



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Governor's Bill No. 6865

LCO No. 4363



Referred to Committee on APPROPRIATIONS

Introduced by:

Request of the Governor Pursuant
to Joint Rule 9

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 1-1j of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (a) Each state agency, as defined in section 4-166, shall accept
4 payment in cash or by check, draft or money order for any license issued
5 by such agency pursuant to the provisions of the general statutes.

6 (b) Except as provided by any other provision of the general statutes,
7 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may (1) authorize
8 any state agency to accept payment of any fee, cost or fine payable to
9 such agency by means of a credit card, charge card or debit card or an
10 electronic payment service, [provided each] and (2) require any state
11 agency that accepts payment by means of a credit card, charge card or
12 debit card [shall] to charge the payor using such card a service fee, [,
13 except that such service fee may be waived by such state agency for a
14 category of fee, cost or fine, if such waiver has been approved by said

15 secretary.]

16 (c) (1) Any service fee [imposed] required pursuant to subsection (b)
17 of this section shall (A) be for the purpose of defraying the cost of
18 service, (B) not exceed any charge by the credit card, charge card or debit
19 card issuer or processor, including any discount rate, and (C) be applied
20 only when allowed by the operating rules and regulations of the credit
21 card, charge card or debit card issuer or processor involved or when
22 authorized in writing by such issuer or processor.

23 (2) Each state agency that charges a service fee pursuant to this
24 section or any other provision of the general statutes shall disclose such
25 service fee to a payor prior to the imposition of such service fee. Such
26 disclosure shall be made in accordance with any requirements for
27 disclosure set forth by the card issuer or processor.

28 (d) Payments by credit card, charge card, debit card or an electronic
29 payment service shall be made at such times and under such conditions
30 as the secretary may prescribe in regulations adopted in accordance
31 with the provisions of chapter 54.

32 (e) Payment of a fee, cost or fine, and any applicable service fee, by
33 credit card, charge card, debit card or an electronic payment service
34 shall constitute full payment of such fee, cost, fine or service fee,
35 regardless of any discount applied by a credit card company.

36 Sec. 2. Section 12-39r of the general statutes is repealed and the
37 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

38 The Commissioner of Revenue Services may allow the payment of
39 taxes, penalties, interest and fees by means of a credit card, charge card
40 or debit card and, if required by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
41 Management pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-1j, as amended by
42 this act, may charge the taxpayer a service fee for any such payment
43 made by any such card. [The fee shall not exceed any charge by the card
44 issuer, including any discount rate.] If a service fee is required to be

45 charged for any such card, the commissioner shall determine the rate or
46 amount of the service fee in accordance with the provisions of
47 subsection (c) of section 1-1j, as amended by this act. Payments by any
48 such card shall be made at such times and under such conditions as said
49 commissioner may prescribe. The debt incurred through the payment
50 of taxes by means of any such card shall not be considered a tax
51 collectible pursuant to the provisions of sections 12-35a and 12-35b.

52 Sec. 3. Section 14-11i of the general statutes is repealed and the
53 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

54 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may allow the payment of any
55 fee specified in this chapter or chapter 247 by means of a credit card and,
56 if required by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
57 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-1j, as amended by this act, shall
58 charge each payor a service fee for any payment made by means of a
59 credit card. [The fee shall not exceed any charge by the credit card issuer
60 or by its authorized agent, including any discount rate.] Payments by
61 credit card shall be made under such conditions as the commissioner
62 may prescribe, except that, if a service fee for any such credit card is
63 required to be charged, the commissioner shall determine the rate or
64 amount of the service fee [for any such credit card] in accordance with
65 the provisions of subsection (c) of section 1-1j, as amended by this act.
66 [Such service fee may be waived by the commissioner for a category of
67 fee if such waiver has been approved by the Secretary of the Office of
68 Policy and Management pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-1j.] If
69 any charge with respect to payment of a fee by means of a credit card is
70 not authorized by such issuer or its authorized agent, the commissioner
71 shall assess the payor the fee specified in subsection (f) of section 14-50.

72 Sec. 4. Subdivision (2) of subsection (g) of section 19a-88 of the general
73 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
74 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

75 (2) The department shall, if required by the Secretary of the Office of

76 Policy and Management pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-1j, as
77 amended by this act, charge a service fee for each payment made by
78 means of a credit card. [The] If a service fee for any such credit card is
79 required to be charged, the Commissioner of Public Health shall
80 determine the rate or amount of [the] such service fee [for any such
81 credit card] in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of section
82 1-1j, as amended by this act. [Such service fee may be waived by the
83 commissioner for a category of fee if such waiver has been approved by
84 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management pursuant to
85 subsection (b) of section 1-1j.]

86 Sec. 5. Section 45a-113b of the general statutes is repealed and the
87 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

88 Each Probate Court may allow the payment of any fees charged by
89 such court by means of a credit card, charge card, debit card or an
90 electronic funds transfer. Such court [shall] may charge the person
91 making such payment a service fee for any such payment made by
92 means of any such card or electronic funds transfer. [The fee shall not
93 exceed any charge by the card issuer or processing fee for electronic
94 funds transfer, including any discount rate. The] If a service fee for any
95 such card is charged, the Probate Court Administrator shall determine
96 the rate or amount of the service fee [for any such card] in accordance
97 with the provisions of subsection (c) of section 1-1j, as amended by this
98 act.

99 Sec. 6. Section 51-193b of the general statutes is repealed and the
100 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

101 Payment of any fees, costs, fines or other charges to the Judicial
102 Branch may be made by means of a credit card and the payor [shall]
103 may be charged a service fee for any such payment made by means of a
104 credit card. [The service fee shall not exceed any charge by the credit
105 card issuer, including any discount rate.] Payments by credit card shall
106 be made at such time and under such conditions as the Office of the

107 Chief Court Administrator may prescribe, except that, if a service fee for
108 any such card is charged, the Chief Court Administrator shall determine
109 the rate or amount of the service fee [for any such card] in accordance
110 with the provisions of subsection (c) of section 1-1j, as amended by this
111 act.

112 Sec. 7. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 17b-59f of the general
113 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
114 (*Effective from passage*):

115 (a) There shall be a State Health Information Technology Advisory
116 Council to advise the Commissioner of Health Strategy and the health
117 information technology officer, designated in accordance with section
118 19a-754a, in developing priorities and policy recommendations for
119 advancing the state's health information technology and health
120 information exchange efforts and goals and to advise the commissioner
121 and officer in the development and implementation of the state-wide
122 health information technology plan and standards and the State-wide
123 Health Information Exchange, established pursuant to section 17b-59d.
124 The advisory council shall also advise the commissioner and officer
125 regarding the development of appropriate governance, oversight and
126 accountability measures to ensure success in achieving the state's health
127 information technology and exchange goals.

128 (b) The council shall consist of the following members:

129 (1) One member appointed by the Commissioner of Health Strategy,
130 who shall be an expert in state health care reform initiatives;

131 (2) The health information technology officer, designated in
132 accordance with section 19a-754a, or the health information technology
133 officer's designee;

134 (3) The Commissioners of Social Services, Mental Health and
135 Addiction Services, Children and Families, Correction, Public Health
136 and Developmental Services, or the commissioners' designees;

137 (4) The Chief Information Officer of the state, or the Chief Information
138 Officer's designee;

139 (5) The chief executive officer of the Connecticut Health Insurance
140 Exchange, or the chief executive officer's designee;

141 (6) The chief information officer of The University of Connecticut
142 Health Center, or the chief information officer's designee;

143 (7) The Healthcare Advocate, or the Healthcare Advocate's designee;

144 (8) The Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee;

145 (9) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee;

146 (10) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
147 Secretary's designee;

148 ~~[(10)]~~ (11) Five members appointed by the Governor, one each who
149 shall be (A) a representative of a health system that includes more than
150 one hospital, (B) a representative of the health insurance industry, (C)
151 an expert in health information technology, (D) a health care consumer
152 or consumer advocate, and (E) a current or former employee or trustee
153 of a plan established pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (c) of 29
154 USC 186;

155 ~~[(11)]~~ (12) Three members appointed by the president pro tempore of
156 the Senate, one each who shall be (A) a representative of a federally
157 qualified health center, (B) a provider of behavioral health services, and
158 (C) a physician licensed under chapter 370;

159 ~~[(12)]~~ (13) Three members appointed by the speaker of the House of
160 Representatives, one each who shall be (A) a technology expert who
161 represents a hospital system, as defined in section 19a-486i, (B) a
162 provider of home health care services, and (C) a health care consumer
163 or a health care consumer advocate;

164 ~~[(13)] (14)~~ One member appointed by the majority leader of the
165 Senate, who shall be a representative of an independent community
166 hospital;

167 ~~[(14)] (15)~~ One member appointed by the majority leader of the House
168 of Representatives, who shall be a physician who provides services in a
169 multispecialty group and who is not employed by a hospital;

170 ~~[(15)] (16)~~ One member appointed by the minority leader of the
171 Senate, who shall be a primary care physician who provides services in
172 a small independent practice;

173 ~~[(16)] (17)~~ One member appointed by the minority leader of the
174 House of Representatives, who shall be an expert in health care analytics
175 and quality analysis;

176 ~~[(17)] (18)~~ The president pro tempore of the Senate, or the president's
177 designee;

178 ~~[(18)] (19)~~ The speaker of the House of Representatives, or the
179 speaker's designee;

180 ~~[(19)] (20)~~ The minority leader of the Senate, or the minority leader's
181 designee; and

182 ~~[(20)] (21)~~ The minority leader of the House of Representatives, or the
183 minority leader's designee.

184 (c) Any member appointed or designated under subdivisions ~~[(11)]~~
185 ~~(12)~~ to ~~[(20)] (21)~~, inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section may be a
186 member of the General Assembly.

187 Sec. 8. Section 10a-22m of the general statutes is repealed and the
188 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

189 (a) A private career school shall notify the [commissioner]
190 Commissioner of Higher Education, in writing, at least sixty days prior

191 to closure of such school. The private career school shall provide
192 evidence prior to closing that: (1) All course work is or will be completed
193 by current students at the school; (2) there are no refunds due any
194 students; (3) all student records will be maintained as prescribed in
195 section 10a-22n; (4) final payment has been made to the private career
196 school student protection account; (5) a designation of service form has
197 been filed with [the] said commissioner; and (6) the certificate of
198 authorization has been returned to [the] said commissioner.

199 (b) Any private career school that fails to meet the requirements
200 outlined in subsection (a) of this section shall be fined not more than five
201 hundred dollars per day for each day of noncompliance, except that, any
202 fine assessed on and after the effective date of the regulations adopted
203 pursuant to section 10a-22k, shall be in the amount specified in such
204 regulations, and pursuant to subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section
205 10a-22c, shall be ineligible to be issued a certificate of authorization
206 upon application to operate a private career school. Funds collected
207 pursuant to this subsection shall be placed in the private career student
208 protection account established pursuant to section 10a-22u, as amended
209 by this act.

