

## Legislative Report

### UConn Office of Governmental Relations 2025 Legislative Report

The summaries were either developed by UConn’s Office of Governmental Relations, the state Office of Legislative Research or the state Office of Fiscal Analysis.

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#### Table of Contents

<u>AGRICULTURE</u>	2
<u>ATHLETICS</u>	3
<u>BONDING</u>	3
<u>BUDGET</u>	5
<u>CONTRACTING</u>	15
<u>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>	16
<u>EDUCATION K-12</u>	18
<u>ENERGY</u>	19
<u>ENVIRONMENT</u>	22
<u>FACILITIES MANAGEMENT</u>	23
<u>FINANCIAL AID</u>	25
<u>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT</u>	27
<u>HEALTH CARE- ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE</u>	27
<u>HEALTH CARE-CLINICAL</u>	35
<u>HEALTH CARE- DENTISTRY</u>	35
<u>HEALTH CARE-MEDICAL STAFF</u>	36
<u>HEALTH INSURANCE</u>	37
<u>HIGHER EDUCATION</u>	38
<u>HUMAN RESOURCES</u>	46
<u>MARINE SCIENCES</u>	47
<u>MEDICAID</u>	47
<u>PHARMACY</u>	48
<u>PUBLIC SAFETY &amp; EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES</u>	49
<u>RESEARCH</u>	51
<u>STATE AGENCIES</u>	53
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>	56
<u>VETERANS ISSUES</u>	56
<u>VOTING ISSUES</u>	57

## **AGRICULTURE**

### **CT SB 1497, PA 25-152**

#### **AN ACT CONCERNING PROGRAMMING AT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

This Act makes a number of unrelated changes to statutes related to the Department of Agriculture (DoAg).

Effective from passage

### **CT HB 5013, PA 25-126**

#### **AN ACT ADDING CERTAIN PLANTS TO THE INVASIVE PLANTS LIST**

##### **UConn Testimony**

This Act prohibits municipalities from adopting ordinances on the retail sale or purchase of invasive plants. It also adds, over a series of years, 10 plants to the list of invasive or potentially invasive plants that are generally banned in the state. By law, a violator is subject to a fine of up to \$100 per plant.

Effective from passage

### **CT HB 5015, PA 25-10**

#### **AN ACT AUTHORIZING SPIN-OFF COMPANIES FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION**

This Act allows the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) control board to approve a CAES employee to serve as a board member of, or be compensated by, a start-up company that develops and commercializes products based on the employee's inventions and discoveries subject to certain conditions. Specifically, (1) CAES must share in the net proceeds from the use of the employee's invention or discovery according to any control board requirements and (2) there must be no active disagreement as to the allocation or use of the invention or discovery.

The Act requires the CAES control board to establish policies and procedures so that these employee rights and restrictions are consistent with the rights and restrictions of researchers at public universities and agencies in Connecticut and applicable legal and ethical requirements.

Effective from passage

### **CT HB 5064, PA 25-141**

#### **AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GRANT PROGRAM FOR AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND FARMLAND ACCESS PURPOSES.**

This Act allows the Department of Agriculture, within available appropriations, to establish and administer a grant program to fund agricultural land preservation by agricultural nonprofits, municipalities, groups of municipalities, municipalities in a regional interlocal agreement, or regional councils of governments. Under the act, grantees may use the funds to develop new farmland access and affordability programs. However, grants cannot be used for any purpose that conflicts with farmland preservation.

Effective July 1, 2027

## ATHLETICS

### [CT HB 7066, PA 25-1](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING INTERACTIONS BETWEEN SCHOOL PERSONNEL AND IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES, THE PURCHASE AND OPERATION OF CERTAIN DRONES, GRANTS TO CERTAIN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, AND STUDENT ATHLETE COMPENSATION THROUGH ENDORSEMENT CONTRACTS AND REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENTS**

### [UConn Testimony](#)

Among other things, this Act (§§ 12 & 13): (1) allows student athletes to receive compensation through endorsement contracts for use of their person, name, image, or likeness (NIL) or employment unrelated to an intercollegiate athletic program, and obtain representation, once they have agreed to attend a higher education institution and participate in sports, instead of only once they are enrolled and participating and (2) authorizes a higher education institution, or an entity acting on its behalf, to compensate a student athlete through an endorsement contract or a revenue sharing agreement under a policy adopted by the institution.

Effective from passage

### [CT HB 7287, PA 25-168](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

#### **§§ 384 & 385 — UCONN TAX CREDIT INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

**Authorizes UConn to set up and administer a tax credit incentive program to promote and publicly recognize the university and its programs, services, and mission; creates a 50% tax credit for payments made to UConn according to qualified agreements under this program; caps the total credits allowed for each calendar year at \$5 million and for each taxpayer at \$500,000 per tax or income year.**

Effective from passage and applicable to taxable and income years commencing on or after January 1, 2025

## BONDING

### [CT HB 7288, PA 27-174](#)

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE AND CONCERNING GRANT PROGRAMS, STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS, REVISIONS TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS STATUTES AND VARIOUS PROVISIONS REVISING AND IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.**

§2:

Line 117

(o) For the University of Connecticut Health Center:

- (1) System telecommunications infrastructure upgrades, improvements and expansions, not exceeding \$3,000,000;
- (2) Equipment, library collections and telecommunications, not exceeding \$25,000,000.

**Line 159**

(t) For **the University of Connecticut:**

- (1) Equipment, library collections and telecommunications, not exceeding \$5,000,000;
- (2) Improvements to digital learning infrastructure at a regional campus, not exceeding \$3,000,000.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§21:**

**Line 581**

(l) For **the University of Connecticut Health Center:**

- (1) System telecommunications infrastructure upgrades, improvements and expansions, not exceeding \$3,000,000;
- (2) Equipment, library collections and telecommunications, not exceeding \$10,000,000;
- (3) Deferred maintenance, code compliance and infrastructure improvements, not exceeding \$30,000,000.

**Sec 13(a) and 32(a) OPM Grants to state-licensed acute care hospitals**

For funding construction of facilities for adult inpatient psychiatric beds, \$2.5M in FY26 and FY27.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§58 — SCHOOL AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS**

**No change to UConn Air Purifier project.** In FY25 UConn Health received \$11.5 million in bonding for the air purifier program. The Act reduces the current bond authorization for funding school air quality improvement grants. It reduces the current bond authorization by \$138.5 million (from \$375 million to \$236.5 million). The Act also modifies earmarks that, under current law, are up to \$15 million of the authorization for grants to purchase equipment and materials for constructing and installing individual classroom air purifiers, with up to \$11.5 million of that amount for UConn as part of the Supplemental Air Filtration for Education program and the remainder for an organization or organizations that provide equipment and materials for individual classroom air purifiers to schools. **The Act reduces these to a single earmark of up to \$11.5 million for grants for the above purchases by UConn under the program. This reduction reflects the amount UConn Health actually received, which is also the amount needed for the project.**

Effective July 1, 2025

**§74 — DECD & CTNext**

Repeals 32-39y CTNext Fund and its statutory purposes and deauthorizes \$20M of the \$20.2M remaining in the line item. The Act authorizes new state GO bonds for FYs 26 and 27 for various capital improvements, grant programs, and other initiatives. The Act authorizes new GO bonds for FYs 26 and 27 for the state projects and grant programs.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§77 — UCONN FACULTY RECRUITMENT AND HIRING PROGRAM**

**Changes the UConn Faculty Recruitment and Hiring Program to prohibit the university from using bond funds under the program for salaries or compensation for new faculty hires but continues to allow UConn to use bond funds for laboratories, including related construction, renovation and equipment cost to support recruitment under the program. Existing law requires UConn's Board of Trustees to biennially develop a plan**

**for recruiting and hiring research faculty and implement a faculty recruitment and hiring program in accordance with its plan.** Relatedly, existing law authorizes \$46.1 million in GO bonds over a five year period, from FY 22 to FY 26, for this program (CGS § 10a-110n).

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **§102 — DOH HEALTH CARE WORKER HOUSING PROGRAM REPORTING**

Requires DOH and CHFA to submit a report on increasing health care worker housing options Existing law requires the DOH commissioner and the CHFA executive director to seek to partner with one or more hospitals in the state to increase workforce housing options. It also authorizes up to \$20 million in state GO bonds for DOH to fund the costs associated with the partnership and develop housing for health care workers.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **§197 — HIGHER EDUCATION DEGREES PATHWAY**

**Requires the Board of Regents, UConn Board of Trustees, and POST to take specific actions towards helping police officers earn higher education degrees. By January 1, 2026, the Act requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education, UConn’s Board of Trustees, and POST to jointly submit a report to the Public Safety and Security Committee that includes a career pathway and schedule that they must develop.** The pathway must help police officers earn higher education degrees and include a schedule of credits that officers may receive at UConn (and all its campuses) and the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities for the training they received in order to be certified, and maintain their certification, as police officers. The boards and POST must promote this pathway to encourage police officers to earn higher education degrees, and their report must describe their plans for promoting it.

Effective from passage

#### **§§216 & 217 — CHANGES TO HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADDITION OF NEW SUBCOMMITTEE TO MONITOR CSCU**

##### **UConn Testimony**

Establishes a subcommittee of the Higher Education Financial Sustainability Advisory Board to monitor Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) expenditures and sustainability plans and requires the board to make recommendations to the General Assembly on these plans; repeals a budget Act provision creating a working group on CSCU reserve funds. (Also repeals Sec. 191 (b) Budget Act HB 7287, as amended by House “A”, creating a working group to oversee and monitor expenditures from each reserve fund of CSCU or the higher education institutions within CSCU).

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **BUDGET**

##### **CT HB 6863, PA 25-12**

**AN ACT CONCERNING DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, AND COMPENSATION PAID TO INJURED EMPLOYEES AND THE PARENTS OF A DECEASED EMPLOYEE UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT. ITS PURPOSE IS TO IMPLEMENT THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS.**

This Act adjusts numerous appropriated accounts across several appropriated funds to various state agencies to address budget shortfalls for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. The Act results in the FY 25 budget being over the spending cap by \$283.5 million. Per the Governor's May 19, 2025, *Declaration of the Existence of Extraordinary Circumstances*, appropriations in excess of the cap are authorized in the current fiscal year but are not included in the FY 26 calculation base. The Act also updates workers' compensation provisions to enhance clarity and support for injured employees and their dependents.

