

CRCOG Weekly Legislative Report

2020 Legislative Session

March 20, 2020

Weekly Legislative Feature Issues:

This week at the Capitol has been unique following the suspension of Connecticut General Assembly's legislative session by legislative leadership and Governor Lamont until at least Monday, March 30, 2020. At this time, the governor and legislature's focus is firmly fixed on addressing the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Connecticut's economy.

Currently, Governor Lamont has issued the following executive orders and has been working with legislative leadership on developing a Connecticut-based economic relief package.

3/12/2020 Executive Order No. 7

Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations, including limiting the size of gatherings to 250 people, waiving the 180-day school year requirement, clarifying nursing home visitation restrictions, authorizing DMV to extend renewal deadlines, and relaxing attendance rules for police academy trainees.

• 3/13/2020 Executive Order No. 7A

Grants the commissioner of the Department of Public Health the authority to restrict visitation at nursing homes and similar facilities in response to the civic preparedness and public health emergencies declared due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

• **3/14/2020** Executive Order No. 7B

Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations.

• 3/15/2020 Executive Order No. 7C

Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations, including the cancellation of classes at public schools statewide and other items.

• 3/16/2020 Executive Order No. 7D

Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations.

• 3/17/2020 Executive Order No. 7E

Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations.

3/18/2020 Executive Order No. 7F

Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations.

• 3/19/2020 Executive Order No. 7G

Takes several emergency actions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and the governor's civil preparedness and public health declarations.

Update: Governor Lamont has announced that beginning on Monday, March 23, 2020 at 8:00 PM all workers at "non-essential" businesses are to stay home during the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. Groceries, pharmacies, and other necessary businesses will be allowed to remain open. Package stores and restaurants will still be able to provide takeout services. Manufacturing and construction work can continue as well. The executive order is currently being drafted.

Note: We will be providing further detailing when/if there is new legislative activity.

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

While this week has focused primarily on COVID-19 response and its economic impact, the following article touches a little closer to home.

Connecticut Lawmaker: "Unfortunately, I have tested positive..."

Rep. Jane Garibay, D-Windsor, emailed her legislative colleagues confirming that she had tested positive for COVID-19. Garibay, 64 and a freshman legislator wrote, "I wanted to let you know that I am self-quarantining and resting comfortably at home. Thank you for all the well wishes, and I look forward to when we can all be together again."

While Rep. Garibay attended the March 11th legislative session, public health officials declined after interviewing Garibay to recommend that her fellow legislators self-quarantine according to Speaker of the House Joseph Aresimowicz.

CT Mirror: Connecticut Lawmaker: "Unfortunately, I have tested positive..." 3-19-2020.

Tracked Bills:

Please see attached document.