



CRCOG Weekly Legislative Report

2017 Legislative Session

June 1, 2017

Weekly Legislative Feature Issues:

There is a week remaining in the legislative session that ends next Wednesday, June 7 at midnight. The governor and legislative leaders continue to work towards a budget deal designed to close a projected \$5.1 billion deficit for the upcoming biennium. In addition to these negotiations, the House and Senate voted to pass a negotiated deficit mitigation plan, which will now move to Governor Malloy for further action. In the final days of session, the General Assembly is expected to remain focused on the budget, while continuing work on legislation through the final minutes of session.

2017 Legislative Session in the News:

House Pulls Plug on Tolls, for at Least One Night

Opposition within the House Democratic Caucus and limited support in the House Republican Caucus resulted in a delay for a bill that would bring high-speed electronic tolls to nearly every major highway in Connecticut. The bill would authorize the Department of Transportation to begin planning the implementation of high-speed electronic tolls to be emplaced along Connecticut's limited access highways, including I-95, I-84, the Merritt and Wilbur Cross Parkways, and Route 8.

House Majority Leader, Rep. Ritter remarked that negotiations are ongoing following an early evening caucus on Wednesday.

Republicans view the proposed legislation as "punitive" and places an undue burden on Fairfield County residents.

House Co-Chair of the Transportation Committee, Rep. Tony Guerrero, said that "[w]e know that the gas tax isn't cutting it anymore" as the basis for pursuing other funding sources for the Special Transportation Fund that has seen a decline in gas tax revenues- its primary source of revenue.

Governor Malloy stated that before any tolls are approved, he wants a constitutional "lock-box" to protect the Special Transportation Fund- a proposal that has failed in recent years.

[Stamford Advocate: House Pulls Plug on Tolls, for at Least One Night 5-31-2017](#)

House Passes Deficit Closure Plan Despite Sweep of Firearm Permit Fees

The House of Representatives voted 75-74 to pass a negotiated deficit mitigation plan out of the House in concurrence with the Senate. This bill will now move to the Governor for further action.

The negotiated mitigation plan removed several controversial proposals from the governor including cuts to a municipal grant, hospitals, and state parks.

The mitigation effort is based on the assumption that Connecticut will finish the fiscal year in deficit. It will also leave just \$29.2 million in the emergency reserve, which is equal to less than one-sixth of 1 percent of the state's annual operating costs.

When the governor introduced the original deficit mitigation plan, he used his limited authority to reduce spending, which reduced the current fiscal year shortfall from \$390 million down to \$317 million.

The House Republican Caucus took exception the sweeping of \$150,000 from two accounts holding firearm permit and ammunition permit fees. They suggested an amendment that would draw \$300,000 from the film tax credits account. Despite this effort, the House rejected the amendment 75-73 and went on to pass this negotiated mitigation plan by a margin of just one vote.

[CT Mirror: House Passes Deficit Closure Plan Despite Sweep of Firearm Permit Fees 5-31-2017.](#)

Republicans Push for More Labor Savings but are Rejected by Malloy, Unions

On Wednesday, the Senate Republicans held a press conference in which they stated that extending the labor deal for another five years is not worth the nearly \$200 million in savings to the state. As an alternative, they suggested making changes to health and pension benefits statutorily.

Senate Republican President Len Fasano remarked that he does not doubt the \$1.5 billion in concessions from state employees over the next biennium, but does find fault with the extension of the deal from 2022 to 2027 arguing that any benefit to the state is inconsequential.

As such, the Senate Republicans argue that the legislature can make some of these changes statutorily and without SEBAC approval. Their proposal includes the following actions:

- Replace overtime with compensatory time.
- Eliminate two state holidays.
- Increase the course load of UConn professors.
- Prohibit any meal or clothing allowance for state employees.
- Eliminate all partisan appointed executive assistant positions.
- Eliminate all Deputy Commissioner and Executive Secretary positions not originally recommended.

Governor Malloy replied that the deal he was able to negotiate with the state employees, which still needs to be ratified by rank-and-file union members was the best deal they were going to get.

The original five-year deal would save the state about \$708 million in the first fiscal year and \$849 million in the second. Meanwhile, Republicans believe they would be able to get more through their proposal estimating savings of \$922.8 million in the first year and \$1.16 billion in the second year. The governor does not believe that this is realistic.

The Senate Republicans believe that they have the momentum to propose these changes in the wake of news that Aetna is actively looking to relocate to either New York City or Boston. Governor Malloy made clear that he would veto any attempt to legislative the benefits of state employees. Voting on the labor savings will happen over a period of weeks and may not end until mid-July. In the meantime, legislative leadership will continue meeting to try to find common ground as we move ever-closer to the beginning of the new biennium.

