one hundred five per cent of the federal poverty level, after any authorized income disregards, and (2) if such person is an institutionalized individual as defined in Section 1917 of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(h)(3), and has not made an assignment or transfer or other disposition of property for less than fair market value for the purpose of establishing eligibility for benefits or assistance under this section. Any such disposition shall be treated in accordance with Section 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(c). Any disposition of property made on behalf of an applicant or recipient or the spouse of an applicant or recipient by a guardian, conservator, person authorized to make such disposition pursuant to a power of attorney or other person so authorized by law shall be attributed to such applicant, recipient or spouse. A disposition of property ordered by a court shall be evaluated in accordance with the standards applied to any other such disposition for the purpose of determining eligibility. The commissioner shall establish the standards for eligibility for medical assistance at one hundred [forty-three] five per cent of the [benefit amount paid to a household of equal size with no income under the temporary family assistance program] federal poverty level, after any authorized income

House Bill No. 6941

disregards. In determining eligibility, the commissioner shall not consider as income Aid and Attendance pension benefits granted to a veteran, as defined in section 27-103, or the surviving spouse of such veteran. Except as provided in section 17b-277 and section 17b-292, the medical assistance program shall provide coverage to persons under the age of nineteen with household income up to one hundred ninety-six per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset limit and to persons under the age of nineteen, who qualify for coverage under Section 1931 of the Social Security Act, with household income not exceeding one hundred ninety-six per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset limit, and their parents and needy caretaker relatives, who qualify for coverage under Section 1931 of the Social Security Act, with household income not exceeding one hundred fifty-five per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset limit. Such levels shall be based on the regional differences in such benefit amount, if applicable, unless such levels based on regional differences are not in conformance with federal law. Any income in excess of the applicable amounts shall be applied as may be required by said federal law, and assistance shall be granted for the balance of the cost of authorized medical assistance. The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide applicants for assistance under this section, at the time of application, with a written statement advising them of (A) the effect of an assignment or transfer or other disposition of property on eligibility for benefits or assistance, (B) the effect that having income that exceeds the limits prescribed in this subsection will have with respect to program eligibility, and (C) the availability of, and eligibility for, services provided by the Connecticut Home Visiting System, established pursuant to section 17b-751b. For coverage dates on or after January 1, 2014, the department shall use the modified adjusted gross income financial eligibility rules set forth in Section 1902(e)(14) of the Social Security Act and the implementing regulations to determine eligibility for HUSKY A, HUSKY B and HUSKY D applicants, as defined in section 17b-290. Persons who are determined ineligible for assistance pursuant to this section shall be

House Bill No. 6941

provided a written statement notifying such persons of their ineligibility and advising such persons of their potential eligibility for one of the other insurance affordability programs as defined in 42 CFR 435.4.

Sec. 303. Section 19a-42 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) To protect the integrity and accuracy of vital records, a certificate registered under chapter 93 may be amended only in accordance with sections 19a-41 to 19a-45, inclusive, chapter 93, regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to chapter 54 and uniform procedures prescribed by the commissioner. Only the commissioner may amend birth certificates to reflect changes concerning parentage or the legal name of a parent or birth or marriage certificates to reflect changes concerning gender. [change.] Amendments related to parentage, [or] gender change or the legally changed name of a parent shall result in the creation of a replacement certificate that supersedes the original, and shall in no way reveal the original language changed by the amendment. Any amendment to a vital record made by the registrar of vital statistics of the town in which the vital event occurred or by the commissioner shall be in accordance with such regulations and uniform procedures.

(b) The commissioner and the registrar of vital statistics shall maintain sufficient documentation, as prescribed by the commissioner, to support amendments and shall ensure the confidentiality of such documentation as required by law. The date of amendment and a summary description of the evidence submitted in support of the amendment shall be endorsed on or made part of the record and the original certificate shall be marked "Amended", except for amendments [due to] concerning parentage, [or] gender change or the legally changed name of a parent. When the registrar of the town in which the vital event occurred amends a certificate, such registrar shall, within ten days of making such amendment, forward an amended certificate to the

House Bill No. 6941

commissioner and to any registrar having a copy of the certificate. When the commissioner amends a birth certificate, including changes [due to] concerning parentage, [or] gender change or the legally changed name of a parent, the commissioner shall forward an amended certificate to the registrars of vital statistics affected and their records shall be amended accordingly.

(c) An amended certificate shall supersede the original certificate that has been changed and shall be marked "Amended", except for amendments [due to] concerning parentage, [or] gender change or the legally changed name of a parent. The original certificate in the case of amendments concerning parentage, [or] gender change or the legally changed name of a parent shall be physically or electronically sealed and kept in a confidential file by the department and the registrar of any town in which the birth was recorded, and may be unsealed for issuance only as provided in section 7-53 with regard to an original birth certificate or upon a written order of a court of competent jurisdiction. The amended certificate shall become the official record.

(d) (1) Upon receipt of (A) an acknowledgment of parentage executed in accordance with the provisions of sections 46b-476 to 46b-487, inclusive, by both parents of a child, or (B) a certified copy of an order of a court of competent jurisdiction establishing the parentage of a child, the commissioner shall include on or amend, as appropriate, such child's birth certificate to show such parentage if parentage is not already shown on such birth certificate and to change the name of the child under eighteen years of age if so indicated on the acknowledgment of parentage form or within the certified court order as part of the parentage action. If a person who is the subject of a voluntary acknowledgment of parentage, as described in this subdivision, is eighteen years of age or older, the commissioner shall obtain a notarized affidavit from such person affirming that such person agrees to the commissioner's amendment of such person's birth certificate as such

House Bill No. 6941

amendment relates to the acknowledgment of parentage. The commissioner shall amend the birth certificate for an adult child to change the child's name only pursuant to a court order.

(2) If the birth certificate lists the information of a parent other than the parent who gave birth, the commissioner shall not remove or replace the parent's information unless presented with a certified court order that meets the requirements specified in section 7-50, or upon the proper filing of a rescission, in accordance with the provisions of section 46b-570. The commissioner shall thereafter amend such child's birth certificate to remove or change the name of the parent other than the person who gave birth and, if relevant, to change the name of the child, as requested at the time of the filing of a rescission, in accordance with the provisions of section 46b-570. Birth certificates amended under this subsection shall not be marked "Amended".

(e) When the parent or parents of a child request the amendment of the child's birth certificate to reflect a new name of the parent who gave birth because the name on the original certificate is fictitious, such parent or parents shall obtain an order of a court of competent jurisdiction declaring the person who gave birth to be the child's parent. Upon receipt of a certified copy of such order, the department shall amend the child's birth certificate to reflect the parent's true name.

(f) Upon receipt of a certified copy of an order of a court of competent jurisdiction changing the name of a person born in this state and upon request of such person or such person's parents, guardian, or legal representative, the commissioner or the registrar of vital statistics of the town in which the vital event occurred shall amend the birth certificate to show the new name by a method prescribed by the department.

(g) When an applicant submits the documentation required by the regulations to amend a vital record, the commissioner shall hold a hearing, in accordance with chapter 54, if the commissioner has

House Bill No. 6941

reasonable cause to doubt the validity or adequacy of such documentation.

(h) When an amendment under this section involves the changing of existing language on a death certificate due to an error pertaining to the cause of death, the death certificate shall be amended in such a manner that the original language is still visible. A copy of the death certificate shall be made. The original death certificate shall be sealed and kept in a confidential file at the department and only the commissioner may order it unsealed. The copy shall be amended in such a manner that the language to be changed is no longer visible. The copy shall be a public document.

(i) The commissioner shall issue a new birth certificate to reflect a gender change upon receipt of the following documents submitted in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner: (1) A written request from the applicant, signed under penalty of law, for a replacement birth certificate to reflect that the applicant's gender differs from the sex designated on the original birth certificate; (2) a notarized affidavit by a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 or holding a current license in good standing in another state, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370 or holding a current license in good standing in another state, an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378 or holding a current license in good standing in another state, or a psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 383 or holding a current license in good standing in another state, stating that the applicant has undergone surgical, hormonal or other treatment clinically appropriate for the applicant for the purpose of gender transition; and (3) if an applicant is also requesting a change of name listed on the original birth certificate, proof of a legal name change. The new birth certificate shall reflect the new gender identity by way of a change in the sex designation on the original birth certificate and, if applicable, the legal name change.

House Bill No. 6941

(j) The commissioner shall issue a new birth certificate to reflect the legally changed name of a parent of a minor child who is the subject of such birth certificate upon receipt of the following documents, submitted in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner: (1) A written request from the parent, signed under penalty of law, for a replacement birth certificate to reflect that the parent's legal name differs from the name designated on the original birth certificate, and (2) a certified copy of an order of a court of competent jurisdiction changing such parent's name. The commissioner shall issue a new birth certificate to an adult child who is the subject of such birth certificate and wishes to change the name of a parent who has legally changed such parent's name upon presentation by such adult child to the commissioner of a certified copy of an order of a court of competent jurisdiction changing such parent's name.

~~[(j)]~~ (k) The commissioner shall issue a new marriage certificate to reflect a gender change upon receipt of the following documents, submitted in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner: (1) A written request from the applicant, signed under penalty of law, for a replacement marriage certificate to reflect that the applicant's gender differs from the sex designated on the original marriage certificate, along with an affirmation that the marriage is still legally intact; (2) a notarized statement from the spouse named on the marriage certificate to be amended, consenting to the amendment; (3) (A) a United States passport or amended birth certificate or court order reflecting the applicant's gender as of the date of the request, or (B) a notarized affidavit by a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 or holding a current license in good standing in another state, physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370 or holding a current license in good standing in another state, an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378 or holding a current license in good standing in another state or a psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 383 or holding a current license in good standing in another state stating

House Bill No. 6941

that the applicant has undergone surgical, hormonal or other treatment clinically appropriate for the applicant for the purpose of gender transition; and (4) if an applicant is also requesting a change of name listed on the original marriage certificate, proof of a legal name change. The new marriage certificate shall reflect the new gender identity by way of a change in the sex designation on the original marriage certificate and, if applicable, the legal name change.

Sec. 304. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Correction, the Chief Court Administrator and the chairperson of the Board of Pardons and Paroles shall collaborate to determine a method by which any inmate or prisoner whose name has been ordered changed pursuant to section 45a-99 or section 52-11 of the general statutes may change such inmate's name within the Department of Correction. Not later than July 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Correction shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary regarding their determination.

Sec. 305. Section 18-81ii of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

Any inmate of a correctional institution, as described in section 18-78, who has a gender identity that differs from the inmate's assigned sex at birth and has a diagnosis of gender dysphoria, as set forth in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders" or gender incongruence, as defined in the most recent revision of the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems", shall: (1) Be addressed by correctional staff in a manner that is consistent with the inmate's gender identity, (2) have access to commissary items, clothing, personal property, programming and educational materials that are consistent with the inmate's gender identity, and (3) have the right to be searched by a correctional staff member of the same gender identity,

House Bill No. 6941

unless the inmate requests otherwise or under exigent circumstances. An inmate who has a birth certificate, passport or driver's license that reflects his or her gender identity or who can meet established standards for obtaining such a document to confirm the inmate's gender identity shall presumptively be placed in a correctional institution with inmates of the gender consistent with the inmate's gender identity. Such presumptive placement may be overcome by a demonstration by the Commissioner of Correction, or the commissioner's designee, that the placement would present significant safety, management or security problems. In making determinations pursuant to this section, the inmate's views with respect to his or her safety shall be given serious consideration by the Commissioner of Correction, or the commissioner's designee.

Sec. 306. Section 52-571m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Reproductive health care services" includes all medical, surgical, counseling or referral services relating to the human reproductive system, including, but not limited to, services relating to pregnancy, contraception or the termination of a pregnancy and all medical care relating to treatment of gender dysphoria as set forth in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders" and gender incongruence, as defined in the most recent revision of the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems"; and

(2) "Person" includes an individual, a partnership, an association, a limited liability company or a corporation.

(b) When any person has had a judgment entered against such person, in any state, where liability, in whole or in part, is based on the

House Bill No. 6941

alleged provision, receipt, assistance in receipt or provision, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, for reproductive health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state, such person may recover damages from any party that brought the action leading to that judgment or has sought to enforce that judgment. Recoverable damages shall include: (1) Just damages created by the action that led to that judgment, including, but not limited to, money damages in the amount of the judgment in that other state and costs, expenses and reasonable attorney's fees spent in defending the action that resulted in the entry of a judgment in another state; and (2) costs, expenses and reasonable attorney's fees incurred in bringing an action under this section as may be allowed by the court.

(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a judgment entered in another state that is based on: (1) An action founded in tort, contract or statute, and for which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought by the patient who received the reproductive health care services upon which the original lawsuit was based or the patient's authorized legal representative, for damages suffered by the patient or damages derived from an individual's loss of consortium of the patient; (2) an action founded in contract, and for which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought or sought to be enforced by a party with a contractual relationship with the person that is the subject of the judgment entered in another state; or (3) an action where no part of the acts that formed the basis for liability occurred in this state.

Sec. 307. Section 52-571n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Gender-affirming health care services" means all medical care

House Bill No. 6941

relating to the treatment of gender dysphoria as set forth in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders" and gender incongruence, as defined in the most recent revision of the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems";

(2) "Reproductive health care services" includes all medical, surgical, counseling or referral services relating to the human reproductive system, including, but not limited to, services relating to pregnancy, contraception or the termination of a pregnancy; and

(3) "Person" includes an individual, a partnership, an association, a limited liability company or a corporation.

(b) When any person has had a judgment entered against such person, in any state, where liability, in whole or in part, is based on the alleged provision, receipt, assistance in receipt or provision, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, for reproductive health care services and gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state, such person may recover damages from any party that brought the action leading to that judgment or has sought to enforce that judgment. Recoverable damages shall include: (1) Just damages created by the action that led to that judgment, including, but not limited to, money damages in the amount of the judgment in that other state and costs, expenses and reasonable attorney's fees spent in defending the action that resulted in the entry of a judgment in another state; and (2) costs, expenses and reasonable attorney's fees incurred in bringing an action under this section as may be allowed by the court.

(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a judgment entered in another state that is based on: (1) An action founded in tort, contract or statute, and for which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought by the patient who received the reproductive

House Bill No. 6941

health care services or gender-affirming health care services upon which the original lawsuit was based or the patient's authorized legal representative, for damages suffered by the patient or damages derived from an individual's loss of consortium of the patient; (2) an action founded in contract, and for which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought or sought to be enforced by a party with a contractual relationship with the person that is the subject of the judgment entered in another state; or (3) an action where no part of the acts that formed the basis for liability occurred in this state.

Sec. 308. Subsection (b) of section 45a-106a of the general statutes, as amended by section 52 of public act 22-26, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) The fee to file each of the following motions, petitions or applications in a Probate Court is two hundred fifty dollars:

(1) With respect to a minor child: (A) Appoint a temporary guardian, temporary custodian, guardian, coguardian, permanent guardian or statutory parent, (B) remove a guardian, including the appointment of another guardian, (C) reinstate a parent as guardian, (D) terminate parental rights, including the appointment of a guardian or statutory parent, (E) grant visitation, (F) make findings regarding special immigrant juvenile status, (G) approve placement of a child for adoption outside this state, (H) approve an adoption, (I) validate a foreign adoption, (J) review, modify or enforce a cooperative postadoption agreement, (K) review an order concerning contact between an adopted child and his or her siblings, (L) resolve a dispute concerning a standby guardian, (M) approve a plan for voluntary services provided by the Department of Children and Families, (N) determine whether the termination of voluntary services provided by the Department of Children and Families is in accordance with applicable regulations, (O) conduct an in-court review to modify an order, (P) grant emancipation, (Q) grant approval to marry, (R) transfer

House Bill No. 6941

funds to a custodian under sections 45a-557 to 45a-560b, inclusive, (S) appoint a successor custodian under section 45a-559c, (T) resolve a dispute concerning custodianship under sections 45a-557 to 45a-560b, inclusive, and (U) grant authority to purchase real estate;

(2) Determine parentage;

(3) Validate a genetic surrogacy agreement;

(4) Determine the age and date of birth of an adopted person born outside the United States;

(5) With respect to adoption records: (A) Appoint a guardian ad litem for a biological relative who cannot be located or appears to be incompetent, (B) appeal the refusal of an agency to release information, (C) release medical information when required for treatment, and (D) grant access to an original birth certificate;

(6) Approve an adult adoption;

(7) With respect to a conservatorship: (A) Appoint a temporary conservator, conservator or special limited conservator, (B) change residence, terminate a tenancy or lease, sell or dispose household furnishings, or place in a long-term care facility, (C) determine competency to vote, (D) approve a support allowance for a spouse, (E) grant authority to elect the spousal share, (F) grant authority to purchase real estate, (G) give instructions regarding administration of a joint asset or liability, (H) distribute gifts, (I) grant authority to consent to involuntary medication, (J) determine whether informed consent has been given for voluntary admission to a hospital for psychiatric disabilities, (K) determine life-sustaining medical treatment, (L) transfer to or from another state, (M) modify the conservatorship in connection with a periodic review, (N) excuse accounts under rules of procedure approved by the Supreme Court under section 45a-78, (O) terminate the conservatorship, and (P) grant a writ of habeas corpus;

House Bill No. 6941

(8) With respect to a power of attorney: (A) Compel an account by an agent, (B) review the conduct of an agent, (C) construe the power of attorney, and (D) mandate acceptance of the power of attorney;

(9) Resolve a dispute concerning advance directives or life-sustaining medical treatment when the individual does not have a conservator or guardian;

(10) With respect to an elderly person, as defined in section 17b-450: (A) Enjoin an individual from interfering with the provision of protective services to such elderly person, and (B) authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to enter the premises of such elderly person to determine whether such elderly person needs protective services;

(11) With respect to an adult with intellectual disability: (A) Appoint a temporary limited guardian, guardian or standby guardian, (B) grant visitation, (C) determine competency to vote, (D) modify the guardianship in connection with a periodic review, (E) determine life-sustaining medical treatment, (F) approve an involuntary placement, (G) review an involuntary placement, (H) authorize a guardian to manage the finances of such adult, and (I) grant a writ of habeas corpus;

(12) With respect to psychiatric disability: (A) Commit an individual for treatment, (B) issue a warrant for examination of an individual at a general hospital, (C) determine whether there is probable cause to continue an involuntary confinement, (D) review an involuntary confinement for possible release, (E) authorize shock therapy, (F) authorize medication for treatment of psychiatric disability, (G) review the status of an individual under the age of sixteen as a voluntary patient, and (H) recommit an individual under the age of sixteen for further treatment;

(13) With respect to drug or alcohol dependency: (A) Commit an

House Bill No. 6941

individual for treatment, (B) recommit an individual for further treatment, and (C) terminate an involuntary confinement;

(14) With respect to tuberculosis: (A) Commit an individual for treatment, (B) issue a warrant to enforce an examination order, and (C) terminate an involuntary confinement;

(15) Compel an account by the trustee of an inter vivos trust, custodian under sections 45a-557 to 45a-560b, inclusive, or treasurer of an ecclesiastical society or cemetery association;

(16) With respect to a testamentary or inter vivos trust: (A) Construe, validate, divide, combine, reform, modify or terminate the trust, (B) enforce the provisions of a pet trust, (C) excuse a final account under rules of procedure approved by the Supreme Court under section 45a-78, and (D) assume jurisdiction of an out-of-state trust;

(17) Authorize a fiduciary to establish a trust;

(18) Appoint a trustee for a missing person;

[(19) Change a person's name;]

[(20)] (19) Issue an order to amend the birth certificate of an individual born in another state to reflect a gender change;

[(21)] (20) Require the Department of Public Health to issue a delayed birth certificate;

[(22)] (21) Compel the board of a cemetery association to disclose the minutes of the annual meeting;

[(23)] (22) Issue an order to protect a grave marker;

[(24)] (23) Restore rights to purchase, possess and transport firearms;

[(25)] (24) Issue an order permitting sterilization of an individual;

House Bill No. 6941

[(26)] (25) Approve the transfer of structured settlement payment rights; and

[(27)] (26) With respect to any case in a Probate Court other than a decedent's estate: (A) Compel or approve an action by the fiduciary, (B) give instruction to the fiduciary, (C) authorize a fiduciary to compromise a claim, (D) list, sell or mortgage real property, (E) determine title to property, (F) resolve a dispute between cofiduciaries or among fiduciaries, (G) remove a fiduciary, (H) appoint a successor fiduciary or fill a vacancy in the office of fiduciary, (I) approve fiduciary or attorney's fees, (J) apply the doctrine of cy pres or approximation, (K) reconsider, modify or revoke an order, and (L) decide an action on a probate bond.

Sec. 309. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, "gender-affirming care" means a medical procedure or treatment to alter the physical characteristics of a person diagnosed with (1) gender dysphoria, as described in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders", or (2) gender incongruence, as defined in the most recent revision of the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems", in a manner consistent with such person's gender identity.

(b) The Department of Social Services or its agent shall consult with health care providers with expertise regarding gender-affirming care in developing and updating coverage policy for gender-affirming care in the HUSKY Health program. The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide a report not less than annually regarding coverage of gender-affirming care in the HUSKY Health program to the Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight established pursuant to section 17b-28 of the general statutes for review and comment.

Sec. 310. Section 300 of public act 22-118 is repealed and the following

House Bill No. 6941

is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

On and after July 1, 2023, the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Early Childhood shall permit the supervisory agent of a nonpublic school in the [state] town of Waterbury to accept accreditation of its curriculum from Cognia.

Sec. 311. Section 10-215b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The State Board of Education [is authorized to expend in each fiscal year, within available appropriations,] shall annually provide, within available appropriations, grants to local and regional boards of education, the Technical Education and Career System and the governing authority of a state charter school, interdistrict magnet school or endowed academy approved pursuant to section 10-34 that participates in the National School Lunch Program and operates a school lunch program, school breakfast program or other child feeding program pursuant to section 10-215, provided the state board expends in each fiscal year an amount equal to (1) the money required pursuant to the matching requirements of said federal laws and shall disburse the same in accordance with said laws, and (2) ten cents per lunch served in the prior school year in accordance with said laws. [by any local or regional board of education, the Technical Education and Career System or governing authority of a state charter school, interdistrict magnet school or endowed academy approved pursuant to section 10-34 that participates in the National School Lunch Program and certifies] Each such board, system and governing authority shall certify, pursuant to section 10-215f₂ that the nutrition standards established by the Department of Education, pursuant to section 10-215e₂ [shall be] have been met.

(b) The State Board of Education shall prescribe the manner and time of application by such board of education, the Technical Education and

House Bill No. 6941

Career System, such governing authority or controlling authority of the nonpublic schools for such funds, provided such application shall include the certification that any funds received pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be used for the program approved. The State Board of Education shall determine the eligibility of the applicant to receive such grants pursuant to regulations provided in subsection (c) of this section and shall certify to the Comptroller the amount of the grant for which the board of education, the Technical Education and Career System, the governing authority or the controlling authority of a nonpublic school is eligible. Upon receipt of such certification, the Comptroller shall draw an order on the Treasurer in the amount, at the time and to the payee so certified.

(c) The State Board of Education may adopt such regulations as may be necessary in implementing sections 10-215 to 10-215b, inclusive.

(d) The Commissioner of Education shall establish a procedure for monitoring compliance by boards of education, the Technical Education and Career System, or governing authorities with certifications submitted in accordance with section 10-215f and may adjust grant amounts pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section based on failure to comply with [said] such certification.

(e) The Commissioner of Education may temporarily waive any provision or modify any requirements of this section or section 10-215, 10-215a, 10-215e or 10-215f, in response to any changes in federal law or waivers issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, to ensure that local and regional boards of education continue to receive the funds described in this section.

(f) For the fiscal year ending July 1, 2024, the department shall provide grants to school operators under this section to enable eligible students to receive school lunches, school breakfasts or other such child feeding, as described in section 10-215, at no cost to such eligible

House Bill No. 6941

students. As used in this subsection, "eligible students" means children whose families have incomes that are at or below two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level, but (1) who do not receive free school meals under the federal Community Eligibility Provision, as defined in section 10-215k, or (2) whose economic needs do not require free school lunches, school breakfasts or other child feeding under the standards promulgated by federal laws governing school lunch programs for public school children, school breakfast programs or other child feeding programs; and "school operator" means a local and regional board of education, the Technical Education and Career System and the governing authority of a state charter school, interdistrict magnet school or endowed academy approved pursuant to section 10-34 that participates in the National School Lunch Program and operates a school lunch program, school breakfast program or other child feeding program pursuant to section 10-215.

Sec. 312. Section 10-215 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) Any local or regional board of education may establish and operate a school lunch program for public school children, may operate lunch services for its employees, may establish and operate a school breakfast program, as provided under federal laws governing said programs, or may establish and operate such other child feeding programs as it deems necessary. Charges for such school lunches, school breakfasts or other such child feeding may be fixed by such boards and shall not exceed the cost of food, wages and other expenses directly incurred in providing such services. When such [services] programs are offered, a board shall provide free school lunches, school breakfasts or other such child feeding to children whose economic needs require such action under the standards promulgated by said federal laws. Such board is authorized to purchase equipment and supplies that are necessary, to employ the necessary personnel, to utilize the services of

House Bill No. 6941

volunteers and to receive and expend any funds and receive and use any equipment and supplies which may become available to carry out the provisions of this section. Any town board of education may vote to designate any volunteer organization within the town to provide a school lunch program, school breakfast program or other child feeding program in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, a local or regional board of education shall include in any policy or procedure for the collection of unpaid charges for school lunches, breakfasts or other such feeding applicable to employees and third-party vendors of such school lunches, breakfasts or such feeding (1) a prohibition on publicly identifying or shaming a child for any such unpaid charges, including, but not limited to, delaying or refusing to serve a meal to such child, designating a specific meal option for such child or otherwise taking any disciplinary action against such child, (2) a declaration of the right for any child to purchase a meal, which meal may exclude any a la carte items or be limited to one meal for any school lunch, breakfast or other such feeding, and (3) a procedure for communicating with the parent or legal guardian of a child for the purpose of collecting such unpaid charges. Such communication shall include, but not be limited to, (A) information regarding local food pantries, (B) applications for the school district's program for free or reduced priced meals and for the supplemental nutrition assistance program administered by the Department of Social Services, and (C) a link to the Internet web site maintained by the town for such school district listing any community services available to the residents of such town. In the event the unpaid charges for school lunches, breakfasts or other such feeding due from any parent or legal guardian are equal to or more than the cost of thirty meals, the local or regional board of education shall refer such parent or legal guardian to the local homeless education liaison designated by such board, pursuant to Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 USC 11431

House Bill No. 6941

et seq., as amended from time to time.

(c) A local or regional board of education may accept gifts, donations or grants from any public or private sources for the purpose of paying off any unpaid charges or for providing such school lunches, school breakfasts or other such child feeding under this section.

Sec. 313. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the Commissioner of Education shall expend five hundred thousand dollars of the additional funds described in subdivision (3) of subsection (k) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes to provide a grant-in-aid to The Legacy Foundation of Hartford, Inc., for the purpose of providing wrap-around services for students participating in the interdistrict public school attendance program.

Sec. 314. Subsection (i) of section 10-217a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, [2023] 2025, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this section shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for purposes of this section.

Sec. 315. Subsection (e) of section 10-66j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, [and] to June 30, [2023] 2025, inclusive, the amount of grants payable to regional educational service centers shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds

House Bill No. 6941

the amount appropriated for such grants for such year.

Sec. 316. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 10-266m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, inclusive, the amount of transportation grants payable to local or regional boards of education shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants for such year.

Sec. 317. Section 10-17g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, the board of education for each local and regional school district that is required to provide a program of bilingual education, pursuant to section 10-17f, may make application to the State Board of Education and shall annually receive, within available appropriations, a grant in an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying three million eight hundred thirty-two thousand two hundred sixty by the ratio which the number of eligible children in the school district bears to the total number of such eligible children state-wide. The board of education for each local and regional school district receiving funds pursuant to this section shall annually, on or before September first, submit to the State Board of Education a progress report which shall include (1) measures of increased educational opportunities for eligible students, including language support services and language transition support services provided to such students, (2) program evaluation and measures of the effectiveness of its bilingual education and English as a second language programs, including data on students in bilingual education programs and students educated exclusively in English as a

House Bill No. 6941

second language programs, and (3) certification by the board of education submitting the report that any funds received pursuant to this section have been used for the purposes specified. The State Board of Education shall annually evaluate programs conducted pursuant to section 10-17f. For purposes of this section, measures of the effectiveness of bilingual education and English as a second language programs include, but need not be limited to, mastery examination results, under section 10-14n, and graduation and school dropout rates. Any amount appropriated under this section in excess of three million eight hundred thirty-two thousand two hundred sixty dollars shall be spent in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-17k, 10-17n and 10-66t. Any unexpended funds, as of November first, appropriated to the Department of Education for purposes of providing a grant to a local or regional board of education for the provision of a program of bilingual education, pursuant to section 10-17f, shall be distributed on a pro rata basis to each local and regional board of education receiving a grant under this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, [2023] 2025, inclusive, the amount of grants payable to local or regional boards of education for the provision of a program of bilingual education under this section shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants for such year.

Sec. 318. Subdivision (28) of section 10-183b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(28) "Teacher" means any: (A) Person, including, but not limited to, a teacher, permanent substitute teacher, principal, assistant principal, supervisor, assistant superintendent or superintendent who is employed by a public school in a professional capacity while possessing a certificate or permit, except a school business administration endorsement, issued by the State Board of Education, provided on and

House Bill No. 6941

after July 1, 1975, such certificate shall be for the position in which the person is then employed, except as provided for in section 10-183qq; (B) person possessing a certificate or permit issued by the State Board of Education, who was hired before July 1, 2022, and who provides health and welfare services for children in a nonprofit school, as provided in section 10-217a, under an oral or written agreement; (C) person who is engaged in teaching or supervising in a program in the state that leads to a high school diploma at a school for adults if the annual salary paid for such service is equal to or greater than the minimum salary paid for a regular, full-time teaching position in the day schools in the town where such service is rendered; (D) member of the professional staff employed [in an educational role] at the State Board of Education, the governing body of the public school, kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, system, who is currently a member in the system and maintains certification; (E) member of the professional staff employed in an educational role at the Office of Early Childhood, the Board of Regents for Higher Education or any of the constituent units, or the Technical Education and Career System; [(E)] (F) faculty member employed by The University of Connecticut in an educational role; and [(F)] (G) staff member employed in an educational role at the State Education Resource Center established pursuant to section 10-4q of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, or the State Education Resource Center established pursuant to section 10-357a, employed in a professional capacity while possessing a certificate or permit issued by the State Board of Education, provided such staff member was hired prior to July 1, 2022. A "permanent substitute teacher" is a person who serves as a substitute teacher in the same assignment for an entire school year.

Sec. 319. Section 10-221a of the general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 23-21, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) For classes graduating from 1988 to 2003, inclusive, no local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty credits, not fewer than four of which shall be in English, not fewer than three in mathematics, not fewer than three in social studies, not fewer than two in science, not fewer than one in the arts or vocational education and not fewer than one in physical education.

(b) For classes graduating from 2004 to 2022, inclusive, no local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty credits, not fewer than four of which shall be in English, not fewer than three in mathematics, not fewer than three in social studies, including at least a one-half credit course on civics and American government, not fewer than two in science, not fewer than one in the arts or vocational education and not fewer than one in physical education.

(c) Commencing with classes graduating in 2023, and for each graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty-five credits, including not fewer than: (1) Nine credits in the humanities, including civics and the arts; (2) nine credits in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; (3) one credit in physical education and wellness; (4) one credit in health and safety education, as described in section 10-16b; and (5) one credit in world languages, subject to the provisions of subsection (h) of this section. A local or regional board of education may require a student to complete a one credit mastery-based diploma assessment in order to graduate from high school or be granted a diploma.

(d) Commencing with classes graduating in 2025, and for each

House Bill No. 6941

graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not satisfied the requirements of section 320 of this act and not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty-five credits, including not fewer than: (1) Nine credits in the humanities, including civics and the arts; (2) nine credits in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; (3) one credit in physical education and wellness; (4) one credit in health and safety education, as described in section 10-16b; and (5) one credit in world languages, subject to the provisions of subsection (h) of this section. A local or regional board of education may require a student to complete a one credit mastery-based diploma assessment in order to graduate from high school or be granted a diploma.

[(d)] (e) Commencing with classes graduating in 2027, and for each graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not satisfied the requirements of section 320 of this act and not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty-five credits, including not fewer than: (1) Nine credits in the humanities, including civics and the arts; (2) nine credits in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; (3) one credit in physical education and wellness; (4) one credit in health and safety education, as described in section 10-16b; (5) one credit in world languages, subject to the provisions of subsection (h) of this section; and (6) one-half credit in personal financial management and financial literacy, which may count towards the requirement described in subdivision (1) of this subsection or as an elective credit. A local or regional board of education may require a student to complete a one credit mastery-based diploma assessment in order to graduate from high school or be granted a diploma.

[(e)] (f) Commencing with classes graduating in 2023, and for each graduating class thereafter, local and regional boards of education shall

House Bill No. 6941

provide adequate student support and remedial services for students beginning in grade seven. Such student support and remedial services shall provide alternate means for a student to complete any of the high school graduation requirements described in [subsection (c) or (d)] subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of this section, if such student is unable to satisfactorily complete any of the required courses or exams. Such student support and remedial services shall include, but not be limited to, (1) allowing students to retake courses in summer school or through an on-line course; (2) allowing students to enroll in a class offered at a constituent unit of the state system of higher education, as defined in section 10a-1, pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection [(h)] (i) of this section; (3) allowing students who received a failing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on an end of the school year exam to take an alternate form of the exam; and (4) allowing those students whose individualized education programs state that such students are eligible for an alternate assessment to demonstrate competency on any of the five core courses through success on such alternate assessment.

[(f)] (g) Any student who presents a certificate from a physician or advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in the opinion of the physician or advanced practice registered nurse, participation in physical education is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of such student, shall be excused from the physical education requirement, provided the credit for physical education may be fulfilled by an elective.

[(g)] (h) Determination of eligible credits shall be at the discretion of the local or regional board of education, provided the primary focus of the curriculum of eligible credits corresponds directly to the subject matter of the specified course requirements. The local or regional board of education may permit a student to graduate during a period of expulsion pursuant to section 10-233d, if the board determines the

House Bill No. 6941

student has satisfactorily completed the necessary credits pursuant to this section. The requirements of this section shall apply to any student requiring special education pursuant to section 10-76a, except when the planning and placement team for such student determines the requirement not to be appropriate. For purposes of this section, a credit shall consist of not less than the equivalent of a forty-minute class period for each school day of a school year except for a credit or part of a credit toward high school graduation earned (1) at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited, (2) through on-line coursework that is in accordance with a policy adopted pursuant to subsection [(h)] (i) of this section, or (3) through a demonstration of mastery based on competency and performance standards, in accordance with guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education.

[(h)] (i) Only courses taken in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, and that are in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-4, shall satisfy the graduation requirements set forth in this section, except that a local or regional board of education may grant a student credit (1) toward meeting the high school graduation requirements upon the successful demonstration of mastery of the subject matter content described in this section achieved through educational experiences and opportunities that provide flexible and multiple pathways to learning, including cross-curricular graduation requirements, career and technical education, virtual learning, work-based learning, service learning, dual enrollment and early college, courses taken in middle school, internships and student-designed independent studies, provided such demonstration of mastery is in accordance with such state-wide subject matter content standards; (2) toward meeting a specified course requirement upon the successful completion in grade seven or eight of any course, the primary focus of which corresponds directly to the subject matter of a specified course

House Bill No. 6941

requirement in grades nine to twelve, inclusive; (3) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of a world language course (A) in grade six, seven or eight, (B) through on-line coursework, or (C) offered privately through a nonprofit provider, provided such student achieves a passing grade on an examination prescribed, within available appropriations, by the Commissioner of Education and such credits do not exceed four; (4) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon achievement of a passing grade on a subject area proficiency examination identified and approved, within available appropriations, by the Commissioner of Education, regardless of the number of hours the student spent in a public school classroom learning such subject matter; (5) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of coursework during the school year or summer months at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited. One three-credit semester course, or its equivalent, at such an institution shall equal one-half credit for purposes of this section; or (6) toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of on-line coursework, provided the local or regional board of education has adopted a policy in accordance with this subdivision for the granting of credit for on-line coursework. Such a policy shall ensure, at a minimum, that (A) the workload required by the on-line course is equivalent to that of a similar course taught in a traditional classroom setting, (B) the content is rigorous and aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, where appropriate, (C) the course engages students and has interactive components, which may include, but are not limited to, required interactions between students and their teachers, participation in on-line demonstrations, discussion boards or virtual labs, (D) the program of instruction for such on-line coursework is planned, ongoing and systematic, and (E) the courses are (i) taught by teachers who are certified in the state or another state and have received training on teaching in an on-line environment, or (ii) offered by

House Bill No. 6941

institutions of higher education that are accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited.

[(i)] (j) A local or regional board of education may offer one-half credit in community service which, if satisfactorily completed, shall qualify for high school graduation credit pursuant to this section, provided such community service is supervised by a certified school administrator or teacher and consists of not less than fifty hours of actual service that may be performed at times when school is not regularly in session and not less than ten hours of related classroom instruction. For purposes of this section, community service does not include partisan political activities. The State Board of Education shall assist local and regional boards of education in meeting the requirements of this section. The State Board of Education shall award a community service recognition award to any student who satisfactorily completes fifty hours or more of community service in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

[(j)] (k) (1) A local or regional board of education may award a diploma to a veteran, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, which veteran or person served during World War II or the Korean hostilities, as described in section 51-49h, or during the Vietnam Era, as defined in section 27-103, withdrew from high school prior to graduation in order to serve in the armed forces of the United States and did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such service.

(2) A local or regional board of education may award a diploma to any person who (A) withdrew from high school prior to graduation to work in a job that assisted the war effort during World War II, December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946, inclusive, (B) did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such work, and (C) has been a resident of the state for at least fifty consecutive years.

(3) (A) A local or regional board of education under whose

House Bill No. 6941

jurisdiction a student would otherwise be attending school if such student were not educated under the oversight of the education unit of the Department of Children and Families established pursuant to section 17a-3b, shall award a diploma to any such student seventeen years of age or older who satisfactorily completes the minimum credits required pursuant to this section for students graduating in the year in which such diploma is awarded.

(B) If no such local or regional board of education can be identified, the Department of Children and Families shall determine whether a student educated under the oversight of the education unit of the department who is seventeen years of age or older has satisfactorily completed the minimum credits required pursuant to this section for students graduating in the year in which a diploma is sought by such student and the department shall award a diploma to any such student who has met such requirement.

[(k)] (l) For the school year commencing July 1, 2012, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall create a student success plan for each student enrolled in a public school, beginning in grade six. Such student success plan shall include a student's career and academic choices in grades six to twelve, inclusive. Beginning in grade six, such student success plan shall provide evidence of career exploration in each grade including, but not limited to, careers in manufacturing. The Department of Education shall revise and issue to local and regional boards of education guidance regarding changes to such student success plans. On and after July 1, 2020, in creating such student success plans, consideration shall be given to career and academic choices in computer science, science, technology, engineering and mathematics. On and after July 1, 2021, such student success plans shall be created, if possible, in collaboration with each student and the parent or guardian of such student. On and after July 1, 2022, such student success plans shall, to the extent it does not conflict with the

House Bill No. 6941

career choices of the student or such student's parent or guardian, include an academic plan that is in compliance with the challenging curriculum policy adopted by the local or regional board of education pursuant to section 10-221x.

[(l)] (m) Commencing with classes graduating in 2018, and for each graduating class thereafter, a local or regional board of education may affix the Connecticut State Seal of Biliteracy, as described in subsection (f) of section 10-5, to a diploma awarded to a student who has achieved a high level of proficiency in English and one or more foreign languages, as defined in said subsection (f). The local or regional board of education shall include on such student's transcript a designation that the student received the Connecticut State Seal of Biliteracy.

Sec. 320. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) No local or regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student pursuant to section 10-221a of the general statutes unless such student has (1) completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid, (2) completed and submitted to a public institution of higher education an application for institutional financial aid for students without legal immigration status established pursuant to section 10a-161d of the general statutes, or (3) completed a waiver, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section and on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, signed by such minor student's parent or legal guardian or by such student if such student is a legally emancipated minor or eighteen years of age or older.

(b) Any waiver completed by a student pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section shall require the parent, legal guardian or student to affirm that such parent, legal guardian or student understands the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, and shall not require the parent, legal guardian or student to state any reasons for choosing not to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or

House Bill No. 6941

the application for institutional financial aid for students without legal immigration status. On and after March fifteenth of the school year, a principal, school counselor, teacher or other certified educator may complete such waiver on behalf of any student who has not satisfied any of the requirements described in subsection (a) of this section, if such principal, school counselor, teacher or other certified educator affirms that they have made a good faith effort to contact the parent, legal guardian or student about completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or an application for institutional financial aid for students without legal immigration status.

Sec. 321. Subsection (b) of section 10-761l of the general statutes, as amended by section 4 of public act 23-21, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) On or before July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education shall draft a written bill of rights for parents of children receiving special education services to guarantee that the rights of such parents and children are adequately safeguarded and protected during the provision of special education and related services under this chapter. Such bill of rights shall inform parents of: (1) The right to request consideration of the provision of transition services for a child receiving special education services who is eighteen to twenty-one, inclusive, years of age, (2) the right to receive transition resources and materials from the department and the local or regional board of education responsible for such child, (3) the requirement that the local or regional board of education responsible for such child shall create a student success plan for each student enrolled in a public school, beginning in grade six, pursuant to subsection [(k)] (l) of section 10-221a, and (4) the right of such child to receive realistic and specific postgraduation goals as part of such child's individualized education program.

Sec. 322. Subsection (b) of section 10-221x of the general statutes, as amended by section 5 of public act 23-21, is repealed and the following

House Bill No. 6941

is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) Each local and regional board of education shall create an academic plan for each student identified under the criteria described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section. In creating an academic plan for a student, such plan shall be designed to enroll such student in one or more advanced course or programs and allow such student to earn college credit or result in career readiness. Each academic plan shall be aligned with (1) the courses or programs offered by the local or regional board of education, (2) such student's student success plan created pursuant to subsection [(k)] (l) of section 10-221a, (3) the high school graduation requirements under section 10-221a, and (4) any other policies or standards adopted by the board relating to the eligibility for student enrollment in advanced courses or programs. A student, or the parent or guardian of a student, may decline to implement the provisions of an academic plan created for such student.

Sec. 323. Subsection (c) of section 10-266p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(c) In addition to the amount allocated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, and each fiscal year thereafter, the State Board of Education shall allocate (1) seven hundred fifty thousand dollars to each town [which ranks] that ranked from one to three, inclusive, in population pursuant to subdivision (1) of said subsection (a) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and three hundred thirty-four thousand dollars to each town [which ranks] that ranked from four to eight, inclusive, in population pursuant to said subdivision for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and (2) one hundred eighty thousand dollars to each of the towns described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of said subsection (a), except that the towns described in subdivision (1) of said subsection (a) shall not receive any additional allocation pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection if they are also described

House Bill No. 6941

in subdivision (2) or (3) of said subsection (a).

Sec. 324. Subsection (f) of section 10-266p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(f) In addition to the amounts allocated in subsection (a), and subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, the State Board of Education shall allocate two million thirty-nine thousand six hundred eighty-six dollars to the towns that rank one to three, inclusive, in population pursuant to subdivision (1) of said subsection (a), and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, and each fiscal year thereafter, the State Board of Education shall allocate two million six hundred ten thousand seven hundred ninety-eight dollars to the towns that [rank] ranked one to three, inclusive, in population pursuant to subdivision (1) of said subsection (a) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

Sec. 325. Section 10-276a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) Commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, if a school district that received a priority school district grant pursuant to subsection (a) of section 10-266p for the prior fiscal year is no longer eligible to receive such a grant, such school district shall receive a priority school district phase-out grant for each of the three fiscal years following the fiscal year such school district received its final priority school district grant. The amount of such phase-out grants shall be determined in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

(b) (1) For the first fiscal year following the fiscal year such school district received its final priority school district grant, in an amount equal to the difference between (A) the amount of such final grant, and (B) an amount equal to twenty-five per cent of the difference between (i)

House Bill No. 6941

the amount of such final grant, and (ii) the greater of two hundred fifty thousand dollars or the amount of the grants received by transitional school districts pursuant to section 10-263c. (2) For the second fiscal year following the fiscal year such school district received its final priority school district grant, in an amount equal to the difference between (A) the amount of such final grant, and (B) an amount equal to fifty per cent of the difference between (i) the amount of such final grant, and (ii) the greater of two hundred fifty thousand dollars or the amount of the grants received by transitional school districts pursuant to section 10-263c. (3) For the third fiscal year following the fiscal year such school district received its final priority school district grant, in an amount equal to the difference between (A) the amount of such final grant, and (B) an amount equal to seventy-five per cent of the difference between (i) the amount of such final grant, and (ii) the greater of two hundred fifty thousand dollars or the amount of the grants received by transitional school districts pursuant to section 10-263c.

