



CRCOG Weekly Legislative Report

2017 Legislative Session

April 20, 2017

Weekly Legislative Feature Issues:

This week was an eventful one that began with a Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee public hearing on several bills, including [HB No. 7317: AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC TOLLS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN LOAN AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION](#). Additionally, both the House and the Senate convened for session on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 to work through a host of bills. Meanwhile, the Appropriations Committee and the Finance, Revenue, & Bonding Committee continue working diligently as their final deadlines approach on Thursday, April 27, 2017 and Friday, April 28, 2017, respectively. We anticipate that the General Assembly will release a budget proposal early next week. Following this release, the House and Senate Republicans are expected to release an alternative budget proposal as well. The release of these budget proposals will mark the beginning of the budget negotiations that will likely run until the very end of the legislative session, if not longer.

2017 Legislative Session in the News:

Tolls Could Lead to Billions in Revenue, But Not All Lawmakers Sold

While the legislature searches for new revenue, the offered solution of highway tolls may not be quite what it seems. This past Monday the debate was renewed with strong voices being heard on both sides of the issue during a public hearing before the Finance, Revenue, & Bonding Committee. The state's drivers contribute to the tolls of other states when traveling while out-of-state drivers in Connecticut pass through freely. Many feel that the state should capture the revenue for the uses like maintaining aging highway and transportation infrastructure. Some legislators feel it is just another tax on beleaguered state residents. The projected breakdown would be 30% out-of-state and 70% in-state in revenue generation. The vote in the Transportation Committee at the Capitol was split along party lines with Democrats getting the bill out. The Speaker of the House feels that tolling Connecticut roadways is inevitable. He feels that the installation of overhead gantries to accommodate toll collection could be accomplished within 18 months. Others feel that is highly optimistic.

[Hartford Courant: Tolls Could Lead to Billions in Revenue, But Not All Lawmakers Sold 4-17-2017.](#)

Advocates for teachers, towns say voters oppose pension cost shift

On Tuesday, polling results were released that showed 72% of those surveyed were opposed to using local property tax dollars to help fund the state's shortfall on teacher pensions. The problem has been

long standing and is projected to balloon in the coming decade and a half. The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and the Connecticut Education Association conducted the survey, which also indicated that 64% of those asked would vote against a legislator that backed the Governor’s plan to shift one third of the teacher pension liability to the cities and towns. The poll involved questioning 600 Connecticut voters. Municipal budgets are already burdened by having to make up for years of underfunding from the state for critical services. The problem exists due to the failure of past governors and legislatures to save adequately. Governor Malloy continues to insist that the communities of the state should bear one-third of the accumulated debt. Communities say the only way to accommodate the Governor’s proposal is to cut critical services in the education arena and at the same time raise property taxes. West Hartford’s Mayor said absorption of this proposal would be unsustainable without “major property tax hikes”. While the presenters at the Tuesday press conference were long on criticism, they were short on ideas to get out of the problem.

[CT Mirror: Advocates for teachers, towns say voters oppose pension cost shift. 4-18-2017.](#)

Malloy warns CT employee unions of nearly 1,100 layoffs planned for May

Today, Governor Malloy’s administration notified state employee unions that nearly 1,100 workers could face layoffs in May as part of an alternative cost-cutting plan if ongoing negotiations over concessions prove fruitless. Malloy was quick to note that announcement is not being made for leverage. Instead it is necessary to satisfy legal notice requirements and should not be considered saber rattling. Currently, Malloy is seeking concessions worth an enormous \$1.57 billion in the next biennial budget, which breaks down to \$700 million in savings in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and \$869 million in 2018-2019. The governor has signaled in the past that should the negotiations for union concessions fail, layoffs he will take alternative actions.

[CT Mirror: Malloy warns CT employee unions of nearly 1,100 layoffs planned for May 4-20-2017.](#)

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#: 395Hse Cal#: 290
SB00002	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE EQUITABLE EDUCATION COST-SHARING GRANT FORMULA.	1		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 11-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 273	File#: 517Sen Cal#: 273
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#: 413Sen Cal#: 218
HJ00041	RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION LIMITING THE USE OF MONEYS IN THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND.	2		10-Apr-2017 NO NEW FILE BY COMM. ON GAE 10-Apr-2017 TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDAR	File#: 297Hse Cal#: 227

