



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Bill No. 29

LCO No. 488

*00488 _____ *

Referred to Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding

Introduced by:

SEN. DELUCA, 32nd Dist.

REP. WARD, 86th Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING GRANTS TO DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITIES
AND TOURISM.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 32-9s of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and*
3 *applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2002*):

4 The state shall make an annual grant payment to each municipality,
5 to each district, as defined in section 7-325, which is located in a
6 distressed municipality, targeted investment community or enterprise
7 zone and to each special services district created pursuant to chapter
8 105a which is located in a distressed municipality, targeted investment
9 community or enterprise zone [(1)] in the amount of fifty per cent of
10 the amount of that tax revenue which the municipality or district
11 would have received except for the provisions of subdivisions (59),
12 [and] (60) and (70) of section 12-81, [, and (2) in the amount of fifty per
13 cent of the amount of the tax revenue which the municipality or
14 district would have received except for the provisions of subdivision

15 (70) of section 12-81.] On or before the first day of August of each year,
16 each municipality and district shall file a claim with the Secretary of
17 the Office of Policy and Management for the amount of such grant
18 payment to which such municipality or district is entitled under this
19 section. The claim shall be made on forms prescribed by the secretary
20 and shall be accompanied by such supporting information as the
21 secretary may require. Any municipality or district which neglects to
22 transmit to the secretary such claim and supporting documentation as
23 required by this section shall forfeit two hundred fifty dollars to the
24 state, provided the secretary may waive such forfeiture in accordance
25 with procedures and standards adopted by regulation in accordance
26 with chapter 54. The secretary shall review each such claim as
27 provided in section 12-120b. Any claimant aggrieved by the results of
28 the secretary's review shall have the rights of appeal as set forth in
29 section 12-120b. The secretary shall, on or before the December first
30 next succeeding the deadline for the receipt of such claims, certify to
31 the Comptroller the amount due under this section, including any
32 modification of such claim made prior to December first, to each
33 municipality or district which has made a claim under the provisions
34 of this section. The Comptroller shall draw an order on the Treasurer
35 on or before the following December fifteenth, and the Treasurer shall
36 pay the amount thereof to each such municipality or district on or
37 before the following December thirty-first. If any modification is made
38 as the result of the provisions of this section on or after the December
39 first following the date on which the municipality or district has
40 provided the amount of tax revenue in question, any adjustment to the
41 amount due to any municipality or district for the period for which
42 such modification was made shall be made in the next payment the
43 Treasurer shall make to such municipality or district pursuant to this
44 section. In the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2003, and in each fiscal
45 year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to each municipality
46 and district in accordance with this section shall be reduced
47 proportionately in the event that the total amount of the grants
48 payable to all municipalities and districts exceeds the amount

49 appropriated.

50 Sec. 2. Section 216 of public act 03-6 of the June 30 special session is
51 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
52 *passage*):

53 (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, and June 30, 2005, the
54 Commissioner of Revenue Services shall segregate twenty million
55 dollars from the revenue attributable to the sales tax imposed under
56 subparagraph (H) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 12-407
57 on any hotel or lodging house. Said funds shall be deposited in the
58 Connecticut Commission on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film
59 account, established under section 213 of [this act] public act 03-6 of
60 the June 30 special session for the administration and operation of the
61 Connecticut Commission on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film.
62 Such funds are in addition to [funds made available to the commission
63 in subsection (b) of this section] funding provided to the commission
64 in subsection (a) of section 243 of public act 03-6 of the June 30 special
65 session. The commission shall allocate funds for the fiscal year ending
66 June 30, 2004, from said account as follows for, but not limited to, the
67 purposes so specified:

68 (1) One hundred fifty thousand dollars to the Greater Hartford Arts
69 Council;

70 (2) Six hundred thirty thousand dollars to the New Haven Coliseum
71 Authority;

72 (3) One million seven hundred ten thousand dollars to the Stamford
73 Center for the Arts;

74 (4) Fifty thousand dollars to the Stepping Stone Child Museum in
75 Norwalk;

76 (5) Six hundred seventy-five thousand dollars to the Maritime
77 Center Authority in Norwalk;

78 (6) Two million two hundred fifty thousand dollars for basic
79 cultural resources grants;

80 (7) One million one hundred thousand dollars for the operation and
81 administration of state historic preservation programs and the
82 operation and administration of the four state museums;

83 (8) Four million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars to the
84 regional tourism districts established under section 215 of [this act]
85 public act 03-6 of the June 30 special session, provided each district
86 shall be allocated nine hundred fifty thousand dollars;

87 (9) One hundred twenty thousand dollars to the eastern regional
88 tourism district, established under section 215 of [this act] public act
89 03-6 of the June 30 special session, for promotion of tourism in the
90 [Quinebaug-Schetucket] Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage area in
91 Connecticut;

92 (10) One hundred twenty thousand dollars to the northwestern
93 regional tourism district, established under section 215 of [this act]
94 public act 03-6 of the June 30 special session, for promotion of tourism
95 in the Litchfield Hills area;

96 (11) One million dollars to the Connecticut Humanities Council;

97 (12) Thirty thousand dollars for the Historical Resources Inventory;

98 (13) Fifty thousand dollars to the Amistad Committee for the
99 Freedom Trail;

100 (14) One hundred thousand dollars for Amistad vessel;

101 (15) One million two hundred sixty thousand dollars to the New
102 Haven Festival of Arts and Ideas;

103 (16) One hundred fifty thousand dollars for the New Haven Arts
104 Council;

105 (17) One hundred twenty thousand dollars for the eastern regional
106 tourism district, established under section 215 of [this act] public act
107 03-6 of the June 30 special session;

108 (18) One hundred twenty thousand dollars for the central regional
109 tourism district, established under section 215 of [this act] public act
110 03-6 of the June 30 special session;

111 (19) Nine hundred thousand dollars for the Palace Theater in
112 Waterbury, provided the entity designated to operate the theater is the
113 Palace Theater Group, Incorporated;

114 (20) Four hundred ten thousand dollars to the Beardsley Zoo;

115 (21) Sixty-two thousand five hundred dollars to the Mark Twain
116 House and sixty-two thousand five hundred dollars to the Harriet
117 Beecher Stowe House;

118 (22) Three hundred sixty thousand dollars for film projects and film-
119 related activities; and

120 (23) All other administrative, operating and personnel costs of the
121 commission, including, but not limited to, those related to the
122 promotion of culture, history, arts, tourism and film in the state.

