

2007 LEGISLATIVE REPORT



CT General Assembly
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PCSW Legislative Priorities 2007

The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women provides information, research and analysis to elected officials and the public regarding issues affecting the status of women. The following were our priority issues for the 2007 legislative session.

Economic Security and Pay Equity

Education and Training - Support proposals to increase basic education programs for low-skill, low-wage workers; occupational skills training programs for incumbent and potential workers; and access to higher education for workers.

Nontraditional Occupations - Strengthen the Nontraditional Employment for Women (NEW) Project in order to develop a model program for replication by other agencies; and support efforts to address contract compliance issues as related to non-traditional occupations.

Tax Reform to Assist Low-Income Families - Support tax proposals such as a state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to increase economic self-sufficiency among low-income families.

Care4Kids – Support efforts to restore full funding for Care4Kids program to provide quality early care and education for children to allow low-income parents to remain on the job.

Affordable Housing – Support proposals to increase the number of affordable housing units and provide programs and services to prevent homelessness.

Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) Benefits – Support efforts to exempt people with disabilities from work requirements; expand eligibility for “safety net” services; provide cost of living adjustments; provide income subsidies to families that are working but not self-sufficient; and, provide benefits to relative caregivers.

Women and Business Development

Microenterprises – Support efforts to define the unique needs of very small businesses and find solutions that take into consideration their size or revenues.

Violence Against Women

Trafficking in Persons – Support efforts to provide services for victims of trafficking, increase public awareness, and maintain continued collaboration to detect and prevent trafficking of persons.

Health Care for Survivors of Sexual Assault - Support proposals to ensure access to emergency contraception for survivors of sexual assault who may seek care in emergency departments.

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Domestic Violence Programs - Support efforts to increase funding for services and shelter staff in domestic violence programs.

Sexual Assault Services - Support efforts to increase funding for sexual assault nurse-examiners.

Healthcare

Universal Health Care – Support proposals to establish a plan for universal health care in the state.

Gender Appropriate Behavioral/Mental Health Services – Support proposals for pilot programs to demonstrate and evaluate “best practices” in providing gender-appropriate treatment services for women and girls with behavioral and mental health needs.

Gender, Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care – Support efforts to address the need for effective data collection on gender, racial, and ethnic health issues in the state in order to develop appropriate interventions.

Medicaid Restoration and Insurance Expansions - Support efforts to restore HUSKY coverage for parents up to 185% of the federal poverty level; expand coverage for pregnant woman up to 300% of the federal poverty level; and, fund interpreter services for Medicaid patients with limited English proficiency.

SAGA Benefits – Support efforts to restore SAGA funding, both to provide certain services, such as medically necessary transportation, and also to ensure that adequate funding is available to serve the needs of all eligible adults.

Access to Prescription Medications - Support measures to continue the Medicare Part D wrap-around, and establish consumer protections for people covered under preferred drug lists, e.g., expedited approval procedures and guaranteed provision of temporary supplies.

Cancer Detection and Treatment – Support efforts to increase funding and expand access to early breast, cervical, ovarian, and lung cancer-detection services and treatment.

Nutrition and Physical Activity - Support proposals that address the need for nutritional education and services in an effort to address preventable health conditions, particularly eating disorders and obesity.

Home and Community Based Services - Support efforts to provide funding for services for chronically ill and disabled individuals from ages 18 to 65, and provide respite care programs.

Family Law

Health Benefits – Support measures to provide court ordered continuation of health benefits for an employee’s spouse following divorce.

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Civil Rights

Affirmative Action Investigations - Support proposals to seek a modification of existing law to bar the release of preliminary reports in sexual harassment investigations; and, to support proposals to establish protocols when conducting affirmative action investigations against state agency heads, commissioners, and board members.

Legal Protections for Same Gender Couples - Support measures to extend the right to civil marriage to same gender couples.

Legal Protection for Sexual Orientation – Support proposals to codify a 2004 Supreme Court decision by expanding the deprivation-of-rights statute enforced by the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities to include sexual orientation as a protected class.

Legal Protection for Gender Identity and Expression – Support measures to make “gender identity and expression” a protected class under anti-discrimination laws.

Legislative Update 2007

The following are brief summaries of selected bills and budget items that the PCSW monitored because of their potential impact on the status of women and girls.

ECONOMIC SECURITY/PAY EQUITY

PA 07-160, An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning the State's Welfare Reform Initiative (S.H.B. 7240)

PASSED, effective July 1, 2007

This law allows the Department of Social Services to use state funds to provide cash assistance to recipients of the Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) program, and to expand the Safety Net program to include families who have complied with the Job First program rules. It also requires the Department of Labor to collect data from the job training and placement services it funds, and to share certain information with the state's regional workforce investment boards.

PA 07-16, An Act Concerning Transitional Rental Assistance (H.B. 7127)

PASSED, effective upon passage

This law allows the Department of Social Services to establish priorities for allocating transitional rental assistance.

PA 07-193, An Act Concerning the Alternative Base Period for Purposes of Unemployment Compensation (S.B. 1292)

PASSED, effective October 1, 2007

This law removes the sunset date established for the alternative base period. The alternative base period is used to calculate unemployment benefit eligibility for those who do not qualify under the regular base period.

Appropriations for Selected Programs Related to Employment, Education and Job Training

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
Career Ladder Pilots/OWC	500,000	500,000
CETC/OWC	2,096,139	2,096,139
Workforce Investment Act	25,895,848	25,895,848
Jobs Funnel/OWC	1,000,000	1,000,000
Jobs First Employment/DOL	16,219,096	16,337,976
Individual Development Accounts/DOL	350,000	600,000

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<i>Program/Agency</i>	<i>FY 07-08</i>	<i>FY 08-09</i>
Apprenticeship Program/DOL	633,603	654,700
21 st Century Skills Training Program/DOL	1,000,532	1,001,957
TANF Job Reorganization/DOL	6,500,000	6,500,000
Incumbent Worker Training/DOL	500,000	500,000
STRIVE/DOL (to address barriers to employment)	300,000	300,000
STRIDE/DOL (transitional employment opportunities for those leaving prison)	300,000	300,000
CT's Youth Employment Program/DOL	5,000,000	5,000,000
Youth Service Bureaus/SDE	2,944,595	2,944,595

sH.B. 7021, An Act Concerning Appropriations for Investments in Employer and Community-Based Workforce Development Activities

FAILED. The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee voted favorably on this bill and referred it to the Appropriations Committee where it was not called for a vote.

This bill would have provided funding to the Office of Workforce Competitiveness for adult education programs, vocational and technical training in workforce shortage areas, financial assistance for post-secondary education in workforce shortage areas, incumbent worker training programs, and career services for workforce development.

H.B. 7023, An Act Concerning Workforce Advancement Grants for Low-Income Students

FAILED. The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee voted favorably on this bill and referred it to the Appropriations Committee where it was not called for a vote.

