



## **CRCOG Weekly Legislative Report**

### **2017 Legislative Session**

**March 30, 2017**

#### **Weekly Legislative Feature Issues:**

After another week, all but three legislative committees have concluded their business with the Judiciary, Finance, Revenue, and Bonding, and Appropriations Committees still working. This week, the Office of Fiscal Analysis released an updated budget projection for the end of FY2017 with an anticipated deficit of \$45 million. The Appropriations Committee's subcommittees have continued to prepare their reports for the committee chairs with these reports expected to be delivered next week. Meanwhile, the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee's General Bonding Subcommittee continues meeting with executive agency representatives regarding bond requests for the upcoming biennium. The two committees will soon begin meeting to continue developing a legislative budget proposal for FY18-FY19.

#### **2017 Legislative Session in the News:**

##### **Democrats eyeing sales tax hike to plug holes in next CT budget**

In addition to Governor Malloy's continued efforts to balance the budget through cuts to government expenditures, Democratic leaders on the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee have begun exploring a sales tax increase to stabilize finances in the upcoming biennium.

Rep. Jason Rojas, the House Chairs of this committee remarked that "I don't think raising taxes is anybody's first choice, but I wouldn't be honest if I didn't say we weren't looking at some revenue."

Sen. John Fonfara, Senate Democratic Chair of the committee stated that from the beginning "this was a three-legged stool, [which means] we need to help the cities, many of our towns, and still need to balance the state budget."

While neither leaders gave any details they both noted that legislators face more fiscal wild cards than in the past with an urgent need for a solution.

[CT Mirror: Democrats eyeing sales tax hike to plug holes in next CT budget 3-24-2017](#)

##### **Legislative Analysts Continue to Project a Deficit**

Analysts from the Office of Fiscal Analysis said on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> that they still expect the state to end the year with a 445 million budget deficit, which is an improvement of \$20.2 million over its projection in February.

The analysts attribute a delay in group home conversion to private providers as saving approximately \$7.3 million and a reduction of 160 families per month who are seeking cash assistance realizing \$9 million in savings. On the other hand, income tax collections are still down by about \$141.5 million and sales tax receipts are down by \$79.3 million. This coming week, State Comptroller Kevin Lembo is expected to release his budget estimates for FY2017.

[CT NewsJunkie: Legislative Analysts Continue to Project a Deficit 3-28-2017](#)

### **Aresimowicz offers phase-in compromise on pension bills for CT Towns**

Speaker of the House Joe Aresimowicz offered a compromise on one of the most contentious points in Governor Malloy's proposed budget- asking communities to gradually assume a portion of skyrocketing teacher pension costs. Speaker Aresimowicz suggested that cities and towns assume one-third of these pension costs, but do so in stages over the next five years.

House Minority Leader Themis Klarides remarked that annual teacher pension costs which a 2015 study estimated would grow 500 percent over the next 15 years from \$1 billion to \$6 billion are largely the produce of decades' worth of poor decisions by governors and legislatures. Klarides urged structural changes to achieving a balanced budget and ensuring Connecticut moves forward into a brighter fiscal future.

[CT Mirror: Aresimowicz offers phase-in compromise on pension bills for CT Towns 3-29-2017](#)

### **Tracked Bills:**

**Note: This bill list is a cleaned up list to reflect all the bills that made it out of committee.**

Bill	Title	Priority	Comment	History	Misc
HB07175	AN ACT REQUIRING THE TESTING OF CONCRETE AGGREGATE FOR THE PRESENCE OF PYRRHOTITE.	1		29-Mar-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/03/17 5:00 PM20-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
SB00002	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE EQUITABLE EDUCATION COST-SHARING GRANT FORMULA.	1		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
SB00905	AN ACT CONCERNING FAILING CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS.	1		28-Mar-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/03/17 5:00 PM20-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
HJ00041	RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION LIMITING THE USE OF MONEYS IN THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND.	2		29-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 29-Mar-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 227	File#: 297Hse Cal#: 227
HJ00100	RESOLUTION APPROVING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROTECT TRANSPORTATION FUNDS.	2		28-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 27-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	