(c) Commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, if a school district that was not eligible to receive a priority school district grant pursuant to subsection (a) of said section 10-266p, for the prior fiscal year becomes eligible to receive such a grant, the amount of the grant such town receives pursuant to said section for the first year of such eligibility shall be reduced by fifty per cent.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any school district that received a priority school district phase-out grant in the third fiscal year following the fiscal year such school district received its final priority school district grant during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, such school district shall be eligible to receive a priority school district phase-out grant in an amount equal to the amount described in subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Sec. 326. Subsection (d) of section 29-4 of the general statutes is

House Bill No. 6941

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(d) The commissioner shall establish such divisions as the commissioner deems necessary for effective operation of the state police force and consistent with budgetary allotments, a Criminal Intelligence Division and a state-wide organized crime investigative task force to be engaged throughout the state for the purpose of preventing and detecting any violation of the criminal law, [and] a Hate Crimes Investigative Unit for the purposes described in section 29-7d and, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2026, an investigative unit within the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to conduct sting operations relating to the online sexual abuse of minors for the purposes described in section 327 of this act. The head of the Criminal Intelligence Division shall be of the rank of sergeant or above. The head of the Hate Crimes Investigative Unit shall be of the rank of sergeant or above, and shall serve as a member of the State-Wide Hate Crimes Advisory Council, established under section 51-279f. The head of the state-wide organized crime investigative task force shall be a police officer. The head of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, including the investigative unit conducting sting operations relating to the online sexual abuse of minors, shall be of the rank of sergeant or above.

Sec. 327. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall assign to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, including the investigative unit conducting sting operations relating to the online sexual abuse of minors, established under subsection (d) of section 29-4 of the general statutes, such personnel as may be required to fulfill the duties of this section. The task force, utilizing such investigative unit:

(1) Shall perform undercover and investigatory operations to prevent and detect any criminal activity or suspected criminal activity in the

House Bill No. 6941

state in which an individual uses the Internet to sexually abuse, sexually exploit or sexually assault a minor, or attempt to sexually abuse, sexually exploit or sexually assault a minor;

(2) Shall compile, monitor and analyze data regarding any criminal activity or suspected criminal activity described in subdivision (1) of this subsection; and

(3) Shall share data and information with, and may provide additional assistance to, any law enforcement unit to assist in the undercover operations and investigation of any criminal activity or suspected criminal activity described in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(b) Not later than November 1, 2024, the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, in consultation with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, shall:

(1) Develop, and disseminate to all law enforcement units, a standardized form or other reporting system to be used by a law enforcement unit in making an initial notification or report to such investigative unit relating to the online sexual abuse of minors as required by subsection (c) of this section;

(2) Develop best practices for the investigation of the online sexual abuse of minors and to facilitate the continued sharing of information among and between such investigative unit conducting sting operations relating to the online sexual abuse of minors and law enforcement units;

(3) Take such actions as are necessary to inform the public of its right to report any criminal activity or suspected criminal activity as described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section and how to make such reports, including, but not limited to, considering the establishment of state and municipal telephone hotlines and Internet web sites that can be used to make reports; and

House Bill No. 6941

(4) Develop a model policy for the investigation of the online sexual abuse of minors.

(c) Each law enforcement unit shall, not later than fourteen days after receiving notification, information or a complaint of any criminal activity or suspected criminal activity described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section, provide a notice and report to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force regarding such criminal activity or suspected criminal activity using the standardized form or other reporting system developed pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section. The law enforcement unit shall continue to share information regarding the investigation of such criminal activity or suspected criminal activity with the investigative unit conducting sting operations relating to the online sexual abuse of minors according to the best practices developed pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2026, and January 1, 2027, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall submit an annual report regarding the activity and results of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, including the activity and results of the investigative unit conducting sting operations relating to the online sexual abuse of minors, as well as a recommendation as to whether such investigative unit should be extended, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, public safety and the judiciary, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

(e) For purposes of this section, "law enforcement unit" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-294a of the general statutes.

Sec. 328. Subsection (c) of section 10-265r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(c) (1) [A] Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, a local board of education may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined as follows: (A) Each town shall be ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine according to the adjusted equalized net grand list per capita, as defined in section 10-261, of the town two, three and four years prior to the fiscal year in which application is made, (B) based upon such ranking, a percentage of not less than twenty or more than eighty shall be assigned to each town on a continuous scale, and (C) the town ranked first shall be assigned a percentage of twenty and the town ranked last shall be assigned a percentage of eighty.

(2) A regional board of education may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined as follows: (A) Multiplying the total population, as defined in section 10-261, of each town in the district by such town's ranking, as determined in subdivision (1) of this subsection, (B) adding together the figures determined under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all towns in the district. The ranking of each regional board of education shall be rounded to the next higher whole number and each such board shall receive the same reimbursement percentage as would a town with the same rank plus ten per cent, except that no such percentage shall exceed eighty-five per cent.

(3) A regional educational service center may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by (A) multiplying the population of each member town in the regional educational service center by such town's ranking, as determined in subdivision (1) of this subsection, (B) adding together the figures for each town determined

House Bill No. 6941

under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all member towns in the regional educational service center. The ranking of each regional educational service center shall be rounded to the next higher whole number and each such center shall receive the same reimbursement percentage as would a town with the same rank.

(4) The local board of education for (A) any town with a total population of eighty thousand or greater shall receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses that is the greater of the percentage calculated pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection or sixty per cent, and (B) the town of Cheshire shall receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses that is the greater of the percentage calculated pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection or fifty per cent.

Sec. 329. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 10-286 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(3) If any school building project described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection includes the construction, extension or major alteration of outdoor athletic facilities, tennis courts or a natatorium, gymnasium or auditorium, the grant for the construction of such outdoor athletic facilities, tennis courts and natatorium shall be limited to one-half of the eligible percentage for subdivisions (1) and (2) of the net eligible cost of construction thereof, except the percentage of the grant for the construction of such outdoor athletic facilities for a local board of education described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-285a shall be calculated in accordance with the provisions of said subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-285a; the grant for the construction of an area of spectator seating in a gymnasium shall be one-half of the eligible percentage for subdivisions (1) and (2) of the net eligible cost of construction thereof; and the grant for the construction

House Bill No. 6941

of the seating area in an auditorium shall be limited to one-half of the eligible percentage for subdivisions (1) and (2) of the net eligible cost of construction of the portion of such area that seats one-half of the projected enrollment of the building, as defined in subdivision (1) of this subsection, which it serves;

Sec. 330. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-16q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, the per child cost of the Office of Early Childhood school readiness program offered by a school readiness provider shall not exceed eight thousand nine hundred twenty-seven dollars. For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2021, [and each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30, 2024, inclusive, the per child cost of the Office of Early Childhood school readiness program offered by a school readiness provider shall not exceed nine thousand twenty-seven dollars. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the per child cost of the Office of Early Childhood full-time school readiness program offered by a school readiness provider shall not exceed ten thousand five hundred dollars.

Sec. 331. Subsection (a) of section 17b-749 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall establish and operate a child care subsidy program to increase the availability, affordability and quality of child care services for families with a parent or caretaker who (1) is (A) working or attending high school, or (B) subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, is enrolled or participating in (i) a public or independent institution of higher education, (ii) a private career school authorized pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive, (iii) a job training or employment program administered by a

House Bill No. 6941

regional workforce development board, (iv) an apprenticeship program administered by the Labor Department's office of apprenticeship training, (v) an alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of Education, (vi) an adult education program pursuant to section 10-69 or other high school equivalency program, or (vii) a local Even Start program or other adult education program approved by the Commissioner of Early Childhood; or (2) receives cash assistance under the temporary family assistance program from the Department of Social Services and is participating in an education, training or other job preparation activity approved pursuant to subsection (b) of section 17b-688i or subsection (b) of section 17b-689d. Services available under the child care subsidy program shall include the provision of child care subsidies for children under the age of thirteen or children under the age of nineteen with special needs. The Commissioner of Early Childhood may institute a protective service class in which the commissioner may waive eligibility requirements for at-risk populations that meet the guidelines prescribed by the commissioner, and subject to review by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. Such at-risk populations are children placed in a foster home by the Department of Children and Families and for whom the parent or legal guardian receives foster care payments, adopted children for one year from the date of adoption and homeless children and youths, as defined in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time. The Office of Early Childhood shall open and maintain enrollment for the child care subsidy program and shall administer such program within the existing budgetary resources available. The office shall issue a notice on the office's Internet web site any time the office closes the program to new applications, changes eligibility requirements, changes program benefits or makes any other change to the program's status or terms, except the office shall not be required to issue such notice when the office expands program eligibility. Any change in the office's acceptance of new applications, eligibility requirements, program benefits or any other change to the program's status or terms for which the office is

House Bill No. 6941

required to give notice pursuant to this subsection, shall not be effective until thirty days after the office issues such notice.

Sec. 332. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 10-506 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) For the fiscal [years] year ending June 30, 2015, [to June 30, 2024, inclusive] and each fiscal year thereafter, the Office of Early Childhood, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall design and administer the Connecticut Smart Start competitive grant program to provide grants to local and regional boards of education for capital and operating expenses related to establishing or expanding a preschool program under the jurisdiction of the board of education for the town. A local or regional board of education may submit an application to the office, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, and may receive (1) a grant for capital expenses in an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars per classroom for costs related to the renovation of an existing public school to accommodate the establishment or expansion of a preschool program, and (2) an annual grant for operating expenses (A) in an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars per child served by such grant, or (B) in an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars for each preschool classroom, provided no town shall receive a total annual grant for operating expenses greater than three hundred thousand dollars. Each local or regional board of education that establishes or expands a preschool program under this section shall be eligible to receive an annual grant for operating expenses for a period of five years, provided such preschool program meets standards established by the Commissioner of Early Childhood. Such local or regional board of education may submit an application for renewal of such grant to the office.

(b) On and after July 1, 2014, local and regional boards of education, individually or cooperatively, pursuant to section 10-158a, may apply,

House Bill No. 6941

at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, to the office for a capital grant and an operating grant for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. To be eligible to receive such grants under this section, an applicant board of education shall (1) demonstrate that it has a need for establishing or expanding a preschool program using information requested by the commissioner on a form prescribed by the commissioner, such as data collected from the preschool experience survey, described in section 10-515, (2) submit a plan for the expenditure of grant funds received under this section that outlines how such board of education will use such funds to establish or expand a preschool program, including, but not limited to, the amount that such board will contribute to the operation of such preschool program and how such board of education will provide access to preschool for children who would not otherwise be able to enroll in a preschool program, and (3) submit a letter of support for establishing or expanding a preschool program by the local or regional school readiness council, described in section 10-16r, if any, for the school district. The commissioner shall give priority to boards of education (A) that demonstrate the greatest need for the establishment or expansion of a preschool program, and (B) whose plan allocates at least sixty per cent of the spaces in such preschool program to children who are members of families [that] who are at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income, [, or fifty per cent of the spaces in such preschool program to children who are eligible for free and reduced price lunches.] The commissioner, in reviewing applications submitted under this subsection, shall also take into consideration (i) whether an applicant board of education (I) currently offers a full-day kindergarten program, (II) will be cooperating and coordinating with other governmental and community programs to provide services during periods when the preschool program is not in session, or (III) will collaborate with other boards of education, as part of a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, to offer a regional preschool program, and (ii) current community capacity for preschool programs

House Bill No. 6941

and current opportunities for preschool for children in the community.

Sec. 333. Section 10-264r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

Not later than July 1, 2017, the Commissioner of Education shall develop, and revise as necessary thereafter, reduced-isolation [setting] enrollment standards for interdistrict magnet school programs that shall serve as the enrollment requirements for purposes of section 10-264l. Such standards shall (1) comply with the decision of Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, for an interdistrict magnet school program located in the Sheff region, as defined in subsection (k) of section 10-264l, (2) define the term "reduced-isolation student" for purposes of the standards, [(2)] (3) establish a requirement for the minimum percentage of reduced-isolation students that can be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school program, provided such minimum percentage is not less than twenty per cent of the total school enrollment, [(3)] (4) allow an interdistrict magnet school program to have a total school enrollment of reduced-isolation students that is not more than one per cent below the minimum percentage established by the commissioner, provided the commissioner approves a plan that is designed to bring the number of reduced-isolation students of such interdistrict magnet school program into compliance with the minimum percentage, and [(4)] (5) for the school year commencing July 1, 2018, authorize the commissioner to establish on or before May 1, 2018, and revise as necessary thereafter, an alternative reduced-isolation student enrollment percentage for an interdistrict magnet school program located in the Sheff region, [as defined in subsection (k) of section 10-264l,] provided the commissioner (A) determines that such alternative (i) increases opportunities for students who are residents of Hartford to access an educational setting with reduced racial isolation or other categories of diversity, including, but not limited to, geography, socioeconomic status, special education, English language learners and

House Bill No. 6941

academic achievement, (ii) complies with the decision of *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, and (B) approves a plan for such interdistrict magnet school program that is designed to bring the number of reduced-isolation students of such interdistrict magnet school program into compliance with such alternative or the minimum percentage described in subdivision (2) of this section. Not later than May 1, 2018, the commissioner shall submit a report on each alternative reduced-isolation student enrollment percentage established, pursuant to subdivision (4) of this section, for an interdistrict magnet school program located in the Sheff region to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. The reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs shall not be deemed to be regulations, as defined in section 4-166.

Sec. 334. Section 10-262s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The Commissioner of Education may, to assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, transfer funds appropriated for the Sheff settlement to the following: (1) Grants for interdistrict cooperative programs pursuant to section 10-74d, (2) grants for state charter schools pursuant to section 10-66ee, (3) grants for the interdistrict public school attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa, (4) grants for interdistrict magnet schools pursuant to section 10-264l, and (5) to the Technical Education and Career System for programming.

(b) The Commissioner of Education may, to assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, award grants with funds appropriated for

House Bill No. 6941

the Sheff settlement for academic and social student support programs for the following voluntary interdistrict programs: (1) Interdistrict cooperative programs pursuant to section 10-74d, (2) the interdistrict public school attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa, (3) interdistrict magnet school programs pursuant to section 10-264l, and (4) the Technical Education and Career System.

Sec. 335. Section 4 of public act 22-80, as amended by section 7 of public act 22-116, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2023, to June 30, 2025, inclusive, the Department of Education shall administer a grant program to provide grants to local and regional boards of education for the purpose of hiring and retaining additional school social workers, school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses and licensed marriage and family therapists.

(b) Applications for grants pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be filed with the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes. As part of the application, an applicant shall submit a (1) plan for the expenditure of grant funds, and (2) copy of the completed survey described in section 3 of public act 22-80. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited to, the number of additional school social workers, school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses or licensed marriage and family therapists to be hired, the number of school social workers, school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses or licensed marriage and family therapists being retained who were previously hired with the assistance of grant funds awarded under this section, whether such school social workers, school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses or licensed marriage and family therapists will be conducting assessments of students or providing services to students based on the results of assessments, and the type of services that will be provided by such

House Bill No. 6941

school social workers, school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses and licensed marriage and family therapists.

(c) In determining whether to award an applicant a grant under this section, the commissioner shall give priority to those school districts (1) with large student-to-school social worker ratios, student-to-school psychologist ratios, student-to-school counselor ratios, student-to-school nurse ratios or student-to-licensed marriage and family therapist ratios, or (2) that have a high volume of student utilization of mental health services.

(d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the commissioner may award a grant to an applicant and shall determine the amount of the grant award based on the plan submitted by such applicant pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The commissioner shall pay a grant to each grant recipient in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2023, to June 30, 2025, inclusive, as follows: (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the amount of the grant shall be as determined by the commissioner under this subsection; (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the amount of the grant shall be the same amount as the grant awarded for the prior fiscal year; and (3) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the amount of the grant shall be seventy per cent of the amount of the grant awarded for the prior fiscal year.

(e) Grant recipients shall file annual expenditure reports with the department at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes. Grant recipients shall refund to the department [(1) any unexpended amounts at the close of the fiscal year in which the grant was awarded, and (2)] any amounts not expended in accordance with the plan for which such grant application was approved.

(f) The department shall annually track and calculate the utilization rate of the grant program for each grant recipient. Such utilization rate shall be calculated using metrics that include, but need not be limited

House Bill No. 6941

to, the number of students served and the hours of service provided using grant funds awarded under the program.

(g) For purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section, the Department of Education may accept funds from private sources or any state agency, gifts, grants and donations, including, but not limited to, in-kind donations.

(h) (1) Not later than January 1, 2024, and each January first thereafter until and including January 1, 2026, the commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the expenditure report and utilization rate, calculated pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, for each grant recipient to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and children.

(2) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Education shall develop recommendations concerning (A) whether such grant program should be extended and funded for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, and (B) the amount of the grant award under the program. The commissioner shall submit such recommendations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and children.

Sec. 336. Section 13 of public act 22-47, as amended by section 10 of public act 22-116, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, [2023] 2024, to June 30, [2025] 2026, inclusive, the Department of Education shall administer a grant program to provide grants to local and regional boards of education for the purpose of hiring additional school mental health specialists. As

House Bill No. 6941

used in this section, "school mental health specialist" has the same meaning as provided in section 12 of public act 22-47.

(b) On and after January 1, 2023, a local or regional board of education may submit an application for a grant under this section, in such form and manner as the Commissioner of Education prescribes. As part of the application, the applicant shall submit (1) a plan for the expenditure of grant funds, and (2) (A) for an application submitted before July 1, 2023, the information described in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of subsection (b) of section 12 of public act 22-47, and (B) for an application submitted on or after July 1, 2023, a copy of the completed survey described in section 12 of public act 22-47. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited to, the number of additional school mental health specialists to be hired, if such grant funds will be used to retain any of the school mental health specialists hired with the assistance of grant funds awarded under this section, whether such school mental health specialists will be conducting assessments of students or providing services to students based on the results of assessments, the type of services that will be provided by such school mental health specialists, and a description of how such board will implement the provisions of subsection (f) of this section.

(c) In determining whether to award an applicant a grant under this section, the Commissioner of Education shall give priority to those school districts (1) with large student-to-school mental health specialist ratios, or (2) that have a high volume of student utilization of mental health services.

(d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2023] 2024, the Commissioner of Education may award a grant to an applicant and shall determine the amount of the grant award based on the plan submitted by such applicant pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The commissioner shall pay a grant to each grant recipient in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, [2023] 2024, to June 30, [2025] 2026, inclusive, as follows: (1) For

House Bill No. 6941

the fiscal year ending June 30, [2023] 2024, the amount of the grant shall be as determined by the commissioner under this subsection; (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2024] 2025, the amount of the grant shall be the same amount as the grant awarded for the prior fiscal year; and (3) for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2025] 2026, the amount of the grant shall be seventy per cent of the amount of the grant awarded for the prior fiscal year.

(e) Grant recipients shall file annual expenditure reports with the Department of Education at such time, and in such manner, as the commissioner prescribes. A grant recipient shall only expend grant funds received under this section in accordance with the plan submitted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and a grant recipient may not use such grant funds received under this section for the purpose of any operating expenses that existed prior to receipt of such grant. Grant recipients shall refund to the department [(1) any unexpended amounts at the close of the fiscal year in which the grant was awarded, and (2)] any amounts not expended in accordance with the plan for which such grant application was approved.

(f) If a local or regional board of education receives a grant under this section for the hiring of a school counselor, such school counselor shall provide one-on-one consultations with each student in grades eleven and twelve on the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. If such board can provide evidence to the Commissioner of Education that the student completion rate of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for the school district has increased by at least five per cent, such board shall receive an additional grant in the amount of ten per cent of the grant received under this section for the fiscal year in which such board provided such evidence.

(g) (1) The Department of Education shall annually track and calculate the utilization rate of the grant program for each grant recipient. Such utilization rate shall be calculated using metrics that

House Bill No. 6941

include, but need not be limited to, the number of students served and the hours of service provided using grant funds awarded under the program.

(2) The department shall annually calculate the return on investment for the grant program using the expenditure reports filed pursuant to subsection (e) of this section and the utilization rates calculated pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(h) For purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section, the Department of Education may accept funds from private sources or any state agency, gifts, grants and donations, including, but not limited to, in-kind donations.

(i) (1) Not later than January 1, [2024] 2025, and each January first thereafter, until and including January 1, [2026] 2027, the Commissioner of Education shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the utilization rate for each grant recipient and the return on investment for the grant program, calculated pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and children.

(2) Not later than January 1, [2026] 2027, the commissioner shall develop recommendations concerning (A) whether such grant program should be extended and funded for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2026] 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, and (B) the amount of the grant award under the program. The commissioner shall submit such recommendations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and children.

Sec. 337. Section 14 of public act 22-47 is repealed and the following

House Bill No. 6941

is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, [2023] 2024, to June 30, [2025] 2026, inclusive, the Department of Education shall administer a grant program to provide grants to local and regional boards of education and operators of youth camps and other summer programs for the delivery of mental health services to students.

(b) On and after January 1, 2023, applications for grants pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be filed with the Commissioner of Education at such time, and in such manner, as the commissioner prescribes. As part of the application, the applicant shall submit (1) a plan for the expenditure of grant funds, and (2) (A) for an application submitted by a local or regional board of education before July 1, 2023, the information described in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of subsection (b) of section 12 of [this act] public act 22-47, and (B) for an application submitted by a local or regional board of education on or after July 1, 2023, a copy of the completed survey described in section 12 of [this act] public act 22-47.

(c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2023] 2024, the Commissioner of Education may award a grant to an applicant and shall determine the amount of the grant award based on the plan submitted by such applicant pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The commissioner shall pay a grant to each grant recipient in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, [2023] 2024, to June 30, [2025] 2026, inclusive, as follows: (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2023] 2024, the amount of the grant shall be as determined by the commissioner under this subsection; (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2024] 2025, the amount of the grant shall be the same amount as the grant awarded for the prior fiscal year; and (3) for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2025] 2026, the amount of the grant shall be seventy per cent of the amount of the grant awarded for the prior fiscal year.

House Bill No. 6941

(d) Grant recipients shall file expenditure reports with the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes. A grant recipient shall only expend grant funds received under this section in accordance with the plan submitted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and a grant recipient may not use such grant funds received under this section for the purpose of any operating expenses that existed prior to receipt of such grant. Grant recipients shall refund to the Department of Education [(1) any unexpended amounts at the close of the fiscal year in which the grant was awarded, and (2)] any amounts not expended in accordance with the plan for which such grant application was approved.

(e) Each grant recipient, in collaboration with the Department of Education, shall develop metrics to annually track and calculate the utilization rate of the grant program for such grant recipient in order to measure the success of the program. Such grant recipient shall annually submit such metrics and utilization rate to the department.

(f) For the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section, the Department of Education may accept funds from private sources or any other state agency, gifts, grants and donations, including, but not limited to, in-kind contributions.

(g) (1) Not later than January 1, [2024] 2025, and each January first thereafter, until and including January 1, [2026] 2027, the Commissioner of Education shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the utilization rate for each grant recipient calculated pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and children.

(2) Not later than January 1, [2026] 2027, the commissioner shall develop recommendations concerning (A) whether such grant program should be extended and funded for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2026]

House Bill No. 6941

2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, and (B) the amount of the grant award under the program. The commissioner shall submit such recommendations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and children.

Sec. 338. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Comptroller shall establish the Early Childhood Education Fund. Said fund may contain any moneys required or permitted by law to be deposited in the fund and any funds received from any public or private contributions, gifts, grants, donations, bequests or devises to the fund.

Sec. 339. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Not later than February 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Early Childhood shall submit a report containing recommendations for the appropriation of resources of the Early Childhood Education Fund, established pursuant to section 338 of this act, and any recommendations of the Blue-Ribbon Panel on Child Care, established by Executive Order Number 23-1 of Governor Ned Lamont, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 340. Section 10-262h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town designated as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u, shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount; and (2) any town not designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to ninety-five per cent of its base grant

House Bill No. 6941

amount.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount plus four and one-tenth per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount minus twenty-five per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

(c) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus eight and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

(d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-hundredths per cent of its grant

House Bill No. 6941

adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to the amount the town was entitled to for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

(e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus sixteen and sixty-seven-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to the amount the town was entitled to for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

(f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus twenty per cent of its grant adjustment; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to [its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus fourteen and twenty-nine-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment] the amount the town was entitled to for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base

House Bill No. 6941

grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

(g) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus [twenty-five] fifty-six and five tenths per cent of its grant adjustment; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to [its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus sixteen and sixty-seven-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment] the amount the town was entitled to for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district, shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

(h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its [equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus thirty-three and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment] fully funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus

House Bill No. 6941

[twenty] fourteen and twenty-nine-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

(i) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its [equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus fifty per cent of its grant adjustment] fully funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus [twenty-five] sixteen and sixty-seven-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

(j) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be

House Bill No. 6941

entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus [thirty-three and thirty-three-one-hundredths] twenty per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

(k) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus [fifty] twenty-five per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

(l) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be

House Bill No. 6941

entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus thirty-three and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

(m) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2031, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus fifty per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

[(l)] (n) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2030] 2032, and each fiscal year thereafter, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully funded grant, except any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (1) its fully funded grant, (2) its base grant amount, or (3) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

Sec. 341. Section 10-264l of the general statutes is repealed and the

House Bill No. 6941

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, establish a grant program (1) to assist (A) local and regional boards of education, (B) regional educational service centers, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers Community College, and (D) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (2) in assisting the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, to assist (A) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (B) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (C) the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (E) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner with the operation of interdistrict magnet school programs. All interdistrict magnet schools shall be operated in conformance with the same laws and regulations applicable to public schools. For the purposes of this section "an interdistrict magnet school program" means a program which (i) supports racial, ethnic and economic diversity, (ii) offers a special and high quality curriculum, and (iii) requires students who are enrolled to attend at least half-time. An interdistrict magnet school program does not include a regional agricultural science and technology school, a technical education and career school or a regional special education center. For the school [years] year commencing July 1, 2017, [to July 1, 2023, inclusive,] and each school year thereafter, the governing authority for each interdistrict magnet school program shall (I) restrict the number of

House Bill No. 6941

students that may enroll in the school from a participating district to seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment, and (II) maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r.

(b) (1) Applications for interdistrict magnet school program operating grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be submitted annually to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, except that on and after July 1, 2009, applications for such operating grants for new interdistrict magnet schools, other than those that the commissioner determines will assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, shall not be accepted until the commissioner develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan. The commissioner shall submit such comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan on or before October 1, 2016, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations.

(2) In determining whether an application shall be approved and funds awarded pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether the program offered by the school is likely to increase student achievement; (B) whether the program is likely to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation; (C) the percentage of the student enrollment in the program from each participating district; and (D) the proposed operating budget and the sources of funding for the interdistrict magnet school. For a magnet school not operated by a local or regional board of education, the commissioner shall only approve a proposed operating budget that, on a per pupil basis, does not exceed the maximum allowable threshold

House Bill No. 6941

established in accordance with this subdivision. The maximum allowable threshold shall be an amount equal to one hundred twenty per cent of the state average of the quotient obtained by dividing net current expenditures, as defined in section 10-261, by average daily membership, as defined in said section, for the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. The Department of Education shall establish the maximum allowable threshold no later than December fifteenth of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. If requested by an applicant that is not a local or regional board of education, the commissioner may approve a proposed operating budget that exceeds the maximum allowable threshold if the commissioner determines that there are extraordinary programmatic needs. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, in the case of an interdistrict magnet school that will assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, the commissioner shall also consider whether the school is meeting the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r. If such school has not met such reduced-isolation setting standards, it shall not be entitled to receive a grant pursuant to this section unless the commissioner finds that it is appropriate to award a grant for an additional year or years and approves a plan to bring such school into compliance with such reduced-isolation setting standards. If requested by the commissioner, the applicant shall meet with the commissioner or the commissioner's designee to discuss the budget and sources of funding.

(3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, [2023] 2025, inclusive, the commissioner shall not award a grant to an interdistrict magnet school program that (A) has more than seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment from one school district, or (B) does not

House Bill No. 6941

maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r, except the commissioner may award a grant to such school for an additional year or years if the commissioner finds it is appropriate to do so and approves a plan to bring such school into compliance with such residency or reduced-isolation setting standards.

(4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, if an interdistrict magnet school program does not maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r, for two or more consecutive years, the commissioner may impose a financial penalty on the operator of such interdistrict magnet school program, or take any other measure, in consultation with such operator, as may be appropriate to assist such operator in complying with such reduced-isolation setting standards.

(c) (1) The maximum amount each interdistrict magnet school program, except those described in subparagraphs (A) to (G), inclusive, of subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall be eligible to receive per enrolled student who is not a resident of the town operating the magnet school shall be (A) [six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (B) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (C) seven thousand eighty-five dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (D) seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter] for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars. The per pupil grant for

House Bill No. 6941

each enrolled student who is a resident of the town operating the magnet school program shall be (i) [three thousand dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (ii) three thousand sixty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter] for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, three thousand sixty dollars, and (ii) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least three thousand sixty dollars.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year thereafter, the commissioner may, within available appropriations, provide supplemental grants for the purposes of enhancing educational programs in such interdistrict magnet schools, as the commissioner determines. Such grants shall be made after the commissioner has conducted a comprehensive financial review and approved the total operating budget for such schools, including all revenue and expenditure estimates.

(3) (A) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (G), inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that enrolls less than fifty-five per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of (i) [six thousand two hundred fifty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, (ii) six thousand five hundred dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, (iii) seven thousand sixty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (iv) seven thousand six hundred twenty dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (v) seven thousand nine hundred dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (vi) eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter] for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, eight thousand fifty-eight dollars, and (ii) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least eight thousand fifty-eight dollars.

House Bill No. 6941

(B) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (G), inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students in the amount of (i) [six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (ii) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (iii) seven thousand eighty-five dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (iv) seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter] for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars, and (ii) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars. The per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students shall be (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, three thousand sixty dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least three thousand sixty dollars.

(C) (i) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that began operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars, (II) for each

House Bill No. 6941

enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three thousand dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of seven thousand eighty-five dollars.

(ii) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2020, [and each fiscal year thereafter] to June 30, 2022, inclusive, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that began operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand three hundred forty-four dollars, (II) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three thousand sixty dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's

House Bill No. 6941

students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand three hundred forty-four dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars.

(D) (i) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (D)(ii) of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by (I) a regional educational service center, (II) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (III) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (IV) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (V) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (E) of this subdivision, (VI) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, (VII) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner, and (VIII) the Hartford school district for the operation of Great Path Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College, that enrolls less than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of [nine thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter] ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and at least ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, except

House Bill No. 6941

the commissioner may make grants under this subparagraph to an interdistrict magnet school operator described in this subparagraph that enrolls more than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford.

(ii) [For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, any interdistrict magnet school described in subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less than fifty per cent of its incoming students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of seven thousand nine hundred dollars for one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, any] Any interdistrict magnet school described in subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less than fifty per cent of its incoming students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, in the amount of eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, in the amount of at least eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of at least ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment, except the commissioner may, upon the written request of an operator of such school, waive such fifty per cent enrollment minimum for good cause.

(E) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operated by the board of

House Bill No. 6941

governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, that (i) began operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, (ii) enrolls less than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, and (iii) enrolls students at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant (I) equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for each student who is enrolled at such school for at least two semesters in each school year, and (II) equal to thirty-two and one-half per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for each student who is enrolled at such school for one semester in each school year.

(F) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a local or regional board of education, pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, shall receive a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district in the amount of (i) [twelve thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, (ii) thirteen thousand fifty-four dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (iii) thirteen thousand three hundred fifteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter] thirteen thousand three hundred fifteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and (ii) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least thirteen thousand three hundred fifteen dollars.

(G) In addition to the grants described in subparagraph (E) of this subdivision, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the commissioner may, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the Finance Advisory Committee, established

House Bill No. 6941

pursuant to section 4-93, provide supplemental grants to the Hartford school district of up to one thousand fifty-four dollars for each student enrolled at an interdistrict magnet school operated by the Hartford school district who is not a resident of such district.

(H) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts interdistrict magnet school operated by the Capital Region Education Council shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the per pupil grant specified in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

(I) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2018, inclusive, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of Mathematics and Science interdistrict magnet school operated by the Capitol Region Education Council shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant equal to six thousand seven hundred eighty-seven dollars for (i) students enrolled in grades ten to twelve, inclusive, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, (ii) students enrolled in grades eleven and twelve for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and (iii) students enrolled in grade twelve for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of Mathematics and Science interdistrict magnet school shall not be eligible for any additional grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30, 2016, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department as follows: (A) Increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that is adding planned new grade

House Bill No. 6941

levels for the school years commencing July 1, 2015, and July 1, 2016; (B) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; (C) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that is moving into a permanent facility for the school years commencing July 1, 2014, to July 1, 2016, inclusive; (D) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program to ensure compliance with subsection (a) of this section; and (E) new enrollments for a new interdistrict magnet school program commencing operations on or after July 1, 2014, pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, or October 1, 2015, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department as follows: (A) Increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that is adding planned new grade levels for the school years commencing July 1, 2015, and July 1, 2016; (B) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; (C) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016; and (D) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program to

House Bill No. 6941

ensure compliance with subsection (a) of this section. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and within available appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2015, or October 1, 2016, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(7) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, and within available appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, or October 1, 2017, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

House Bill No. 6941

(8) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and within available appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, October 1, 2017, or October 1, 2018, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(9) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and within available appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, October 1, 2017, October 1, 2018, or October 1, 2019, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(10) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make grants to the following entities that operate an interdistrict magnet school that assists the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the

House Bill No. 6941

decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner and that provide academic support programs and summer school educational programs approved by the commissioner to students participating in such interdistrict magnet school program: (A) Regional educational service centers, (B) local and regional boards of education, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (E) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (F) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, (G) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner.

(11) Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of Education may make grants, in an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars, for start-up costs associated with the development of new interdistrict magnet school programs that assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, to the following entities that develop such a program: (A) Regional educational service centers, (B) local and regional boards of education, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (E) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (F) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, (G) cooperative

House Bill No. 6941

arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner.

(12) [In] For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall make grants determined pursuant to this subsection within available appropriations, and in no case shall the total grant paid to an interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to this section exceed the aggregate total of the reasonable operating budgets of the interdistrict magnet school programs of such operator, less revenues from other sources.

(13) Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(d) (1) Grants made pursuant to this section, except those made pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of this section and subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall be paid as follows: Seventy per cent not later than September first and the balance not later than May first of each fiscal year. The May first payment shall be adjusted to reflect actual interdistrict magnet school program enrollment as of the preceding October first using the data of record as of the intervening January thirty-first, if the actual level of enrollment is lower than the projected enrollment stated in the approved grant application. The May first payment shall be further adjusted for the difference between the total grant received by the magnet school operator in the prior fiscal year and the revised total grant amount calculated for the prior fiscal year in cases where the aggregate financial audit submitted by the interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of this section indicates an overpayment by the department. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, grants made pursuant to this section may be paid to each interdistrict magnet school operator as an aggregate total of the amount that the interdistrict

House Bill No. 6941

magnet schools operated by each such operator are eligible to receive under this section. Each interdistrict magnet school operator may distribute such aggregate grant among the interdistrict magnet school programs that such operator is operating pursuant to a distribution plan approved by the Commissioner of Education.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, grants made pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section shall be paid as follows: Fifty per cent of the amount not later than September first based on estimated student enrollment for the first semester on September first, and another fifty per cent not later than May first of each fiscal year based on actual student enrollment for the second semester on February first. The May first payment shall be adjusted to reflect actual interdistrict magnet school program enrollment for those students who have been enrolled at such school for at least two semesters of the school year, using the data of record, and actual student enrollment for those students who have been enrolled at such school for only one semester, using data of record. The May first payment shall be further adjusted for the difference between the total grant received by the magnet school operator in the prior fiscal year and the revised total grant amount calculated for the prior fiscal year where the financial audit submitted by the interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of this section indicates an overpayment by the department.

(e) The Department of Education may retain up to one-half of one per cent of the amount appropriated, in an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars, for purposes of this section for program evaluation and administration.

(f) Each local or regional school district in which an interdistrict magnet school is located shall provide the same kind of transportation to its children enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school as it provides

House Bill No. 6941

to its children enrolled in other public schools in such local or regional school district. The parent or guardian of a child denied the transportation services required to be provided pursuant to this subsection may appeal such denial in the manner provided in sections 10-186 and 10-187.

(g) On or before October fifteenth of each year, the Commissioner of Education shall determine if interdistrict magnet school enrollment is below the number of students for which funds were appropriated. If the commissioner determines that the enrollment is below such number, the additional funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner for grants for interdistrict cooperative programs pursuant to section 10-74d.

(h) (1) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A) Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall invite representatives from the interdistrict magnet school to participate in such meeting; and (B) pay the interdistrict magnet school an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. If a student requiring special education attends an interdistrict magnet school on a full-time basis, such interdistrict magnet school shall be responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the student's individualized education program whether such services are provided by the interdistrict magnet school or by the school district in which the student resides.

(2) In the case of a student with a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, the school

House Bill No. 6941

district in which the student resides shall pay the interdistrict magnet school an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If a student with a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, attends an interdistrict magnet school on a full-time basis, such interdistrict magnet school shall be responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the student's plan, whether such services are provided by the interdistrict magnet school or by the school district in which the student resides.

(i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the enrollment of nonpublic school students in an interdistrict magnet school program that operates less than full-time, provided (1) such students constitute no more than five per cent of the full-time equivalent enrollment in such magnet school program, and (2) such students are not counted for purposes of determining the amount of grants pursuant to this section and section 10-264i.

(j) After accommodating students from participating districts in accordance with an approved enrollment agreement, an interdistrict magnet school operator that has unused student capacity may enroll directly into its program any interested student. A student from a district that is not participating in an interdistrict magnet school or the interdistrict student attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa to an extent determined by the Commissioner of Education shall be given preference. The local or regional board of education otherwise responsible for educating such student shall contribute funds to support the operation of the interdistrict magnet school in an amount equal to the per student tuition, if any, charged to participating districts, except for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter,

House Bill No. 6941

such per student tuition charged to such participating districts shall not exceed fifty-eight per cent the per student tuition charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

(k) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school or any tuition charged by the Hartford school district operating the Great Path Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount equal to the difference between (A) the average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis, except for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, the per student tuition charged to a local or regional board of education shall not exceed fifty-eight per cent the per student tuition charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. If any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner may withhold from such board's town or towns a sum payable under section 10-262i in an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the magnet school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict magnet school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed the difference between (i) the total expenditures of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the total per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of a magnet school to verify such tuition rate.

(2) (A) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, and June 30, 2014, a

House Bill No. 6941

regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff region may charge tuition to the Department of Education for a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount not to exceed an amount equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate. For purposes of this subdivision, "Sheff region" means the school districts for the towns of Avon, Bloomfield, Canton, East Granby, East Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby, Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Suffield, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor and Windsor Locks.

(B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff region may charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount that is in accordance with the sliding tuition scale adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-264p. The Department of Education shall be financially responsible for any unpaid portion of the tuition not charged to such parent or guardian under such sliding tuition scale. Such tuition shall not exceed an amount equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such

House Bill No. 6941

magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

(C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff region shall charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount up to four thousand fifty-three dollars, except such regional educational service center shall (i) not charge tuition to such parent or guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income, and (ii) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, charge tuition to such parent or guardian in an amount not to exceed fifty-eight per cent of the tuition charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be financially responsible for any unpaid tuition charged to such parent or guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

(l) A participating district shall provide opportunities for its students to attend an interdistrict magnet school in a number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written agreement with an interdistrict magnet school operator or in a number that is at least equal to the average number of students that the participating district enrolled in such magnet school during the previous three school years.

(m) (1) On or before May 15, 2010, and annually thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operator shall provide written notification to any school district that is otherwise responsible for educating a student who resides in such school district and will be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school under the operator's control for the following school year. Such notification shall include (A) the number of any such

House Bill No. 6941

students, by grade, who will be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school under the control of such operator, (B) the name of the school in which such student has been placed, and (C) the amount of tuition to be charged to the local or regional board of education for such student. Such notification shall represent an estimate of the number of students expected to attend such interdistrict magnet schools in the following school year, but shall not be deemed to limit the number of students who may enroll in such interdistrict magnet schools for such year.

(2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a local or regional board of education and did not charge tuition to [a] another local or regional board of education for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, may not charge tuition to such board unless (A) such operator receives authorization from the Commissioner of Education to charge the proposed tuition, and (B) if such authorization is granted, such operator provides written notification on or before September first of the school year prior to the school year in which such tuition is to be charged to such board of the tuition to be charged to such board for each student that such board is otherwise responsible for educating and is enrolled at the interdistrict magnet school under such operator's control, except for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of such tuition charged to such other local or regional board of education shall not exceed fifty-eight per cent the per student tuition charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. In deciding whether to authorize an interdistrict magnet school operator to charge tuition under this subdivision, the commissioner shall consider (i) the average per pupil expenditure of such operator for each interdistrict magnet school under the control of such operator, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy and any revenue from other sources received by such operator. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of the magnet school of such operator to verify that the tuition is appropriate. The

House Bill No. 6941

provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a regional educational service center or assisting the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

(3) Not later than two weeks following an enrollment lottery for an interdistrict magnet school conducted by a magnet school operator, the parent or guardian of a student (A) who will enroll in such interdistrict magnet school in the following school year, or (B) whose name has been placed on a waiting list for enrollment in such interdistrict magnet school for the following school year, shall provide written notification of such prospective enrollment or waiting list placement to the school district in which such student resides and is otherwise responsible for educating such student.

(n) (1) Each interdistrict magnet school operator shall annually file with the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, (A) a financial audit for each interdistrict magnet school operated by such operator, and (B) an aggregate financial audit for all of the interdistrict magnet schools operated by such operator.

(2) Annually, the commissioner shall randomly select one interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center to be subject to a comprehensive financial audit conducted by an auditor selected by the commissioner. The regional educational service center shall be responsible for all costs associated with the audit conducted pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision.

(o) For the school [years commencing July 1, 2009, to July 1, 2018, inclusive] year commencing July 1, 2023, any local or regional board of education operating an interdistrict magnet school pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation

House Bill No. 6941

or order in effect, shall not charge tuition for any student enrolled in a preschool program or in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in an interdistrict magnet school operated by such school district, except the Hartford school district may charge tuition for any student enrolled in the Great Path Academy.

(p) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, if the East Hartford school district or the Manchester school district has greater than four per cent of its resident students, as defined in section 10-262f, enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school program, then the board of education for the town of East Hartford or the town of Manchester shall not be financially responsible for four thousand four hundred dollars of the portion of the per student tuition charged for each such student in excess of such four per cent. The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be financially responsible for such excess per student tuition. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grants payable to the boards of education for the towns of East Hartford and Manchester in accordance with this subsection shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for purposes of this subsection.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2023] 2024, if the local or regional board of education for (A) [a town located in the Sheff region, as defined in subsection (k) of this section, other than a local board of education described in subdivision (1) of this subsection,] the town of Windsor, (B) the town of New Britain, [and] (C) the town of New London, and (D) the town of Bloomfield, has greater than four per cent of its resident students, as defined in section 10-262f, enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school program, then such board of education shall not be financially responsible for four thousand four hundred dollars of the portion of the per student tuition charged for each such student in

House Bill No. 6941

excess of such four per cent. The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be financially responsible for such excess per student tuition. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, [2023] 2024, the amount of the grants payable to any such board of education in accordance with this subsection shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount [allocated for said year in accordance with the provisions of special act 21-1, from the federal funds designated for the state pursuant to the provisions of section 602 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time,] appropriated for purposes of this subsection.

Sec. 342. Subsection (b) of section 10-264o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount equal to the difference between (1) the average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (2) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264l, plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis, except for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, the per student tuition charged to a local or regional board of education shall not exceed fifty-eight per cent the per student tuition charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. If any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner may withhold

House Bill No. 6941

from such board's town or towns a sum payable under section 10-262i in an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the magnet school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict magnet school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed the difference between (A) the total expenditures of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the total per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264l, plus any revenue from other sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive review of the operating budget of a magnet school to verify such tuition rate.

Sec. 343. Subsection (d) of section 10-66ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(d) (1) As used in this subsection:

(A) "Total charter need students" means the sum of (i) the number of students enrolled in state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year, and (ii) for the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, (I) thirty per cent of the number of children enrolled in such state charter schools eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk, (II) fifteen per cent of the number of such children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of such children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk that is equal to sixty per cent of the total number of children enrolled in such state charter schools, and (III) twenty-five per cent of the number of students enrolled in such state charter schools who are English language learners, as defined in section 10-76kk.

(B) "Foundation" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-262f.

House Bill No. 6941

(C) "Charter full weighted funding per student" means the quotient of (i) the product of the total charter need students and the foundation, and (ii) the number of students enrolled in state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year.

(D) "Charter grant adjustment" means the absolute value of the difference between the foundation and charter full weighted funding per student for state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year.

(2) For the fiscal year ending July 1, 2022, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus four and one-tenth per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus twenty-five and forty-two-one-hundredths per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

(4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus thirty-six and eight-one-hundredths per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

(5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus fifty-six and seven tenths per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

[(4)] (6) Payments under subdivisions (2) [and (3)] to (5), inclusive, of

House Bill No. 6941

this subsection shall be paid as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not later than April first, each based on student enrollment on October first.

[(5)] (7) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A) Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall invite representatives from the charter school to participate in such meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a quarterly basis, an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the state charter school for such student pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The charter school a student requiring special education attends shall be responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the student's individualized education program whether such services are provided by the charter school or by the school district in which the student resides.

Sec. 344. Section 10-65 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) Each local or regional school district operating an agricultural science and technology education center approved by the State Board of Education for program, educational need, location and area to be served shall be eligible for the following grants: (1) In accordance with the provisions of chapter 173, through progress payments in accordance with the provisions of section 10-287i, (A) for projects for which an application was filed prior to July 1, 2011, ninety-five per cent, and (B) for projects for which an application was filed on or after July 1, 2011,

House Bill No. 6941

eighty per cent of the net eligible costs of constructing, acquiring, renovating and equipping approved facilities to be used exclusively for such agricultural science and technology education center, for the expansion or improvement of existing facilities or for the replacement or improvement of equipment therein, and (2) subject to the provisions of section 10-65b, and within available appropriations, (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, in an amount equal to five thousand two hundred dollars per student for every secondary school student who was enrolled in such center on October first of the previous year, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, in an amount equal to at least five thousand two hundred dollars per student for every secondary school student who was enrolled in such center on October first of the previous year.