This bill would have provided funding to Community-Technical Colleges and the Board for State Academic Awards to establish four pilot programs. These programs would have provided workforce advancement grants to assist students from low-income families with the direct and indirect costs of education.

S.B. 146, An Act Creating an Earned Income Tax Credit Against the Personal Income Tax

FAILED. The Human Services, Finance, Revenue and Bonding, and Appropriations Committees voted favorably on this bill. It was not called for a vote in the Senate.

This bill would have provided a state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) equal to 20% of the federal EITC for low-income working families.

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sS.B. 601, An Act Mandating Employers to Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees

FAILED. The Labor and Public Employees, Judiciary, and Appropriations Committees, and the Senate voted favorably on this bill. It was not called for a vote in the House.

This bill would have required all employers with 25 or more employees to provide their employees with a certain amount of paid sick leave.

S.B. 688, An Act Concerning State Enhancement to the Federal Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children

FAILED. The Public Health Committee voted favorably on this bill and referred it to the Appropriations Committee where it was not called for a vote.

This bill would have required the Department of Public Health to establish a program to serve as an enhancement to the federal Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

S.B. 757, An Act Concerning Equal Subsidies for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

FAILED. The Select Committee on children and the Human Services Committee voted favorably on this bill. It was referred it to the Appropriations Committee where it was not called for a vote.

This bill would have required an increase in the payment standard for a child receiving Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) and in the care of a grandparent. The payment increase would have been equal to 65% of the prevailing foster care rate after July 1, 2007, and 75% after July 1, 2008.

sH.B. 7130, An Act Concerning the Establishment of a State-Wide Money Management Program That Assists Low-Income Elderly and Disabled Persons

FAILED. The Select Committee on Aging and the Appropriations and Human Services Committees voted favorably on this bill. It was not called for a vote in the House.

This bill would have allowed the Department of Social Services to provide a grant in FY 08 to establish a money management program for low-income elders and people with disabilities.

Appropriations for Selected Programs Related to Financial Security

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
TANF/DSS	114,886,163	115,857,403
Safety Net Services/DSS	2,049,247	2,049,247
Child Care -TANF/CCDBG/DSS	89,985,229	93,118,727
School Readiness/DSS	4,355,361	4,955,500
Transitory Rental Assistance/DSS	1,186,680	1,186,680
Housing/Homeless Services/DSS	40,746,812	42,446,812
Housing/Homeless Services- to local/DSS	666,341	666,341

WOMEN AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

sH.B. 5993, An Act Concerning the Department of Administrative Services' Small and Minority Business Set-Aside Program

CONCEPT PASSED, effective July 1, 2007. Although the original bill failed, some concepts were passed in Sections 65, 67 and 68 of PA 07-4, AAC the Provisions of the Budget Concerning General Government (S.B 1500)

This law makes several changes to the set-aside program for small contractors and minority business enterprises by: raising the standard from \$3 million to \$10 million in annual gross revenues; requiring that notices of willful violations be sent to the contractor, subcontractor and the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO); requiring posting of certification applications on the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) website; requiring agencies or municipalities that do not achieve 50% of its set-aside goals to provide a written explanation and plan to achieve the goals to DAS and CHRO; and, it establishes the month of May as Women-Owned Business Month.

Appropriations for Selected Programs Related to Women and Business Development

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
Small Business Innovation Research Initiative/OWC	500,000	500,000
Small Business Incubator Program/DECD	1,000,000	1,000,000
Entrepreneurial Centers/DECD	142,500	142,500

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

PA 07-24, An Act Concerning Compassionate Care for Victims of Sexual Assault (sS.B. 1343)

PASSED, effective October 1, 2007

This law establishes a standard of care for hospitals providing emergency treatment to female rape victims. Each hospital must promptly provide a victim with medically and factually accurate and objective information on the availability, use, and efficacy of emergency contraception. This law requires distribution of such medication onsite unless it is determined through a FDA-approved pregnancy test that the victim is already pregnant. Additionally, it allows hospitals to contract with independent providers to ensure compliance with the standard of care and conduct forensic exams of victims.

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PA 07-107, An Act Establishing a Trafficking in Persons Council (S.B. 398)

PASSED, effective upon passage

This law creates a 26-member Trafficking in Persons Council, chaired and convened by the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women. The Council will consult with government and non-governmental organizations to develop recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims, and prosecute traffickers; identify criteria for providing services to adult trafficking victims and their children; and provide updates and progress reports on trafficking prevention efforts and victim assistance.

sS.B. 940, An Act Concerning the Prevention and Response to Trafficking in Persons

CONCEPT PASSED, effective October 1, 2007. Although the original bill failed, the concept was passed in Section 29 of PA 07-4, AAC the Provisions of the Budget Concerning General Government (S.B. 1500)

This law provides funding to the Office of Victim Services to contract with organizations to develop a coordinated response system to assist trafficking victims.

Appropriations for Anti-Trafficking Activities

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
Judicial/Victim Security Account	125,000	155,000

PA 07-123, An Act Concerning Domestic Violence (sH.B. 7313)

PASSED, effective October 1, 2007

This law establishes three new crimes of strangulation, expands the circumstances under which a court may issue a standing criminal restraining order and allows law enforcement to seize any electronic defense weapon that is in plain view or possessed by the arrestee at a family violence crime site. This law also establishes release procedures for police officers to follow when someone is arrested for committing a family violence crime, and increases the penalty for violation of release conditions for anyone who is arrested for committing a felony and intentionally violates a nonfinancial condition of release.

S.B. 662, An Act Concerning the Provision of Forensic Nursing Services to Victims of Physical or Sexual Assault

FAILED. This bill was proposed in the Public Health Committee but was not granted a public hearing.

This bill would have required each acute care hospital to provide each patient who is a victim of a physical or sexual assault or trauma access to forensic nursing services.

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H.B. 7335, An Act Concerning Persistent Offenders

FAILED. The Judiciary Committee and the House voted favorably on this bill. It was not called for a vote in the Senate.

This bill would have increased, from five to 10 years, the look-back period at crimes to determine whether an offender has previous convictions to be considered a persistent offender of crimes involving assault, stalking, trespass, threatening, harassment, and criminal violation of a protective or restraining order.

