



CRCOG Weekly Legislative Report

2018 Legislative Session

February 22, 2018

Weekly Legislative Feature Issues:

The Appropriations Committee held a series of public hearings this week aimed at receiving input from stakeholders from around the state. Each day, the committee had designated specific issue areas for which they would first receive a presentation by the executive office or agency of cognizance and then opened the floor to the public to be heard. These hearings often stretched late into the night, but the legislators were stalwart in their efforts to hear every person seeking to testify.

Additionally, the Connecticut General Assembly continued working on raising concepts to be drafted as bills. This initial process will come to an end this week when the committees have passed their raised bill deadlines. The legislative committees are broken into two groups, Group A, which has its raised bill deadline at 5:00 PM on Friday, February 23, 2018, and Group B, which has its raised bill deadline at 5:00 PM on Thursday, February 22, 2018. Below is a list of the committees in each group.

Government A Committees (2-23-2018)	Government B Committees (2-22-2018)
Appropriations	Aging
Education	Banking
Environment	Children
Finance, Revenue, & Bonding	Commerce
Government Administration and Elections	Energy & Technology
Judiciary	General Law
Planning and Development	Higher Education & Employment Advancement
Public Health	Housing
Transportation	Human Services
	Insurance and Real Estate
	Labor and Public Employees
	Public Safety and Security
	Veterans' Affairs

The legislative committees will now move into the public hearing portion of the legislative session in which bills will be reserved for public comment, which is intended to inform the legislators' decisions on individual bills.

This past week has revealed new developments of particular interest to you:

Cities and Towns Press for Release of Road Repair Funds

Advocates working on behalf of the state's municipalities urged Governor Malloy to release nearly \$30 million in road repair grants owed to those cities and towns before the end of the current state fiscal year on June 30th. The Malloy administration warned that Town Aid Roads (TAR) grant payments could be stalled until legislators stabilize the state transportation program headed for insolvency by next fiscal year.

Betsy Gara, Executive Director of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns is quoted as saying "Town Aid Road grants are critical to Connecticut's small towns in maintaining the transportation infrastructure needed to support local economies." The state budgeted \$60 million in TAR Grants for the full fiscal year with the traditional disbursement being half to communities in July and the remainder in January. In a break from tradition, the State Bond Commission did not include the second \$30 million installment on its agenda for Friday, February 16, 2018. Chris McClure, spokesman for the Office of Policy and Management commented that the state bond commission will have more opportunities to meet before the fiscal year ends on June 30th, but Governor Malloy has already warned that the instability of the Special Transportation Fund, which would cover the debt payments on the TAR bonds needs to be addressed before additional payments can be reasonably made.

[CT Mirror: Cities and Towns Press for Release of Road Repair Funds 2-15-2018](#)

With Bonding Capped at \$1.9B, Agenda Receives Scrutiny

On Friday, February 16, 2018, the State Bond Commission approved \$70 million in bonds for projects including a parking garage, and a soccer stadium. The commission also approved a \$5 million loan for the Capital Region Development Authority to help repair the parking garage across the street from the XL Center. This garage was purchased by the state in 2015 and requires waterproofing and other structural repairs. OPM Secretary Barnes noted that the garage generates more than \$1 million a year and helps offset the losses from the XL Center. Additionally, CRDA received \$10 million from the Bond Commission to make improvements to Dillon Stadium and the area surrounding Colt Park. Another action of note was the commission's approval of the first \$350,000 for the Connecticut Foundations Solutions Indemnity Company, which will provide the initial capital and professional services to be administering the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund.

[CTNewsJunkie: With Bonding Capped at \\$1.9B, Agenda Receives Scrutiny 2-19-2018](#)

Tracked Bills:

CROCOG Bill Report				
Bill Number	Priority	Title & Synopsis	Sponsors	Status
HB 5004	3	<p>An Act Increasing The Sales And Use Taxes Exemption For Items Sold For School Fundraising And School-related Activities.</p> <p>To increase, from twenty dollars to fifty dollars, the exemption from sales and use taxes of items sold by certain charitable organizations and schools for fundraising and school-related activities.</p>	Rep. Mike Bocchino (150)	<p>Committees: FIN</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding (2/7)</p>
HB 5045	3	<p>An Act Establishing Accountability For Fair And Affordable Housing Through Zoning Regulations.</p> <p>To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.</p>	Rep. Joe Aresimowicz (30); Sen. Bob Duff (S25); Sen. Martin M. Looney (S11); Rep. Matthew Ritter (1)	<p>Committees: PD</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Planning and Development (2/8)</p>