(b) Each local or regional board of education not maintaining an agricultural science and technology education center shall provide opportunities for its students to enroll in one or more such centers in a number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written agreement with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such an agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of its students that the board of education enrolled in each such center or centers during the previous three school years, provided, in addition to such number, each such board of education shall provide opportunities for its students to enroll in the ninth grade in a number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written agreement with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such an agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of students that the board of education enrolled in the ninth grade in each such center or centers during the previous three school years. If a local or regional board of education provided opportunities for students to enroll in more than one center for the school year commencing July 1, 2007, such board of education shall continue to provide such opportunities to students in accordance with this subsection. The board of education operating an

House Bill No. 6941

agricultural science and technology education center may charge, subject to the provisions of section 10-65b, tuition for a school year in an amount not to exceed fifty-nine and two-tenths per cent of the foundation level pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 10-262f, per student for the fiscal year in which the tuition is paid, except that (1) such board may charge tuition for [(1)] (A) students enrolled under shared-time arrangements on a pro rata basis, and [(2)] (B) special education students which shall not exceed the actual costs of educating such students minus the amounts received pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section and subsection (c) of this section, and (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, such board may charge such tuition in an amount not to exceed fifty-eight per cent of the amount such board charged during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. Any tuition paid by such board for special education students in excess of the tuition paid for non-special-education students shall be reimbursed pursuant to section 10-76g.

(c) In addition to the grants described in subsection (a) of this section, within available appropriations, (1) each local or regional board of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center in which more than one hundred fifty of the students in the prior school year were out-of-district students shall be eligible to receive a grant (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, in an amount equal to five hundred dollars for every secondary school student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous year, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, in an amount equal to at least five hundred dollars for every secondary school student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous year, (2) on and after July 1, 2000, if a local or regional board of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center that received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection no longer qualifies for such a grant, such local or regional board of education shall receive a grant in an amount determined as follows: (A) For the first fiscal year

House Bill No. 6941

such board of education does not qualify for a grant under said subdivision (1), a grant in the amount equal to four hundred dollars for every secondary school student enrolled in its agricultural science and technology education center on October first of the previous year, (B) for the second successive fiscal year such board of education does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to three hundred dollars for every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date, (C) for the third successive fiscal year such board of education does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to two hundred dollars for every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date, and (D) for the fourth successive fiscal year such board of education does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to one hundred dollars for every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date, and (3) each local and regional board of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center that does not receive a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection shall receive a grant in an amount equal to sixty dollars for every secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date.

(d) (1) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the grants described in subsections (a) and (c) of this section are calculated, within available appropriations, each local or regional board of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center shall be eligible to receive a grant in an amount equal to one hundred dollars for each student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous school year. (2) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the grants described in subdivision (1) of this subsection are calculated, within available appropriations, each local or regional board of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center that had more than one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled in such center on October first of the previous school year shall be eligible to receive a grant based on the ratio of the number of out-of-district students in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students

House Bill No. 6941

enrolled in such center on said date to the total number of out-of-district students in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled in all agricultural science and technology education centers that had in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled on said date.

[(e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, the Department of Education shall allocate five hundred thousand dollars to local or regional boards of education operating an agricultural science and technology education center in accordance with the provisions of subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section.]

[(f)] (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, if a local or regional board of education receives an increase in funds pursuant to this section over the amount it received for the prior fiscal year such increase shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational purposes.

[(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 10-51 and 10-222, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2017, inclusive, any amount received by a local or regional board of education pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section that exceeds the amount appropriated for education by the municipality or the amount in the budget approved by such regional board of education for purposes of said subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, shall be available for use by such local or regional board of education, provided such excess amount is spent in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section.]

Sec. 345. Subsection (g) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(g) (1) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this

House Bill No. 6941

subsection, the Department of Education shall provide, within available appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, in an amount at least two thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program.

(2) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall provide, within available appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district if one of the following conditions are met as follows: (i) [Three] (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, three thousand dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least three thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is less than two per cent of the total student population of such receiving district plus any amount available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, (ii) (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, four thousand dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least four thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to two per cent but less than three per cent of the total student population of such receiving district plus any amount available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, (iii) (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, six thousand dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-

House Bill No. 6941

district students is greater than or equal to three per cent but less than four per cent of the total student population of such receiving district plus any amount available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, (iv) (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, six thousand dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the Commissioner of Education determines that the receiving district has an enrollment of greater than four thousand students and has increased the number of students in the program by at least fifty per cent from the previous fiscal year plus any amount available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, or (v) (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, eight thousand dollars, and (II) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, at least eight thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to four per cent of the total student population of such receiving district plus any amount available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision.

(B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall, in order to assist the state in meeting its obligations under commitment 9B of the Comprehensive School Choice Plan pursuant to the settlement in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, HHD-X07-CV89-4026240-S, provide, within available appropriations, an additional grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district in the amount of two thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who resides in the Hartford region and attends school in the receiving district under the program.

(3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the department shall provide a grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this

House Bill No. 6941

section in an amount of four thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the receiving district under the pilot program.

(B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall provide an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section for each out-of-district student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the receiving district under the pilot program in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.

(C) Not later than January 1, 2025, the department shall submit a report on the pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk, pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, the total number of students participating in the pilot program, the number of students from each town participating in the pilot program, the total amount of the grant paid under the pilot program and the amount of the grant paid to each town participating in the pilot program.

(4) Each town which receives funds pursuant to this subsection shall make such funds available to its local or regional board of education in supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or federal grant or other revenue to which the local or regional board of education is entitled.

Sec. 346. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The sum of \$150,000,000 that is appropriated in section 1 of this act to the Department of Education, for Education Finance Reform, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, shall be expended in the following manner:

House Bill No. 6941

(1) \$68,499,497 of such appropriated amount shall be used to supplement the amount appropriated to the Education Equalization Grants account in the Department of Education and expended for the purpose of providing equalization aid grants in accordance with the provisions of subsection (g) of section 10-262h of the general statutes;

(2) \$9,378,313 of such appropriated amount shall be used to supplement the amount appropriated to the Charter Schools account in the Department of Education and expended for the purpose of providing grants to charter schools in accordance with the provisions of section 10-66ee of the general statutes;

(3) \$40,188,429 of such appropriated amount shall be used to supplement the amount appropriated to the Magnet Schools account in the Department of Education and expended for the purpose of increasing per student grant amounts to operators of interdistrict magnet school programs that are not a local or regional board of education in accordance with the provisions of section 10-264l of the general statutes;

(4) \$13,254,358 of such appropriated amount shall be used to supplement the amount appropriated to the Magnet Schools account in the Department of Education and expended for the purpose of increasing per student grant amounts to local and regional boards of education that operate interdistrict magnet school programs in accordance with the provisions of section 10-264l of the general statutes;

(5) \$11,430,343 of such appropriated amount shall be used to supplement the amount appropriated to the Open Choice Program account in the Department of Education and expended for the purpose of increasing per student grant amounts to local and regional boards of education that are receiving districts under the interdistrict public school attendance program in accordance with the provisions of section 10-266aa of the general statutes; and

House Bill No. 6941

(6) \$7,249,060 of such appropriated amount shall be expended for the purpose of providing grants to local or regional boards of education that operate an agricultural science and technology education center approved by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of section 10-65 of the general statutes.

Sec. 347. Subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-214 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2023*):

(4) (A) With respect to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, and prior to January 1, [2023] 2026, any company subject to the tax imposed in accordance with subsection (a) of this section shall pay, for such income year, except when the tax so calculated is equal to two hundred fifty dollars, an additional tax in an amount equal to ten per cent of the tax calculated under said subsection (a) for such income year, without reduction of the tax so calculated by the amount of any credit against such tax. The additional amount of tax determined under this subsection for any income year shall constitute a part of the tax imposed by the provisions of said subsection (a) and shall become due and be paid, collected and enforced as provided in this chapter.

(B) Any company whose gross income for the income year was less than one hundred million dollars shall not be subject to the additional tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. This exception shall not apply to taxable members of a combined group that files a combined unitary tax return.

Sec. 348. Subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-219 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(4) (A) With respect to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, and prior to January 1, [2023] 2026, the additional tax imposed on any company and calculated in accordance with subsection (a) of this section shall, for such income year, except when the tax so calculated is equal to two hundred fifty dollars, be increased by adding thereto an amount equal to ten per cent of the additional tax so calculated for such income year, without reduction of the tax so calculated by the amount of any credit against such tax. The increased amount of tax payable by any company under this section, as determined in accordance with this subsection, shall become due and be paid, collected and enforced as provided in this chapter.

(B) Any company whose gross income for the income year was less than one hundred million dollars shall not be subject to the additional tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. This exception shall not apply to taxable members of a combined group that files a combined unitary tax return.

Sec. 349. (*Effective from passage*) The provisions of section 12-242d of the general statutes shall not apply to any additional tax due as a result of the changes made to subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-214 of the general statutes pursuant to section 347 of this act or to subdivision (4) of section 12-219 of the general statutes pursuant to section 348 of this act, for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2023, but prior to the effective date of sections 347 and 348 of this act.

Sec. 350. Section 12-217x of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) For purposes of this section, "human capital investment" means the amount paid or incurred by a corporation on:

(1) [job] Job training [which] that occurs in this state for persons who are employed in this state;

House Bill No. 6941

(2) [work] Work education programs in this state, including, but not limited to, programs in public high schools and work education-diversified occupations programs in this state;

(3) [worker] Worker training and education for persons who are employed in this state provided by institutions of higher education in this state;

(4) [donations] Donations or capital contributions to institutions of higher education in this state for improvements or advancements of technology, including physical plant improvements;

(5) [planning] Planning, site preparation, construction, renovation or acquisition of facilities in this state for the purpose of establishing a child care center, as described in section 19a-77, in this state to be used primarily by the children of employees who are employed in this state;

(6) [subsidies] Donations or capital contributions to an organization exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, for the planning, site preparation, construction, renovation or acquisition of facilities in this state for the purpose of establishing a child care center in this state to be used by children residing in the community, including the children of employees who are employed in this state;

(7) Subsidies to employees who are employed in this state for child care to be provided in this state; and

[(7) contributions] (8) Contributions made to the Individual Development Account Reserve Fund, as defined in section 31-51ww.

(b) There shall be allowed a credit for any corporation against the tax imposed under this chapter in an amount spent by such corporation, as a human capital investment as follows: (1) For any income year

House Bill No. 6941

commencing on or after January 1, 1998, and prior to January 1, 1999, equal to three per cent of such amount paid or incurred by the corporation during such income year; (2) for any income year commencing on or after January 1, 1999, and prior to January 1, 2000, equal to four per cent of such amount paid or incurred by the corporation during such income year; [and] (3) for any income year commencing on or after January 1, 2000, equal to five per cent of such amount paid or incurred by the corporation during such income year; and (4) for any income year commencing on or after January 1, 2024, (A) equal to ten per cent of the amount paid or incurred by the corporation during such income year for the purposes set forth in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, and subdivision (8) of subsection (a) of this section, and (B) equal to twenty-five per cent of the amount paid or incurred by the corporation during such income year for the purposes set forth in subdivisions (5) to (7), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The amount of credit allowed to any corporation under this section shall not exceed the amount of tax due from such corporation under this chapter with respect to such income year.

(d) No corporation claiming the credit under this section with respect to a human capital investment as defined in subsection (a) of this section shall claim a credit against any tax under any other provision of the general statutes against any tax with respect to the same investment.

(e) Any tax credit not used in the income year during which the investment was made may be carried forward for the five immediately succeeding income years until the full credit has been allowed.

Sec. 351. Subsection (a) of section 12-217zz of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section and

House Bill No. 6941

sections 12-217aaa and 12-217bbb, the amount of tax credit or credits otherwise allowable against the tax imposed under this chapter shall be as follows:

(1) For any income year commencing on or after January 1, 2002, and prior to January 1, 2015, the amount of tax credit or credits otherwise allowable shall not exceed seventy per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits;

(2) For any income year commencing on or after January 1, 2015, the amount of tax credit or credits otherwise allowable shall not exceed fifty and one one-hundredths per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits;

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, any taxpayer that possesses excess credits may utilize the excess credits as follows:

(A) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2016, and prior to January 1, 2017, the aggregate amount of tax credits and excess credits allowable shall not exceed fifty-five per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits;

(B) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2017, and prior to January 1, 2018, the aggregate amount of tax credits and excess credits allowable shall not exceed sixty per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits;

(C) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, and prior to January 1, 2019, the aggregate amount of tax credits and excess

House Bill No. 6941

credits allowable shall not exceed sixty-five per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits;

(D) For purposes of this subdivision, "excess credits" means any remaining credits available under section 12-217j, 12-217n or 32-9t after tax credits are utilized in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection;

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, the aggregate amount allowable of tax credits and any remaining credits available under section 12-217j or 12-217n after tax credits are utilized in accordance with said subdivision shall not exceed (A) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2022, and prior to January 1, 2023, sixty per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits, and (B) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2023, and prior to January 1, 2024, seventy per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2024, the aggregate amount allowable of tax credits and any remaining credits available under section 12-217j or 12-217n or subparagraph (B) of subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-217x, as amended by this act, after tax credits are utilized in accordance with said subdivision shall not exceed seventy per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits.

Sec. 352. Section 12-217jj of the general statutes is repealed and the

House Bill No. 6941

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue Services.

(2) "Department" means the Department of Economic and Community Development.

(3) (A) "Qualified production" means entertainment content created in whole or in part within the state, including motion pictures, except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph; documentaries; long-form, specials, mini-series, series, sound recordings, videos and music videos and interstitials television programming; interactive television; relocated television production; interactive games; videogames; commercials; any format of digital media, including an interactive web site, created for distribution or exhibition to the general public; and any trailer, pilot, video teaser or demo created primarily to stimulate the sale, marketing, promotion or exploitation of future investment in either a product or a qualified production via any means and media in any digital media format, film or videotape, provided such program meets all the underlying criteria of a qualified production. For state fiscal years ending on or after June 30, 2014, "qualified production" shall not include a motion picture that has not been designated as a state-certified qualified production prior to July 1, 2013, and no tax credit voucher for such motion picture may be issued for such motion picture, except, for state fiscal years ending on or after June 30, 2015, "qualified production" shall include a motion picture for which twenty-five per cent or more of the principal photography shooting days are in this state at a facility that receives not less than twenty-five million dollars in private investment and opens for business on or after July 1, 2013, and a tax credit voucher may be issued for such motion picture.

(B) "Qualified production" shall not include any ongoing television

House Bill No. 6941

program created primarily as news, weather or financial market reports; a production featuring current events, other than a relocated television production, sporting events, an awards show or other gala event; a production whose sole purpose is fundraising; a long-form production that primarily markets a product or service; a production used for corporate training or in-house corporate advertising or other similar productions; or any production for which records are required to be maintained under 18 USC 2257, as amended from time to time, with respect to sexually explicit content.

(4) "Eligible production company" means a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other business entity engaged in the business of producing qualified productions on a one-time or ongoing basis, and qualified by the Secretary of the State to engage in business in the state.

(5) "Production expenses or costs" means all expenditures clearly and demonstrably incurred in the state in the preproduction, production or postproduction costs of a qualified production, including:

(A) Expenditures incurred in the state in the form of either compensation or purchases including production work, production equipment not eligible for the infrastructure tax credit provided in section 12-217kk, production software, postproduction work, postproduction equipment, postproduction software, set design, set construction, props, lighting, wardrobe, makeup, makeup accessories, special effects, visual effects, audio effects, film processing, music, sound mixing, editing, location fees, soundstages and any and all other costs or services directly incurred in connection with a state-certified qualified production;

(B) Expenditures for distribution, including preproduction, production or postproduction costs relating to the creation of trailers, marketing videos, commercials, point-of-purchase videos and any and

House Bill No. 6941

all content created on film or digital media, including the duplication of films, videos, CDs, DVDs and any and all digital files now in existence and those yet to be created for mass consumer consumption; the purchase, by a company in the state, of any and all equipment relating to the duplication or mass market distribution of any content created or produced in the state by any digital media format which is now in use and those formats yet to be created for mass consumer consumption; and

(C) "Production expenses or costs" does not include the following: (i) On and after January 1, 2008, compensation in excess of fifteen million dollars paid to any individual or entity representing an individual, for services provided in the production of a qualified production and on or after January 1, 2010, compensation subject to Connecticut personal income tax in excess of twenty million dollars paid in the aggregate to any individuals or entities representing individuals, for star talent provided in the production of a qualified production; (ii) media buys, promotional events or gifts or public relations associated with the promotion or marketing of any qualified production; (iii) deferred, leveraged or profit participation costs relating to any and all personnel associated with any and all aspects of the production, including, but not limited to, producer fees, director fees, talent fees and writer fees; (iv) costs relating to the transfer of the production tax credits; (v) any amounts paid to persons or businesses as a result of their participation in profits from the exploitation of the qualified production; and (vi) any expenses or costs relating to an independent certification, as required by subsection (h) of this section, or as the department may otherwise require, pertaining to the amount of production expenses or costs set forth by an eligible production company in its application for a production tax credit.

(6) "Sound recording" means a recording of music, poetry or spoken-word performance, but does not include the audio portions of dialogue

House Bill No. 6941

or words spoken and recorded as part of a motion picture, video, theatrical production, television news coverage or athletic event.

(7) "State-certified qualified production" means a qualified production produced by an eligible production company that (A) is in compliance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (l) of this section, (B) is authorized to conduct business in this state, and (C) has been approved by the department as qualifying for a production tax credit under this section.

(8) "Interactive web site" means a web site, the production costs of which (A) exceed five hundred thousand dollars per income year, and (B) is primarily (i) interactive games or end user applications, or (ii) animation, simulation, sound, graphics, story lines or video created or repurposed for distribution over the Internet. An interactive web site does not include a web site primarily used for institutional, private, industrial, retail or wholesale marketing or promotional purposes, or which contains obscene content.

(9) "Post-certification remedy" means the recapture, disallowance, recovery, reduction, repayment, forfeiture, decertification or any other remedy that would have the effect of reducing or otherwise limiting the use of a tax credit provided by this section.

(10) "Compensation" means base salary or wages and does not include bonus pay, stock options, restricted stock units or similar arrangements.

(11) "Relocated television production" means:

(A) An ongoing television program all of the prior seasons of which were filmed outside this state, and may include current events shows, except those referenced in subparagraph (B)(i) of this subdivision.

(B) An eligible production company's television programming in this

House Bill No. 6941

state that (i) is not a general news program, sporting event or game broadcast, and (ii) is created at a qualified production facility that has had a minimum investment of twenty-five million dollars made by such eligible production company on or after January 1, 2012, at which facility the eligible production company creates ongoing television programming as defined in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and creates at least two hundred new jobs in Connecticut on or after January 1, 2012. For purposes of this subdivision, "new job" means a full-time job, as defined in section 12-217ii, that did not exist in this state prior to January 1, 2012, and is filled by a new employee, and "new employee" includes a person who was employed outside this state by the eligible production company prior to January 1, 2012, but does not include a person who was employed in this state by the eligible production company or a related person, as defined in section 12-217ii, with respect to the eligible production company during the prior twelve months.

(C) A relocated television production may be a state-certified qualified production for not more than ten successive income years, after which period the eligible production company shall be ineligible to resubmit an application for certification.

(b) (1) The Department of Economic and Community Development shall administer a system of tax credit vouchers within the resources, requirements and purposes of this section for eligible production companies producing a state-certified qualified production in the state.

(2) Any eligible production company incurring production expenses or costs shall be eligible for a credit (A) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2010, but prior to January 1, 2018, against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or this chapter, (B) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, but prior to January 1, 2022, against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or 211 or this chapter, and (C) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2022, against the tax imposed under chapter 207, 211, 219 or this chapter, as follows: (i)

House Bill No. 6941

For any such company incurring such expenses or costs of not less than one hundred thousand dollars, but not more than five hundred thousand dollars, a credit equal to ten per cent of such expenses or costs, (ii) for any such company incurring such expenses or costs of more than five hundred thousand dollars, but not more than one million dollars, a credit equal to fifteen per cent of such expenses or costs, and (iii) for any such company incurring such expenses or costs of more than one million dollars, a credit equal to thirty per cent of such expenses or costs.

(c) No eligible production company incurring an amount of production expenses or costs that qualifies for such credit shall be eligible for such credit unless on or after January 1, 2010, such company conducts (1) not less than fifty per cent of principal photography days within the state, or (2) expends not less than fifty per cent of postproduction costs within the state, or (3) expends not less than one million dollars of postproduction costs within the state.

(d) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2010, no expenses or costs incurred outside the state and used within the state shall be eligible for a credit, and one hundred per cent of such expenses or costs shall be counted toward such credit when incurred within the state and used within the state.

(e) (1) On and after July 1, 2006, and for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2006, any credit allowed pursuant to this section may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, to one or more taxpayers, provided (A) no credit, after issuance, may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, more than three times, (B) in the case of a credit allowed for the income year commencing on or after January 1, 2011, [and] but prior to January 1, 2012, any entity that is not subject to tax under chapter 207 or this chapter may transfer not more than fifty per cent of such credit in any one income year, and (C) in the case of a credit allowed for an income year commencing on or after January 1, 2012, any entity that is not

House Bill No. 6941

subject to tax under chapter 207 or this chapter may transfer not more than twenty-five per cent of such credit in any one income year.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, any entity that is not subject to tax under this chapter or chapter 207 shall not be subject to the limitations on the transfer of credits provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of said subdivision (1), provided such entity owns not less than fifty per cent, directly or indirectly, of a business entity, as defined in section 12-284b.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, any qualified production that is created in whole or in significant part, as determined by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, at a qualified production facility shall not be subject to the limitations of subparagraph (B) or (C) of said subdivision (1). For purposes of this subdivision, "qualified production facility" means a facility (A) located in this state, (B) intended for film, television or digital media production, and (C) that has had a minimum investment of three million dollars, or less if the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development determines such facility otherwise qualifies.

(4) (A) For the income year commencing on or after January 1, 2018, but prior to January 1, 2019, any credit that is sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, to one or more taxpayers pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 211 only if there is common ownership of at least fifty per cent between such taxpayer and the eligible production company that sold, assigned or otherwise transferred such credit. Such taxpayer may only claim ninety-two per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher.

(B) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2019, any credit that is sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part,

House Bill No. 6941

to one or more taxpayers pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, which credit is claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 211, shall be subject to the following limits:

(i) The taxpayer may only claim ninety-five per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher; and

(ii) If there is common ownership of at least fifty per cent between such taxpayer and the eligible production company that sold, assigned or otherwise transferred such credit, such taxpayer may only claim ninety-two per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher.

(5) (A) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2022, but prior to January 1, 2024, and on or after January 1, 2026, any credit that is claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 219 shall be subject to the following limits:

~~[(A)]~~ (i) Any credit that is sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, to one or more taxpayers pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 219 only if there is common ownership of at least fifty per cent between such taxpayer and the eligible production company that sold, assigned or otherwise transferred such credit; and

~~[(B)]~~ (ii) The eligible production company or taxpayer claiming the credit against the tax imposed under chapter 219 may only claim seventy-eight per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher.

(B) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2024, but prior to January 1, 2026, any credit that is claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 219 shall be subject to the following limits:

House Bill No. 6941

(i) Any credit that is sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, to one or more taxpayers pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 219 only if there is common ownership of at least fifty per cent between such taxpayer and the eligible production company that sold, assigned or otherwise transferred such credit; and

(ii) The eligible production company or taxpayer claiming the credit against the tax imposed under chapter 219 may only claim ninety-two per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher.

(f) (1) On and after July 1, 2006, and for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2006, but prior to January 1, 2015, all or part of any such credit allowed under this section may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or this chapter for the income year in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the three immediately succeeding income years.

(2) For production tax credit vouchers issued on or after July 1, 2015, but prior to January 1, 2018, all or part of any such credit may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or this chapter, for the income year in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the five immediately succeeding income years.

(3) For production tax credit vouchers issued on or after July 1, 2018, but prior to January 1, 2022, all or part of any such credit may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or 211 or this chapter, for the income year in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the five immediately succeeding income years.

(4) For production tax credit vouchers issued on or after January 1, 2022, all or part of any such credit may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 207, 211, 219 or this chapter, for the income year

House Bill No. 6941

in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the five immediately succeeding income years.

(g) Any production tax credit allowed under this section shall be nonrefundable.

(h) (1) An eligible production company shall apply to the department for a tax credit voucher on an annual basis, but not later than ninety days after the first production expenses or costs are incurred in the production of a qualified production, and shall provide with such application such information as the department may require to determine such company's eligibility to claim a credit under this section. No production expenses or costs may be listed more than once for purposes of the tax credit voucher pursuant to this section, or pursuant to section 12-217kk or 12-217ll, and if a production expense or cost has been included in a claim for a credit, such production expense or cost may not be included in any subsequent claim for a credit.

(2) Not later than ninety days after the end of the annual period, or after the last production expenses or costs are incurred in the production of a qualified production, an eligible production company shall apply to the department for a production tax credit voucher, and shall provide with such application (A) a report that includes the number of full-time jobs and the number of part-time jobs created by the eligible production company during the annual period, a description of each such job and an explanation of what the eligible production company considers to be job creation for purposes of the report, and (B) such information and independent certification as the department may require pertaining to the amount of such company's production expenses or costs. Such independent certification shall be provided by an audit professional chosen from a list compiled by the department. If the department determines that such company is eligible to be issued a production tax credit voucher, the department shall enter on the voucher the amount of production expenses or costs that has been established to the

House Bill No. 6941

satisfaction of the department and the amount of such company's credit under this section. The department shall provide a copy of such voucher to the commissioner, upon request.

(3) The department shall charge a reasonable administrative fee sufficient to cover the department's costs to analyze applications submitted under this section.

(i) If an eligible production company sells, assigns or otherwise transfers a credit under this section to another taxpayer, the transferor and transferee shall jointly submit written notification of such transfer to the department not later than thirty days after such transfer. If such transferee sells, assigns or otherwise transfers a credit under this section to a subsequent transferee, such transferee and such subsequent transferee shall jointly submit written notification of such transfer to the department not later than thirty days after such transfer. The notification after each transfer shall include the credit voucher number, the date of transfer, the amount of such credit transferred, the tax credit balance before and after the transfer, the tax identification numbers for both the transferor and the transferee, and any other information required by the department. Failure to comply with this subsection will result in a disallowance of the tax credit until there is full compliance on the part of the transferor and the transferee, and for a second or third transfer, on the part of all subsequent transferors and transferees. The department shall provide a copy of the notification of assignment to the commissioner upon request.

(j) Any eligible production company that submits information to the department that it knows to be fraudulent or false shall, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, be liable for a penalty equal to the amount of such company's credit entered on the production tax credit voucher issued under this section.

(k) No tax credits transferred pursuant to this section shall be subject

House Bill No. 6941

to a post-certification remedy, and the department and the commissioner shall have no right, except in the case of possible material misrepresentation or fraud, to conduct any further or additional review, examination or audit of the expenditures or costs for which such tax credits were issued. The sole and exclusive remedy of the department and the commissioner shall be to seek collection of the amount of such tax credits from the entity that committed the fraud or misrepresentation.

(l) The department, in consultation with the commissioner, shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, as may be necessary for the administration of this section.

Sec. 353. Subsection (a) of section 32-1m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(a) Not later than February first, annually, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall submit a report to the Governor, the Auditors of Public Accounts and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, finance, revenue and bonding and commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. Not later than thirty days after submission of the report, said commissioner shall post the report on the Department of Economic and Community Development's web site. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information with regard to the activities of the Department of Economic and Community Development and to business assistance programs administered by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, during the preceding state fiscal year:

(1) A brief description and assessment of the state's economy during such year, utilizing the most recent and reasonably available data, and including:

House Bill No. 6941

- (A) Connecticut employment by industry;
- (B) Connecticut and national average unemployment; and
- (C) Connecticut gross state product, by industry.

(2) An analysis of the economic development portfolio of the department, including, but not limited to, each business assistance or incentive program, including any business tax credit or abatement program, grant, loan, forgivable loan or other form of assistance, enacted for the purpose of improving economic development. The analysis shall include:

(A) The Internet web site address of the state's open data portal and an indication of where the name, address and location of each recipient of the department's assistance is published on the site along with the following information concerning each recipient: (i) Business activities, (ii) standard industrial classification codes or North American industrial classification codes, (iii) whether the recipient is a minority or woman-owned business, (iv) a summary of the terms and conditions for the assistance, including the type and amount of state financial assistance and job creation or retention requirements, (v) the amount of investments from private and other nonstate sources that have been leveraged by the assistance, and (vi) the amount of state investment;

(B) A portfolio analysis, including an analysis of the wages paid by recipients of financial assistance by industry;

(C) An investment analysis, including (i) total portfolio value, (ii) total investment by industry, (iii) portfolio dollar per job average, and (iv) portfolio leverage ratio;

(D) An overview of the business assistance and incentive programs administered by the department and an analysis of their estimated economic impact on the state's economy. The analysis shall include, for

House Bill No. 6941

each business assistance or incentive program for which such data is available, the number of new jobs created, the borrowing cost to the state and the estimated impact of such program on annual state revenues;

(E) An analysis of whether the statutory and programmatic goals of each business or incentive program are being met, with obstacles to such goals identified, if possible;

(F) (i) Recommendations as to whether any existing business assistance or incentive program should be continued, modified or repealed and the basis or bases for such recommendations, and (ii) any recommendations for additional data collection by the state to better inform future evaluations of such programs; and

(G) The methodologies and assumptions used in carrying out the analyses under this subdivision.

(3) An analysis of the community development portfolio of the department, including:

(A) The Internet web site address of the state's open data portal and an indication of where the name, address and location of each recipient of the department's assistance is published on the site along with the following information concerning each recipient: (i) Amount of state investment, (ii) a summary of the terms and conditions for the department's assistance, including the type and amount of state financial assistance, and (iii) the amount of investments from private and other nonstate sources that have been leveraged by such assistance; and

(B) An investment analysis, including (i) total active portfolio value, (ii) total investments made in the preceding state fiscal year, and (iii) total portfolio leverage ratio.

House Bill No. 6941

(4) An analysis of each business assistance or incentive program, including any business tax credit or abatement program, grant, loan, forgivable loan or other form of assistance, enacted for the purpose of improving economic development, that (A) (i) had ten or more recipients of assistance in the preceding state fiscal year, or (ii) credited, abated or distributed more than one million dollars in the preceding state fiscal year, and (B) is administered by the department or Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated. The analysis shall include:

(i) An overview of the business assistance or incentive program and an analysis of its estimated economic effects on the state's economy, including, for each program where such data is available, the number of new jobs created and the estimated impact of such program on annual state revenues;

(ii) An analysis of whether the statutory and programmatic goals of each business assistance or incentive program are being met, with obstacles to such goals identified, if possible;

(iii) Recommendations as to whether any such existing business assistance or incentive program should be continued, modified or repealed and the basis or bases for such recommendations, and any recommendations for additional data collection by the state to better inform future evaluations of such programs; and

(iv) The methodologies and assumptions used in carrying out the analysis under this subdivision.

(5) A summary of the department's international trade efforts in the preceding state fiscal year, and, to the extent possible, a summary of foreign direct investment that occurred in the state in such year.

(6) A summary of the total social and economic impact of the department's efforts and activities in the areas of economic and community development, and an assessment of the department's

House Bill No. 6941

performance in terms of meeting its stated goals and objectives.

(7) With regard to the Small Business Express program established pursuant to section 32-7g, data on (A) the number of small businesses that received assistance under said program and the general categories of such businesses, (B) the amounts and types of assistance provided, (C) the total number of jobs on the date of application and the number proposed to be created or retained, (D) the most recent employment figures of the small businesses receiving assistance, (E) the default rate of small businesses that received assistance under said program, and (F) the progress of the lenders participating in said program in becoming self-sustainable.

(8) With regard to airport development zones established pursuant to section 32-75d, a summary of the economic and cost benefits of each zone and any recommended revisions to any such zones.

(9) An overview of the department's activities related to tourism, the arts and historic preservation.

(10) An overview of the department's activities concerning digital media, motion pictures and related production activity, and an analysis of the use of the film production tax credit established under section 12-217jj, the entertainment industry infrastructure tax credit established under section 12-217kk and the digital animation production tax credit established under section 12-217ll, including the amount of any tax credit issued under said sections, [and] the total amount of production expenses or costs incurred in the state by the taxpayer who was issued such a tax credit and the information submitted in the report required under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (h) of section 12-217jj.

(11) A summary of the department's and the office of the permit ombudsman's brownfield-related efforts and activities in the preceding

House Bill No. 6941

fiscal year.

(12) A summary of the department's dry cleaning establishment remediation account activities in the preceding fiscal year.

Sec. 354. Section 12-217w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) For purposes of this section: [, "fixed capital"]

(1) "Fixed capital" means tangible personal property [which (1)] that (A) has a class life, in years, of more than four years, as described in Section 168(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, [amended, (2)] (B) is acquired by purchase from a person other than a related person, [(3)] (C) is not acquired to be leased, and is not leased, to another person or persons during the twelve full months following its acquisition, and [(4)] (D) will be held and used in this state by (i) for purposes of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, a corporation in the ordinary course of the corporation's trade or business in this state for not less than five full years following its acquisition, or (ii) for purposes of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, a limited liability company in the ordinary course of the limited liability company's trade or business in this state for not less than five full years following its acquisition. "Fixed capital" does not include inventory, land, buildings or structures [,] or mobile transportation property; [. With]

(2) "Related person" means, with respect to a corporation claiming a credit under this section, [a "related person" means] (A) a corporation, partnership, association or trust controlled by such corporation, [;] (B) an individual, corporation, partnership, association or trust that is in control of such corporation, [;] (C) a corporation, partnership, association or trust controlled by an individual, corporation,

House Bill No. 6941

partnership, association or trust that is in control of such corporation, [;] or (D) a member of the same controlled group as such corporation; [. For purposes of this section, "control",]

(3) "Control" means (A) with respect to a corporation, [means] ownership, directly or indirectly, of stock possessing fifty per cent or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of the stock of such corporation entitled to vote, [;] or (B) with respect to a trust, [means] ownership, directly or indirectly, of fifty per cent or more of the beneficial interest in the principal or income of such trust. The ownership of stock in a corporation, of a capital or profits interest in a partnership or association or of a beneficial interest in a trust shall be determined in accordance with the rules for constructive ownership of stock provided in Section 267(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, [amended,] other than paragraph (3) of [such] said section.

(b) (1) There shall be allowed a credit for any corporation against the tax imposed under this chapter in an amount paid or incurred by such corporation for any new fixed capital investment during the income year in which such fixed capital is acquired as follows: For any income year commencing on or after [January 1, 1998, and prior to January 1, 1999, equal to three per cent of such amount paid or incurred by the corporation during such income year; for any income year commencing on or after] January 1, 1999, and prior to January 1, 2000, equal to four per cent of such amount paid or incurred by the corporation during such income year; and for any income year commencing on or after January 1, 2000, equal to five per cent of such amount paid or incurred by the corporation during such income year.

(2) There shall be allowed an additional credit against the tax imposed under this chapter for any corporation that (A) has its headquarters in this state, (B) owns at least eighty per cent, directly or

House Bill No. 6941

indirectly, of a limited liability company that is, for federal income tax purposes, treated as a partnership or disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, and (C) provides telecommunications service, in an amount paid or incurred by such limited liability company for any new fixed capital investment during the income year in which such fixed capital is acquired as follows: For any income year commencing on or after July 1, 2025, equal to five per cent of such amount paid or incurred by the limited liability company.

(c) The total amount of [such credit] the credits allowed to any corporation under this section shall not exceed the amount of tax due from such corporation under this chapter with respect to such income year.

(d) No corporation claiming [the] a credit under this section and no limited liability for which a corporation is claiming a credit under this section, with respect to the acquisition of fixed capital, [as defined in subsection (a) of this section,] may claim a credit against any tax under any other provision of the general statutes with respect to the same acquisition.

(e) Any tax credit not used in the income year during which the acquisition was made may be carried forward for the five immediately succeeding income years until the full credit has been allowed.

(f) If the fixed capital on account of which a corporation has claimed the credit allowed by this section is not held and used in this state in the ordinary course of the corporation's trade or business in this state for three full years following its acquisition as provided in subsection (a) of this section, the corporation shall recapture one hundred per cent of the amount of the credit allowed under this section on its corporation business tax return required to be filed for the income year immediately succeeding the income year during which such three-year period expires. If the fixed capital on account of which a corporation has

House Bill No. 6941

claimed the credit allowed by this section is not held and used in this state in the ordinary course of the corporation's trade or business in this state for five full years following its acquisition as provided in subsection (a) of this section, the corporation shall recapture fifty per cent of the amount of the credit allowed under this section on its corporation business tax return required to be filed for the income year immediately succeeding the income year during which such five-year period expires. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply if the property that is the subject of the credit under this section is replaced. If any amount of credit required to be recaptured has not been paid to the commissioner on or before the first day of the fourth month next succeeding the end of the income year immediately succeeding the income year during which the three-year or five-year period, as the case may be, expires, such amount shall bear interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof from such date to the date of payment.

Sec. 355. Section 12-704d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Angel investor" means an accredited investor, as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission, or network of accredited investors who review new or proposed businesses for potential investment and who may seek active involvement, such as consulting and mentoring, in a qualified Connecticut business or a qualified cannabis business, but "angel investor" does not include (A) a person controlling fifty per cent or more of the Connecticut business or cannabis business invested in by the angel investor, (B) a venture capital company, or (C) any bank, bank and trust company, insurance company, trust company, national bank, savings association or building and loan association for activities that are a part of its normal course of business;

House Bill No. 6941

(2) "Cash investment" means the contribution of cash, at a risk of loss, to a qualified Connecticut business or a qualified cannabis business in exchange for qualified securities;

(3) "Connecticut business" means any business, other than a cannabis business, with its principal place of business in Connecticut;

(4) "Bioscience" means manufacturing pharmaceuticals, medicines, medical equipment or medical devices and analytical laboratory instruments, operating medical or diagnostic testing laboratories, or conducting pure research and development in life sciences;

(5) "Advanced materials" means developing, formulating or manufacturing advanced alloys, coatings, lubricants, refrigerants, surfactants, emulsifiers or substrates;

(6) "Photonics" means generation, emission, transmission, modulation, signal processing, switching, amplification, detection and sensing of light from ultraviolet to infrared and the manufacture, research or development of opto-electronic devices, including, but not limited to, lasers, masers, fiber optic devices, quantum devices, holographic devices and related technologies;

(7) "Information technology" means software publishing, motion picture and video production, teleproduction and postproduction services, telecommunications, data processing, hosting and related services, custom computer programming services, computer system design, computer facilities management services, other computer related services and computer training;

(8) "Clean technology" means the production, manufacture, design, research or development of clean energy, green buildings, smart grid, high-efficiency transportation vehicles and alternative fuels, environmental products, environmental remediation and pollution prevention;

House Bill No. 6941

(9) "Qualified securities" means any form of equity, including a general or limited partnership interest, common stock, preferred stock, with or without voting rights, without regard to seniority position that must be convertible into common stock;

(10) "Emerging technology business" means any business that is engaged in bioscience, advanced materials, photonics, information technology, clean technology or any other emerging technology as determined by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development;

(11) "Cannabis business" means a cannabis establishment (A) for which a social equity applicant has been granted a provisional license or a license, (B) in which a social equity applicant or social equity applicants have an ownership interest of at least sixty-five per cent, and (C) such social equity applicant or social equity applicants have control of such establishment;

(12) "Social equity applicant" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420;

(13) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420; and

(14) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420.

(b) There shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed under this chapter, other than the liability imposed by section 12-707, for a cash investment by an angel investor of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars in the qualified securities of a Connecticut business or a cannabis business. The credit shall be in an amount equal to (1) twenty-five per cent of such investor's cash investment in a Connecticut business, or (2) forty per cent of such investor's cash investment in a cannabis business, provided the total tax credits allowed to any angel investor shall not

House Bill No. 6941

exceed five hundred thousand dollars. The credit shall be claimed in the taxable year in which such cash investment is made by the angel investor. The credit may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part.

(c) To qualify for a tax credit pursuant to this section, a cash investment shall be in:

(1) A Connecticut business that (A) has been approved as a qualified Connecticut business pursuant to subsection (d) of this section; (B) had annual gross revenues of less than one million dollars in the most recent income year of such business; (C) has fewer than twenty-five employees, not less than seventy-five per cent of whom reside in this state; (D) has been operating in this state for less than seven consecutive years; (E) is primarily owned by the management of the business and their families; and (F) received less than two million dollars in cash investments eligible for the tax credits provided by this section; or

(2) A cannabis business that (A) has been approved as a qualified cannabis business pursuant to subsection (d) of this section; (B) had annual gross revenues of less than one million dollars in the most recent income year of such business; (C) has fewer than twenty-five employees, not less than seventy-five per cent of whom reside in this state; (D) is primarily owned by the management of the business and their families; and (E) received less than two million dollars in cash investments eligible for the tax credits provided by this section.

(d) (1) A Connecticut business or a cannabis business may apply to Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, for approval as a Connecticut business or cannabis business, as applicable, qualified to receive cash investments eligible for a tax credit pursuant to this section. The application shall include (A) the name of the business and a copy of the organizational documents of such business, (B) a business plan, including a description of the business and the management, product,

House Bill No. 6941

market and financial plan of the business, (C) a description of the business's innovative technology, product or service, (D) a statement of the potential economic impact of the business, including the number, location and types of jobs expected to be created, (E) a description of the qualified securities to be issued and the amount of cash investment sought by the business, (F) a statement of the amount, timing and projected use of the proceeds to be raised from the proposed sale of qualified securities, and (G) such other information as the chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, may require.

(2) Said chief executive officer shall, on a monthly basis, compile a list of approved applications, categorized by the cash investments being sought by the qualified Connecticut business or the qualified cannabis business and type of qualified securities offered.

(e) (1) Any angel investor that intends to make a cash investment in a business on such list may apply to Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, to reserve a tax credit in the amount indicated by such investor. Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall not reserve tax credits under this section for any investments made in a qualified Connecticut business on or after July 1, 2028, or for any investments made in a qualified cannabis business on or after July 1, 2023.

(2) The aggregate amount of all tax credits under this section that may be reserved by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall not exceed (A) for cash investments made in qualified Connecticut businesses, six million dollars annually for the fiscal years commencing July 1, 2010, to July 1, 2012, inclusive, and five million dollars for each fiscal year thereafter, and (B) for cash investments made in qualified cannabis businesses, fifteen million dollars annually for [each fiscal year] the fiscal years commencing [on or after] July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022.

(3) With respect to the tax credits available under this section for investments in qualified Connecticut businesses, Connecticut

House Bill No. 6941

Innovations, Incorporated, shall not reserve more than seventy-five per cent of such tax credits for investments in emerging technology businesses, except if any such credits remain available for reservation after April first in any fiscal year, such remaining credits may be reserved for investments in such businesses and may be prioritized for veteran-owned, women-owned or minority-owned businesses and businesses owned by individuals with disabilities.

(4) The amount of the credit allowed to any investor pursuant to this section shall not exceed the amount of tax due from such investor under this chapter, other than section 12-707, with respect to such taxable year. Any tax credit that is claimed by the angel investor but not applied against the tax due under this chapter, other than the liability imposed under section 12-707, may be carried forward for the five immediately succeeding taxable years until the full credit has been applied.

(f) If the angel investor is an S corporation or an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, the tax credit may be claimed by the shareholders or partners of the angel investor. If the angel investor is a single member limited liability company that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, the tax credit may be claimed by such limited liability company's owner, provided such owner is a person subject to the tax imposed under this chapter.

(g) A review of the cumulative effectiveness of the credit under this section shall be conducted by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, by July first annually. Such review shall include, but need not be limited to, the number and type of Connecticut businesses and cannabis businesses that received angel investments, the number of angel investors and the aggregate amount of cash investments, the current status of each Connecticut business and cannabis business that received angel investments, the number of employees employed in each year following the year in which such Connecticut business or cannabis business received the angel investment and the economic impact in the state of

House Bill No. 6941

the Connecticut business or cannabis business that received the angel investment. Such review shall be submitted to the Office of Policy and Management and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

Sec. 356. Subsection (c) of section 21a-420f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(c) (1) On and after July 1, 2022, there is established a fund to be known as the "Social Equity and Innovation Fund" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing fund. The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Moneys in the fund shall be appropriated for the purposes of providing the following: Access to capital for businesses; technical assistance for the start-up and operation of a business; funding for workforce education; funding for community investments; and paying costs incurred to implement the activities authorized under RERACA. All such appropriations shall be dedicated to expenditures that further the principles of equity, as defined in section 21a-420.

(2) (A) For the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the Social Equity Council shall transmit, for even-numbered years, estimates of expenditure requirements and for odd-numbered years, recommended adjustments and revisions, if any, of such estimates, to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in the manner prescribed for a budgeted agency under subsection (a) of section 4-77. [The council shall recommend for each fiscal year commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, appropriate funding for all credits payable to angel investors that invest in cannabis businesses pursuant to section 12-704d.]