Appropriations for Selected Programs Related to Violence Against Women

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
Forensic Sex Evidence Exam/Division of Criminal Justice	1,074,800	1,074,800
Rape Crisis/DPH	426,877	426,877

HEALTHCARE

PA 07-185, An Act Concerning The Healthfirst Connecticut and Healthy Kids Initiative (S.B. 1484), PA 07-2, An Act Concerning the Provisions of the Budget Concerning Human Services (H.B. 8002) and PA 07-4, AAC the Provisions of the Budget Concerning General Government (S.B. 1500)

PASSED, effective July 1, 2007 unless otherwise indicated

This law expands access to health insurance and health care services, promotes the use of health care technology, preventative services, and quality measurement; and creates two entities (HealthFirst Connecticut and Statewide Primary Care) to examine alternative ways to provide health care coverage and primary care, finance insurance coverage, contain health care costs, and improve health care quality. This law makes several changes to HUSKY, State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) and other health insurance programs by:

- expanding HUSKY A coverage for pregnant women up to 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL);
- expanding HUSKY A coverage for caretaker relatives of children receiving HUSKY A up to 185% FPL;
- eliminating HUSKY A premiums and co-pays for families over 100% FPL;
- requiring automatic enrollment of uninsured newborns in HUSKY;
- requiring the Department of Social Services (DSS) to seek a waiver to enroll recipients in employer sponsored private health insurance, with the state providing a premium subsidy;
- requiring the DSS and other entities to expand HUSKY outreach;

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- requiring DSS to seek a federal waiver to convert the SAGA medical program from a fully state-funded program to a Medicaid-funded program;
- providing SAGA recipients with nonemergency medical transportation and vision care services for a limited duration as determined on an individual basis, and home health services or skilled nursing services for those being discharged from chronic disease hospitals;
- requiring health insurance policies to extend the age for coverage of dependents to age 26, if the dependent is a state resident, resides in another state with a court-ordered custodial parent, or is a full-time college student (effective January 1, 2009);
- permitting a state-mandated reinsurance association to sell health care plans to small employers with low-income workers;
- requiring DSS, within available appropriations, to annually increase the rates paid to Medicaid providers, and;
- establishing the Charter Oak Plan to provide access to health insurance (effective January 1, 2008).

PA 07-130, An Act Establishing the Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly (S.B. 1451)

PASSED, effective October 1, 2007

This law establishes a Connecticut Home Care Option Program for the elderly and a Connecticut Home Care Trust Fund, administered by the state comptroller. The program allows participants to establish individual savings accounts within the fund to help save for the costs of certain elderly services that will allow them to remain in their homes or live in a non-institutional setting as they age. This law also eliminates the 250-person limit on the number of participants in the state-funded pilot program that allows seniors to hire their own personal care assistance attendants directly instead of going through a home health care agency.

H.B. 7279, An Act Concerning The Administration of the Money Follows the Person Program

CONCEPT PASSED, effective July 1, 2007. Although the original bill failed, the concept was passed in Section 5 of PA 07-2, AAC the Provisions of the Budget Concerning Human Services (H.B. 8002)

This law expands the number of people eligible to participate in the Money Follows the Person program from 100 to 700. This program allows funding that would otherwise be spent on institutional long-term care to be spent on services people need to live in the community.

PA 07-75, An Act Concerning Medical Necessity and External Appeals (S.H.B. 7055)

PASSED, effective January 1, 2008, except for the appeal provision, which is effective upon passage

This law prohibits certain insurers, HMOs, and other entities from issuing individual and group health insurance policies that do not contain a statutory definition of "medically necessary" services or "medical necessity." It also extends the time period,

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from 30 days to 60 days, to appeal to the insurance commissioner after a person has exhausted internal grievance procedures for denials.

PA 07-86, An Act Concerning Revisions to the State-Wide Respite Care Program (H.B. 7191)

PASSED, effective July 1, 2007

This law allows people under age 65 receiving community Medicaid, which does not provide respite care, to participate in the State-wide Respite Program.

PA 07-93, An Act Concerning Artificial Insemination by Donor (S.B. 1430)

PASSED, effective October 1, 2007

This law defines “artificial insemination” as a medical procedure in which a human egg is fertilized assisted by artificial means, including intrauterine insemination and in vitro fertilization.

S.B. 693, An Act Creating a State Health Care Data Bank

CONCEPT PASSED, effective July 1, 2007. Although the original bill failed, the concept was passed in Section 66 of PA 07-2, AAC the Provisions of the Budget Concerning Human Services (H.B. 8002)

This law requires the Department of Public Health and UCONN Health Center, within available appropriations, to develop a CT Health Information Network to integrate state health and social services data from the Departments of Public Health, Mental Retardation, and Children and Families, UCONN Health Center, and the Office of Health Care Access.

sS.B. 1342, An Act Concerning Linguistic Access in Hospitals and Diversity in the Health Care Workforce

FAILED. The Public Health and Appropriations Committees, and the Senate voted favorably on this bill. It was not called for a vote in the House.

This bill would have required the Department of Public Health (DPH) to collect and track data on the race and ethnicity of all state-licensed health care professionals. It would have also reinforced existing law by requiring acute care hospitals to examine hospital compliance requirements regarding non-English speaking patient’s access to services. DPH would have had to annually report its findings to the Public Health Committee.

sH.B. 5303, An Act Requiring Health Insurance Coverage for Supplies for the Treatment of Lymphedema

FAILED. The Insurance and Real Estate Committee voted favorably on this bill. It was not called for a vote in the House.

This bill would have required certain health insurance policies to cover physician-prescribed supplies for lymphedema treatment as durable medical equipment.

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sS.B. 1033, An Act Providing Resources for Early Detection, Diagnosis and Treatment of Lung Cancer

FAILED. The Public Health and Human Services Committees, and the Senate voted favorably on this bill. The House referred it to the Insurance and Real Estate Committee where it was not called for a vote.

This law would have required the Department of Public Health to establish a pilot grant program by October 1, 2008 for hospital lung cancer screening projects targeted toward low-income populations.

sH.B. 6843, An Act Concerning the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease and Obesity Through Community-Based Physical Activity Programs

FAILED. The Public health and Appropriations Committees voted favorably on this bill. It was not called for a vote in the House.

This bill would have created a competitive grant to help towns develop community-based physical activity programs to prevent or reduce cardiovascular disease and obesity in children and adults.

Appropriations for Selected Programs Related to Healthcare

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
Breast and Cervical Cancer Detection & Treatment/DPH	2,351,494	2,351,494
Teen Pregnancy Prevention/DSS	1,486,008	1,486,008
Teen Pregnancy Prevention to local/DSS	848,312	848,312
Medicaid Administration/DSS	3,741,609	3,927,702
Medicaid/DSS	3,559,525,038	3,723,963,566
CONNPACE/DSS	51,217,380	56,460,251
Medicare Part D Supplemental/DSS	5,000,000	5,000,000
CT Home Care Program/DSS	105,935,000	63,057,625
HUSKY Outreach/DSS	1,706,452	1,706,452
HUSKY Program/DSS	43,550,037	52,306,416
SAGA	176,286,646	183,393,217
Charter Oak Health Plan/DSS	2,000,000	11,000,000
Community Services Support for AIDS/DPH	199,177	199,177
AIDS Services/DPH	7,326,662	7,906,553
AIDS Drug Assistance/DSS	606,678	606,678
Venereal Disease Control/DPH	216,900	216,900
Community Health Services/DPH	9,284,758	9,284,758
Local & District Departments of Health/DPH	5,352,419	5,352,419
School Based Health Clinics/DPH	10,209,364	10,209,364

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Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
DSH- Medical Emergency Assistance/DSS	53,725,000	53,725,000
DSH-Urban Hospitals/Distressed/DSS	31,550,000	31,550,000