<p>HB 5046</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Sustainability Of Transportation Projects.</p> <p>To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.</p>	<p>Rep. Joe Aresimowicz (30); Sen. Bob Duff (S25); Sen. Martin M. Looney (S11); Rep. Matthew Ritter (1)</p>	<p>Committees: TRA</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Transportation (2/8)</p>
<p>HB 5051</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Deposit Of Motor Vehicle Sales And Use Taxes Into The Special Transportation Fund.</p> <p>To accelerate the rate of deposit of motor vehicle sales and use taxes into the Special Transportation Fund and eliminate the phase-in.</p>	<p>Rep. Fred Wilms (142)</p>	<p>Committees: FIN</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding (2/9)</p>
<p>HB 5069</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Reimbursing Certain Municipalities For The Loss Of Motor Vehicle Tax Revenue.</p> <p>To reimburse three municipalities that conducted revaluations after 2015 for lost motor vehicle tax revenue.</p>	<p>Rep. Michael D'Agostino (91); Rep. Josh Elliott (88); Rep. Robyn A. Porter (94)</p>	<p>Committees: APP</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations (2/14)</p>

<p>HB 5072</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Reimbursing Certain Municipalities For The Loss Of Motor Vehicle Tax Revenue.</p> <p>To reimburse three municipalities that conducted revaluations after 2015 for lost motor vehicle tax revenue.</p>	<p>Rep. Michelle L. Cook (65)</p>	<p>Committees: APP</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations (2/14)</p>
<p>HB 5073</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Restoring Holdbacks To The State Budget.</p> <p>To restore budget holdbacks made by the Governor during the current fiscal year.</p>	<p>Rep. Tim Ackert (8)</p>	<p>Committees: APP</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations (2/14)</p>
<p>HB 5079</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Reducing The Subsidy For Ct Fastrack.</p> <p>To reduce the subsidy for CT Fastrack.</p>	<p>Rep. Robin Green (55)</p>	<p>Committees: APP</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations (2/14)</p>

<p><u>HB 5081</u></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Reimbursing Three Municipalities For The Loss Of Motor Vehicle Tax Revenue.</p> <p>To reimburse three municipalities that conducted revaluations after 2015 for lost motor vehicle tax revenue.</p>	<p>Rep. Andre F. Baker (124); Rep. John "Jack" F. Hennessy (127); Rep. Christopher Rosario (128); Rep. Ezequiel Santiago (130); Rep. Steven J. Stafstrom (129); Rep. Charlie L. Stallworth (126)</p>	<p>Committees: APP</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations (2/14)</p>
<p><u>HB 5083</u></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Full Funding Of Special Education.</p> <p>To require the state to pay the full cost of special education.</p>	<p>Rep. Doug Dubitsky (47)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>
<p><u>HB 5123</u></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Restoring Education Cost-sharing Grant Funding To Towns.</p> <p>To restore education cost-sharing grant funding to those towns whose grants were reduced by the executive branch.</p>	<p>Rep. Andrew M. Fleischmann (18)</p>	<p>Committees: APP</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations (2/15)</p>
<p><u>HB 5143</u></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Lowering The Age Of Eligibility For Property Tax Relief For Elderly Persons.</p>	<p>Aging Committee</p>	<p>Committees: AGE</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Aging (2/16)</p>

		To lower the age an elderly person must be to obtain available property tax relief.		
HB 5150	3	<p>An Act Concerning The Department Of Public Health's Recommendations Regarding Revisions To The General Statutes Concerning Municipal Health Authorities And District Departments Of Health.</p> <p>To implement the recommendations of the Department of Public Health regarding revisions to the general statutes concerning municipal health authorities and district departments of health.</p>	Public Health Committee	<p>Committees: PH</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health (2/16)</p>
HB 5167	3	<p>An Act Increasing The Amount A Board Of Education May Deposit Into A Nonlapsing Account For Unexpended Education Funds.</p> <p>To increase the amount of unexpended funds that a board of</p>	Education Committee	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Public Hearing 02/26 (2/22)</p>