HJ00100	RESOLUTION APPROVING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROTECT TRANSPORTATION FUNDS.	2		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 11-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 356	File#: 516Hse Cal#: 356
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		11-Apr-2017 FILED WITH LCO 11-Apr-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO	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		18-Apr-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON GAE 11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 488Hse Cal#: 329
HB05592	AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF THE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING OF MUNICIPAL ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 11-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 330	File#: 489Hse Cal#: 330
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	
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#: 386Hse Cal#: 281

HB06221	AN ACT CONCERNING RECOVERY OF PAYMENTS FROM COLLATERAL SOURCES BY A MUNICIPALITY WITH A SELF-INSURED HEALTH PLAN.	3		12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 12-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 359	File#: 544Hse Cal#: 359
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#: 45Hse Cal#: 63
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		13-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 13-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 383	File#: 581Hse Cal#: 383
HB06675	AN ACT CONCERNING A MUNICIPAL OPTION FOR PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENTS FOR ARTS AND CULTURE.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 11-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 338	File#: 497Hse Cal#: 338
HB06913	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.	3		10-Apr-2017 Vote to Hold until next meeting 04-Apr-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON PD	File#: 261Hse Cal#: 201
HB06941	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL GRANT PORTAL.	3		19-Apr-2017 HOUSE PASSED 11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 500Hse Cal#: 341
HB06948	AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 11-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 342	File#: 501Hse Cal#: 342
HB06966	AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN PARKING AND TRAFFIC STATUTES AND THE UPDATING OF ROAD DESIGN STANDARDS.	3		18-Apr-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON TRA 12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 545Hse Cal#: 360
HB07034	AN ACT TRANSFORMING THE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.	3		18-Apr-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON GAE 11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 502Hse Cal#: 343
HB07035	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 11-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 344	File#: 503Hse Cal#: 344
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	
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#: 430Hse 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		12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 12-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 369	File#: 554Hse Cal#: 369
HB07275	AN ACT CONCERNING THE MINIMUM BUDGET REQUIREMENT.	3		12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 12-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 372	File#: 557Hse Cal#: 372

HB07276	AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION MANDATE RELIEF.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 11-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 352	File#: 512Hse Cal#: 352
HB07278	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PARCELS OF STATE LAND.	3		13-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 13-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 400	File#: 598Hse Cal#: 400
HB07293	AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL CONSOLIDATION EFFORTS AND MUNICIPALITIES.	3		18-Apr-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON LAB 12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 558Hse Cal#: 374
HB07294	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL FINANCE.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 11-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 354	File#: 514Hse Cal#: 354
HB07296	AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FUNDING OF UNFUNDED ACCRUED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM LIABILITIES BY MUNICIPALITIES.	3		12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 12-Apr-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 373	File#: 560Hse Cal#: 373
HB07317	AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC TOLLS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN LOAN AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.	3		13-Apr-2017 PUBLIC HEARING 0417 12-Apr-2017 REF. TO JOINT COMM. ON FIN	
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#: 399Sen 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#: 403Sen 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#: 338Sen Cal#: 187
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 AND THE TRANSPARENCY OF ENDOWED ACADEMIES.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 11-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 274	File#: 525Sen Cal#: 274
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#: 407Sen 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#: 301Sen Cal#: 174

SB00885	AN ACT CONCERNING RECOVERY OF PAYMENTS FROM COLLATERAL SOURCES BY A MUNICIPALITY WITH A SELF-INSURED HEALTH PLAN.	3		18-Apr-2017 REFERRED TO OLR, OFA 04/24/17 5:00 PM07-Apr-2017 FILED WITH LCO	
SB00907	AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF A THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE IN THE CALCULATION OF SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT REIMBURSEMENT PERCENTAGES.	3		12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 12-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 299	File#: 564Sen Cal#: 299
SB00922	AN ACT CONCERNING TEMPORARY HEALTH CARE STRUCTURES.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 11-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 293	File#: 529Sen Cal#: 293
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#: 372Sen Cal#: 202
SB00941	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING REVISIONS TO LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLANS.	3		13-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 13-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 335	File#: 616Sen Cal#: 335
SB01026	AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 11-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 284	File#: 540Sen Cal#: 284
SB01033	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL FORECLOSURE ACTIONS ON TAX LIENS AND LIENS ON BLIGHTED REAL ESTATE.	3		12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 12-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 309	File#: 572Sen Cal#: 309
SB01035	AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES.	3		11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 11-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 288	File#: 541Sen Cal#: 288
SB01036	AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSESSMENT OF MUNICIPAL TAXES ON CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS.	3		12-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 12-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 310	File#: 573Sen Cal#: 310
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#: 176Hse Cal#: 145