210 (c) If the [commissioner] Commissioner of Higher Education revokes
211 a private career school's certificate of authorization, such school shall
212 comply with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section. Failure
213 to comply shall result in further penalties at the discretion of [the] said
214 commissioner.

215 (d) In the event a private career school fails to meet the requirements
216 set forth in subsection (a) of this section and closes prior to graduating
217 all current students, the [commissioner] Commissioner of Higher
218 Education may seize the letter of credit filed by the private career school
219 pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10a-22c, and such letter of credit
220 shall be made payable to the private career school student protection
221 account. The [commissioner may] Commissioner of Consumer
222 Protection may, in consultation with the Office of Higher Education,

223 expend funds from the private career school student protection account
224 up to the amount necessary to facilitate a teach-out of any remaining
225 students up to and including the issuance of a certificate of completion
226 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section. For purposes of this subsection
227 and subsection (e) of this section, (1) "teach-out" means the completion
228 of instruction of a course or program of study in which a student was
229 enrolled, provided the teach-out includes instruction of the entire
230 program of study when a course is a part of such program of study, and
231 (2) "certificate of completion" means the credential, documented in
232 writing, that is issued to a student who completes a course or program
233 of study offered by a private career school.

234 (e) In the event of a private career school closure that fails to meet the
235 requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this section, the
236 [commissioner] Commissioner of Higher Education may issue a
237 certificate of completion to each student that, in the commissioner's
238 determination, has successfully completed the student's course or
239 program of study in which the student was enrolled at the private career
240 school.

241 Sec. 9. Section 10a-22u of the general statutes is repealed and the
242 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

243 (a) There shall be an account to be known as the private career school
244 student protection account within the General Fund. Each private career
245 school authorized in accordance with the provisions of sections 10a-22a
246 to 10a-22o, inclusive, shall pay to the State Treasurer an amount equal
247 to four-tenths of one per cent of the tuition received by such school per
248 calendar quarter exclusive of any refunds paid, except that distance
249 learning and correspondence schools authorized in accordance with the
250 provisions of section 10a-22h, shall contribute to said account only for
251 Connecticut residents enrolled in such schools. Payments shall be made
252 by January thirtieth, April thirtieth, July thirtieth and October thirtieth
253 in each year for tuition received during the three months next preceding
254 the month of payment. In addition to amounts received based on tuition,

255 the account shall also contain any amount required to be deposited into
256 the account pursuant to sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive. Said
257 account shall be used for the purposes of section 10a-22v, as amended
258 by this act. Any interest, income and dividends derived from the
259 investment of the account shall be credited to the account. All direct
260 expenses for the maintenance of the account may be charged to the
261 account upon the order of the State Comptroller. The [commissioner]
262 Commissioner of Consumer Protection may assess the account for all
263 direct expenses incurred in the implementation of the purposes of this
264 section which are in excess of the normal expenditures of the [Office of
265 Higher Education] Department of Consumer Protection.

266 (b) Payments required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall
267 be a condition of doing business in the state and failure to make any
268 such payment within thirty days following the date on which it is due
269 shall result in the loss of authorization under section 10a-22f. Such
270 authorization shall not be issued or renewed if there exists a failure to
271 make any such payment in excess of thirty days following the date on
272 which it is due.

273 (c) If an audit conducted by the [Office of Higher Education]
274 Department of Consumer Protection determines that a school has paid
275 into the private career school student protection account an amount less
276 than was required, the school shall pay such amount plus a penalty of
277 ten per cent of the amount required to the State Treasurer within thirty
278 days of receipt of notice from the [commissioner] Commissioner of
279 Consumer Protection or [the] said commissioner's designee of the
280 amount of the underpayment and penalty.

281 (d) If an audit conducted by the [Office of Higher Education]
282 Department of Consumer Protection determines that a school has paid
283 into the private career school student protection account an amount
284 more than was required, subsequent payment or payments by the
285 school shall be appropriately credited until such credited payment or
286 payments equal the amount of the overpayment.

287 Sec. 10. Section 10a-22v of the general statutes is repealed and the
288 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

289 Any student enrolled in a private career school authorized in
290 accordance with the provisions of sections 10a-22a to 10a-22o, inclusive,
291 who is unable to complete an approved course or unit of instruction at
292 such school because of the insolvency or cessation of operation of the
293 school and who has paid tuition for such course or unit of instruction,
294 may, not later than two years after the date on which such school
295 became insolvent or ceased operations, make application to the
296 [commissioner] Commissioner of Consumer Protection for a refund of
297 tuition from the account established pursuant to section 10a-22u, as
298 amended by this act, to the extent that such account exists or has reached
299 the level necessary to pay outstanding approved claims, except that in
300 the case of distance learning and correspondence schools authorized in
301 accordance with the provisions of section 10a-22h, only Connecticut
302 residents enrolled in such schools may be eligible for such refund. Upon
303 such application, the [commissioner] Commissioner of Consumer
304 Protection shall determine whether the applicant is unable to complete
305 a course or unit of instruction because of the insolvency or cessation of
306 operation of the school to which tuition has been paid. The
307 [commissioner] Commissioner of Consumer Protection may summon
308 by subpoena any person, records or documents pertinent to the making
309 of a determination regarding insolvency or cessation of operation. For
310 the purpose of making any tuition refund pursuant to this section, a
311 school shall be deemed to have ceased operation whenever it has failed
312 to complete a course or unit of instruction for which the student has paid
313 a tuition fee and, as a result, the school's authorization has been revoked
314 pursuant to section 10a-22f. If the [commissioner] Commissioner of
315 Consumer Protection finds that the applicant is entitled to a refund of
316 tuition because of the insolvency or cessation of operation of the school,
317 the commissioner shall determine the amount of an appropriate refund
318 which shall be equal to the tuition paid for the uncompleted course or
319 unit of instruction. Thereafter the [commissioner] Commissioner of

320 Consumer Protection shall direct the State Treasurer to pay, per order
321 of the Comptroller, the refund to the applicant or persons, agencies or
322 organizations indicated by the applicant who have paid tuition on the
323 student's behalf. If the student is a minor, payment shall be made to the
324 student's parent, parents or legal guardian. In no event shall a refund be
325 made from the student protection account for any financial aid provided
326 to or on behalf of any student in accordance with the provisions of Title
327 IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time
328 to time. Each recipient of a tuition refund made in accordance with the
329 provisions of this section shall assign all rights to the state of any action
330 against the school or its owner or owners for tuition amounts
331 reimbursed pursuant to this section. Upon such assignment, the state
332 may take appropriate action against the school or its owner or owners
333 in order to reimburse the student protection account for any expenses
334 or claims that are paid from the account and to reimburse the state for
335 the reasonable and necessary expenses in undertaking such action. Any
336 student who falsifies information on an application for tuition
337 reimbursement shall lose his or her right to any refund from the account.

338 Sec. 11. Subdivision (1) of subsection (j) of section 31-225a of the
339 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
340 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

341 (j) (1) [(A)] Each employer subject to this chapter shall submit
342 quarterly, on forms supplied by the administrator, a listing of wage
343 information, including the name of each employee receiving wages in
344 employment subject to this chapter, such employee's Social Security
345 account number and the amount of wages paid to such employee during
346 such calendar quarter.

347 [(B) Commencing with the third calendar quarter of 2026, any
348 employer subject to this chapter may include in the quarterly filing
349 submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the
350 following data for each employee receiving wages in employment
351 subject to this chapter: (i) Such employee's occupation, (ii) such

352 employee's hours worked, and (iii) the zip code of such employee's
353 primary worksite.]

354 Sec. 12. Subsection (f) of section 51-297 of the general statutes, as
355 amended by section 201 of public act 23-204, is repealed and the
356 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

357 (f) (1) As used in this chapter, "indigent defendant" means (A) a
358 person who is formally charged with the commission of a crime
359 punishable by imprisonment and who does not have the financial ability
360 at the time of his request for representation to secure competent legal
361 representation and to provide other necessary expenses of legal
362 representation; (B) a child who has a right to counsel under the
363 provisions of subsection (a) of section 46b-135 and who does not have
364 the financial ability at the time of his request for representation to secure
365 competent legal representation and to provide other necessary expenses
366 of legal representation; or (C) any person who has a right to counsel
367 under section 46b-136 and who does not have the financial ability at the
368 time of his request for representation to secure competent legal
369 representation and to provide other necessary expenses of legal
370 representation.

371 (2) An assessment determining whether a person has the financial
372 ability to secure competent legal representation and to provide other
373 necessary expenses of legal representation or qualifies as an indigent
374 defendant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be based
375 upon guidelines established by the commission. The commission shall
376 annually establish such guidelines providing that a person whose
377 income, calculated as described in such guidelines, is two hundred
378 [fifty] per cent or less of the federal poverty level may qualify as an
379 indigent defendant. The commission shall make such guidelines
380 available to the public on the Division of Public Defender Service's
381 Internet web site.

382 Sec. 13. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) On July 1, 2025, the entire balance of the

383 resources of the MIRA Dissolution Authority shall be transferred to and
384 deposited into a nonlapsing account. Moneys in such account shall be
385 allocated in such amounts and at such times as determined by the
386 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for the purposes of
387 operating, maintaining, remediating or taking any other action
388 associated with the activities and properties formerly conducted by or
389 owned by such authority.

390 Sec. 14. Section 31-3i of the general statutes is repealed and the
391 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

392 (a) Pursuant to Section 101 of the federal Workforce Innovation and
393 Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, the members of the Governor's
394 Workforce Council shall be:

395 (1) The Governor;

396 (2) A member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the
397 speaker of the House of Representatives, and a member of the Senate,
398 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

399 (3) [Twenty-four] Thirty members, appointed by the Governor, who
400 (A) are owners of a business, chief executives or operating officers of a
401 business, or other business executives or employers with optimum
402 policy-making or hiring authority; (B) represent businesses or
403 organizations representing businesses that provide employment
404 opportunities that, at a minimum, include high-quality, work-relevant
405 training and development in in-demand industry sectors or occupation
406 in the state; or (C) have been nominated by state business organizations
407 or business trade associations. At a minimum, at least one such member
408 shall represent small businesses, as defined by the United States Small
409 Business Administration, and at least one such member shall be an
410 expert in residential construction;

411 (4) The Labor Commissioner, Commissioner of Aging and Disability
412 Services, Commissioner of Education, Commissioner of Economic and

413 Community Development and the Chief Workforce Officer, or their
414 respective designees;

415 (5) Four representatives of labor organizations, who have been
416 nominated by state labor federations and appointed by the Governor;

417 (6) An individual, appointed by the Governor, who is a member of a
418 labor organization or a training director from a joint labor-management
419 apprenticeship program, or, if no such joint program exists in the state,
420 such a representative of an apprenticeship program in the state;

421 (7) [An individual, appointed by the Governor, who is an expert in
422 residential construction;] A director of a vocational rehabilitation
423 program within the Department of Aging and Disability Services,
424 appointed by the Governor;

425 (8) Five members, appointed by the Governor, who represent
426 community-based organizations that have demonstrated experience
427 and expertise in addressing employment, training, or education,
428 including one representative of a community action agency, as defined
429 in section 17b-885, and one representative of a philanthropic
430 organization;

431 (9) A representative from the Connecticut State Colleges and
432 Universities, a representative from The University of Connecticut and a
433 representative from a nonprofit institution of higher education in the
434 state, each appointed by the Governor;

435 (10) A representative from a regional vocational-technical school and
436 a representative from a regional agricultural science and technology
437 school, each appointed by the Governor;

438 (11) Two superintendents of a local or regional board of education,
439 appointed by the Governor;

440 (12) A certified teacher employed by a local or regional board of
441 education, appointed by the Governor;

442 (13) Two chief elected officials of municipalities, appointed by the
443 Governor; and

444 (14) Two members of the public, who are enrolled in or who have
445 recently completed a nondegree workforce training program, appointed
446 by the Governor.

