AN ACT CONCERNING THE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF HARTFORD COUNTY.

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

Section 1. Section 19 of number 511 of the special acts of 1929 is amended to read as follows (Effective July 1, 2020):

No bonds, notes or other certificates of debt, except such as are to mature in six months or less and to be paid from current taxes shall be issued under authority of [this act] number 511 of the special acts of 1929 if such issue shall bring the total outstanding indebtedness of the district to an amount in excess of five per centum of the combined grand lists of said district unless otherwise provided by special act. The grand lists for the purpose of this section shall be deemed to include the assessed value of all shares of capital stock the taxes on which are required by section 1205 of the general statutes, revision of 1918, as amended to be remitted annually to the towns and cities composing the district by the state. In computing the total outstanding indebtedness of the district for the purposes of this section, there shall be deducted the amount of the
district's sinking fund, the amount of bonds issued for the supply of water or for the construction of subways or underground conduits for cables, wires or pipes, the principal amount of all such bonds having been refunded or replaced by other indebtedness the proceeds and projected earnings on which or other funds are held in escrow to pay and are sufficient to pay the principal, interest and any redemption premium until maturity or earlier planned redemption of such indebtedness and the amount of such other bonds of the district as may be issued under any act of the legislature, especially providing that the bonds issued [thereunder] under any such act shall be deducted in computing the total outstanding indebtedness of the district.

Sec. 2. Section 8 of number 511 of the special acts of 1929, as amended by section 3 of special act 83-31, section 1 of special act 99-12 and section 3 of special act 14-21, is amended to read as follows (Effective July 1, 2020):

Said board, either directly or under committees consisting of one or more members of said board, shall organize bureaus for the convenient carrying into effect of the several functions herein committed to said board and may define the powers and duties of such bureaus and delegate to them such powers and duties by ordinance, by-law or otherwise as may, in the judgment of the board, be necessary for the convenient operation of the same. No member of the board shall receive any pay for his or her services as such member or as a member of a sub-committee of the board except that a reasonable sum may annually be appropriated for the actual expenses of said board. The board may, by ordinance, by-law or otherwise, fix the salaries and define the duties of all officers and employees or may delegate the fixing of salaries of employees and assignment of duties of employees to sub-committees or bureau managers. The chairman and vice-chairman of said district and of all sub-committees, bureaus, boards and commissions appointed by the district board shall, unless otherwise provided in the appointment or [herein] in this section, hold office until the end of the fiscal year of their appointment and thereafter shall be appointed for terms of two years and until their successors shall be appointed and shall have
qualified. The members of all sub-committees, bureaus, boards and commissions appointed by the district board shall, unless otherwise provided in the appointment or [herein] in this section, hold such membership until the end of the fiscal year of their appointment and thereafter shall hold membership for terms of two years and until their successors shall be appointed and shall have qualified. The managers of the water bureau and of the bureau of public works and such others of the officers as by the district board shall be especially so designated shall hold office during good behavior and shall be removed only for cause. All other officers and employees may be removed at any time by the district board at pleasure. All vacancies may be filled by the district board. Said district board [shall have power to] may fill any vacancy occurring in its number for the unexpired portion of the term and, except as otherwise expressly provided, shall act in all cases by a majority of those present at any regular or special meeting, duly warned. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum and the time, place and manner of calling meetings and the holding thereof, including the manner of dissolving tie votes, shall be prescribed by said board by by-law or otherwise. The district board shall be the final judge of the election returns and validity of elections and qualifications of its members and shall decide all tie votes in elections. Except as hereinafter provided, the district board shall have power to authorize the sale, transfer and conveyance of real and personal estate belonging to the district, and shall provide by by-law or otherwise for the form and manner of execution of the documents and instruments convenient therefor. The Auditors of Public Accounts, established under chapter 23 of the general statutes, shall audit the district accounts annually in accordance with the provisions of said chapter. The district board [shall make provision for the proper auditing of the district accounts and] may cause any officer to execute bonds to the district with surety to the acceptance of the district board for the faithful performance of duties. The district board shall post the current budget of the district in a conspicuous location on the district's Internet web site.

Sec. 3. Section 8 of special act 14-21 is amended to read as follows
The Metropolitan District Commission Auditors of Public Accounts shall, annually, submit a copy of the audit prepared pursuant to chapter 111 of the general statutes section 8 of number 511 of the special acts of 1929, as amended by section 3 of special act 83-31, section 1 of special act 99-1, section 3 of special act 14-21 and this act, to the Office of Fiscal Analysis.

Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 4 of special act 90-27, as amended by section 6 of public act 93-380 and section 9 of special act 14-21, is amended to read as follows (Effective July 1, 2020):

(a) The Metropolitan District in Hartford County created pursuant to number 511 of the special acts of 1929, as amended, may issue bonds or other obligations, or may enter into leases of real or personal property or any interest therein in such property, from time to time for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of designing, acquiring, purchasing, constructing, reconstructing, improving, extending, financing, refinancing, operating or managing any facility, system, program or equipment necessary or desirable in connection with carrying out any of its authorized purposes, including payment of expenses of administration properly chargeable thereto, including, without limitation, legal, architectural and engineering expenses and fees, and costs of audits, and payment of costs, fees and expenses which the district board may deem necessary or advantageous in connection with the authorization, sale and issuance of bonds or notes or other obligations, including but not limited to, underwriters' discount and payment of all other items of expense incurred in connection therewith. The district may issue such types of bonds or other obligations as the district board by resolution approved by a majority of its members may determine, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, bonds or other obligations payable as to principal and interest exclusively from the income and revenues of a particular facility, system or program. Bonds or other obligations payable as to principal and interest exclusively from the income and revenues of a
particular facility, system or program shall not constitute an
indebtedness within the meaning of any statutory limitation on the
indebtedness of the district or any member municipality.
Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 23, 24, 25, 26 and 51 of
number 511 of the special acts of 1929, as amended, any surplus moneys
not needed in the determination of the district board to meet the
purposes of funds established pursuant to said sections and any surplus
revenues in the assessable sewer fund may be pledged as additional
security for any such bonds or the provider of any credit enhancement
for any such bonds, which also may be secured by a pledge of any
income or revenues of the district, or a mortgage on any facility or
system or the site thereof. Whenever and for so long as the district has
issued and has outstanding bonds pursuant to this section, the district
board shall fix, charge and collect rates, rents, fees and other charges in
accordance herewith. Neither the members of the district nor any person
executing the bonds shall be liable personally on the bonds by reason of
the issuance thereof. The bonds and other obligations of the district, and
such bonds and obligations shall so state on their face, shall not be a debt
of the state or any political subdivision thereof, and no person other than
the district shall be liable thereon, nor shall such bonds or obligations be
payable out of any funds or properties other than those of the district.
Bonds of the district issued under the provisions of sections 2 and 13 of
number 511 of the special acts of 1929, as amended, and sections 2 and
4 of special act 90-27, as amended by public act 93-380 and this act, are
declared to be issued for an essential public and governmental purpose.
In anticipation of the sale of such bonds the district may issue negotiable
bond anticipation notes and may renew the same from time to time, but
the maximum maturity of any such note including renewals thereof,
shall not exceed five years from the date of issue of the original note.
Such notes shall be paid from any revenues of the district available
therefor and not otherwise pledged, or from the proceeds of sale of the
bonds of the district in anticipation of which they were issued. Such
notes and the resolution or resolutions authorizing the same may
contain any provisions, conditions or limitations which a bond
resolution of the district may contain.
Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 2-90 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2020):

(c) Said auditors shall audit, on a biennial basis if deemed most economical and efficient, or as frequently as they deem necessary, the books and accounts of each officer, department, commission, board and court of the state government, all institutions supported by the state and all public and quasi-public bodies, politic and corporate, created by public or special act of the General Assembly and not required to be audited or subject to reporting requirements, under the provisions of chapter 111, except that said auditors shall audit, on an annual basis, or as frequently as they deem necessary, the books and accounts of the Metropolitan District of Hartford County. Each such audit may include an examination of performance in order to determine effectiveness in achieving expressed legislative purposes. The auditors shall report their findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Comptroller and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies.

Sec. 6. Section 7-391 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2020):