Effective from passage

#### [CT HB 7287, PA 25-168](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

#### **UConn- Storrs and Regionals:**

#### **Budget Summary**

Account	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
<b>Other Current Expenses</b>							
Operating Expenses	254,204,158	253,505,868	216,977,564	231,900,002	237,163,874	265,235,002	250,543,874
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy	400,000	700,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000
UConn Veterans Program	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Health Services - Regional Campuses	-	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Puerto Rican Studies Initiative	-	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	500,000	500,000
<b>Agency Total - General Fund</b>	<b>254,604,158</b>	<b>256,315,868</b>	<b>219,637,564</b>	<b>234,560,002</b>	<b>239,823,874</b>	<b>268,185,002</b>	<b>253,493,874</b>

#### **UConn Notes:**

##### **To Be Funded from Operating Expenses:**

- \$1M in FY26 and FY 27 for CT Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) to fund operations. Created by Special Act in 2013, CIRCA provides practical solutions to problems facing CT Communities arising from a changing climate and associated severe weather events, such as sea level live rise, precipitation changes and associated increases in flooding, as well as extreme heat.
- \$120,000 in FY 27 for UConn-Waterbury robotics program.
- \$75,000 to the UConn School of Public Policy to complete two studies via MOU with the Connecticut Department of Veteran Affairs concerning municipal property tax exemptions by January 1, 2027. see [PA 25-95](#).

##### **To Be Funded from Debt Service – State Treasurer's Budget:**

- UConn 2000 - Debt Service FY '26: 209,033,862, FY '27 213,698,862

**UConn Health:****Budget Summary**

Account	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
Other Current Expenses							
Operating Expenses	190,408,357	145,965,137	113,460,246	122,623,540	126,421,909	142,875,155	136,673,524
AHEC	420,807	423,455	429,735	429,735	429,735	429,735	429,735
Neuromodulation Treatment	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000,000
Agency Total - General Fund	190,829,164	146,388,592	113,889,981	123,053,275	126,851,644	143,304,890	139,103,259
Operating Expenses	-	178,385	178,385	-	-	178,385	178,385
Agency Total - Cannabis Regulatory Fund	-	178,385	178,385	-	-	178,385	178,385
Total - Appropriated Funds	190,829,164	146,566,977	114,068,366	123,053,275	126,851,644	143,483,275	139,281,644

**UConn Health Notes:****To Be Funded from Operating Expenses:**

- \$280,000 in FY 26 and 27 for additional funding for the endometriosis data and repository program (collaboration with UConn Health and the Jackson Laboratory).
- Migraine Study: funding of \$150,000 in both FY '26 and FY '27 provided for a migraine study, specifically relating to treatment for women and veterans. See [SA 24-18](#), study to be completed by July 1, 2026.

**To Be Funded from DOC budget:**

- HITEC Funded at \$620,645 in FY '26, and \$644,174 in FY '27. UConn Health / Department of Correction via MOU. HITEC is the Health Improvement through Employee Control program, created by a team of researchers from UConn and UMass Lowell.

**§§ 13, 14 & 17 – BACK OF BUDGET REDUCTION AUTHORITY**

Empowers the Secretary of OPM to reduce General Fund allotments for all Executive Branch agencies in order to achieve:

- \$63.7 million (FY 26) and \$73.7 million (FY 27) in savings.
- Targeted savings of \$25.5 million (FY 26) and \$15 million (FY 27).

Allows the Governor, with OPM and the Finance Advisory Committee, to adjust agency appropriations to:

- Comply with federal law, and
- Maximize federal revenue.

**§136 — UCONN HEALTH CENTER EMPLOYEE FRINGE BENEFITS**

**Eliminates a requirement that the comptroller (1) use up to \$4.5 million of funds appropriated for State Comptroller-Fringe Benefits to fund a portion of the fringe benefits for UCHC employees and (2) enter into an MOU with UCHC for providing operational support**

Effective July 1, 2025

**Additional provisions of note:**

**§ 47 — AHEAD FEDERAL DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

Requires DSS, within available appropriations, to develop a plan to implement alternative payment methods for hospitals voluntarily participating in the AHEAD federal demonstration program; authorizes DSS to apply for a federal Medicaid waiver to implement these alternative payment methods.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 68 — REPEAL OF CONNECTICUT NEW OPPORTUNITIES FUND**

Repeals the law requiring CI to establish the Connecticut New Opportunities Fund to invest in seed stage and emerging growth companies in the state. The Act repeals the law requiring Connecticut Innovations, Inc. (CI) to establish the Connecticut New Opportunities Fund to invest in seed stage and emerging growth companies in the state. The fund was enacted in 2005 but never established.

Effective from passage

**§ 69 — FINISH LINE SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

Requires the Board of Regents (BOR) to establish a finish line scholars program awarding grants to students who received a Mary Ann Handley program award and then enroll in a bachelor's program at Charter Oak State College or CSU. UConn is not included in the Act. \$7.7M is provided in the Expanded PACT Program.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 95 — REPORT ON GRANT PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WORKING AS ADJUNCT PROFESSORS**

Requires OHE to also submit its annual report on a grant program for certain licensed health care providers who are adjunct professors to the Appropriations Committee.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 115 — OPIOID SETTLEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Adds two members to the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee.

Effective from passage

**§§ 116-120 — TELEHEALTH PRESCRIPTION OF OPIOIDS**

Specifically allows opioids to be prescribed through telehealth as part of medication assisted treatment or to treat a psychiatric disability or substance use disorder.

Effective from passage

**§ 124 — MATERNITY CARE REPORT CARD**

Requires the DPH commissioner to (1) establish an annual maternity care report card for birth centers and hospitals that provide obstetric care, (2) establish an advisory committee to establish the report card's contents, and (3) adjust the report card based on patient acuity levels.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### **§ 140 — UCONN HEALTH NEUROMODULATION CENTER**

**Requires the UConn Health Center to establish a Center of Excellence for Neuromodulation Treatments funded in year two, FY 27 at \$2M.**

Effective from passage

#### **§§ 141 & 142 — HIGHER EDUCATION CONSTITUENT UNITS AND ENERGY-SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS**

[UConn Testimony](#)

**Authorizes the constituent units of higher education, including UConn and UConn Health to establish their own energy-savings performance contract process**, rather than use DEEP's, but subject to many of the same requirements as DEEP's process. The Act also allows these energy-savings performance contracts to be extended for a term not to exceed thirty years (the DEEP statute is twenty years).

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **§ 170 — FEDERAL RECOMMENDATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Allows DPH to create an advisory committee on matters related to CDC and FDA recommendations. The advisory committee will include the deans of public health schools at an independent and a public institution.

Effective from passage

#### **§§ 171 & 172 — EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND EMERGENCY CARE PROVIDERS**

Requires hospital emergency departments to provide services related to pregnancy complications when necessary; prohibits emergency departments, or their providers, from discriminating on various bases; requires hospitals to comply with the federal EMTALA, and DPH to adopt certain EMTALA-related provisions into state regulations if the federal law is revoked; allows DPH to take disciplinary action against hospitals or providers who violate these provisions.

Effective from passage

#### **§ 173 — SAFE HARBOR ACCOUNT**

Creates an account funded by private sources to award grants to nonprofit organizations that provide funding for reproductive or gender-affirming health care services or collateral costs related to these services.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **§§ 174 & 175 — OPIOID USE DISORDER**

Declares opioid use disorder to be a public health crisis in the state and requires the Alcohol and Drug Policy Council to convene a working group to set goals to combat this disorder's prevalence.

Effective from passage

#### **§ 176 — PUBLIC HEALTH URGENT COMMUNICATION ACCOUNT**

Creates an account to fund DPH communications during public health emergencies.

Effective from passage

**§ 177 — EMERGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH FINANCIAL SAFEGUARD ACCOUNT**

Creates an account to address unexpected shortfalls in public health funding.

Effective from passage

**§ 178 — SUDEP INFORMATION**

Requires physicians, APRNs, and PAs who regularly treat patients with epilepsy to give them information on sudden unexpected death in epilepsy.

Effective from passage

**§ 181 — EMS ADMINISTERING GLUCAGON NASAL POWDER**

Requires EMS personnel to receive training on administering glucagon and allows them to administer glucagon nasal powder when necessary.

Effective from passage

**§ 182 — HOSPITAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PORTAL**

Requires OHA to contract with a vendor to develop an online hospital financial assistance portal for patients and their family members.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 187 — EVALUATION OF DOC HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

Requires the correction ombuds to evaluate health care services for incarcerated individuals, and specifies certain steps he may take when doing so.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 188 — CONSERVATOR APPOINTMENT EXPEDITED PROCESS**

Requires the probate court administrator and DSS commissioner to evaluate the feasibility of establishing an expedited process to appoint a conservator for hospital emergency department patients who lack the capacity to consent to services.

Effective from passage

**§ 189 — HOSPITAL REPORTING ON EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS**

Adds to the required recipients of hospitals' annual reports analyzing emergency department data.

Effective from passage

**§ 190 — HOSPITAL DISCHARGE WORKING GROUP**

Creates a working group on hospital discharge challenges.

Effective from passage

**§ 191 — CSCU RESERVE FUND EXPENDITURE WORKING GROUP**

Establishes a working group to oversee and monitor expenditures from each reserve fund of CSCU or the higher education institutes within CSCU.

**NOTE:** This section was later repealed in HB 7288 – Sec. 216-217 and replaced with the establishment of a Subcommittee on Educational Alignment and Need of the Higher Education Financial Sustainability Advisory Board to monitor Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) sustainability plans and requires the board to make recommendations to the General Assembly on these plans and the funding required. ([see Section 216-217](#)).

July 1, 2025

#### **§§ 192-197 — LACTATION CONSULTANT LICENSURE**

Creates a DPH licensure program for lactation consultants; allows unlicensed people meeting specified criteria to practice lactation consulting or provide related services, if they do not refer to themselves as “lactation consultants.”

July 1, 2026

#### **§§ 198-227 — STATE CONTRACTING DISPARITY STUDY AND SMALL BUSINESS AND MBE SPENDING ALLOCATION PROGRAM**

Changes value thresholds that determine whether certain public works contracts are subject to state laws on non-discrimination contract compliance, the Small and Minority Owned Business Set-Aside Program, and affirmative action plans for certain state contractors; converts the set-aside program into the spending allocation program by, among other things, replacing the current 25% set-aside requirements with annual spending allocation goals by industry category and contract-specific spending allocation goals based on certain localized data; requires the state to do a disparity study every five years; makes other changes related to state contracting.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### **§ 208 - HIGHER EDUCATION CONTRACTS**

Current law generally requires certain contracts entered into by the constituent units of the state’s higher education system to include the same nondiscrimination provisions as the state’s contract compliance law. For contracts entered into on or after July 1, 2026, the Act requires the protected classes specified in these contract provisions to include veterans and domestic violence victims (two groups that have become protected classes in recent years).

Effective October 1, 2025

#### **§ 213 - GENERAL BIDS**

The law requires general bids for contracts subject to the law on constructing and altering state buildings to include certain information, such as that the bidder (1) will execute a contract according to the general bid’s terms and (2) has made good faith efforts to employ MBEs as subcontractors and suppliers of materials under the contract and will give CHRO certain related information upon request.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### **§ 214 - FAILURE TO TIMELY PAY SUBCONTRACTORS**

With certain exceptions, current law generally requires a contractor with the state to pay any subcontractor it employs within 30 days after the state pays the contractor for any work performed or materials furnished by the subcontractor. The Act reduces the payment deadline to 15 days and makes a contractor’s failure to meet it a discriminatory practice subject to CHRO investigation and enforcement.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§§ 262 & 263 — ROBERTA B. WILLIS SCHOLARSHIPS**

Limits the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program to need-based grants and need and merit-based grants eliminating the Charter Oak grant (§ 263). Requires OHE to annually notify institutions of their estimated funding for these awards by November 1<sup>st</sup> (§ 262).