SJ00005	RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION REGARDING THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND.	2		29-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 29-Mar-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 165	File#: 311Sen Cal#: 165
HB05220	AN ACT CONCERNING UNFUNDED STATE MANDATES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.	3		27-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0403 15-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
HB05278	AN ACT CONCERNING PAID SICK LEAVE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCHERS AND CALL RECEIVING OPERATORS.	3		16-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 16-Mar-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 77	File#: 65Hse Cal#: 77
HB05298	AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFETY OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AND PATIENTS DURING EMERGENCIES.	3		29-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 29-Mar-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 208	File#: 278Hse Cal#: 208
HB05309	AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING OF STATE MANDATES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.	3		27-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0403 15-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
HB05445	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL BUDGET RESERVE BALANCES.	3		28-Mar-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 190 28-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 250Hse Cal#: 190
HB05466	AN ACT PROHIBITING UNFUNDED MANDATES ON MUNICIPALITIES.	3		27-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0403 15-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
HB05467	AN ACT CONCERNING PORTIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE EDUCATION COST SHARING FORMULA AND OTHER AID TO MUNICIPALITIES.	3		27-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0403 15-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
HB05554	AN ACT CONCERNING THE POLITICAL COMPOSITION OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL POLITICAL BODIES.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB05592	AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF THE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING OF MUNICIPAL ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB05701	AN ACT CONCERNING THE TIMING OF THE ADOPTION OF THE EDUCATION COST-SHARING GRANT AND MUNICIPAL AID FUNDING BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.	3		27-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0403 15-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
HB05755	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPALITIES' LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLAN.	3		22-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 22-Mar-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 110	File#: 115Hse Cal#: 110
HB05778	AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPARENCY IN MUNICIPAL AID FUNDING.	3		27-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0403 15-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
HB06006	AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO LEVY A LOCAL SALES TAX.	3		02-Feb-2017 Change of Reference FIN 01-Feb-2017 CHG. REF., HOUSE TO COMM. ON FIN	

HB06051	AN ACT REQUIRING THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE HARTFORD-NEW BRITAIN BUSWAY.	3		28-Mar-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/03/17 5:00 PM20-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
HB06221	AN ACT CONCERNING RECOVERY OF PAYMENTS FROM COLLATERAL SOURCES BY A MUNICIPALITY WITH A SELF-INSURED HEALTH PLAN.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB06356	AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC NOTICE OF TREE REMOVAL ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY.	3		28-Mar-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON PD 13-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 45Hse Cal#: 63
HB06468	AN ACT ELIMINATING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR CERTAIN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.	3		02-Feb-2017 Change of Reference FIN 01-Feb-2017 CHG. REF., HOUSE TO COMM. ON FIN	
HB06469	AN ACT ALLOWING MUNICIPALITIES TO DETERMINE THE PROPERTY TAX TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES.	3		27-Feb-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0303 14-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
HB06482	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT TRAUMA ADVISORY COMMITTEE.	3		29-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 27-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB06675	AN ACT CONCERNING A MUNICIPAL OPTION FOR PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENTS FOR ARTS AND CULTURE.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB06910	AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FUNDING OF UNFUNDED ACCRUED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM LIABILITIES BY MUNICIPALITIES.	3		08-Feb-2017 CHG. REF., HOUSE TO COMM. ON PD 08-Feb-2017 CHG. REF., SEN. TO COMM. ON PD	
HB06913	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.	3		28-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 28-Mar-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 201	File#: 261Hse Cal#: 201
HB06920	AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWERS OF MUNICIPALITIES AND REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS.	3		23-Mar-2017 REF. TO JOINT COMM. ON PD 22-Mar-2017 DRAFTED BY COMMITTEE	
HB06941	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL GRANT PORTAL.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB06948	AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB06966	AN ACT CONCERNING THE RIDING AND REGULATION OF ELECTRIC BICYCLES, CERTAIN TRAFFIC AND PARKING STATUTES AND THE ADOPTION OF MUNICIPAL ROAD DESIGN STANDARDS.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
HB07034	AN ACT TRANSFORMING THE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
HB07035	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	