When used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall have the meanings herein specified: "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; "municipality" includes each town, consolidated town and city, consolidated town and borough, city and borough; "audited agency" includes each district, as defined in section 7-324, or other municipal utility, [the Metropolitan District of Hartford County,] each regional council of governments, any other political subdivision of similar character which is created and any other agency created or designated by a municipality to act for such municipality whose annual receipts from all sources exceed one million dollars, excluding the Metropolitan District of Hartford County; "reporting agency" includes each district, as defined in section 7-324, or other municipal utility, each regional
council of governments, any other political subdivision of similar
character which is created and any other agency created or designated
by a municipality to act for such municipality whose annual receipts
from all sources do not exceed one million dollars; "appointing
authority" means the legislative body of a municipality or the board,
committee or other governing body of such audited agency, except in
any town where the authority to adopt a budget rests with a town
meeting or a representative town meeting "appointing authority" means
the board of finance or other board, committee or body charged with
preparing the budget, or in a town that has no board of finance or other
such board, committee or body, means the board of selectmen or the
town council; "audit report" means the report of the independent
auditor and the annual financial statements of the municipality or
audited agency; "independent auditor" means a public accountant who
is licensed to practice in the state of Connecticut and who meets the
independence standards included in generally accepted government
auditing standards; "public accountant" means an individual who meets
standards included in generally accepted government auditing
standards for personnel performing government audits and the
licensing requirements of the State Board of Accountancy; "receipts"
means amounts accrued or received by a municipality, audited agency
or reporting agency and reportable as revenues in accordance with
generally accepted accounting principles; "municipal utility" means
every Connecticut municipality or department or agency thereof, or
Connecticut district, manufacturing, selling or distributing gas or
electricity to be used for light, heat or power or water.

Sec. 7. Section 2 of special act 75-73, as amended by section 2 of special
act 83-18, section 2 of special act 84-75, section 17 of public act 93-380
and section 4 of special act 14-21, is amended to read as follows (Effective
July 1, 2020):

(a) The members of the board of commissioners appointed prior to
and holding office on the effective date of special act 75-73, special act
83-18, special act 84-75, public act 93-380, or this act shall continue to serve until the expiration of their terms for
which they were appointed. Thereafter, members shall be appointed by the legislative body of each member municipality, to replace the members whose terms expire and until their successors are appointed and qualify, provided, in no event shall the total number of members appointed by the legislative body of any member municipality exceed:

(1) Six in the city of Hartford, (2) three in the city of East Hartford, (3) one in the town of Rocky Hill, (4) one in the town of Wethersfield, (5) one in the town of Newington, (6) one in the town of Windsor, (7) one in the town of Bloomfield and (8) three in the town of West Hartford.

(b) Appointments to the district board by the legislative bodies of the member municipalities shall be made in accordance with the following schedule:

(1) The legislative body of the city of Hartford shall appoint (A) three commissioners for a term of two years to commence January 1, 1977, and (B) three commissioners for a term of six years to commence January 1, 1981;

(2) The legislative body of the city of East Hartford shall appoint (A) two commissioners for a term of four years to commence January 1, 1977, and (B) one commissioner for a term of six years to commence January 1, 1979;

(3) The legislative body of the town of Wethersfield shall appoint one commissioner for a term of six years to commence January 1, 1979;

(4) The legislative body of the town of Newington shall appoint one commissioner for a term of six years to commence January 1, 1981;

(5) The legislative body of the town of Windsor shall appoint one commissioner for a term of six years to commence January 1, 1981;

(6) The legislative body of the town of Bloomfield shall appoint one commissioner for a term of two years to commence January 1, 1987;

(7) The legislative body of the town of Rocky Hill shall appoint one commissioner for a term of six years to commence January 1, 1977;
(8) The legislative body of the town of West Hartford shall appoint
(A) one commissioner for a term of one year to commence January 1,
1984, (B) one commissioner for a term of three years to commence
January 1, 1984, and (C) one commissioner for a term of five years to

(c) Upon the expiration of the initial terms of appointment under this
section, members shall be appointed for terms of six years from January
first in the year of their appointment and shall serve until their
successors are appointed and qualify.

(d) On and after January 1, 1989, the eight members appointed by the
governor to the district board shall be electors from The Metropolitan
District, not more than three of whom shall be from any one
municipality within said district nor shall such appointees represent
more than fifty per cent of any municipality's representation on the
district board. The appointments by the governor shall be for six years
and shall be made in accordance with the following schedule:

(1) Three commissioners from the city of Hartford for a term to
commence January 1, 1989;

(2) One commissioner from the city of East Hartford for a term to
commence January 1, 1989;

(3) One commissioner from the town of Wethersfield for a term to
commence January 1, 1989;

(4) One commissioner from the town of Newington for a term to
commence January 1, 1991;

(5) One commissioner from the town of Windsor for a term to
commence January 1, 1989;

(6) One commissioner from the town of West Hartford for a term to

(e) The four commissioners appointed by the designated members of
the General Assembly shall be appointed as follows: (1) One commissioner by the president pro tempore of the Senate, for a term of five and one-half years commencing July 1, 1993; (2) one commissioner by the speaker of the House of Representatives, for a term of four and one-half years commencing July 1, 1993; (3) one commissioner by the minority leader of the Senate, for a term of three and one-half years, commencing July 1, 1993, and (4) one commissioner by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, for a term of two and one-half years, commencing July 1, 1993. After such initial appointment the terms of all such commissioners shall thereafter be six years. Such commissioners shall be electors from The Metropolitan District, provided no two commissioners shall be residents of the same municipality.

