



2024 Veto Package

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June 25, 2024 | 2024-R-0101

Overview

This report lists the vetoed acts from the 2024 regular legislative session and provides for each a brief summary, the final vote tallies, and excerpts from the governor’s veto message. It also includes the number of bills from each prior session that the current governor vetoed.

A vetoed act will not become law unless it is reconsidered and passed again by a two-thirds vote of each legislative chamber. The legislature met for a veto session on June 24, 2024, but did not vote to override any of the vetoes.

Table 1 lists the 2024 acts vetoed by the governor and provides their respective vote tallies.

Table 1: 2024 Vetoed Acts

Act No. (Bill No.)	Title	Vote Tally (Date Taken)	Report Page
PA 24-25 (SB 226)	<i>An Act Increasing the Threshold for Sealed Bidding on Certain Municipal Contracts</i>	House: 142 to 2 (May 7) Senate: 34 to 1 (April 10)	3
PA 24-131 (HB 5431)	<i>An Act Establishing a Connecticut Families and Workers Account</i>	Senate: 23 to 12 (May 8) House: 90 to 59 (May 3)	4

Summaries and Governor's Explanations

PA 24-25: An Act Increasing the Threshold for Sealed Bidding on Certain Municipal Contracts

This act increases, from \$25,000 to \$50,000, the maximum values of contracts or purchases that a municipality may exempt, by ordinance, from its sealed bidding requirements.

By law, municipalities may adopt ordinances establishing competitive bidding requirements for awarding contracts or buying real or personal property, regardless of their charters or special acts. These ordinances may exempt contracts or purchases valued at less than a specified amount from sealed bidding requirements, except when the statutes require sealed bids ([PA 24-25](#), effective October 1, 2024).

Excerpts from the governor's [veto message](#)

First and foremost, the [bill's] proposed amendment to section 7-148v of the general statutes raises the threshold for sealed bidding on certain municipal contracts from \$25,000 to \$50,000. The threshold of \$25,000 was established in 2013, [and] an inflation adjustment would increase [the] threshold to approximately \$35,000. This bill has a significant increase above that number.

The veto message also addresses concerns regarding the act's potential impact on transparency and accountability in the municipal contracting process:

While the goal may be to streamline administrative procedures and reduce bureaucratic hurdles, I cannot overlook the potential risks associated with reducing transparency and accountability in the awarding of public contracts.

Competitive bidding processes are essential to ensure fairness, quality, and cost-effectiveness in public procurement. By increasing the threshold for sealed bidding, we run the risk of limiting competition, potentially leading to inflated costs, reduced quality of services or goods, and even unethical practices such as favoritism or collusion.

In an era where transparency, accountability, and efficiency are paramount, it is crucial that our laws and regulations keep pace with best practices to ensure the highest level of integrity and value for taxpayers' dollars and that adequate safeguards to prevent abuse or misuse are in place.

PA 24-131: An Act Establishing a Connecticut Families and Workers Account

This act establishes the “Connecticut families and workers account” and authorizes the comptroller to use money from the account to assist low-income workers. Under the act, up to \$3 million of appropriated lapsing funds in the State Comptroller – Fringe Benefits account for State Employee Health Services Costs must be deposited into the new account for FY 25. Any balance in the new account at the end of the fiscal year must be carried forward and available in the next fiscal year ([PA 24-131](#), effective upon passage).

Excerpts from the governor’s [veto message](#)

The allocation of up to \$3,000,000 of unexpended funds into a new, separate, non-lapsing account within the General Fund lacks clarity in terms of impact, financial accountability, and oversight. Without a clear mechanism for monitoring the transfer and utilization of the funds, there is a risk of inefficiency, mismanagement, and lack of transparency in their intended allocation. It is unclear how the Comptroller will ensure that the funds are used appropriately and effectively to assist low-income workers.

The veto message also addresses concerns that the act lacks details on the type of assistance the account may provide or who may be eligible to receive it:

In addition, the absence of detailed guidelines on how the funds will be utilized or the specific criteria for assisting low-income workers presents challenges in ensuring the effective and equitable distribution of resources. The bill does not provide specific details about how the “Connecticut families and workers account” will assist low-income workers. It does not outline the criteria for eligibility or the specific types of assistance that will be provided. Without clear goals or metrics for success, it is difficult to assess the effectiveness of this initiative in addressing the needs of low-income workers.

Historical Context

Table 2 lists the number of vetoes for the current governor by legislative session. Prior veto packages can be found under [“Veto Packages” on OLR’s website](#).

Table 2: Vetoes by Legislative Session Since 2019

Governor	Legislative Session	Vetoes	Vetoes Overridden	OLR Veto Package Report
Lamont	2019 Regular Session	3	0	2019-R-0155
Lamont	2019 July Special Session	0	0	-
Lamont	2019 December Special Session	0	0	-
Lamont	2020 Regular Session*	0	0	2020-R-0241
Lamont	2020 July Special Session	0	0	-
Lamont	2020 September Special Session	0	0	-
Lamont	2021 Regular Session	4	0	2021-R-0118
Lamont	2021 June Special Session	0	0	-
Lamont	2022 Regular Session	2	0	2022-R-0126
Lamont	2022 November Special Session	0	0	-
Lamont	2023 Regular Session	5	0	2023-R-0142

*suspended due to COVID-19

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