



CRCOG Weekly Legislative Report

2017 Legislative Session

April 6, 2017

Weekly Legislative Feature Issues:

This week has been relatively quiet with most of the committee work at the Legislative Office Building concluded save for the Judiciary, Appropriations, and Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committees. The committees that have met their deadlines already, will now meet on an ad hoc basis as referrals come to them from the floor of the House or Senate. This past Wednesday, April 5th, the House of Representatives held a session from noon to about 6 PM. Beyond the usual confirmation of judges and executive nominations, the House began to run substantive bills that were vetted by committees, and reviewed by the non-partisan offices of Fiscal Analysis and Legislative Research. As the legislative session progresses, more and more activity will shift to the Capitol.

2017 Legislative Session in the News:

Lembo, OFA project CT budget deficit; Malloy does not

On Monday, April 3, 2017, State Comptroller Kevin Lembo projected that the current state budget will close the fiscal year with a small \$44.6 million deficit. This is closely aligned with the conclusion reached on March 27th by the Office of Fiscal Analysis. On the other hand, this projection is at odds with Governor Malloy's one projection of a small surplus of \$22 million. Comptroller Lembo remarked that "The withholding portion of the income tax, which accounts for over 60 percent of total income tax receipts, has been weakening in recent months." Moreover, he remarked that "In addition, estimated income tax payments through February were below last fiscal year's receipts."

[CT Mirror: Lembo, OFA project CT budget deficit; Malloy does not 4-3-2017.](#)

Public Urges Lawmakers to Adopt Spending Cap Definition

In continuing a debate that began 25 years ago, the Appropriations Committee held a public hearing on Monday, April 3, 2017 to receive public input on a number of proposals relating to a state spending cap, including payments to the state's retirement systems. Rep. Chris Davis, Republican Ranking Member of the Finance, Revenue, & Bonding Committee, remarked that it is important to recognize that payments to the state pensions are a major component of state spending and that they should be included under the state spending cap, because it is part of the state's spending. The state is currently spending about \$1.9 billion on pensions.

These efforts are intended to return the nearly \$2 billion in long-term pension and retiree health costs out from under the cap in 2015. Opponents of these actions argue that the spending cap has caused

Connecticut to leave federal dollars on the table despite an inability to identify exactly how much money the state has been unable to collect.

[CT NewsJunkie: Public Urges Lawmakers to Adopt Spending Cap Definition 4-3-2017](#)

File Copy No. 403 released for [SB No. 501](#): AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS FOR INTERSTATE ROUTE 84 AND 91 IN THE HARTFORD REGION

On Wednesday, April 5, 2017, the Legislative Commissioner’s Office released File Copy No. 403 for this bill, which will allow the Department of Transportation to consider using any federal funds that become available through the efforts of the Connecticut delegation. This relates directly back to an article appearing in late January of this year in the Hartford Courant in which Congressman John Larson held a town hall to explain his plan to develop a vast network of tunnels for highways and how their interchange would free up hundreds of acres in the Hartford. ([Hartford Courant: Larson Pitches Plan for I-91, I-84 Tunnels Through Hartford 1-26-2017](#)).

File Copy No. 403 for [SB No. 501](#): AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS FOR INTERSTATE ROUTES 84 AND 91 IN THE HARTFORD REGION.

This bill allows the Department of Transportation to consider using such federal funds that become available to construct tunnels for Interstate Routes 84 and 91 in the Hartford region.

[OFA Fiscal Note for File Copy No. 403](#)

[OLR Bill Analysis for File Copy No. 403](#)

Tracked Bills:

Bill	Title	Priority	Comment	History	Misc
HB07175	AN ACT CONCERNING THE TESTING OF NATURAL GRAVEL AGGREGATES FOR THE PRESENCE OF PYRRHOTITE.	1		04-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 04-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 290	File#: 395 Hse Cal#: 290
SB00002	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE EQUITABLE EDUCATION COST-SHARING GRANT FORMULA.	1		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
SB00905	AN ACT CONCERNING FAILING CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS.	1		04-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 04-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 218	File#: 413 Sen Cal#: 218
HJ00041	RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION LIMITING THE USE OF MONEYS IN THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND.	2		04-Apr-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON GAE 29-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 297 Hse Cal#: 227
HJ00100	RESOLUTION APPROVING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROTECT TRANSPORTATION FUNDS.	2		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM28-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	

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#: 278 Hse 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		04-Apr-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON PD 28-Mar-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 190	File#: 250 Hse 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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
HB05592	AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF THE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING OF MUNICIPAL ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS.	3		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
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#: 115 Hse 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		04-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 04-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 281	File#: 386 Hse Cal#: 281

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		03-Apr-2017 FILED WITH LCO 03-Apr-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO	File#: 45 Hse 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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
HB06913	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.	3		04-Apr-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON PD 28-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 261 Hse Cal#: 201
HB06941	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL GRANT PORTAL.	3		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
HB06948	AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.	3		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
HB07035	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION.	3		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
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		05-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 05-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 303	File#: 430 Hse Cal#: 303
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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
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		04-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 04-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 221	File#: 399 Sen Cal#: 221
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		04-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 04-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 224	File#: 403 Sen Cal#: 224
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#: 338 Sen 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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	

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		04-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 04-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 225	File#: 407 Sen Cal#: 225
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#: 301 Sen 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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
SB00923	AN ACT CONCERNING THE POSSESSIONS OF DECEASED TENANTS.	3		03-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 03-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 202	File#: 372 Sen Cal#: 202
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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
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		05-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/10/17 5:00 PM27-Mar-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
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	
HB06608	AN ACT EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR REQUIRING CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES TO WAIVE PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAX PAYMENTS FROM A HOUSING AUTHORITY.	4		23-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 23-Mar-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 145	File#: 176 Hse Cal#: 145