

2023 Session Wrap-Up



Transportation Improvements

Gun Violence Prevention

Support for the IDD community

Consumer Protections

Economic Development

Voting Rights

Education

Supporting Mental Health

Environmental Protection

Domestic Violence Prevention

Fiscal Responsibility

**Where We
Made
Progress**

A Strong Bipartisan Budget with Tax Relief

Connecticut continues with fiscal responsibility in ensuring adherence with financial guardrails and pay down of long term liabilities.

Rainy day fund, a record \$3.3B.

HB 6941 AS AMENDED

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREOF, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE

CALENDAR# 0

YEA 139
NAY 12
N/U 0

DEP SPKR PRO TEM
Y PAVALOCK-DYAMITO
Y PERILLO
Y PISCOPO
Y PIZZUTO
Y POLLETTA
N REDINGTON-HUGHES
Y RUTIGLIANO
Y SCOTT
N UAIL
Y UENCH
Y UETR
Y VACCARINO
Y ZAMOSTOUSHKI
Y ZULLO
N ZUPKUS

DEPUTY SPEAKERS
Y BORER
Y BUTLER
Y CANDELARIA, J.
Y ELLIOTT
Y GIBSON
Y GONZALEZ
Y HALL, J.
Y MUSHINSKY
Y PAOLILLO
Y REYES
Y ROSARIO
Y SANCHEZ, R.

Y ALLIE-BRENNAN
Y ARNONE
Y ARIZONO
Y BAKER
Y BARRA
Y BELTON
Y BERGER-GURMALO
Y BLUMENTHAL
Y BOVD
Y BROMAN, K.
Y BROMAN, N.
Y BUNGARDNER
Y CHAFFE
Y CONEY
Y CONCEPTION
Y CONLEY
Y CUKEY
Y DRAGOSTINO
Y ESTHANA
Y DELANY

Y DEMICCO
Y DENNING
Y DEVERA-MCARLO
Y DILLON
Y DUCETTE
Y EXUM
Y FARRAR
Y FARRAZZO
Y FELPE
Y FINESTRA
Y FORTER
Y FOSTER
Y GARDIAY
Y GEE
Y GENOA
Y GILCHRIST
Y GRESKO
Y HARGROD
Y HORN
Y HUGHES

Y JOHNSON, D.
Y JOHNSON, S.
Y KRAUBS DEGRAN
Y KETTT
Y KHAM
Y KHAMNA
Y KEEPER
Y LEFAR
Y LIVENBERG
Y MCCARTHY WAHEY
Y MCCEE
Y MESKERS
Y MICHEL
Y MORRIN BELLO
Y NAPOLI
Y NOLAN
Y OSBORNE
Y PALM
Y PARIS

Y PARKER
Y PORTER
Y POULLOS
Y QUINN
Y RADER
Y ROBERTS
Y ROCKELLE
Y ROJAS
Y SANCHEZ, E.
Y SANTOS
Y SIMMS
Y SMITH
Y STAFSTROM
Y STERNBERG
Y TURCO
Y WALKER
Y WELANDER
Y WILSON

Y WOOD
Y ACKERT
N ANDERSON
Y AMUSKOLUCH
Y BALINSKY
Y BROWNO
Y BUCKREE
Y CALLAHAN
Y CANDELORA, U.
Y CARNEY
Y CARPINO
N CASE
Y CHALESKI
Y CIESZKOWN
Y COOLEY
Y DANCHO
N DAUPHINAIS
Y DECAPRIDO
Y DELNICKI

N DUBITSKY
Y FERRARO
N FISHERMAN
Y FOMCELLO
Y HAINES
Y HALL, C.
N HARRISON
Y HAYES
Y HOWARD
Y HOGRA
Y KENNEDY
Y KILBRIDES-DITRA
N LABRIOLA
N LAQUE
Y MARA
Y MASTROFRANCESCO
Y MCCARTY, K.
Y MCGORTY, B.
Y MUCCIO
Y ODER

Budget Highlights

- **Balanced on time budget**, with no gimmicks, totalling \$51B over the biennium
- Eliminates use of federal **COVID** relief money
- Cuts the low end marginal rates
- Smooths the retirement cliff
- Continues the **Earned Income Tax Credit**, the most successful anti-poverty program in American history.
- Keeps our promises related to **local education funding** and provides additional \$435M million over the next two years, while holding harmless towns that would have otherwise lost funds. It also provides additional funding to school systems for special education funding.
- Provides \$50 million in support from the FY 21 surplus to the **non-profit providers of health and human services** that contract with state agencies.

HB5001: Support for the IDD Community

- **Wait List Amerloration:** Addressing the 2,000+ Autism and 900+ DDS Waitlist for critical services
- **Funding:** \$30M General funds, \$17M Bonding for Housing
- **Employment:** Expansion of JobsCT tax credit for employers that hire someone with an intellectual or developmental disability
- **Education:** Expansion of Education services and transitional services
- **Housing:** Expansion of Group Homes
- **Workforce:** COLA increases & workforce development initiatives



2023 Key Voting Initiatives Passed

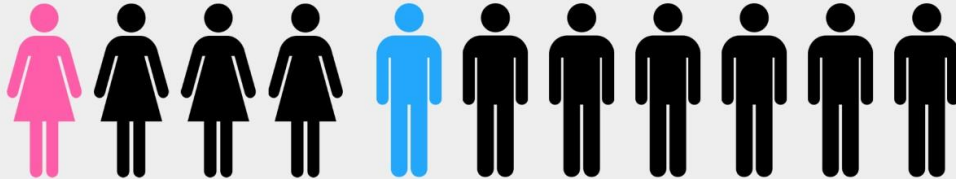
- **Early Voting Implementation:** Post 2022 referendum, allows 2 weeks of early voting for General Election and 5 days for primary elections. Provides some funding for towns.
- **Voting Rights Acts:** Mirrors Federal John Lewis Voting Rights - prevents municipalities from taking actions that interfere with right to vote and gives affected voters redress, safeguarding the right to vote.
- **No Excuse Absentee Voting:** Will ensure that in 2024, that there will be a referendum to allow the voters to decide to implement.