§ 262 Effective July 1, 2025

§ 263 Effective July 1, 2026

**§ 264 — PLAN FOR DOC HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

Specifically requires DOC's plan for health care services to ensure that various requirements are met, rather than to include guidelines for implementing them; adds certain components to the plan, including (1) interviewing incarcerated people at intake about their mental health history and (2) providing evidence-based mental health services by a mental health provider or therapist, as needed, within two business days of a determination of need upon intake.

Effective from passage

**§ 266 — MEDICAL RECORDS AUTHORIZATION FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS**

Requires the DOC commissioner to ensure that everyone in the department's custody is given a form allowing them to authorize someone else to access their medical records that would otherwise be subject to nondisclosure under HIPAA.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 272 — CORRECTION OMBUDS ACCESSING MEDICAL RECORDS**

Requires the correction ombuds, before accessing an incarcerated person's medical record, to give the person prior notice of the reasons for doing so.

Effective from passage

**§§ 275 & 276 — CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR HEALTH CARE ENTITIES**

Expressly allows OHS, when reviewing CON applications for certain hospital ownership transfers that require a cost and market impact review, to consider the review's preliminary and final reports and other specified materials; modifies the definition of "termination of services" for CON purposes to include the termination of any services for a combined total of more than 180 days within a consecutive two-year period.

§ 275 Effective from passage

§ 276 October 1, 2025

**§§ 278-286 — REPRODUCTIVE AND GENDER-AFFIRMING HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

Subjects covered entities' business associates to existing law's disclosure limitations; requires the entities and business associates to notify the attorney general when they receive a subpoena for certain patient information; specifies that gender-affirming health care services do not include conversion therapy for anyone under age 18.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 293 — ADDITIONAL EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS ON CERTAIN COLLEGE CAMPUSES**

Requires municipalities with 1,000 or more students living on a college campus or institutional housing in the municipality to establish an additional early voting location on campus.

Effective July 1, 2025

### **§ 341 — MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR BREAST PROSTHESES**

Requires the DSS commissioner to distribute information on Medicaid coverage for breast prostheses.

Effective from passage

### **§§ 345–347 — IDENTIFIED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

Caps the price for the sale of identified prescription drugs in the state; generally imposes a civil penalty on pharmaceutical manufacturers and wholesale distributors who violate the cap and requires the DRS commissioner to impose and collect it; and creates a process for penalty disputes.

Effective July 1, 2026

### **§§ 360 & 361 — HOSPITAL PROVIDER TAX**

Beginning in FY 27, requires the base year on which the hospital provider tax is calculated to be tied to an applicable federal fiscal year, rather than FY 16, and makes various corresponding changes; eliminates provisions allowing taxpayers subject to the hospital provider tax to request a payment extension under certain circumstances.

Effective July 1, 2026 and applicable to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2026

### **§ 362 — HOSPITAL MEDICAID SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS**

Increases Medicaid supplemental payments to hospitals by \$140 million for FY 27 and requires this total to be increased in subsequent years by \$25 million over the preceding year if the total amount of hospital provider tax collected for that year increased by \$25 million over the preceding year.

Effective July 1, 2026

### **§§ 384 & 385 — UCONN TAX CREDIT INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

**Authorizes UConn to set up and administer a tax credit incentive program to promote and publicly recognize the university and its programs, services, and mission; creates a 50% tax credit for payments made to UConn according to qualified agreements under this program; caps the total credits allowed for each calendar year at \$5 million and for each taxpayer at \$500,000 per tax or income year.**

Effective from passage and applicable to taxable and income years commencing on or after January 1, 2025

### **§§ 415-432 — OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE OR CERTIFICATION FEES**

Eliminates numerous occupational license or certification fees for health care professionals and educators.

Effective October 1, 2025

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT MAY OF INTEREST FROM THE OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS [AGENCY BUDGET SHEETS FY 26-FY 27](#)**

### **Legislative Management**

#### **Provide Funding for Higher Education Planning Commission - page 4**

Provides funding for the Higher Education Planning Commission in Legislative Management's budget to update the state's strategic master plan for higher education- \$100,000 in FY 26 and FY 27. C.G.S. Sec. 10a-11b establishes

the Planning Commission for Higher Education and requires it to revise and update the state's strategic master plan for higher education. The plan was first adopted in 2015. An update to the plan is due December 1, 2025.

#### **Funding for increased membership fees to the New England Board of Higher Education - page 6**

The New England Board of Higher Education promotes greater education opportunities and services for the residents of New England and its more than 250 colleges and universities. It works across the six New England states to help leaders assess, develop, and implement sound education practices and policies of regional significance; to promote regional cooperation and programs that encourage the efficient use and sharing of educational resources. The budget provides \$7,500 in FY 26 and \$15,000 in FY 27 to the New England Board of Higher Education for increases in membership fees.

#### **Office of Governmental Accountability**

##### **The State Contracting Standards Board - page 28**

Provide funding of \$79,825 in FY 26 and FY 27 to support Board expenses, supplies, and training. This includes \$45,000 in FY 26 and FY 27 to support Board expenses, **\$17,500 in FY 26 and FY 27 to support hiring of an intern from UCONN**, \$7,000 in Staff training in FY 26 and FY 27, \$4,000 in FY 26 and \$5,100 in FY 27 for membership dues.

#### **Department of Social Services**

##### **Increase Hospital Supplemental Payments Related to Updated Provider Tax - page 179**

Increases Health Provider Tax revenue by \$140 million by updating the base year for the user fee and reducing the tax rate on outpatient services.

##### **Adjust Funding for Hospital Supplemental Payments and Medicaid Rates - page 179**

Provide \$70 million in FY 27 for increased Hospital Supplemental Payments. The increase in Hospital Supplemental Payments results in additional General Fund revenue of \$46.9 million to reflect federal reimbursement associated with such payments.

##### **Day Kimball Hospital – page 179**

Provides funding of \$4,650,000 million in FY 26 and \$2.9 million FY 27 to reflect Medicaid support.

##### **Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) - page 179**

Provides additional funding of \$2 million in FY 26 & FY 27.

##### **Increase Medicaid Provider Rates - page 180**

**May Impact UConn Health Clinical Revenues:** provides funding of \$15.4 million in FY 26 and \$45 million in FY 27 to reflect rate increases for Medicaid providers. FY 26 includes funding to support behavioral health services (focusing on parity among pediatric and adult rates for similar services), physician outpatient and surgery services, family planning services, and independent audiology and speech and language pathology services. Rate increases are intended to be phased-in to align with the Medicare or five-state benchmarks detailed in phases one and two of the Medicaid rate study. In addition, funds will support the phase-in of rebased rates for federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), as noted in section 351 of PA 25-168, the budget bill.

##### **Limit Coverage of Weight Loss Medications for Obesity Only - pages 180-181**

Reduces funding by \$28,790,000 in FY 26 and \$16,850,000 in FY 27 to reflect limiting Medicaid coverage of prescription drugs used solely for the purpose of weight loss. This eliminates funding added in the current services update for weight loss only coverage.

**Expand Emergency Medicaid Services - page 181**

Provides funding of \$700,000 in FY 27 to support system adjustments to enable individuals to apply in advance for emergency Medicaid coverage for emergency medical conditions that can be treated in outpatient settings rather than in hospital emergency departments. May have minimal impact on UConn Health clinical revenues.

**Increase funding for Foodshare – page 185**

Husky Harvest is in partnership with Foodshare. The budget increase funding to \$2M in FY 26 and \$5M in FY 27 for Connecticut Foodshare.

**Provide Funding to Conform with Hospital Settlement Agreement- provided for informational purposes only. - page 188**

UConn Health is not a party to the hospital settlement agreement. Provides \$24,920,000 in FY 26 and \$39,650,000 in FY 27.

**Office of Higher Education****CT Loan Reimbursement - page 206**

Provides funding of \$5M FY 26 and \$6M FY 27

**Health Care Adjunct Grant Program – page 206**

Provides funding of \$240,000 in both FY 26 and FY 27.

**Connecticut AI Alliance for High Performance Computing – page 206**

Provides funding of \$500,000 in FY 26 and \$1 million in FY 27.

**Open Education Resources Grant Program - page 206**

Provides funding of \$50,000 in both FY 26 and FY 27.

**Connecticut State Colleges and Universities****Various grants – page 217**

Provides funding of \$53,000 in FY 26--(1) \$50,000 for vending machines that dispense emergency contraceptives; and (2) \$3,000 for a food pantry at Central Connecticut State University.

**Department of Education****Waterbury Promise Program - page 224**

Provides \$1.5M in FY 26 and \$1.5M in FY 27.

Provide funding of \$53,000 in FY 26. Funding is provided accordingly: (1) \$50,000 for vending machines that dispense emergency contraceptives; and (2) \$3,000 for a food pantry at Central Connecticut State University.

**CONTRACTING****CT HB 7287, PA 25-168**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

## **§§ 141 & 142 — HIGHER EDUCATION CONSTITUENT UNITS AND ENERGY-SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS**

**Authorizes the constituent units to establish their own energy-savings performance contract process, rather than use DEEP's, but subject to many of the same requirements as DEEP's process.**

## **§§ 198-227 — STATE CONTRACTING DISPARITY STUDY AND SMALL BUSINESS AND MBE SPENDING ALLOCATION PROGRAM**

Changes value thresholds that determine whether certain public works contracts are subject to state laws on non-discrimination contract compliance, the Small and Minority Owned Business Set-Aside Program, and affirmative action plans for certain state contractors; converts the set-aside program into the spending allocation program by, among other things, replacing the current 25% set-aside requirements with annual spending allocation goals by industry category and contract-specific spending allocation goals based on certain localized data; requires the state to do a disparity study every five years; makes other changes related to state contracting.

Effective October 1, 2025

## **§ 208 - HIGHER EDUCATION CONTRACTS**

Current law generally requires certain contracts entered into by the constituent units of the state's higher education system to include the same nondiscrimination provisions as the state's contract compliance law. For contracts entered into on or after July 1, 2026, the Act requires the protected classes specified in these contract provisions to include veterans and domestic violence victims (two groups that have become protected classes in recent years).

Effective October 1, 2025

## **§ 213 - GENERAL BIDS**

The law requires general bids for contracts subject to the law on constructing and altering state buildings to include certain information, such as that the bidder (1) will execute a contract according to the general bid's terms and (2) has made good faith efforts to employ MBEs as subcontractors and suppliers of materials under the contract and will give CHRO certain related information upon request.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 214 - FAILURE TO TIMELY PAY SUBCONTRACTORS** With certain exceptions, current law generally requires a contractor with the state to pay any subcontractor it employs within 30 days after the state pays the contractor for any work performed or materials furnished by the subcontractor. The Act reduces the payment deadline to 15 days and makes a contractor's failure to meet it a discriminatory practice subject to CHRO investigation and enforcement.