447 (b) All appointments shall be made in a manner that reflects the
448 diversity of the state, including, but not limited to, geographic, gender
449 identity, racial and ethnic diversity.

450 (c) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the Governor's
451 Workforce Council from among the members appointed pursuant to
452 subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section. The Chief Workforce
453 Officer shall serve as the vice-chairperson of the council.

454 (d) The Governor's Workforce Council may establish an executive
455 committee composed of members appointed by the chairperson. The
456 vice-chairperson of the council shall be a member of any such executive
457 committee. The council may delegate to the executive committee any
458 powers of the council except those powers that are required by law to
459 be exercised by the council. The chairperson may also appoint ad hoc
460 committees, workgroups or task forces to assist the council as
461 appropriate, and shall consult with the vice-chairperson and the
462 legislative members of the council in making appointments to such ad
463 hoc committees, workgroups or task forces.

464 (e) Any appointments made to the council prior to October 1, 2021,
465 shall expire on that date.

466 (f) The council shall meet not less than once every calendar quarter.

467 (g) The Governor shall establish bylaws for the council pursuant to
468 20 CFR 679.110(d), which shall include, but need not be limited to, term
469 limitations for members and how appointments will be made.

470 (h) The council shall consist of an odd number of members and shall

471 not exceed sixty-one members.

472 (i) Any modification made to the membership of the council shall
473 conform with the provisions of 29 USC 3111, as amended from time to
474 time.

475 Sec. 15. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) of
476 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 29-11 of the general statutes,
477 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the Commissioner of Emergency
478 Services and Public Protection shall waive a criminal history record
479 information search or fingerprint search fee for any person (1) whose
480 criminal history record information was required to be deemed erased
481 by operation of law pursuant to the provisions of subsection (e) of
482 section 54-142a of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and (2)
483 who has demonstrated through evidence sufficient to the Department
484 of Emergency Services and Public Protection that such person submitted
485 and paid for a prior criminal history record information search or
486 fingerprint search which included records that have been deemed
487 erased. The commissioner may waive fees pursuant to this section not
488 more than two times per person.

489 Sec. 16. Subsection (g) of section 54-142t of the general statutes is
490 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
491 *2025*):

492 (g) On and after January 1, 2024, if a person (1) believes any of such
493 person's criminal history record information was required to be deemed
494 erased by operation of law pursuant to the provisions of subsection (e)
495 of section 54-142a, as amended by this act, and (2) submits [a copy of
496 such person's criminal history record information search demonstrating
497 that such criminal history record information has not been marked as
498 erased] an application to the Department of Emergency Services and
499 Public Protection in a form and manner determined by the department,
500 the department shall, following a contested hearing if the department
501 determines relief cannot be immediately granted, make a determination

502 on whether such criminal history information should be deemed erased
503 by operation of law. If a hearing is held, the department shall, not later
504 than fifteen days prior to the hearing, provide the applicant with any
505 criminal history record information to be considered by the department
506 in adjudicating the application and issue a written notice of its
507 determination not later than fifteen days following the hearing. Such
508 determination shall constitute a final decision for the purposes of the
509 provisions of chapter 54.

510 Sec. 17. Subsection (e) of section 54-142a of the general statutes is
511 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
512 *2025*):

513 (e) (1) (A) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this
514 subsection, whenever any person has been convicted in any court of this
515 state of a classified or unclassified misdemeanor offense or a motor
516 vehicle violation for which a maximum term of imprisonment of not
517 more than one year could have been imposed, or a class D or E felony
518 or an unclassified felony offense for which a maximum term of
519 imprisonment of not more than five years could have been imposed or
520 a motor vehicle violation for which a maximum term of imprisonment
521 greater than one year and not more than five years could have been
522 imposed, any police or court record and record of the state's or
523 prosecuting attorney or the prosecuting grand juror pertaining to such
524 conviction, or any record pertaining to court obligations arising from
525 such conviction held by the Board of Pardons and Paroles shall be
526 erased as follows: (i) For any classified or unclassified misdemeanor
527 offense or a motor vehicle violation for which a maximum term of
528 imprisonment of not more than one year could have been imposed,
529 except for a violation of section 14-227a, such records shall be erased
530 seven years from the date on which the court entered the convicted
531 person's most recent judgment of conviction (I) by operation of law, if
532 such offense occurred on or after January 1, 2000, or (II) upon the filing
533 of a petition on a form prescribed by the Office of the Chief Court
534 Administrator, if such offense occurred prior to January 1, 2000; and (ii)

535 for any class D or E felony, unclassified felony offense for which a
536 maximum term of imprisonment of not more than five years could have
537 been imposed or a motor vehicle violation for which a maximum term
538 of imprisonment in excess of one year and not more than five years
539 could have been imposed, or any violation of section 14-227a, such
540 records shall be erased ten years from the date on which the court
541 entered the convicted person's most recent judgment of conviction (I) by
542 operation of law, if such offense occurred on or after January 1, 2000, or
543 (II) upon the filing of a petition on a form prescribed by the Office of the
544 Chief Court Administrator, if such offense occurred prior to January 1,
545 2000.

546 (B) For purposes of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the
547 classification of the offense, and the maximum sentence that could have
548 been imposed for a conviction of such offense, shall be determined
549 based on the law that was in effect at the time the offense was
550 committed.

551 (2) Convictions for the following offenses shall not be eligible for
552 erasure pursuant to this subsection:

553 (A) Any conviction, on or after January 1, 2000, designated as a family
554 violence crime, as defined in section 46b-38a;

555 (B) Any conviction for an offense that is a nonviolent sexual offense
556 or a sexually violent offense, each as defined in section 54-250;

557 (C) Any conviction for a violation of section 29-33, 53a-60a, 53a-60b,
558 53a-60c, 53a-61a, 53a-64bb, 53a-64cc, 53a-72a, 53a-90a, 53a-103a, 53a-
559 181c, 53a-191, 53a-196, 53a-196d, 53a-196f, 53a-211, 53a-212, 53a-216,
560 53a-217, 53a-217a, 53a-217c, 53a-322, 53a-323, 54-251, 54-252, 54-253 or
561 54-254 or subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 53a-189a; or

562 (D) Any conviction for a violation of section 14-227a if the defendant
563 has been convicted for another violation of section 14-227a within the
564 ten years following such conviction.

565 (3) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply
566 to any conviction for any offense until the defendant:

567 (A) Has completed serving any period of incarceration, parole,
568 special parole, medical parole, compassionate parole or transitional
569 supervision associated with any sentence for such offense and any other
570 offense for which the defendant has been convicted on or after January
571 1, 2000, in this state;

572 (B) Has completed serving any period of probation for any sentence
573 for any crime or crimes for which the defendant has been convicted on
574 or after January 1, 2000, in this state; and

575 (C) Is not the subject of any pending state criminal charge in this state.

576 (4) If a person has been convicted of a violation of subsection (c) of
577 section 21a-279 prior to October 1, 2015, such conviction shall not be
578 considered as a most recent offense when evaluating whether a
579 sufficient period of time has elapsed for an offense to qualify for erasure
580 pursuant to this subsection.

581 (5) No violation of probation pursuant to section 53a-32 shall be
582 considered a judgment of conviction or a most recent offense when
583 evaluating whether a sufficient period of time has elapsed for an offense
584 to qualify for erasure pursuant to this subsection.

585 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Nothing in this subsection shall limit any other procedure for
586 erasure of criminal history record information, as defined in section 54-
587 142g, or prohibit a person from participating in any such procedure,
588 even if such person's criminal history record information has been
589 erased pursuant to this section.

590 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require the
591 Department of Motor Vehicles to erase criminal history record
592 information on an operator's driving record. When applicable, the
593 Department of Motor Vehicles shall make such criminal history record

594 information available through the Commercial Driver's License
595 Information System.

596 [(7)] (8) Nothing in this subsection shall terminate a defendant's
597 obligation to register as a person convicted of an offense committed with
598 a deadly weapon pursuant to section 54-280a, a felony for a sexual
599 purpose pursuant to section 54-254 or a criminal offense against a victim
600 who is a minor pursuant to section 54-251.

601 [(8)] (9) No erasure under this subsection shall be construed to
602 terminate a defendant's obligation to abide by a standing criminal
603 protective order imposed under section 53a-40e or terminate a
604 defendant's obligation to pay any unremitted fine imposed as part of the
605 court's sentence.

606 [(9)] (10) Notwithstanding any provision of this section and the
607 provisions of section 54-142c, any record required to substantiate any
608 defendant's conviction shall be available to law enforcement, the court
609 and the state's attorney for the purpose of (A) verifying such defendant's
610 obligation to register pursuant to section 54-251, 54-254 or 54-280a and
611 prosecuting any such defendant for violating any provision of such
612 sections, and (B) verifying such defendant's obligation to abide by any
613 standing criminal protective order imposed under section 53a-40e and
614 prosecuting any such defendant for a violation of section 53a-223a.

615 Sec. 18. Section 9-218 of the general statutes is repealed and the
616 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

617 When there is no election of probate judge in any district by reason
618 of two or more having an equal and the highest number of votes, or
619 when a new probate district is created and no provision made for the
620 election of a judge thereof, or whenever it is shown to the Governor that
621 a vacancy is about to exist in said office by reason of the resignation of
622 the incumbent to take effect at a future time or by reason of
623 constitutional limitation, or when there is a vacancy in said office, the
624 Governor may issue writs of election directed to the town clerk or clerks

625 or assistant town clerk or clerks within such district, ordering an election
626 to be held on a day named therein, other than a Saturday or Sunday, to
627 fill such vacancy or impending vacancy, and [transmit the same to a
628 state marshal. Such state marshal shall forthwith transmit them to such
629 clerk or clerks, who, on receiving the same,] cause such writs to be
630 conveyed to such clerk or clerks. On receiving such writs, such clerk or
631 clerks shall warn elections to be held on the day appointed in such writs,
632 in the same manner as state elections are warned. Such elections shall
633 be organized and conducted, and the vote shall be declared and returns
634 made, certified, directed, deposited and transmitted, in the same
635 manner as at a state election. The Secretary of the State, Treasurer and
636 Comptroller shall, within thirty days after any such election, count and
637 declare the votes so returned, and notice shall be given to the person
638 declared elected, in the same manner as is provided in the election of
639 probate judges at state elections. The Secretary of the State shall enter
640 the returns in tabular form in books kept by him for that purpose and
641 present a copy of the same, with the name of, and the total number of
642 votes received by, each of the candidates for said office, to the Governor
643 within ten days thereafter. The Probate Court Administrator shall cite a
644 probate judge to act as a judge in the district during any vacancy in said
645 office in accordance with section 45a-120.