FAMILY LAW

PA 07-247, An Act Concerning Child Support Enforcement Program Compliance and Improvements (sH.B. 7361)

PASSED, effective October 1, 2007 unless otherwise indicated

This law conforms to the federal child support provisions in the Reduction Act of 2005. First, it requires continuation of support payments that were issued as a result of a divorce or separation, for children who are over the age of 18, unmarried and full-time high school students, even if they do not live with a parent. Second, it creates a reasonable cost standard for medical insurance that a court can use in deciding whether a parent will be required to pay for the insurance. The Court may require both parents to contribute to the cost of health insurance. Third, it allows the use of National Medical Support notices to enforce medical support orders of custodial and noncustodial parents. Fourth, it requires the state to withhold state and federal income tax refunds from child support obligors owing past due support for children who have reached the age of majority. Fifth, it imposes a \$25 annual fee on certain individuals receiving support enforcement services. Finally, it limits the amount of support the state can require applicants for Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) to assign to the state as a condition of qualifying for assistance. The limitation applies only to support rights that accrue during the time the family receives TFA (previously applicants had to sign over any rights to any past, present or future child support), and the amount assigned can be no more than the amount of TFA the family receives (effective October 1, 2008).

H.B. 6286, An Act Concerning Parenting Time and Parental Responsibility with Respect to the Custody of a Minor Child

FAILED. The Judiciary Committee held a public hearing on this bill, but did not call it for a vote.

This bill would have clarified that no presumption awarding substantially disproportionate parenting time and responsibility to one parent should be made when both parents are capable, interested and available to parent the child at least half of the time.

CIVIL RIGHTS

PA 07-142, An Act Concerning Procedures for the Hearing of Complaints Against State Contractors and Subcontractors by the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and the Documentation of Nondiscrimination Policies Adopted by State Contractors (sS.B. 1106)

PASSED, effective July 1, 2007

This law establishes a separate process for the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) to hear and remedy complaints against contractors and subcontractors for noncompliance with state antidiscrimination laws, mandatory antidiscrimination provisions in state and certain political subdivisions contracts, and equal employment requirements. It allows CHRO to bring a matter to a public hearing based on its monitoring and compliance process instead of going through its normal complaint process. It eliminates certain automatic sanctions and gives the presiding officer discretion to impose sanctions. The law requires that a contractor must provide documentation to support a nondiscrimination agreement before entering a contract with the state or any political subdivision other than a municipality. Finally, this law gives people the right to file, and CHRO jurisdiction to investigate, complaints of violations regarding the set-aside law for small contractors and minority businesses, and laws requiring the filing and approval of affirmative action plans and compliance reports concerning public works contractors.

PA 07-181, An Act Concerning the Investigation of a Discrimination Complaint Against or by an Agency Head or State Commission or Board Member (sS.B. 1048)

Passed, effective upon passage

This law establishes a separate procedure for investigating a discrimination complaint made against or by a state agency head, a board or commission member, or an affirmative action officer (AAO). It requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to investigate complaints against or by an agency head, board or commission member, or AAO. If the discrimination complaint is against the DAS Commissioner or AAO, the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities must investigate.

PA 07-44, An Act Concerning Discrimination Awards Received by Persons Who Have Been Supported by State Humane Institutions (S.B. 1337)

PASSED, effective July 1, 2007

This law prohibits the state from claiming or applying a lien against certain lump-sum payments received by people who have been supported wholly, or in part, by the state in a humane institution, i.e., state mental hospital, community health center, treatment facility for children and adolescents, and any other facilities administered by the Departments of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Mental Retardation, or Children

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and Families. It also prohibits towns from claiming or applying a lien against any money received as a settlement or award in a housing or employment discrimination case.

PA 07-62, An Act Concerning the Deprivation of Rights on Account of Sexual Orientation (sS.B. 1109)

PASSED, effective October 1, 2007

This law makes it a Class A misdemeanor to subject someone to the deprivation of rights, privileges, and immunities secured or protected by the state or federal laws or constitutions because of the person's sexual orientation. This crime is punishable by imprisonment for up to one year, a fine of up to \$2,000, or both. It also makes it a Class D felony if property is damaged as a consequence of a violation in an amount exceeding \$1,000 or if the violator wears a mask, hood, or other device to conceal their identity. This crime is punishable by imprisonment for up to five years, a fine up to \$5,000, or both. Finally, it gives the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) jurisdiction to investigate complaints of deprivation of rights, privileges, and immunities secured or protected by any state or federal law or constitution on the basis of sexual orientation. In effect, this provision gives CHRO jurisdiction to investigate complaints of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation against students in public schools.

PA 07-245, An Act Concerning Family and Medical Leave for Municipal Employees (sS.B. 1447)

PASSED, effective October 1, 2007

This law requires towns, cities, school districts, fire districts, or associations to provide employees who have entered a civil union and worked for the employee for at least 12 months (or 1,250 hours during the past 12 months) with federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) benefits. It also adds civil union status as a protected class under anti-discrimination statutes, including those regarding employment, public accommodations, housing, and credit transactions. Additionally, the law specifies that when the term "marital status" is used in the general statutes, civil union status must be included in that use.

sS.B. 1044, An Act Concerning Discrimination

FAILED. The Judiciary, Legislative Management, Government Administration and Elections Committees and the Senate voted favorably on this bill. The House debated the bill and passed it temporarily; it did not get recalled before the close of session.

This bill would have made gender identity or expression a protected class under state antidiscrimination laws. Specifically, it would have prohibited discrimination in employment, public accommodations, the sale or rental of housing, the granting of credit, and other laws over which the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities

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(CHRO) has jurisdiction. It would have also explicitly authorized people to file discrimination complaints with CHRO.

H.B. 7395, An Act Concerning Marriage Equality

FAILED. The Judiciary Committee voted favorably on this bill. It was not called for a vote in the House.

This bill would have defined civil marriage as a legal union of two persons, thereby allowing same-sex couples to enter into civil marriage. It would have repealed existing civil union laws, and define existing civil unions as marriages by operation of law unless there was a pending divorce, annulment, or legal separation proceeding.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS

PA 07-216, An Act Concerning a Department of Corrections Citizens Advisory Group and the Rights of Inmates with Mental Illness (sH.B. 7407)

PASSED, effective July 1, 2007, except for the provisions on mental illness, which are effective October 1, 2007

This law requires certain inmates with a mental illness confined in a Department of Correction (DOC) facility to receive individualized clinically-appropriate and culturally-competent mental health services to assess and treat the inmate's condition. The law requires DOC, before releasing such an inmate, to collaborate with the Judicial Branch and the Departments of Social Services and Mental Health and Addiction Services as necessary to assist the inmate in obtaining housing, mental health treatment services, public benefits, and employment counseling on release (this law applies to inmates who have been diagnosed by a licensed psychiatrist and has been determined to be a danger to themselves or others). It also requires DOC custodial staff to receive at least 16 hours of mental health training annually. Finally, it requires the DOC Commissioner to create a Citizens Advisory Group to review and report on DOC policies and practices and recommend reforms and legislation.

sH.B. 5676, An Act Concerning Children of Families with Service Needs

CONCEPT PASSED, effective October 1, 2007. Although the original bill failed, the concept was passed in Sections 32 and 37 of PA 07-4, AAC the Provisions of the Budget Concerning General Government (S.B 1500)

This law extends the Family With Service Needs (FWSN) Advisory Board through July 1, 2008 to continue monitoring and making recommendations about the implementation of FWSN program changes. It also makes changes in procedures for hearings and institutionalization.