Effective October 1, 2025

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **CT SB 1179, PA 25-149**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY MAKERSPACE INITIATIVE PROGRAM. ITS PURPOSE IS TO ESTABLISH THE CT COMMUNITY MAKERSPACE INITIATIVE PROGRAM TO SUPPORT ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY IN THE STATE.**

This Act requires the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) commissioner to establish and administer, by January 1, 2026, a pilot program to give financial assistance (e.g., grants, loans, or financing) to entities establishing or expanding makerspaces that may serve as self-sustaining models in Connecticut. A makerspace must use financial assistance provided under the pilot program for costs related to establishment or expansion, such as planning activities, operational costs, and capital expenditures, but is prohibited from using the financial assistance for personnel costs. Under the Act a “makerspace” is a community space (1) providing entrepreneurs access to tools, technology, or educational materials; (2) where prototyping, creation, production, and assembly of tangible items happens; and (3) supporting the development of educational opportunities for personal growth, workforce training, and early-stage business ventures.

Effective July 1, 2025

[CT HB 5008, PA 25-13](#)

## **AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT-PUERTO RICO TRADE COMMISSION.**

### **UConn Testimony**

This Act establishes a 23-member Connecticut-Puerto Rico Trade Commission within the Legislative Department to do the following between Connecticut and Puerto Rico:

1. advance bilateral trade and investment, 2. initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest, 3. promote business and academic exchanges, 4. encourage mutual economic support and infrastructure investment, and 5. address other issues the commission determines. To carry out its duties, the Act also authorizes the commission to (1) obtain necessary assistance and data from any executive department, board, commission, or agency in the state; (2) perform necessary and appropriate acts; and (3) accept gifts, donations, or bequests. The Act requires the commission, starting by February 1, 2027, to annually report to the Governor, Department of Economic and Community Development, and Commerce Committee on its activities during the prior year. At a minimum, the report must include recommendations for policy and legislative changes needed to carry out its duties.

### **Members**

Under the Act, the commission includes the following 23 appointed members:

1. two members each appointed by the six top legislative leaders;
2. two Commerce Committee members, one each appointed by the committee chairpersons;
3. two Commerce Committee ranking members, or their designees;
4. three members appointed by the Governor;
- 5. one representative of a Connecticut public college or university, appointed by the Governor;**
6. one Connecticut chamber of commerce representative, appointed by the Governor; and
7. two representatives of Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican-American communities in the state from different political parties, appointed by the Governor.

Under the Act, commission members must be (1) currently or formerly involved in organizations promoting Puerto Rican affairs or (2) interested in trade relations between Connecticut and Puerto Rico.

Effective from passage

## EDUCATION K-12

### CT SB 1, PA 25-93

#### **AN ACT INCREASING RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS, SCHOOLS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION.**

This Act makes numerous changes to the education statutes, including:

##### **§§ 1-14 & 43 — EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ENDOWMENT**

Establishes the Early Childhood Education Endowment, funds it with transfers of unappropriated surplus, and requires the state treasurer to administer it; creates the Early Childhood Education Endowment Advisory Board to oversee the endowment's administration; specifies the amount that may be released from the endowment each fiscal year and how those funds may be spent.

##### **§ 19 — NEW COMPETITIVE GRANT TO SUPPORT IN-DISTRICT OR REGIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Starting in FY 27, this Act creates a new competitive grant program to support in-district and regional special education programs and services; allows school boards to use funds to, among other things, improve existing in-district programs or create new in-district or regional programs for students currently enrolled with private special education providers.

##### **§ 20 — CREATION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS LIST**

Requires OPM to create, and annually update, a list of certain special education programs throughout the state, to be posted on SDE's public database.

##### **§ 21 — CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR PRIVATE PROVIDER EMPLOYEES**

Requires private special education providers to do employee and prospective employee criminal background checks and take related steps.

##### **§ 25 — SPECIAL EDUCATION TRAINING, EDUCATION, AND TESTING GRANT PROGRAM**

Establishes, and requires SDE to annually administer, the special education training, education, and testing competitive grant program to give grants to educators and paraeducators who commit to working in an alliance district school for three years.

##### **§ 27 — OFFICE OF THE EDUCATIONAL OMBUDSPERSON**

Establishes the Office of the Educational Ombudsperson to serve students and families from early childhood to adult education; places the office under the direction of a commissioner-appointed ombudsperson and requires it, among other duties, to receive, review, and attempt to resolve any complaints from students and their families.

##### **§§ 28 & 29 — INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PARTNERS**

Requires school boards to hire or designate an instructional support partner in every school or school building beginning in the 2026-27 school year; gives instructional support partners various responsibilities to support teaching staff and students with disabilities and requires them to spend at least 50% of their time performing this position's duties; requires SDE to host quarterly instructional support partner trainings.

##### **§ 30 — STUDY ON OVER-IDENTIFICATION OF MINORITY STUDENTS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

Requires SDE to conduct a study on the disproportionate or over-identification of minority students for special education services.

##### **§ 34 — UPDATES TO SDE'S CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PLAN**

Expands on SDE's chronic absenteeism prevention and intervention plan by incorporating additional required and permissible components and requiring SDE to review the plan biannually.

Effective July 1, 2025

**HB 5001, PA 25-67**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUALITY AND DELIVERY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT.**

This Act makes numerous changes to special education laws and funding.

Including:

**§23 — DYSLEXIA REPORT**

The Act requires the Office of Dyslexia and Reading Disabilities within SDE to develop a report on recent developments and evidence-based best practices pertaining to dyslexia evaluations, interventions, and student outcomes in the state and capacity of in-state public and independent higher education institutions to prepare current and aspiring elementary school educators with structured literacy teaching skills. The commissioner must submit the report to the Education Committee by February 1, 2026.

**§ 25 — TRANSITIONAL COLLEGE READINESS AND REMEDIAL SUPPORT PROGRAM OFFERINGS AT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

The Act requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education to continue offering, for the fall 2025, spring 2026, and each following semester, every transitional college readiness, embedded remedial support, and intensive remedial support program that they offered at public higher education institutions in the fall 2024 and spring 2025 semesters.

**ENERGY**

**CT SB 4, PA 25-173**

**AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY AFFORDABILITY, ACCESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

This Act makes wide-ranging changes in laws affecting electric rates, utility regulation, and related state agencies. Among other things, it:

**§ 2 — BONDING FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING PROGRAM**

Authorizes up to a total of \$50 million in GO bonds for FYs 26 & 27 for the EV charging program.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 17 — PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

Allows PURA to select third parties to administer clean energy or renewable energy programs it establishes in a proceeding.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 18 — PUBLIC BENEFITS CHARGE STUDY**

Requires OCC to study public benefits line items and report to the Energy and Technology Committee by October 1, 2026.

Effective from passage

**§§ 25 & 26 — GRID ENHANCING TECHNOLOGIES (GETS)**

Requires EDCs and transmission owners to include project alternatives in Siting Council proceedings for certain transmission projects; expands forecasted loads and resources reporting; allows DEEP and OCC to evaluate proposed projects; requires EDCs to report to PURA on deployment of GETs and other technologies in certain PURA proceedings.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 32 — THERMAL ENERGY NETWORK GRANTS AND LOANS**

Requires DEEP to establish a thermal energy network grant and loan program within available appropriations.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 36 — CLASS I RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES** Removes landfill methane gas and certain biomass facilities from the Class I renewable energy sources definition.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§§ 37-42 & 47— CLASS I RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD**

Reduces Class I RPS requirements by seven percentage points in years 2026 to 2030; requires PURA to establish procedures to dispose of RECs purchased under renewable energy tariffs and various energy procurement solicitations.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 43 — INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN AND RENEWABLE PROCUREMENTS**

Requires DEEP to set targets and a schedule to procure new zero-carbon Class I renewable energy resources to meet 7% of the state's load in addition to RPS requirements.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 44 — BIOMASS POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS**

Requires the DEEP commissioner to solicit proposals from certain biomass facilities by September 1, 2025.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§§ 45 & 46 — DEMAND RESPONSE PILOT PROGRAM**

Requires DEEP to establish an electric active demand and gas demand response pilot program.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 55 — ELIMINATES PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS**

Eliminates a requirement that PURA initiate a proceeding to develop a program for front-of-the meter energy storage systems not located on a customer's premises.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 56 — ELECTRIC SYSTEM EFFICIENCY GOAL**

Establishes electric system efficiency as a state goal and allows DEEP and PURA to set metrics and implement programs towards the goal; requires DEEP to allocate staff for analyses related to the goal and report annually to the Energy and Technology Committee.

Effective October 1, 2025

[CT HB 5004, PA 25-125](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES AND ASSOCIATED JOB SECTORS**

[UConn Testimony](#)

This Act establishes various requirements relating broadly to energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals. Among other things, it:

**§ 2** Requires the state to reach an economy-wide net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emission level by January 1, 2050. It establishes this requirement as part of the state’s Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA). Under current law, the GWSA requires the state to reduce GHG emissions from all sources to a level at least:

1. 10% below the 1990 emission level by 2020,
2. 45% below the 2001 emission level by 2030, and
3. 80% below the 2001 emission level by 2050.

It also requires the state to reduce GHG emissions from electricity supplied to electric customers in the state to zero by 2040. The Act sets a new GHG reduction level requirement of 65% below the 2001 emission level by 2040. It also requires that, by 2050, the state be at an economy-wide net-zero level, if direct and indirect GHG emissions are at least 80% below the 2001 level. (Direct emissions include those from manufacturing processes and factory stacks. Indirect emissions include those from electricity consumed by commercial and industrial businesses.)

By law, the DEEP commissioner determines emission levels. GHG includes any chemical or physical substance emitted into the air that the DEEP commissioner reasonably anticipates will cause or contribute to climate change (e.g., carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride). State Agency Goals (§ 1)

The Act establishes the following GHG emission reduction goals for all state agencies, as a whole:

1. 45% from 2001 levels by 2030,
2. 70% from 2016 levels by 2040, and
3. a level determined to be net-zero by 2050.

It sets a separate goal for the agencies to use only zero-carbon generating electricity by 2030. The Act allows agencies to consider the social costs of GHG emissions (e.g., net agricultural productivity, harms to human health, property damage, and the value of ecosystem services) when evaluating the costs and benefits of their activities and facility improvements to meet these GHG reduction goals. By January 1, 2026, the DEEP commissioner must publish guidelines for state agencies on the social cost of GHG emissions on the department’s website.

Effective from passage

**§ 6 and 7** Establish a statutory Connecticut Clean Economy Council to advise on strategies and policies to strengthen the state’s climate mitigation, clean energy, resilience, and sustainability programs, particularly for vulnerable communities (i.e. populations that may be disproportionately affected by climate change). One member must be a representative of a higher education institution who has expertise in technical education.