(f) On and after October 1, 2014, the legislative bodies of nonmember municipalities shall appoint four members to the board of commissioners, provided in no event shall the total number of members appointed by the legislative body of any nonmember municipality exceed: (1) One from the town of Glastonbury; (2) one from the town of South Windsor; (3) one from the town of East Granby; and (4) one from the town of Farmington. Such commissioners shall be ex-officio, nonvoting members of the board of commissioners, except that, on and after July 1, 2020, commissioners appointed pursuant to this subsection may vote with regard to approval of rates established by the water bureau for the use of water. Commissioners appointed pursuant to this subsection shall be appointed for terms of six years from January first in the year of their appointment and shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualify.

Sec. 8. (Effective July 1, 2020) (a) There is established a task force to examine the organization and operations of the Metropolitan District of Hartford County. The task force shall include, but not be limited to, a review of (1) current procedures related to water rate increases within the district, (2) the potential need for the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to provide oversight of the district, and (3) existing mechanisms related to district governance and structure of the district's
board of commissioners.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who is a member of the administrative staff of the Capitol Region Council of Governments;

(2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who is a representative of an organization that advocates for environmental protection and conservation;

(3) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who is an officer of an engineering or consulting firm involved in infrastructure improvements to the wastewater system of the Metropolitan District of Hartford County to achieve goals of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 USC 1251 et seq.;

(4) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who is an officer of an investor-owned public water supply company operating in the state;

(5) The Independent Consumer Advocate, selected pursuant to section 7-334a of the general statutes;

(6) The Consumer Counsel, appointed pursuant to section 16-2a of the general statutes, or his or her designee;

(7) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, elected pursuant to section 16-2 of the general statutes, or his or her designee;

(8) One from the city of Hartford, appointed by the mayor thereof;

(9) One from the city of East Hartford, appointed by the mayor thereof;

(10) One from the town of Wethersfield, appointed by the town manager thereof;
(11) One from the town of Newington, appointed by the town manager thereof;

(12) One from the town of Windsor, appointed by the town manager thereof;

(13) One from the town of West Hartford, appointed by the mayor thereof;

(14) One from the town of Bloomfield, appointed by the town manager thereof;

(15) One from the town of Rocky Hill, appointed by the town manager thereof;

(16) One from the town of Glastonbury, appointed by the town manager thereof;

(17) One from the town of East Granby, appointed by the first selectman thereof;

(18) One from the town of South Windsor, appointed by the town manager thereof; and

(19) One from the town of Farmington, appointed by the town manager thereof.

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

(d) The Independent Consumer Advocate shall serve as chairperson of the task force and shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.
(f) Not later than January 1, 2021, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2021, whichever is later.

Sec. 9. (Effective July 1, 2020) Notwithstanding the provisions of resolutions adopted by the Metropolitan District Commission at its December 16, 2019, meeting concerning its 2020 budget expenditures and revenues, the Metropolitan District Commission shall (1) make payment in the amount of $1,250,000 to Riverfront Recapture, Inc. for 2020, and (2) incrementally reduce such payment annually, by equal amounts, to $600,000 commencing with the district's 2025 budget and each year thereafter.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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<tr>
<th>Section 1</th>
<th>July 1, 2020</th>
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<td>Sec. 2</td>
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<td>Sec. 3</td>
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<td>Sec. 4</td>
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<td>Sec. 7</td>
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<td>Sec. 8</td>
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<td>New section</td>
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<td>Sec. 9</td>
<td>July 1, 2020</td>
<td>New section</td>
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Statement of Purpose:
To (1) when computing the Metropolitan District's total outstanding indebtedness, count two consecutive bond issues as one if the proceeds of the new issue are placed in trust to pay off the old issue, (2) require annual audits of the district's books and accounts by the Auditors of Public Accounts, (3) allow district commissioners appointed from
nonmember towns to vote on approval of water rates, (4) establish a task force to examine the organization and operations of the district, and (5) require the district commission to fund Riverfront Recapture, Inc. in 2020 at the same level it was funded in 2019.

[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.]