House Bill No. 6941

(B) The Office of Policy and Management may not make adjustments to any such estimates or adjustments and revisions of such estimates transmitted by the council. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act, the Governor shall not reduce the allotment requisitions or allotments in force pursuant to section 4-85 or make reductions in allotments in order to achieve budget savings in the General Fund, concerning any appropriations made by the General Assembly for the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

Sec. 357. Section 10-416 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

(a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

(1) "Department" means the Department of Economic and Community Development;

(2) "Historic home" means a building that: (A) Will contain one-to-four dwelling units of which at least one unit will be occupied as the principal residence of the owner for not less than five years following the completion of rehabilitation work, and (B) is (i) listed individually on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or (ii) located in a district listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, and has been certified by the department as contributing to the historic character of such district;

(3) "Nonprofit corporation" means a nonprofit corporation incorporated pursuant to chapter 602 or any predecessor statutes thereto, having as one of its purposes the construction, rehabilitation, ownership or operation of housing and having articles of incorporation approved by the Commissioner of Economic and Community

House Bill No. 6941

Development in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to section 8-79a or 8-84;

(4) "Owner" means (A) any taxpayer filing a state of Connecticut tax return who possesses title to an historic home, or prospective title to an historic home in the form of a purchase agreement or option to purchase, or (B) a nonprofit corporation that possesses such title or prospective title;

(5) "Qualified rehabilitation expenditures" means any costs incurred for the physical construction involved in the rehabilitation of an historic home, but excludes: (A) The owner's personal labor, (B) the cost of site improvements, unless to provide building access to persons with disabilities, (C) the cost of a new addition, except as may be required to comply with any provision of the State Building Code or the Fire Safety Code, (D) any cost associated with the rehabilitation of an outbuilding, unless such building contributes to the historical significance of the historic home, and (E) any nonconstruction cost such as architectural fees, legal fees and financing fees;

(6) "Rehabilitation plan" means any construction plans and specifications for the proposed rehabilitation of an historic home in sufficient detail to enable the department to evaluate compliance with the standards developed under the provisions of subsections (b), (c) and (m) of this section; and

(7) "Occupancy period" means a period of five years during which one or more owners occupy an historic home as such owner's or owners' primary residence. The occupancy period begins on the date the tax credit voucher is issued by the Department of Economic and Community Development.

(b) The Department of Economic and Community Development shall administer a system of tax credit vouchers within the resources,

House Bill No. 6941

requirements and purposes of this section for owners rehabilitating historic homes or taxpayers making contributions to qualified rehabilitation expenditures. [For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2000, any] Any owner shall be eligible for a tax credit voucher in an amount equal to thirty per cent of the qualified rehabilitation expenditures.

(c) The department shall develop standards for the approval of rehabilitation of historic homes for which a tax credit voucher is sought. Such standards shall take into account whether the rehabilitation of an historic home will preserve the historic character of the building.

(d) Prior to beginning any rehabilitation work on an historic home, the owner shall submit a rehabilitation plan to the department for a determination of whether such rehabilitation work meets the standards developed under the provisions of subsections (b), (c) and (m) of this section and shall also submit to the department an estimate of the qualified rehabilitation expenditures.

(e) If the department certifies that the rehabilitation plan conforms to the standards developed under the provisions of subsections (b), (c) and (m) of this section, the department shall reserve for the benefit of the owner an allocation for a tax credit equivalent to thirty per cent of the projected qualified rehabilitation expenditures.

(f) Following the completion of rehabilitation of an historic home, the owner shall notify the department that such rehabilitation has been completed. The owner shall provide the department with documentation of work performed on the historic home and shall certify the cost incurred in rehabilitating the home. The department shall review such rehabilitation and verify its compliance with the rehabilitation plan. Following such verification, the department shall issue a tax credit voucher to either the owner rehabilitating the historic home or to the taxpayer named by the owner as contributing to the

House Bill No. 6941

rehabilitation. The tax credit voucher shall be in an amount equivalent to the lesser of (1) the tax credit reserved upon certification of the rehabilitation plan under the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, or (2) thirty per cent of the actual qualified rehabilitation expenditures. In order to obtain a credit against any state tax due that is specified in [subsections (i) to (l), inclusive,] subsection (i) of this section, the holder of the tax credit voucher shall file the voucher with the holder's state tax return.

(g) Before the department issues a tax credit voucher, the owner shall deliver a signed statement to the department [which] that provides that: (1) The owner shall occupy the historic home as the owner's primary residence during the occupancy period; [, or] (2) the owner shall convey the historic home to a new owner who will occupy it as the new owner's primary residence during the occupancy period; [,] or (3) an encumbrance shall be recorded, in favor of the local, state or federal government or other funding source, that will require the owner or the owner's successors to occupy the historic home as the primary residence of the owner or the owner's successors for a period equal to or longer than the occupancy period. A copy of any such encumbrance shall be attached to the signed statement.

(h) The owner of an historic home shall not be eligible for a tax credit voucher under subsections (b), (c) and (m) of this section, unless the owner incurs qualified rehabilitation expenditures exceeding fifteen thousand dollars.

(i) (1) The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall grant a tax credit; [to a]

(A) (i) For a taxpayer holding [the] a tax credit voucher issued prior to January 1, 2024, under subsections (d) to (h), inclusive, of this section, against any tax due under chapter 207, 208, 209, 210, 211 or 212 in the amount specified in the tax credit voucher.

House Bill No. 6941

(ii) Any unused portion of such credit under this subparagraph may be carried forward to any or all of the four income years following the year in which the tax credit voucher is issued;

(B) (i) For a taxpayer described under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section holding a tax credit voucher issued on or after January 1, 2024, under subsections (d) to (h), inclusive, of this section, against the tax due under chapter 229 in the amount specified in the tax credit voucher.

(ii) If the amount of the tax credit voucher exceeds the taxpayer's liability for the tax imposed under chapter 229, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall treat such excess as an overpayment and, except as provided under section 12-739 or 12-742, shall refund the amount of such excess, without interest, to the taxpayer; and

(C) (i) For an owner that is a nonprofit corporation holding a tax credit voucher issued on or after January 1, 2024, under subsections (d) to (h), inclusive, of this section, against the tax due under chapter 208a in the amount specified in the tax credit voucher.

(ii) Any unused portion of such credit under this subparagraph may be carried forward to any or all of the four income years following the year in which the tax credit voucher is issued.

(2) The Department of Economic and Community Development shall provide a copy of the voucher to the Commissioner of Revenue Services upon the request of said commissioner.

(j) A credit allowed under this section shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars per dwelling unit for an historic home, except that such credit shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars per such dwelling unit for an owner that is a nonprofit corporation.

(k) The tax credit granted under subsection (i) of this section shall be

House Bill No. 6941

taken in the same tax year in which the tax credit voucher is issued. [Any unused portion of such credit may be carried forward to any or all of the four income years following the year in which the tax credit voucher is issued.]

(l) The aggregate amount of all tax credits [which] that may be reserved by the Department of Economic and Community Development upon certification of rehabilitation plans under subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section shall not exceed three million dollars in any one fiscal year. On and after July 1, 2015, seventy per cent of the tax credits reserved pursuant to this section shall be for owners rehabilitating historic homes that are located in a regional center as designated in the state plan of conservation and development adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to section 16a-30 or taxpayers making contributions to qualified rehabilitation expenditures on historic homes that are located in a regional center as designated in the state plan of conservation and development adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to section 16a-30.

(m) The Department of Economic and Community Development may, in consultation with the Commissioner of Revenue Services, adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to carry out the purposes of this section.

Sec. 358. Section 2-71x of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2018] 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Comptroller shall segregate [two million six] three million two hundred thousand dollars of the amount of the funds received by the state from the tax imposed under chapter 211 on public service companies providing community antenna television service in this state. The moneys segregated by the Comptroller shall be deposited with the Treasurer and made available to the Office of Legislative

House Bill No. 6941

Management to defray the cost of providing the citizens of this state with Connecticut Television Network coverage of state government deliberations and public policy events.

Sec. 359. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working group to examine the taxation of reservation land held in trust for federally recognized Indian tribes in the state and tangible personal property located on such reservation land. The working group shall consist of (1) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, who shall be the chairperson of the working group, (2) the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, local governments and finance, revenue and bonding, (3) at least one representative of each such tribe, and (4) at least one representative of each municipality that is impacted by any change to the taxation of such property.

(b) The chairperson of the working group shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(c) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2024, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

Sec. 360. Section 12-699 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) As used in this chapter:

(1) "Partnership" has the same meaning as provided in Section 7701(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, as defined in section 12-213, and regulations adopted thereunder. "Partnership" includes a limited liability company that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes;

(2) "S corporation" means a corporation or a limited liability company that is treated as an S corporation for federal income tax purposes;

(3) "Affected business entity" means a partnership or an S corporation, but does not include a publicly-traded partnership, as defined in Section 7704(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, that has agreed to file an annual return pursuant to section 12-726 reporting the name, address, Social Security number or federal employer identification number and such other information required by the Commissioner of Revenue Services of each unitholder whose distributive share of partnership income derived from or connected with sources within this state was more than five hundred dollars;

(4) "Member" means (A) a shareholder of an S corporation, (B) a partner in (i) a general partnership, (ii) a limited partnership, or (iii) a limited liability partnership, or (C) a member of a limited liability company that is treated as a partnership or an S corporation for federal income tax purposes; [and]

(5) "Taxable year" means the taxable year of an affected business entity for federal income tax purposes;

(6) "Resident of this state" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-701;

(7) "Resident portion of un sourced income" means un sourced income multiplied by a percentage equal to the sum of the ownership interests

House Bill No. 6941

in the affected business entity owned by members who are residents of this state;

(8) "Unsources income" means the separately and nonseparately computed items, as described in Section 702(a) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership or Section 1366 of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to an S corporation, of the affected business entity, excluding any item treated as an itemized deduction for federal income tax purposes, plus any item described in Section 707(c) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership, regardless of the location from which such item is derived or connected, as increased or decreased by any modification described in section 12-701, that relates to an item of the affected business entity's income, gain, loss or deduction, regardless of the location from which such item is derived or connected, less (A) Connecticut source income, and (B) (i) the separately and nonseparately computed items, as described in Section 702(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, of the affected business entity, excluding any item treated as an itemized deduction for federal income tax purposes, plus any item described in Section 707(c) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership, to the extent any such items under this clause are derived from or connected with sources within another state that has jurisdiction to tax the affected business entity and actually imposes tax on the affected business entity or its members who are residents of this state, with respect to such items, (ii) as increased or decreased by any modification described in section 12-701, that relates to an item of the affected business entity's income, gain, loss or deduction, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within another state that has jurisdiction to tax the affected business entity and actually imposes tax on the affected business entity or its members who are residents of this state, with respect to such items;

(9) "Modified Connecticut source income" means Connecticut source income multiplied by a percentage equal to the sum of the ownership

House Bill No. 6941

interests in the affected business entity owned by members that are (A) subject to tax under chapter 229, or (B) affected business entities to the extent such entities are directly or indirectly owned by persons subject to tax under chapter 229. A member that is an affected business entity shall be presumed to be directly or indirectly owned by persons subject to tax under chapter 229 unless the affected business entity that has elected to pay the tax under this section can establish otherwise by clear and convincing evidence to the satisfaction of the commissioner; and

(10) "Connecticut source income" means (A) the separately and nonseparately computed items, as described in Section 702(a) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership or Section 1366 of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to an S corporation, of the affected business entity, excluding any item treated as an itemized deduction for federal income tax purposes, plus any item described in Section 707(c) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership, to the extent any such items under this subparagraph are derived from or connected with sources within this state, as determined under the provisions of chapter 229, (B) as increased or decreased by any modification described in section 12-701 that relates to an item of the affected business entity's income, gain, loss or deduction, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as determined under the provisions of chapter 229.

(b) [Each] For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024, an affected business entity that is required to file a return under the provisions of section 12-726 may elect to pay to the commissioner a tax as determined under this section. Any affected business entity making such election shall submit written notice of such election to the commissioner (1) not later than the due date or, if an extension of time to file has been requested and granted, the extended due date, of the return due from such entity, and (2) for each taxable year such entity makes the election under this subsection. Each affected business entity

House Bill No. 6941

that has made the election under this subsection shall pay to the commissioner, on or before the fifteenth day of the third month following the close of each taxable year [, pay to the commissioner] that such entity makes such election, a tax as determined under this section.

(c) The tax due under subsection (b) of this section shall be equal to [(1) (A) the separately and nonseparately computed items, as described in Section 702(a) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership or Section 1366 of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to an S corporation, of the affected business entity, excluding any item treated as an itemized deduction for federal income tax purposes, plus any item described in Section 707(c) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership, to the extent any such items under this subparagraph are derived from or connected with sources within this state, as determined under the provisions of chapter 229, (B) as increased or decreased by any modification described in section 12-701 that relates to an item of the affected business entity's income, gain, loss or deduction, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as determined under the provisions of chapter 229, (2) multiplied by six and ninety-nine-hundredths per cent. If the amount calculated under subdivision (1) of this subsection results in a net loss, such net loss may be carried forward to succeeding taxable years until fully used] six and ninety-nine-hundredths per cent multiplied by the tax base. The tax base shall be equal to the resident portion of un sourced income plus modified Connecticut source income.

(d) If an affected business entity, the lower-tier entity, is a member of another affected business entity, the upper-tier entity, the lower-tier entity shall, when calculating [the amount under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section] its Connecticut source income, subtract its distributive share of income or add its distributive share of loss from the upper-tier entity to the extent that the income or loss was derived from or connected with sources within this state.

House Bill No. 6941

[(e) A nonresident individual who is a member of an affected business entity shall not be required to file an income tax return under the provisions of chapter 229 for a taxable year if, for such taxable year, the only source of income derived from or connected with sources within this state for such member, or the member and the member's spouse if a joint federal income tax return is or shall be filed, is from one or more affected business entities and such nonresident individual member's tax under chapter 229 would be fully satisfied by the credit allowed to such individual under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of this section.]

[(f)] (e) Each affected business entity shall report to each of its members, for each taxable year, such member's direct share of the tax imposed under this section on such affected business entity and indirect share of the tax imposed on any upper-tier entity of which such affected business entity is a member.

[(g) (1) (A)] (f) (1) Each person that is subject to the tax imposed under chapter 229 and is a member of an affected business entity shall be entitled to a credit against the tax imposed under said chapter, other than the tax imposed under section 12-707. Such credit shall be in an amount equal to such person's direct and indirect share of the tax due and paid under this section by any affected business entity of which such person is a member multiplied by eighty-seven and one-half per cent. If the amount of the credit allowed pursuant to this subdivision exceeds such person's tax liability for the tax imposed under said chapter, the commissioner shall treat such excess as an overpayment and, except as provided in section 12-739 or 12-742, shall refund the amount of such excess, without interest, to such person.

[(B)] (2) Each person that is subject to the tax imposed under chapter 229 as a resident or a part-year resident of this state and is a member of an affected business entity shall also be entitled to a credit against the tax imposed under said chapter, other than the tax imposed under

House Bill No. 6941

section 12-707, for such person's direct and indirect share of taxes paid to another state of the United States or the District of Columbia, on income of any affected business entity of which such person is a member that is derived therefrom, provided the taxes paid to another state of the United States or the District of Columbia results from a tax that [the commissioner determines] is substantially similar to the tax imposed under this section. Any such credit shall be calculated in [the] a manner [prescribed by the commissioner, which shall be] consistent with the provisions of section 12-704.

[(2) Each company that is subject to the tax imposed under chapter 208 and is a member of an affected business entity shall be entitled to a credit against the tax imposed under said chapter. Such credit shall be in an amount equal to such company's direct and indirect share of the tax paid under this section by any affected business entity of which such company is a member multiplied by eighty-seven and one-half per cent. Such credit shall be applied after all other credits are applied and shall not be subject to the limits imposed under section 12-217zz. Any credit that is not used in the income year during which the affected business entity incurs the tax under this section shall be carried forward to each of the succeeding income years by the company until such credit is fully taken against the tax under chapter 208.]

[(h)] (g) Upon the failure of any affected business entity to pay the tax due under this section within thirty days of the due date, the provisions of section 12-35 shall apply with respect to the enforcement of this section and the collection of such tax. The warrant therein provided for shall be signed by the commissioner or an authorized agent of the commissioner. The amount of any such tax, penalty and interest shall be a lien, from the last day of the last month of the taxable year next preceding the due date of such tax until discharged by payment, against all real estate of the taxpayer within the state, and a certificate of such lien signed by the commissioner may be recorded in the office of the

House Bill No. 6941

clerk of any town in which such real estate is situated, provided no such lien shall be effective as against any bona fide purchaser or qualified encumbrancer of any interest in any such property. When any tax with respect to which a lien has been recorded under the provisions of this section has been satisfied, the commissioner, upon request of any interested party, shall issue a certificate discharging such lien, which certificate shall be recorded in the same office in which the lien was recorded. Any action for the foreclosure of such lien shall be brought by the Attorney General in the name of the state in the superior court for the judicial district in which the property subject to such lien is situated, or, if such property is located in two or more judicial districts, in the superior court for any one such judicial district, and the court may limit the time for redemption or order the sale of such property or make such other or further decree as it judges equitable.

[(i)] (h) If any tax is not paid when due as provided in this section, there shall be added to the amount of the tax interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof from the date the tax became due until it is paid.

[(j)] (1) Any affected business entity subject to tax under this section may elect to file a combined return together with one or more other commonly-owned affected business entities subject to tax under this section. Each affected business entity making such election shall submit written notice of such election to file a combined return, including the written consent of the other commonly-owned affected business entities to such election, to the commissioner not later than the due date, or if an extension of time to file has been requested and granted, the extended due date, of the returns due from such entities. An affected business entity shall submit such written notice and consent for each taxable year such entity makes the election under this subdivision. Each affected business entity electing to file a combined return under this subdivision shall be jointly and severally liable for the tax due under this section. For

House Bill No. 6941

the purposes of this subdivision, "commonly-owned" means that more than eighty per cent of the voting control of an affected business entity is directly or indirectly owned by a common owner or owners, either corporate or noncorporate. Whether voting control is indirectly owned shall be determined in accordance with Section 318 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(2) Except as provided in subdivision (5) of this subsection, affected business entities that elect to file a combined return under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall net the amounts each such entity calculates under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section after such amounts are separately apportioned or allocated by each affected business entity in accordance with this section.

(3) Affected business entities that elect to file a combined return under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall report to the commissioner the portion of the direct and indirect share of the tax paid with the combined return that is allocated to each of their members. Such report shall be filed with the combined return and the allocation reported shall be irrevocable.

(4) The election made under this subsection shall not affect the calculation of tax due under any other provision of the general statutes other than with respect to the calculation of the credits under subsection (g) of this section.

(5) Affected business entities that elect to file a combined return under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall calculate their tax due in accordance with subsection (c) of this section unless each such entity elects under subsection (k) of this section to calculate its tax due on the alternative basis under subsection (l) of this section. If such election is made, the affected business entities shall net their alternative tax bases instead of netting the amounts under subdivision (2) of this subsection.

House Bill No. 6941

(k) In lieu of calculating the tax due in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, any affected business entity may elect to calculate the tax due on the alternative basis under subsection (l) of this section. An affected business entity making such election shall submit to the commissioner written notice of such election not later than the due date, or if an extension of time to file has been requested and granted, the extended due date, of the return due from such entity. An affected business entity shall submit such written notice for each taxable year such entity makes the election under this subsection. The election made under this subsection shall not affect the calculation of tax due under any other provision of the general statutes other than with respect to the calculation of the credits under subsection (g) of this section.

(l) (1) The tax due from an affected business entity making the election under subsection (k) of this section shall be equal to six and ninety-nine-hundredths per cent multiplied by the alternative tax base. The alternative tax base shall be equal to the resident portion of un sourced income plus modified Connecticut source income.

(2) For the purposes of this subsection:

(A) "Resident portion of un sourced income" means un sourced income multiplied by a percentage equal to the sum of the ownership interests in the affected business entity owned by members who are residents of this state, as defined in section 12-701;

(B) "Un sourced income" means the separately and nonseparately computed items, as described in Section 702(a) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership or Section 1366 of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to an S corporation, of the affected business entity, excluding any item treated as an itemized deduction for federal income tax purposes, plus any item described in Section 707(c) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership, regardless of the location from which such item is derived or connected, as increased or

House Bill No. 6941

decreased by any modification described in section 12-701, that relates to an item of the affected business entity's income, gain, loss or deduction, regardless of the location from which such item is derived or connected, less (i) the amount determined under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, determined without regard to subsection (d) of this section, and (ii) (I) the separately and nonseparately computed items, as described in Section 702(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, of the affected business entity, excluding any item treated as an itemized deduction for federal income tax purposes, plus any item described in Section 707(c) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to a partnership, to the extent any such items under this subclause are derived from or connected with sources within another state that has jurisdiction to subject the affected business entity to tax, as determined under the provisions of chapter 229, (II) as increased or decreased by any modification described in section 12-701, that relates to an item of the affected business entity's income, gain or deduction, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within another state that has jurisdiction to subject the affected business entity to tax, as determined under the provisions of chapter 229; and

(C) "Modified Connecticut source income" means the amount calculated under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section multiplied by a percentage equal to the sum of the ownership interests in the affected business entity owned by members that are (i) subject to tax under chapter 229, or (ii) affected business entities to the extent such entities are directly or indirectly owned by persons subject to tax under chapter 229. A member that is an affected business entity shall be presumed to be directly or indirectly owned by persons subject to tax under chapter 229 unless the affected business entity subject to tax under this section can establish otherwise by clear and convincing evidence to the satisfaction of the commissioner.]

[(m)] (i) The provisions of sections 12-723, 12-725 and 12-728 to 12-

House Bill No. 6941

737, inclusive, shall apply to the provisions of this section in the same manner and with the same force and effect as if the language of said sections had been incorporated in full into this section and had expressly referred to the tax under this section, except to the extent that any such provision is inconsistent with a provision of this section.

Sec. 361. Section 12-699a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

(a) As used in this section, "required annual payment" means the lesser of (1) ninety per cent of the tax under section 12-699 that is reported on the return filed for the taxable year or, if no return is filed, ninety per cent of the tax due under section 12-699, or (2) if the preceding taxable year was a taxable year of twelve months and the affected business entity filed a return for such taxable year, one hundred per cent of the tax under section 12-699 that is reported on such return.

(b) (1) Each affected business entity required to pay or, with respect to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024, elects to pay, the tax imposed under section 12-699 and whose required annual payment for the taxable year is greater than or equal to one thousand dollars shall make the required annual payment each taxable year, in four required estimated tax installments on the following due dates: (A) For the first required installment, the fifteenth day of the fourth month of the taxable year; (B) for the second required installment, the fifteenth day of the sixth month of the taxable year; (C) for the third required installment, the fifteenth day of the ninth month of the taxable year; and (D) for the fourth required installment, the fifteenth day of the first month of the next succeeding taxable year. An affected business entity may elect to pay any required installment prior to the specified due date. Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the amount of each required installment shall be twenty-five per cent of the required annual payment.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) (A) For any required installment, if the affected business entity establishes that its annualized income installment calculated pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision is less than the amount determined under subsection (a) of this section, the amount of such required installment shall be the annualized income installment. Any reduction in a required installment resulting pursuant to this subdivision shall be recaptured by increasing the amount of the next required installment by the amount of such reduction and by increasing subsequent required installments to the extent such reduction has not previously been recaptured under this subdivision.

(B) The annualized income installment is the amount by which (i) the amount equal to the applicable percentage, as set forth in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, multiplied by the tax imposed under section 12-699 for the taxable year that would be due if income subject to tax under said section for the months in the taxable year ending before the due date of the installment was annualized, (ii) exceeds the aggregate amount of any prior required installments for the taxable year.

(C) For the purposes of subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the applicable percentages shall be as follows: (i) For the first required installment, twenty-two and one-half per cent; (ii) for the second required installment, forty-five per cent; (iii) for the third required installment, sixty-seven and one-half per cent; and (iv) for the fourth required installment, ninety per cent.

(c) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, in the case of any underpayment of estimated tax by an affected business entity, there shall be added to the tax imposed under section 12-699 an amount determined by applying interest (A) at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof, (B) to the amount of the underpayment, (C) for the period of the underpayment.

(2) For the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection, (A) the

House Bill No. 6941

amount of the underpayment is the amount by which the required installment exceeds the amount, if any, of the installment paid on or before the due date of the installment, and (B) the period of the underpayment runs from the due date of the installment to whichever date is earlier: (i) The fifteenth day of the third month of the next succeeding taxable year, or (ii) with respect to any portion of the underpayment, the date on which such portion is paid. Any payment of estimated tax under this section shall be credited against unpaid or underpaid required installments in the order in which such installments are required to be paid.

(d) Payment of the estimated tax under this section or any required installment thereof shall be considered payment on account of the tax imposed under section 12-699 for the taxable year. If an affected business entity makes payment of estimated tax pursuant to this section against the tax due under this chapter for a taxable year and (1) does not make the election under subsection (b) of section 12-699, or (2) such payments exceed the amount due under said subsection for such taxable year, such payments shall be deemed to be made against the tax liability of the affected business entity under section 12-719.

(e) For taxable years of less than twelve months, the provisions of this section shall apply in a manner consistent with the regulations adopted under chapter 229 pertaining to such taxable years.

Sec. 362. Section 12-719 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

(a) The income tax return required under this chapter shall be filed on or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month following the close of the taxpayer's taxable year. A person required to make and file a return shall, without assessment, notice or demand, pay any tax due thereon to the Commissioner of Revenue Services on or before the date fixed for

House Bill No. 6941

filing such return, determined without regard to any extension of time for filing the return.

(b) (1) (A) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, and prior to January 1, 2024.

(B) With respect to each of its nonresident partners, each partnership doing business in this state or having income derived from or connected with sources within this state shall, for each taxable year, make payment to the commissioner as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(C) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024, the payment due with respect to each nonresident partner under this subsection shall be reduced by such partner's direct and indirect credit properly reported by the partnership under subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 12-699. In no event shall the payment with respect to any nonresident partner be less than zero.

(2) (A) Any payment under this subdivision shall be in an amount equal to the highest marginal tax rate in effect under section 12-700 for the taxable year multiplied by the subject partner's distributive share of (i) such partnership's separately and nonseparately computed items, as described in Section 702(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as determined under this chapter, and (ii) any modification described in section 12-701 which relates to an item of such partnership's income, gain, loss or deduction, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as determined under this chapter. Any amount paid by a partnership to this state with respect to any taxable year pursuant to this subdivision shall be considered to be a payment by the partner on account of the income tax imposed on the partner for such taxable year pursuant to this chapter. A partnership shall not be liable to, and shall be entitled to recover a payment made pursuant to this subdivision

House Bill No. 6941

from, the partner on whose behalf the payment was made. Any payment for a taxable year shall be made on or before the date the annual return for such taxable year is required to be filed pursuant to section 12-726. The partnership shall furnish, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, to each partner on whose behalf payment was made under this subdivision no later than the fifteenth day of the [fourth] third month following the close of the partnership's taxable year a record of the amount of the tax paid on behalf of such partner by the partnership with respect to the taxable year.

(B) (i) If income from one or more pass-through entities, as defined in subparagraph (D) of this subdivision, is the only source of income derived from or connected with Connecticut sources of a partner, or the partner and his or her spouse if a joint federal income tax return is or shall be made, the filing by the partnership of an annual return pursuant to section 12-726 and the payment by the partnership on behalf of the partner of the tax prescribed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall satisfy the filing and payment requirements otherwise separately imposed on the partner by this chapter. The commissioner may make any deficiency assessment against, at the commissioner's sole discretion, either the partnership or the partner, provided any such assessment against the partner shall be limited to the partner's share thereof. Except as otherwise provided in section 12-733, any such assessment shall be made not later than three years after the partnership's annual return pursuant to section 12-726 is filed. The commissioner may refund or credit any overpayment to either the partnership or the partner, in the commissioner's sole discretion. Except as otherwise provided in section 12-732, any such overpayment shall be refunded or credited not later than three years from the due date of the partnership's annual return pursuant to section 12-726 or, if the time for filing such return was extended, not later than three years from the date on which such return is filed or the extended due date of such return, whichever is earlier.

House Bill No. 6941

(ii) If income from one or more pass-through entities, as defined in subparagraph (D) of this subdivision, is not the only source of income derived from or connected with Connecticut sources of a partner, or the partner and his or her spouse if a joint federal income tax return is or shall be made, nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as excusing the partner from the obligation to file his or her own separate tax return under this chapter. In such event, the partner shall receive credit for the income tax paid under this subdivision by the partnership on his or her behalf. The commissioner may make any deficiency assessment that is related to the partner's share of partnership items against either, in the commissioner's sole discretion, the partnership or the partner. If the commissioner chooses to make any deficiency assessment against the partnership, then, except as otherwise provided in section 12-733, any such assessment shall be made not later than three years after the partnership's annual return pursuant to section 12-726 is filed. The commissioner may refund or credit any overpayment that is related to the partner's share of partnership items to either, in the commissioner's sole discretion, the partnership or the partner. If the commissioner chooses to refund or credit any overpayment to the partnership, then, except as otherwise provided in section 12-732, any such overpayment shall be refunded or credited not later than three years from the due date of the partnership's annual return pursuant to section 12-726 or, if the time for filing such return was extended, not later than three years from the date on which such return is filed or the extended due date of such return, whichever is earlier.

(C) Notwithstanding any provision of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, a partnership shall not be required to make a payment on account of the income tax imposed on a partner for a taxable year pursuant to this chapter if (i) the partner's distributive share of partnership income, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as reflected on the partnership's annual return for the taxable year under section 12-726, is less than one thousand

House Bill No. 6941

dollars; (ii) the department has determined by regulation, ruling or instruction that the partner's income is not subject to the provisions of this subdivision; or (iii) the partnership is a publicly traded partnership, as defined in Section 7704(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes and that has agreed to file the annual return pursuant to section 12-726, and to report therewith the name, address, Social Security number or federal employer identification number, and other information required by the department concerning each unitholder whose distributive share of partnership income, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as reflected on such annual return, is more than five hundred dollars.

(D) If a member of a pass-through entity, referred to in this subparagraph as an "upper-tier pass-through entity", is itself a pass-through entity, the member, referred to in this subparagraph as a "lower-tier pass-through entity", shall be subject to the same requirements to make payment, on behalf of its members, of the income tax imposed on those members pursuant to this chapter that apply to the upper-tier pass-through entity under this subdivision. The department shall apply the income tax paid by the upper-tier pass-through entity, on behalf of the lower-tier pass-through entity, to the income tax required to be paid by the lower-tier pass-through entity, on behalf of its members. For purposes of this subdivision, "pass-through entity" means an S corporation, general partnership, limited partnership, limited liability partnership or limited liability company that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes; and "member" means a shareholder of an S corporation, a partner in a general partnership, a limited partnership, or a limited liability partnership and a member of a limited liability company that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

(E) For purposes of section 12-740, a nonresident individual who is a

House Bill No. 6941

member of a pass-through entity, as defined in subparagraph (D) of this subdivision, shall not be required to file an income tax return under this chapter for a taxable year if, for such taxable year, the only source of income derived from or connected with Connecticut sources of such member, or the member and his or her spouse if a joint federal income tax return is or shall be made, is from one or more pass-through entities, and the sum of such income derived from or connected with Connecticut sources from such one or more pass-through entities is less than one thousand dollars.

(c) (1) (A) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, and prior to January 1, 2024.

(B) With respect to each of its nonresident shareholders, each S corporation doing business in this state or having income derived from or connected with sources within this state shall, for each taxable year, make payment to the commissioner as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(C) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024, the payment due with respect to each nonresident shareholder under this subsection shall be reduced by such shareholder's direct and indirect credit properly reported by the S corporation under subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 12-699. In no event shall the payment with respect to any nonresident shareholder be less than zero.

(2) (A) Any payment under this subdivision shall be in an amount equal to the highest marginal tax rate in effect under section 12-700 for the taxable year multiplied by the subject shareholder's pro rata share of (i) such S corporation's separately and nonseparately computed items, as described in Section 1366 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as determined under this chapter, and (ii) any modification described in section 12-701

House Bill No. 6941

which relates to an item of such S corporation's income, gain, loss or deduction, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as determined under this chapter. Any amount paid by an S corporation to this state with respect to any taxable year pursuant to this subdivision shall be considered to be a payment by the shareholder on account of the income tax imposed on the shareholder for such taxable year pursuant to this chapter. An S corporation shall not be liable to, and shall be entitled to recover a payment made pursuant to this subdivision from, the shareholder on whose behalf the payment was made. Any payment for a taxable year shall be made at or before the date the annual return for such taxable year is required to be filed pursuant to section 12-726. The S corporation shall furnish, on a form prescribed by the department, to each shareholder on whose behalf payment was made under this subdivision no later than the fifteenth day of the ~~fourth~~ third month following the close of the S corporation's taxable year a record of the amount of the tax paid on behalf of such shareholder by the S corporation with respect to the taxable year.

(B) (i) If income from one or more pass-through entities, as defined in subparagraph (D) of this subdivision, is the only source of income derived from or connected with Connecticut sources of a shareholder, or the shareholder and his or her spouse if a joint federal income tax return is or shall be made, the filing by the S corporation of an annual return pursuant to section 12-726 and the payment by the S corporation on behalf of the shareholder of the tax prescribed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall satisfy the filing and payment requirements otherwise separately imposed on the shareholder by this chapter. The commissioner may make any deficiency assessment against, at the commissioner's sole discretion, either the S corporation or the shareholder, provided any such assessment against the shareholder shall be limited to the shareholder's share thereof. Except as otherwise provided in section 12-733, any such assessment shall be made not later than three years after the S corporation's annual return pursuant to

House Bill No. 6941

section 12-726 is filed. The commissioner may refund or credit any overpayment to either the S corporation or the shareholder, in the commissioner's sole discretion. Except as otherwise provided in section 12-732, any such overpayment shall be refunded or credited not later than three years from the due date of the S corporation's annual return pursuant to section 12-726 or, if the time for filing such return was extended, not later than three years from the date on which such return is filed or the extended due date of such return, whichever is earlier.

(ii) If income from one or more pass-through entities, as defined in subparagraph (D) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, is not the only source of income derived from or connected with Connecticut sources of a shareholder, or the shareholder and his or her spouse if a joint federal income tax return is or shall be made, nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as excusing the shareholder from the obligation to file his or her own separate tax return under this chapter. In such event, the shareholder shall receive credit for the income tax paid under this subdivision by the S corporation on his or her behalf. The commissioner may make any deficiency assessment that is related to the shareholder's share of S corporation items against either, in the commissioner's sole discretion, the S corporation or the shareholder. If the commissioner chooses to make any deficiency assessment against the S corporation, then, except as otherwise provided in section 12-733, any such assessment shall be made not later than three years after the S corporation's annual return pursuant to section 12-726 is filed. The commissioner may refund or credit any overpayment that is related to the shareholder's share of S corporation items to either, in the commissioner's sole discretion, the S corporation or the shareholder. If the commissioner chooses to refund or credit any overpayment to the S corporation, then, except as otherwise provided in section 12-732, any such overpayment shall be refunded or credited not later than three years from the due date of the S corporation's annual return pursuant to section 12-726 or, if the time for filing such return

House Bill No. 6941

was extended, not later than three years from the date on which such return is filed or the extended due date of such return, whichever is earlier.

(C) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, an S corporation shall not be required to make a payment on account of the income tax imposed on a shareholder for a taxable year pursuant to this chapter if (i) the shareholder's distributive share of S corporation income, to the extent derived from or connected with sources within this state, as reflected on the S corporation's annual return for the taxable year under section 12-726, is less than one thousand dollars; or (ii) the department has determined by regulation, ruling or instruction that the shareholder's income is not subject to the provisions of this subdivision.

(D) For purposes of this subdivision, the provisions of subparagraphs (D) and (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section apply.

(d) (1) In lieu of filing a return pursuant to this section, the commissioner may, if he determines that the enforcement of this chapter would not be adversely affected and pursuant to requirements and conditions set forth in forms and instructions, provide for the filing of a composite return for every qualifying nonresident member of a professional athletic team by such team, if such team is doing business in this state or the members of such team have compensation which is received for services rendered as members of such team and which is derived from or connected with sources within this state.

(2) If a professional athletic team is required to file a composite return pursuant to this subsection, the commissioner may, if he determines that the enforcement of this chapter would not be adversely affected, require such team, in lieu of deducting and withholding Connecticut income tax as may otherwise be required under section 12-705, to make payment to the commissioner of tax, estimated tax, additions to tax, interest and

House Bill No. 6941

penalties otherwise required to be paid to the commissioner by such qualifying nonresident members.

(3) The commissioner may, if he determines that the enforcement of this chapter would not be adversely affected, require a professional athletic team, in lieu of deducting and withholding Connecticut income tax as may otherwise be required under section 12-705, to make payment to the commissioner of tax, estimated tax, additions to tax, interest and penalties otherwise required to be paid to the commissioner by every (A) resident member, but only with respect to compensation which is received for services rendered as a member of a professional athletic team and (B) nonresident member who is not a qualifying nonresident member, but only with respect to compensation which is received for services rendered as a member of a professional athletic team and which is derived from or connected with sources within this state.

(4) Any amount paid by a professional athletic team to this state with respect to any taxable period pursuant to this subsection shall be considered to be a payment by the member on account of the income tax imposed on the member for such taxable period pursuant to this chapter. The team shall be entitled to recover a payment made pursuant to this subsection from the member on whose behalf the payment was made.

(5) For purposes of this subsection, "qualifying nonresident member" means a member of a professional athletic team who is a nonresident individual for the entire taxable year, who does not maintain a permanent place of abode in Connecticut at any time during the taxable year, who does not have income derived from or connected with sources within this state other than compensation which is received for services rendered as a member of a professional athletic team and which is derived from or connected with sources within this state.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 363. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 12-217g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

(B) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2022, with respect to an affected business entity claiming a credit under this subsection against the tax due under chapter 228z, the credit available to the members of such entity pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection [(g)] (f) of section 12-699 shall be based upon the amount of tax due under chapter 228z from such entity prior to the application of the credit granted under this subsection and any other payments made against such tax due.

Sec. 364. Subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-733 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

(4) If an affected business entity, as defined in section 12-699, omits from the Connecticut adjusted gross income derived from or connected with sources within Connecticut of any member of such affected business entity an amount properly includable therein that is in excess of twenty-five per cent of the amount of Connecticut adjusted gross income derived from or connected with sources within Connecticut stated in the return [required under] filed pursuant to section 12-699 [,] or section 12-719, a notice of a proposed deficiency assessment may be mailed to the taxpayer not later than six years after the date on which the return is filed. For purposes of this subdivision, there shall not be taken into account any amount that is omitted in the return if such amount is disclosed in the return, or in a statement attached to the return, in a manner adequate to apprise the commissioner of the nature and the amount of such item.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 365. Section 32-7u of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

As used in this section, "affected business entity" and "member" have the same meanings as provided in subsection (a) of section 12-699. An affected business entity that receives a rebate under section 32-7t shall claim such rebate as a credit against the tax due under chapter 228z. If the amount of the rebate allowed pursuant to section 32-7t exceeds the liability for the tax imposed under chapter 228z, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall treat such excess as an overpayment and shall refund the amount of such excess, without interest, to the taxpayer. With respect to an affected business entity granted a rebate pursuant to section 32-7t, the credit available to the members of such entity pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection [(g)] (f) of section 12-699 shall be based upon the amount of tax due under chapter 228z from such entity prior to the application of the rebate granted pursuant to section 32-7t and any other payments made against such tax due.

Sec. 366. Section 12-493a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Carrier" means any person that operates or causes to be operated on any highway in this state any eligible motor vehicle. "Carrier" does not include the state, any political subdivision of the state, the United States or the federal government;

(2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue Services;

(3) "Department" means the Department of Revenue Services;

(4) "Eligible motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, that (A) has a gross weight of twenty-six thousand pounds

House Bill No. 6941

or more, and (B) carries a classification between Class 8 and Class 13, inclusive, under the Federal Highway Administration vehicle classification system. "Eligible motor vehicle" does not include a motor vehicle carrying or transporting milk or dairy [product] products to or from a dairy farm that holds a license to ship milk;

(5) "Gross weight" has the same meaning as provided in section 14-1; and

(6) "Highway" has the same meaning as provided in section 14-1.

(b) (1) For each calendar month commencing on or after January 1, 2023, and prior to October 1, 2023, and for each calendar quarter commencing on or after October 1, 2023, a tax is imposed on every carrier for the privilege of operating or causing to be operated an eligible motor vehicle on any highway of the state. Use of any such highway shall be measured by the number of miles traveled within the state by each eligible motor vehicle operated or caused to be operated by such carrier during each month prior to October 1, 2023, and during each calendar quarter commencing on or after October 1, 2023. The amount of tax due from each carrier shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(2) Each carrier shall calculate the number of miles traveled by each eligible motor vehicle operated or caused to be operated by such carrier within the state during each month prior to October 1, 2023, and during each calendar quarter commencing on or after October 1, 2023. The miles traveled within the state by each eligible motor vehicle shall be multiplied by the tax rate as follows, such rate to be based on the gross weight of each such vehicle:

Gross Weight in Pounds	Rate in Dollars
26,000-28,000	0.0250
28,001-30,000	0.0279
30,001-32,000	0.0308

House Bill No. 6941

32,001-34,000	0.0337
34,001-36,000	0.0365
36,001-38,000	0.0394
38,001-40,000	0.0423
40,001-42,000	0.0452
42,001-44,000	0.0481
44,001-46,000	0.0510
46,001-48,000	0.0538
48,001-50,000	0.0567
50,001-52,000	0.0596
52,001-54,000	0.0625
54,001-56,000	0.0654
56,001-58,000	0.0683
58,001-60,000	0.0712
60,001-62,000	0.0740
62,001-64,000	0.0769
64,001-66,000	0.0798
66,001-68,000	0.0827
68,001-70,000	0.0856
70,001-72,000	0.0885
72,001-74,000	0.0913
74,001-76,000	0.0942
76,001-78,000	0.0971
78,001-80,000	0.1000
80,001 and over	0.1750

(c) (1) Each carrier shall file with the commissioner a return, (A) on or before the last day of each month [a return] for the calendar month immediately preceding, up to and including a return for the month ending September 30, 2023, and (B) on or before the last day of each month following the last day of a calendar quarter commencing on or after October 1, 2023, for the calendar quarter immediately preceding, in such form and containing such information as the commissioner may prescribe. The return shall be accompanied by payment of the amount of the tax shown to be due thereon. Each carrier shall be required to file such return electronically with the department and to make such payment by electronic funds transfer in the manner provided by chapter

House Bill No. 6941

228g, irrespective of whether the carrier would have otherwise been required to file such return electronically or to make such payment by electronic funds transfer under the provisions of said chapter.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 13b-61, the commissioner shall deposit into the Special Transportation Fund established under section 13b-68 the amounts received by the state from the tax imposed under this section.

(d) (1) Each carrier desiring to use any highway of the state on or after January 1, 2023, shall file an application for a permit with the commissioner, in such form and containing such information as the commissioner may prescribe. No carrier may lawfully operate or cause to be operated an eligible motor vehicle in the state on or after January 1, 2023, without obtaining a permit from the commissioner.

(2) Upon receipt of a fully completed application from a carrier, the commissioner shall grant and issue a permit to such carrier. Such permit shall be valid only for the carrier to which it is issued and the eligible motor vehicles such carrier operates or causes to be operated on the highways of the state and shall not be assignable. The carrier shall maintain a copy of the permit within each eligible motor vehicle that such carrier operates or causes to be operated in the state.

(e) (1) Whenever a carrier fails to comply with any provision of this section, the commissioner shall order a hearing to be held, requiring such carrier to show cause why such carrier's permit should not be revoked or suspended. The commissioner shall provide at least ten days' notice, in writing, to such carrier of the date, time and place of such hearing and may serve such notice personally or by registered or certified mail. If, after such hearing, the commissioner revokes or suspends a permit, the commissioner shall not restore such permit to or issue a new permit for such carrier unless the commissioner is satisfied that the carrier will comply with the provisions of this section.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) Whenever a carrier files returns for four successive monthly periods prior to October 1, 2023, or two successive calendar quarters on or after October 1, 2023, showing that none of the eligible motor vehicles operated or caused to be operated by such carrier used any highway of the state, the commissioner shall order a hearing to be held, requiring such carrier to show cause why such carrier's permit should not be cancelled. The commissioner shall provide at least thirty days' notice, in writing, to such carrier of the date, time and place of such hearing and may serve such notice personally or by registered or certified mail. If, after such hearing, the commissioner cancels a permit, the commissioner shall not issue a new permit for such carrier unless the commissioner is satisfied that the carrier will make use of the highways of the state.

(f) Each person, other than a carrier, who is required, on behalf of such carrier, to collect, truthfully account for and pay over a tax imposed on such carrier under this section and who wilfully fails to collect, truthfully account for and pay over such tax or who wilfully attempts in any manner to evade or defeat the tax or the payment thereof, shall, in addition to other penalties provided by law, be liable for a penalty equal to the total amount of the tax evaded, or not collected, or not accounted for and paid over, including any penalty or interest attributable to such wilful failure to collect or truthfully account for and pay over such tax or such wilful attempt to evade or defeat such tax, provided such penalty shall only be imposed against such person in the event that such tax, penalty or interest cannot otherwise be collected from such carrier. The amount of such penalty with respect to which a person may be personally liable under this section shall be collected in accordance with the provisions of subsection (n) of this section and any amount so collected shall be allowed as a credit against the amount of such tax, penalty or interest due and owing from the carrier. The dissolution of the carrier shall not discharge any person in relation to any personal liability under this section for wilful failure to collect or truthfully account for and pay over such tax or for a wilful attempt to evade or

House Bill No. 6941

defeat such tax prior to dissolution, except as otherwise provided in this section. For purposes of this subsection, "person" includes any individual, corporation, limited liability company or partnership and any officer or employee of any corporation, including a dissolved corporation, and a member of or employee of any partnership or limited liability company who, as such officer, employee or member, is under a duty to file a tax return under this section on behalf of a carrier or to collect or truthfully account for and pay over a tax imposed under this section on behalf of such carrier.

