



## **CRCOG Weekly Legislative Report**

### **2017 Legislative Session**

**April 27, 2017**

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

It has been a tumultuous week at the Capitol with the Appropriations Committee hitting their deadline without voting on a budget or a single bill, thereby allowing approximately 250 bills to die in committee. The subsequent fallout culminated in the release of a joint House and Senate Republican budget proposal in the afternoon on Thursday. While the Appropriations Committee proposal was \$400 million above the Governor's proposal, one thing both measures have in common was a more equitable distribution of ECS grants funds and the removal of the Governor's proposal to shift a part of the state's obligation of paying for Teacher Retirement to municipalities.

Meanwhile, the Finance, Revenue, & Bonding Committee, whose final deadline is Friday, April 28, 2017 at 5:00 PM, spent much of the day in caucus deliberations regarding bills that will be voted out of committee today. Their decisions will likely be impacted by the announcement from the Office of the Governor that state income tax receipts are down even more drastically than initially expected by \$450 million dollars, which will increase the current \$3.6 billion deficit forecast by \$1.1 billion for the upcoming biennium. As such, budget negotiations are ongoing despite an increasingly acrimonious political environment in Hartford.

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

##### **CT Budget Process Collapses Amid Dissension**

On Tuesday, the Appropriations Committee failed to adopt a \$41 billion budget proposal with both parties blaming each other for the committee's failure to act. Senator Cathy Osten and Rep. Toni Walker, the Democratic chairs on the Appropriations Panel, announced at about 3:00 PM that vote would not be held. Representative Walker remarked that "It was made clear that many of the people who were participating [in preparing the plan] were still voting no" in reference to Republican members of the committee. Senate Republican leader Len Fasano shot back that "It was obvious they didn't have the Democratic votes to push that budget through for one reason or the other." Governor Malloy expressed disappointment that the committee failed to recommend a spending plan, but the Democratic governor pledged to continue working with both parties to close major projected deficits in the upcoming fiscal years.

[CT Mirror: CT Budget Process Collapses Amid Dissension 4-25-2017](#)

## CT Tax Revenue in Free Fall, Adding \$1.1B in Red Ink for Next 2 Years

It was announced by the Office of the Governor, that plummeting state income tax collections are the worst since the last recession declining approximately \$450 million below anticipated levels for April. This will add \$1.1 billion to an already massive \$3.6 billion deficit forecast for the upcoming 2018-2019 biennium as a result of state income tax projections being downgrades by \$500 million and \$600 million, respectively. It is expected that this will shatter hopes of avoiding tax increases or big municipal aid reductions in the next budget. Additionally, this will mean that Connecticut will close its third consecutive fiscal year in deficit as well as depleting the state's emergency budget reserve by \$235.6 million.

"The drop in income tax revenue that we have experienced this April creates some major challenges for state government," said Office of Policy and Management Secretary Ben Barnes, Malloy's budget director. "First, we need to take every action available to us to reduce spending between now and June 30 to reduce our current year deficit as much as possible. We are doing this now. Second, we need to develop new approaches to further reduce spending in order to balance the budget for the years ahead. Our budget, which already demanded painful choices, has just become \$500 million worse. We cannot afford to stay on our current course."

[CT Mirror: CT Tax Revenue in Free Fall, Adding \\$1.1 B in Red Ink for Next 2 Years 4-27-2017.](#)

## Republican Budget Proposal Rejects Several Malloy Initiatives, Adjusts Education Funding Plan

Today, the House and Senate Republicans released their alternative budget proposal, which is effectively a wide-scale rewrite of the governor's budget released in February 2017. The Republicans budget proposal rejects the governor's proposal to tax hospitals on their real estate, his proposed cigarette tax increase as well as the proposal to increase the gun permit fees, and restores the \$200 property tax credit on the state income tax for the elderly and those with dependents among a number of other actions. The plan also includes changes to the education cost-sharing formula and reformulates municipal aid, eliminates the MRSA, and holds towns harmless in FY2018 to overall municipal cuts. This proposal drew immediate criticism from the legislative Democrats.

[Hartford Courant: Republican Budget Proposal Rejects Several Malloy Initiatives, Adjusts Education Funding Plan 4-27-2017.](#)

### 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
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 MONIES 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
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
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
HB05554	AN ACT CONCERNING THE POLITICAL COMPOSITION OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL POLITICAL BODIES.	3		25-Apr-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO 25-Apr-2017 FILED WITH LCO	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
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
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
HB06941	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL GRANT PORTAL.	3		21-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 21-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 374	File#: 500Hse Cal#: 341Sen Cal#: 374

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
HB07034	AN ACT TRANSFORMING THE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.	3		25-Apr-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO 25-Apr-2017 FILED WITH LCO	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
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

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
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		25-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 25-Apr-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 388	File#: 709Sen Cal#: 388
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
---------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------