646 Sec. 19. Section 4-66k of the general statutes is repealed and the
647 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

648 (a) There is established an account to be known as the "regional
649 planning incentive account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing
650 account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys
651 required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account
652 shall be expended by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
653 Management for the purposes of first providing funding to regional
654 planning organizations in accordance with the provisions of this section,
655 next providing grants for the support of regional election advisors
656 pursuant to section 9-229c and then providing grants under the regional
657 performance incentive program established pursuant to section 4-124s.

658 (b) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, funds from the regional
659 planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional
660 planning organization, as defined in section 4-124i of the general
661 statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, in the amount of
662 one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars. Any regional council of
663 governments that is comprised of any two or more regional planning
664 organizations that voluntarily consolidate on or before December 31,
665 2013, shall receive an additional payment in an amount equal to the
666 amount the regional planning organizations would have received if
667 such regional planning organizations had not voluntarily consolidated.

668 [(c)] (2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2021,
669 inclusive, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be
670 distributed to each regional council of governments formed pursuant to
671 section 4-124j, in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand
672 dollars plus fifty cents per capita, using population information from
673 the most recent federal decennial census. Any regional council of
674 governments that is comprised of any two or more regional planning
675 organizations, as defined in section 4-124i of the general statutes,
676 revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, that voluntarily consolidated
677 on or before December 31, 2013, shall receive a payment in the amount
678 of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars for each such regional
679 planning organization that voluntarily consolidated on or before said
680 date.

681 [(d) (1)] (3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023,
682 funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed
683 to each regional council of governments formed pursuant to section 4-
684 124j, in the amount of one hundred eighty-five thousand five hundred
685 dollars plus sixty-eight cents per capita, using population information
686 from the most recent federal decennial census.

687 [(2)] (4) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2024, and [each
688 fiscal year thereafter] June 30, 2025, funds from the regional planning
689 incentive account shall be distributed to the regional council of

690 governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j, in the amount totaling
691 seven million dollars. Such funds shall be distributed under a formula
692 determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management in
693 consultation with the regional council of governments, that includes (A)
694 a base payment amount payable to each such regional council, and (B)
695 a per capita payment amount to each such regional council based upon
696 population data for each such regional council from the most recent
697 federal decennial census. [Such formula shall be reviewed and updated
698 every five years after the initial adoption of such formula.]

699 (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year
700 thereafter, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be
701 distributed, to the extent such funds are available, to the regional
702 councils of governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j as follows:
703 (A) Each such council shall first receive two hundred fifty thousand
704 dollars, for the purpose of funding a regional stormwater management
705 and flood mitigation coordinator position and a regional municipal
706 solid waste and recycling coordinator position within each such council,
707 and (B) an amount totaling seven million dollars shall then be
708 distributed pursuant to a formula determined by the Secretary of the
709 Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the regional
710 councils of governments, that includes a (i) base payment amount
711 payable to each such regional council, and (ii) per capita payment
712 amount to each such regional council based on population data for each
713 such regional council from the most recent federal decennial census. The
714 formula described in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision shall be
715 reviewed and updated every five years after the initial adoption of such
716 formula.

717 ~~[(3)] (c)~~ Not later than July 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, each
718 regional council of governments shall submit to the secretary a proposal
719 for expenditure of the funds described in [subdivision (1) of this]
720 subsection (b) of this section. Such proposal may include, but need not
721 be limited to, a description of ~~[(A)]~~ (1) functions, activities or services
722 currently performed by the state or municipalities that may be provided

723 in a more efficient, cost-effective, responsive or higher quality manner
724 by such council, a regional educational service center or similar regional
725 entity; [(B)] (2) anticipated cost savings relating to the sharing of
726 government services, including, but not limited to, joint purchasing;
727 [(C)] (3) the standardization and alignment of various regions of the
728 state; or [(D)] (4) any other initiatives that may facilitate the delivery of
729 services to the public in a more efficient, cost-effective, responsive or
730 higher quality manner.

731 Sec. 20. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30,
732 2026, and June 30, 2027, if the salaries of executive branch employees
733 exempt from the classified service are increased pursuant to subsection
734 (p) of section 5-200 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of
735 Administrative Services shall issue orders to increase the salaries
736 prescribed for (1) judges of the Superior Court, judges of the Appellate
737 Court and judges of the Supreme Court under section 51-47 of the
738 general statutes, (2) judge trial referees under subsection (f) of section
739 52-434 of the general statutes, (3) family support magistrates under
740 section 46b-231 of the general statutes, (4) family support referees under
741 subsection (b) of section 46b-236 of the general statutes, (5) the Probate
742 Court Administrator under section 45a-75 of the general statutes, (6)
743 judges of probate under section 45a-95a of the general statutes, and (7)
744 administrative law judges under section 31-277 of the general statutes,
745 during said fiscal years only, within available appropriations, by the
746 same percentage increase provided to said executive branch employees.
747 Any increase in salary provided under this section shall apply only for
748 the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027. Where there is a
749 conflict between an order granting such rights and benefits issued by
750 the Commissioner of Administrative Services and any provision of the
751 general statutes, such order shall prevail. Such orders shall be subject to
752 the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

753 (b) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027,
754 notwithstanding the provisions of sections 3-2, 3-11, 3-77, 3-111 and 3-
755 124 of the general statutes, the salaries of constitutional officers shall be

756 calculated without regard to any increase in annual salary provided
757 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

758 Sec. 21. Section 21a-420f of the general statutes is repealed and the
759 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

760 [(a) (1) There is established an account to be known as the "cannabis
761 regulatory and investment account" which shall be a separate,
762 nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain
763 any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in
764 the account shall be allocated by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
765 Management, in consultation with the Social Equity Council, as defined
766 in section 21a-420, to state agencies for the purpose of paying costs
767 incurred to implement the activities authorized under RERACA, as
768 defined in section 21a-420.

769 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 21a-420e, for the fiscal
770 years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the following shall be
771 deposited in the cannabis regulatory and investment account: (A) All
772 fees received by the state pursuant to section 21a-421b and subdivisions
773 (1) to (11), inclusive, of subsection (c) of section 21a-420e; (B) the tax
774 received by the state under section 12-330ll; and (C) the tax received by
775 the state under chapter 219 from a cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or
776 micro-cultivator, as those terms are defined in section 12-330ll.

777 (3) At the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, all moneys
778 remaining in the cannabis regulatory and investment account shall be
779 transferred to the General Fund.

780 (b) (1) There is established an account to be known as the "social
781 equity and innovation account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing
782 account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys
783 required by law to be deposited in the account.

784 (A) During the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023,
785 moneys in the account shall be allocated by the Secretary of the Office

786 of Policy and Management, in consultation with the Social Equity
787 Council, to state agencies for the purpose of (i) paying costs incurred by
788 the Social Equity Council, (ii) administering programs under RERACA
789 to provide (I) access to capital for businesses, (II) technical assistance for
790 the start-up and operation of a business, (III) funding for workforce
791 education, and (IV) funding for community investments, and (iii)
792 paying costs incurred to implement the activities authorized under
793 RERACA.

794 (B) During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, moneys in the account
795 shall be allocated by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
796 Management for purposes that the Social Equity Council determines, in
797 the Social Equity Council's sole discretion, further the principles of
798 equity, as defined in section 21a-420, which purposes may include, but
799 need not be limited to, providing (i) access to capital for businesses in
800 any industry, (ii) technical assistance for the start-up and operation of a
801 business in any industry, (iii) funding for workforce education in any
802 industry, (iv) funding for community investments, and (v) funding for
803 investments in disproportionately impacted areas.

804 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 21a-420e and 21a-
805 420o, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the
806 following shall be deposited in the social equity and innovation account:
807 All fees received by the state pursuant to sections 21a-420l, 21a-420o and
808 21a-420u and subdivisions (12) and (13) of subsection (c) of section 21a-
809 420e.

810 (3) At the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, five million
811 dollars shall be transferred from the social equity and innovation
812 account to the General Fund, or, if the account contains less than five
813 million dollars, all remaining moneys in the account. At the end of the
814 fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, all remaining moneys in the account
815 shall be transferred to the Social Equity and Innovation Fund
816 established under subsection (c) of this section.

817 (c) (1) On and after July 1, 2022, there is established a fund to be
818 known as the "Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund". The fund
819 shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund
820 and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and apart from all other
821 moneys, funds and accounts. Amounts in the fund may be expended
822 only pursuant to appropriation by the General Assembly. Any balance
823 remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried
824 forward in the fund for the fiscal year next succeeding. Moneys in the
825 fund shall be appropriated for the purposes of providing the following:
826 Access to capital for businesses in any industry; technical assistance for
827 the start-up and operation of a business in any industry; funding for
828 workforce education in any industry; funding for community
829 investments; and paying costs incurred to implement the activities
830 authorized under RERACA. All such appropriations shall be dedicated
831 to expenditures that further the principles of equity, as defined in
832 section 21a-420.

833 (2) (A) For the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection, for the
834 fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the
835 Social Equity Council shall transmit, for even-numbered years,
836 estimates of expenditure requirements and for odd-numbered years,
837 recommended adjustments and revisions, if any, of such estimates, to
838 the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in the manner
839 prescribed for a budgeted agency under subsection (a) of section 4-77.

840 (B) The Office of Policy and Management may not make adjustments
841 to any such estimates or adjustments and revisions of such estimates
842 transmitted by the council. Notwithstanding any provision of the
843 general statutes or any special act, the Governor shall not reduce the
844 allotment requisitions or allotments in force pursuant to section 4-85 or
845 make reductions in allotments in order to achieve budget savings in the
846 General Fund, concerning any appropriations made by the General
847 Assembly for the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

848 (C) The estimates of expenditure requirements transmitted by the

849 Social Equity Council to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
850 Management pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall,
851 consistent with the requirements established in subsection (a) of section
852 4-77, include an estimate of the amount of funds required to be
853 distributed among the permissible purposes for appropriations made
854 from the Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation Fund as set forth in
855 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

856 (d) On and after July 1, 2022, there is established a fund to be known
857 as the "Cannabis Prevention and Recovery Services Fund". The fund
858 shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund
859 and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and apart from all other
860 moneys, funds and accounts. Amounts in the fund may be expended
861 only pursuant to appropriation by the General Assembly. Any balance
862 remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried
863 forward in the fund for the fiscal year next succeeding. Moneys in the
864 fund shall be appropriated for the purposes of (1) substance abuse
865 prevention, treatment and recovery services, which may include, but
866 need not be limited to, the (A) provision of youth cannabis use
867 prevention services by the local advisory councils on drug use and
868 prevention established by municipalities pursuant to subsection (a) of
869 Section 4126 of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986, as
870 amended from time to time, regional behavioral health action
871 organizations described in section 17a-484f, or youth service bureaus
872 established pursuant to section 10-19m, and (B) development of a public
873 awareness campaign to raise awareness of the mental and physical
874 health risks of youth cannabis use and cannabis use by pregnant
875 persons, and (2) collection and analysis of data regarding substance use.
876 The Social Equity Council may make recommendations to any relevant
877 state agency regarding expenditures to be made for the purposes set
878 forth in this subsection.