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Appropriations for Selected Programs Related to Criminal Justice and Corrections

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
Inmate Medical Services/DOC	99,524,982	104,194,273
Mental Health AIC/DOC	500,000	500,000
Aid Paroled & Discharged Inmates/DOC	9,500	9,500
Alternative Incarceration Program/Judicial	45,880,152	46,104,152
Community Support Services/DOC	33,662,463	33,662,463
Juvenile Justice Outreach Services /DCF	12,358,095	12,358,095
Community Kidcare/DCF	23,553,065	23,553,065
Juvenile Alt Incarceration/Judicial	30,828,133	30,936,484
Juvenile Justice Centers/Judicial	3,169,380	3,169,380
Youthful Offender Services/Judicial	5,679,348	8,088,299

PCSW Testimony

PCSW submitted oral or written testimony on the following **110** bills or issues before 16 legislative committees indicated below:

Budgetary Matters

- H.B. 5543, AA Ensuring Funds for Universal Health Insurance for All Connecticut Residents - Appropriations
- H.B. 7077, AAC the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 20, 2009 and Making Appropriations Therefor - Appropriations
 - The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
 - The Department of Public Health
 - The Department of Social Services

Civil Rights

- S.B. 1044, AAC Discrimination - Judiciary
- S.B. 1048, AAC the Investigation of a Discrimination Complaint Against or by an Agency Head or State Commission or Board Member - Labor & Public Employees
- S.B. 1106, AAC Procedures for the Hearing of Complaints Against State Contractors and Subcontractors by the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities - Judiciary
- S.B. 1107, AAC The Investigation of an Internal Discrimination Complaint Against the Executive Head of a State Agency or a Member of a State Board or Commission - Judiciary
- S.B. 1109, AAC The Deprivation of Rights on Account of Sexual Orientation - Judiciary
- S.B. 1449, AAC The Recognition of Legal Unions From Other States and Jurisdictions - Judiciary
- H.B. 7395, AAC Marriage Equality - Judiciary

Criminal Justice and Corrections

- S.B. 759, AAC Truancy and Funding for Youth Services Bureaus - Select Committee On Children
- H.B. 5109, AAC The Detention of Truants - Select Committee On Children

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Economic Security and Pay Equity

- S.B. 146, AAC an Earned Income Tax Credit Against the Personal Income Tax - *Human Services*
- S.B. 601, AA Mandating Employers to Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees - *Labor & Public Employees*
- S.B. 688, AAC State Enhancement to the Federal Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children - *Public Health*
- S.B. 754, AA Equalizing the Amount of Benefits Available to Grandparents Raising Grandchildren - *Select Committee On Children*
- S.B. 757, AAC Equal Subsidies for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren - *Select Committee On Children*
- S.B. 1292, AAC the Alternative Case Period for Purpose of Unemployment Compensation - *Labor & Public Employees*
- S.B. 1361, AAC Administration of the Temporary Family Assistance Program - *Human Services*
- S.B. 1447, AAC Family and Medical Leave for Municipal Employees - *Judiciary*
- H.B. 5255, AA Providing Funds for Seven Additional Beyond Shelter Programs - *Select Committee On Housing*
- H.B. 5442, AAC An Increase in Temporary Family Assistance Benefits for Relative Caregivers - *Select Committee On Children*
- H.B. 5573, AAC An Increase in Temporary Family Assistance Benefits for Subsequent Children - *Select Committee On Children*
- H.B. 6035, AAC The Asset Test Used to Determine Eligibility for the State-Administered General Assistance Program - *Human Services*
- H.B. 6649, AAC an Earned Income Tax Credit - *Human Services*
- H.B. 7006, AA Appropriating Funds to Restore the Rental Assistance Program to Its Prior Service Level - *Select Committee On Housing*
- H.B. 7021, AAC Appropriations for Investments in Employer and Community-Based Workforce Development Activities - *Higher Education And Employment Advancement*
- H.B. 7023, AAC Workforce Advancement Grants for Low-Income Students - *Higher Education And Employment Advancement*
- H.B. 7127, AAC Transitory Rental Assistance - *Human Services*
- H.B. 7240, AA Implementing the Recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning the State's Welfare Reform Initiative - *Program Review & Investigations*
- H.B. 7302, AAC Rates Paid to Providers Under the Child Care Subsidy Program - *Human Services*

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Family Law

- H.B. 6286, AAC Parenting Time and Parental Responsibility With Respect to the Custody of a Minor Child – *Judiciary*

Healthcare

- S.B. 1, AA Increasing Access to Affordable, Quality Health Care - *Public Health*
- S.B. 3, AAC Increased Access to Health Care Through the Husky Program - *Human Services*
- S.B. 7, AAC Eligibility for the Connecticut Home Care Program for the Elderly - *Select Committee On Aging*
- S.B. 54, AAC Increased Access to Home-Based Long-Term Care - *Human Services*
- S.B. 55, AA Requiring Health Insurance Coverage for Medical Supplies for Persons With Lymphedema - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 67, AA Expanding Health Insurance Coverage for Dependent, Unmarried Children - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 70, AA Establishing the Nutmeg Health Partnership Insurance Plan - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 72, AAC The Municipal Employee Health Insurance Plan - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 86, AA Establishing Standards for Early Immunization Against Human Papilloma Virus - *Public Health*
- S.B. 102, AAC The State Funded Personal Care Assistance Pilot Program for Persons Sixty-Five Years of Age or Older - *Select Committee On Aging*
- S.B. 136, AAC Diversity in the Health Care Workforce - *Higher Education And Employment Advancement*
- S.B. 147, AAC The Use of Preferred Drug Lists and Prior Authorization Requirements by the Department of Social Services in the Administration of the Department's Prescription Drug Programs - *Human Services*
- S.B. 198, AAC The Availability of Interpreter Services Under the Medicaid Program - *Human Services*
- S.B. 245, AAC The Availability of Medical Services and Health Insurance for Low-Income Pregnant Women - *Human Services*
- S.B. 278, AAC State Options to Promote Home Care for Persons Aged Sixty Five Years of Age or Older - *Select Committee On Aging*
- S.B. 384, AA Increasing Funding for the Home-Care Program for the Elderly - *Human Services*
- S.B. 390, AA Expanding Health Insurance Coverage for Persons With Diabetes - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 815, AA Requiring Health Insurance Coverage for Medical Supplies for Persons With Lymphedema - *Insurance & Real Estate*