Protecting Victims of Domestic Violence

- **Expansion** of electronic monitoring pilot program of family violence offenders
- **Alimony reforms** for victims
- Review of **legal assistance** program for restraining order application
- Increases the number of family violence crimes as **disqualifiers** for purchasing firearms
- Shortening the deadline for landlord to return a tenant's **security deposit**

Approximately **1 in 4 women (23.2%)** and **1 in 7 men (13.9%)** have experienced **severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.**



NEWS8
wtnh.com

Source: National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Supporting Education

- Increased in **birth to three** programs including head start, honoring commitment to increased child care provider rates
- Increased **K-12 educational funding** by \$435M over the biennium, accelerating the Educational Cost Sharing formula (ECS)
- Additional \$25M in **Excess Costs**, which supports special education needs
- **Stabilizing our state college** and universities with additional funding
- Expanding **debt-free community colleges**



Consumer Protection

Consumer Health & Data Privacy:

- Established standards on accessing and sharing consumer health data, enabling geofencing

Minors & Social Media and Online Services:

- Establishes framework and sets requirements for how on-line services manage and process personal data for minors



Transportation Improvements

Automated Traffic Enforcement:

- Allows Municipalities to use speed and red light cameras

Transport Sector CO2 Reduction Target:

- Requires DOT to biennially establish transportation CO2 targets and sets the maximum amount allowed

Wrong Way Driving Countermeasures:

- Requires DOT to expand the installation of system to alert drivers are going the wrong way



Environmental

Solid Waste Management:

- Planning for waste management following MIRA's closure in 2022. Tire disposal management program.

Utility Regulation Reform:

- Updates to how PURA regulates the utilities. Rate recovery limitations established. "Take back the grid 2.0"

Black Bears Management:

- Expands bear management techniques to aid with habituated bears.

PFAS:

- Increase in Muni support for additional PFAS testing and remediation



Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Catalytic Converters:

- Establish a regional approach to addressing Catalytic Converter theft

Update of Gun laws:

- Adapts measures to address mass shooting. Close loophole on ghost guns. Updates background check laws. Tightened open carry requirements.

Parole Eligibility:

- Enacted alternative parole eligibility rules for certain offenders under 21

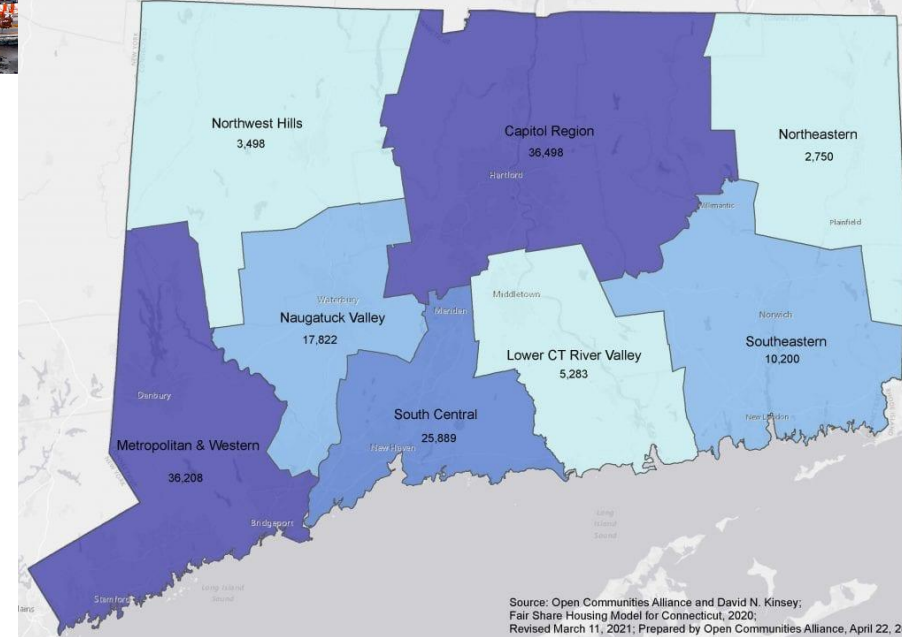


Housing / Zoning Reform

- **Fair Share:** The final bill passed, was a study, not a mandate. OPM will study to determine the methodology for determining each municipality's fair share allocation of affordable workforce housing units.
- **Tenant Protections:** expands tenant protections by increasing penalties to ensure safe and sanitary housing
- **Municipal Redevelopment Authority (MRDA)** received \$60M to capitalize and provide financial support for Housing Growth Zone (HGZs)



Connecticut Current Need by Housing Regions, 2020 (affordable housing units)



Source: Open Communities Alliance and David N. Kinsey;
Fair Share Housing Model for Connecticut, 2020;
Revised March 11, 2021; Prepared by Open Communities Alliance, April 22, 2021
Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Constituent Services

The Best Part of The Job

Questions?

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