879 (e) On and after July 1, 2023, there is established a fund to be known
880 as the "Cannabis Regulatory Fund" which shall be a separate,
881 nonlapsing fund. The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to

882 be deposited in the fund and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and
883 apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Moneys in the fund
884 shall be appropriated to state agencies for the purposes of paying costs
885 incurred to implement the activities authorized under RERACA, as
886 defined in section 21a-420.] There is established an account to be known
887 as the "social equity and innovation account", which shall be a separate,
888 nonlapsing account. The account shall contain any moneys required by
889 law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be
890 allocated by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for
891 purposes that the Social Equity Council determines, in the Social Equity
892 Council's sole discretion, further the principles of equity, as defined in
893 section 21a-420, which purposes may include, but need not be limited
894 to, providing (1) access to capital for businesses in any industry, (2)
895 technical assistance for the start-up and operation of a business in any
896 industry, (3) funding for workforce education in any industry, (4)
897 funding for community investments, and (5) funding for investments in
898 disproportionately impacted areas.

899 Sec. 22. Section 12-330ll of the general statutes is repealed and the
900 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

901 (a) As used in this section and sections 12-330mm and 12-330nn:

902 (1) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420;

903 (2) "Cannabis concentrate" has the same meaning as provided in
904 section 21a-420;

905 (3) "Cannabis edible product" means a product containing cannabis
906 or cannabis concentrate, combined with other ingredients, that is
907 intended for use or consumption through ingestion, including
908 sublingual or oral absorption;

909 (4) "Cannabis plant material" has the same meaning as provided in
910 section 21a-279a;

911 (5) "Cannabis retailer" means "retailer", as defined in section 21a-420;

912 (6) "Consumer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420;

913 (7) "Cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420;

914 (8) "Delivery service" has the same meaning as provided in section
915 21a-420;

916 (9) "Dispensary facility" has the same meaning as provided in section
917 21a-420;

918 (10) "Food and beverage manufacturer" has the same meaning as
919 provided in section 21a-420;

920 (11) "Hybrid retailer" has the same meaning as provided in section
921 21a-420;

922 (12) "Micro-cultivator" has the same meaning as provided in section
923 21a-420;

924 (13) "Municipality" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
925 420;

926 (14) "Palliative use" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
927 408;

928 (15) "Producer" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420;

929 (16) "Product manufacturer" has the same meaning as provided in
930 section 21a-420;

931 (17) "Product packager" has the same meaning as provided in section
932 21a-420;

933 (18) "Social Equity Council" has the same meaning as provided in
934 section 21a-420;

935 (19) "Total THC" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-

936 240; and

937 (20) "Transporter" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-
938 420.

939 (b) (1) For the privilege of making any sales of cannabis in this state,
940 a tax is hereby imposed on each cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or
941 micro-cultivator at the following rates:

942 (A) Cannabis plant material, at the rate of six hundred twenty-five-
943 thousandths of one cent per milligram of total THC, as reflected on the
944 product label;

945 (B) Cannabis edible products, at the rate of two and seventy-five-
946 hundredths cents per milligram of total THC, as reflected on the product
947 label; and

948 (C) Cannabis, other than cannabis plant material or cannabis edible
949 products, at the rate of nine-tenths of one cent per milligram of total
950 THC, as reflected on the product label.

951 (2) The tax under this section:

952 (A) Shall be collected from the consumer, except as provided under
953 subparagraphs (B) and (D) of this subdivision, by the cannabis retailer,
954 hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator at the time of sale and such tax
955 reimbursement, termed "tax" in this section, shall be paid by the
956 consumer to the cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator.
957 Each cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator shall collect
958 from the consumer the full amount of the tax imposed by this section or
959 an amount equal to the average equivalent thereof to the nearest amount
960 practicable. Such tax shall be a debt from the consumer to the cannabis
961 retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator, when so added to the
962 original sales price, and shall be recoverable at law in the same manner
963 as other debts except as provided in section 12-432a.

964 (B) Shall not apply to the sale of cannabis for palliative use;

965 (C) Shall not apply to the transfer of cannabis to a transporter for
966 transport to any other cultivator, micro-cultivator, food and beverage
967 manufacturer, product manufacturer, product packager, dispensary
968 facility, cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or producer;

969 (D) Shall not apply to the sale of cannabis by a delivery service to a
970 consumer;

971 (E) Shall be in addition to the taxes imposed under section 12-330mm
972 and chapter 219; and

973 (F) When so collected, shall be deemed to be a special fund in trust
974 for the state until remitted to the state.

975 (c) On or before the last day of each month in which a cannabis
976 retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator may legally sell cannabis
977 other than cannabis for palliative use, each such cannabis retailer,
978 hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator shall file a return with the
979 Department of Revenue Services. Such return shall be in such form and
980 contain such information as the Commissioner of Revenue Services
981 prescribes as necessary for administration of the tax under this section
982 and shall be accompanied by a payment of the amount of the tax shown
983 to be due thereon. Each cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer and micro-
984 cultivator shall file such return electronically with the department and
985 make such payment by electronic funds transfer in the manner provided
986 by chapter 228g, to the extent possible.

987 (d) If any cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator fails to
988 pay the amount of tax reported due on its return within the time
989 specified under this section, there shall be imposed a penalty equal to
990 twenty-five per cent of such amount due and unpaid, or two hundred
991 fifty dollars, whichever is greater. Such amount shall bear interest at the
992 rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof, from the due date of
993 such tax until the date of payment. Subject to the provisions of section
994 12-3a, the commissioner may waive all or part of the penalties provided
995 under this section when it is proven to the commissioner's satisfaction

996 that the failure to pay any tax was due to reasonable cause and was not
997 intentional or due to neglect. Any penalty that is waived shall be applied
998 as a credit against tax liabilities owed by the cannabis retailer, hybrid
999 retailer or micro-cultivator.

1000 (e) Each person, other than a cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or
1001 micro-cultivator, who is required, on behalf of such cannabis retailer,
1002 hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator, to collect, truthfully account for and
1003 pay over a tax imposed on such cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or
1004 micro-cultivator under this section and who wilfully fails to collect,
1005 truthfully account for and pay over such tax or who wilfully attempts in
1006 any manner to evade or defeat the tax or the payment thereof, shall, in
1007 addition to other penalties provided by law, be liable for a penalty equal
1008 to the total amount of the tax evaded, or not collected, or not accounted
1009 for and paid over, including any penalty or interest attributable to such
1010 wilful failure to collect or truthfully account for and pay over such tax
1011 or such wilful attempt to evade or defeat such tax, provided such
1012 penalty shall only be imposed against such person in the event that such
1013 tax, penalty or interest cannot otherwise be collected from such cannabis
1014 retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator. The amount of such penalty
1015 with respect to which a person may be personally liable under this
1016 section shall be collected in accordance with the provisions of section
1017 12-555a and any amount so collected shall be allowed as a credit against
1018 the amount of such tax, penalty or interest due and owing from the
1019 cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator. The dissolution of
1020 the cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator shall not
1021 discharge any person in relation to any personal liability under this
1022 section for wilful failure to collect or truthfully account for and pay over
1023 such tax or for a wilful attempt to evade or defeat such tax prior to
1024 dissolution, except as otherwise provided in this section. For purposes
1025 of this section, "person" includes any individual, corporation, limited
1026 liability company or partnership and any officer or employee of any
1027 corporation, including a dissolved corporation, and a member of or
1028 employee of any partnership or limited liability company who, as such

1029 officer, employee or member, is under a duty to file a tax return under
1030 this section on behalf of a cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-
1031 cultivator or to collect or truthfully account for and pay over a tax
1032 imposed under this section on behalf of such cannabis retailer, hybrid
1033 retailer or micro-cultivator.

1034 (f) The provisions of sections 12-548, 12-551 to 12-554, inclusive, and
1035 12-555a shall apply to the provisions of this section in the same manner
1036 and with the same force and effect as if the language of said sections had
1037 been incorporated in full into this section and had expressly referred to
1038 the tax under this section, except to the extent that any provision is
1039 inconsistent with a provision in this section.

1040 (g) The commissioner shall not issue a refund of any tax paid by a
1041 cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator under this section.

1042 (h) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
1043 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section and
1044 sections 12-330mm and 12-330nn. Notwithstanding the provisions of
1045 sections 4-168 to 4-172, inclusive, prior to adopting any such regulations,
1046 the commissioner shall issue policies and procedures, which shall have
1047 the force and effect of law, to implement the taxes imposed under this
1048 section and sections 12-330mm and 12-330nn. At least fifteen days prior
1049 to the effective date of any policy or procedure issued pursuant to this
1050 subsection, the commissioner shall post such policy or procedure on the
1051 department's Internet web site and submit such policy or procedure to
1052 the Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System. Any
1053 such policy or procedure shall no longer be effective upon the adoption
1054 of such policy or procedure as a final regulation in accordance with the
1055 provisions of chapter 54 or forty-eight months of the effective date of
1056 this section, whichever is earlier.

1057 (i) The tax received by the state under this section shall be deposited
1058 as follows:

1059 (1) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, in the

1060 cannabis regulatory and investment account established under section
1061 21a-420f of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1,
1062 2025;

1063 (2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, [and
1064 June 30, 2026,] sixty per cent of such tax received in the Cannabis Social
1065 Equity and Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f of the
1066 general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2025, twenty-five
1067 per cent of such tax received in the Cannabis Prevention and Recovery
1068 Services Fund established under section 21a-420f of the general statutes,
1069 revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2025, and fifteen per cent in the
1070 General Fund;

1071 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, sixty per cent of such tax
1072 received in the social equity and innovation account established under
1073 section 21a-420f, as amended by this act, and forty per cent in the
1074 General Fund;

1075 [(3)] (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2027, and June 30, 2028,
1076 sixty-five per cent of such tax received in the [Cannabis Social Equity
1077 and Innovation Fund] social equity and innovation account established
1078 under section 21a-420f, as amended by this act, [twenty-five per cent of
1079 such tax received in the Cannabis Prevention and Recovery Services
1080 Fund and ten] and thirty-five per cent in the General Fund; and

1081 [(4)] (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, and each fiscal year
1082 thereafter, seventy-five per cent of such tax received in the [Cannabis
1083 Social Equity and Innovation Fund] social equity and innovation
1084 account established under section 21a-420f, as amended by this act, and
1085 twenty-five per cent of such tax received in the [Cannabis Prevention
1086 and Recovery Services Fund established under section 21a-420f] General
1087 Fund.