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- S.B. 817, AA Extending Health Insurance Coverage for Dependent, Unmarried Children - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 818, AA Requiring Health Insurance Coverage for Fertility Procedures - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 1033, AA Providing Resources for Early Detection, Diagnosis and Treatment of Lung Cancer - *Public Health*
- S.B. 1097, AA Expanding Eligibility Under the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Treatment Referral Program - *Public Health*
- S.B. 1169, AAC Eligibility for the Rental Assistance Program - *Select Committee On Aging*
- S.B. 1274, AAC Appropriations to the Department of Social Services for Supportive Housing for Persons with Human Immunodeficiency Virus or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome - *Human Services*
- S.B. 1349, AA Establishing the Connecticut Select Care Choices Program - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 1350, AAC Administration of the State-Administration General Assistance Program - *Human Services*
- S.B. 1371, AA Establishing The Connecticut Saves Health Care Program - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- S.B. 1425, AAC Managed Care Organizations Contracting with the Department of Social Services - *Human Services*
- S.B. 1451, AA Establishing the Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly – *Finance, Revenue & Bonding*
- H.B. 5074, AA Increasing Funding for School Based Health Clinics - *Public Health*
- S.B. 5303, AA Requiring Health Insurance Coverage for Diagnosis and Treatment of Lymphedema - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- H.B. 5492, AA Providing Affordable Health Insurance Coverage for Uninsured Persons and Small Employers - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- H.B. 5640, AAC Increased Access to the Medicaid Program for the Medically Needy - *Human Services*
- H.B. 5663, AA Increasing Funding for the Home-Care For the Elderly Program - *Human Services*
- H.B. 5803, AAC Increased Appropriations for Elderly Rental Assistance Programs - *Select Committee On Aging*
- H.B. 6055, AA Extending Health Insurance Coverage for Dependent Children - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- H.B. 6281, AA Ensuring Funds for Universal Health Insurance for all Connecticut Residents - *Insurance & Real Estate*
- H.B. 6332, AA Increasing Access to Health Care - *Public Health*

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- H.B. 6333, AA Expanding the State Employee Health Insurance Plan - Labor & Public Employees
- H.B. 6652, AA Making Health Care Insurance More Affordable and Accessible to Connecticut Residents - Insurance & Real Estate
- H.B. 6652, AA Establishing the CT Healthy Steps Program - Insurance & Real Estate
- H.B. 6655, AA Providing Universal Health Care for Connecticut Residents - Insurance & Real Estate
- H.B. 6661, AA Establishing Universal Health Care Insurance in Connecticut - Insurance & Real Estate
- H.B. 6672, AAC Gender Specific and Trauma-Informed State Services – Judiciary
- H.B. 6693, AAC Creation of a State Health Care Plan - Public Health
- H.B. 6843, AAC Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Programs - Public Health
- H.B. 6977, AAC Prevention Strategies for Diseases Caused by Human Papilloma Virus - Public Health
- H.B. 7131, AAC Eligibility for the CONNPACE Program - Select Committee On Aging
- H.B. 7191, AAC Revisions to the State-Wide Respite Care Program - Human Services
- H.B. 7278, AAC Improved Access to Health Insurance - Human Services
- H.B. 7375, AAC Health Access and Expansion of the Husky Program - Human Services
- H.B. 7376, AA Establishing the Connecticut Health Information Network - Public Health

Violence Against Women

- S.B. 371, AAC Workplace Safety - Labor & Public Employees
- S.B. 398, AA Establishing a Trafficking in Persons Council - Judiciary
- S.B. 940, AAC The Prevention of Human Trafficking - Public Safety
- S.B. 1013, AA Requiring Acute Care Hospitals to Make Forensic Nursing Services Available to Patients - Public Health
- S.B. 1343, AAC Compassionate Care for Victims of Sexual Assault - Human Services
- H.B. 7313, AAC Domestic Violence - Judiciary
- H.B. 7335, AAC Persistent Offenders - Judiciary

Women and Business Development

- S.B. 530, AA Exempting Certain Regional Entities From the Requirements of the Set-Aside Program for Small Contractors and Minority Business Enterprises - Government Administration & Elections
- S.B. 1126, AAC The State Set-Aside Program - Government Administration & Elections
- S.B. 1386, AAC Community Economic Development - Planning & Development

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- H.B. 5975, AA Establishing a Local Small Business Vendor Set-Aside Program for State Contractors - *Government Administration & Elections*
- H.B. 5988, AAC The Definition of a Small Business for Purposes of Goods and Services Contracts with the State - *Government Administration & Elections*
- H.B. 5993, AAC The Department of Administrative Services Small and Minority Business Set-Aside Program - *Government Administration & Elections*
- H.B. 6418, AAC The Municipal Set-Aside Program for Small Contractors and Minority Business Enterprises - *Planning & Development*
- H.B. 7341, AAC Microloans - *Commerce*
- H.B. 7342, AAC Regulatory Relief for Small Businesses - *Commerce*



Young Women's Leadership Program Steering Committee

Michelle Noehren, Co-Chair
Shanta Evans, Co-Chair

Committee Members

Sara Barczak
Christa Homola
Jacqueline Kozin
Kristen Pavlik
Isamar Rameriz
Jillian Spies
Nicole Terry
Rachel Welch

YWLP Legislative Priorities 2007

The Young Women's Leadership Program (YWLP) is a project of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women. The YWLP provides information, research and analysis to elected officials and the public regarding issues affecting the status of young women. The following are our priority issues for the 2007 legislative session, which highlight our comprehensive and well-rounded support for young women's leadership.

Violence Against Young Women

Emergency Contraception Access – Support proposals that increase access to emergency contraception for survivors of sexual assault.

Comprehensive SANE Nurse Programs – Support proposals to provide SANE nurses in hospitals across Connecticut to ensure that young women are guaranteed timely and comprehensive sexual assault services.

Bullying in Schools – Support proposals that address psychological/emotional bullying.

Sexual Harassment – Support proposals to require more schools and colleges to provide sexual harassment prevention training to students and teachers.

Economic Security and Pay Equity

Educational Equality – Support proposals that encourage young women to participate in math/science/technology classes and careers.

Title IX – Support proposals to enhance/protect Title IX to ensure young women's access to education and athletics.

Non-Traditional Employment – Support proposals to provide more education and job training for young women considering a career in the trades.

Balancing Work and Family – Support proposals to help young women balance their work and family responsibilities by advocating for reforms such as paid family and medical leave.

Energy Costs – Support proposals to lower energy costs to help young women succeed financially.

Young Women and Health Care

Promoting Leadership through Positive Body Image – Support proposals to provide funding for programs that address the importance of a positive/healthy body image for young women, including proposals that address smoking, healthy eating and physical activity.

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Health Care for all Young Women – Support proposals for universal health care to ensure health care for young women, who currently are disproportionately represented among the ranks of the uninsured.

Access to HPV Vaccine – Support proposals to require insurance companies to cover the new HPV vaccine and to make the vaccine readily accessible to young women to prevent certain types of cervical cancer.