(g) (1) The commissioner may examine the records of any carrier subject to a tax imposed under the provisions of this section as the commissioner deems necessary. If the commissioner determines that there is a deficiency with respect to the payment of any such tax due under the provisions of this section, the commissioner shall assess or reassess the deficiency in tax, give notice of such deficiency assessment or reassessment to the taxpayer and make demand upon the taxpayer for payment. Such amount shall bear interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof from the date when the original tax was due and payable. When it appears that any part of the deficiency for which a deficiency assessment is made is due to negligence or intentional disregard of the provisions of this section or regulations promulgated thereunder, there shall be imposed a penalty equal to ten per cent of the amount of such deficiency assessment, or fifty dollars, whichever is greater. When it appears that any part of the deficiency for which a deficiency assessment is made is due to fraud or intent to evade the provisions of this section or regulations promulgated thereunder, there shall be imposed a penalty equal to twenty-five per cent of the amount of such deficiency assessment. No taxpayer shall be subject to more than one penalty under this subsection in relation to the same tax period. Subject to the provisions of section 12-3a, the commissioner may waive all or part of the penalties provided under this section when it is proven to the commissioner's satisfaction that the failure to pay any tax

House Bill No. 6941

was due to reasonable cause and was not intentional or due to neglect. Any decision rendered by any federal court holding that a taxpayer has filed a fraudulent return with the Director of Internal Revenue shall subject the taxpayer to the penalty imposed by this section without the necessity of further proof thereof, except when it can be shown that the return to the state so differed from the return to the federal government as to afford a reasonable presumption that the attempt to defraud did not extend to the return filed with the state. Within thirty days of the mailing of such notice, the taxpayer shall pay to the commissioner, in cash, or by check, draft or money order drawn to the order of the Commissioner of Revenue Services, any additional amount of tax, penalty and interest shown to be due.

(2) Except in the case of a wilfully false or fraudulent return with intent to evade the tax, no assessment of additional tax shall be made after the expiration of more than three years from the date of the filing of a return or from the original due date of a return, whichever is later. If no return has been filed as provided under the provisions of this section, the commissioner may make such return at any time thereafter, according to the best information obtainable and according to the form prescribed. To the tax imposed upon the basis of such return, there shall be added an amount equal to ten per cent of such tax, or fifty dollars, whichever is greater. The tax shall bear interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such tax to the date of payment. Where, before the expiration of the period prescribed herein for the assessment of an additional tax, a taxpayer has consented in writing that such period may be extended, the amount of such additional tax due may be determined at any time within such extended period. The period so extended may be further extended by subsequent consents in writing before the expiration of the extended period.

(h) (1) Any carrier believing that it has overpaid any taxes due under the provisions of this section may file a claim for refund in writing with

House Bill No. 6941

the commissioner within three years from the due date for which such overpayment was made, stating the specific grounds upon which the claim is founded. Failure to file a claim within the time prescribed in this section constitutes a waiver of any demand against the state on account of overpayment. The commissioner shall review such claim within a reasonable time and, if the commissioner determines that a refund is due, the commissioner shall credit the overpayment against any amount then due and payable from the carrier under this section or any provision of the general statutes and shall refund any balance remaining. The commissioner shall notify the Comptroller of the amount of such refund and the Comptroller shall draw an order on the Treasurer in the amount thereof for payment to such carrier. If the commissioner determines that such claim is not valid, either in whole or in part, the commissioner shall mail notice of the proposed disallowance to the claimant, which notice shall set forth briefly the commissioner's findings of fact and the basis of disallowance in each case decided in whole or in part adversely to the claimant. Sixty days after the date on which it is mailed, a notice of proposed disallowance shall constitute a final disallowance except only for such amounts as to which the taxpayer filed, as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a written protest with the commissioner.

(2) On or before the sixtieth day after the mailing of the proposed disallowance, the claimant may file with the commissioner a written protest against the proposed disallowance in which the claimant shall set forth the grounds on which the protest is based. If a protest is filed, the commissioner shall reconsider the proposed disallowance and, if the claimant has so requested, may grant or deny the claimant or the claimant's authorized representatives an oral hearing.

(3) The commissioner shall mail notice of the commissioner's determination to the claimant, which notice shall set forth briefly the commissioner's findings of fact and the basis of decision in each case

House Bill No. 6941

decided in whole or in part adversely to the claimant.

(4) The action of the commissioner on the claimant's protest shall be final upon the expiration of thirty days from the date on which the commissioner mails notice of the commissioner's action to the claimant unless within such period the claimant seeks judicial review of the commissioner's determination pursuant to subsection (l) of this section.

(i) (1) Any person required under this section or regulations adopted thereunder to pay any tax, make a return, keep any record or supply any information, who wilfully fails to pay such tax, make such return, keep such records or supply such information, at the time required by law, shall, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year, or both. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 54-193, no person shall be prosecuted for a violation of the provisions of this subsection committed on or after January 1, 2023, except within three years next after such violation has been committed. As used in this subsection, "person" includes any officer or employee of a corporation or a member or employee of a partnership under a duty to pay such tax, make such return, keep such records or supply such information.

(2) Any person who wilfully delivers or discloses to the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent any list, return, account, statement or other document, known by such person to be fraudulent or false in any material matter, shall, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, be guilty of a class D felony. No person shall be charged with an offense under both subdivision (1) of this subsection and this subdivision in relation to the same tax period but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

(j) (1) Each carrier shall keep such records, receipts, invoices and other pertinent papers in such form as the commissioner requires.

House Bill No. 6941

(2) In addition to the requirements set forth under subdivision (1) of this subsection, each carrier shall maintain, on a monthly basis prior to October 1, 2023, and on a quarterly basis on and after October 1, 2023, a list of all the eligible motor vehicles that such carrier operates or causes to operate on a highway in the state during such month or quarter, as applicable. All such lists shall be maintained by the carrier for not less than four years after the date of each such month or the last day of each such quarter, as applicable, and shall be made available to the commissioner upon request.

(3) The commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent may examine the records, receipts, invoices, other pertinent papers and equipment of any person liable under the provisions of this section and may investigate the character of the business of such person to verify the accuracy of any return made or, if no return is made by such person, to ascertain and determine the amount required to be paid.

(k) Any carrier that is aggrieved by the action of the commissioner or an authorized agent of the commissioner in fixing the amount of any tax, penalty or interest under this section may apply to the commissioner, in writing, not later than sixty days after the notice of such action is delivered or mailed to such carrier, for a hearing and a correction of the amount of such tax, penalty or interest, setting forth the reasons why such hearing should be granted and the amount by which such tax, penalty or interest should be reduced. The commissioner shall promptly consider each such application and may grant or deny the hearing requested. If the hearing request is denied, the carrier shall be notified forthwith. If the hearing request is granted, the commissioner shall notify the carrier of the date, time and place for such hearing. After such hearing, the commissioner may make such order as appears just and lawful to the commissioner and shall furnish a copy of such order to the carrier. The commissioner may, by notice in writing, order a hearing on the commissioner's own initiative and require a carrier or

House Bill No. 6941

any other individual who the commissioner believes to be in possession of relevant information concerning such carrier to appear before the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent with any specified books of account, papers or other documents, for examination under oath.

(l) Any carrier that is aggrieved because of any order, decision, determination or disallowance the commissioner made under subsection (h) or (k) of this section may, not later than thirty days after service of notice of such order, decision, determination or disallowance, take an appeal therefrom to the superior court for the judicial district of New Britain, which appeal shall be accompanied by a citation to the commissioner to appear before said court. Such citation shall be signed by the same authority and such appeal shall be returnable at the same time and served and returned in the same manner as is required in the case of a summons in a civil action. The authority issuing the citation shall take from the appellant a bond or recognizance to the state of Connecticut, with surety, to prosecute the appeal to effect and to comply with the orders and decrees of the court in the premises. Such appeals shall be preferred cases, to be heard, unless cause appears to the contrary, at the first session, by the court or by a committee appointed by the court. Said court may grant such relief as may be equitable and, if such tax has been paid prior to the granting of such relief, may order the Treasurer to pay the amount of such relief. If the appeal has been taken without probable cause, the court may tax double or triple costs, as the case demands and, upon all such appeals that are denied, costs may be taxed against such carrier at the discretion of the court but no costs shall be taxed against the state.

(m) The commissioner and any agent of the commissioner duly authorized to conduct any inquiry, investigation or hearing pursuant to this section shall have power to administer oaths and take testimony under oath relative to the matter of inquiry or investigation. At any

House Bill No. 6941

hearing ordered by the commissioner, the commissioner or the commissioner's agent authorized to conduct such hearing and having authority by law to issue such process may subpoena witnesses and require the production of books, papers and documents pertinent to such inquiry or investigation. No witness under subpoena authorized to be issued under the provisions of this section shall be excused from testifying or from producing books, papers or documentary evidence on the ground that such testimony or the production of such books, papers or documentary evidence would tend to incriminate such witness, but such books, papers or documentary evidence so produced shall not be used in any criminal proceeding against such witness. If any person disobeys such process or, having appeared in obedience thereto, refuses to answer any pertinent question put to such person by the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent, or to produce any books, papers or other documentary evidence pursuant thereto, the commissioner or such agent may apply to the superior court of the judicial district wherein the carrier has a business address or wherein the carrier's business has been conducted, or to any judge of such court if the same is not in session, setting forth such disobedience to process or refusal to answer, and such court or such judge shall cite such person to appear before such court or such judge to answer such question or to produce such books, papers or other documentary evidence and, upon such person's refusal so to do, shall commit such person to a community correctional center until such person testifies, but not for a period longer than sixty days. Notwithstanding the serving of the term of such commitment by any person, the commissioner may proceed in all respects with such inquiry and examination as if the witness had not previously been called upon to testify. Officers who serve subpoenas issued by the commissioner or under the commissioner's authority and witnesses attending hearings conducted by the commissioner pursuant to this section shall receive fees and compensation at the same rates as officers and witnesses in the courts of this state, to be paid on vouchers of the commissioner on order of the Comptroller from the proper

House Bill No. 6941

appropriation for the administration of this section.

(n) The amount of any tax, penalty or interest due and unpaid under the provisions of this section may be collected under the provisions of section 12-35. The warrant provided under said section shall be signed by the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent. The amount of any such tax, penalty and interest shall be a lien on the real estate of the carrier from the last day of the month next preceding the due date of such civil penalty until such civil penalty is paid. The commissioner may record such lien in the records of any town in which the real estate of such carrier is situated but no such lien shall be enforceable against a bona fide purchaser or qualified encumbrancer of such real estate. When any tax with respect to which a lien has been recorded under the provisions of this subsection has been satisfied, the commissioner shall, upon request of any interested party, issue a certificate discharging such lien, which certificate shall be recorded in the same office in which the lien was recorded. Any action for the foreclosure of such lien shall be brought by the Attorney General in the name of the state in the superior court for the judicial district in which the real estate subject to such lien is situated, or, if such real estate is located in two or more judicial districts, in the superior court for any one such judicial district, and the court may limit the time for redemption or order the sale of such real estate or pass such other or further decree as it judges equitable.

(o) No tax credit or credits shall be allowable against the tax imposed under this section.

(p) Any person who knowingly violates any provision of this section for which no other penalty is provided shall be fined one thousand dollars.

(q) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

House Bill No. 6941

(r) At the close of each fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, in which the tax imposed under the provisions of this section is received by the commissioner, the Comptroller is authorized to record as revenue for such fiscal year the amount of such tax that is received by the commissioner not later than five business days from the July thirty-first immediately following the end of such fiscal year.

Sec. 367. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-458h of the general statutes, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2023, the applicable tax rate per gallon of diesel fuel on the sale or use of such fuel during said fiscal year shall be forty-nine and two-tenths cents.

(b) Any tax paid for diesel fuel during said fiscal year that is determined to be eligible for a refund by the Commissioner of Revenue Services pursuant to section 12-459 of the general statutes shall be refunded at the tax rate per gallon specified in this section.

Sec. 368. Subsection (b) of section 12-587 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to first sales occurring on or after July 1, 2023*):

(b) (1) Except as [otherwise] provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, any company that is engaged in the refining or distribution, or both, of petroleum products and [which] that distributes such products in this state shall pay a quarterly tax on its gross earnings derived from the first sale of petroleum products within this state. Each company shall on or before the last day of the month next succeeding each quarterly period render to the commissioner a return on forms prescribed or furnished by the commissioner and signed by the person performing the duties of treasurer or an authorized agent or officer, including the amount of gross earnings derived from the first sale of petroleum products within this state for the quarterly period and such

House Bill No. 6941

other facts as the commissioner may require for the purpose of making any computation required by this chapter. The rate of tax shall be (A) seven per cent with respect to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2007, and prior to July 1, 2013; and (B) eight and one-tenth per cent with respect to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2013.

(2) Gross earnings derived from the first sale of the following petroleum products within this state shall be exempt from tax:

(A) Any petroleum products sold for exportation from this state for sale or use outside this state;

(B) The product designated by the American Society for Testing and Materials as ["Specification for Heating Oil D396-69"] "Specification for Heating Oil D396", as amended from time to time, commonly known as number 2 heating oil, to be used exclusively for heating purposes or to be used in a commercial fishing vessel, which vessel qualifies for an exemption pursuant to subdivision (40) of section 12-412;

(C) Kerosene, commonly known as number 1 oil, to be used exclusively for heating purposes, provided delivery is of both number 1 and number 2 oil, and via a truck with a metered delivery ticket to a residential dwelling or to a centrally metered system serving a group of residential dwellings;

(D) The product identified as propane gas, to be used primarily for heating purposes;

(E) Bunker fuel oil, intermediate fuel, marine diesel oil and marine gas oil to be used in any vessel (i) having a displacement exceeding four thousand dead weight tons, or (ii) primarily engaged in interstate commerce;

(F) For any first sale occurring prior to July 1, 2008, propane gas to be

House Bill No. 6941

used as a fuel for a motor vehicle;

(G) [For any first sale occurring on or after July 1, 2002, grade] Grade number 6 fuel oil, as defined in regulations adopted pursuant to section 16a-22c, to be used exclusively by a company that, in accordance with census data contained in the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, United States Office of Management and Budget, 1987 edition, is included in code classifications 2000 to 3999, inclusive, or in Sector 31, 32 or 33 in the North American Industrial Classification System United States Manual, United States Office of Management and Budget, 1997 edition;

(H) [For any first sale occurring on or after July 1, 2002, number] Number 2 heating oil to be used exclusively in a vessel primarily engaged in interstate commerce, which vessel qualifies for an exemption under subdivision (40) of section 12-412;

(I) [For any first sale occurring on or after July 1, 2000, paraffin] Paraffin or microcrystalline waxes;

(J) For any first sale occurring prior to July 1, 2008, petroleum products to be used as a fuel for a fuel cell, as defined in subdivision (113) of section 12-412;

(K) A commercial heating oil blend containing not less than ten per cent of alternative fuels derived from agricultural produce, food waste, waste vegetable oil or municipal solid waste, including, but not limited to, biodiesel or low sulfur dyed diesel fuel;

(L) [For any first sale occurring on or after July 1, 2007, diesel] Diesel fuel other than diesel fuel to be used in an electric generating facility to generate electricity;

(M) [For any first sale occurring on or after July 1, 2013, cosmetic] Cosmetic grade mineral oil; [or]

House Bill No. 6941

(N) Propane gas to be used as a fuel for a school bus; and

(O) Aviation fuel.

Sec. 369. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) For each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the Comptroller shall transfer eight million dollars from the resources of the Special Transportation Fund to the Connecticut airport and aviation account established under section 13b-50c of the general statutes, provided the executive director of the Connecticut Airport Authority (1) enters into a management agreement with the city of Bridgeport for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the Sikorsky Airport, (2) provides written notice to the Comptroller that such management agreement was executed, and (3) provides written notice to the chief elected official of the Town of Stratford that such management agreement was executed.

Sec. 370. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section, (1) "company" means a corporation, a partnership, a limited partnership, limited liability company, a limited liability partnership, an association or an individual, or a fiduciary thereof, and (2) "quarterly period" means a period of three calendar months commencing on the first day of January, April, July or October and ending on the last day of March, June, September or December, respectively.

(b) For each quarterly period commencing on or after July 1, 2025, (1) each company that distributes aviation fuel in the state shall pay a tax on the first sale of such fuel in the state, and (2) each company that imports or causes to be imported aviation fuel into the state, for use or consumption in the state, shall pay a tax on such fuel, provided such fuel shall be taxed only one time under this section. For quarterly periods commencing on or after July 1, 2025, and prior to July 1, 2029, the rate of tax for each such period shall be fifteen cents per gallon.

(c) On July 1, 2029, and on each July first of every fourth successive

House Bill No. 6941

year thereafter, the rate of tax under this section shall be adjusted in accordance with any change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers for the preceding four calendar years, as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall, on or before June 15, 2029, and on or before June fifteenth of every fourth successive year thereafter, calculate the applicable rate of tax for the tax under this section beginning on the next succeeding July first. The commissioner shall notify the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management of such applicable rate of tax and shall post such rate on the Department of Revenue Services' Internet web site.

(d) Each company shall on or before the last day of the month next succeeding each quarterly period render to the Commissioner of Revenue Services a return on forms prescribed or furnished by the commissioner and signed by the person performing the duties of treasurer or an authorized agent or officer. The return shall include, for the applicable quarterly period, (1) the number of gallons of aviation fuel sold in the state or the number of gallons of aviation fuel imported or caused to be imported into the state, as applicable, and (2) such other facts as the commissioner may require for the purpose of making any computation required by this section.

(e) Whenever the tax imposed under this section is not paid when due, a penalty of ten per cent of the amount due or fifty dollars, whichever is greater, shall be imposed, and interest at the rate of one per cent per month or a fraction thereof shall accrue on such tax from the due date of such tax until the date of payment.

(f) The provisions of section 12-548 of the general statutes, sections 12-550 to 12-554, inclusive, of the general statutes and section 12-555a of the general statutes shall apply to the provisions of this section in the

House Bill No. 6941

same manner and with the same force and effect as if the language of said sections had been incorporated in full into this section and had expressly referred to the tax imposed under this section, except to the extent that any provision is inconsistent with a provision in this section.

(g) At the end of each fiscal year commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the Comptroller is authorized to record as revenue for such fiscal year the amount of tax imposed under this section in such fiscal year and which tax is received by the commissioner not later than five business days after the last day of July immediately following the end of such fiscal year.

Sec. 371. Section 13b-50c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) There is established an account to be known as the "Connecticut airport and aviation account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the Grants and Restricted Accounts Fund established pursuant to section 4-31c. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the executive director of the Connecticut Airport Authority, with the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, for airport and aviation-related purposes.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 13b-61a, on and after [the effective date of this section] October 31, 2017, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall deposit into said account seventy-five and three-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from aviation fuel sources from the tax imposed under section 12-587.

(2) On and after July 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall deposit into said account one hundred per cent of the amounts received by the state from the tax imposed under section 370 of this act.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 372. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2024, and applicable to income and taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Accredited theater production" means a for-profit live stage presentation that is (A) a pre-Broadway production, a post-Broadway production or a live theatrical tour, and (B) performed at a qualified production facility;

(2) "Advertising and public relations expenditures" means costs incurred within the state by an accredited theater production for goods or services related to the national marketing of, public relations for and creation and placement of print, electronic, television, billboard and other forms of advertising to promote the accredited theater production;

(3) "Payroll" means all salaries, wages, fees and other compensation, including related benefits for services performed within the state;

(4) "Pre-Broadway production" means a live stage presentation that, in its original or adaptive version, is performed at a qualified production facility and is scheduled to be presented in New York City's Broadway theater district not later than twelve months after the end date of such performance or performances in the state;

(5) "Post-Broadway production" means a live stage presentation that, in its original or adaptive version, is performed at a qualified production facility and opens its national tour in the state following a performance or performances of such presentation in New York City's Broadway theater district;

(6) "Live theatrical tour" means a live stage presentation that, in its original or adaptive version, is performed at a qualified production facility and opens its national tour in the state without a performance or performances of such presentation in New York City's Broadway theater district;

House Bill No. 6941

(7) "Production and performance expenditures" means a contemporaneous exchange of cash or cash equivalent for goods or services related to the development, production or performance of or operating expenditures incurred in the state for an accredited theater production, including, but not limited to, (A) expenditures for design, construction and operation, including sets, special and visual effects, costumes, wardrobe, make-up and accessories, (B) costs associated with sound, lighting, staging, facility expenses, rentals, per diems and accommodations, and (C) payroll, advertising and public relations expenditures and transportation expenditures;

(8) "Qualified production facility" means a facility located in the state at which live stage presentations are, or are intended to be, exclusively performed and that contains at least one stage, a seating capacity of one thousand or more seats and dressing rooms, storage areas and other ancillary amenities necessary for an accredited theater production; and

(9) (A) "Transportation expenditures" means expenditures for (i) the packaging, crating and transporting, to and from the state, of sets, costumes and other tangible property and equipment used or to be used in an accredited theater production, and (ii) the transporting of cast and crew members of an accredited theater production to and from the state.

(B) "Transportation expenditures" does not include any costs for the transporting of tangible property and equipment that are or will be used only for filming and not in an accredited theater production or any indirect costs, expenditures that are or will be reimbursed by a third party or any amounts that are paid to an individual or entity as a result of such individual's or entity's participation in profits from the exploitation of an accredited theater production.

(b) (1) Any production company that receives a final accredited theater production certificate pursuant to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by

House Bill No. 6941

chapter 207, 208, 212 or 229 of the general statutes, other than the liability imposed by section 12-707 of the general statutes, of thirty per cent of the production and performance expenditures of the accredited theater production.

(2) If the production company is an S corporation or an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, the credit may be claimed by the production company's shareholders or partners. If the production company is a single member limited liability company that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, the credit may be claimed by such limited liability company's owner, provided such owner is subject to the tax imposed under chapter 208 or 229 of the general statutes.

(3) The credit allowed under this section (A) shall be claimed for the income or taxable year in which the credit was earned and may be carried forward for not more than three immediately succeeding income or taxable years, and (B) may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part.

(c) (1) Any individual, firm, partnership, trust, estate or other entity that is a production company of an accredited theater production or a sole proprietor, owner or member of a partnership that is a production company of an accredited theater production may apply to the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, in such form and manner as prescribed by the commissioner, for initial certification of an accredited theater production. The application shall include information about the accredited theater production and the production company presenting such production, the applicant's relationship to such production or production company, the qualified production facility at which such production will be performed and any other information and data the commissioner deems necessary to evaluate the application. If the commissioner approves the application, the commissioner shall issue a notice of initial certification to the

House Bill No. 6941

production company and the Commissioner of Revenue Services.

(2) Upon completion of the accredited theater production performance or performances, the production company shall submit an application to the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development for a final certification of the accredited theater production. Such application shall include a cost report and a certification by a certified public accountant that such report, in such accountant's opinion, is accurate. The commissioner shall make a determination, not later than thirty days after a complete application has been submitted under this subdivision, whether to approve a final accredited theater production certificate and the amount of the credit to be allowed.

(3) The total amount of credits allowed pursuant to this section shall not exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars in any one fiscal year.

(4) If the commissioner approves a final accredited theater production certificate, the commissioner shall (A) issue such certificate to the production company and specify the amount of the credit allowed, and (B) provide notice of such final certification and the amount of the credit allowed to the Commissioner of Revenue Services.

(d) Any production company that submits information to the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development that such production company knows to be fraudulent or false shall, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, be liable for a penalty equal to the amount of such production company's credit allowed under this section.

(e) No credits sold, assigned or otherwise transferred pursuant to this section shall be subject to a post-certification remedy and the Commissioners of Economic and Community Development and

House Bill No. 6941

Revenue Services shall have no right, except in the case of possible material misrepresentation or fraud, to conduct any further or additional review, examination or audit of the production and performance expenditures for which such credits were allowed. The sole and exclusive remedy of the commissioners shall be to seek collection of the amount of such credits from the production company that committed the fraud or misrepresentation.

(f) The Commissioners of Economic and Community Development and Revenue Services may, for purposes of determining the correctness of any credit claimed pursuant to this section, examine any books, papers and records relating to the information or data provided with an application for a final certification of the accredited theater production.

(g) Not later than March 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce and finance, revenue and bonding. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, information about any production companies that have applied in the preceding calendar year for initial or final certification of an accredited theater production, the status of such applications, descriptions of the production company, the accredited theater production and the qualified production facility at which the accredited theater production is or was presented and the amount of any credits allowed pursuant to this section in the preceding calendar year.

Sec. 373. Section 22a-245a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Each deposit initiator shall open a special interest-bearing account at a Connecticut branch of a financial institution, as defined in section 45a-557a, to the credit of the deposit initiator. Each deposit initiator shall

House Bill No. 6941

deposit in such account an amount equal to the refund value established pursuant to subsection (a) of section 22a-244, for each beverage container sold by such deposit initiator. Such deposit shall be made not more than one month after the date such beverage container is sold, provided for any beverage container sold during the period from December 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008, inclusive, such deposit shall be made not later than January 5, 2009. All interest, dividends and returns earned on the special account shall be paid directly into such account. Such moneys shall be kept separate and apart from all other moneys in the possession of the deposit initiator. The amount required to be deposited pursuant to this section, when deposited, shall be held to be a special fund in trust for the state.

(b) (1) Any reimbursement of the refund value for a redeemed beverage container shall be paid from the deposit initiator's special account, with such payment to be computed, subject to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, under the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting, as described in Section 446(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding Internal Revenue Code of the United States, as amended from time to time.

(2) A deposit initiator may petition the Commissioner of Revenue Services for an alternate method of accounting by filing with such deposit initiator's return a statement of objections and other proposed alternate method of accounting, as such deposit initiator believes proper and equitable under the circumstances, that is accompanied by supporting details and proof. The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall promptly notify such deposit initiator whether the proposed alternate method is accepted as reasonable and equitable and, if so accepted, shall adjust such deposit initiator's return and payment of reimbursement accordingly.

(c) Not later than August 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the

House Bill No. 6941

Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall calculate and publish the average state-wide redemption rate for the preceding fiscal year, calculated as the number of beverage containers redeemed for the deposit divided by the number of beverage containers sold.

[(c)] (d) (1) Each deposit initiator shall submit a report on March 15, 2009, for the period from December 1, 2008, to February 28, 2009, inclusive. Each deposit initiator shall submit a report on July 31, 2009, for the period from March 1, 2009, to June 30, 2009, inclusive, and thereafter shall submit a quarterly report for the immediately preceding calendar quarter one month after the close of such quarter. Each such report shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, on a form prescribed by the commissioner and with such information as the commissioner deems necessary, including, but not limited to: (A) The balance in the special account at the beginning of the quarter for which the report is prepared; (B) a list of all deposits credited to such account during such quarter, including all refund values paid to the deposit initiator and all interest, dividends or returns received on the account; (C) a list of all withdrawals from such account during such quarter, all service charges and overdraft charges on the account and all payments made pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of this section; and (D) the balance in the account at the close of the quarter for which the report is prepared.

(2) Each deposit initiator shall submit a report on October 31, 2010, for the calendar quarter beginning July 1, 2010. Subsequently, each deposit initiator shall submit a quarterly report for the immediately preceding calendar quarter, on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter. Each such report shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Revenue Services, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Revenue Services, and with such information as the Commissioner of Revenue Services deems necessary, including, but not limited to, the following information: (A) The balance

House Bill No. 6941

in the special account at the beginning of the quarter for which the report is prepared, (B) all deposits credited to such account during such quarter, including all refund values paid to the deposit initiator and all interest, dividends or returns received on such account, (C) all withdrawals from such account during such quarter, including all service charges and overdraft charges on such account and all payments made pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of this section, and (D) the balance in such account at the close of the quarter for which the report is prepared. Such quarterly report shall be filed electronically with the Commissioner of Revenue Services, in the manner provided by chapter 228g.

[(d)] (e) (1) On or before April 30, 2009, each deposit initiator shall pay the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the period from December 1, 2008, to March 31, 2009, inclusive, to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection for deposit in the General Fund. Thereafter, the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator one month after the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection for deposit in the General Fund. If the amount of the required payment pursuant to this subdivision is not paid by the date seven days after the due date, a penalty of ten per cent of the amount due shall be added to the amount due. The amount due shall bear interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent per month or fraction thereof, from the due date. Any such penalty or interest shall not be paid from funds maintained in the special account.

(2) (A) On or before October 31, 2010, each deposit initiator shall pay the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the period from July 1, 2010, to September 30, 2010, inclusive, to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund.

(B) Subsequently: [, for]

House Bill No. 6941

(i) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, ninety-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund; [, for]

(ii) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, (I) for the calendar quarters ending September 30, 2023, and December 31, 2023, the balances outstanding in the special account that are attributable to said calendar quarters shall be retained in the special account by the deposit initiator for the purpose of reimbursement of the refund value in effect on January 1, 2024, for a redeemed beverage container in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section and section 22a-244, (II) for the calendar quarter ending March 31, 2024, sixty-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account at the close of such quarter, including any balance outstanding that is attributable to such quarter and any remaining balance of the amount retained by the deposit initiator pursuant to subclause (I) of this clause, shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund, and (III) for the calendar quarter ending June 30, 2024, sixty-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund; [, for]

(iii) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, [fifty-five] fifty per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close

House Bill No. 6941

of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund; [and for]

(iv) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, [and each subsequent fiscal year thereafter, forty-five] if the redemption rate calculated under subsection (c) of this section for the preceding fiscal year is:

(I) At least sixty per cent, twenty-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund; and

(II) Less than sixty per cent, forty-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund;

(v) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, if the redemption rate calculated under subsection (c) of this section for the preceding fiscal year is:

(I) At least sixty-five per cent, five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund;

(II) Less than sixty-five per cent but more than sixty per cent, twenty-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next

House Bill No. 6941

succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund; and

(III) Sixty per cent or less, forty-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund; and

(vi) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, and each fiscal year thereafter, if the redemption rate calculated under subsection (c) of this section for the preceding fiscal year is:

(I) At least seventy-five per cent, five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund;

(II) Less than seventy-five per cent but more than sixty-five per cent, ten per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund;

(III) Sixty-five per cent or less but more than sixty per cent, twenty-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund; and

House Bill No. 6941

(IV) Sixty per cent or less, forty-five per cent of the balance outstanding in the special account that is attributable to the immediately preceding calendar quarter shall be paid by the deposit initiator on or before the last day of the month next succeeding the close of such quarter to the Commissioner of Revenue Services for deposit in the General Fund.

(C) If the amount of the required payment pursuant to this subdivision is not paid on or before the due date, a penalty of ten per cent of the amount due and unpaid, or fifty dollars, whichever is greater, shall be imposed. The amount due and unpaid shall bear interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof, from the due date. Any such penalty or interest shall not be paid from funds maintained in such special account. Such required payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer to the Commissioner of Revenue Services, in the manner provided by chapter 228g.

[(e)] (f) If moneys deposited in the special account are insufficient to pay for withdrawals authorized pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the amount of such deficiency shall be subtracted from the next succeeding payment or payments due pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of this section until the amount of the deficiency has been subtracted in full.

[(f)] (g) The Commissioner of Revenue Services may examine the accounts and records of any deposit initiator maintained under this section or sections 22a-243 to 22a-245, inclusive, and any related accounts and records, including receipts, disbursements and such other items as the Commissioner of Revenue Services deems appropriate.

[(g)] (h) The Attorney General may, independently or upon complaint of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection or the Commissioner of Revenue Services, institute any appropriate action or proceeding to enforce any provision of this section

House Bill No. 6941

or any regulation adopted pursuant to section 22a-245 to implement the provisions of this section.

[(h)] (i) The provisions of sections 12-548, 12-550 to 12-554, inclusive, and 12-555a shall be deemed to apply to the provisions of this section, except any provision of sections 12-548, 12-550 to 12-554, inclusive, and 12-555a that is inconsistent with the provision in this section.

[(i)] (j) Any payment required pursuant to this section shall be treated as a tax for purposes of sections 12-30b, 12-33a, 12-35a, 12-39g and 12-39h.

[(j)] (k) Not later than July 1, 2010, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection or successor agency shall establish a procedure that allows each such deposit initiator to take a credit against any payment made pursuant to subsection [(d)] (e) of this section in the amount of the deposits refunded on beverage containers which such deposit initiator donated for any charitable purpose.

Sec. 374. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall annually:

(1) Estimate the state tax gap and develop an overall strategy to promote compliance and discourage tax avoidance. Such estimate shall include an analysis of income distribution and population distribution expressed for (A) every ten percentage points, (B) the top five per cent of all income taxpayers, (C) the top one per cent of all income taxpayers, and (D) the top one-half of one per cent of all income taxpayers. As used in this section, "tax gap" means the difference between taxes and fees owed under full compliance with all state tax laws and the state taxes and fees voluntarily paid, where such difference may be due to a failure to file taxes, underreporting of tax liability or not paying all taxes and fees owing;

(2) Evaluate the specific staffing needs of the Department of Revenue

House Bill No. 6941

Services to implement such overall strategy and reduce the state tax gap and determine the progress made, if any, towards filling such staffing needs; and

(3) Conduct (A) a cost benefit analysis of each major tax compliance initiative undertaken by the department in the preceding fiscal year, including tax amnesty programs, and (B) an analysis of audit rates, by income level, undertaken by the department in the preceding fiscal year.

(b) On or before December 15, 2024, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding and appropriations. Such report shall be posted on the Department of Revenue Service's Internet web site and shall include (1) the tax gap estimate and analysis and the compliance strategy developed under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section and any information supporting the amount of the tax gap estimate, (2) a summary of the evaluation and determination of the department's staffing needs under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, and (3) the findings of the analyses conducted under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) On or before July 1, 2025, the commissioner shall publish a plan that includes the department's measurable goals for closing the tax gap, specific strategies to achieve such goals and a timetable to measure progress towards closing the tax gap. Such plan shall be posted on the department's Internet web site and updated annually.

Sec. 375. Section 12-7c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall, on or before December 15, 2023, and biennially thereafter, submit to the joint

House Bill No. 6941

standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding, and post on the department's Internet web site a report on the overall incidence of the personal income tax, the affected business entity tax, sales and excise taxes, the corporation business tax, [and] property tax and any other tax that generated at least one hundred million dollars in the most recent fiscal year prior to the submission of each report, for each of the most recent ten tax years for which complete data are available.

(1) The report shall include incidence projections for each such tax and shall present information on the distribution of the tax burden as follows:

[(1)] (A) For individuals:

[(A)] (i) Income classes, including income distribution and population distribution expressed for [(i)] (I) every ten percentage points, [(ii)] (II) the top five per cent of all income taxpayers, [and (iii)] (III) the top one per cent of all income taxpayers, [;] and (IV) the top one-half of one per cent of all income taxpayers;

(ii) For each income class, the percentage of taxpayers who (I) are homeowners, (II) are single, (III) are married, (IV) are seniors, or (V) have children;

(iii) Effective tax rates by population distribution expressed as state taxes compared to local taxes;

(iv) Effective tax rates by population distribution expressed as taxes imposed on businesses compared to taxes imposed on individuals; and

[(B)] (v) Other appropriate taxpayer characteristics, as determined by said commissioner.

[(2)] (B) For businesses:

House Bill No. 6941

[(A)] (i) Business size as established by gross receipts;

[(B)] (ii) Legal organization; and

[(C)] (iii) Industry by NAICS code.

(2) In addition to the information required under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the report shall include the following:

(A) For the personal income tax, information on the distribution of the property tax credit under section 12-704c, the earned income tax credit under section 12-704e, the affected business entity tax credit under section 12-699 and any other modification against the personal income tax that resulted in a revenue loss to the state of at least twenty-five million dollars in the most recent fiscal year prior to the submission of each report. Each such distribution shall be expressed for (i) every ten percentage points, (ii) the top five per cent of all income taxpayers, (iii) the top one per cent of all income taxpayers, and (iv) the top one-half per cent of all income taxpayers;

(B) For property tax, to the extent available, information on the distribution of residential and commercial property and for residential property, the distribution of homeowners and renters; and

(C) For any other tax other than the personal income tax or property tax that generated at least one hundred million dollars in the most recent fiscal year prior to the submission of each report, information on the distribution of any modification against such tax that resulted in a revenue loss to the state of at least twenty-five million dollars in the most recent fiscal year prior to the submission of each report. Each such distribution shall be expressed for (i) every ten percentage points, (ii) the top five per cent of all taxpayers paying such tax, (iii) the top one per cent of all taxpayers paying such tax, and (iv) the top one-half per cent of all taxpayers paying such tax.

House Bill No. 6941

(b) The Commissioner of Revenue Services may enter into a contract with any public or private entity for the purpose of preparing the report required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, provided, if the commissioner enters into such contract, the commissioner shall include in such report the resources that the commissioner deems necessary to allow the Department of Revenue Services to prepare such report in-house.

Sec. 376. Subsection (a) of section 12-700 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024*):

(a) There is hereby imposed on the Connecticut taxable income of each resident of this state a tax:

(1) At the rate of four and one-half per cent of such Connecticut taxable income for taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 1992, and prior to January 1, 1996.

(2) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 1996, but prior to January 1, 1997, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual or as a married individual filing separately:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$2,250	3.0%
Over \$2,250	\$67.50, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$2,250

(B) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of

House Bill No. 6941

the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$3,500	3.0%
Over \$3,500	\$105.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$3,500

(C) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$4,500	3.0%
Over \$4,500	\$135.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$4,500

(D) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 4.5% of their Connecticut taxable income.

(3) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 1997, but prior to January 1, 1998, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual or as a married individual filing separately:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$6,250	3.0%
Over \$6,250	\$187.50, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$6,250

(B) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of

House Bill No. 6941

the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$10,000	3.0%
Over \$10,000	\$300.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$10,000

(C) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$12,500	3.0%
Over \$12,500	\$375.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$12,500

(D) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 4.5% of their Connecticut taxable income.

(4) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 1998, but prior to January 1, 1999, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual or as a married individual filing separately:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$7,500	3.0%
Over \$7,500	\$225.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$7,500

(B) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for

House Bill No. 6941

such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$12,000	3.0%
Over \$12,000	\$360.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$12,000

(C) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$15,000	3.0%
Over \$15,000	\$450.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$15,000

(D) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 4.5% of their Connecticut taxable income.

(5) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 1999, but prior to January 1, 2003, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual or as a married individual filing separately:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$10,000	3.0%
Over \$10,000	\$300.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$10,000

House Bill No. 6941

(B) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$16,000	3.0%
Over \$16,000	\$480.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$16,000

(C) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$20,000	3.0%
Over \$20,000	\$600.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$20,000

(D) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 4.5% of their Connecticut taxable income.

(6) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2003, but prior to January 1, 2009, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual or as a married individual filing separately:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$10,000	3.0%

House Bill No. 6941

Over \$10,000	\$300.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$10,000
---------------	--

(B) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$16,000	3.0%
Over \$16,000	\$480.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$16,000

(C) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$20,000	3.0%
Over \$20,000	\$600.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$20,000

(D) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 5.0% of the Connecticut taxable income.

(7) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2009, but prior to January 1, 2011, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
----------------------------	-------------

House Bill No. 6941

Not over \$10,000	3.0%
Over \$10,000 but not over \$500,000	\$300.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$10,000
Over \$500,000	\$24,800, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$500,000

(B) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$16,000	3.0%
Over \$16,000 but not over \$800,000	\$480.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$16,000
Over \$800,000	\$39,680, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$800,000

(C) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$20,000	3.0%
Over \$20,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$600.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$20,000
Over \$1,000,000	\$49,600, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$1,000,000

(D) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a married individual filing separately:

House Bill No. 6941

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$10,000	3.0%
Over \$10,000 but not over \$500,000	\$300.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$10,000
Over \$500,000	\$24,800, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$500,000

(E) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 6.5% of the Connecticut taxable income.

(8) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2011, but prior to January 1, 2015, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$10,000	3.0%
Over \$10,000 but not over \$50,000	\$300.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$10,000
Over \$50,000 but not over \$100,000	\$2,300, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$50,000
Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000	\$5,050, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$100,000
Over \$200,000 but not over \$250,000	\$11,050, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$200,000
Over \$250,000	\$14,300, plus 6.70% of the excess over \$250,000

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds fifty-six thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the three-per-cent

House Bill No. 6941

tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the three-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the five-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (A)(i) and (A)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to seventy-five dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars.

(B) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$16,000	3.0%
Over \$16,000 but not over \$80,000	\$480.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$16,000
Over \$80,000 but not over \$160,000	\$3,680, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$80,000
Over \$160,000 but not over \$320,000	\$8,080, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$160,000
Over \$320,000 but not over \$400,000	\$17,680, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$320,000
Over \$400,000	\$22,880, plus 6.70% of the excess over \$400,000

House Bill No. 6941

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds seventy-eight thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the three-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand six hundred dollars for each four thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the three-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the five-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds three hundred twenty thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (B)(i) and (B)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to one hundred twenty dollars for each eight thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds three hundred twenty thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of three thousand six hundred dollars.

(C) (i) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$20,000	3.0%
Over \$20,000 but not over \$100,000	\$600.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$20,000
Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000	\$4,600, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$100,000

House Bill No. 6941

Over \$200,000 but not over \$400,000	\$10,100, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$200,000
Over \$400,000 but not over \$500,000	\$22,100, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$400,000
Over \$500,000	\$28,600, plus 6.70% of the excess over \$500,000

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the three-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by two thousand dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the three-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the five-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds four hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (C)(i) and (C)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to one hundred fifty dollars for each ten thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds four hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of four thousand five hundred dollars.

(D) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a married individual filing separately:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$10,000	3.0%

House Bill No. 6941

Over \$10,000 but not over \$50,000	\$300.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$10,000
Over \$50,000 but not over \$100,000	\$2,300, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$50,000
Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000	\$5,050, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$100,000
Over \$200,000 but not over \$250,000	\$11,050, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$200,000
Over \$250,000	\$14,300, plus 6.70% of the excess over \$250,000

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds fifty thousand two hundred fifty dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the three-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand dollars for each two thousand five hundred dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the three-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the five-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (D)(i) and (D)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to seventy-five dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars.

(E) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 6.70% of the Connecticut taxable income.

House Bill No. 6941

(9) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2015, but prior to January 1, 2024, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$10,000	3.0%
Over \$10,000 but not over \$50,000	\$300.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$10,000
Over \$50,000 but not over \$100,000	\$2,300, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$50,000
Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000	\$5,050, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$100,000
Over \$200,000 but not over \$250,000	\$11,050, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$200,000
Over \$250,000 but not over \$500,000	\$14,300, plus 6.9% of the excess over \$250,000
Over \$500,000	\$31,550, plus 6.99% of the excess over \$500,000

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds fifty-six thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the three-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the three-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the five-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds

House Bill No. 6941

two hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (A)(i) and (A)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to ninety dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of two thousand seven hundred dollars.

(iv) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds five hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (A)(i), (A)(ii) and (A)(iii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to fifty dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds five hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of four hundred fifty dollars.

(B) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of the Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$16,000	3.0%
Over \$16,000 but not over \$80,000	\$480.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$16,000
Over \$80,000 but not over \$160,000	\$3,680, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$80,000
Over \$160,000 but not over \$320,000	\$8,080, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$160,000
Over \$320,000 but not over \$400,000	\$17,680, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$320,000
Over \$400,000 but not over \$800,000	\$22,880, plus 6.9% of the excess over \$400,000
Over \$800,000	\$50,480, plus 6.99% of the

House Bill No. 6941

excess over \$800,000

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds seventy-eight thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the three-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand six hundred dollars for each four thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the three-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the five-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds three hundred twenty thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (B)(i) and (B)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to one hundred forty dollars for each eight thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds three hundred twenty thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of four thousand two hundred dollars.

(iv) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds eight hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (B)(i), (B)(ii) and (B)(iii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to eighty dollars for each eight thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds eight hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of seven hundred twenty dollars.

(C) (i) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the

House Bill No. 6941

Internal Revenue Code:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$20,000	3.0%
Over \$20,000 but not over \$100,000	\$600.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$20,000
Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000	\$4,600, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$100,000
Over \$200,000 but not over \$400,000	\$10,100, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$200,000
Over \$400,000 but not over \$500,000	\$22,100, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$400,000
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$28,600, plus 6.9% of the excess over \$500,000
Over \$1,000,000	\$63,100, plus 6.99% of the excess over \$1,000,000

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the three-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by two thousand dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the three-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the five-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds four hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (C)(i) and (C)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to one hundred eighty dollars for

House Bill No. 6941

each ten thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds four hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of five thousand four hundred dollars.

(iv) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one million dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (C)(i), (C)(ii) and (C)(iii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to one hundred dollars for each ten thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one million dollars, up to a maximum payment of nine hundred dollars.

(D) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a married individual filing separately:

Connecticut Taxable Income	Rate of Tax
Not over \$10,000	3.0%
Over \$10,000 but not over \$50,000	\$300.00, plus 5.0% of the excess over \$10,000
Over \$50,000 but not over \$100,000	\$2,300, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$50,000
Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000	\$5,050, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$100,000
Over \$200,000 but not over \$250,000	\$11,050, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$200,000
Over \$250,000 but not over \$500,000	\$14,300, plus 6.9% of the excess over \$250,000
Over \$500,000	\$31,550, plus 6.99% of the excess over \$500,000

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross

House Bill No. 6941

income exceeds fifty thousand two hundred fifty dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the three-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand dollars for each two thousand five hundred dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the three-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the five-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (D)(i) and (D)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to ninety dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of two thousand seven hundred dollars.