HB07050	AN ACT CONCERNING ENHANCEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL FINANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY.	3		03-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0309 09-Feb-2017 REF. TO JOINT COMM. ON FIN	
HB07051	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	3		28-Mar-2017 CHG. REF., HOUSE TO COMM. ON APP 28-Mar-2017 CHG. REF., SEN. TO COMM. ON APP	
HB07138	AN ACT CONCERNING LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF MAJOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND PLANNING.	3		20-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 17-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
HB07218	AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.	3		27-Mar-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO 27-Mar-2017 FAV. CHG. OF REF. HOUSE TO COMM.ON FIN	
HB07219	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT.	3		27-Mar-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO 27-Mar-2017 FAV. CHG. OF REF. HOUSE TO COMM.ON FIN	
HB07269	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL REGULATION.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB07275	AN ACT CONCERNING THE MINIMUM BUDGET REQUIREMENT.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 22-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB07276	AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION MANDATE RELIEF.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
HB07278	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PARCELS OF STATE LAND.	3		28-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 27-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
HB07293	AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL CONSOLIDATION EFFORTS AND MUNICIPALITIES.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB07294	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL FINANCE.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
HB07296	AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FUNDING OF UNFUNDED ACCRUED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM LIABILITIES BY MUNICIPALITIES.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
SB00008	AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO LEVY A LOCAL SALES TAX.	3		27-Feb-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0303 14-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
SB00076	AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A MILEAGE TAX STUDY WITH STATE FUNDS.	3		28-Mar-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/03/17 5:00 PM20-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
SB00154	AN ACT CONCERNING PORTIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET APPROPRIATING AID TO MUNICIPALITIES.	3		27-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0403 15-Feb-2017 Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing	
SB00501	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS FOR INTERSTATE ROUTES 84 AND 91 IN THE HARTFORD REGION.	3		28-Mar-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/03/17 5:00 PM20-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	

SB00655	AN ACT INCREASING FEES REMITTED TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR MOVING VIOLATIONS.	3		30-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 30-Mar-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 187	File#: 338Sen Cal#: 187
SB00657	AN ACT CONCERNING THE EDUCATION COST-SHARING GRANT AMOUNTS OF EACH TOWN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018 AND 2019.	3		25-Jan-2017 REF. TO JOINT COMM. ON APP	
SB00729	AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS.	3		25-Jan-2017 REF. TO JOINT COMM. ON APP	
SB00785	AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPENDITURE CAP.	3		27-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0403 09-Feb-2017 REF. TO JOINT COMM. ON APP	
SB00786	AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION MANDATE RELIEF, TRANSPARENCY AND REGIONAL INCENTIVES.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
SB00788	AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.	3		03-Mar-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0309 09-Feb-2017 REF. TO JOINT COMM. ON FIN	
SB00805	AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION ISSUES.	3		28-Mar-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/03/17 5:00 PM20-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
SB00806	AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CRUMBLING FOUNDATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND ASSISTING HOMEOWNERS WITH CRUMBLING FOUNDATIONS.	3		29-Mar-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO 29-Mar-2017 FILE NO. 301	File#: 301Sen Cal#: 174
SB00885	AN ACT CONCERNING RECOVERY OF PAYMENTS FROM COLLATERAL SOURCES BY A MUNICIPALITY WITH A SELF-INSURED HEALTH PLAN.	3		23-Feb-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0227 22-Feb-2017 REF. TO JOINT COMM. ON JUD	
SB00907	AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF A THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE IN THE CALCULATION OF SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT REIMBURSEMENT PERCENTAGES.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 22-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
SB00922	AN ACT CONCERNING TEMPORARY HEALTH CARE STRUCTURES.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
SB00923	AN ACT CONCERNING THE POSSESSIONS OF DECEASED TENANTS.	3		27-Mar-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/03/17 10:00 AM20-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
SB00941	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING REVISIONS TO LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLANS.	3		28-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
SB01026	AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 22-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	

SB01033	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL FORECLOSURE ACTIONS ON TAX LIENS AND LIENS ON BLIGHTED REAL ESTATE.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	
SB01035	AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable	
SB01036	AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSESSMENT OF MUNICIPAL TAXES ON CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS.	3		27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO 24-Mar-2017 Joint Favorable Substitute	