Reproductive Health – Support proposals that protect a young woman's right to choose and protect her access to contraception.

Criminal Justice and Corrections

Reforms in Juvenile Justice Programs for Girls – Support continuing efforts to provide community-based, gender-specific services for girls involved in the juvenile justice system.

Budget Matters

Leadership Initiatives – Support budget items that provide an increase in mentorship programs for young women.

Scholarships/Financial Aid – Support increased funding of financial aid for part-time students because part-time students have a more difficult time securing financial aid, and because the majority of part-time college students are women.

Legislative Update 2007

The following are brief summaries of selected bills and budget items that the YWLP monitored because of their potential impact on the status of young women and girls.

Violence Against Young Women

PA 07-24, AAC Compassionate Care for Victims of Sexual Assault (SB 1343)

PASSED, Effective October 1, 2007

This law requires that all licensed health care facilities in the state of Connecticut provide emergency contraception to victims of sexual assault. If a facility will not provide emergency contraception they must call upon an independent contractor to provide the medication.

S.B. 457, AAC the Prevention of Teen Dating Violence

FAILED, The Select Committee on Children held a public hearing on this bill and voted it to the Appropriations Committee where it failed to be called for a vote.

This bill would have established a program within the Department of Education to encourage school districts to develop and implement curricula on the prevention of teen dating violence.

H.B 5110, AAC a Safe Learning Environment for Children and Youth

FAILED, The Select Committee on Children held a public hearing on this bill and voted it to the Education Committee where it failed to be called for a vote.

This bill would have examined the effectiveness of school responses to bullying, established a state ombudsperson to resolve complaints related to bullying, funded grants to create safe learning environments in schools and enforce bullying policies, and established a state-wide anonymous school violence hotline. This bill incorporated two other bills that the YWLP testified on: S.B. 461, AAC the Establishment of an Anonymous School Violence Hotline and H.B 6154, AAC Enforcement of Policies on Bullying Behavior.

H.B 5808, AAC Youth Violence

FAILED, The Select Committee on Children held a public hearing on this bill but did not call it for a vote.

This bill would have established a task force to recommend strategies to reduce youth violence in Connecticut.

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H.B 6148, AAC an Appropriation for After School Programs

FAILED, *The Select Committee on Children held a public hearing on this bill and voted it to the Education Committee where it failed to be called for a vote.*

The overall bill would have appropriated money to the Department of Education to increase grants for after school programs. This bill incorporated H.B 6508, AAC Youth Violence.

Appropriations for Selected Programs Related to Violence Against Young Women

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
Forensic Sex Evidence Exam/Division of Criminal Justice	1,074,800	1,074,800
Rape Crisis/DPH	426,877	426,877
OPM/Urban Youth Violence Prevention	1,000,000	1,000,000
DED/ Youth Service Bureaus- to local	2,944,598	2,944,598
DED/ Youth Service Bureau Enhancement	625,000	625,000
DED/ After Schools Programs	5,300,000	5,500,000

Economic Security/Pay Equity

PA 07-203, AAC Reimbursement of Payments Made by the Department of Children and Families for the Care of a Child (SB 761)

PASSED, *Effective October 1, 2007*

This law places limitations on the Department of Children and Families' ability to receive reimbursement from a child who received payments for his or her care and maintenance.

PA 07-138, AAC Democracy Education in Elementary Schools, (H.B 7017)

PASSED, *Effective July 1, 2007*

This law requires elementary schools to teach a program on democracy to fourth and fifth grade students with the intent of teaching them about participatory democracy and all branches of government.

S.B. 48, AAC a Higher Education Scholarship

FAILED, *The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee held a public hearing on this bill but did not call it for a vote.*

This bill would have provided scholarships to state students who maintain a "B" average and whose family income meets certain eligibility requirements.

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SB 709, AA Establishing a Community Violence Prevention Outreach Competitive Grant Program

FAILED, *The Public Safety and Security Committee held a public hearing on this bill and voted it out to the Appropriations Committee where it failed to be called for a vote.*

This bill would have established a community violence prevention outreach competitive grant program to restore community policing programs and improve connections between public safety leaders and youth, through grant from regional workforce development boards.

HB 5625, AAC The Expansion of the Lead the Way Program

FAILED, *The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee held a public hearing on this bill and voted it out to the Education Committee where it failed to be called for a vote.*

This bill would have expanded Project Lead the Way to other parts of the state in order to increase the number of engineers in Connecticut.

H.B. 6846, AAC Youth Employment

FAILED, *The Select Committee on Children held a public hearing on this bill and voted it out to the Appropriations Committee where it failed to be called for a vote.*

This bill would have appropriated \$5 million for year-round youth employment programs.

Appropriations for Programs Relating to Economic Security for Young Women

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
DOL/ CT's Youth Employment Program	5,000,000	5,000,000
DED/ Connecticut Pre-Engineering Program	400,000	400,000
Department of Higher Ed/CT Aid for Public College Students	30,208,469	30,208,469

Health Care for Young Women

SB. 67, AA Expanding Health Insurance Coverage for Dependent, Unmarried Children

FAILED, *The Insurance and Real Estate Committee held a public hearing on this bill but did not call it for a vote.*

This bill would have extended health insurance coverage for dependent, unmarried children to the age of 23. We also monitored the following bill relating to the same topic:

- Ⓢ H.B 6055, AA Extending Health Insurance Coverage for Dependent, Unmarried Children
FAILED

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SB 86, AA Establishing Standards for Early Immunization Against Human Papilloma Virus

FAILED, *The Public Health Committee held a public hearing on this bill but did not call it for a vote.* This bill would have required the Department of Public Health to create standards for early immunization against Human Papilloma Viruses 16 and 18.

H.B 6515, AAC School-Based Health Centers

FAILED, *The Select Committee on Children held a public hearing on this bill and voted it to the Public Health Committee. The Public Health Committee voted it out to the Appropriations Committee where it did not get called for a vote.*

This bill would have increased funding to school-based health centers to provide services to students including programs that reduce bullying behavior and reduce obesity.

H.B 6915, AA Appropriating Funds for Anti-Smoking Education

CONCEPT PASSED, Even though the original bill failed, the concept was passed in Sec. 59 of PA 07-1, AAC The State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2009, and Making Appropriations Therefor.. This bill would have required that the revenue from the state's tobacco settlement fund be used for anti-smoking education.