Effective from passage

**§ 11** Requires DAS to develop a (1) process for considering certain energy-related aspects when deciding to repair or build state real assets under its authority and (2) plan and budget to retrofit existing fossil fuel-based heating and cooling systems to those that operate without carbon-emitting fuels.

Effective from passage

#### [\*\*CT HB 7287, PA 25-168\*\*](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

#### **§§ 141 & 142 — HIGHER EDUCATION CONSTITUENT UNITS AND ENERGY-SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS**

##### [\*\*UConn Testimony\*\*](#)

**Authorizes the constituent units to establish their own energy-savings performance contract process, rather than use DEEP's, but subject to many of the same requirements as DEEP's process.**

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

##### [\*\*CT SB 9, PA 25-33\*\*](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABLE MUNICIPAL AND STATE PLANNING, AND THE USE OF NEONICOTINOIDS AND SECOND-GENERATION ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDES.**

This Act makes changes in laws related to planning for and preparing against certain hazards and climate change (e.g., sea level rise, rising groundwater, extreme heat, wildfire, drought, or flooding). Among other things, the Act:

#### **§ 31 — SECOND-GENERATION ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDES**

Requires DEEP, by January 1, 2026, to classify second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides as restricted use pesticides. The Act requires the DEEP commissioner, by January 1, 2026, to classify all second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides for restricted use, meaning that they may cause unreasonable adverse environmental effects. By law, this classification requires pesticides to be applied only by, or under the direct supervision of, a certified applicator or subject to other restrictions the commissioner imposes through regulations. (Currently, DEEP classifies these rodenticides for general use, meaning no specialized license is required to apply them.) Under the Act, “second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides” are pesticide products containing brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, or difethialone.

#### **§ 32 — NEONICOTINOIDS**

Generally prohibits, beginning October 1, 2027, using pesticides with neonicotinoids; exempts certain uses (e.g., for agriculture or in certain personal or pet care products) The Act prohibits, beginning October 1, 2027, using a pesticide that has any neonicotinoid unless, upon receiving a request, the DEEP commissioner determines that there is no other effective control option. To make this determination, the Act requires the commissioner to

consult with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's (CAES) director and it allows the CAES director to consult with the Pesticide Advisory Council. The Act exempts from the ban any neonicotinoid that is:

1. for use in, or application to, agriculture, seeds, ornamental shrubbery, or trees; or
2. not labeled for plant use, like those for personal care products, pet care, veterinary purposes, or indoor or structural pest control.

The Act authorizes the DEEP commissioner to assess a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 per violation to anyone who violates the ban.

Effective from passage

#### [CT HB 6868, PA 25-84](#)

### **AN ACT ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING PREDICTABILITY.**

This Act changes procedural requirements for petitioned hearings on Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) licenses (permits and other approvals). For most DEEP-issued licenses, existing law allows people to request a public hearing by submitting a petition according to the law's requirements. Under the Act, these petitioned hearings are public informational hearings not subject to the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, except for certain petitions that meet specific requirements.

Additionally, the Act authorizes DEEP to: 1. require "watershed-level compensatory mitigation" (i.e. compensation to offset impacts to water resources) for certain regulated activities and 2. extend a general permit's expiration date until a new permit is issued, or until DEEP declines to issue a new permit, rather than extend them for one year past the expiration date as current law allows.

Effective dates vary

#### [HB 6957, PA 25-73](#)

### **AN ACT ALLOWING A TOWN TO DESIGNATE ITSELF A CITY, ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE REGULATION OF CORPORATE HOUSING ACQUISITIONS AND CONCERNING TRAINING FOR INLAND WETLANDS AGENCIES, CERTIFICATES OF CORRECTION FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY ASSESSED IN ERROR, THE SUBMISSION OF CERTAIN STUDIES AND EVALUATIONS, INCLUSIONARY ZONING, SOLAR INSTALLATIONS IN CERTAIN COMMON INTEREST OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES, THE CAPITAL REGION AND THE MILLSTONE RIDGE TAX DISTRICT.**

**§ 2:** Expands who must take DEEP's inland wetlands agency training program to include all inland wetlands agency members and related municipal employees.

Effective October 1, 2025

### **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

#### [CT SB 9, PA 25-33](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABLE MUNICIPAL AND STATE PLANNING, AND THE USE OF NEONICOTINOIDS AND SECOND-GENERATION ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDES.**

This Act makes changes in laws related to planning for and preparing against certain hazards and climate change (e.g., sea level rise, rising groundwater, extreme heat, wildfire, drought, or flooding). Among other things, the Act:

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1. for use in, or application to, agriculture, seeds, ornamental shrubbery, or trees; or
2. not labeled for plant use, like those for personal care products, pet care, veterinary purposes, or indoor or structural pest control.

The Act authorizes the DEEP commissioner to assess a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 per violation to anyone who violates the ban.

Effective from passage

### **CT SB 1234, PA 25-9**

### **AN ACT PROHIBITING LIBRARIES FROM AGREEING TO CERTAIN TERMS IN ELECTRONIC BOOK AND DIGITAL AUDIOBOOK LICENSE AGREEMENTS OR CONTRACTS.**

This Act generally prohibits publicly funded libraries including academic libraries, from entering or renewing contracts and licensing agreements (collectively referred to as “agreements” below) with publishers of electronic literary materials (i.e. electronic books (eBooks) and digital audiobooks) that prevent, limit, or restrict the library from performing certain customary operational or lending functions specified in the Act. However, the prohibition only applies starting 60 days after the secretary of the state determines that a substantially similar law has been enacted by one or more other states with a combined population of at least seven million.

Effective July 1, 2025

### **CT SB 1357, 25-111**

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS STATUTES CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION.**

Among other things, this Act:

**§ 33** Establishes conditions for using a device to convert cash into prepaid cards as a means to comply with the law’s requirement to accept cash as payment in retail sales. By law, someone conducting retail sales in the state, with certain exceptions, cannot (1) refuse to accept cash as payment, (2) post signs saying that cash is not accepted, or (3) charge a higher price for using cash. The Act allows them to comply with this requirement by providing customers with a device to turn cash into a prepaid card as long as the person and the device vendor do not directly or indirectly require: 1. a fee for the initial receipt of the prepaid card or to use the card (including fees

to check the card balance, deposit additional funds, or any recurring fees); 2. a minimum deposit above \$1; 3. an expiration date for the funds deposited on the prepaid card; 4. a limit on the number of card transactions; or 5. a consumer to give their personally identifiable information (including phone number, email address, or Social Security number) to get the card.

The Act also requires:

1. the device to produce a printed receipt with the amount deposited onto the card, when requested, and
2. a retail store to (a) accept cash during any time period when a device malfunctions at the store and (b) post a sign at a conspicuous location near the device stating that the store must accept cash if a device malfunctions.

The Act excludes from these provisions (1) retail transactions that are conducted in person at a location where no individual is employed to assist a person with the purchase of goods or services and (2) services offered by health care providers and professionals (services requiring licensure or other legal authorization). The Act also allows DCP to adopt regulations to implement these provisions.

Effective from passage

#### **CT HB 6978, PA 25-96**

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.**

#### **§§ 17 & 18 — ON-SITE SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS**

Expands DPH's authority to regulate alternative on-site sewage treatment systems and requires DPH to amend regulations accordingly; authorizes the commissioner to implement policies and procedures while in the process of adopting regulations on alternative on-site and subsurface sewage systems.

Effective July 1, 2025

### **FINANCIAL AID & TUITION**

#### **CT SB 1261, PA 25-105**

### **AN ACT EXPANDING THE ALLIANCE DISTRICT EDUCATOR AND COUNSELOR LOAN SUBSIDY PROGRAM AND THE HIGH PRIORITY OCCUPATION LOAN SUBSIDY PROGRAM.**

This Act expands eligibility to participate in the alliance district educator and counselor loan subsidy program and correspondingly renames it as the alliance district loan subsidy program. Under current law and practice, the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (CHESLA) operates this program, which provides subsidized interest rates on CHESLA loans that refinance the private student loans of teachers, paraeducators, and school counselors employed in an alliance district.

The Act:

1. specifies that these school employees must be employed by a local or regional board of education or a technical education and career school and
2. expands the program to make it available to people who are employed in a high priority occupation by a local or regional board of education or a technical education and career school in an alliance district.

Additionally, the Act changes the purpose of a \$7 million bond authorization by (1) specifying it covers the expanded and renamed program and (2) extending the bonding to CHESLA's high priority occupation loan subsidy program.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### [CT SB 1410, SA 25-10](#)

### **AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO SUPPORT PROMISE PROGRAMS IN THE STATE**

#### [UConn Testimony](#)

This Act establishes a task force to study options for developing a state-wide initiative to expand college access and support success of students in the state. The study must include, but need not be limited to, (1) an examination of existing scholarship programs in the state, (2) research and documentation of the unmet needs of students in the state, and (3) specification of strategies for expanding comprehensive scholarship services provided by promise programs, including, but not limited to, through establishment of a public-private partnership to coordinate such services state-wide. **Task force members include: a member who has expertise in first-year experience collegiate programs, one who has expertise in college financial aid services and one who has expertise in college admissions.** All initial appointments to the task force must be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section.

Effective from passage

#### [CT HB 6438 PA 25-95](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING ASSORTED PROPOSALS TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MILITARY SERVICE OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS IN CONNECTICUT.**

#### **§§ 9-13 — FEE WAIVERS AT PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

This Act expands the higher education tuition waiver program for eligible National Guard members and veterans with wartime service to cover: (1) higher education extension fees and (2) tuition at Charter Oak State College. The Act expands the higher education tuition waiver program to cover certain extension fees for eligible National Guard members and veterans with wartime service. **It requires the regional community-technical colleges, the Connecticut State University System, and UConn to waive fees for educational extension programs, including for courses taken during summer and winter school sessions or intersessions.** Current law requires these institutions to waive eligible veterans' and National Guard members' tuition, which does not include these fees. The Act makes various conforming changes, including incorporating these extension fee waivers into the calculation of waiver amounts that the state must annually reimburse to these institutions' operating funds through an appropriation. Under current law, the reimbursement amount is based only on tuition waivers. The Act also establishes a tuition fee waiver for eligible National Guard members and veterans with wartime service who attend Charter Oak State College, with generally the same eligibility requirements as the tuition waiver program.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### [CT HB 7287, PA 25-168](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

## **§§ 262 & 263 — ROBERTA B. WILLIS SCHOLARSHIPS**

Limits the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program to need-based grants and need and merit-based grants by eliminating the Charter Oak grant (§ 263). Requires OHE to annually notify institutions of their estimated funding for these awards by November 1<sup>st</sup> (§ 262).

§ 262 Effective July 1, 2025

§ 263 Effective July 1, 2026

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

### **CT SB 1520, PA 25-124**

## **AN ACT CONCERNING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION RECORDS.**

This Act applies the exemption for education records to the federal act as it existed on January 3, 2012, the date of the last revision.