(iv) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds five hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (D)(i), (D)(ii) and (D)(iii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to fifty dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds five hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of four hundred fifty dollars.

(E) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 6.99% of the Connecticut taxable income.

(10) For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2024, in accordance with the following schedule:

(A) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as an unmarried individual:

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Connecticut Taxable Income</u>	<u>Rate of Tax</u>
<u>Not over \$10,000</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
<u>Over \$10,000 but not over \$50,000</u>	<u>\$200.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$10,000</u>
<u>Over \$50,000 but not over \$100,000</u>	<u>\$2,000, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$50,000</u>
<u>Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000</u>	<u>\$4,750, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$100,000</u>
<u>Over \$200,000 but not over \$250,000</u>	<u>\$10,750, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$200,000</u>
<u>Over \$250,000 but not over \$500,000</u>	<u>\$14,000, plus 6.9% of the excess over \$250,000</u>
<u>Over \$500,000</u>	<u>\$31,250, plus 6.99% of the excess over \$500,000</u>

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds fifty-six thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the two-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the two-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the four-and-one-half-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred five thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (A)(i) and (A)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to twenty-five dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred five thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of two hundred fifty dollars.

House Bill No. 6941

(iv) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (A)(i), (A)(ii) and (A)(iii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to ninety dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of two thousand seven hundred dollars.

(v) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds five hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (A)(i), (A)(ii), (A)(iii) and (A)(iv) of this subdivision, an amount equal to fifty dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds five hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of four hundred fifty dollars.

(B) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a head of household, as defined in Section 2(b) of the Internal Revenue Code:

<u>Connecticut Taxable Income</u>	<u>Rate of Tax</u>
<u>Not over \$16,000</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
<u>Over \$16,000 but not over \$80,000</u>	<u>\$320.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$16,000</u>
<u>Over \$80,000 but not over \$160,000</u>	<u>\$3,200, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$80,000</u>
<u>Over \$160,000 but not over \$320,000</u>	<u>\$7,600, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$160,000</u>
<u>Over \$320,000 but not over \$400,000</u>	<u>\$17,200, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$320,000</u>
<u>Over \$400,000 but not over \$800,000</u>	<u>\$22,400, plus 6.9% of the excess over \$400,000</u>

House Bill No. 6941

Over \$800,000

\$50,000, plus 6.99% of the
excess over \$800,000

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds seventy-eight thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the two-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand six hundred dollars for each four thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the two-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the four-and-one-half-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred sixty-eight thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (B)(i) and (B)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to forty dollars for each eight thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred sixty-eight thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of four hundred dollars.

(iv) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds three hundred twenty thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (B)(i), (B)(ii) and (B)(iii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to one hundred forty dollars for each eight thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds three hundred twenty thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of four thousand two hundred dollars.

(v) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds eight hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax

House Bill No. 6941

computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (B)(i), (B)(ii), (B)(iii) and (B)(iv) of this subdivision, an amount equal to eighty dollars for each eight thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds eight hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of seven hundred twenty dollars.

(C) (i) For any husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as married individuals filing jointly or any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a surviving spouse, as defined in Section 2(a) of the Internal Revenue Code:

<u>Connecticut Taxable Income</u>	<u>Rate of Tax</u>
<u>Not over \$20,000</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
<u>Over \$20,000 but not over \$100,000</u>	<u>\$400.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$20,000</u>
<u>Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000</u>	<u>\$4,000, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$100,000</u>
<u>Over \$200,000 but not over \$400,000</u>	<u>\$9,500, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$200,000</u>
<u>Over \$400,000 but not over \$500,000</u>	<u>\$21,500, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$400,000</u>
<u>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$28,000, plus 6.9% of the excess over \$500,000</u>
<u>Over \$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$62,500, plus 6.99% of the excess over \$1,000,000</u>

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred thousand five hundred dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the two-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by two thousand dollars for

House Bill No. 6941

each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the two-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the four-and-one-half-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred ten thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (C)(i) and (C)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to fifty dollars for each ten thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred ten thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of five hundred dollars.

(iv) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds four hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (C)(i), (C)(ii) and (C)(iii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to one hundred eighty dollars for each ten thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds four hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of five thousand four hundred dollars.

(v) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one million dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (C)(i), (C)(ii), (C)(iii) and (C)(iv) of this subdivision, an amount equal to one hundred dollars for each ten thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one million dollars, up to a maximum payment of nine hundred dollars.

(D) (i) For any person who files a return under the federal income tax for such taxable year as a married individual filing separately:

House Bill No. 6941

<u>Connecticut Taxable Income</u>	<u>Rate of Tax</u>
<u>Not over \$10,000</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
<u>Over \$10,000 but not over \$50,000</u>	<u>\$200.00, plus 4.5% of the excess over \$10,000</u>
<u>Over \$50,000 but not over \$100,000</u>	<u>\$2,000, plus 5.5% of the excess over \$50,000</u>
<u>Over \$100,000 but not over \$200,000</u>	<u>\$4,750, plus 6.0% of the excess over \$100,000</u>
<u>Over \$200,000 but not over \$250,000</u>	<u>\$10,750, plus 6.5% of the excess over \$200,000</u>
<u>Over \$250,000 but not over \$500,000</u>	<u>\$14,000, plus 6.9% of the excess over \$250,000</u>
<u>Over \$500,000</u>	<u>\$31,250, plus 6.99% of the excess over \$500,000</u>

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision, for each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds fifty thousand two hundred fifty dollars, the amount of the taxpayer's Connecticut taxable income to which the two-per-cent tax rate applies shall be reduced by one thousand dollars for each two thousand five hundred dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds said amount. Any such amount of Connecticut taxable income to which, as provided in the preceding sentence, the two-per-cent tax rate does not apply shall be an amount to which the four-and-one-half-per-cent tax rate shall apply.

(iii) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred five thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (D)(i) and (D)(ii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to twenty-five dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's

House Bill No. 6941

Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds one hundred five thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of two hundred fifty dollars.

(iv) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (D)(i), (D)(ii) and (D)(iii) of this subdivision, an amount equal to ninety dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds two hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of two thousand seven hundred dollars.

(v) Each taxpayer whose Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds five hundred thousand dollars shall pay, in addition to the tax computed under the provisions of subparagraphs (D)(i), (D)(ii), (D)(iii) and (D)(iv) of this subdivision, an amount equal to fifty dollars for each five thousand dollars, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayer's Connecticut adjusted gross income exceeds five hundred thousand dollars, up to a maximum payment of four hundred fifty dollars.

(E) For trusts or estates, the rate of tax shall be 6.99% of the Connecticut taxable income.

[(10)] (11) The provisions of this subsection shall apply to resident trusts and estates and, wherever reference is made in this subsection to residents of this state, such reference shall be construed to include resident trusts and estates, provided any reference to a resident's Connecticut adjusted gross income derived from sources without this state or to a resident's Connecticut adjusted gross income shall be construed, in the case of a resident trust or estate, to mean the resident trust or estate's Connecticut taxable income derived from sources without this state and the resident trust or estate's Connecticut taxable income, respectively.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 377. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 12-701 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(B) There shall be subtracted therefrom:

(i) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any income with respect to which taxation by any state is prohibited by federal law;

(ii) To the extent allowable under section 12-718, exempt dividends paid by a regulated investment company;

(iii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any refund or credit for overpayment of income taxes imposed by this state, or any other state of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia;

(iv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes and not otherwise subtracted from federal adjusted gross income pursuant to clause (x) of this subparagraph in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, any tier 1 railroad retirement benefits;

(v) To the extent any additional allowance for depreciation under Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for property placed in service after September 27, 2017, was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ix) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such additional allowance for depreciation in each of the four succeeding taxable years;

(vi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any interest income from obligations issued by or

House Bill No. 6941

on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut;

(vii) To the extent properly includable in determining the net gain or loss from the sale or other disposition of capital assets for federal income tax purposes, any gain from the sale or exchange of obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut, in the income year such gain was recognized;

(viii) Any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry obligations or securities the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such interest on indebtedness is not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and is attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(ix) Ordinary and necessary expenses paid or incurred during the taxable year for the production or collection of income which is subject to taxation under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, or the management, conservation or maintenance of property held for the production of such income, and the amortizable bond premium for the taxable year on any bond the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such expenses and premiums are not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and are attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(x) (I) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing

House Bill No. 6941

separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes;

(II) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(III) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars,

House Bill No. 6941

or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes; and

(IV) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(xi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any amount rebated to a taxpayer pursuant to section 12-746;

(xii) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, any distribution to such beneficiary from any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and

House Bill No. 6941

maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the state;

(xiii) To the extent allowable under section 12-701a, contributions to accounts established pursuant to any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the state;

(xiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any Holocaust victims' settlement payment received in the taxable year by a Holocaust victim;

(xv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes of an account holder, as defined in section 31-51ww, interest earned on funds deposited in the individual development account, as defined in section 31-51ww, of such account holder;

(xvi) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, as defined in section 3-123aa, interest, dividends or capital gains earned on contributions to accounts established for the designated beneficiary pursuant to the Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly established by sections 3-123aa to 3-123ff, inclusive;

(xvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any income received from the United States government as retirement pay for a retired member of (I) the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the United States Code, or (II) the National Guard, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the United States Code;

(xviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, any income from the discharge

House Bill No. 6941

of indebtedness in connection with any reacquisition, after December 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or instruments, as those terms are defined in Section 108 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to the extent any such income was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xi) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income for a preceding taxable year;

(xix) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income, the amount of any contribution to a manufacturing reinvestment account established pursuant to section 32-9zz in the taxable year that such contribution is made;

(xx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2015, ten per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, (II) for the taxable years commencing January 1, 2016, to January 1, 2020, inclusive, twenty-five per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, and each taxable year thereafter, fifty per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system or, for a taxpayer whose federal adjusted gross income does not exceed the applicable threshold under clause (xxi) of this subparagraph, the percentage pursuant to said clause of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, whichever deduction is greater;

(xxi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvii) of this subparagraph, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a

House Bill No. 6941

married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, fourteen per cent of any pension or annuity income, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2020, twenty-eight per cent of any pension or annuity income, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, forty-two per cent of any pension or annuity income, and (IV) for the taxable [year] years commencing January 1, 2022, and [each taxable year thereafter] January 1, 2023, one hundred per cent of any pension or annuity income;

(xxii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvii) of this subparagraph, any pension or annuity income for the taxable year commencing on or after January 1, 2024, and each taxable year thereafter, in accordance with the following schedule, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars:

<u>Federal Adjusted Gross Income</u>	<u>Deduction</u>
<u>Less than \$75,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<u>\$75,000 but not over \$77,499</u>	<u>85.0%</u>
<u>\$77,500 but not over \$79,999</u>	<u>70.0%</u>

House Bill No. 6941

<u>\$80,000 but not over \$82,499</u>	<u>55.0%</u>
<u>\$82,500 but not over \$84,999</u>	<u>40.0%</u>
<u>\$85,000 but not over \$87,499</u>	<u>25.0%</u>
<u>\$87,500 but not over \$89,999</u>	<u>10.0%</u>
<u>\$90,000 but not over \$94,999</u>	<u>5.0%</u>
<u>\$95,000 but not over \$99,999</u>	<u>2.5%</u>
<u>\$100,000 and over</u>	<u>0.0%</u>

(xxiii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvii) of this subparagraph, any pension or annuity income for the taxable year commencing on or after January 1, 2024, and each taxable year thereafter, in accordance with the following schedule for married individuals who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars:

<u>Federal Adjusted Gross Income</u>	<u>Deduction</u>
<u>Less than \$100,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<u>\$100,000 but not over \$104,999</u>	<u>85.0%</u>
<u>\$105,000 but not over \$109,999</u>	<u>70.0%</u>
<u>\$110,000 but not over \$114,999</u>	<u>55.0%</u>
<u>\$115,000 but not over \$119,999</u>	<u>40.0%</u>
<u>\$120,000 but not over \$124,999</u>	<u>25.0%</u>
<u>\$125,000 but not over \$129,999</u>	<u>10.0%</u>
<u>\$130,000 but not over \$139,999</u>	<u>5.0%</u>
<u>\$140,000 but not over \$149,999</u>	<u>2.5%</u>
<u>\$150,000 and over</u>	<u>0.0%</u>

[(xxii)] (xxiv) The amount of lost wages and medical, travel and housing expenses, not to exceed ten thousand dollars in the aggregate, incurred by a taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the

House Bill No. 6941

donation to another person of an organ for organ transplantation occurring on or after January 1, 2017;

[(xxiii)] (xxv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any financial assistance received from the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund or paid to or on behalf of the owner of a residential building pursuant to sections 8-442 and 8-443;

[(xxiv)] (xxvi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount calculated pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-704g for income received by a general partner of a venture capital fund, as defined in 17 CFR 275.203(l)-1, as amended from time to time;

[(xxv)] (xxvii) To the extent any portion of a deduction under Section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xiv) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such disallowed portion of the deduction in each of the four succeeding taxable years;

[(xxvi)] (xxviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, [(I)] for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, twenty-

House Bill No. 6941

five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account; [(II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, and (IV) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account; and]

(xxix) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account. The subtraction under this clause shall be made in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Federal Adjusted Gross Income</u>	<u>Deduction</u>
<u>Less than \$75,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<u>\$75,000 but not over \$77,499</u>	<u>85.0%</u>
<u>\$77,500 but not over \$79,999</u>	<u>70.0%</u>

House Bill No. 6941

<u>\$80,000 but not over \$82,499</u>	<u>55.0%</u>
<u>\$82,500 but not over \$84,999</u>	<u>40.0%</u>
<u>\$85,000 but not over \$87,499</u>	<u>25.0%</u>
<u>\$87,500 but not over \$89,999</u>	<u>10.0%</u>
<u>\$90,000 but not over \$94,999</u>	<u>5.0%</u>
<u>\$95,000 but not over \$99,999</u>	<u>2.5%</u>
<u>\$100,000 and over</u>	<u>0.0%</u>

(xxx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for married individuals who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account. The subtraction under this clause shall be made in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Federal Adjusted Gross Income</u>	<u>Deduction</u>
<u>Less than \$100,000</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<u>\$100,000 but not over \$104,999</u>	<u>85.0%</u>
<u>\$105,000 but not over \$109,999</u>	<u>70.0%</u>
<u>\$110,000 but not over \$114,999</u>	<u>55.0%</u>
<u>\$115,000 but not over \$119,999</u>	<u>40.0%</u>
<u>\$120,000 but not over \$124,999</u>	<u>25.0%</u>
<u>\$125,000 but not over \$129,999</u>	<u>10.0%</u>
<u>\$130,000 but not over \$139,999</u>	<u>5.0%</u>
<u>\$140,000 but not over \$149,999</u>	<u>2.5%</u>

House Bill No. 6941

\$150,000 and over

0.0%

[(xxvii)] (xxxi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022, the amount or amounts paid or otherwise credited to any eligible resident of this state under (I) the 2020 Earned Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the state through the Coronavirus Relief Fund established under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, and (II) the 2021 Earned Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the state pursuant to Section 9901 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2; and

(xxxi) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, and each taxable year thereafter, for a taxpayer licensed under the provisions of chapter 420f or 420h, the amount of ordinary and necessary expenses that would be eligible to be claimed as a deduction for federal income tax purposes under Section 162(a) of the Internal Revenue Code but that are disallowed under Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code because marijuana is a controlled substance under the federal Controlled Substance Act.

Sec. 378. Subsection (a) of section 12-704e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Any resident of this state, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-701, who is subject to the tax imposed under this chapter for any taxable year shall be allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due under this chapter in an amount equal to the applicable percentage of the earned income credit claimed and allowed for the same taxable year under Section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code, as defined in subsection (a) of section 12-701. As used in this section, "applicable percentage" means (1) twenty-three per cent for taxable

House Bill No. 6941

years commencing prior to January 1, 2021, [and] (2) thirty and one-half per cent for taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2021, and prior to January 1, 2023, and (3) forty per cent for taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2023.

Sec. 379. Section 12-217 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2023*):

(a) (1) In arriving at net income as defined in section 12-213, whether or not the taxpayer is taxable under the federal corporation net income tax, there shall be deducted from gross income: [,]

(A) [all] All items deductible under the Internal Revenue Code effective and in force on the last day of the income year, except (i) any taxes imposed under the provisions of this chapter [which] that are paid or accrued in the income year and in the income year commencing January 1, 1989, and thereafter, any taxes in any state of the United States or any political subdivision of such state, or the District of Columbia, imposed on or measured by the income or profits of a corporation [which] that are paid or accrued in the income year, (ii) deductions for depreciation, which shall be allowed as provided in subsection (b) of this section, (iii) deductions for qualified domestic production activities income, as provided in Section 199 of the Internal Revenue Code, and (iv) in the case of any captive real estate investment trust, the deduction for dividends paid provided under Section 857(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code; [,] and

(B) [additionally] Additionally, in the case of a regulated investment company, the sum of (i) the exempt-interest dividends, as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, and (ii) expenses, bond premium, and interest related to tax-exempt income that are disallowed as deductions under the Internal Revenue Code; [,] and

House Bill No. 6941

(C) [in] In the case of a taxpayer maintaining an international banking facility as defined in the laws of the United States or the regulations of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, as either may be amended from time to time, the gross income attributable to the international banking facility, provided [.] no expense or loss attributable to the international banking facility shall be a deduction under any provision of this section; [.] and

(D) [additionally] Additionally, in the case of all taxpayers, all dividends as defined in the Internal Revenue Code effective and in force on the last day of the income year not otherwise deducted from gross income, including dividends received from a DISC or former DISC as defined in Section 992 of the Internal Revenue Code and dividends deemed to have been distributed by a DISC or former DISC as provided in Section 995 of said Internal Revenue Code, other than thirty per cent of dividends received from a domestic corporation in which the taxpayer owns less than twenty per cent of the total voting power and value of the stock of such corporation; [.] and

(E) [additionally] Additionally, in the case of all taxpayers, the value of any capital gain realized from the sale of any land, or interest in land, to the state, any political subdivision of the state, or to any nonprofit land conservation organization where such land is to be permanently preserved as protected open space or to a water company, as defined in section 25-32a, where such land is to be permanently preserved as protected open space or as Class I or Class II water company land; [.] and

(F) [in] In the case of [manufacturers] a manufacturer, the amount of any contribution to a manufacturing reinvestment account established pursuant to section 32-9zz in the income year that such contribution is made to the extent not deductible for federal income tax purposes; [.] and

House Bill No. 6941

(G) [the] The amount of any contribution made on or after December 23, 2017, by the state of Connecticut or a political subdivision thereof to the extent included in a company's gross income under Section 118(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

(H) In the case of a taxpayer licensed under the provisions of chapter 420f or 420h, the amount of ordinary and necessary expenses that would be eligible to be claimed as a deduction for federal income tax purposes under Section 162(a) of the Internal Revenue Code but that are disallowed under Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code because marijuana is a controlled substance under the federal Controlled Substance Act.

(2) (A) No deduction shall be allowed for (i) expenses related to dividends that are allowable as a deduction or credit under the Internal Revenue Code, and (ii) federal taxes on income or profits, losses of other calendar or fiscal years, retroactive to include all calendar or fiscal years beginning after January 1, 1935, interest received from federal, state and local government securities, if any such deductions are allowed by the federal government.

(B) For purposes of this subdivision, expenses related to dividends shall equal five per cent of all dividends received by a company during an income year. The net income associated with the disallowance of expenses related to dividends shall be apportioned, if the company conducts business within and without the state or is required to apportion its income under section 12-218b, in accordance with this chapter.

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, no dividend received from a real estate investment trust shall be deductible under this section by the recipient unless the dividend is: (A) Deductible under Section 243 of the Internal Revenue Code; (B) received by a qualified dividend recipient from a qualified real estate investment trust

House Bill No. 6941

and, as of the last day of the period for which such dividend is paid, persons, not including the qualified dividend recipient or any person that is either a related person to, or an employee or director of, the qualified dividend recipient, have outstanding cash capital contributions to the qualified real estate investment trust that, in the aggregate, exceed five per cent of the fair market value of the aggregate real estate assets, valued as of the last day of the period for which such dividend is paid, then held by the qualified real estate investment trust; or (C) received from a captive real estate investment trust that is subject to the tax imposed under this chapter. For purposes of this section, "related person" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-217ii, "real estate assets" has the same meaning as provided in Section 856 of the Internal Revenue Code, "qualified dividend recipient" means a dividend recipient who has invested in a qualified real estate investment trust prior to April 1, 1997, and "qualified real estate investment trust" means an entity that both was incorporated and had contributed to it a minimum of five hundred million dollars' worth of real estate assets prior to April 1, 1997, and that elects to be a real estate investment trust under Section 856 of the Internal Revenue Code prior to April 1, 1998.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision of this section: [to the contrary,]

(A) [any] Any excess of the deductions provided in this section for any income year commencing on or after January 1, 1973, over the gross income for such year or the amount of such excess apportioned to this state under the provisions of this chapter, shall be an operating loss of such income year and shall be deductible as an operating loss carry-over for operating losses incurred prior to income years commencing January 1, 2000, in each of the five income years following such loss year, and for operating losses incurred in income years commencing on or after January 1, 2000, in each of the twenty income years following such loss year, except that:

(i) [for] For income years commencing prior to January 1, 2015, the

House Bill No. 6941

portion of such operating loss [which] that may be deducted as an operating loss carry-over in any income year following such loss year shall be limited to the lesser of (I) any net income greater than zero of such income year following such loss year, or in the case of a company entitled to apportion its net income under the provisions of this chapter, the amount of such net income [which] that is apportioned to this state pursuant thereto, or (II) the excess, if any, of such operating loss over the total of such net income for each of any prior income years following such loss year, such net income of each of such prior income years following such loss year for such purposes being computed without regard to any operating loss carry-over from such loss year allowed under this subparagraph and being regarded as not less than zero, and provided further the operating loss of any income year shall be deducted in any subsequent year, to the extent available for such deduction, before the operating loss of any subsequent income year is deducted; [,]

(ii) [for] For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2015, the portion of such operating loss [which] that may be deducted as an operating loss carry-over in any income year following such loss year shall be limited to the lesser of (I) fifty per cent of net income of such income year following such loss year, or in the case of a company entitled to apportion its net income under the provisions of this chapter, fifty per cent of such net income [which] that is apportioned to this state pursuant thereto, or (II) the excess, if any, of such operating loss over the operating loss deductions allowable with respect to such operating loss under this subparagraph for each of any prior income years following such loss year, such net income of each of such prior income years following such loss year for such purposes being computed without regard to any operating loss carry-over from such loss year allowed under this subparagraph and being regarded as not less than zero, and provided further the operating loss of any income year shall be deducted in any subsequent year, to the extent available for such

House Bill No. 6941

deduction, before the operating loss of any subsequent income year is deducted; [] and

(iii) [if] If a combined group so elects, the combined group shall relinquish fifty per cent of its unused operating losses incurred prior to the income year commencing on or after January 1, 2015, and before January 1, 2016, and may utilize the remaining operating loss carry-over without regard to the limitations prescribed in subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision. The portion of such operating loss carry-over that may be deducted shall be limited to the amount required to reduce a combined group's tax under this chapter, prior to surtax and prior to the application of credits, to two million five hundred thousand dollars in any income year commencing on or after January 1, 2015. Only after the combined group's remaining operating loss carry-over for operating losses incurred prior to income years commencing January 1, 2015, has been fully utilized, will the limitations prescribed in subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision apply. The combined group, or any member thereof, shall make such election on its return for the income year beginning on or after January 1, 2015, and before January 1, 2016, by the due date for such return, including any extensions. Only combined groups with unused operating losses in excess of six billion dollars from income years beginning prior to January 1, 2013, may make the election prescribed in this clause; [] and

(B) [any] Any net capital loss, as defined in the Internal Revenue Code effective and in force on the last day of the income year, for any income year commencing on or after January 1, 1973, shall be allowed as a capital loss carry-over to reduce, but not below zero, any net capital gain, as so defined, in each of the five following income years, in order of sequence, to the extent not exhausted by the net capital gain of any of the preceding of such five following income years; [] and

(C) [any] Any net capital losses allowed and carried forward from prior years to income years beginning on or after January 1, 1973, for

House Bill No. 6941

federal income tax purposes by companies entitled to a deduction for dividends paid under the Internal Revenue Code other than companies subject to the gross earnings taxes imposed under chapters 211 and 212, shall be allowed as a capital loss carry-over.

(5) This section shall not apply to a life insurance company as defined in the Internal Revenue Code effective and in force on the last day of the income year. For purposes of this section, the unpaid loss reserve adjustment required for nonlife insurance companies under the provisions of Section 832(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, shall be applied without making the adjustment in Subparagraph (B) of said Section 832(b)(5).

(6) For purposes of determining net income under this section for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, the deduction allowed for business interest paid or accrued shall be determined as provided under the Internal Revenue Code, except that in making such determination, the provisions of Section 163(j) shall not apply.

(b) (1) For purposes of determining net income under this section, the deduction allowed for depreciation shall be determined as provided under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, provided in making such determination, the provisions of Section 168(k) of said code shall not apply.

(2) (A) For purposes of determining net income under this section for taxable years ending after December 31, 2008, and to the extent any income from the discharge of indebtedness, under Section 108 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, in connection with any reacquisition, after December 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or instruments, as those terms are defined in

House Bill No. 6941

said Section 108, as amended by said Section 1231, is not properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, any deferral of the recognition of any such income shall not be allowed.

(B) To the extent that any income from the discharge of indebtedness in connection with any reacquisition, after December 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or instruments, as those terms are defined in Section 108 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, is properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, any such income shall be deductible in computing net income under this section for a taxable year ending after December 31, 2008, to the extent that the deferral of recognition of such income from such discharge was not allowed pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision in computing net income for a preceding taxable year.

(C) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, eighty per cent of any deduction claimed under Section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code for federal income tax purposes shall be disallowed. To the extent such a deduction is disallowed for purposes of computing the tax under this chapter, twenty-five per cent of the disallowed portion of the deduction shall be allowed as a deduction in each of the four succeeding income years.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, "net income", in the case of an S corporation, means the percentage of the nonseparately computed income or loss, as defined in Section 1366(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, of such S corporation, without separate state adjustment pursuant to section 12-233 or 12-226a for the compensation of any officer or employee, to which shall be added (A) any taxes imposed under the provisions of this chapter [which] that are paid or accrued in the income year, and (B) any taxes in any state of

House Bill No. 6941

the United States or any political subdivision of such state, or the District of Columbia, imposed on or measured by the income or profits of a corporation [which] that are paid or accrued in the income year as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(2) For income years commencing prior to January 1, 1997, "net income" means one hundred per cent of the amount computed under subdivision (1) of this subsection; for income years commencing on or after January 1, 1997, and prior to January 1, 1998, "net income" means ninety per cent of the amount computed under subdivision (1) of this subsection; for income years commencing on or after January 1, 1998, and prior to January 1, 1999, "net income" means seventy-five per cent of the amount computed under subdivision (1) of this subsection; for income years commencing on or after January 1, 1999, and prior to January 1, 2000, "net income" means fifty-five per cent of the amount computed under subdivision (1) of this subsection; for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2000, and prior to January 1, 2001, "net income" means thirty per cent of the amount computed under subdivision (1) of this subsection; for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2001, net income of S corporations as computed under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not be subject to the tax under this chapter. Any S corporation subject to the tax on net income as provided in this section shall be eligible for any credit against the tax otherwise available to taxpayers under this chapter only to the extent and in the same percentage as net income of such S corporation is subject to taxation under this chapter, except that any S corporation with an income year commencing on or after January 1, 1999, but before December 31, 2000, shall be eligible for the entire credit available under sections 8-395, 12-633, 12-634, 12-635 and 12-635a.

(d) The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54, relating to mergers or consolidations of corporations providing for the deduction, by the surviving or new corporation

House Bill No. 6941

provided for in the plan of consolidation, of operating losses that were incurred by a merging or consolidating corporation, respectively, before the merger or consolidation, respectively. Such regulations may follow the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, or the regulations thereunder.

(e) Where a combined group is required to file a combined unitary tax return pursuant to section 12-222, the combined group's net income shall be computed as provided in subsection (a) of section 12-218e.

(f) Where a combined group is required to file a combined unitary tax return pursuant to section 12-222, a taxable member's net operating loss apportioned to this state shall be deducted and carried over by the taxable member as provided in subsection (d) of section 12-218e.

Sec. 380. Subdivision (120) of section 12-412 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to sales occurring on or after July 1, 2023*):

(120) (A) Sales of the following nonprescription drugs or medicines available for purchase for use in or on the body: Vitamin or mineral concentrates; dietary supplements; natural or herbal drugs or medicines; products intended to be taken for coughs, cold, asthma or allergies, or antihistamines; laxatives; antidiarrheal medicines; analgesics; antibiotic, antibacterial, antiviral and antifungal medicines; antiseptics; astringents; anesthetics; steroidal medicines; anthelmintics; emetics and antiemetics; antacids; any medication prepared to be used in the eyes, ears or nose; [and] cannabis sold for palliative use under the provisions of chapter 420f; and opioid antagonists, as defined in section 17a-673a.

(B) Nonprescription drugs or medicines do not include cosmetics, dentifrices, mouthwash, shaving and hair care products, soaps,

House Bill No. 6941

deodorants or products containing cannabis or cannabinoids. As used in this subparagraph, "cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420 and "cannabinoids" means manufactured cannabinoids or synthetic cannabinoids, as such terms are defined in section 21a-240.

Sec. 381. (*Effective from passage*) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, the amount deemed appropriated pursuant to sections 3-20i and 3-115b of the general statutes in each of said fiscal years shall be one dollar.

Sec. 382. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Not later than June 30, 2024, the Comptroller shall transfer ninety-five million dollars of the resources of the General Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to be accounted for as revenue of the General Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Sec. 383. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The following amounts shall be transferred from the resources of the General Fund to the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund: (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, one hundred fifteen million eight hundred thousand dollars, and (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, one hundred four million nine hundred thousand dollars.

Sec. 384. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The following amounts shall be transferred from the resources of the General Fund to the Cannabis Regulatory Fund: (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, ten million one hundred thousand dollars, and (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, ten million three hundred thousand dollars.

Sec. 385. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The following amounts shall be transferred from the resources of the General Fund to the Tourism Fund: (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, two million nine hundred thousand dollars, and (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, one million three hundred thousand dollars.

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 386. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to review boards of assessment appeals proceedings. Such review shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) an examination of the current proceedings to identify problems or inefficiencies in such proceedings for individuals and companies and municipalities, (2) recommendations for statutory changes to improve or mitigate such problems or inefficiencies, and (3) an examination of the feasibility of implementing a professional, independent appeals system for such proceedings.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

(2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;

(4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

(7) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee.

(c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

House Bill No. 6941

(e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

(g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding and local governments, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

Sec. 387. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to study the timeliness of required inspections of work performed pursuant to a building permit issued by a building official. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) a review of (A) the average amount of time it takes for such inspections to be conducted after the work is ready to be inspected, (B) how often a scheduled inspection is cancelled or rescheduled and, to the extent determinable, which party cancelled or rescheduled the inspection, and (C) whether inspectors are employed by municipalities as employees or independent contractors and examination of any regional arrangements, (2) recommendations for initiatives to incentivize or attract additional inspectors to the state and to increase the timeliness of inspections, and (3) recommendations for statutory changes to implement such initiatives.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

House Bill No. 6941

- (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
 - (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;
 - (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
 - (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;
 - (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and
 - (7) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee.
- (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.
- (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.
- (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.
- (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.
- (g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a report

House Bill No. 6941

on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding and local governments, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

Sec. 388. Section 3-13a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Treasurer, with the advice and consent of the Investment Advisory Council, shall appoint a chief investment officer and may appoint a deputy chief investment officer, [and] principal investment officers, investment officers and other personnel to assist the chief investment officer, for the Connecticut retirement pension and trust funds, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Treasurer and whose compensation shall be determined by the Treasurer within salary ranges established by the Treasurer in consultation with the Investment Advisory Council. The provisions of section 4-40 shall not apply to the compensation of [said] such officers and personnel. The chief investment officer shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of duties under law and shall, under the direction of the Treasurer and subject to the provisions of sections 3-13 to 3-13d, inclusive, and 3-31b, advise the Treasurer on investing the trust funds of the state. [Said] The chief investment officer shall also perform such other duties as the Treasurer may direct. [In addition to said officers, the Treasurer may appoint investment officers and other personnel to assist said chief investment officer, which officers and other personnel shall serve at the pleasure of the Treasurer.]

(b) The Treasurer may retain professional investment counsel to evaluate and recommend to the Treasurer changes in the portfolio of the state's trust and other funds. [Said] Such counsel shall inform the Treasurer of suitable investment opportunities and shall investigate the

House Bill No. 6941

investment merit of any security or group of securities.

(c) The cost of operating the investment department including the cost of personnel and professional investment counsel retained under sections 3-13 to 3-13d, inclusive, and 3-31b shall be paid by the Treasurer charging the income derived from the trust funds.

Sec. 389. Section 3-13b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) There is created an Investment Advisory Council [which] that shall consist of the following:

[(1)] (A) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management who shall serve as an ex-officio member of said council; [(2) the State]

(B) The Treasurer who shall serve as an ex-officio member of said council; [(3) five]

(C) (i) Five public members all of whom shall be experienced in matters relating to investments. The Governor, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the Senate minority leader, the speaker of the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the House of Representatives shall each appoint one such public member to serve for a term of four years. [No such public member or such member's business organization or affiliate shall directly or indirectly contract with or provide any services for the investment of trust funds of the state of Connecticut during the time of such member's service on said council and for one year thereafter. The term of each public member in office on June 30, 1983, shall end on July 1, 1983.] The appointing authority shall fill all vacancies of the public members; [(4) three]

(ii) Such public members shall recuse themselves from discussions or votes related to any direct or indirect contract with such public member or such member's business organization or affiliate for the provision of

House Bill No. 6941

any services for the investment of trust funds of the state;

(D) Three representatives of the teachers' unions, and two representatives of the state employees' unions. On or before July 15, 1983, the teachers' unions shall jointly submit to the [State] Treasurer a list of three nominees, and the state employees' unions or a majority thereof who represent a majority of state employees shall jointly submit to the Treasurer a list of two nominees. On or before July 30, 1983, the Governor shall appoint five members of the council from such lists, for terms of two years. Any person appointed to fill a vacancy or to be a new member at the expiration of a given term, whose predecessor in that position was either a representative of one of the teachers' unions or one of the state employees' unions, shall also be a representative of such respective union group. Any such appointee shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of nominees submitted to the Treasurer by the teachers' unions or state employees' unions or such majority thereof, as the case may be, within thirty days of notification by the Treasurer of the existence of a vacancy or a prospective vacancy, or the expiration or prospective expiration of a term.

(2) All members of the council shall serve until their respective successors are appointed and have qualified. No public member of the council shall serve more than two consecutive terms, [which commence on or after July 1, 1983.]

(b) The Governor shall designate one of the members to be chairperson of the council to serve as such at the Governor's pleasure. The Treasurer shall serve as secretary of said council. A majority of the members of the council then in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business, and action shall be by the vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting. Votes by members on investment policies shall be recorded in the minutes of each meeting. Members of said council shall not be compensated for their services but shall be reimbursed for all necessary expenses incurred in the performance of

House Bill No. 6941

their duties as members of said council. The council shall meet at least once during each calendar quarter and at such other times as the chairperson deems necessary or upon the request of a majority of the members in office. Special meetings shall be held at the request of such majority after notice in accordance with the provisions of section 1-225. Any member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend fifty per cent of all meetings held during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from office.

(c) (1) The Treasurer shall recommend to the Investment Advisory Council an investment policy statement [which] that shall set forth the standards governing investment of trust funds by the Treasurer. Such statement shall include, with respect to each trust fund, without limitation, (A) investment objectives; (B) asset allocation policy and risk tolerance; (C) asset class definitions, including specific types of permissible investments within each asset class and any specific limitations or other considerations governing the investment of any funds; (D) investment manager guidelines; (E) investment performance evaluation guidelines; (F) guidelines for the selection and termination of providers of investment-related services who shall include, but not be limited to, investment advisors, external money managers, investment consultants, custodians, broker-dealers, legal counsel, and similar investment industry professionals; and (G) proxy voting guidelines. A draft of the statement shall be submitted to the Investment Advisory Council at a meeting of said council and shall be made available to the public. Notice of such availability shall be published in at least one newspaper having a general circulation in each municipality in the state which publication shall be not less than two weeks prior to such meeting. Said council shall review the draft statement and shall publish any recommendations it may have for changes to such statement in the manner provided for publication of the statement by the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall thereafter adopt the statement, including any such changes the Treasurer deems appropriate, with the

House Bill No. 6941

approval of a majority of the members appointed to said council. If a majority of the members appointed to said council fail to approve such statement, [said] such majority shall provide the reasons for its failure to approve to the Treasurer who may submit an amended proposed statement at a subsequent regular or special meeting of said council. Such revised proposed statement shall be made available to the public in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200. Any revisions or additions to the investment policy statement shall be made in accordance with the procedures set forth in this subdivision for the adoption of the statement. The Treasurer shall annually review the investment policy statement and shall consult with the Investment Advisory Council regarding possible revisions to such statement.

(2) All trust fund investments by the [State] Treasurer shall be reviewed by [said] the Investment Advisory Council. The Treasurer shall provide to the council all information regarding such investments which the Treasurer deems relevant to the council's review and such other information as may be requested by the council. The Treasurer shall provide a report at each regularly scheduled meeting of the Investment Advisory Council as to the status of the trust funds and any significant changes [which] that may have occurred or [which] that may be pending with regard to the funds. The council shall promptly notify the Auditors of Public Accounts and the Comptroller of any unauthorized, illegal, irregular or unsafe handling or expenditure of trust funds or breakdowns in the safekeeping of trust funds or contemplated action to do the same within [their] said council's knowledge. The Governor may direct the Treasurer to change any investments made by the Treasurer when in the judgment of said council such action is for the best interest of the state. Said council shall, at the close of the fiscal year, make a complete examination of the security investments of the state and determine as of June thirtieth, the value of such investments in the custody of the Treasurer and report

House Bill No. 6941

thereon to the Governor, the General Assembly and beneficiaries of trust funds administered, held or invested by the Treasurer. With the approval of the Treasurer and the council, [said] such report may be included in the Treasurer's annual report.

(d) The Investment Advisory Council shall be within the office of the [State] Treasurer for administrative purposes only.

(e) For the purposes of this section, "teachers' union" means a representative organization for certified professional employees, as defined in section 10-153b, and "state employees' union" means an organization certified to represent state employees, pursuant to section 5-275.

Sec. 390. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Company" means an entity that is subject to the tax under chapter 208 of the general statutes and has one hundred or more full-time employees in the state;

(2) "Eligible employee" means any full-time employee of the company, who is based in the state and whose annual cash contribution from the company is less than two hundred thousand dollars;

(3) "Participating employee" means any eligible employee who participates in a share plan; and

(4) "Share plan" means an employee stock-sharing arrangement offered by a company, that provides for making distributions of common stock of such company to participating employees and meets the requirements under subsection (c) of this section.

(b) (1) Any company that offers a share plan to its eligible employees in accordance with the provisions of this section shall be eligible to receive, for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2027, an

House Bill No. 6941

exemption from the additional tax imposed under subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-214 of the general statutes or subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-219 of the general statutes, as applicable, if the Commissioner of Revenue Services is satisfied that such share plan meets the requirements of subsection (c) of this section. If such additional tax expires or is eliminated after a company has begun claiming the exemption under this subsection, such company shall be eligible to claim a credit against the tax imposed under chapter 208 of the general statutes in an amount equal to what such additional tax would have been if it were still in effect.

(2) Any such company may claim the exemption or credit, as applicable, for a period of ten successive income years, as follows:

(A) For any company that commences offering a share plan on or after January 1, 2025, but prior to January 1, 2026, the exemption or credit, as applicable, that such company earns for said income year shall be allowed beginning with the second income year after said income year. For each subsequent income year, the exemption or credit, as applicable, such company earns for such income year shall be allowed in the same manner until the exemption or credit, as applicable, has been claimed for ten successive income years, provided the company offers a share plan that meets the requirements under subsection (c) of this section for each such income year.

(B) For any company that commences offering a share plan on or after January 1, 2026, but prior to January 1, 2027, the exemption or credit, as applicable, that such company earns for said income year shall be allowed beginning with the first income year after said income year. For each subsequent income year, the exemption or credit, as applicable, such company earns for such income year shall be allowed in the same manner until the exemption or credit, as applicable, has been claimed for ten successive income years, provided the company offers a share plan that meets the requirements under subsection (c) of this section for

House Bill No. 6941

each such income year.

(C) For any company that commences offering a share plan on or after January 1, 2027, the exemption or credit, as applicable, for which such company is eligible shall be allowed beginning with the income year in which such exemption or credit, as applicable, was earned and shall be allowed in the same manner until the exemption or credit, as applicable, has been claimed for ten successive income years, provided the company offers a share plan that meets the requirements under subsection (c) of this section for each such income year.

(D) If, during the ten-year period, the share plan offered by the company fails to meet the requirements under subsection (c) of this section or the company ceases to offer such share plan, the company may not claim the exemption or credit, as applicable, for the remainder of such period.

(3) If both of the additional taxes imposed under subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-214 of the general statutes and subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 12-219 of the general statutes expire or are eliminated, a company that did not offer a share plan prior to such expiration or elimination shall be ineligible to receive a credit under this section.

(c) (1) An employee stock-sharing plan shall not be treated as a share plan unless:

(A) At least eighty per cent of the company's eligible employees are participating employees; and

(B) The distributions under such plan:

(i) Are of not less than three hundred shares per participating employee, as adjusted for any stock split or reverse stock split performed by the company on or after January 1, 2025;

House Bill No. 6941

(ii) Are made without compensation other than service as an employee;

(iii) May be sold or transferred without restriction after a holding period not to exceed one year, except that a distribution may be sold or transferred during such period for any hardship of an employee in accordance with Section 401(k)(2)(B)(i)(IV) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time;

(iv) Are made in equal amounts to each participating employee, determined in the aggregate for any calendar year and adjusted with respect to any employee not employed at all times during such calendar year; and

(v) Vest not later than five years after the date of distribution to a participating employee, provided such employee is still employed by the company on such date.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B)(v) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, distributions under a share plan shall vest as follows for any of the following events that occur prior to the date a distribution will vest pursuant to said subparagraph:

(A) If a participating employee (i) retires from the company and receives or will receive retirement benefits under the company's retirement plan, or (ii) is laid off or terminated without cause by the company, such employee's interest in any distribution under a share plan shall vest not later than the date such employee's retirement, layoff or termination without cause, as applicable, is effective; and

(B) If there is a change in the control of the distributing company after the date of distribution under a share plan, the participating employees' interests in any such distribution shall vest not later than the date such change is effective.

House Bill No. 6941

(d) Any company claiming the exemption or credit, as applicable, under subsection (b) of this section shall provide to the Department of Revenue Services any information requested by the department for any applicable income year to verify that such company's share plan meets the requirements of subsection (c) of this section and substantiate such company's eligibility for such exemption or credit.

Sec. 391. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 12-701 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2024*):

(B) There shall be subtracted therefrom:

(i) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any income with respect to which taxation by any state is prohibited by federal law;

(ii) To the extent allowable under section 12-718, exempt dividends paid by a regulated investment company;

(iii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any refund or credit for overpayment of income taxes imposed by this state, or any other state of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia;

(iv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes and not otherwise subtracted from federal adjusted gross income pursuant to clause (x) of this subparagraph in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, any tier 1 railroad retirement benefits;

(v) To the extent any additional allowance for depreciation under Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for property placed in service after September 27, 2017, was added to federal adjusted gross

House Bill No. 6941

income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ix) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such additional allowance for depreciation in each of the four succeeding taxable years;

(vi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any interest income from obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut;

(vii) To the extent properly includable in determining the net gain or loss from the sale or other disposition of capital assets for federal income tax purposes, any gain from the sale or exchange of obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut, in the income year such gain was recognized;

(viii) Any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry obligations or securities the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such interest on indebtedness is not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and is attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(ix) Ordinary and necessary expenses paid or incurred during the taxable year for the production or collection of income which is subject to taxation under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, or the management, conservation or maintenance of property held for the production of such income, and the amortizable bond premium for the taxable year on any bond the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such expenses and premiums are not deductible in determining federal

House Bill No. 6941

adjusted gross income and are attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(x) (I) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes;

(II) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

House Bill No. 6941

(III) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes; and

(IV) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(xi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal

House Bill No. 6941

income tax purposes, any amount rebated to a taxpayer pursuant to section 12-746;

(xii) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, any distribution to such beneficiary from any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the state;

(xiii) To the extent allowable under section 12-701a, contributions to accounts established pursuant to any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the state;

(xiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any Holocaust victims' settlement payment received in the taxable year by a Holocaust victim;

(xv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes of an account holder, as defined in section 31-51ww, interest earned on funds deposited in the individual development account, as defined in section 31-51ww, of such account holder;

(xvi) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, as defined in section 3-123aa, interest, dividends or capital gains earned on contributions to accounts established for the designated beneficiary pursuant to the Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly established by sections 3-123aa to 3-123ff, inclusive;

(xvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any income received from the United States

House Bill No. 6941

government as retirement pay for a retired member of (I) the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the United States Code, or (II) the National Guard, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the United States Code;

(xviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, any income from the discharge of indebtedness in connection with any reacquisition, after December 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or instruments, as those terms are defined in Section 108 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to the extent any such income was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xi) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income for a preceding taxable year;

(xix) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income, the amount of any contribution to a manufacturing reinvestment account established pursuant to section 32-9zz in the taxable year that such contribution is made;

(xx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2015, ten per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, (II) for the taxable years commencing January 1, 2016, to January 1, 2020, inclusive, twenty-five per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, and each taxable year thereafter, fifty per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system or, for a taxpayer whose federal adjusted gross income does not exceed the applicable threshold under clause (xxi) of this subparagraph, the percentage pursuant to said clause of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, whichever deduction is greater;

House Bill No. 6941

(xxi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvii) of this subparagraph, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, fourteen per cent of any pension or annuity income, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2020, twenty-eight per cent of any pension or annuity income, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, forty-two per cent of any pension or annuity income, and (IV) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022, and each taxable year thereafter, one hundred per cent of any pension or annuity income;

(xxii) The amount of lost wages and medical, travel and housing expenses, not to exceed ten thousand dollars in the aggregate, incurred by a taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the donation to another person of an organ for organ transplantation occurring on or after January 1, 2017;

(xxiii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any financial assistance received from the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund or paid to or on behalf of the owner of a residential building pursuant to sections 8-442 and 8-443;

(xxiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal

House Bill No. 6941

income tax purposes, the amount calculated pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-704g for income received by a general partner of a venture capital fund, as defined in 17 CFR 275.203(l)-1, as amended from time to time;

(xxv) To the extent any portion of a deduction under Section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xiv) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such disallowed portion of the deduction in each of the four succeeding taxable years;

(xxvi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, twenty-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, and (IV) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth

House Bill No. 6941

individual retirement account; [and]

(xxvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022, the amount or amounts paid or otherwise credited to any eligible resident of this state under (I) the 2020 Earned Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the state through the Coronavirus Relief Fund established under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, and (II) the 2021 Earned Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the state pursuant to Section 9901 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2; and

(xxviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing on or after January 1, 2025, and each taxable year thereafter, any common stock received by the taxpayer during the taxable year under a share plan, as defined in section 390 of this act.