1088 [(j)] At the close of each fiscal year in which the tax imposed under the
1089 provisions of this section are received by the commissioner, the
1090 Comptroller is authorized to record as revenue for such fiscal year the

1091 amounts of such tax that are received by the commissioner not later than
1092 five business days from the July thirty-first immediately following the
1093 end of such fiscal year.]

1094 Sec. 23. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Not later than June 30, 2026, the
1095 Comptroller shall transfer the balances remaining in the Cannabis
1096 Prevention and Recovery Services Fund and the Cannabis Regulatory
1097 Fund, established under section 21a-420f of the general statutes, revision
1098 of 1958, revised to January 1, 2025, to the General Fund.

1099 Sec. 24. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) After the accounts for the Social Equity
1100 and Innovation Fund, established under section 21a-420f of the general
1101 statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2025, have been closed
1102 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the Comptroller shall transfer
1103 the balance remaining in said fund to the social equity and innovation
1104 account established under section 21a-420f of the general statutes, as
1105 amended by this act.

1106 Sec. 25. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) At the close of each fiscal year
1107 in which the tax imposed under the provisions of section 12-330ll of the
1108 general statutes, as amended by this act, are received by the
1109 commissioner, the Comptroller is authorized to record as revenue for
1110 such fiscal year the amounts of such tax that are received by the
1111 Commissioner of Revenue Services not later than five business days
1112 from the July thirty-first immediately following the end of such fiscal
1113 year.

1114 Sec. 26. Subsection (c) of section 21a-420d of the general statutes is
1115 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1116 *2025*):

1117 (c) (1) In making the appointments in subsection (b) of this section,
1118 the appointing authority shall use best efforts to make appointments
1119 that reflect the racial, gender and geographic diversity of the population
1120 of the state.

1121 (2) Members appointed by the Governor shall serve a term of four
1122 years from the time of appointment and members appointed by any
1123 other appointing authority shall serve a term of three years from the
1124 time of appointment. The appointing authority shall fill any vacancy for
1125 the unexpired term.

1126 (3) (A) The Governor shall appoint an interim executive director to
1127 operationalize and support the Social Equity Council until,
1128 notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-9a, the council appoints an
1129 executive director. Subject to the provisions of chapter 67, and within
1130 available appropriations, the council may thereafter appoint an
1131 executive director and such other employees as may be necessary for the
1132 discharge of the duties of the council.

1133 (B) Not later than July 1, 2024, the council shall adopt bylaws
1134 specifying which duties are retained by the members of the council and
1135 which duties are delegated to the executive director.

1136 (C) The council may, by a simple majority vote of the members of the
1137 council, take any formal personnel action concerning the executive
1138 director for any reason.

1139 (D) In addition to the council's authority under subparagraph (C) of
1140 this subdivision, if a final review board consisting of the chairperson
1141 and the members of the council appointed under subdivisions (1), (2),
1142 (5) and (6) of subsection (b) of this section determines, by a simple
1143 majority vote of the members of the final review board, that removing
1144 the executive director is in the best interest of serving the council's
1145 mission, such final review board shall issue a letter to the council
1146 recommending that the council remove the executive director.

1147 (4) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the council from
1148 among the members of the council. The chairperson shall directly
1149 supervise, establish annual goals for and conduct an annual
1150 performance review of the executive director.

1151 (5) The chairperson and executive director shall jointly develop, and
1152 the council shall review and approve, (A) [the budgetary information
1153 that the council is required to annually submit to the Secretary of the
1154 Office of Policy and Management pursuant to subdivision (2) of
1155 subsection (c) of section 21a-420f, (B)] allocations of moneys in the social
1156 equity and innovation account [,] established under section 21a-420f, as
1157 amended by this act, that the council determines [,] under
1158 [subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of] section 21a-
1159 420f, as amended by this act, further the principles of equity, as defined
1160 in said section, [21a-420, and (C)] and (B) any plans for expenditures to
1161 provide (i) access to capital for businesses, (ii) technical assistance for
1162 the start-up and operation of a business, (iii) funding for workforce
1163 education, (iv) funding for community investments, and (v) funding for
1164 investments in disproportionately impacted areas.

1165 Sec. 27. Subsection (e) of section 21a-420e of the general statutes is
1166 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1167 *2025*):

1168 (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and thereafter, fees
1169 collected by the department under this section shall be paid to the State
1170 Treasurer and credited to the General Fund, except that the fees
1171 collected under subdivisions (12) and (13) of subsection (c) of this
1172 section shall be deposited in the [Cannabis Social Equity and Innovation
1173 Fund] social equity and innovation account established under section
1174 21a-420f, as amended by this act.

1175 Sec. 28. Subsection (a) of section 21a-420o of the general statutes is
1176 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1177 *2025*):

1178 (a) Thirty days after the Social Equity Council posts the criteria for
1179 social equity applicants on its Internet web site, the department shall
1180 open up a three-month application period for cultivators during which
1181 a social equity applicant may apply to the department for a provisional

1182 cultivator license and final license for a cultivation facility located in a
1183 disproportionately impacted area without participating in a lottery or
1184 request for proposals. Such application for a provisional license shall be
1185 granted upon: (1) Verification by the Social Equity Council that the
1186 applicant meets the criteria for a social equity applicant; (2) the applicant
1187 submitting to and passing a criminal background check; and (3)
1188 payment of a three-million-dollar fee to be deposited in the [Cannabis
1189 Social Equity and Innovation Fund] social equity and innovation
1190 account established in section 21a-420f, as amended by this act. Upon
1191 granting such provisional license, the department shall notify the
1192 applicant of the project labor agreement requirements of section 21a-
1193 421e. The department shall not grant an application for a provisional
1194 cultivator license under this subsection after December 31, 2025.

1195 Sec. 29. Subsection (e) of section 21a-420aa of the general statutes is
1196 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1197 *2025*):

1198 (e) No social equity applicant that receives a micro-cultivator license
1199 under this section shall be eligible to apply for a provisional license and
1200 a final license to create more than one equity joint venture to be
1201 approved by the Social Equity Council under section 21a-420d, as
1202 amended by this act, and no such social equity applicant shall operate
1203 any such equity joint venture unless such social equity applicant has
1204 received a micro-cultivator license under this section, commenced
1205 cultivation activities under such micro-cultivator license and submitted
1206 to the department both the application fee required under subdivision
1207 (1) of subsection (c) of this section and a conversion fee in the amount of
1208 five hundred thousand dollars. The conversion fee collected pursuant to
1209 this subsection shall be deposited in the [Cannabis Social Equity and
1210 Innovation Fund] social equity and innovation account established in
1211 section 21a-420f, as amended by this act.

1212 Sec. 30. Section 4-66p of the general statutes is repealed and the
1213 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1214 (a) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

1215 (1) "Mill rate" means, unless otherwise specified, the mill rate a
1216 municipality uses to calculate tax bills for motor vehicles;

1217 (2) "Municipality" means any town, city, consolidated town and city
1218 or consolidated town and borough;

1219 (3) "District" means any fire district; and

1220 (4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
1221 Management.

1222 (b) There is established a fund to be known as the "Municipal
1223 Revenue Sharing Fund", which shall be a separate, nonlapsing fund. The
1224 fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the
1225 fund. Moneys in the fund shall be expended by the Secretary of the
1226 Office of Policy and Management for the purposes of providing grants
1227 pursuant to subsections (c) to (f), inclusive, of this section.

1228 [(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, ten million dollars shall
1229 be transferred from such fund not later than April fifteenth for the
1230 purposes of grants under section 10-262h.]

1231 (c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2024] 2026, and each fiscal
1232 year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make motor vehicle property tax
1233 grants payable to municipalities pursuant to [subsection (c) of section 4-
1234 66] subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be expended not later than
1235 August first annually by the secretary.

1236 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year
1237 thereafter, motor vehicle property tax grants shall be made to:

1238 (A) Municipalities that imposed mill rates greater than 32.46 mills on
1239 real property and personal property other than motor vehicles for the
1240 preceding fiscal year, in an amount equal to the difference between (i)
1241 the amount of property taxes the municipality would have levied on

1242 motor vehicles for the preceding fiscal year if the mill rate imposed on
1243 motor vehicles for such year was 32.46 mills, and (ii) the amount of
1244 property taxes the municipality would have levied on motor vehicles
1245 for the preceding fiscal year if the mill rate imposed on motor vehicles
1246 for such year was equal to the mill rate imposed on real property and
1247 personal property other than motor vehicles for such year; and

1248 (B) Districts that imposed mill rates that, when combined with the
1249 mill rate of the municipality in which the district is located, were greater
1250 than 32.46 mills on real property and personal property other than
1251 motor vehicles for the preceding fiscal year, in an amount equal to the
1252 difference between (i) the amount of property taxes the district would
1253 have levied on motor vehicles for the preceding fiscal year if the mill
1254 rate imposed on motor vehicles for such year, when combined with the
1255 mill rate imposed on motor vehicles for such year by the municipality
1256 in which the district is located, was 32.46 mills, and (ii) the amount of
1257 property taxes the district would have levied on motor vehicles for the
1258 preceding fiscal year if the mill rate imposed on motor vehicles for such
1259 year, when combined with the mill rate imposed on motor vehicles for
1260 such year by the municipality in which the district is located, was equal
1261 to the mill rate imposed by the district on real property and personal
1262 property other than motor vehicles for such year.

1263 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year
1264 thereafter, moneys sufficient to make the grants payable pursuant to
1265 subsections (d) and (e) of section 12-18b, as amended by this act, shall
1266 be expended by the secretary.