## **HEALTH CARE- ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

### **CT SB 10, PA 25-94**

## **AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE AND PATIENT PROTECTION.**

### **§§ 4 & 5 — STEP THERAPY RESTRICTIONS**

Prohibits health carriers from requiring the use of step therapy for prescription drugs used to treat multiple sclerosis or rheumatoid arthritis; removes the sunset date for the prohibition on the use of step therapy for prescription drugs used to treat schizophrenia, major depressive disorder, or bipolar disorder.

Effective January 1, 2026

### **§§ 8 & 9 — REIMBURSEMENT FOR GENERAL ANESTHESIA**

Prohibits certain health insurance policies from imposing unilateral arbitrary limitations on reimbursement for general anesthesia.

Effective January 1, 2026

### **§ 10 — FACILITY FEE LIMITS**

The Act reinstates a provision, repealed in 2023, that makes it an unfair trade practice to violate facility fee limits. Existing law also allows OHS to impose civil penalties of up to \$1,000 for certain violations of these fee limits. By law, a “facility fee” is any fee a hospital or health system charges or bills for outpatient hospital services provided in a hospital-based facility that is (1) intended to compensate the hospital or health system for its operational expenses and (2) separate and distinct from the provider’s professional fee. Existing law limits when hospitals, health systems, and hospital-based facilities may charge facility fees for outpatient services provided off-site from a hospital campus. The law also prohibits hospitals or health systems from charging facility fees for certain on-campus outpatient procedures that are not performed in the emergency department. Among other limits for off-site outpatient services, existing law generally prohibits hospitals, health systems, and hospital-based facilities from charging facility fees for these services that use a current procedural terminology evaluation and management (CPT E/M) code or CPT assessment and management (CPT A/M) code. These limits do not apply to

Medicare and Medicaid patients, patients receiving services under a workers' compensation plan, or freestanding emergency departments.

Effective January 1, 2026

#### [CT HJR 89](#)

### **RESOLUTION GRANTING CAROLINE SKUDLAREK, EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF ALFONS SKUDLAREK, PERMISSION TO SUE THE STATE.**

**The resolution as amended allows the claimant Caroline Skudlarek, Executrix of the Estate of Alfons Skudlarek, to sue the state, only for the two enumerated claims of gross negligence presented to the Claims Commissioner, to recover damages as compensation for personal** injury and/or property damage allegedly suffered totaling \$20,000 or more as set forth in said claim. Payout on the claim, were it to occur, would be made from the Comptroller's Adjudicated Claims account. The total cost to the state cannot be determined as the outcome of this future lawsuit is unknown.

#### [CT SB 1380, PA 25-154](#)

### **AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN THE PROVISION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN THE STATE.**

This Act specifically prohibits health care providers from knowingly discriminating in providing health care services due to someone's race, color, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, ancestry, intellectual disability, mental disability, learning disability, physical disability (including blindness), veteran status, or status as a domestic violence victim. But the Act specifies that it does not: (1) require the delivery of futile health care and services that conflict with a provider's professional judgment or ethical considerations, (2) affect the professional standard of care, or (3) interfere with public health planning.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### [CT SB 1450, PA 25-162](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF THE HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.**

Among other things, this Act:

- Requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to create, within available appropriations, a loan reimbursement program for health care providers, with some of the awards targeted to primary care providers and those employed in rural communities or at federally qualified health centers (FQHCs).

Effective July 1, 2025

- Requires DPH, in collaboration with a Connecticut-based educational or educational technology provider and within available appropriations, to create a pilot program providing home-based virtual education to people seeking certification as a nurse's aide or emergency medical technician (EMT). The Act specifies that it does not eliminate existing requirements for these people to receive in-person practical training. It requires the education commissioner to add radiologic technology, nuclear medicine technology, and respiratory care to an existing plan on promoting health care career options to middle and high school students.

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Effective from passage

- Requires DPH, within available appropriations, to create a program giving grants to recruit athletic trainers from other states to move to Connecticut to work here. The grants are for their relocation costs.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### [\*\*CT HB 6436, PA 25-132\*\*](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HEALTH INSURANCE STATUTES**

Among other things:

**This Act eliminates a requirement that the insurance commissioner contract with the UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy (which no longer exists) to conduct reviews of mandated health benefits upon request of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.** Instead, it allows him to contract with any actuary, actuarial firm, quality improvement clearinghouse, health policy research organization, or other independent expert necessary to conduct the reviews. By law, the reviews evaluate the social and financial impacts of the health benefits.

It also delays the annual due date for pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) to report prescription drug rebate information to the insurance commissioner by one month, from February 1 to March 1. It also delays the annual due date for the commissioner to report to the Insurance and Real Estate Committee on the PBMs' rebate reports, from March 1 to April 1.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### [\*\*CT HB 6771, PA 25-16\*\*](#)

### **AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND DEMENTIA TASK FORCE, REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BIOMARKER TESTING AND CONCERNING TRANSFERS AND DISCHARGES IN RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES, TUITION WAIVERS FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS WHO TAKE COURSES AT REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND CLOSURES AND EVACUATIONS OF RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES AND NURSING HOMES**

This Act establishes the Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia task force (§2). Among others, the task for includes: two who are be health care providers with experience diagnosing and treating Alzheimer's disease, and one of whom shall have expertise in aging policy issues.

Effective October 1, 2025

The Act also requires certain health care insurers to cover biomarker testing (§§ 4 & 5).

Effective January 1, 2026

#### [\*\*CT HB 6978, PA 25-96\*\*](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.**

#### **§ 1 — RARE DISEASE ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Allows the Rare Disease Advisory Council to (1) apply for and accept grants and other funds from various sources to carry out its responsibilities and (2) enter into contracts or agreements as needed to distribute or use these funds.

Effective from passage

#### **§§ 2-4 — MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW PROGRAM AND REVIEW COMMITTEES**

Allows DPH to use information it obtains for the Maternal Mortality Review Program, and findings of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee, to improve the accuracy of vital statistics data.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **§ 5 — INSPECTIONS AND LICENSE RENEWALS**

Allows DPH to renew licenses for additional types of facilities without performing an inspection if the facility is federally certified under Medicare or Medicaid (which requires its own inspection).

Effective October 1, 2025

#### **§ 6 — DPH DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS**

Specifically allows DPH to enter into contracts or agreements as needed to distribute or use funds received from gifts, grants, or contracts.

Effective from passage

#### **§ 7 — BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING**

Allows the Board of Examiners for Nursing to hold contested case hearings before hearing officers as well as board members.

Effective from passage

#### **§ 8 — DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS**

Expands the grounds upon which DPH may take disciplinary action against health care institutions to include substantial failure to comply with the public health statutes generally.

Effective from passage

#### **§ 10 — EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT DIVERSION**

Requires hospitals to notify DPH within two hours after they declare emergency department diversions.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### **§§ 11-14 — RETIRED OR VOLUNTEER PHYSICIANS**

Allows retired physicians to renew or reinstate their licenses, for a reduced fee compared to standard physician licensure; requires DPH to adopt regulations on related matters, such as setting appropriate restrictions on retired physicians' scope of practice; under certain conditions, exempts physicians from having to maintain malpractice insurance when providing volunteer behavioral health services at a nonprofit clinic.

Effective October 1, 2025

### **§ 15 — CHIEF MEDICAL AND NURSING OFFICERS**

Requires hospitals' chief medical officers and chief nursing officers to be licensed in their respective professions in Connecticut.

Effective October 1, 2025

### **HB 7156, PA 25-79**

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES' RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES STATUTES.**

**§10:** The Act requires health care providers to give the DDS commissioner any information he deems necessary to complete the death reviews when a person whose medical care the department had direct or oversight responsibility for dies. Providers must do this at the commissioner's request and only if federal law allows, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). When requesting the information, the commissioner must identify the HIPAA provisions that allow the provider to give him the information

Effective from passage

### **CT HB 7157, PA 25-97**

### **AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES. ITS PURPOSE IS TO MAKE VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.**

Among other things, this Act:

### **§ 2 — EMS ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE**

Allows EMS personnel to administer epinephrine using any device approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration, including nasal spray.

Effective July 1, 2025

### **§ 3 — PHYSICAL THERAPIST CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Starting January 1, 2026, This Act requires licensed physical therapists to complete education or training on ethics and jurisprudence as part of their existing continuing education requirement.

Effective July 1, 2025

### **§ 4 — REQUIRING PATIENTS TO KEEP PAYMENT METHODS ON**

This Act prohibits health systems and health care providers from requiring patients to provide electronic payment methods on file as a prerequisite to providing them services and makes a violation of this prohibition an unfair trade practice.

Effective October 1, 2025

### **§ 18 — DPH CIVIL PENALTIES**

Increases the maximum civil penalty that DPH may impose against individual health care providers from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

Effective July 1, 2025

### **§ 19 — DPH WORKPLACE VIOLENCE REPORTS**

Extends, from January 1 to February 1, the date by which health care employers must annually report to DPH on workplace violence incidents.

Effective October 1, 2025

### **§ 20 — OXYGEN-RELATED PATIENT CARE**

Authorizes MRI and radiologic technicians to perform certain oxygen-related patient care activities in hospitals just as existing law allows for designated licensed health care providers and certified ultrasound, nuclear medicine, and polysomnographic technologists.

Effective July 1, 2025

### **§ 21 — HOSPITAL NURSE STAFFING PLAN COMPLIANCE REPORTS**

Changes the dates by which hospitals must biannually report to DPH on their compliance in the past six months with at least 80% of nurse staffing assignments in their nurse staff plans.

Effective October 1, 2025

### **§ 22 — DCF OUTPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC CLINICS**

Specifies that DPH-licensed hospitals are not required to also obtain DCF licensure to provide inpatient or outpatient mental health services as part of DCF's outpatient psychiatric clinic program.

Effective from passage

### **§§ 47 & 48 — STATEWIDE HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

Requires OHS to study the exclusion of certain patient health information from the exchange; exempts certain providers from having to connect with the exchange; sets patient notification requirements in the case of a data breach, ransomware, or hacking; and prohibits disclosure of protected health information in response to a subpoena, with limited exceptions.

Effective from passage

### **[CT HB 7192, PA 25-167](#)**

## **AN ACT IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BIPARTISAN DRUG TASK FORCE.**

The Act makes various changes regarding prescription drug costs.

Among other things:

**§5** Establishes the Prescription Drug Shortage Task Force to study drug shortage risks and mitigation strategies, including in-state production. **Task force members include: the chief executive officer of the University of Connecticut Health Center, or the chief executive officer's designee.** The task force reports annually starting January 1, 2026, to relevant legislative committees.

