

# Connecticut General Assembly



## OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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May 1, 2011

Senator Toni Harp, Co-Chairperson  
Representative Toni Walker, Co-Chairperson  
Senator Robert Kane, Ranking Member  
Representative Craig Miner, Ranking Member  
Appropriations Committee  
Room 2600  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Sen. Harp, Rep. Walker, Sen. Kane, and Rep. Miner:

This is the final quarterly status report for the on-line searchable database required by PA 10-155, prior to its going live on 7/1/11. PA 10-155 requires quarterly reports to the Appropriations Committee on its progress beginning 11/1/10 and thereafter. This communication is intended to satisfy the 5/1/11 requirement.

In summary, we continue to be on schedule to achieve the July 1, 2011 implementation date. It should be noted that the development of this project has been made possible by the assistance of other agencies including the Department of Administrative Services, the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC), and staff from our own Information Technology Services (ITS). I am grateful for their help.

The following is a description of the progress made since the 2/1/11 report. I have attached a copy of PA 10-155 as Attachment A for your reference. In addition, Attachment B contains screenshot illustrations of the system as it currently exists in development. Please note that all screens are subject to change as this site is still under development.

## Status

Development of a system with the following features is ongoing: 1) basic and advanced search capabilities; 2) data downloads available for analysis; and 3) extensive contextual information. During the period covered by this report, content was developed for state payroll, contracts and general ledger expenditures. Basic and Advanced Search options were developed for Payroll and Expenditure screens. Pension data were also acquired from the Office of the State Comptroller and the search page developed. Please see Attachment B for an illustration of the prototype system's functionality.

## Current Challenges

There are various issues that will prevent the full disclosure of certain information in this database. In some case, we have had to eliminate information and in other cases we are still determining whether additional information will be able to be posted. The categories and description of concerns follow.

### HIPAA<sup>1</sup>

The statewide accounting system, CORE-CT, which is the primary source of data for the database, contains health information about individuals that may not be published under federal HIPAA rules. We are working with representatives of the Office of the State Comptroller to automate a means by which this information could be excluded from the searchable database. In order to preclude a potential violation of HIPAA, any such exclusion is likely to be widespread and therefore may result in the elimination of otherwise valid records. These exclusions limit the comprehensiveness of the "Payments" section of the website.

### FOI, Other Privacy Concerns

The statewide accounting system also contains information that cannot be disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act. Generally this information involves clients of agencies or adjudicatory proceedings. Information which could constitute a violation of FOI, attorney-client privilege, or other statutory prohibitions against the release of information is being redacted from the searchable database. In particular, payments to clients (including BESB clients) and payments related to certain criminal justice proceedings (e.g., jury duty payments, witness protection) are excluded.

### Data Integrity

There are certain limitations or inconsistencies with CORE-CT data. These issues will diminish the completeness and usefulness of the searchable database. We are continuing to evaluate the balance between completeness and reliability (more detail below).

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<sup>1</sup> Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

- *Limited Scope Agencies* - The following agencies do not participate fully in CORE-CT - Legislative Management, the Judicial branch, UConn, UConn Health Center, Connecticut State University System, and Connecticut Community Colleges.<sup>2</sup> As a consequence of this limited participation, the CORE-CT data warehouse does not contain complete information on vouchers, use of state contracts, and job or position titles.
- *Inconsistent Agency Usage of Data fields* - Many payment transactions for goods or services purchased off of state contracts do not reference the relevant state contract. Therefore, there is not a way to detail all spending associated with contracts. Also, in the past some vendor descriptions have contained sensitive information such as client names or social security numbers. CORE-CT is working with agencies to change this practice in the future.

### Next Steps

ITS and OFA are scheduled to complete development of the site and page content in the next few weeks. The site will be tested by OFA to validate the data and functionality. The site will then be validated by key personnel at CORE-CT and other key agencies, including the CGA. Problems will be addressed prior to release of the site in June. In addition, OFA will work to develop a process to respond to questions from the public.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Alan Calandro

cc: Appropriations Committee Members  
 Thomas P. Sheridan, Senate Clerk  
 Garey E. Coleman, House Clerk  
 Kendall F. Wiggin, State Librarian  
 Ken Greene, ITS  
 Martha Carlson, Deputy Comptroller  
 John Clark, Office of the State Comptroller  
 Mary Yabrosky, Department of Administrative Services  
 Michael Murphy, OFA  
 Don Chaffee, OFA  
 Bill Lederman, OFA  
 Evelyn Arnold, OFA

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<sup>2</sup> Connecticut Development Authority, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, Connecticut Lottery Corporation, and Connecticut Innovations, Inc.