1267 (e) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2024] 2026, and each fiscal
1268 year thereafter, each municipality or district listed below shall receive
1269 the following supplemental revenue sharing grant payable not later
1270 than October thirty-first annually:

T1	Grantee	Grant Amount
T2		
T3	Andover	43,820

T4	Ansonia	-
T5	Ashford	44,498
T6	Avon	142,054
T7	Barkhamsted	-
T8	Beacon Falls	-
T9	Berlin	258,989
T10	Bethany	[26,746] <u>41,200</u>
T11	Bethel	-
T12	Bethlehem	[40,552] <u>40,564</u>
T13	Bloomfield	291,027
T14	Bolton	11,053
T15	Bozrah	-
T16	Branford	<u>100,000</u>
T17	Bridgeport	[6,059,559] <u>11,059,559</u>
T18	Bridgewater	-
T19	Bristol	234,651
T20	Brookfield	272,396
T21	Brooklyn	-
T22	Burlington	34,417
T23	Canaan	24,132
T24	Canaan Fire District	100,000
T25	Canterbury	94,624
T26	Canton	-
T27	Chaplin	34,779
T28	Cheshire	241,134
T29	Chester	-
T30	Clinton	288,473
T31	Colchester	134,167
T32	Colebrook	-
T33	Columbia	28,393
T34	Cornwall	-
T35	Coventry	113,156
T36	Cromwell	-
T37	Danbury	1,218,855
T38	Darien	-
T39	Deep River	-
T40	Derby	205,327
T41	Durham	244,059
T42	Eastford	<u>13,160</u>
T43	East Granby	-
T44	East Haddam	-

T45	East Hampton	120,397
T46	East Hartford	200,959
T47	East Haven	<u>121,045</u>
T48	East Lyme	524,097
T49	Easton	<u>14,897</u>
T50	East Windsor	<u>433,867</u>
T51	Ellington	-
T52	Enfield	-
T53	Essex	<u>5,175</u>
T54	Fairfield	191,245
T55	Farmington	802,461
T56	Franklin	25,666
T57	Glastonbury	385,930
T58	Goshen	-
T59	Granby	-
T60	Greenwich	-
T61	Griswold	-
T62	Groton	466,668
T63	Guilford	496,560
T64	Haddam	-
T65	Hamden	1,646,236
T66	Hampton	28,585
T67	Hartford	15,792,632
T68	Hartland	76,110
T69	Harwinton	39,036
T70	Hebron	125,020
T71	Kent	-
T72	Killingly	268,063
T73	Killingworth	[155,954] <u>157,905</u>
T74	Lebanon	162,740
T75	Ledyard	-
T76	Lisbon	139,316
T77	Litchfield	[46,905] <u>47,962</u>
T78	Lyme	-
T79	Madison	175,790
T80	Manchester	[780,354] <u>847,821</u>
T81	Mansfield	3,291,730
T82	Marlborough	48,977
T83	Meriden	622,306
T84	Middlebury	15,067
T85	Middlefield	14,971

T86	Middletown	-
T87	Milford	1,130,086
T88	Monroe	443,723
T89	Montville	20,897
T90	Morris	<u>543</u>
T91	Naugatuck	283,399
T92	New Britain	2,176,332
T93	New Canaan	<u>72,116</u>
T94	New Fairfield	265,666
T95	New Hartford	-
T96	New Haven	16,921,822
T97	Newington	-
T98	New London	[1,112,913] <u>2,112,913</u>
T99	New Milford	<u>109,343</u>
T100	Newtown	[267,960] <u>303,470</u>
T101	Norfolk	9,911
T102	North Branford	152,031
T103	North Canaan	11,334
T104	North Haven	-
T105	North Stonington	-
T106	Norwalk	1,780,046
T107	Norwich	210,834
T108	Old Lyme	-
T109	Old Saybrook	-
T110	Orange	221,467
T111	Oxford	267,543
T112	Plainfield	<u>4,765</u>
T113	Plainville	-
T114	Plymouth	-
T115	Pomfret	23,434
T116	Portland	-
T117	Preston	-
T118	Prospect	73,271
T119	Putnam	71,039
T120	Redding	57,277
T121	Ridgefield	117,659
T122	Rocky Hill	65,602
T123	Roxbury	<u>1</u>
T124	Salem	132,694
T125	Salisbury	-
T126	Scotland	[13,960] <u>16,592</u>

T127	Seymour	-
T128	Sharon	-
T129	Shelton	-
T130	Sherman	-
T131	Simsbury	-
T132	Somers	240,198
T133	Southbury	74,062
T134	Southington	-
T135	South Windsor	[57,854] <u>190,311</u>
T136	Sprague	-
T137	Stafford	-
T138	Stamford	1,846,049
T139	Sterling	-
T140	Stonington	218,992
T141	Stratford	-
T142	Suffield	206,051
T143	Thomaston	-
T144	Thompson	4,459
T145	Tolland	322,977
T146	Torrington	72,539
T147	Trumbull	604,706
T148	Union	-
T149	Vernon	[330,755] <u>432,916</u>
T150	Voluntown	<u>60,000</u>
T151	Wallingford	-
T152	Warren	-
T153	Washington	-
T154	Waterbury	5,582,559
T155	Waterford	-
T156	Watertown	-
T157	Westbrook	-
T158	West Hartford	-
T159	West Haven	-
T160	Weston	70,181
T161	Westport	66,133
T162	Wethersfield	-
T163	Willington	-
T164	Wilton	93,135
T165	Winchester	105,432
T166	Windham	1,349,376
T167	Windsor	357,943

T168	Windsor Locks	150,116
T169	Wolcott	136,938
T170	Woodbridge	120,477
T171	Woodbury	-
T172	Woodstock	-
T173	<u>Litchfield (Bor.)</u>	<u>287</u>
T174	TOTAL	[74,672,468] <u>81,965,368</u>

1271 (2) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and district in
 1272 accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection exceeds the amount
 1273 appropriated for the purposes of said subdivision, the amount of the
 1274 grant payable to each municipality and district shall be reduced
 1275 proportionately.

1276 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year
 1277 thereafter:

1278 (A) The amount of the grant payable to a municipality under
 1279 subdivision (1) of this subsection for any fiscal year shall be reduced by
 1280 ten per cent if such municipality increases its adopted budget
 1281 expenditures for such fiscal year by two and one-half per cent or more
 1282 or the annual increase in the consumer price index for urban consumers
 1283 during the prior fiscal year, whichever is greater, over the amount of
 1284 adopted budget expenditures authorized for the prior fiscal year.

1285 (B) For a municipality whose population has increased from the prior
 1286 fiscal year, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality under
 1287 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not be reduced if such
 1288 municipality's adopted budget expenditures for the applicable fiscal
 1289 year exceed the cap under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision by an
 1290 amount proportionate to the increase in such municipality's population,
 1291 as determined by the secretary.

1292 (C) Not later than thirty days after adoption of its budget, each
 1293 municipality shall certify to the secretary, in the form and manner
 1294 prescribed by the secretary, whether the municipality has exceeded the

1295 cap set forth in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision and, if so, the
1296 amount by which the cap was exceeded.

1297 (D) For purposes of this subdivision, "adopted budget expenditures"
1298 includes expenditures from a municipality's general fund, including for
1299 education, but does not include (i) expenditures for debt service, special
1300 education or implementation of court orders or arbitration awards, (ii)
1301 expenditures associated with a major disaster or emergency declaration
1302 by the President of the United States or a disaster emergency declaration
1303 issued by the Governor pursuant to chapter 517, or (iii) nonrecurring
1304 grants, nonrecurring capital expenditures of one hundred thousand
1305 dollars or more, payments on unfunded pension liabilities, the initial
1306 increases due to the consolidation of a special tax district into the
1307 municipality or budgeting for an audited deficit.

1308 [(f) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year
1309 thereafter, moneys remaining in the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund,
1310 including moneys accrued to the fund during such fiscal year but
1311 received after the end of such fiscal year, shall be expended not later
1312 than October first following the end of each such fiscal year by the
1313 secretary for the purposes of the municipal revenue sharing grants
1314 established pursuant to subsection (d) of section 4-66l.

1315 (2) The amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in
1316 accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be reduced
1317 proportionately in the event that the total of such grants in such year
1318 exceeds the amount available for such grants in the Municipal Revenue
1319 Sharing Fund established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.]

1320 Sec. 31. Subsection (a) of section 12-130 of the general statutes is
1321 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1322 *2025*):

1323 (a) When any community, authorized to raise money by taxation, lays
1324 a tax, it shall appoint a collector thereof; and the selectmen of towns, and
1325 the committees of other communities, except as otherwise specially

1326 provided by law, shall make out and sign rate bills containing the
1327 proportion which each individual is to pay according to the assessment
1328 list; and any judge of the Superior Court or any justice of the peace, on
1329 their application or that of their successors in office, shall issue a warrant
1330 for the collection of any sums due on such rate bills. Each collector shall
1331 mail or hand to each individual from whom taxes are due a bill for the
1332 amount of taxes for which such individual is liable. In addition, the
1333 collector shall include with such bill, using one of the following methods
1334 (1) attachment, (2) enclosure, or (3) printed matter upon the face of the
1335 bill, a statement of:

1336 (A) State aid to municipalities which shall be in the following form:

1337 "The (fiscal year) budget for the (city or town) estimates that ...
1338 Dollars will be received from the state of Connecticut for various state
1339 financed programs. Without this assistance your (fiscal year) property
1340 tax would be (herein insert the amount computed in accordance with
1341 subsection (b) of this section) mills"; and

1342 (B) State aid reduction to municipalities that overspend, which shall
1343 be in the following form:

1344 "The state will reduce grants to your town if local spending increases
1345 by more than 2.5 per cent or the annual increase in the consumer price
1346 index for urban consumers during the prior fiscal year, whichever is
1347 greater, from the previous fiscal year."

1348 Failure to send out or receive any such bill or statement shall not
1349 invalidate the tax. For purposes of this subsection, "mail" includes to
1350 send by electronic mail, provided an individual from whom taxes are
1351 due consents in writing to receive a bill and statement electronically.
1352 Prior to sending any such bill or statement by electronic mail, a
1353 community shall provide the public with the appropriate electronic mail
1354 address of the community on the community's Internet web site and
1355 shall establish procedures to ensure that any individual who consents
1356 to receive a bill or statement electronically (i) receives such bill or

1357 statement, and (ii) is provided the proper return electronic mail address
1358 of the community sending the bill or statement.

1359 Sec. 32. Subsection (b) of section 12-20d of the general statutes is
1360 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1361 *2025*):

1362 (b) Any member municipality of The Metropolitan District that fails
1363 to timely pay an amount assessed by said district for sewer use during
1364 the current or prior fiscal year shall be ineligible for early disbursement
1365 of any grant from the [municipal revenue sharing account] Municipal
1366 Revenue Sharing Fund such municipality may be entitled to pursuant
1367 to section [4-66l] 4-66p, as amended by this act.

1368 Sec. 33. Subparagraph (L) of subdivision (1) of section 12-408 of the
1369 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1370 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1371 [(L) (i) For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2021, but
1372 prior to July 1, 2023, the commissioner shall deposit into the municipal
1373 revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66l seven and
1374 nine-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from the tax
1375 imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, including such
1376 amounts received on or after July 1, 2023, attributable to the fiscal year
1377 ending June 30, 2023; and]

1378 [(ii)] (L) For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2023, the
1379 commissioner shall deposit into the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund
1380 established pursuant to section 4-66p, as amended by this act, seven and
1381 nine-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from the tax
1382 imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision; and

1383 Sec. 34. Subparagraph (K) of subdivision (1) of section 12-411 of the
1384 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
1385 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1386 [(K) (i) For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2021, but
1387 prior to July 1, 2023, the commissioner shall deposit into the municipal
1388 revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66l seven and
1389 nine-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from the tax
1390 imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, including such
1391 amounts received on or after July 1, 2023, attributable to the fiscal year
1392 ending June 30, 2023; and]

1393 [(ii)] ~~(K)~~ For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2023,
1394 the commissioner shall deposit into the Municipal Revenue Sharing
1395 Fund established pursuant to section 4-66p, as amended by this act,
1396 seven and nine-tenths per cent of the amounts received by the state from
1397 the tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision; and

1398 Sec. 35. Section 4-66o of the general statutes is repealed and the
1399 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1400 The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may establish
1401 receivables for the revenue anticipated pursuant to subparagraph [(K)]
1402 (L) of subdivision (1) of section 12-408, as amended by this act, and
1403 [section 4-66l] subparagraph (K) of subdivision (1) of section 12-411, as
1404 amended by this act.

