

**A PROCLAMATION FROM HIS EXCELLENCY**

CONNECTICUT  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CAPITOL OFFICE

**THE GOVERNOR**

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**WHEREAS**, section 4-30a of the Connecticut General Statutes establishes the Budget Reserve Fund, commonly known as the "Rainy Day Fund," to safeguard the fiscal stability of the state and to mitigate the impact of revenue shortfalls; and

**WHEREAS**, the state's residents are at risk of immediate harm due to potential reductions in federal support for critical programs including the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), healthcare, school meals, childcare, and housing assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to ensure that the State of Connecticut can respond promptly and effectively to any such federal action or inaction that reduces or delays funding for essential services upon which Connecticut residents rely; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of the potential harm to our residents and the increased risk that the state may incur additional costs to mitigate that harm, it is prudent to authorize the transfer of five hundred million dollars to the Budget Reserve Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and to appropriate a corresponding amount from said Fund for the purpose of maintaining and mitigating the delivery of essential human services in the event of federal funding disruptions; and

**WHEREAS**, the General Assembly's immediate consideration of legislation is required to authorize such transfers and appropriations to ensure the continuity of essential services to Connecticut families; and

**WHEREAS**, section 407 of Public Act 25-168, enacted during the 2025 regular session, established a five-cent monthly fee on certain telephone, wireless, and VoIP service lines to support the Firefighters Cancer Relief Account established under section 7-313h of the general statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the State Treasurer and the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection have advised that implementation of such fee requires lead time to ensure uniform notice, billing, and remittance procedures among all affected telecommunications providers; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to revise the effective date, notice timeline for implementation, and opt out provisions of section 407 of Public Act 25-168 to ensure orderly implementation of the Firefighters Cancer Relief Account; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Connecticut has established a comprehensive framework for addressing the behavioral health needs of children through the Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee, as set forth in section 2-137 of the general statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Committee is directed to coordinate the activities of state agencies, providers, and stakeholders to improve the accessibility, quality, and coordination of behavioral health services for children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, further legislative action is necessary to authorize continuation of studies, surveys, and reports concerning utilization of behavioral health services, school-based data collection, provider reimbursement models, and insurance coverage for urgent crisis care for children; and

**WHEREAS**, clarification is necessary regarding committee membership, strengthening of interagency collaboration, and support of the state's ongoing use of federal planning grant funds to improve outcomes for children; and

**WHEREAS**, prompt enactment of such legislation will ensure that statutory committees and agencies can continue their work without interruption, maintain compliance with federal grant requirements, and advance the coordinated delivery of behavioral health services for Connecticut's children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, the safety, order, and integrity of Connecticut's courthouses are essential to the fair and effective administration of justice; and

**WHEREAS**, legislation is needed to ensure that detentions and arrests on courthouse grounds occur only under judicially authorized circumstances and with proper notice to judicial marshals; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining transparency and accountability in law enforcement operations within and around courthouses is critical to public confidence, and it is therefore necessary to prohibit the wearing of masks or other facial coverings by law enforcement officers while carrying out enforcement actions on courthouse grounds, except when medically required and authorized by a judicial authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the protection of personal information held by state and local agencies is vital to public trust, and clarification is needed to restrict the disclosure of such information to federal authorities, except as required by state or federal law, judicial warrant, or court order; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed legislation will strengthen courthouse security, protect individual privacy, and ensure that the administration of justice in Connecticut remains open, impartial, and free from improper interference; and

**WHEREAS**, the General Assembly has considered and acted upon a series of measures to expand housing supply, promote equitable growth, and assist first-time homebuyers, including incentives for municipal planning and participation in regional housing strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, further legislative action is required to promote housing growth, including, but not limited to, establishing the framework for municipal and regional housing growth plans, providing for the development of priority housing development zones, and authorizing the Office of Policy and Management and the Department of Housing to coordinate data collection, technical assistance and implementation of statewide housing growth policies; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to enact provisions allowing first-time homebuyer savings accounts and related income tax deductions and credits to encourage savings toward home ownership, strengthen the state's housing market, and promote community stability; and

**WHEREAS**, prompt consideration of such legislation is essential to enable municipalities and regional councils of governments to meet planning deadlines, to implement new statutory housing growth goals, and to expand opportunities for affordable and workforce housing throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, sections 10a-109a to 10a-109y of the general statutes, known as The University of Connecticut 2000 Act, authorize the University of Connecticut to finance, construct, acquire, and operate facilities in furtherance of its educational, research, and health care missions; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Connecticut Health Center and its related entities play a critical role in delivering patient care, training medical and dental professionals, and conducting research that supports the state's healthcare system; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed legislation amends state law to authorize the establishment of subsidiaries or joint ventures to acquire, operate and fund hospital facilities, including but not limited to facilities located in Waterbury, Bristol, and Putnam, as part of the University of Connecticut Health Center Joint Venture Initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation defines the "University of Connecticut Health Center Joint Venture Initiative" as the creation of subsidiaries or joint ventures to acquire, operate, fund, or improve a hospital system for purposes including acquisition, deferred maintenance, information technology and equipment, capital improvements, and working capital; and

**WHEREAS**, the act further authorizes the University of Connecticut to finance, lend, or grant bond proceeds to such subsidiaries or joint ventures for the purposes of the