Sec. 392. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall, in consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, conduct a study of the share plan program established under section 390 of this act. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) the benefits of such program, (2) the fiscal impact of such program, and (3) any other information the commissioner deems advisable. Not later than December 15, 2023, the commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, of the findings of the study to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding.

Sec. 393. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For purposes of this section and section 394 of this act:

House Bill No. 6941

(1) "Authority" means the Capital Region Development Authority established pursuant to section 32-601 of the general statutes.

(2) "Contractor" means an entity, including any affiliate thereof, selected and approved by the board of directors of the authority to manage and operate the XL Center.

(3) "XL Center" means the civic center and coliseum complex in the city of Hartford known as the XL Center.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the authority may enter into an agreement with the contractor that is managing and operating the XL Center on July 1, 2023, to continue to manage and operate the XL Center. Any such agreement shall provide that the contractor will manage, operate and invest in the renovation of the XL Center and bear any losses and share in any profits from the operation of the XL Center. Any such agreement shall be entered into not later than December 31, 2025, except amendments thereto may be entered into after said date. Any such agreement or amendment to such agreement shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

(c) Any agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall include, but not be limited to, the following terms and conditions:

(1) The term of the agreement, the expiration of which shall be limited to the earliest expiration of any agreement entered into in accordance with subsection (e) of this section;

(2) The amounts that the authority and the contractor shall contribute toward the renovation and reconstruction of the XL Center pursuant to section 394 of this act;

(3) A complete description of the scope of the management and operations and functions to be performed under the agreement and the

House Bill No. 6941

responsibilities of the authority and the contractor thereunder;

(4) The minimum quality standards the contractor shall maintain in its management and operation of the XL Center;

(5) The methodology to calculate the net profit or loss derived from the operations of the XL Center, provided (A) operating expenses shall not include depreciation on any assets paid for with the funds contributed by the contractor or the authority for the renovation and reconstruction of the XL Center in accordance with section 394 of this act, and (B) operating expenses may include fees for certain services that are paid to the contractor or its affiliates for certain services rendered, including, but not limited to, venue management fees, food and beverage fees, and sponsorship and premium commissions;

(6) The division of the net profit or loss between the contractor and the authority, provided that on an annual basis: (A) The contractor shall be responsible for any net loss from the operations of the XL Center, (B) the contractor shall retain the first four million dollars of any net profit from the operations of the XL Center, and (C) any net profit from the operations of the XL Center in excess of four million dollars shall be split equally between the contractor and the authority;

(7) Any amounts that the contractor and the authority will contribute to a capital expense fund to pay for future capital improvements;

(8) A requirement that the contractor furnish an annual independent audit report to the authority and to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management covering all aspects of the agreement;

(9) Performance and payment bonds or other security deemed suitable by the authority;

(10) One or more policies of public liability insurance in such amounts determined by the authority to ensure coverage of tort liability

House Bill No. 6941

for the public and employees of the contractor and to provide for the continued operation of the XL Center;

(11) The rights and remedies available to the authority for a material breach of the agreement by the contractor; and

(12) Any other provision determined to be appropriate by the authority.

(d) Any agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall be consistent with the provisions of subdivision (4) of subsection (d) of section 32-602 of the general statutes.

(e) Prior to entering into any agreement pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the authority shall enter into one or more agreements with the city of Hartford to extend the lease of the XL Center.

(f) For purposes of property taxation, while owned, leased or operated by the authority or the contractor, the XL Center and any personal property located thereon shall be deemed to be state-owned property under subdivision (2) of section 12-81 of the general statutes, except the state shall not make any grant in lieu of taxes with respect to the XL Center.

Sec. 394. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the authority may enter into one or more agreements for a project to renovate and reconstruct the XL Center. Any such agreement shall be entered into not later than December 31, 2025, except amendments thereto may be entered into after said date. Any such agreement or amendment shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

(b) Any such agreement shall provide that the authority, the state, or a combination thereof, shall contribute not more than eighty million dollars and the contractor shall contribute not less than twenty million

House Bill No. 6941

dollars toward the costs of any renovation or reconstruction of the XL Center occurring after January 1, 2023.

Sec. 395. Subsection (i) of section 32-602 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(i) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management [, on behalf of the state, shall enter into an agreement with the authority concerning the proceeds of the operation of retail sports wagering at the XL Center in Hartford. Notwithstanding any funds that may be appropriated to the authority for the operation of the XL Center in Hartford, any such agreement shall provide that the state] shall distribute to the authority a sum from the General Fund equal to the amount certified pursuant to subsection (e) of section 12-812 for the operation of the XL Center in Hartford or for a capital reserve account established by the authority for the XL Center in Hartford. The Office of Policy and Management shall distribute such sums to the authority on a quarterly basis and [in such manner as specified in the agreement, and] the authority shall use such sums for the operation of the XL Center in Hartford or for a capital reserve account established by the authority for the XL Center in Harford.

Sec. 396. Section 15-120bb of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (o) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(NEW) (o) Not later than October 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the executive director of the Connecticut Airport Authority shall submit a report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation and finance, revenue and bonding, summarizing, for each airport the authority oversees, the operating revenue and expenditures for the prior fiscal year, the capital revenue and expenditures for the prior fiscal year and an overview of any plans for acquisition, closure or expansion of an airport in the

House Bill No. 6941

coming year.

Sec. 397. (Effective July 1, 2023) The appropriations in section 1 of this act are supported by the GENERAL FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
TAXES		
Personal Income		
Withholding	\$8,380,900,000	\$8,530,400,000
Estimates and Finals	2,642,400,000	2,703,000,000
Sales and Use	5,299,500,000	5,428,200,000
Corporations	1,514,500,000	1,526,500,000
Pass-Through Entities	1,815,600,000	1,877,300,000
Public Service	291,600,000	296,800,000
Inheritance and Estate	178,100,000	182,200,000
Insurance Companies	262,800,000	266,800,000
Cigarettes	276,400,000	262,000,000
Real Estate Conveyance	287,700,000	292,600,000
Alcoholic Beverages	78,400,000	78,800,000
Admissions and Dues	31,000,000	31,000,000
Health Provider Tax	956,400,000	957,400,000
Miscellaneous	45,400,000	69,200,000
TOTAL TAXES	22,060,700,000	22,502,200,000
Refunds of Taxes	(1,879,500,000)	(1,971,900,000)
Earned Income Tax Credit	(191,600,000)	(196,200,000)
R & D Credit Exchange	(7,500,000)	(7,800,000)
NET GENERAL FUND REVENUE	19,982,100,000	20,326,300,000
OTHER REVENUE		
Transfers - Special Revenue	406,500,000	411,900,000
Indian Gaming Payments	283,700,000	286,000,000
Licenses, Permits, Fees	356,500,000	330,700,000
Sales of Commodities and Services	16,900,000	17,800,000
Rents, Fines and Escheats	172,900,000	175,200,000

House Bill No. 6941

Investment Income	198,900,000	201,700,000
Miscellaneous	153,200,000	158,000,000
Refunds of Payments	(85,700,000)	(67,100,000)
NET TOTAL OTHER REVENUE	1,502,900,000	1,514,200,000
OTHER SOURCES		
Federal Grants	1,867,800,000	1,886,500,000
Transfer From Tobacco Settlement	(272,700,000)	(70,400,000)
Transfers To/From Other Funds	108,400,000	106,700,000
Transfer to Budget Reserve Fund - Volatility Cap	(683,200,000)	(659,600,000)
NET TOTAL OTHER SOURCES	1,020,300,000	1,263,200,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE	22,505,300,000	23,103,700,000

Sec. 398. (Effective July 1, 2023) The appropriations in section 2 of this act are supported by the SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
TAXES		
Motor Fuels	\$495,600,000	\$506,700,000
Oil Companies	387,000,000	357,200,000
Sales and Use	860,200,000	883,200,000
Sales Tax DMV	107,500,000	106,500,000
Highway Use	90,000,000	94,100,000
Refund of Taxes	(16,900,000)	(16,600,000)
TOTAL TAXES	1,923,400,000	1,931,100,000
OTHER SOURCES		
Motor Vehicle Receipts	254,100,000	255,400,000
Licenses, Permits, Fees	123,700,000	126,100,000
Interest Income	59,300,000	51,000,000
Federal Grants	9,200,000	8,100,000
Transfers To/From Other Funds	(13,500,000)	(13,500,000)
Refunds of Payments	(3,600,000)	(3,700,000)

House Bill No. 6941

NET TOTAL OTHER SOURCES	429,200,000	423,400,000
TOTAL SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND REVENUE	2,352,600,000	2,354,500,000

Sec. 399. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 3 of this act are supported by the MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT AND MOHEGAN FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Transfers from General Fund	\$52,600,000	\$52,600,000
TOTAL MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT AND MOHEGAN FUND REVENUE	52,600,000	52,600,000

Sec. 400. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 4 of this act are supported by the BANKING FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Fees and Assessments	\$34,800,000	\$35,900,000
TOTAL BANKING FUND REVENUE	34,800,000	35,900,000

Sec. 401. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 5 of this act are supported by the INSURANCE FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Fees and Assessments	\$104,600,000	\$135,400,000
TOTAL INSURANCE FUND REVENUE	104,600,000	135,400,000

Sec. 402. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 6 of this act are supported by the CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND revenue estimates as follows:

House Bill No. 6941

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Fees and Assessments	\$37,200,000	\$38,200,000
TOTAL CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND REVENUE	37,200,000	38,200,000

Sec. 403. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 7 of this act are supported by the WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Fees and Assessments	\$28,900,000	\$29,200,000
TOTAL WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND REVENUE	28,900,000	29,200,000

Sec. 404. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 8 of this act are supported by the CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Restitutions	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
TOTAL CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND REVENUE	3,000,000	3,000,000

Sec. 405. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 9 of this act are supported by the TOURISM FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Room Occupancy Tax	\$14,600,000	\$14,900,000
Transfers To/From Other Funds	2,900,000	1,300,000
TOTAL TOURISM FUND	17,500,000	16,200,000

Sec. 406. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 10 of this act are supported by the CANNABIS SOCIAL EQUITY AND INNOVATION FUND revenue estimates as follows:

House Bill No. 6941

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Cannabis Excise Tax	\$5,800,000	\$10,200,000
TOTAL CANNABIS SOCIAL EQUITY AND INNOVATION FUND	5,800,000	10,200,000

Sec. 407. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 11 of this act are supported by the CANNABIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY SERVICES FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Cannabis Excise Tax	\$2,500,000	3,500,000
TOTAL CANNABIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY SERVICES FUND	2,500,000	3,500,000

Sec. 408. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 12 of this act are supported by the CANNABIS REGULATORY FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Transfers To/From Other Funds	\$10,100,000	\$10,300,000
TOTAL CANNABIS REGULATORY FUND	10,100,000	10,300,000

Sec. 409. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The appropriations in section 13 of this act are supported by the MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING FUND revenue estimates as follows:

	2023-2024	2024-2025
Sales and Use Tax	\$458,500,000	\$469,500,000
Transfers To/From Other Funds	115,800,000	104,900,000
TOTAL MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING FUND	574,300,000	574,400,000

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 410. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section and sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act:

(1) "Alternative method of election" means a method of electing candidates to the legislative body of a municipality other than an at-large method of election or a district-based method of election, and includes, but is not limited to, proportional ranked-choice voting, cumulative voting and limited voting;

(2) (A) "At-large method of election" means a method of electing candidates to the legislative body of a municipality in which such candidates are voted upon by all electors of such municipality;

(B) "At-large method of election" does not include any alternative method of election;

(3) "District-based method of election" means a method of electing candidates to the legislative body of a municipality in which, for municipalities divided into districts, a candidate for any such district is required to reside in such district and candidates representing or seeking to represent such district are voted upon by only the electors of such district;

(4) "Federal Voting Rights Act" means the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, 52 USC 10301 et seq., as amended from time to time;

(5) "Government enforcement action" means any denial of administrative or judicial preclearance by the state or federal government, pending litigation filed by a state or federal entity, final judgment or adjudication, consent decree or other similar formal action;

(6) "Legislative body" means the board of aldermen, council, board of burgesses, representative town meeting, board of education, district committee, association committee or other similar body, as applicable, of a municipality;

House Bill No. 6941

(7) "Municipality" or "municipal" means any town, city or borough, whether consolidated or unconsolidated, any local or regional school district, any district, as defined in section 7-324 of the general statutes, or any other district authorized under the general statutes;

(8) "Organization" means a person other than an individual;

(9) "Protected class" means a class of citizens who are members of a race, color or language minority group, as referenced in the federal Voting Rights Act;

(10) "Divergent voting patterns" means voting in which the candidate or electoral choice preferred by protected class members diverges from the candidate or electoral choice preferred by electors who are not protected class members; and

(11) "Vote" or "voting" includes any action necessary to cast a ballot and make such ballot effective in any election or primary, including, but not limited to, admission as an elector, application for an absentee ballot and any other action required by law as a prerequisite to casting a ballot and having such ballot counted, canvassed or certified properly and included in the appropriate totals of votes cast with respect to candidates for election or nomination and to referendum questions.

(b) In the construction of this section and sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act, words and phrases that are not defined in subsection (a) of this section, but that are used in the federal Voting Rights Act and interpreted in relevant case law, including, but not limited to, "political process" and "prerequisite to voting", shall be construed in a manner consistent with such usage and interpretation.

Sec. 411. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) (1) No qualification for eligibility to be an elector in a municipality or other prerequisite to voting may be imposed, no ordinance, regulation or other law regarding the administration of elections may be enacted by a municipality, and

House Bill No. 6941

no standard, practice, procedure or policy may be applied by a municipality, in a manner that results in an impairment of the right to vote for any protected class member.

(2) It shall be a violation of subdivision (1) of this subsection for any municipality to impose any qualification for eligibility to be an elector or other prerequisite to voting, to enact any ordinance, regulation or other law regarding the administration of elections or to apply any standard, practice, procedure or policy that:

(A) Results or will result in a disparity between such municipality's protected class members and the other members of such municipality's electorate in electoral participation, access to voting opportunities or ability to participate in the political process; or

(B) Based on the totality of the circumstances, results in an impairment of the opportunity or ability of such municipality's protected class members to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice or otherwise influence the outcome of elections.

(b) (1) No municipality shall employ any method of election for any office of the municipality that has the effect, or is motivated in part by the intent, of impairing the opportunity or ability of protected class members to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice or otherwise influence the outcome of municipal elections as a result of diluting the vote of such protected class members.

(2) (A) The following shall constitute a violation of subdivision (1) of this subsection:

(i) Any municipality that employs an at-large method of election, in which the candidates or electoral choices preferred by protected class members would usually be defeated and in which (I) divergent voting patterns occur and such at-large method of election results in a dilutive

House Bill No. 6941

effect on the vote of protected class members, or (II) based on the totality of the circumstances, the opportunity or ability of protected class members to elect candidates of their choice or otherwise influence the outcome of elections is impaired; or

(ii) Any municipality that employs a district-based method of election or an alternative method of election, in which the candidates or electoral choices preferred by protected class members would usually be defeated and in which (I) divergent voting patterns occur and such district-based or alternative method of election results in a dilutive effect on the vote of protected class members, or (II) based on the totality of the circumstances, the ability of protected class members to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice or otherwise influence the outcome of elections is impaired.

(B) (i) In determining whether divergent voting patterns occur in a municipality or whether a method of election in such municipality results in a dilutive effect on the vote of protected class members, the superior court for the judicial district in which such municipality is located (I) shall consider elections held prior to the filing of an action pursuant to this section as more probative than elections conducted after such filing, (II) shall consider evidence concerning elections for any municipal office in such municipality as more probative than evidence concerning elections for other offices, but may still afford probative value to evidence concerning elections for such other offices, (III) shall consider statistical evidence as more probative than nonstatistical evidence, (IV) in the case of claims brought on behalf of two or more protected classes that are politically cohesive in such municipality, shall combine members of such protected classes to determine whether voting by such combined protected class members is divergent from other electors and shall not require evidence that voting by each such protected class's members is separately divergent from such other electors, and (V) shall not require evidence concerning the intent of

House Bill No. 6941

electors, elected officials or such municipality to discriminate against protected class members.

(ii) Evidence concerning the causes of, or reasons for, the occurrence of divergent voting patterns shall not be deemed relevant to the determination of whether divergent voting patterns occur or whether a method of election results in a dilutive effect on the vote of protected class members.

(c) (1) In determining whether, based on the totality of the circumstances, an impairment of the right to vote for any protected class member in a municipality, or of the opportunity or ability of protected class members in a municipality to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice or otherwise influence the outcome of elections, has occurred, the superior court for the judicial district in which such municipality is located may consider factors that include, but are not limited to: (A) The history of discrimination in or affecting the municipality or state; (B) the extent to which protected class members have been elected to office in the municipality; (C) the use of any qualification for eligibility to be an elector or other prerequisite to voting, any statute, ordinance, regulation or other law regarding the administration of elections, or any standard, practice, procedure or policy, by the municipality that may enhance the dilutive effects of a method of election in such municipality; (D) the extent of any history of unequal access on the part of protected class members or candidates to election administration or campaign finance processes that determine which candidates will receive access to the ballot or financial or other support in a given election for an office of the municipality; (E) the extent to which protected class members in the municipality or state have historically made expenditures, as defined in section 9-601b of the general statutes, at lower rates than other individuals in such municipality or state; (F) the extent to which protected class members in the municipality or state vote at lower rates than other electors in the

House Bill No. 6941

municipality or state, as applicable; (G) the extent to which protected class members in the municipality are disadvantaged, or otherwise bear the effects of public or private discrimination, in areas that may hinder their ability to participate effectively in the political process, such as education, employment, health, criminal justice, housing, transportation, land use or environmental protection; (H) the extent to which protected class members in the municipality are disadvantaged in other areas that may hinder their ability to participate effectively in the political process; (I) the use of overt or subtle racial appeals in political campaigns in the municipality or surrounding the adoption or maintenance of a challenged practice; (J) the extent to which candidates face hostility or barriers while campaigning due to their membership in a protected class; (K) a significant or recurring lack of responsiveness on the part of elected officials of the municipality to the particularized needs of a community or communities of protected class members, except that compliance with a court order shall not be considered to be evidence of such responsiveness; and (L) whether the particular method of election, ordinance, regulation or other law regarding the administration of elections, standard, practice, procedure or policy was designed to advance, and does materially advance, a valid state interest.

(2) No particular combination or number of factors under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be required for the court to determine the occurrence of an impairment under this subsection.

(d) Any individual aggrieved by a violation of this section, any organization whose membership includes individuals aggrieved by such a violation or the Secretary of the State may file an action alleging a violation of this section in the superior court for the judicial district in which such violation has occurred. Members of two or more protected classes that are politically cohesive in a municipality may jointly file such an action in such court.

(e) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of title 9 of the general statutes

House Bill No. 6941

and any special act, charter or home rule ordinance, whenever the superior court for a judicial district finds a violation by a municipality within such judicial district of any provision of this section, such court shall order appropriate remedies that are tailored to address such violation in such municipality and to ensure protected class members have equitable opportunities to fully participate in the political process and that can be implemented in a manner that will not unduly disrupt the administration of an ongoing or imminent election. Such court shall take into account the ability of officials who administer elections in such municipality to implement any change to voting for an ongoing or imminent election in a manner that is orderly and fiscally sound, and shall not order any remedy that contravenes the Constitution of Connecticut. Appropriate remedies may include, but need not be limited to: (A) A district-based method of election; (B) an alternative method of election; (C) new or revised districting or redistricting plans; (D) elimination of staggered elections so that all members of the legislative body are elected at the same time; (E) reasonably increasing the size of the legislative body; (F) additional voting days or hours; (G) additional polling places; (H) additional means of voting, such as voting by mail, or additional opportunities to return ballots; (I) holding of special elections; (J) expanded opportunities for admission of electors; (K) additional elector education; (L) the restoration or addition of individuals to registry lists; or (M) retaining jurisdiction for such period of time as the court may deem appropriate, during which period no qualification for eligibility to be an elector or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice or procedure with respect to voting, that is different from that which was in effect at the time an action under subsection (d) of this section was commenced shall be enforced unless the court finds that such qualification, prerequisite, standard, practice or procedure does not have the purpose, and will not have the effect, of impairing the right to vote on the basis of protected class membership or in contravention of the guarantees with respect to such right that are set forth in sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act, provided, in any action

House Bill No. 6941

brought pursuant to chapter 149 of the general statutes, any remedy ordered shall be consistent with the provisions of said chapter. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (M) of this subdivision, any such finding by the court shall not be a bar to any subsequent action to enjoin enforcement of such qualification, prerequisite, standard, practice or procedure.

(2) Such court may only order a remedy if such remedy will not impair the ability of protected class members to participate in the political process and elect their preferred candidates or otherwise influence the outcome of elections. Such court shall consider remedies proposed by any parties to an action filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section and by other interested persons who are not such parties. The court shall not give deference or priority to a remedy proposed by a municipality simply because it has been proposed by such municipality. The court shall have authority to order that a municipality implement one or more remedies that may be inconsistent with the provisions of any municipal law or of any special act relating to the conduct of elections, where such inconsistent provisions would otherwise preclude the court from ordering an appropriate remedy.

(f) (1) In the case of any proposal for a municipality to enact and implement (A) a new method of election to replace such municipality's at-large method of election with either a district-based method of election or an alternative method of election, or (B) a new districting or redistricting plan, the legislative body of such municipality shall act in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection if any such proposal was made after the receipt of a notification letter described in subsection (g) of this section or after the filing of a claim pursuant to this section or the federal Voting Rights Act.

(2) (A) Prior to drawing a draft districting or redistricting plan or plans, or transitioning to a proposed district-based method of election or alternative method of election, the municipality shall hold at least one

House Bill No. 6941

public hearing at which members of the public may provide input regarding such draft or proposal, including, if applicable, the composition of districts. Notice of each such hearing shall be published at least three weeks prior to the date of such hearing. In advance of each such hearing, the municipality shall conduct outreach to members of the public, including to language minority groups, to explain the districting or redistricting process and to encourage such input.

(B) After all such draft districting or redistricting plans are drawn, the municipality shall publish and make available for public dissemination at least one such plan and include the potential sequence of elections in the event the members of the legislative body of such municipality would be elected for staggered terms under such plan. The municipality shall hold at least one public hearing at which members of the public may provide input regarding the content of such plan or plans and, if applicable, such potential sequence of elections. Such plan or plans shall be published at least three weeks prior to consideration at each such hearing. If such plan or plans are revised at or following any such hearing, the municipality shall publish and make available for public dissemination such revised plan or plans at least two weeks prior to any adoption of such revised plan or plans.

(g) (1) Prior to filing an action against a municipality pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, any party described in subsection (d) of this section shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, a notification letter to the clerk of such municipality asserting that such municipality may be in violation of the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act.

(2) (A) No such party may file an action pursuant to this section earlier than fifty days after sending such notification letter to such municipality.

(B) Prior to receiving a notification letter, or not later than fifty days

House Bill No. 6941

after any such notification letter is sent to a municipality, the legislative body of such municipality may pass a resolution (i) affirming such municipality's intention to enact and implement a remedy for a potential violation of the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act, (ii) setting forth specific measures such municipality will take to facilitate approval and implementation of such a remedy, and (iii) providing a schedule for the enactment and implementation of such a remedy. No party described in subsection (d) of this section may file an action pursuant to this section earlier than ninety days after passage of any such resolution by such legislative body.

(C) If, under the laws of the state or under any charter or home rule ordinance, the legislative body of a municipality lacks authority to enact or implement a remedy identified in any such resolution within ninety days after the passage of such resolution, or if such municipality is a covered jurisdiction as described in section 414 of this act, such legislative body shall take the following measures upon such passage:

(i) The municipality shall hold at least one public hearing on any proposal to remedy any potential violation of the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act, at which members of the public may provide input regarding any such proposed remedies. In advance of each such hearing, the municipality shall conduct outreach to members of the public, including to language minority groups, to encourage such input.

(ii) The legislative body of such municipality may approve any such proposed remedy that complies with the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act and submit such proposed remedy to the Secretary of the State.

(iii) Notwithstanding any provision of title 9 of the general statutes and any special act, charter or home rule ordinance, the Secretary of the State shall, not later than ninety days after submission of such proposed

House Bill No. 6941

remedy by such municipality, approve or reject such proposed remedy in accordance with the provisions of this clause. The Secretary may require that such municipality or any other party provide additional information related to the submission of such proposed remedy. The Secretary may only approve such proposed remedy if the Secretary concludes (I) such municipality may be in violation of the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act, (II) the proposed remedy would address any such potential violation, (III) the proposed remedy does not violate the Constitution of Connecticut or any federal law, and (IV) the proposed remedy can be implemented in a manner that will not unduly disrupt the administration of an ongoing or imminent election.

(iv) Notwithstanding any provision of title 9 of the general statutes and any special act, charter or home rule ordinance, if the Secretary of the State approves the proposed remedy, such proposed remedy shall be enacted and implemented immediately or, if immediate implementation would unduly disrupt the administration of an ongoing or imminent election, as soon as possible. If the municipality is a covered jurisdiction as described in section 414 of this act, such municipality shall not be required to obtain preclearance for such proposed remedy.

(v) If the Secretary of the State denies the proposed remedy, (I) such proposed remedy shall not be enacted or implemented, (II) the Secretary shall set forth the reasons for such denial, and (III) the Secretary may recommend another remedy that the Secretary would approve.

(vi) If the Secretary of the State does not approve or reject such proposed remedy within ninety days after the submission of such proposed remedy by the municipality, the proposed remedy shall not be enacted or implemented.

(D) A municipality that has passed a resolution described in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision may enter into an agreement with any party who sent a notification letter described in subdivision (1) of

House Bill No. 6941

this subsection providing that such party shall not file an action pursuant to this section earlier than ninety days after entering into such agreement. If such party agrees to so enter into such an agreement, such agreement shall require that the municipality either enact and implement a remedy that complies with the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act or pass such a resolution and submit such resolution to the Secretary of the State. If such party declines to so enter into such an agreement, such party may file an action pursuant to this section at any time, subject to the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

(E) If, pursuant to the provisions of this subsection, a municipality enacts or implements a remedy or the Secretary of the State approves a proposed remedy, a party who sent a notification letter described in subdivision (1) of this subsection regarding a potential violation that is related to such remedy may, not later than thirty days after such enactment, implementation or approval, submit a claim for reimbursement from such municipality for the costs associated with producing and sending such notification letter. Such party shall submit such claim in writing and substantiate such claim with financial documentation, including a detailed invoice for any demography services or analysis of voting patterns in such municipality. Upon receipt of any such claim, such municipality may request additional financial documentation if that which has been provided by such party is insufficient to substantiate such costs. Such municipality shall reimburse such party for reasonable costs claimed or for an amount to which such party and such municipality agree, except that the cumulative amount of any such reimbursements to all such parties other than the Secretary of the State shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars, adjusted in accordance with any change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. If any such party and such municipality fail to agree to a reimbursement amount, either such party

House Bill No. 6941

or such municipality may file an action for a declaratory judgment with the superior court for the judicial district in which such municipality is located for a clarification of rights.

(F) (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a party described in subsection (d) of this section may seek preliminary relief for a regular election held in a municipality by filing an action pursuant to this section during the one hundred twenty days prior to such regular election. Not later than the filing of such action, such party shall send a notification letter described in subdivision (1) of this subsection to such municipality. In the event any such action is withdrawn or dismissed as being moot as a result of such municipality's enactment or implementation of a remedy, or the approval by the Secretary of the State of a proposed remedy, any such party may only submit a claim for reimbursement in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (E) of this subdivision.

(ii) In the case of preliminary relief sought pursuant to subparagraph (F)(i) of this subdivision by a party described in subsection (d) of this section, the superior court for the judicial district in which such municipality is located shall grant such relief if such court determines that (I) such party has shown a substantial likelihood of success on the merits, and (II) it is possible to implement an appropriate remedy that would resolve the violation alleged under this section prior to such election in a manner that will not unduly disrupt such election.

Sec. 412. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2024*) (a) The Secretary of the State shall establish a state-wide database of information necessary to assist the state and any municipality in (1) evaluating whether and to what extent current laws and practices related to election administration are consistent with the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act, (2) implementing best practices in election administration to further the purposes of said sections, and (3) investigating any potential infringement upon the right to vote. The Secretary may enter into an

House Bill No. 6941

agreement with The University of Connecticut or a member of the Connecticut State University System to perform or assist in performing the functions described in this section.

(b) The Secretary of the State shall designate an employee of the office of the Secretary of the State to serve as manager of the state-wide database. Such employee shall possess an advanced degree from an accredited college or university, or equivalent experience, and have expertise in demography, statistical analysis and electoral systems. Such employee shall be responsible for the operation of such state-wide database and shall manage such staff as is necessary to implement and maintain such state-wide database.

(c) The state-wide database shall maintain in electronic format the following data and records, at a minimum, for no fewer than the prior twelve years:

(1) Estimates of total population, voting age population and citizen voting age population by race, color and language minority group, broken down annually to the voting district level for each municipality, based on information from the United States Census Bureau, including from the American Community Survey, or information of comparable quality collected by a similar governmental agency, and accounting for population adjustments pursuant to section 9-169h of the general statutes, as applicable;

(2) Election results at the district level for each state-wide election and each election in each municipality;

(3) Regularly updated registry lists, geocoded locations for each elector and elector history files for each election in each municipality;

(4) Contemporaneous maps, descriptions of boundaries and other similar items, which shall be provided as shapefiles or in a comparable electronic format if an electronic format is available;

House Bill No. 6941

(5) Geocoded locations of polling places and absentee ballot drop boxes for each election in each municipality, and a list or description of the voting districts or geographic areas served by each such location; and

(6) Any other information the Secretary of the State deems advisable to maintain in furtherance of the purposes of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act.

(d) Except for any data, information or estimates that identify individual electors, the data, information or estimates maintained in the state-wide database shall be published on the Internet web site of the office of the Secretary of the State and made publicly available in electronic format at no cost.

(e) Any estimates prepared pursuant to this section, including estimates of eligible electors, shall be prepared using the most advanced, peer-reviewed and validated methodologies.

(f) At the time the Secretary of the State is prepared to commence administration of the state-wide database established under this section, the Secretary shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, certifying such fact.

(g) Upon the certification of election results and the completion of the elector history file after each election, the officials responsible for administering elections in each municipality shall transmit to the Secretary of the State, in electronic format, copies of (1) such election results at the voting district level, (2) updated registry lists, (3) elector history files, (4) maps, descriptions of boundaries and other similar items, and (5) lists of polling place and absentee ballot drop box locations and lists or descriptions of the voting districts or geographic

House Bill No. 6941

areas served by such locations.

(h) At least annually or upon the request by the Secretary of the State, the Criminal Justice Information Systems Governing Board established under section 54-142q of the general statutes, or any other state entity identified by the Secretary as possessing data, statistics or other information that the office of the Secretary of the State requires to carry out its duties and responsibilities under title 9 of the general statutes, shall provide to the Secretary such data, statistics or information.

(i) The office of the Secretary of the State may provide nonpartisan technical assistance to municipalities, researchers and members of the public seeking to use the resources of the state-wide database.

(j) In each action filed pursuant to section 411 of this act, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the data, estimates or other information maintained in the state-wide database is valid.

Sec. 413. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2024*) (a) The Secretary of the State shall designate one or more languages, other than English, for which assistance in voting and elections shall be provided in a municipality if the Secretary finds that a significant and substantial need exists for such assistance.

(b) (1) The Secretary of the State shall find that such significant and substantial need exists if, based on the best available data, which may include information from the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey, or data of comparable quality collected by a governmental entity:

(A) More than two per cent of the citizens of voting age of such municipality speak a particular shared language other than English and are limited English proficient individuals;

(B) More than four thousand of the citizens of voting age of such

House Bill No. 6941

municipality speak a particular shared language other than English and are limited English proficient individuals; or

(C) In the case of a municipality that contains any part of a Native American reservation, more than two per cent of the Native American citizens of voting age within such Native American reservation speak a particular shared language other than English and are limited English proficient individuals. As used in this subdivision, "Native American" includes any person recognized by the United States Census Bureau, or this state, as "American Indian".

(2) As used in this section, "limited English proficient individual" means an individual who does not speak English as such individual's primary language and who speaks, reads or understands the English language less than "very well", in accordance with United States Census Bureau data or data of comparable quality collected by a governmental entity.

(c) Not later than January 15, 2024, and at least annually thereafter, the Secretary of the State shall publish on the Internet web site of the office of the Secretary of the State a list of (1) each municipality in which assistance in voting and elections in a language other than English shall be provided, and (2) each such language in which such assistance shall be provided in each such municipality. The Secretary's determinations under this section shall be effective upon such publication. The Secretary shall distribute to each affected municipality the information contained in such list.

(d) Each municipality described in subsection (c) of this section shall provide assistance in voting and elections, including related materials, in any language designated by the Secretary of the State under subsection (a) of this section to electors in such municipality who are limited English proficient individuals.

House Bill No. 6941

(e) Whenever the Secretary of the State determines, pursuant to this section, that language assistance shall be provided in a municipality, such municipality shall provide competent assistance in each designated language and shall provide related materials (1) in English, and (2) in each designated language, including registration or voting notices, forms, instructions, assistance, ballots or other materials or information relating to the electoral process, except that in the case of a language that is oral or unwritten, including historically unwritten as may be the case for some Native Americans, such municipality may provide only oral instructions, assistance or other information relating to the electoral process in such language. All materials provided in a designated language shall be of an equal quality to the corresponding English materials. All provided translations shall convey the intent and essential meaning of the original text or communication and shall not rely solely on any automatic translation service. Whenever available, language assistance shall also include live translation.

(f) The Secretary of the State shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to establish a review process under which the Secretary shall determine, upon receipt of a request submitted under this subsection, whether a significant and substantial need exists in a municipality for a language to be designated for the provision of assistance in voting and elections whenever such a need has not been found under subsection (b) of this section. Such process shall include, at a minimum, (1) an opportunity for any elector, organization whose membership includes or is likely to include electors, organization whose mission would be frustrated by a municipality's failure to provide such language assistance or organization that would expend resources in order to fulfill such organization's mission as a result of such a failure, to submit a request for the Secretary to consider so designating a language in a municipality, (2) an opportunity for public comment, and (3) that, upon receipt of any such request and consideration of any such public comment, the Secretary may, in

House Bill No. 6941

accordance with the process for making such determination, so designate any language in a municipality.

(g) Any individual aggrieved by a violation of this section, any organization whose membership includes individuals aggrieved by such a violation or the Secretary of the State may file an action alleging a violation of this section in the superior court for the judicial district in which such violation has occurred, except that no determination of the Secretary under this section to designate a municipality or a language for the provision of assistance shall constitute a violation of this section.

Sec. 414. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2024*) (a) In accordance with the provisions of this section, the enactment or implementation of a covered policy, as described in subsection (b) of this section, by a covered jurisdiction, as described in subsection (c) of this section, shall be subject to preclearance, as described in subsections (e) and (f) of this section, by the Secretary of the State or the superior court for the judicial district in which such covered jurisdiction is located.

(b) A covered policy shall include any new or modified qualification for admission as an elector, prerequisite to voting or ordinance, regulation, standard, practice, procedure or policy concerning:

(1) Method of election;

(2) Form of government;

(3) Annexation, incorporation, dissolution, consolidation or division of a municipality;

(4) Removal of individuals from registry lists or enrollment lists and other activities concerning any such list;

(5) Hours of any polling place, or location or number of polling places or absentee ballot drop boxes;

House Bill No. 6941

(6) Assignment of voting districts to polling place or absentee ballot drop box locations;

(7) Assistance offered to protected class members; or

(8) Districting or redistricting, provided the enactment or implementation of a covered policy under this subdivision shall be subject to preclearance only in a covered jurisdiction described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section.

(c) (1) A covered jurisdiction includes:

(A) Any municipality that, within the prior twenty-five years, has been subject to any court order or government enforcement action based upon a finding of any violation of the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act, the federal Voting Rights Act, any state or federal civil rights law, the fifteenth amendment to the United States Constitution or the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution, which violation concerns the right to vote or a pattern, practice or policy of discrimination against any protected class;

(B) Any municipality that, within the three immediately preceding years, has failed to comply with such municipality's obligations to provide data or information to the state-wide database pursuant to section 413 of this act, except that inadvertent or unavoidable delays in such compliance, if communicated to the Secretary of the State and corrected within a reasonable time, shall not constitute such failure;

(C) Any municipality (i) that is not a school district, (ii) that contains at least one thousand eligible electors of any protected class, or in which members of any protected class constitute at least ten per cent of the eligible elector population of such municipality, and (iii) in which, during any of the prior ten years, based on data from criminal justice information systems, as defined in section 54-142q of the general statutes, the combined misdemeanor and felony arrest rate of any

House Bill No. 6941

protected class exceeds the combined misdemeanor and felony arrest rate of the entire population of such municipality by at least twenty per cent;

(D) Any municipality (i) that contains at least one thousand eligible electors of any protected class, or in which members of any protected class constitute at least ten per cent of the eligible elector population of such municipality, and (ii) in which, during any of the prior ten years, the percentage of electors of any such protected class in such municipality that participated in any general election for any municipal office is at least ten percentage points lower than the percentage of all electors in the municipality that participated in such election; or

(E) On or after January 1, 2034, any municipality that, during any of the prior ten years, was a covered jurisdiction that was found to have enacted or implemented a covered policy for which preclearance was required without obtaining preclearance for such covered policy pursuant to the process described in subparagraph (G) of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this section.

(2) (A) A municipality that is a covered jurisdiction under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be subject to preclearance for a covered policy described in subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7) of subsection (b) of this section.

(B) In addition to the preclearance requirement set forth in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, a municipality that is a covered jurisdiction under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be subject to preclearance for a covered policy described in subdivision (8) of subsection (b) of this section if, within the past twenty-five years, such municipality:

(i) Has been subject to three or more court orders or government enforcement actions based upon a finding of any violation of the

House Bill No. 6941

provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act, the federal Voting Rights Act, any state or federal civil rights law, the fifteenth amendment to the United States Constitution or the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution, which violation concerns the right to vote or a pattern, practice or policy of discrimination against any protected class; or

(ii) Has been subject to any such court order or government enforcement action that concerns districting or redistricting or method of election.

(d) At least annually, the Secretary of the State shall determine which municipalities are covered jurisdictions pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and publish on the Internet web site of the office of the Secretary of the State a list of such municipalities. A determination of the Secretary as to coverage under this subsection shall be effective upon such publication and may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes. Any such appeal shall be privileged with respect to assignment for trial.

(e) (1) If a covered jurisdiction seeks preclearance from the Secretary of the State for the adoption or implementation of any covered policy, such covered jurisdiction shall submit, in writing, such covered policy to the Secretary and may obtain such preclearance in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(2) When the Secretary of the State receives any such submission of a covered policy:

(A) As soon as practicable but not later than ten days after such receipt, the Secretary shall publish on the Internet web site of the office of the Secretary of the State such submission of a covered policy.

(B) Members of the public shall have an opportunity to comment on such published submission within the time period set forth in

House Bill No. 6941

subparagraph (I) of this subdivision. For the purposes of facilitating public comment on any such submission, the Secretary shall allow members of the public to sign up to receive notifications or alerts regarding submissions of covered policies for preclearance.

(C) The Secretary shall review such submission and any public comment thereon, and shall, within the time period set forth in subparagraph (I) of this subdivision, provide a report and determination as to whether preclearance of the covered policy should be granted or denied. Such time period shall run concurrently with the time period for public comment.

(D) The covered jurisdiction shall bear the burden of proof in any determination as to preclearance of a covered policy. The Secretary may request from a covered jurisdiction, at any time during the Secretary's review, additional information for the purpose of developing the Secretary's report and determination. Failure of such covered jurisdiction to timely comply with reasonable requests for such additional information may constitute grounds for the denial of preclearance. The Secretary shall publish on the Internet web site of the office of the Secretary of the State each such report and determination upon completion thereof.

(E) In any such determination, the Secretary shall state in writing whether the Secretary is approving or rejecting the covered policy, provided the Secretary may designate preclearance as "preliminary" and subsequently approve or deny final preclearance not later than ninety days after receipt of submission of such covered policy. A covered policy for which preclearance is designated as "preliminary" may be implemented on an interim basis, subject to the Secretary's subsequent determination.

(F) (i) The Secretary shall deny preclearance to a submitted covered policy only if the Secretary determines that (I) such covered policy is

House Bill No. 6941

more likely than not to diminish the opportunity or ability of protected class members to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice or otherwise influence the outcome of elections, or (II) such covered policy is more likely than not to violate the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act.

(ii) For any such denial, the Secretary shall interpose objections explaining the Secretary's basis for such denial, and the covered policy shall not be enacted or implemented.

(G) If the Secretary grants preclearance to a submitted covered policy, the covered jurisdiction may immediately enact or implement such covered policy. A determination by the Secretary to so grant preclearance shall not be admissible in, or otherwise considered by, a court in any subsequent action challenging such covered policy.

(H) If the Secretary fails to deny or grant preclearance to a submitted covered policy within the time period set forth in subparagraph (I) of this subdivision, such covered policy shall be deemed precleared and the covered jurisdiction may enact or implement such covered policy.

(I) The time periods for review by the Secretary of the State of any submitted covered policy, for public comment and for any determination of the Secretary to grant or deny preclearance to such covered policy shall be as follows:

(i) For any covered policy concerning the location of polling places or absentee ballot drop boxes, (I) the time period for public comment shall be ten business days, and (II) the time period in which the Secretary shall review the covered policy, including any public comment thereon, and make a determination to grant or deny preclearance to such covered policy, shall be not more than thirty days after the receipt of the submission of such covered policy, except that the Secretary may invoke an extension of not more than twenty days to make any determination

House Bill No. 6941

under subparagraph (I)(i)(II) of this subdivision; and

(ii) For any other covered policy, (I) the time period for public comment shall be ten business days, except that, for any covered policy that concerns the implementation of a district-based method of election or an alternative method of election, districting or redistricting plans or a change to a municipality's form of government, such time period shall be twenty business days, and (II) the time period in which the Secretary shall review such other covered policy, including any public comment thereon, and make a determination to grant or deny preclearance to such other covered policy, shall be not more than ninety days after the receipt of the submission of such other covered policy, except that the Secretary may invoke up to two extensions of not more than ninety days apiece to make any determination under subparagraph (I)(ii)(II) of this subdivision.

(J) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to establish an expedited, emergency preclearance process under which the Secretary may address covered policies that are submitted during or immediately preceding an election as a result of any attack, disaster, emergency or other exigent circumstance. Any preclearance granted pursuant to the regulations adopted under this subparagraph shall be designated "preliminary" and the Secretary may subsequently approve or deny final preclearance not later than ninety days after receipt of submission of such covered policy.

(K) Any denial of preclearance under this subdivision may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes. Any such appeal shall be privileged with respect to assignment for trial.

(f) (1) If a covered jurisdiction seeks preclearance from the superior court for the judicial district in which such covered jurisdiction is

House Bill No. 6941

located for the adoption or implementation of any covered policy, in lieu of seeking such preclearance from the Secretary of the State pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, such covered jurisdiction shall submit, in writing, such covered policy to such court and may obtain such preclearance in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, provided (A) such covered jurisdiction shall also contemporaneously transmit to the Secretary of the State a copy of such submission, and (B) failure to so provide such copy shall result in an automatic denial of such preclearance. Notwithstanding the transmission to the Secretary of a copy of any such submission, the court shall exercise exclusive jurisdiction over such submission. The covered jurisdiction shall bear the burden of proof in the court's determination as to preclearance.

(2) The court shall grant or deny preclearance not later than ninety days after the receipt of submission of a covered policy.

(3) The court shall deny preclearance to a submitted covered policy only if such court determines that (A) such covered policy is more likely than not to diminish the opportunity or ability of protected class members to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice or otherwise influence the outcome of elections, or (B) such covered policy is more likely than not to violate the provisions of sections 411 to 418, inclusive, of this act.

