

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION STATEMENT ON
SB 25, AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT INFRASTRUCTURE BANK
AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR STATE-FUNDED INFRASTRUCTURE
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.**

February 20, 2020

The Freedom of Information (“FOI”) Commission does not oppose Senate Bill 25 proposing to establish the Connecticut Infrastructure Bank and public-private partnerships for state-funded infrastructure improvement projects.

Among other proposals, Senate Bill 25, as drafted by the Committee on Banking, proposes to establish and create the Connecticut Infrastructure Bank “as a body politic and corporate, constituting a public instrumentality and political subdivision of the State of Connecticut established and created for the performance of an essential public and governmental function. The Connecticut Infrastructure Bank shall not be construed to be a department, institution or agency of the state.” Senate Bill 25 also allows the Connecticut Infrastructure Bank to enter into contracts with private entities to establish public-private partnerships for purposes of state-funded infrastructure improvement projects.

The Commission believes that in order to ensure transparency the proposed bill should be amended to add language that clearly states that the Connecticut Infrastructure Bank is a public agency, and that records relating to public-private partnerships and agreements are public records subject to the disclosure provisions in the FOI Act.

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