Effective from passage

**§ 6** Allows the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to utilize bond proceeds from the Manufacturing Assistance Act (MAA) program to support prescription drug production capacity in the state.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§§ 9-18** Creates a Canadian Prescription Drug Importation Program (CPDIP). The Act requires DCP to hire a consultant to study the feasibility of establishing a CPDIP.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§§ 19-20** Requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to negotiate bulk prescription drug purchases on behalf of “drug purchasing” agencies. Section 20 additionally allows such agencies to join interstate prescription drug purchasing compacts.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 22** Requires DSS to petition the federal Department of Health and Human Services to authorize generic, lower cost forms of GLP-1 prescription drugs to treat obesity or diabetes. If approved, the Act requires DSS to contract for such generic GLP-1 drugs to support HUSKY Health members.

Effective from passage

#### **CT HB 7213, PA 25-28**

### **AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE. ITS PURPOSE IS TO PROTECT PATIENTS' ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE.**

This Act allows minors (under age 18) to give consent for services, examination, or treatment related to pregnancy and pregnancy prevention without the consent or notification of their parents or guardian. These services specifically include contraceptive counseling and services, prenatal care, and appropriate care and pain management during labor and delivery (e.g., epidural administration), but not sterilization. The Act prohibits physicians and other health care providers from sharing any information about these services or a related consultation (including sending a Act) with the minor’s parent or guardian without the minor’s express consent.

Additionally, under the Act:

1. these provisions do not affect a provider’s obligation to make a report to the departments of public health (DPH) or children and families (DCF), or any other report or disclosure, that may be required under state law and
2. a parent or guardian who was not informed of these services is not liable to pay for them.

Effective from passage

#### **CT HB 7214, SA 25-7**

### **AN ACT CONCERNING MATERNAL HEALTH**

This Act requires the Department of Public Health commissioner to convene an advisory committee to study and make recommendations on (1) improving perinatal mental health care services, and (2) making hospitals more doula-friendly.

Effective from passage

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

**§§ 116-120 — TELEHEALTH PRESCRIPTION OF OPIOIDS**

Specifically allows opioids to be prescribed through telehealth as part of medication assisted treatment or to treat a psychiatric disability or substance use disorder.

Effective from passage

**§ 181 — EMS ADMINISTERING GLUCAGON NASAL POWDER**

Requires EMS personnel to receive training on administering glucagon and allows them to administer glucagon nasal powder when necessary.

Effective from passage

**§ 182 — HOSPITAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PORTAL**

Requires OHA to contract with a vendor to develop an online hospital financial assistance portal for patients and their family members.

**§ 189 — HOSPITAL REPORTING ON EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS**

Adds to the required recipients of hospitals' annual reports analyzing emergency department data.

Effective from passage

**§ 190 — HOSPITAL DISCHARGE WORKING GROUP**

Creates a working group on hospital discharge challenges.

Effective from passage

**§§ 275 & 276 — CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR HEALTH CARE ENTITIES**

Expressly allows OHS, when reviewing CON applications for certain hospital ownership transfers that require a cost and market impact review, to consider the review's preliminary and final reports and other specified materials; modifies the definition of "termination of services" for CON purposes to include the termination of any services for a combined total of more than 180 days within a consecutive two-year period.

§ 275 Effective from passage

§ 376 October 1, 2025

**§§ 278-286 — REPRODUCTIVE AND GENDER-AFFIRMING HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

Subjects covered entities' business associates to existing law's disclosure limitations; requires the entities and business associates to notify the attorney general when they receive a subpoena for certain patient information; specifies that gender-affirming health care services do not include conversion therapy for anyone under age 18.

Effective July 1, 2025

### **§§ 345–347 — IDENTIFIED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

Caps the price for the sale of identified prescription drugs in the state; generally imposes a civil penalty on pharmaceutical manufacturers and wholesale distributors who violate the cap and requires the DRS commissioner to impose and collect it; and creates a process for penalty disputes.

Effective July 1, 2026

### **§§ 360 & 361 — HOSPITAL PROVIDER TAX**

Beginning in FY 27, requires the base year on which the hospital provider tax is calculated to be tied to an applicable federal fiscal year, rather than FY 16, and makes various corresponding changes; eliminates provisions allowing taxpayers subject to the hospital provider tax to request a payment extension under certain circumstances.

Effective July 1, 2026 and applicable to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2026

### **§ 362 — HOSPITAL MEDICAID SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS**

Increases Medicaid supplemental payments to hospitals by \$140 million for FY 27 and requires this total to be increased in subsequent years by \$25 million over the preceding year if the total amount of hospital provider tax collected for that year increased by \$25 million over the preceding year.

Effective July 1, 2026

## **HEALTH CARE-CLINICAL**

### **[CT HB 7213, PA 25-28](#)**

#### **AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE. ITS PURPOSE IS TO PROTECT PATIENTS' ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE.**

This Act allows minors (under age 18) to give consent for services, examination, or treatment related to pregnancy and pregnancy prevention without the consent or notification of their parents or guardian. These services specifically include contraceptive counseling and services, prenatal care, and appropriate care and pain management during labor and delivery (e.g., epidural administration), but not sterilization. The Act prohibits physicians and other health care providers from sharing any information about these services or a related consultation (including sending a text) with the minor's parent or guardian without the minor's express consent. Additionally, under the Act:

1. these provisions do not affect a provider's obligation to make a report to the departments of public health (DPH) or children and families (DCF), or any other report or disclosure, that may be required under state law and
2. a parent or guardian who was not informed of these services is not liable to pay for them.

Effective from passage

## **HEALTH CARE- DENTISTRY**

### **[CT HB 6442, PA 25-15](#)**

#### **AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS MEASURES RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES IN CONNECTICUT**

This Act includes:

### **§ 9 — STUDY OF DENTAL SERVICES FOR VETERANS**

The Act requires the DVA commissioner to evaluate dental services provided to veterans in the state and identify areas for improvement (such as opportunities to expand access to these services and increase enrollment in U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (U.S. DVA) dental insurance program). The commissioner must report on his evaluation, as well as any recommendations for legislation, to the Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee by February 1, 2026.

Effective from passage

## **HEALTH CARE-MEDICAL STAFF**

### **SB 1312, PA 25-117**

#### **AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LABOR DEPARTMENT.**

Among other things, this Act :

**§ 3** Requires physicians, physician assistants (PAs), and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to report suspected occupational diseases to the Department of Labor.

Effective from passage

### **CT SB 1450, PA 25-162**

#### **AN ACT CONCERNING RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF THE HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.**

Among other things, this Act:

- Requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to create, within available appropriations, a loan reimbursement program for health care providers, with some of the awards targeted to primary care providers and those employed in rural communities or at federally qualified health centers (FQHCs).

Effective July 1, 2025

- Requires DPH, in collaboration with a Connecticut-based educational or educational technology provider and within available appropriations, to create a pilot program providing home-based virtual education to people seeking certification as a nurse's aide or emergency medical technician (EMT). The Act specifies that it does not eliminate existing requirements for these people to receive in-person practical training. It requires the education commissioner to add radiologic technology, nuclear medicine technology, and respiratory care to an existing plan on promoting health care career options to middle and high school students.

Effective from passage

- Requires DPH, within available appropriations, to create a program giving grants to recruit athletic trainers from other states to move to Connecticut to work here. The grants are for their relocation costs.

Effective July 1, 2025

## HEALTH INSURANCE

### CT SB 10, PA 25-94

#### **AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE AND PATIENT PROTECTION.**

##### **§§ 1–3 — MENTAL HEALTH PARITY COMPLIANCE**

Requires health carriers to annually file a mental health parity compliance certification with the insurance commissioner; makes public a carrier's compliance with mental health parity requirements; authorizes the insurance commissioner to impose civil penalties and late fees on carriers who fail to comply with mental health parity requirements and to engage certain independent experts to help with compliance reviews.

Effective October 1, 2025

##### **§§ 4 & 5 — STEP THERAPY RESTRICTIONS**

Prohibits health carriers from requiring the use of step therapy for prescription drugs used to treat multiple sclerosis or rheumatoid arthritis; removes the sunset date for the prohibition on the use of step therapy for prescription drugs used to treat schizophrenia, major depressive disorder, or bipolar disorder.

Effective January 1, 2026

##### **§§ 6 & 7 — REDUCING HEALTH INSURANCE RATE REQUESTS**

Beginning January 1, 2027, allows the insurance commissioner to reduce a health carrier's individual or small employer group health insurance rate request by up to two percentage points if the carrier's average approved rate increase exceeded the state's health care cost growth benchmark in each of the two most recent years for which benchmark data is available.

Effective January 1, 2027

##### **§§ 8 & 9 — REIMBURSEMENT FOR GENERAL ANESTHESIA**

Prohibits certain health insurance policies from imposing unilateral arbitrary limitations on reimbursement for general anesthesia.

Effective January 1, 2026

##### **§ 10 — FACILITY FEE LIMITS**

The Act reinstates a provision, repealed in 2023, that makes it an unfair trade practice to violate facility fee limits. Existing law also allows OHS to impose civil penalties of up to \$1,000 for certain violations of these fee limits. By law, a "facility fee" is any fee a hospital or health system charges or bills for outpatient hospital services provided in a hospital-based facility that is: (1) intended to compensate the hospital or health system for its operational expenses and (2) separate and distinct from the provider's professional fee. Existing law limits when hospitals, health systems, and hospital-based facilities may charge facility fees for outpatient services provided off-site from a hospital campus. The law also prohibits hospitals or health systems from charging facility fees for certain on-campus outpatient procedures that are not performed in the emergency department. Among other limits for off-site outpatient services, existing law generally prohibits hospitals, health systems, and hospital-based facilities from charging facility fees for these services that use a current procedural terminology evaluation and management (CPT E/M) code or CPT assessment and management (CPT A/M) code. These limits do not apply to Medicare and Medicaid patients, patients receiving services under a workers' compensation plan, or freestanding emergency departments.

Effective January 1, 2026

## [CT HB 6436, PA 25-132](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE HEALTH INSURANCE STATUTES**

Among other things:

This Act eliminates a requirement that the insurance commissioner contract with the UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy (which no longer exists) to conduct reviews of mandated health benefits upon request of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee. Instead, it allows him to contract with any actuary, actuarial firm, quality improvement clearinghouse, health policy research organization, or other independent expert necessary to conduct the reviews. By law, the reviews evaluate the social and financial impacts of the health benefits.

It also delays the annual due date for pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) to report prescription drug rebate information to the insurance commissioner by one month, from February 1 to March 1. It also delays the annual due date for the commissioner to report to the Insurance and Real Estate Committee on the PBMs' rebate reports, from March 1 to April 1

Effective October 1, 2025

## [HB 6771, PA 25-16](#)

### **AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND DEMENTIA TASK FORCE, REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BIOMARKER TESTING AND CONCERNING TRANSFERS AND DISCHARGES IN RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES, TUITION WAIVERS FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS WHO TAKE COURSES AT REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND CLOSURES AND EVACUATIONS OF RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES AND NURSING HOMES.**

Among other things, this Act:

Requires certain individual (§ 4) and group health insurance policies (§ 5) to cover biomarker testing to diagnose, treat, manage, or monitor an insured's disease or condition, if medical and scientific evidence (e.g., federal Food and Drug Administration approval, Medicare coverage determinations, or nationally recognized clinical guidelines) shows the testing has clinical utility. The policies must provide coverage in a way that limits any disruptions to the insured's care. However, the policies may require that biomarker testing be done at an in-network clinical laboratory.