		education is allowed to deposit into a nonlapsing account at the end of the fiscal year.		
HB 5171	3	<p>An Act Prohibiting The Executive Branch From Making Rescissions Or Other Reductions To The Education Cost Sharing Grant During The Fiscal Year.</p> <p>To prohibit the Governor from making rescissions to a town's education cost sharing grant during the fiscal year.</p>	Education Committee	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Public Hearing 02/26 (2/22)</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>HB 5172</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning State Agency Data Management And Processes, The Transmittal Of Town Property Assessment Information And The Suspension Of Certain Regulatory Requirements.</p> <p>To increase access to data by executive branch agencies by codifying the provisions of Executive Order 39, to require the Office of Policy and Management to establish and oversee a state-wide process improvement initiative, to require towns to transmit certain property assessment information to their regional council of governments or the Office of</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Government Administration and Elections Committee</p>	<p>Committees: GAE</p> <p>Status: GAE Public Hearing: Mon 2/26 11:00 AM @ Room 2A (2/22)</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>HB 5180</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Appraisal Of Certain Rental Income-producing Real Property.</p> <p>To remove the requirement that an assessor or board of assessors consider the capitalization of net income based on market rent for a similar property when appraising certain real property used primarily for the purpose of producing rental income in order to determine the present true and actual value of such property.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Planning and Development Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committees: PD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Status: PD Public Hearing: Mon 2/26 10:00 AM @ Room 2B (2/22)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>HB 5182</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Assessment Of Certain Fees By Building Officials.</p> <p>To require building officials in certain municipalities to establish and assess a fee for the commencement of certain work without a necessary permit.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Planning and Development Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committees: PD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Status: PD Public Hearing: Mon 2/26 10:00 AM @ Room 2B (2/22)</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>HB 5183</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Requiring A Study Of The Planning, Development And Financing Of Municipal Entertainment Districts.</p> <p>To require the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to conduct a study concerning the planning, development and financing of municipal entertainment districts.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Planning and Development Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committees: PD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Status: PD Public Hearing: Mon 2/26 10:00 AM @ Room 2B (2/22)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>HB 5184</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Permitting The Amendment Of Municipal Charters For The Purpose Of Modifying Budget Adoption Dates.</p> <p>To permit the amendment of municipal charters for the purpose of modifying budget adoption dates.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Planning and Development Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committees: PD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Planning and Development (2/21)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>HB 5198</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Requiring State And Local Agencies And Utilities To Adopt A Housing Affordability Impact Analysis.</p> <p>To require state agencies, local agencies and</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Housing Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committees: HSG</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Housing (2/22)</p>

		utility companies to produce a housing affordability impact analysis of any proposed regulation, restriction or requirement.		
<u>HB 5199</u>	3	<p>An Act Allowing Certain Municipalities To Create Property Tax Relief Programs For Graduates Of Certain Educational Institutions Located In Connecticut.</p> <p>To allow the eight municipalities with largest populations in this state to create a program providing property tax relief as an incentive for certain graduates to buy a first home in such municipalities.</p>	Housing Committee	<p>Committees: HSG</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Housing (2/22)</p>

<p>HB 5229</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning Reimbursement For The Purchase Of Dashboard Cameras With A Remote Recorder And Digital Data Storage Devices Or Services.</p> <p>To expand a grant program that reimburses a municipality for the cost of dashboard cameras purchased during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, and June 30, 2018, and digital data storage devices or services purchased during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.</p>	<p>Public Safety and Security Committee</p>	<p>Committees: PS</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Security (2/22)</p>
<p>HB 5231</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Providing For A Freeze On Property Taxes For Qualified Disabled Veterans.</p> <p>To permit municipalities to provide a freeze on property taxes for disabled veterans that meet certain qualifications.</p>	<p>Veterans' Affairs Committee</p>	<p>Committees: VA</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Veterans' Affairs (2/22)</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SB 6</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">An Act Implementing The Governor's Budget Recommendations For General Government.</p> <p>To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.</p>	<p>Rep. Joe Aresimowicz (30); Sen. Bob Duff (S25); Sen. Martin M. Looney (S11); Rep. Matthew Ritter (1)</p>	<p>Committees: APP</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations (2/8)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SB 8</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">An Act Implementing The Governor's Budget Recommendations Concerning Education.</p> <p>To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.</p>	<p>Rep. Joe Aresimowicz (30); Sen. Bob Duff (S25); Sen. Martin M. Looney (S11); Rep. Matthew Ritter (1)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Public Hearing 02/26 (2/22)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SB 22</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">An Act Appropriating Funds For The Remedial Action And Redevelopment Municipal Grant Program.</p> <p>To provide funding for brownfield remediation projects.</p>	<p>Sen. Kevin C. Kelly (S21)</p>	<p>Committees: APP</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations (2/14)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SB 25</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline</p>	<p>Sen. Douglas McCroory (S2)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>