# Attachment A

## **Public Act No. 10-155**

### **AN ACT REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEARCHABLE DATABASE FOR STATE EXPENDITURES.**

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) On or before July 1, 2011, the legislative Office of Fiscal Analysis shall establish and maintain searchable electronic databases on the Internet and located on said office's Internet web site for purposes of posting state expenditures, including state contracts and grants.

(b) Each budgeted agency, as defined in section 4-60 of the general statutes, shall submit, in a timely manner, any information requested by the legislative Office of Fiscal Analysis for the purpose of establishing and maintaining the electronic databases.

(c) On or before November 1, 2010, and quarterly thereafter, the legislative Office of Fiscal Analysis shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies on the establishment and maintenance of the electronic databases, with any recommendations for improving or expanding the operation or capacity of such databases.

(d) Following the establishment of the electronic databases, the Auditors of Public Accounts shall review the procedures and security used to develop the electronic databases and report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, any findings or recommendations based on such review to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a state agency to: (1) Create unavailable financial or management data or an information technology system that does not exist, or (2) disclose consumer, client, patient or student information otherwise protected by law from disclosure.

Approved June 7, 2010

# Attachment B

Home page:

## transparent.CT.gov

An official website of the State of Connecticut

<p><b>Home</b> Get Started</p> <p><b>About</b> Transparency in government</p> <p><b>Expenditures</b> How the money's being spent</p> <p><b>Compensation</b> Salary, wages &amp; fringe benefits</p> <p><b>Contracts</b> Vendor Contracts</p> <p><b>Grants</b> Money to cities &amp; towns</p> <p><b>Payments</b> Checks to businesses &amp; people</p> <p><b>Pensions</b> Payments to retirees</p> <p><b>Download Data</b> Data in .csv format</p> <p><b>Glossary</b> Terms and their meaning</p>	<h3>Welcome</h3> <p>This is the content section of the page.</p> <p>Consectetur adipisicing elit, ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt in reprehenderit in voluptate lorem ipsum dolor sit amet. Excepteur sint occaecat qui officia deserunt duis aute irure dolor. Ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt sunt in culpa excepteur sint occaecat. Ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. In reprehenderit in voluptate eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Mollit anim id est laborum. Qui officia deserunt. Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.</p> <h3>Transparency in Connecticut Government</h3> <p>Consectetur adipisicing elit, quis nostrud exercitation velit esse cillum dolore. Ullamco laboris nisi qui officia deserunt ut enim ad minim veniam. Cupidatat non proident, duis aute irure dolor sunt in culpa. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, ullamco laboris nisi excepteur sint occaecat. Ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Quis nostrud exercitation. Ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt duis aute irure dolor sunt in culpa. Ullamco laboris nisi lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Mollit anim id est laborum. Excepteur sint occaecat ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation.</p> <p>Eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Velit esse cillum dolore sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Cupidatat non proident, ut enim ad minim veniam. Quis nostrud exercitation velit esse cillum dolore lorem ipsum dolor sit amet. Consectetur adipisicing elit, ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, qui officia deserunt cupidatat non proident. Velit esse cillum dolore excepteur sint occaecat lorem ipsum dolor sit amet. Consectetur adipisicing elit, sunt in culpa quis nostrud exercitation. Ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam. Quis nostrud exercitation excepteur sint occaecat ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Sunt in culpa ullamco laboris nisi eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt mollit anim id est laborum.</p>	<h3>Get Started</h3> <p>Level: <input type="text" value="State"/></p> <p>Entity: <input type="text" value="State of Connecticut"/></p> <p>Type: <input type="text" value="Expenditures"/></p> <p>Year: <input type="text" value="2010 (7/1/09-6/30/10)"/></p> <p><input type="button" value="START"/></p> <p>How do I... <b>FAQ's</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Find the salary for a specific state employee?</li><li>2. See how much money my city or town has received in state grants?</li><li>3. See how much money a state agency or department has spent in the current fiscal year?</li><li>4. Find payments made to a specific vendor?</li><li>5. View the amount money spent on a given state contract?</li></ol>
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## Search state expenditures:

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## State Expenditures

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### Search Expenditure Records

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[Advanced Search](#)

Fiscal Year

State of Connecticut 2010

[Summary By Agency](#)

[Summary By Fund](#)

[Summary By Account](#)

<u>Agency Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
African-American Affairs Commission	230,612.55
Agricultural Experiment Station	10,402,685.25
Asian Pacific American Commission	1,413.06
Attorney General	28,662,199.11
Auditors of Public Accounts	10,428,743.62
Board for Academic Awards (Charter Oak State College)	18,098,644.17

## Advanced search of state expenditures:

Enter search criteria and check the columns you wish to include in the results.