Appropriations for Programs Related to Health Care for Young Women

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
DPH/ School Based Health Clinics	10,209,364	10,209,364
DMHAS/ Young Adult Services	32,373,422	39,433,118
DSS/ Teen Pregnancy Prevention	1,486,008	1,486,008
DSS/ Teen Pregnancy Prevetion- to local	848,312	848,312

Juvenile Justice

SB 759, AAC Truancy and Funding for Youth Service Bureaus

FAILED, *The Select Committee on Children held a public hearing on this bill but did not call it for a vote.* This bill would have increased appropriations for the Department of Education to fund Youth Service Bureaus at a higher rate in order to reduce truancy and provide youth with more recreational opportunities. We also monitored the following bills relating to the same topic:

- Ⓢ H.B 6419, AAC an Appropriation for Youth Service Bureaus FAILED
- Ⓢ H.B 6516, AAC an Appropriation for Increased Funding of Youth Service Bureaus FAILED

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H.B. 7243, AAC Construction of a Secure Facility for Female Juveniles

FAILED, *The Select Committee on Children held a public hearing on this bill and voted it out to the Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary, Appropriations and Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committees voted favorably on this bill. The House did not call it for a vote.*

This bill would have required the Department of Children and Families to create a secure facility for females between the ages of 14 and 18 who have been convicted as delinquent and are considered high risk juvenile offenders.

Appropriations for Programs Relating to Juvenile Justice

Program/Agency	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
DCF/ Juvenile Justice Outreach Services	12,358,095	12,358,095
DCF/ Community Based Prevention Programs	4,713,620	4,713,620
JUD/ Juvenile Alternative Incarceration	30,828,133	30,936,484
JUD/ Juvenile Justice Centers	3,169,380	3,169,380

YWLP Testimony

The YWLP submitted oral or written testimony on the following 44 bills or issues before 8 legislative committees indicated below.

Budgetary Matters

- ◆ H.B. 7077, AAC The State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 20, 2009-
Appropriations
 - The Department of Education
 - The Judicial Department

Violence Against Young Women

- ◆ SB 371, AAC Workplace Safety- *Labor and Public Employees*
- ◆ SB 457, AAC The Prevention of Teen Dating Violence- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ SB 461, AAC The Establishment of an Anonymous School Violence Hotline- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ SB 1013, AA Requiring Acute Hospitals to Make Forensic Nursing Services Available to Patients- *Public Health*
- ◆ SB 1094, AAC School Bullying- *Education*
- ◆ H.B. 5110, AAC a Safe Learning Environment for Children and Youth- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 5808, AAC Youth Violence- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 6153, AAC Enforcement of Bullying Policies- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 6508, AAC Youth Violence- *Select Committee on Children*

Economic Security and Pay Equity

- ◆ SB 48, AAC a Higher Education Scholarship- *Higher Education and Employment Advancement*
- ◆ SB 562, AAC Free Tuition at Public Institutions of Higher Education for Certain State Students- *Higher Education and Employment Advancement*
- ◆ SB 565, AAC College Scholarships for Connecticut Students- *Higher Education and Employment Advancement*
- ◆ SB 601, AA Mandating Employers to Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees- *Labor and Public Employees*
- ◆ SB 709, AA Promoting Opportunities for Urban Youth- *Public Safety and Security*
- ◆ SB 797, AAC College Affordability for High School Students- *Higher Education and Employment Advancement*
- ◆ H.B. 5004, AAC a Youth Trust Account- *Select Committee on Children*

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- ◆ H.B. 5625, AAC The Expansion of the Lead the Way Program- *Higher Education and Advancement*
- ◆ H.B. 6156, AAC the Positive Development of Urban Youth- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 6632, AAC a State-Sponsored Interest Free College Loan Program- *Higher Education and Employment Advancement*
- ◆ H.B. 6812, AAC a Perpetual Trust to Fund Tuition Free Education- *Higher Education and Employment Advancement*
- ◆ H.B. 6846, AAC Youth Employment- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 7023, AAC Workforce Advancement Grants for Low-Income Students- *Higher Education and Employment Advancement*
- ◆ H.B. 7017, AAC Democracy Education in Elementary School- *Education*
- ◆ R-H.B. 7171, AAC An Appropriation for Young Adult Services- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 7272, AAC a Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education in Connecticut- *Higher Education and Employment Advancement*

Young Women and Health Care

- ◆ SB 67, AA Expanding Health Insurance Coverage for Dependent, Unmarried Children- *Insurance and Real Estate*
- ◆ SB 86, AA Establishing Standards for Early Immunization Against Human Papilloma Virus- *Public Health*
- ◆ SB 817, AA Extending Health Insurance Coverage for Dependent, Unmarried Children- *Insurance and Real Estate*
- ◆ SB 1343, AAC Compassionate Care for Victims of Sexual Assault- *Human Services*
- ◆ H.B. 5074, AA Increasing Funding for School Based Health Clinics- *Human Services*
- ◆ H.B. 6055, AA Extending Health Insurance Coverage for Dependent Children- *Insurance and Real Estate*
- ◆ H.B. 6158, AAC Health Insurance Coverage for Children- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 6515, AAC School-Based Health Clinics- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 6722, AAC Healthy Kids Initiatives- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 6915, AA Appropriating Funds for Anti-Smoking Education- *Public Health*
- ◆ H.B. 6977, AAC Prevention Strategies for Diseases Caused by Human Papilloma Virus- *Public Health*

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Juvenile Justice

- ◆ SB 759, AAC Truancy and Funding for Youth Services Bureaus- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ SB 1323, AAC Program Enhancements for Youth Service Bureaus- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 5109, AAC The Detention of Truants- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 6149, AAC An Appropriation for Youth Service Bureau's- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 6516, AAC An Appropriation for Increased Funding for Youth Service Bureau's- *Select Committee on Children*
- ◆ H.B. 7243, AAC Construction of a Secure Facility for Female Juveniles- *Select Committee on Children*

Understanding The Bill Tracking Process

Here is how the House and Senate bills are numbered:

Senate bills are numbered from 1 to 4999

House bills are numbered from 5001 to 9999

Resolutions are numbered starting from one and are the following types:

HR-House Resolution

HJ-House Joint Resolution

SR-Senate Resolution

SJ-Senate Joint Resolution

Here is how to research the legislation, see the text of the bill and find out its status.

If you have access to a computer:

If you know the bill number, you can go straight to the Connecticut General Assembly homepage at www.cga.ct.gov. Type the bill number in the "Quick Search" box. If you are looking for a resolution type in the two characters (ex. HR, HJ, SR, SJ) and the resolution number. A screen with the history of the bill will pop up. You can click on the bill to read the full text.

If you do not know the bill number, you can do a "Search by Subject" or a "Text Search." You can type in dates and/or phrases to find the bill you are looking for.

If you do not have access to a computer:

If you know the bill number, contact the Bill Information Room and request information. You can check for public hearings in *The Bulletin*, which is published daily during the week.

The Bill Information Room is in Vault 5 in the State Capitol; the telephone number is (860) 240-0555.

If you would like to contact your legislator by phone:

Senate Democrats: (860) 240-8600; 1-800-842-1420

Senate Republicans (860) 240-8800; 1-800-842-1421

House Democrats Leadership: (860) 240-8500; 1-800-842-1902

House Democrats Rank & File: (860) 240-8585; 1-800-842-8267

House Republicans Leadership (860) 240-8700; 1-800-842-1423

House Republicans Rank & File: (860) 240-8787; 1-800-842-8270

To contact your legislator by email:

firstname.lastname@cga.ct.gov