(4) If the court grants preclearance to such covered policy, the covered jurisdiction may immediately enact or implement such covered policy. A determination by the court to grant preclearance to a covered policy shall not be admissible in, or otherwise considered by, a court in any subsequent action challenging such covered policy.

(5) If the court denies preclearance to a covered policy, or fails to make a determination within ninety days of receipt of submission of such covered policy, such covered policy shall not be enacted or implemented.

House Bill No. 6941

(6) Any denial of preclearance under this subsection may be appealed in accordance with the ordinary rules of appellate procedure. Any action brought pursuant to this subsection shall be privileged with respect to assignment for trial or appeal, as applicable, including expedited pretrial and other proceedings.

(g) If any covered jurisdiction enacts or implements any covered policy without obtaining preclearance for such covered policy in accordance with the provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State or any party described in subsection (d) of section 411 of this act may file an action in the superior court for the judicial district in which such covered jurisdiction is located to enjoin such enactment or implementation and seek sanctions against such covered jurisdiction for violations of this section.

(h) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to effectuate the purposes of this section. Any estimates prepared for the purpose of identifying covered jurisdictions under this section, including estimates of eligible electors, shall be prepared using the most advanced, peer-reviewed and validated methodologies.

Sec. 415. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 151 of the general statutes, a person, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, shall not engage in acts of intimidation, deception or obstruction that interfere with any elector's right to vote.

(b) A violation of subsection (a) of this section includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Any person who uses or threatens to use any force, violence, restraint, abduction or duress, who inflicts or threatens to inflict any injury, damage, harm or loss or who by any other conduct practices

House Bill No. 6941

intimidation that causes or will reasonably have the effect of causing interference with any elector's right to vote;

(2) Any person who knowingly uses any deceptive or fraudulent device, contrivance or communication that causes or will reasonably have the effect of causing interference with any elector's right to vote; or

(3) Any person who obstructs, impedes or otherwise interferes with access to any polling place or absentee ballot drop box or any office or place of business of an election official or who obstructs, impedes or otherwise interferes with any elector or election official in a manner that causes or will reasonably have the effect of causing interference with any elector's right to vote or any delay in voting or the voting process.

(c) (1) Any individual aggrieved by a violation of this section or any organization whose membership includes individuals aggrieved by such a violation may file an action alleging a violation of this section in the superior court for the judicial district in which such violation has occurred. Such an action may be filed irrespective of any action that may be filed by the State Elections Enforcement Commission, the Attorney General or the State's Attorney as a result of such a violation.

(2) In any action brought pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the complainant shall file a certification attached to the complaint indicating that (A) a copy of such complaint has been sent by first-class mail or delivered to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, or (B) a copy of such complaint will be so sent or delivered not later than the following business day.

(d) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of title 9 of the general statutes and any special act, charter or home rule ordinance, whenever such court finds a violation of any provision of this section, such court shall order appropriate remedies that are tailored to address such violation, including, but not limited to, providing for additional time to vote at an

House Bill No. 6941

election, primary or referendum.

(2) Any person who violates the provisions of this section, or who aids in the violation of any of such provisions, shall be liable for any damages awarded by such court, including, but not limited to, nominal damages for any such violation and compensatory or punitive damages for any such wilful violation.

Sec. 416. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Any provision of the general statutes, regulation adopted thereunder, special act, charter, home rule ordinance or other state or municipal enactment relating to the right to vote shall be construed liberally in favor of (1) protecting the right to cast a ballot and make such ballot effective, (2) ensuring that qualified individuals seeking to be admitted as electors are not impaired in being so admitted, (3) ensuring electors are not impaired in voting, including, but not limited to, having their votes counted, (4) making the fundamental right to vote more accessible to qualified individuals, and (5) ensuring equitable access for protected class members to opportunities to be admitted as electors and to vote.

Sec. 417. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) Nothing in the provisions of sections 410 to 416, inclusive, of this act shall be construed to affect the powers and duties of (1) the State Elections Enforcement Commission to attempt to secure voluntary compliance relating to any election, primary or referendum or pursue any other remedy authorized under sections 9-7a and 9-7b of the general statutes, or (2) the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, as provided in chapter 814c of the general statutes.

Sec. 418. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) In any action to enforce the provisions of sections 410 to 416, inclusive, of this act, the court may award reasonable attorneys' fees and litigation costs, including, but not limited to, expert witness fees and expenses, to the party that filed such action, other than the state or any municipality, and that prevailed in

House Bill No. 6941

such action. The party that filed such action shall be deemed to have prevailed when, as a result of litigation, the party against whom such action was filed has yielded much or all of the relief sought in such action. In the case of a party against whom such action was filed and who prevailed in such action, the court shall not award such party any costs unless such court finds such action to be frivolous, unreasonable or without foundation.

Sec. 419. Section 31-57f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section: (1) "Required employer" means any provider of food, building, property or equipment services or maintenance listed in this subdivision whose rate of reimbursement or compensation is determined by contract or agreement with the state or any state agent: (A) Building, property or equipment service companies; (B) management companies providing property management services; and (C) companies providing food preparation or service, or both; (2) "state agent" means any state official, state employee or other person authorized to enter into a contract or agreement on behalf of the state; (3) "person" means one or more individuals, partnerships, associations, corporations, business trusts, legal representatives or organized groups of persons; (4) "building, property or equipment service" means any janitorial, cleaning, maintenance, security or related service; (5) "prevailing rate of wages" means the hourly wages paid for work performed within the city of Hartford under the collective bargaining agreement covering the largest number of hourly nonsupervisory employees employed within Hartford County in each classification established by the Labor Commissioner under subsection (e) of this section, provided the collective bargaining agreement covers no less than five hundred employees in the classification; (6) "prevailing rate of benefits" means the total cost to the employer on an hourly basis for work performed within the city of Hartford, under a collective

House Bill No. 6941

bargaining agreement that establishes the prevailing rate of wages, of providing health, welfare and retirement benefits, including, but not limited to, (A) medical, surgical or hospital care benefits; (B) disability or death benefits; (C) benefits in the event of unemployment; (D) pension benefits; (E) vacation, holiday and personal leave; (F) training benefits; and (G) legal service benefits, and may include payment made directly to employees, payments to purchase insurance and the amount of payment or contributions paid or payable by the employer on behalf of each employee to any employee benefit fund; (7) "employee benefit fund" means any trust fund established by one or more employers and one or more labor organizations or one or more other third parties not affiliated with such employers to provide, whether through the purchase of insurance or annuity contracts or otherwise, benefits under an employee health, welfare or retirement plan, but does not include any such fund where the trustee or trustees are subject to supervision by the Banking Commissioner of this state or of any other state, or the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States or the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and (8) "benefits under an employee health, welfare or retirement plan" means one or more benefits or services under any plan established or maintained for employees or their families or dependents, or for both, including, but not limited to, medical, surgical or hospital care benefits, benefits in the event of sickness, accident, disability or death, benefits in the event of unemployment, retirement benefits, vacation and paid holiday benefits, legal service benefits or training benefits.

(b) On and after July 1, 2000, the wages paid on an hourly basis to any employee of a required employer in the provision of food, building, property or equipment services provided to the state pursuant to a contract or agreement with the state or any state agent, shall be at a rate not less than the standard rate determined by the Labor Commissioner pursuant to subsection (g) of this section.

House Bill No. 6941

(c) Any required employer or agent of such employer that violates subsection (b) of this section shall pay a civil penalty in an amount not less than two thousand five hundred dollars but not more than five thousand dollars for each offense. Each pay period in which an employee is paid at a rate less than that required under the provisions of this section shall be a separate offense. The contracting department of the state that has imposed such civil penalty on the required employer or agent of such employer shall, within two days after taking such action, notify the Labor Commissioner, in writing, of the name of the employer or agent involved, the violations involved and steps taken to collect the fine.

(d) The Labor Commissioner may make complaint to the proper prosecuting authorities for the violation of any provision of subsection (b) of this section.

(e) For the purpose of predetermining the standard rate of covered wages on an hourly basis, the Labor Commissioner shall establish classifications for all hourly nonsupervisory employees based on the applicable occupation codes and titles set forth in the federal Register of Wage Determinations under the Service Contract Act of 1965, 41 USC 351, et seq., provided the Labor Commissioner shall classify any individual employed on or before July 1, 2009, as a grounds maintenance laborer or laborer as a janitor, and shall classify any individual hired after July 1, 2009, performing the duty of grounds maintenance laborer, laborer or janitor as a light cleaner, heavy cleaner, furniture handler or window cleaner, as appropriate. The Labor Commissioner shall then determine the standard rate of wages for each classification of hourly nonsupervisory employees which shall be (1) the prevailing rate of wages paid to employees in each classification, or if there is no such prevailing rate of wages, the minimum hourly wages set forth in the federal Register of Wage Determinations under the Service Contract Act, plus (2) the prevailing rate of benefits paid to

House Bill No. 6941

employees in each classification, or if there is no such prevailing rate of benefits, a thirty per cent surcharge on the amount determined in subdivision (1) of this subsection to cover the cost of any health, welfare and retirement benefits, other than those otherwise required by federal, state or local law, or, if no such benefits are provided to the employees, an amount equal to thirty per cent of the amount determined in subdivision (1) of this section, which shall be paid directly to the employees. The standard rate of wages for any employee entitled to receive such rate on or before July 1, 2009, shall not be less than the minimum hourly wage for the classification set forth in the federal Register of Wage Determinations under the Service Contract Act plus the prevailing rate of benefits for such classification for as long as that employee continues to work for a required employer.

(f) Required employers with employees covered by collective bargaining agreements which call for wages and benefits that are reasonably related to the standard rate of wages shall not be economically disadvantaged in the bidding process, provided the collective bargaining agreement was arrived at through arms-length negotiations.

(g) The Labor Commissioner shall, in accordance with subsection (e) of this section, determine the standard rate of wages for each classification on an hourly basis where any covered services are to be provided, and the state agent empowered to let such contract shall contact the Labor Commissioner at least ten days prior to the date such contract will be advertised for bid, to ascertain the standard rate of wages and shall include the standard rate of wages on an hourly basis for all classifications of employment in the proposal for the contract. The standard rate of wages on an hourly basis shall, at all times, be considered the minimum rate for the classification for which it was established. Each required employer shall contact the Labor Commissioner on or before September first of each year for the duration

House Bill No. 6941

of such contract to ascertain the standard rate of wages to be paid each year and shall make any necessary adjustments to such standard compensation paid or payable on or before October first, annually.

(h) Where a required employer is awarded a contract to perform services that are substantially the same as services that have been rendered under a predecessor contract, such required employer shall retain, for a period of ninety days, all employees who had been employed by the predecessor to perform services under such predecessor contract, except that the successor contract need not retain employees who worked less than fifteen hours per week or who had been employed at the site for less than sixty days. During such ninety-day period, the successor contract shall not discharge without just cause an employee retained pursuant to this subsection. If the performance of an employee retained pursuant to this subsection or section 4a-82 is satisfactory during the ninety-day period, the successor contractor shall offer the employee continued employment for the duration of the successor contract under the terms and conditions established by the successor contractor, or as required by law. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any contract covered by section 31-57g or subsections (n) and (o) of section 4a-82.

(i) Each required employer subject to the provisions of this section shall (1) keep, maintain and preserve such records relating to the wages and hours worked by each employee and a schedule of the occupation or work classification at which each person is employed during each work day and week in such manner and form as the Labor Commissioner establishes to assure the proper payments due to such employees, [and] (2) annually or upon written request, submit to the contracting state agent a certified payroll which shall consist of a complete copy of such records accompanied by a statement signed by the employer which indicates that (A) such records are correct, (B) the rate of wages paid to each employee is not less than the standard rate of

House Bill No. 6941

wages required by this section, (C) such employer has complied with the provisions of this section, and (D) such employer is aware that filing a certified payroll which it knows to be false is a class D felony for which such employer may be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years, or both, and (3) and not later than the first day upon which work is required to be performed under the contract, and for the duration of the contract, post in a prominent and accessible place a poster stating (A) the standard rate of wages owed to employees under this section, (B) employee rights and remedies for a violation of this section, and (C) the contact information of the Labor Commissioner. The Labor Commissioner shall develop a suitable a poster containing the information described in subdivision (3) of this subsection for employers and provide such poster to required employers. The Labor Commissioner shall post its determinations of the corresponding standard rates for each classification on its Internet web site. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1-210, the certified payroll shall be considered a public record and every person shall have the right to inspect and copy such record in accordance with the provisions of section 1-212. The provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of section 31-59, section 31-66 and section 31-69 which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section shall apply. Any person who files a false certified payroll in violation of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be guilty of a class D felony for which such person may be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

(j) This section shall not apply to contracts, agreements or grants which do not exceed forty-nine thousand nine hundred ninety-nine dollars per annum.

(k) [On receipt of a complaint for nonpayment of the standard rate of wages,] Any employee or group of employees and their designated representatives alleging nonpayment of the standard rate of wages may

House Bill No. 6941

bring a complaint to the Labor Commissioner. The Labor Commissioner, the Director of Wage and Workplace Standards and wage enforcement agents of the Labor Department shall have power to enter, during usual business hours, the place of business or employment of any employer to determine compliance with this section, and for such purpose may examine payroll and other records and interview employees, call hearings, administer oaths, take testimony under oath and take depositions in the manner provided by sections 52-148a to 52-148e, inclusive. The commissioner or the director, for such purpose, may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of books and records. Any required employer, an officer or agent of such employer, or the officer or agent of any corporation, firm or partnership who wilfully fails to furnish time and wage records as required by law to the commissioner, the director or any wage enforcement agent upon request or who refuses to admit the commissioner, the director or such agent to a place of employment or who hinders or delays the commissioner, the director or such agent in the performance of any duties in the enforcement of this section shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, and each day of such failure to furnish time and wage records to the commissioner, the director or such agent shall constitute a separate offense, and each day of refusal of admittance, of hindering or of delaying the commissioner, the director or such agent shall constitute a separate offense.

(l) An employee or group of employees aggrieved by a violation of any provision of this section may, as an alternative to bringing a complaint to the Labor Commissioner under subsection (k) of this section, bring a civil action in the Superior Court. If the court finds that the employer has violated any provision of this section, the court may enjoin the employer from engaging in such violation and may order such affirmative action as the court deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, payment of back pay and the prevailing rate of benefits or thirty per cent surcharge, as required by subsection (e) of this section,

House Bill No. 6941

or other equitable relief as the court deems appropriate. The court may order compensatory and punitive damages if the court finds that the employer committed a violation with malice or with reckless indifference to the provisions of this section. Any employee who prevails in a civil action may be awarded reasonable attorney's fees and costs to be taxed by the court.

[(l)] (m) Notwithstanding subsection (j) of this section, any employer that pays the state for a franchise to provide food preparation or service, or both, for the state shall be required to certify that the wages and benefits paid to its employees are not less than the standard rate established pursuant to this section, provided, if no prevailing rate of wages or benefits was in effect at the time the state entered into a franchise agreement, then the employer shall not be required to pay the prevailing rate of wages or benefits during the life of the agreement, unless the agreement is amended, extended or renewed.

[(m)] (n) The Labor Commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of this section.

[(n)] (o) The provisions of this section and any regulation adopted pursuant to subsection (m) of this section shall not apply to any contract or agreement entered into before July 1, 2000.

Sec. 420. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Secretary of the State may, within available appropriations, develop and conduct a state-wide public awareness campaign to educate the public regarding the availability of early voting at elections and primaries and to provide information to the public concerning such early voting, including, but not limited to, the number of days of early voting prior to an election or primary, the hours for early voting during such days and the procedures for casting a ballot at locations designated for the conduct of early voting.

House Bill No. 6941

(b) The Secretary of the State shall develop an early voting procedure manual, which shall include, but need not be limited to, a model plan for the designation and staffing of locations for the conduct of early voting, and shall revise such procedure manual as necessary in accordance with changes in the law relating to the conduct of early voting. The Secretary shall distribute such procedure manual, and any revision to such procedure manual, to each registrar of voters and municipal clerk and shall publish such procedure manual, and any such revision, on the Internet web site of the office of the Secretary of the State.

Sec. 421. Subsection (a) of section 3-112 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) The Comptroller shall: (1) Establish and maintain the accounts of the state government and perform such other duties as are prescribed by the Constitution of the state; (2) register all warrants or orders for the disbursement of the public money; (3) adjust and settle all demands against the state not first adjusted and settled by the General Assembly and give orders on the Treasurer for the balance found and allowed; (4) prescribe the mode of keeping and rendering all public accounts of departments or agencies of the state and of institutions supported by the state or receiving state aid by appropriation from the General Assembly; (5) prepare and issue effective accounting and payroll manuals for use by the various agencies of the state; (6) from time to time, examine and state the amount of all debts and credits of the state; present all claims in favor of the state against any bankrupt, insolvent debtor or deceased person; and institute and maintain suits, in the name of the state, against all persons who have received money or property belonging to the state and have not accounted for it; [and] (7) administer the Connecticut Retirement Security Program, established pursuant to section 31-418; and (8) provide a subsidy to paraeducators who open a health savings

House Bill No. 6941

account pursuant to the provisions of section 203 of this act.

Sec. 422. Subsection (b) of section 4a-53 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) Any state agency, with the approval of the Commissioner of Administrative Services or [his or her] said commissioner's designee, may purchase equipment, supplies, materials and services from (1) another state, including an instrumentality or political subdivision of another state, or (2) a person who has a contract to sell such property or services to other state governments, other branches, divisions or departments of this state, political subdivisions of this state, nonprofit organizations or public purchasing consortia, in accordance with the terms and conditions of such contract.

Sec. 423. Subsection (f) of section 4a-57 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(f) The commissioner shall post any contract entered into under this section that has not been subject to competitive bidding or competitive negotiation on the Internet web site of the Department of Administrative Services, [provided nothing] except for minor nonrecurring or emergency purchases in an amount of twenty-five thousand dollars or less. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require the disclosure of any information not required to be disclosed under subsection (b) of section 1-210.

Sec. 424. Section 4d-32 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[(a)] No contractor shall award a subcontract for work under a contract or for work under an amendment to a contract without the approval of the Commissioner of Administrative Services or a designee

House Bill No. 6941

of (1) the selection of the subcontractor, and (2) the disclosure of the provisions of the subcontract.

[(b) Each such contractor shall file a copy of each executed subcontract or amendment to the subcontract with the Commissioner of Administrative Services, who shall maintain the subcontract or amendment as a public record, as defined in section 1-200.]

Sec. 425. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 4a-57 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) All purchases of, and contracts for, supplies, materials, equipment and contractual services, except purchases and contracts made pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) or (d) of this section and public utility services as provided in subsection (e) of this section shall be based, when possible, on competitive bids or competitive negotiation. The commissioner shall solicit competitive bids or proposals by providing notice of the planned purchase in a form and manner that the commissioner determines will maximize public participation in the competitive bidding or competitive negotiation process, including participation by small contractors, as defined in section 4a-60g, and promote competition. In the case of an expenditure that is estimated to exceed [fifty] one hundred thousand dollars, such notice shall be posted, not less than five calendar days before the final date of submitting bids or proposals, on the State Contracting Portal. Each notice of a planned purchase under this subsection shall indicate the type of goods and services to be purchased and the estimated value of the contract award. The notice shall also contain a notice of state contract requirements concerning nondiscrimination and affirmative action pursuant to section 4a-60 and, when applicable, requirements concerning the awarding of contracts to small contractors, minority business enterprises, individuals with a disability and nonprofit corporations pursuant to section 4a-60g. Each bid and proposal shall be kept sealed

House Bill No. 6941

or secured until opened publicly at the time stated in the notice soliciting such bid or proposal.

(b) The commissioner may, at the commissioner's discretion, waive the requirement of competitive bidding or competitive negotiation in the case of minor nonrecurring or emergency purchases of [~~ten~~] twenty-five thousand dollars or less in amount.

Sec. 426. Subsection (b) of section 4a-58 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(b) Whenever an emergency exists by reason of extraordinary conditions or contingencies that could not reasonably be foreseen and guarded against, or because of unusual trade or market conditions, the Commissioner of Administrative Services, or, in the case of purchases, leases and contracts for information systems, information technology personal property and telecommunication systems, the Chief Information Officer, may, if it is in the best interests of the state, waive the competitive bid or proposal requirements set forth in section 4a-57. If any such procurement is estimated to cost [~~fifty~~] one hundred thousand dollars or more, such waiver shall be subject to the approval of the Standardization Committee. A statement of all purchases made under the provisions of this section and, in the case of a contract, the contract shall be posted on the Internet web site of the Department of Administrative Services, provided nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require the disclosure of any information not required to be disclosed under subsection (b) of section 1-210.

Sec. 427. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 4a-60a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(1) Any contractor who has one or more contracts with an awarding

House Bill No. 6941

agency or who is a party to a municipal public works contract or a contract for a quasi-public agency project shall include a nondiscrimination affirmation provision in the contract certifying that the contractor understands the obligations of this section and will maintain a policy for the duration of the contract to assure that the contract will be performed in conformance with the nondiscrimination requirements of this section. The authorized signatory of the contract shall demonstrate his or her understanding of this obligation by either (A) initialing the nondiscrimination affirmation provision in the body of the contract, [or] (B) providing an affirmative response in the required online bid or response to a proposal question which asks if the contractor understands its obligations, or (C) signing the contract.

Sec. 428. Subsections (m) and (n) of section 10a-151b of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(m) The chief executive officer of a constituent unit may join with a federal agency, another state government, other branch, division or department of this state, another constituent unit, political subdivision of this state or private or nonprofit organization in a cooperative purchasing plan when the best interests of the state would be served by such plan.

(n) The state, through the chief executive officer of a constituent unit, may purchase equipment, supplies, materials and services from a person who has a contract to sell such property or services to a federal agency, another state government, other branch, division or department of this state, another constituent unit, political subdivision of this state, nonprofit organization or private or public purchasing consortium, in accordance with the terms and conditions of such contract.

Sec. 429. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 10a-151b of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof

House Bill No. 6941

(Effective October 1, 2023):

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, purchases made pursuant to this section shall be based, when possible, on competitive bids or competitive negotiation. Such chief executive officer shall solicit competitive bids or proposals by sending notice to prospective suppliers and by posting notice on a public bulletin board in such officer's office. Such notice shall contain a notice of state contract requirements pursuant to section 4a-60. Each bid or proposal shall be kept sealed until opened publicly at the time stated in the notice soliciting such bid or proposal. Sealed bids or proposals shall include bids or proposals sealed within an envelope or maintained within a safe and secure electronic environment until such time as they are publicly opened. If the amount of the expenditure is estimated to exceed [fifty] one hundred thousand dollars, not later than five calendar days before the final date of submitting competitive bids or proposals, competitive bids or proposals shall be solicited by public notice posted on the Internet. All purchases [fifty] one hundred thousand dollars or less in amount shall be made in the open market, but shall, when possible, be based on at least three competitive quotations. If desired by the constituent unit, competitive quotations may include quotations submitted to the constituent unit within a safe and secure electronic environment. The constituent unit shall not refuse to consider a bid, proposal or quotation because it is not submitted electronically.

(c) Competitive bidding or competitive negotiation is not required in the case of (1) minor purchases of [ten] twenty-five thousand dollars or less in amount, (2) purchases made pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, (3) emergency purchases, (4) agricultural purchases of dairy products, poultry, farm-raised seafood, beef, pork, lamb, eggs, fruits, vegetables or other farm products in an amount of fifty thousand dollars or less, or (5) a qualified contract, as described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10a-151f, that is entered into pursuant to the

House Bill No. 6941

policies adopted by either the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut or the Board of Regents for Higher Education pursuant to section 10a-151g. Whenever an emergency exists by reason of extraordinary conditions or contingencies that could not reasonably be foreseen and guarded against, or because of unusual trade or market conditions, the chief executive officer may, if it is for the best interest of the state, make purchases without competitive bidding. A statement of all emergency purchases made under the provisions of this subsection shall be set forth in the annual report of the chief executive officer. The chief executive officer, when making an agricultural purchase in accordance with subdivision (4) of this subsection, shall give preference to dairy products, poultry, farm-raised seafood, beef, pork, lamb, eggs, fruits, vegetables or other farm products grown or produced in this state when such products, poultry, farm-raised seafood, beef, pork, lamb, eggs, fruits or vegetables are comparable in cost to other dairy products, poultry, eggs, fruits or vegetables being considered for purchase by the chief executive officer that have not been grown or produced in this state.

Sec. 430. Subdivision (9) of subsection (c) of section 10a-109n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(9) (A) The university shall not enter into a construction manager at-risk project delivery contract that does not provide for a maximum guaranteed price for the cost of construction which shall be determined not later than the time of the receipt and approval by the university of the trade contractor bids. Each construction manager at-risk shall invite bids and give notice of opportunities to bid on project elements, by posting any such invitation or notice on the State Contracting Portal. Each bid shall be kept sealed until opened publicly at the time and place as set forth in the notice soliciting such bid. The construction manager at-risk shall, after consultation with and approval by the university,

House Bill No. 6941

award any related contracts for project elements to the responsible qualified contractor, who shall be prequalified pursuant to section 4a-100, submitting the lowest bid in compliance with the bid requirements, provided [(A)] (i) the construction manager at-risk shall not be eligible to submit a bid for any such project element, and [(B)] (ii) construction shall not begin prior to the determination of the maximum guaranteed price, except (I) for the project elements of site preparation and demolition that have been previously put out to bid and awarded, and (II) for the project elements of site preparation, demolition, public utility installation and connections and building envelope components, including the roof, doors, windows and exterior walls, as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision.

(B) Construction may begin prior to the determination of the maximum guaranteed price for the project elements of site preparation, demolition, public utility installation and connections and building envelope components, including the roof, doors, windows and exterior walls, provided (i) the project involves the renovation of an existing building or facility; (ii) the project element or elements involved in such early work have been previously put out to bid and awarded; and (iii) the total cost of construction of the early work does not exceed twenty-five per cent of the estimated cost of construction for the entire project.

(C) If such project involves the renovation of an existing building or facility that will be performed in multiple phases while such building or facility remains occupied, the university may enter into a construction manager at-risk project delivery contract that provides for the maximum guaranteed price to be determined for each phase of the project, prior to beginning each such phase, provided each party to the contract complies with all of the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, except the timing of the determination of the maximum guaranteed price set forth in subparagraph (A)(ii) of this subdivision.

Sec. 431. Subdivisions (2) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (c) of section

House Bill No. 6941

10a-109n of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph [(B)] (D) of this subdivision, any total cost basis contract or other contract for the construction of a university project which is estimated to cost more than five hundred thousand dollars, shall be publicly let by the university. The university shall give notice to contractors interested in [prequalifying to submit] submitting a project proposal or bid, by posting any such notice on the university web site and on the State Contracting Portal. The notice to [prequalify] contractors shall contain (i) the requirement that contractors be prequalified pursuant to section 4a-100, or subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, as applicable to such contract, (ii) a statement of the time and place where the responses shall be received, and (iii) such additional information as the university deems appropriate. Upon receipt of such responses, the university shall select [each] any contractor who (I) to the extent required pursuant to the provisions of section 4b-91, has been prequalified pursuant to section 4a-100, [and] (II) has shown itself able to post surety bonds required by such contract, [and] (III) has [demonstrated that it possesses the financial, managerial and technical ability and the integrity necessary and without conflict of interest for faithful and efficient performance of the work provided for therein. The] no conflict of interest in the performance of work required by such contract, and (IV) for any such contract that is estimated to cost more than one million dollars, has been prequalified by the university pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision.

(B) For any contract subject to the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision that is estimated to cost more than one million dollars, the university shall [evaluate] prequalify each contractor by evaluating whether [each] (i) such contractor (I) has demonstrated that it possesses the financial, managerial and technical ability and integrity necessary to

House Bill No. 6941

faithfully and efficiently perform work for the university in accordance with the requirements set forth in the prequalification application issued by the university, and (II) is responsible and qualified based on its experience with projects similar to that for which the bid or proposal is to be submitted and based on objective written criteria included in the [application to request prequalification with respect to such contract. The university shall also consider whether a contractor, and] prequalification application issued by the university, and (ii) any subcontractor on the contractor's previous projects, has been in compliance with the provisions of part III of chapter 557 and chapter 558 during the previous five calendar years. The university, in its discretion, may include additional qualification requirements in the notice posted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

(C) The university may issue a confirmation of prequalification for contracts subject to the provisions of this subdivision to any contractor who meets the requirements set forth in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. Such confirmation of prequalification shall be effective for one year from the date of issuance and, upon receipt of a completed renewal application and any other materials as prescribed by the university, may be renewed for a period not exceeding two years.

[(B)] (D) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the board of trustees may approve a total cost basis contract or other contract for the construction of a university project which is estimated to cost more than five hundred thousand dollars that has not been publicly let pursuant to the provisions of said subparagraph (A), provided the board deems the contract to address an emergency.

(3) [The university shall thereafter give notice to those so prequalified by the university pursuant to subdivision (2) of this section of the time and place where the public letting shall occur and shall include in such notice such information of the work required as appropriate.] Each bid or proposal shall be kept sealed until opened publicly at the time and

House Bill No. 6941

place as set forth in the notice soliciting such bid or proposal. The university shall not award any construction contract, including, but not limited to, any total cost basis contract, after public letting, except to the responsible qualified contractor, submitting the lowest bid or proposal in compliance with the bid or proposal requirements of the solicitation document. The university may, however, waive any informality in a bid or proposal, and may either reject all bids or proposals and again advertise for bids or proposals or interview at least three responsible qualified contractors and negotiate and enter into with any one of such contractors that construction contract which is both fair and reasonable to the university.

(4) The [notice to each contractor prequalified to submit a proposal or bid and the] construction contract, including each total cost basis contract, awarded by the university shall contain such other terms and conditions, and such provisions for penalties as the university may deem appropriate.

Sec. 432. Subdivision (10) of subsection (c) of section 10a-109n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(10) If the university designates a project as suitable for a design-build contract, the university may enter into a single contract with a design-builder recommended by a selection panel and selected by the university. The university shall give notice of such project and specifications for such project by posting such notice on the State Contracting Portal. The university shall establish a selection panel for each project to score the qualifications and past performance of each design-builder who submits a competitive proposal to the university for such project. The selection panel shall score the qualifications and past performance of each design-builder using a predetermined scoring method developed by the university and provided to each design-builder in advance of such design-builder's development of the

House Bill No. 6941

competitive proposal. The selection panel's scoring method may be unique to each project, but shall consist of combining the score of each design-builder's qualifications and past performance and evaluating the technical merit of the competitive proposal and each design-builder's projected project cost. The design-build contract shall (A) include, but not be limited to, such project elements as permitting, engineering, design, construction and, if applicable, site acquisition, and (B) be based on the competitive proposal submitted by the design-builder that is selected by the university. No design-build contract for which the total cost is estimated to be more than [five hundred thousand dollars] the amount set forth in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 4b-91 may be awarded to a design-builder who is not prequalified for the project in accordance with section 4a-100. Such design-build contracts shall state the responsibilities of the design-builder to deliver a completed and acceptable project on a date certain and the maximum costs of the project and, if applicable, as a separate item, the cost of any site acquisition. The university shall determine all other requirements and conditions for such competitive proposals, selection of a design-builder and other awards and shall have sole responsibility for all other aspects of such design-build contracts.

Sec. 433. Subsection (a) of section 4a-100 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(a) As used in this section: (1) "Prequalification" means prequalification issued by the Commissioner of Administrative Services to bid on a contract or perform work pursuant to a contract for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair or demolition of any public building or any other public work by the state or a municipality, except a public highway or bridge project or any other construction project administered by the Department of Transportation, or to perform work under such a contract as a substantial subcontractor;

House Bill No. 6941

(2) "subcontractor" means a person who performs work with a value in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars for a contractor pursuant to a contract for work for the state or a municipality which is estimated to cost more than [five hundred thousand] one million dollars; (3) "principals and key personnel" includes officers, directors, shareholders, members, partners and managerial employees; (4) "aggregate work capacity rating" means the maximum amount of work an applicant is capable of undertaking for any and all projects; (5) "single project limit" means the highest estimated cost of a single project that an applicant is capable of undertaking; (6) "contract" means an agreement for work for the state or a municipality that is estimated to cost more than [five hundred thousand] one million dollars and is funded, in whole or in part, by state funds; and (7) "substantial subcontractor" means a person who performs work with a value in excess of [five hundred thousand] one million dollars for a contractor pursuant to a contract for work for the state or a municipality which is estimated to cost more than [five hundred thousand] one million dollars.

Sec. 434. Subsection (c) of section 4a-101 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(c) As used in this section, "public agency" means a public agency, as defined in section 1-200, "contract" means an agreement for work for the state or a municipality that is estimated to cost more than [five hundred thousand] one million dollars and is funded, in whole or in part, by state funds, "subcontractor" means a person who performs work with a value in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars for a contractor pursuant to a contract and "substantial subcontractor" means a substantial subcontractor, as defined in section 4a-100.

Sec. 435. Subsection (a) of section 4b-91 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

House Bill No. 6941

(a) (1) As used in this section, "prequalification classification" means the prequalification classifications established by the Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to section 4a-100, "public agency" has the same meaning as provided in section 1-200, "awarding authority" means the Department of Administrative Services, except "awarding authority" means (A) the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, in the case of a contract for the construction of or work on a building or other public work under the supervision and control of the joint committee, (B) a constituent unit of the state system of higher education, in the case of a contract for the construction of or work on a building or other public work under the supervision and control of such constituent unit, or (C) the Military Department, in the case of a contract for the construction of or work on a building or other public work under the supervision and control of said department and "community court project", "downtown Hartford higher education center project", "correctional facility project", "juvenile residential center project" and "priority higher education facility project" have the same meanings as provided in section 4b-55.

(2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, every contract for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair or demolition of any public building or any other public work by the state that is estimated to cost more than [five hundred thousand] one million dollars shall be awarded to the lowest responsible and qualified general bidder who is prequalified pursuant to section 4a-100 on the basis of competitive bids in accordance with the procedures set forth in this chapter, after the awarding authority has invited such bids by posting notice on the State Contracting Portal. The awarding authority shall indicate the prequalification classification required for the contract in such notice.

(3) The requirements set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall not apply to (A) a public highway or bridge project or any other

House Bill No. 6941

construction project administered by the Department of Transportation, or (B) a contract awarded by the Commissioner of Administrative Services for (i) any public building or other public works project administered by the Department of Administrative Services that is estimated to cost one million five hundred thousand dollars or less, (ii) a community court project, (iii) the downtown Hartford higher education center project, (iv) a correctional facility project, (v) a juvenile residential center project, or (vi) a student residential facility for the Connecticut State University System that is a priority higher education facility project.

(4) Every contract for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair or demolition of any public building or any other public work by a public agency that is paid for, in whole or in part, with state funds and that is estimated to cost more than [five hundred thousand] one million dollars shall be awarded to a bidder that is prequalified pursuant to section 4a-100 after the public agency has invited such bids by posting notice on the State Contracting Portal, except for (A) a public highway or bridge project or any other construction project administered by the Department of Transportation, or (B) any public building or other public works project administered by the Department of Administrative Services that is estimated to cost one million five hundred thousand dollars or less. The awarding authority or public agency, as the case may be, shall indicate the prequalification classification required for the contract in such notice.

(5) (A) The Commissioner of Administrative Services may select contractors to be on lists established for the purpose of providing contractor services for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair or demolition of any public building or other public works project administered by the Department of Administrative Services involving an expense to the state of one million five hundred thousand dollars or less. The commissioner shall use the

House Bill No. 6941

prequalification classifications established pursuant to section 4a-100 to determine the specific categories of services that contractors may perform after being selected in accordance with this subparagraph and subparagraph (B) of this subdivision and awarded a contract in accordance with subparagraph (C) of this subdivision. The commissioner may establish a separate list for projects involving an expense to the state of less than [five hundred thousand] one million dollars for the purpose of selecting and utilizing the services of small contractors and minority business enterprises, as such terms are defined in section 4a-60g.

(B) The commissioner shall invite contractors to submit qualifications for each specific category of services sought by the department by posting notice of such invitation on the State Contracting Portal. The notice shall be in the form determined by the commissioner, and shall set forth the information that a contractor is required to submit to be considered for selection. Upon receipt of the submittal from the contractor, the commissioner shall select, for each specified category, those contractors who (i) are determined to be the most responsible and qualified, as such terms are defined in section 4b-92, to perform the work required under the specified category, (ii) have demonstrated the skill, ability and integrity to fulfill contract obligations considering their past performance, financial responsibility and experience with projects of the size, scope and complexity required by the state under the specified category, and (iii) for projects with a cost exceeding [five hundred thousand] one million dollars, have the ability to obtain the requisite bonding. The commissioner shall establish the duration that each list remains in effect, which in no event may exceed three years.

(C) For any public building or public works project involving an expense to the state of one million five hundred thousand dollars or less, the commissioner shall invite bids from only those contractors selected pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision for the

House Bill No. 6941

specific category of services required for the particular project. The commissioner shall determine the form of bid invitation, the manner of, and time for, submission of bids, and the conditions and requirements of such bids. The contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible and qualified bidder, subject to the provisions of sections 4b-92 and 4b-94. In the event that fewer than three bids are received in response to an invitation to bid under this subdivision, or that all the bids are in excess of the amount of available funds for the project, the commissioner may negotiate a contract with any of the contractors submitting a bid, or reject the bids received and rebid the project in accordance with this section.

Sec. 436. Subsection (j) of section 4b-91 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

(j) No person whose subcontract exceeds [five hundred thousand] one million dollars in value may perform work as a subcontractor on a project for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair or demolition of any public building or any other public work by the state or a municipality, except a public highway or bridge project or any other construction project administered by the Department of Transportation, which project is estimated to cost more than [five hundred thousand] one million dollars and is paid for, in whole or in part, with state funds, unless, at the time of the bid submission, the person is prequalified in accordance with section 4a-100. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the downtown Hartford higher education center project.

Sec. 437. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section, "contract" means a contract for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair or demolition of any public building or any other public work by the state or a municipality that is funded, in whole or in part, by state funds, except a public highway or bridge

House Bill No. 6941

project or any other construction project administered by the Department of Transportation. Any bid of a contractor or substantial contractor on a contract to perform work with a value of more than five hundred thousand dollars but less than one million dollars in response to an invitation to bid issued by the Commissioner of Administrative Services, shall include the following information: (1) The bidder's form of organization; (2) the bidder's principals and key personnel and any names under which the bidder, principals or key personnel conducted business during the past five years; (3) any legal or administrative proceedings settled or concluded adversely against the bidder or any of the bidder's principals or key personnel within the past five years which relate to the procurement or performance of any public or private construction contract; (4) any legal or administrative proceedings concluded adversely against the bidder or any of the bidder's principals or key personnel within the past five years which relate to the nonpayment or underpayment of wages or benefits to the bidder's, principal's or key personnel's employees during the performance of any public or private construction contract; (5) any administrative proceedings that concluded adversely against the bidder during the past five years with the imposition of any civil penalties pursuant to section 31-69a of the general statutes or the issuance of any stop work orders pursuant to section 31-288 of the general statutes; (6) a statement of whether (A) the bidder has been disqualified pursuant to section 4a-100, 4b-95, 31-57c or 31-57d of the general statutes, (B) the bidder is disqualified or prohibited from being awarded a contract pursuant to section 31-57b of the general statutes, (C) the bidder has been disqualified by another state, (D) the bidder has been disqualified by a federal agency or pursuant to federal law, (E) the bidder's registration has been suspended or revoked by the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to section 20-341gg of the general statutes, (F) the bidder has been disqualified by a municipality, and (G) the matters that gave rise to any such disqualification, suspension or revocation have been eliminated or remedied; and (7) other information as the

House Bill No. 6941

commissioner deems relevant to the determination of the bidder's qualifications and responsibilities. Any failure to disclose any of the information required under this subsection shall disqualify a contractor or substantial subcontractor from any associated bid on a contract.

(b) Any employer performing work under a contract pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall participate in a workforce development program in which newly hired employees and existing employees are given the opportunity to develop skills. Such program may include, but need not be limited to: (1) An apprenticeship training through an apprenticeship program registered with the Labor Department or a federally recognized state apprenticeship agency that complies with the requirements of 29 CFR 29 and 29 CFR 30, as each may be amended from time to time, and (2) pre-apprenticeship training that will enable students to qualify for registered apprenticeship training.

(c) Not later than October 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall hold one training session for the purpose of discussing state contracting requirements.

Sec. 438. Section 3-36f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, to the extent permitted by federal law no [moneys invested in the] disbursements from Connecticut Baby Bond Trust shall be considered to be an asset or income for purposes of determining an individual's eligibility for assistance under any program administered by the [Department of Social Services] state.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, no [moneys invested in] disbursements from the trust shall be considered to be an asset for purposes of determining an individual's eligibility for

House Bill No. 6941

need-based, institutional aid grants offered to an individual at the public eligible educational institutions in the state.

Sec. 439. Section 3-36g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[(a) The Treasurer shall establish in the Connecticut Baby Bond Trust an accounting for each designated beneficiary. Each such accounting shall include the amount transferred to the trust pursuant to section 3-36h, plus the designated beneficiary's pro rata share of total net earnings from investments of sums held in the trust.]

[(b)] (a) Upon a designated beneficiary's eighteenth birthday and completion of a financial literacy requirement as prescribed by the Treasurer, such beneficiary shall become eligible to [receive the total sum of the accounting under subsection (a) of this section to be used for an eligible expenditure. The Treasurer may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes of this section] request an amount, to be used for payment of an eligible expenditure, of up to the total sum of the amount allocated or transferred, as applicable, on behalf of the designated beneficiary pursuant to section 3-36h, plus the designated beneficiary's pro rata share of the total net earnings from investments of sums held in the trust at the time of disbursement.

[(c)] (b) A designated beneficiary may submit a claim [for such accounting until his or her thirtieth birthday,] pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, in such form and manner as prescribed by the Treasurer, until such designated beneficiary's thirtieth birthday, provided such designated beneficiary is a resident of the state at the time of such claim. If a designated beneficiary (1) is deceased before submitting a valid claim, or (2) fails to submit a valid claim, as determined by the Treasurer, before [his or her thirtieth birthday, such accounting shall be credited back to the assets of the trust] such designated beneficiary's thirtieth

House Bill No. 6941

birthday, the sum such designated beneficiary was eligible to claim shall be retained by the trust to credit to designated beneficiaries born in subsequent years.

[(d) Subject to obtaining adequate consent authorizing the disclosure of confidential information related to designated beneficiaries in accordance with all applicable state or federal laws, the] (c) The Treasurer and the Department of Social Services shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to establish information sharing practices in accordance with all applicable state or federal laws in order to carry out the purposes of [public act 21-111] sections 3-36b to 3-36h, inclusive.

Sec. 440. Section 3-36h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[Upon the birth of a designated beneficiary, the Treasurer may transfer up to three thousand two hundred dollars from the bond proceeds issued pursuant to section 3-36i to the trust to be credited toward the accounting of such designated beneficiary as described in section 3-36g. For any year in which the funds made available pursuant to section 3-36i is insufficient to provide such amount per beneficiary the amount so transferred shall be reduced pro rata.] Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Department of Social Services shall, not later September 1, 2024, and not later than September first annually thereafter, inform the Treasurer of the number of designated beneficiaries born in the prior fiscal year. After receiving such number, the Treasurer my transfer up to three thousand two hundred dollars in the trust for each designated beneficiary born in the prior fiscal year and transfer such money to any fund established pursuant to section 3-36c to achieve the purpose of this section for such beneficiary.

Sec. 441. Section 3-13c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

House Bill No. 6941

[Trust funds as] As used in sections 3-13 to 3-13e, inclusive, and 3-31b, [shall be construed to include] "trust funds" includes the Connecticut Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund A, the Connecticut Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund B, the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund, the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund, the State's Attorneys' Retirement Fund, the Teachers' Annuity Fund, the Teachers' Pension Fund, the Teachers' Survivorship and Dependency Fund, the School Fund, the State Employees Retirement Fund, the Hospital Insurance Fund, the Policemen and Firemen Survivor's Benefit Fund, any trust fund described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 7-450 that is administered, held or invested by the State Treasurer, the Connecticut Baby Bond Trust and all other trust funds administered, held or invested by the State Treasurer.

Sec. 442. Sections 3-36i and 10a-19l of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 443. Sections 17a-215, 17a-215d, 17b-306a, 17b-550 to 17b-554, inclusive, and 17b-807 of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 444. Sections 2-85 to 2-88, inclusive, 2-111, 2-123 to 2-124a, inclusive, 4a-62, 4e-9, 5-262, 8-37zz, 8-37sss, 12-217z, 16a-22n, 19a-32o to 19a-32v, inclusive, 25-138 to 25-142, inclusive, 25-154, 25-155, 32-39p, 32-180 to 32-182, inclusive, and 33-2001 of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2023*)

Sec. 445. Sections 3-123i, 3-123k, 4-66s, 10a-174a and 12-853a of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2023*)

Sec. 446. Section 17b-28c of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2023*)

Sec. 447. Section 4-215 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective January 1, 2024*)

House Bill No. 6941

Sec. 448. Section 12-699b of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective January 1, 2024*)

Sec. 449. Section 453 of public act 21-2 of the June special session, as amended by section 471 of public act 22-118, is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 450. Section 6 of public act 23-56 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 451. Section 16-2 of the general statutes, as amended by section 21 of public act 23-102, is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 452. Section 3 of public act 14-205 and section 58 of public act 18-81 are repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2023*)

Sec. 453. Section 19 of public act 23-5 is repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2023*)

Sec. 454. Special act 15-19 is repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2023*)

Approved June 12, 2023