[Basic Search](#)

Include	Column	Criteria	Include	Column	Criteria
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fiscal Year	2010 (7/1/09-6/30/10) ▼	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fund	All Funds ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agency	All Agencies ▼	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SID	All Values ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Department	All Departments ▼	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Account	All Accounts ▼

[Search Tips](#)
[Reset Fields](#)
UPDATE

Enter search criteria and check the columns you wish to include in the results.

[Basic Search](#)

Include	Column	Criteria	Include	Column	Criteria
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fiscal Year	2010 (7/1/09-6/30/10) ▼	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fund	Reg Community College Op Fur ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agency	Connecticut Community Colleges ▼	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SID	All Values ▼
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Department	Manchester CC ▼	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Account	All Accounts ▼

[Search Tips](#)
[Reset Fields](#)
UPDATE

### Search Results

◀ Record 1 to 25 of 30 ▶

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Dept</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>SID</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Total</u>
Connecticut Community Colleges	Manchester CC	Reg Community College Op Fund	Non-Budgeted Operating Approp	Accumulated Leave	42,918.36
Connecticut Community Colleges	Manchester CC	Reg Community College Op Fund	Non-Budgeted Operating Approp	Arp	485,590.14
Connecticut Community Colleges	Manchester CC	Reg Community College Op Fund	Non-Budgeted Operating Approp	Cellular Communication Srvcs	2,808.60
Connecticut Community Colleges	Manchester CC	Reg Community College Op Fund	Non-Budgeted Operating Approp	Differential Payments	857.04

## Search employee compensation:

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### Employee Compensation

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### Search Payroll Records

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[Advanced Search](#)

Fiscal Year
2010 (July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010)
UPDATE

State of Connecticut 2010

Summary By Agency

Agency Description	Salary and Wages	Fringe Benefits	Total
African-American Affairs Commission	200,113.11	123,083.48	323,196.59
Agricultural Experiment Station	7,378,085.33	4,448,595.56	11,826,680.89
Attorney General	31,188,263.21	18,327,967.82	49,516,231.03
Auditors of Public Accounts	10,146,460.95	5,808,350.37	15,954,811.32
Board for Academic Awards (Charter Oak State College)	5,644,094.96	1,912,555.37	7,556,650.33

## Advanced search of employee compensation:

[Basic Search](#)

Fiscal Year 2010 (7/1/09-6/30/10)

Last Name

Range Salary & Wages

Agency All Agencies

First Name

More Than

UPDATE

[Reset Fields](#)

Search Results

◀ Record 1 to 25 of 827 ▶

Agency Description/Title	Employee Name	Salary and Wages	Fringe Benefits	Total
Legislative Management	Abercrombie, Catherine F.	38,721.00	33,070.77	71,791.77
Legislative Management	Abrams, Nicholas D.	1,800.00	860.22	2,660.22
Legislative Management	Acock, Anthony W.	39,116.41	30,647.90	69,764.31



Search pensions:

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## Pension Payments

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### Search Pension Records

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Calendar Year

Last Name  First Name

Range    [Reset Fields](#)

Search Results ◀ Record 1 to 25 of 41,950 ▶

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Total Pension Payments</u>
	Veiga, John	263,047.50
	Blechner, Jack	254,722.02

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<u>Category</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
Expenditures	<b>Expenditure Data - FY 2010</b> This file contains detailed expenditure data for the fiscal year 2010. The file details expenditures by agency, department, fund, SID, and account.	.csv	14.4 MB	04/19/2011
Compensation	<b>Compensation Data - FY 2010</b> This file contains compensation data for the fiscal year 2010. The file details employee wages and fringe benefits for all employees paid in the fiscal year 2010.	.csv	10.2 MB	04/19/2011