1405 Sec. 36. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 12-18b of the general
1406 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1407 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1408 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, [2022] 2026, and each fiscal year
1409 thereafter:

1410 [(1) The total amount of the grants paid to a municipality or fire
1411 district pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall not be lower
1412 than the total amount of the payment in lieu of taxes grants received by
1413 such municipality or fire district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.]

1414 [(2)] (1) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire

1415 district in accordance with the provisions of [subsections] subsection (b)
1416 [and (e)] of this section exceeds the amount appropriated for the
1417 purposes of said subsection for a fiscal year:

1418 (A) Each tier one municipality shall receive fifty-three per cent of the
1419 grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under
1420 subsection (b) of this section;

1421 (B) Each tier two municipality shall receive forty-three per cent of the
1422 grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under
1423 subsection (b) of this section; and

1424 (C) Each tier three municipality shall receive thirty-three per cent of
1425 the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under
1426 subsection (b) of this section.

1427 [(3)] (2) Each municipality designated as an alliance district pursuant
1428 to section 10-262u or in which more than fifty per cent of the property is
1429 state-owned real property shall be classified as a tier one municipality.

1430 [(4)] (3) Each fire district shall receive the same percentage of the
1431 grant amount payable to the municipality in which it is located.

1432 [(5)] (4) (A) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire
1433 district in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section
1434 exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subsection,
1435 but such appropriated amount exceeds the amount required for grants
1436 payable to each municipality and fire district in accordance with the
1437 provisions of subdivisions (1) to [(4)] (3), inclusive, of this subsection,
1438 the amount of the grant payable to each municipality and fire district
1439 shall be increased proportionately.

1440 (B) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and fire district
1441 in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to [(4)] (3),
1442 inclusive, of this subsection exceeds the amount appropriated for the
1443 purposes of said subdivisions, the amount of the grant payable to each

1444 municipality and fire district shall be reduced proportionately, except
1445 that no grant shall be reduced below the amount set forth in subdivision
1446 (1) of this subsection.

1447 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (d), inclusive,
1448 of this section and sections 12-19b and 12-20b:

1449 (1) The grant payable to any municipality or fire district with respect
1450 to a campus of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs
1451 Connecticut Healthcare Systems shall be one hundred per cent; and

1452 (2) For any municipality receiving payments under section 15-120ss,
1453 property located in such municipality at Bradley International Airport
1454 shall not be included in the calculation of any state grant in lieu of taxes
1455 pursuant to this section. [;]

1456 [(3) The city of Bridgeport shall be due five million dollars, annually,
1457 which amount shall be in addition to the amount due such city pursuant
1458 to the provisions of subsection (b) or (d) of this section;

1459 (4) There shall be an amount due the town of Voluntown, with
1460 respect to any state-owned forest, of an additional sixty thousand
1461 dollars, annually, for reimbursement to municipalities for loss of taxes
1462 on private tax-exempt property;

1463 (5) The amount due the town of Branford, with respect to the
1464 Connecticut Hospice located in said town, shall be one hundred
1465 thousand dollars, annually, for reimbursement to municipalities for loss
1466 of taxes on private tax-exempt property; and

1467 (6) The amount due the city of New London, with respect to the
1468 United States Coast Guard Academy located in said city, shall be one
1469 million dollars, annually, for reimbursement to municipalities for loss
1470 of taxes on private tax-exempt property.]

1471 Sec. 37. Subsection (e) of section 46a-52 of the general statutes is
1472 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

1473 2026):

1474 (e) The commission shall be within the [Labor Department]
1475 Department of Administrative Services for administrative purposes
1476 only.

1477 Sec. 38. Section 5-141d of the general statutes is repealed and the
1478 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1479 (a) The state shall save harmless and indemnify any state officer or
1480 employee, as defined in section 4-141, and any member of the Public
1481 Defender Services Commission from financial loss and expense arising
1482 out of any claim, demand, suit or judgment by reason of his alleged
1483 negligence or alleged deprivation of any person's civil rights or other act
1484 or omission resulting in damage or injury, if the officer, employee or
1485 member is found to have been acting in the discharge of his duties or
1486 within the scope of his employment and such act or omission is found
1487 not to have been wanton, reckless or malicious. As used in this section,
1488 "state officer or employee" includes any member of a state officer's or
1489 employee's immediate family who is named or included in any such
1490 claim, demand, suit or judgment solely by reason of such familial
1491 relationship; and "immediate family" has the same meaning as provided
1492 in section 1-79.

1493 (b) The state, through the Attorney General, shall provide for the
1494 defense of any such state officer, employee or member in any civil action
1495 or proceeding in any state or federal court arising out of any alleged act,
1496 omission or deprivation which occurred or is alleged to have occurred
1497 while the officer, employee or member was acting in the discharge of his
1498 duties or in the scope of his employment, except that the state shall not
1499 be required to provide for such a defense whenever the Attorney
1500 General, based on his investigation of the facts and circumstances of the
1501 case, determines that it would be inappropriate to do so and he so
1502 notifies the officer, employee or member in writing.

1503 (c) (1) The state, through the Attorney General, shall provide for the

1504 defense of any such state officer, employee or member for such officer,
1505 employee or member's participation as a witness in any criminal
1506 investigation conducted if the officer, employee or member's status as a
1507 witness arises from the officer, employee or member's discharge of his
1508 duties or in the scope of his employment in any case in which the
1509 Attorney General determines, based on his investigation of the facts and
1510 circumstances of the case, that the officer, employee or member is not
1511 identified as a target, subject or person of interest in the investigation or
1512 proceeding at the time of the request.

1513 (2) The Attorney General shall decline representation if a conflict of
1514 interest exists between the individual seeking representation and the
1515 state's broader legal interests. In such cases, the Attorney General shall
1516 promptly notify the individual and may authorize the use of outside
1517 counsel at the state's expense.

1518 (3) Representation under this subsection shall be limited strictly to
1519 matters arising from the individual's status as a witness or their official
1520 duties and shall not extend to personal legal matters or unrelated
1521 conduct.

1522 (4) The Attorney General shall conduct a periodic review to confirm
1523 the individual's status as a witness and ensure compliance with the
1524 terms of representation. If the individual becomes a target, subject or
1525 person of interest, representation shall cease and the individual shall be
1526 promptly notified.

1527 (d) The state, through the Attorney General, may provide for the
1528 defense of any such state officer, employee or member in a federal
1529 criminal investigation or prosecution arising out of any alleged act,
1530 omission or deprivation which occurred or is alleged to have occurred
1531 while the officer, employee or member was acting in the discharge of
1532 such officer, employee or member's duties or in the scope of such officer,
1533 employee or member's employment in any case in which the relevant
1534 agency head or constitutional officer requests representation and the

1535 Attorney General determines, in the Attorney General's discretion, that:

1536 (1) The alleged act, omission or deprivation was consistent with such
1537 officer, employee or member's obligations under state law and the tenth
1538 amendment to the United States Constitution; and

1539 (2) The legal basis on which the federal criminal investigation or
1540 prosecution is founded is without merit.

1541 [(c)] (e) Legal fees and costs incurred as a result of the retention by
1542 any such officer, employee or member of an attorney to defend his
1543 interests in any [such] civil action or proceeding shall be borne by the
1544 state only in those cases where (1) the Attorney General has stated in
1545 writing to the officer, employee or member, pursuant to subsection (b)
1546 of this section, that the state will not provide an attorney to defend the
1547 interests of the officer, employee or member, and (2) the officer,
1548 employee or member is thereafter found to have acted in the discharge
1549 of his duties or in the scope of his employment, and not to have acted
1550 wantonly, recklessly or maliciously. Such legal fees and costs incurred
1551 by such officer, employee or member shall be paid to such officer,
1552 employee or member only after the final disposition of the suit, claim or
1553 demand and only in such amounts as shall be determined by the
1554 Attorney General to be reasonable. In determining whether such
1555 amounts are reasonable, the Attorney General may consider whether it
1556 was appropriate for a group of officers, employees or members to be
1557 represented by the same counsel.

1558 [(d)] (f) Such officer, employee or member may bring an action in the
1559 Superior Court against the state to enforce the provisions of this section.

1560 [(e)] (g) The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to any
1561 such officer, employee or member to the extent he has a right to
1562 indemnification under any other section of the general statutes.

1563 Sec. 39. Subdivision (5) of subsection (k) of section 54-56d of the
1564 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu

1565 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1566 (5) The state shall hold harmless and indemnify any health care
 1567 guardian appointed by the court pursuant to subdivision (3) of this
 1568 subsection from financial loss and expense arising out of any claim,
 1569 demand, suit or judgment by reason of such health care guardian's
 1570 alleged negligence or alleged deprivation of any person's civil rights or
 1571 other act or omission resulting in damage or injury, provided the health
 1572 care guardian is found to have been acting in the discharge of his or her
 1573 duties pursuant to said subdivision and such act or omission is found
 1574 not to have been wanton, reckless or malicious. The provisions of
 1575 subsections (b), [(c)] (e) and [(d)] (f) of section 5-141d, as amended by
 1576 this act, shall apply to such health care guardian. The provisions of
 1577 chapter 53 shall not apply to a claim against such health care guardian.

1578 Sec. 40. Subdivision (9) of subsection (b) of section 19a-754a of the
 1579 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
 1580 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1581 (9) Assist local and regional boards of education in enrolling
 1582 paraeducators for coverage under (A) [the qualified health plans for
 1583 which such paraeducator may be eligible under section 3-123l, (B)] the
 1584 Covered Connecticut program, established pursuant to section 19a-
 1585 754c, or [(C)] (B) Medicaid.

1586 Sec. 41. Sections 3-123l, 4-66l, 12-18d, 16-331bb and 16-331hh of the
 1587 general statutes are repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2025*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	1-1j
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-39r
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	14-11i
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	19a-88(g)(2)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	45a-113b
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	51-193b

Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	17b-59f(a) to (c)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10a-22m
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10a-22u
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10a-22v
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	31-225a(j)(1)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	51-297(f)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	31-3i
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	54-142t(g)
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	54-142a(e)
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	9-218
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	4-66k
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-420f
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-330ll
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 25	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 26	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-420d(c)
Sec. 27	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-420e(e)
Sec. 28	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-420o(a)
Sec. 29	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	21a-420aa(e)
Sec. 30	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	4-66p
Sec. 31	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-130(a)
Sec. 32	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-20d(b)
Sec. 33	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-408(1)(L)
Sec. 34	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-411(1)(K)
Sec. 35	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	4-66o
Sec. 36	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	12-18b(d) and (e)
Sec. 37	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	46a-52(e)
Sec. 38	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	5-141d
Sec. 39	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	54-56d(k)(5)
Sec. 40	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	19a-754a(b)(9)
Sec. 41	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	Repealer section

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.]