123 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 210 to 242, inclusive,
124 of [this act] public act 03-6 of the June 30 special session and subsection
125 (a) of section 243 of public act 03-6 of the June 30 special session, the
126 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management is authorized to
127 make adjustments to the allocations for the Connecticut Commission
128 on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film based on expenditures
129 already made in the General Fund or other funds to support the
130 predecessor agencies during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, and
131 any allocations of funding made through any intercept for the fiscal
132 year ending June 30, 2004. Any withholding of funds shall not be
133 greater than the amount expended for such purposes and in no event
134 shall the overall funding for the Connecticut Commission on Arts,

135 Tourism, Culture, History and Film diminish from the aggregate
136 allocated.

137 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 210 of public act 03-6 of the June 30
138 special session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
139 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

140 (b) The commission shall:

141 (1) Market and promote Connecticut as a destination for leisure and
142 business travelers through the development and implementation of a
143 strategic state-wide marketing plan and provision of visitor services to
144 enhance the economic impact of the tourism industry;

145 (2) Promote the arts;

146 (3) Recognize, protect, preserve and promote historic resources;

147 (4) Interpret and present Connecticut's history and culture;

148 (5) Promote Connecticut as a location in which to conduct filming
149 and to establish and conduct business related to the film and video
150 industries to enhance these industries' economic impact in the state;

151 (6) Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, and each
152 fiscal year thereafter, prepare and submit to [the General Assembly, in
153 accordance with section 11-4a, and to] the Office of Policy and
154 Management, in accordance with sections 4-77 and 4-77a, [a biennial]
155 budget expenditure estimates and recommended adjustments for the
156 next succeeding fiscal year or years and a detailed accounting of
157 expenditures for the prior fiscal year, a copy of which shall be
158 submitted to the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions
159 of section 11-4a;

160 (7) Establish a uniform financial reporting system and forms to be
161 used by each regional tourism district, established under section 215 of
162 [this act] public act 03-6 of the June 30 special session, in the

163 preparation of the annual budget submitted to the General Assembly;

164 (8) Integrate funding and programs whenever possible; and

165 (9) On or before January 1, 2005, and biennially thereafter, develop
166 and submit to the Governor and the General Assembly, in accordance
167 with section 11-4a, a strategic plan to implement subdivisions (1) to (5),
168 inclusive, of this subsection.

169 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

170 (1) "Commission" means the Connecticut Commission on Arts,
171 Tourism, Culture, History and Film created by section 210 of public act
172 03-6 of the June 30 special session;

173 (2) "Executive director" means the executive director of the
174 Connecticut Commission on Arts, Tourism, Culture, History and Film
175 appointed pursuant to section 211 of public act 03-6 of the June 30
176 special session;

177 (3) "Former tourism district" means the tourism districts, as defined
178 in section 32-302 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to
179 January 1, 2003; and

180 (4) "Regional tourism district" means one of the five regional
181 tourism districts created by section 218 of public act 03-6 of the June 30
182 special session.

183 (b) Any former tourism district having a cash surplus, after
184 accounting for all liabilities, may distribute such surplus to the
185 regional tourism district or districts serving the towns formerly served
186 by such district. Any distribution shall be divided among the new
187 district or districts in accordance with the following schedule:

T1	Former District	New District(s)
T2		

T3	Northeastern	Eastern (100%)
T4	Southeastern	Eastern (100%)
T5	North Central	Central (100%)
T6	Greater Hartford	Central (95%)
T7		Northwestern (5%)
T8	Central Connecticut	Central (80%)
T9		South Central (20%)
T10	Connecticut Valley	Central (60%)
T11		South Central (40%)
T12	Greater New Haven	South Central (67%)
T13		Northwester (20%)
T14		Southwestern (13%)
T15	Litchfield Hills	Northwestern (100%)
T16	Housatonic Valley	Northwestern (100%)
T17	Greater Waterbury	Northwestern (100%)
T18	Greater Fairfield	Southwestern (100%)

188 (c) Any former tourism district may, with the approval of the
 189 executive director, transfer noncash assets, including fixed assets and
 190 leases, to a regional tourism district or districts serving the towns
 191 formerly served by such district.

192 (d) Any regional tourism district may, by vote of its board of
 193 directors and with the approval of the commission, assume the
 194 liabilities of a former tourism district that served all or part of the area
 195 served by the new district. No such assumption shall be approved
 196 unless (1) the regional district's approved budget makes provision for
 197 the costs arising from the assumption of liability; and (2) the
 198 commission finds that the proposed assumption of liability is fair and
 199 equitable.

200 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Any tourism district in
 201 existence on July 1, 2003, that terminates operations prior to January 1,
 202 2004, may file a single audit report for the period from July 1, 2002,
 203 until the termination of such district's operations. Such audit shall in
 204 all other respects comply with the provisions of chapter 55b of the
 205 general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage and applicable to assessment years commencing on or after October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]