		<p>and to provide training to students that will prepare them with the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>		
<p>SB 27</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>	<p>Sen. Edwin A. Gomes (S23)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>
<p>SB 28</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with</p>	<p>Sen. Steve Cassano (S4)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>

		<p>the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>		
<p>SB 29</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>	<p>Sen. Beth Bye (S5)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>
<p>SB 30</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with</p>	<p>Sen. Martin M. Looney (S11)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>

		<p>the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>		
<p>SB 31</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>	<p>Sen. Terry B. Gerratana (S6)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>
<p>SB 32</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with</p>	<p>Sen. Ted Kennedy (S12)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>

		<p>the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>		
<p>SB 33</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>	<p>Sen. Marilyn V. Moore (S22)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>
<p>SB 34</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with</p>	<p>Sen. Catherine A. Osten (S19)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>

		<p>the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>		
<p>SB 35</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.</p>	<p>Sen. Timothy D. Larson (S3)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>
<p>SB 36</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning The Reimagining, Reinvesting And Linking Of Technical Education And Career Schools.</p> <p>To overhaul Connecticut's workforce pipeline and to provide training to students that will prepare them with</p>	<p>Sen. Bob Duff (S25)</p>	<p>Committees: ED</p> <p>Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education (2/14)</p>

		the work skills needed to meet the state's growing workforce needs.		
<u>SB 71</u>	3	An Act Concerning Assault Of A Coach. To increase the fine for assaulting a coach.	Sen. Catherine A. Osten (S19)	Committees: JUD Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Judiciary (2/14)
<u>SB 106</u>	3	An Act Concerning The Sale Of "connecticut Grown" Products. To provide for the offering of proof that farm products that are sold to school districts as "Connecticut-grown" are actually grown in the state.	Environment Committee	Committees: ENV Status: ENV Public Hearing: Fri 2/23 11:00 AM @ Room 1A (2/16)
<u>SB 161</u>	3	An Act Exempting Certain Building Materials From The Sales And Use Taxes. To exempt from the sales and use taxes building materials that are used in connection with	Sen. Anthony Guglielmo (S35)	Committees: FIN Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding (2/16)

		repairs of crumbling foundations of residential buildings.		
<u>SB 181</u>	3	<p>An Act Establishing A Pilot Program For The Preservation Of Open Space.</p> <p>To require the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to establish a pilot program to permit certain municipalities to impose a buyer's fee on the conveyance of certain real property sales to generate funds for the purchase, preservation or stewardship of open space.</p>	Planning and Development Committee	<p>Committees: PD</p> <p>Status: PD Public Hearing: Mon 2/26 10:00 AM @ Room 2B (2/22)</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SB 182</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning Municipal Tax Appeals And Contingency Agreements.</p> <p>To require persons representing property owners or lessors in certain appeals concerning real property assessments to be either attorneys or certified or provisionally licensed real estate appraisers and to prohibit certified or provisionally licensed real estate appraisers from entering into contingency fee agreements in such appeals.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Planning and Development Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committees: PD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Status: PD Public Hearing: Mon 2/26 10:00 AM @ Room 2B (2/22)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SB 183</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Department Of Education.</p> <p>To implement the recommendations of the Department of Education.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Education Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committees: ED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Status: Public Hearing 02/26 (2/22)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SB 184</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<p>An Act Concerning Authorization Of State Grant Commitments For School Building Projects.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Education Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Committees: ED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Status: Public Hearing 02/26 (2/22)</p>

		To authorize state grant commitments for school building projects.		
<u>SB 199</u>	3	An Act Concerning Special Education Funding. To alter the manner in which special education is funded in this state.	Insurance and Real Estate Committee	Committees: INS Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Insurance and Real Estate (2/22)