Initiative, thereby aligning the state's higher education and healthcare infrastructure investment strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, these amendments are necessary to enable the University of Connecticut Health Center to expand its clinical partnerships, strengthen statewide access to healthcare, and maintain accountability consistent with the purposes of The University of Connecticut 2000 Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Connecticut 2000 Act, codified in sections 10a-109a to 10a-109y of the general statutes, authorizes the University to acquire, operate, and fund facilities and entities in furtherance of its educational and health care missions; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Connecticut Health Center Joint Venture Initiative established under said Act enables the University to engage in hospital and health system operations through subsidiaries and affiliated entities; and

**WHEREAS**, clarification is required to specify that employees of entities acquired, operated, or funded by the University of Connecticut Health Center Joint Venture Initiative shall not be employees as defined in the State Personnel Act or subsection (b) of section 5-270 of the general statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, it is further necessary to authorize the Initiative, through a governing body, to fix compensation and establish personnel practices and policies, including those relating to hiring, promotion, retirement, and collective bargaining, without regard to the requirements of chapter 68 of the general statutes, and to clarify that neither the Initiative nor any of the hospital systems it acquires, operates, or funds shall be an employer as defined in subsection (a) of section 5-270; and

**WHEREAS**, section 9-50b of the general statutes establishes the state-wide centralized voter registration system maintained by the Secretary of the State to ensure uniform and accurate voter registration and election administration across all municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, following the adoption of a plan of districting under Article Sixteenth of the Amendments to the Constitution of the State, it is necessary to promptly update the state-wide voter registration system to reflect new congressional, senatorial and assembly district lines; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendment clarifies the responsibilities of the Secretary of the State and local registrars of voters in implementing redistricting plans, correcting districting errors, and maintaining accurate voting district information within the state-wide system; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation further requires that affected voters be notified in writing when polling places are changed as a result of such corrections, ensuring transparency and the protection of voting rights; and

**WHEREAS**, these provisions are necessary to maintain the accuracy and integrity of Connecticut's voter registration system and to ensure that each elector is assigned to the correct district and polling place in compliance with constitutional redistricting requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, section 17b-112 of the general statutes establishes the state's Temporary Family Assistance program, administered by the Department of Social Services, to provide financial support and promote self-sufficiency among eligible low-income families; and

**WHEREAS**, subsection (d) of said section governs income and asset eligibility and the calculation of benefits, including disregards for earned income, child support, and self-employment deductions; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed legislation also establishes a standardized deduction for self-employment income in the Temporary Family Assistance program, which thereby allows the use of this standard deduction in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, in accordance with federal law, to simplify the eligibility process and help mitigate payment error rates.

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

Convene the General Assembly in Special Session in Hartford on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., to:

1. Enact legislation authorizing temporary adjustments to the Budget Reserve Fund and related appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, including acknowledgment of extraordinary circumstances pursuant to Article XXVIII of the Amendments to the Connecticut Constitution and sections 2-33a and 3-20(bb) of the general statutes.
2. Enact legislation revising the effective date, notice timeline for implementation, and opt out provisions regarding a monthly telecommunications surcharge to support the Firefighters Cancer Relief Program and the firefighter's cancer relief account under section 7-313h of the general statutes.
3. Enact legislation improving access to and coordination of children's behavioral health services, including payment reform, coverage requirements, data collection, and interagency coordination.
4. Enact legislation establishing procedures governing law enforcement detentions and arrests on courthouse grounds, prohibiting the use of masks or other facial coverings by officers engaged in enforcement actions except when medically

necessary and authorized by the judiciary, and restricting the disclosure of personal information by public agencies to federal authorities except as permitted by law.

5. Enact legislation concerning the promotion of housing growth, including provisions related to municipal and regional housing growth plans, first-time homebuyer savings accounts, and transit-oriented development.
6. Enact legislation amending sections 10a-109b, 10a-109c, 10a-109d, 10a-109e, 10a-109g, 10a-109n, and 10a-109bb of the general statutes to authorize the University of Connecticut Health Center to establish subsidiaries or joint ventures to acquire, operate, fund, or improve hospitals, and to sell or otherwise divest said hospitals, as part of the University of Connecticut Health Center Joint Venture Initiative; to define said Initiative; and to permit the University to finance, lend, or grant proceeds to such entities for acquisitions, deferred maintenance, information technology and equipment, capital improvements, and working capital, in furtherance of the purposes of The University of Connecticut 2000 Act.
7. Enact legislation providing that employees of entities acquired, operated, funded, or improved by the University of Connecticut Health Center Joint Venture Initiative are not employees as defined section 5-196 or subsection (b) of section 5-270; authorizing the Initiative, through a governing body, to establish compensation and personnel policies without regard to chapter 68; and clarifying that neither the Initiative nor any hospital systems it acquires, operates, funds, or improves shall not be an employer as defined in subsection (a) of section 5-270 of the general statutes.
8. Enact legislation amending section 9-50b of the general statutes to establish clear procedures for the Secretary of the State and registrars of voters to implement new redistricting plans, correct districting errors, and provide written notice to voters when polling places are changed as a result of such corrections.
9. Enact legislation amending subsection (d) of section 17b-112 of the general statutes to simplify and standardize a self-employment deduction under the Temporary Family Assistance program.

Given under my hand and Seal of the State at the City of Hartford, this 7th Day of November in the year two thousand and twenty-five.

Ned Lamont

NED LAMONT

Governor

CONNECTICUT  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CAPITOL OFFICE

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