[CT NewsJunkie: Republicans Push for More Labor Savings but are Rejected by Malloy, Unions 6-1-2017.](#)

Tracked Bills:

Bill	Title	Priority	Comment	History	Misc
HB07175	AN ACT CONCERNING THE TESTING OF NATURAL GRAVEL AGGREGATES FOR THE PRESENCE OF PYRRHOTITE.	1		15-May-2017 NO NEW FILE BY COMM. ON APP 15-May-2017 TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDAR	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
HB05278	AN ACT CONCERNING PAID SICK LEAVE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCHERS AND CALL RECEIVING OPERATORS.	3		10-May-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON APP 16-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	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		10-May-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON APP 11-Apr-2017 FILED WITH LCO	File#: 250Hse Cal#: 190

HB05554	AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE WESTPORT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION TO BORROW FUNDS OR OBTAIN LOANS OR GRANTS.	3		22-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 22-May-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 488	File#: 783File#: 488Hse Cal#: 329Sen Cal#: 488
HB05592	AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF THE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING OF MUNICIPAL ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS.	3		12-May-2017 MOTION FAILED JF 10-May-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON APP	File#: 489Hse Cal#: 330
HB05755	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPALITIES' LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLAN.	3		26-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 26-May-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 541	File#: 115Hse Cal#: 110Sen Cal#: 541
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		31-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 31-May-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 563	File#: 810File#: 544Hse Cal#: 359Sen Cal#: 563
HB06356	AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC NOTICE OF TREE REMOVAL ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY.	3		31-May-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO 31-May-2017 NO NEW FILE BY COMM. ON JUD	File#: 756File#: 45Hse Cal#: 63Sen Cal#: 452
HB06482	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT TRAUMA ADVISORY COMMITTEE.	3		04-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 04-May-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 405	File#: 718File#: 581Hse Cal#: 383Sen Cal#: 405
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		09-May-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO 09-May-2017 NO NEW FILE BY COMM. ON FIN	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 ESTABLISHING THE MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW BOARD AND DESIGNATED TIERS.	3		15-May-2017 FILE NO. 764 15-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 764Hse Cal#: 509

HB07218	AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.	3		09-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 09-May-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 494	File#: 733Hse Cal#: 494
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		31-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 31- May-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 554	File#: 818File#: 512Hse Cal#: 352Sen Cal#: 554
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		11-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 11- May-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 441	File#: 754File#: 560Hse Cal#: 373Sen Cal#: 441
HB07317	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TOLL DISCOUNT PLAN FOR MOTORISTS RESIDING IN THE STATE.	3		10-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 10-May-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 500	File#: 743Hse Cal#: 500
SB00076	AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A MILEAGE TAX STUDY WITH STATE FUNDS.	3		26-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 26-May-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 587	File#: 399Hse Cal#: 587Sen Cal#: 221
SB00501	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS FOR INTERSTATE ROUTES 84 AND 91 IN THE HARTFORD REGION.	3		23-May-2017 FILED WITH LCO 23-May-2017 RPTD. OUT OF LCO	File#: 403Sen Cal#: 224

SB00655	AN ACT INCREASING FEES REMITTED TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR MOVING VIOLATIONS.	3		05-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 05-May-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 469	File#: 338Hse Cal#: 469Sen 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		15-May-2017 FILE NO. 760 15-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN.	File#: 760Sen Cal#: 463
SB00805	AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION ISSUES.	3		03-May-2017 MOVED TO FOOT OF CAL., SENATE 04-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN.	File#: 407Sen Cal#: 225
SB00806	AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CRUMBLING FOUNDATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND ASSISTING HOMEOWNERS WITH CRUMBLING FOUNDATIONS.	3		17-May-2017 SEN. ADOPTED SEN. AMEND. SCH. A 683217-May-2017 REF. BY SEN. TO COMM. ON FIN	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		19-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER 19-May-2017 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 539	File#: 529Hse Cal#: 539Sen Cal#: 293
SB00923	AN ACT CONCERNING THE POSSESSIONS OF DECEASED TENANTS.	3		31-May-2017 TRANSMITTED TO SECRETARY OF THE STATE 31-May-2017 TRANSMITTED BY SECRETARY OF THE STATE TO GOVERNOR	Public Act#: 17-22File#: 372Hse Cal#: 540Sen Cal#: 202
SB00941	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING REVISIONS TO LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PLANS.	3		31-May-2017 SENATE PASSED 31-May-2017 ON CONSENT CALENDAR	File#: 616Sen Cal#: 335
SB01026	AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.	3		30-May-2017 HOUSE ADOPTED SEN. AMEND. SCH. A 30-May-2017 HOUSE PASSED, SEN. AMEND. SCH. A	File#: 540Hse Cal#: 489Sen Cal#: 284
SB01033	AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL FORECLOSURE ACTIONS ON TAX LIENS AND LIENS ON BLIGHTED REAL ESTATE.	3		31-May-2017 SEN. ADOPTED SEN. AMEND. SCH. A 691431-May-2017 SEN. PASSED, SEN. AMEND. SCH. A	File#: 572Sen Cal#: 309

SB01035	AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES.	3		25-May-2017 MOVED TO FOOT OF CAL., SENATE 11-Apr-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN.	File#: 541Sen Cal#: 288
SB01036	AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSESSMENT OF MUNICIPAL TAXES ON CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS.	3		08-May-2017 MOTION FAILED JF 03-May-2017 REF. BY SEN. TO COMM. ON APP	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		10-May-2017 REF. BY HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON APP 23-Mar-2017 FAV. RPT., TABLED FOR HOUSE CALENDER	File#: 176Hse Cal#: 145
HB07138	AN ACT CONCERNING LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF MAJOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND PLANNING.	5		31-May-2017 FAV. RPT., TAB. FOR CAL., SEN. 31-May-2017 SENATE CALENDAR NUMBER 556	File#: 814File#: 430Hse Cal#: 303Sen Cal#: 556