Effective January 1, 2026

### **HIGHER EDUCATION**

## [CT SB 1114, PA 25-21](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES. ITS PURPOSE IS TO MAKE TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES.**

This Act makes grammatical and technical changes to statutes on higher education, education, and related matters.

Effective July 1, 2025

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION. ITS PURPOSE IS TO IMPLEMENT THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS.**

**[UConn Testimony](#)**

This Act:

1. Makes numerous changes to the Connecticut Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network, or CP20 WIN, including renaming it the Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network, or P20 WIN, to match current practice; codifying the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) as its administrator; and requiring regional workforce development boards and the state's constituent units of higher education (UConn and the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU)) to submit certain data to the network (§ 2).

**2. Codifies into state law a requirement that UConn and CSCU (and their central or system offices) submit data to the federal integrated postsecondary education data system (IPEDS), which they currently do (IPEDS is a U.S. Department of Education system that compiles data from higher education institutions that participate in federal student financial aid programs) (§ 1).**

**3. Requires UConn and CSCU to provide data, on request and in compliance with the federal Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), to OPM's Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division (CJPPD) when necessary for the division's duties (the division works with various state agencies to promote a more effective and cohesive criminal justice system) (§ 3).**

**4. Requires the UConn Board of Trustees and Board of Regents for Higher Education, in consultation with OPM, to examine and, by January 1, 2026, update their policies and procedures on accounts receivable holds to ensure that students in prison can enroll in postsecondary programs without delay (§ 4).**

5. Makes technical and conforming changes (§§ 2, 3 & 5-7)

Effective July 1, 2025

**AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE STUDENT ENROLLMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, WATERBURY CAMPUS.**

This Act requires UConn to study and make recommendations regarding strategies to support and encourage student enrollment at the UConn Waterbury Campus. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, a plan offering dual enrollment programs and online course offerings and consideration of (1) the operation of such programs and course offerings, and (2) workforce development initiatives at said campus. **The Act requires UConn to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce and higher education and employment advancement in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes by February 1, 2026.**

Effective from passage

## **AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STATUTES CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.**

This Act makes numerous minor and technical changes to reflect the merger of the community-technical colleges into the Connecticut State Community College in 2023, including replacing references to the former Board of Trustees for the Community-Technical Colleges with the Board of Regents of Higher Education as the board that oversees the Connecticut State Community College. It makes other changes to reflect that this board also oversees the Connecticut State University System. Correspondingly, it repeals obsolete statutes governing the Board of Trustees for Community-Technical Colleges and Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System (§ 115). It also replaces one member of the Building Code Training Council and two members of the Fire Marshal Training Council whose appointments are currently made by the former Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges, with appointments of representatives of Connecticut State Community College by the Board of Regents (these councils provide advice on certification and training related to the building and fire codes) (§§ 106 & 107).

The Act provides that in any 2025 public acts:

1. “Board of Regents for Higher Education” must be substituted any time that “board of trustees,” “Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System,” or “Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges” is used to mean the “Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System” or the “Board of Trustees of the Community Technical College System”;
2. “Connecticut State Community College” must be substituted for “regional community-technical colleges” or “regional community-technical college system”; and
3. the Legislative Commissioner’s Office can make technical, grammatical, and punctuation changes to carry out these provisions in the 2025 public acts (§ 113).

The Act also expands the requirement to submit security protocol plans to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) to all independent institutions of higher education. These security protocols must address how to recognize students and others who may be at risk of harm to themselves or others, be reviewed biennially, and be submitted to DESPP if there are revisions. The institutions must also establish trained threat assessment teams for each campus. It is unclear when this expanded group of institutions is required to comply with these provisions. These provisions currently apply only to nonprofit institutions established in the state that have degree-granting authority, their main campus in Connecticut, and a primary function other than preparing students for religious vocation (§ 97).

Effective from passage, except the provision on 2025 public acts, the repeal of obsolete statutes, and a technical change are effective July 1, 2025

### **CT SB 1410, SA 25-10**

## **AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO SUPPORT PROMISE PROGRAMS IN THE STATE**

### **UConn Testimony**

This Act establishes a task force to study options for developing a state-wide initiative to expand college access and support success of students in the state. The study must include, but need not be limited to, (1) an examination of existing scholarship programs in the state, (2) research and documentation of the unmet needs of students in the state, and (3) specification of strategies for expanding comprehensive scholarship services

provided by promise programs, including, but not limited to, through establishment of a public-private partnership to coordinate such services state-wide. **Task force members include: a member who has expertise in first-year experience collegiate programs, one who has expertise in college financial aid services and one who has expertise in college admissions.** All initial appointments to the task force must be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section.

Effective from passage

#### [\*\*CT SB 1424, SA 1424\*\*](#)

### **AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ASTRONAUTICAL SCIENCES TO CONFER DEGREES.**

This Act authorized the International Institute for Astronautical Sciences to confer degrees.

Effective from passage

#### [\*\*CT SB 1, PA 25-93\*\*](#)

### **AN ACT INCREASING RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS, SCHOOLS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION.**

This Act makes numerous changes to the education statutes, including:

#### **§ 25 — TRANSITIONAL COLLEGE READINESS AND REMEDIAL SUPPORT PROGRAM OFFERINGS AT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

The Act requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education to continue offering, for the fall 2025, spring 2026, and each following semester, every transitional college readiness, embedded remedial support, and intensive remedial support program that they offered at public higher education institutions in the fall 2024 and spring 2025 semesters.

#### [\*\*CT HB 5008, PA 25-13\*\*](#)

### **AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT-PUERTO RICO TRADE COMMISSION.**

#### [\*\*UConn Testimony\*\*](#)

This Act establishes a 23-member Connecticut-Puerto Rico Trade Commission within the Legislative Department to do the following between Connecticut and Puerto Rico:

1. advance bilateral trade and investment, 2. initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest, 3. promote business and academic exchanges, 4. encourage mutual economic support and infrastructure investment, and 5. address other issues the commission determines. To carry out its duties, the Act also authorizes the commission to: (1) obtain necessary assistance and data from any executive department, board, commission, or agency in the state; (2) perform necessary and appropriate acts; and (3) accept gifts, donations, or bequests. The Act requires the commission, starting by February 1, 2027, to annually report to the Governor, Department of Economic and Community Development, and Commerce Committee on its activities during the prior year. At a minimum, the report must include recommendations for policy and legislative changes needed to carry out its duties.

Members:

Under the Act, the commission includes the following 23 appointed members:

1. two members each appointed by the six top legislative leaders;

2. two Commerce Committee members, one each appointed by the committee chairpersons;
3. two Commerce Committee ranking members, or their designees;
4. three members appointed by the Governor;
- 5. one representative of a Connecticut public college or university, appointed by the Governor;**
6. one Connecticut chamber of commerce representative, appointed by the Governor; and
7. two representatives of Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican-American communities in the state from different political parties, appointed by the Governor.

Under the Act, commission members must be (1) currently or formerly involved in organizations promoting Puerto Rican affairs or (2) interested in trade relations between Connecticut and Puerto Rico.

Effective from passage

#### **CT HB 6075, PA 25-128**

### **AN ACT CONCERNING INSTRUCTORS FOR AN AIRFRAME AND POWERPLANT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM.**

This Act requires the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System to allow a person to be an instructor in its airframe and powerplant certificate program if the person:

1. meets certain federal regulatory requirements and
2. is airframe and powerplant certified, with at least 10 years of experience as an aerospace technician. The act also specifies that these instructors do not need to be certified or endorsed by the State Department of Education

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **CT HB 6445, PA 25-99**

### **AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION, EXPANDING DUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNING COLLEGE READINESS AND REMEDIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS AT THE CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND INFORMATION REPORTED TO THE CREDENTIAL DATABASE.**

#### **UConn Testimony**

This Act makes various changes in Office of Higher Education (OHE)-related laws and programs, which include:

**§ 1:** Defines a “Connecticut institution of higher education” and an “out-of-state institution of higher education” as they relate to authorization for distance learning and related OHE oversight activities;

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 2.** Prohibits private career schools from renewing their certificate to operate if they have not enrolled any students continually during the previous two calendar years;

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 3.** Increases, from 60 to 90 days, the length of time the commissioner can extend a private career school’s authorization for good cause;

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 4.** Requires Office of Higher Education to review requests and applications regarding an ownership change for a higher education institution;

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 5** Requires the State Department of Education to notify parents of public school students in grades 8 to 11 about opportunities to pursue a challenging curriculum and the availability of courses that grant postsecondary credit by February 1, 2026, and annually thereafter;

Effective January 1, 2026

**§ 6** Requires the State Department of Education to develop a model agreement between secondary schools and postsecondary institutions for providing dual and concurrent enrollment courses and postsecondary credit courses to high school students by July 1, 2026;

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 7** Requires higher education institutions that offer a concurrent enrollment course as of July 1, 2025, to obtain accreditation for it from the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships(NACEP) by, generally, July 1, 2028;

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 8** Modifies requirements for the Board of Regents for Higher Education to continue offering transitional, embedded, and intensive remedial support programs for the 2025–2026 academic year, as established in the prior year and

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 9** Updates the credential database requirements, defining “credential” and “credential status type.” Modifies data submission requirements for institutions, exempting state agencies and allowing the Labor Department to require apprenticeship program data. Adjusts which data points institutions of higher education must submit (e.g., omitting certain data if not applicable).

Effective July 1, 2025

[\*\*CT HB 6887, PA 25-71\*\*](#)

## **AN ACT CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION MANAGEMENT AND FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY.**

### [\*\*UConn Testimony\*\*](#)

**This Act requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) and UConn Board of Trustees to adopt or update their management and fiscal accountability policies to cover the following topics by January 1, 2026: (1) use of purchasing cards and state vehicles, (2) residency requirements for certain executive positions, and (3) training on business functions and compliance practices (§§ 1 & 2).** The Act requires the BOR to appoint a compliance officer by January 1, 2026, to conduct regular audits and report to the BOR (**§ 3**). The Act (**§ 4**) also specifies that constituent units of higher education, as currently required of budgeted agencies and quasi-public agencies, **must submit expense information requested by the comptroller for inclusion on the comptroller’s online database of expenditures.** This includes data related to contracts, grants, payroll, and pensions, but does

not require the creation of unavailable data or technology systems or require disclosure of information protected by law (§ 4).

Effective July 1, 2025

#### [HB 7020, PA 25-36](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS.**

**§ 3.** Under current law, to satisfy the education requirement, a person must (1) complete at least 150 semester hours of college education including a bachelor's degree or higher from a college or university acceptable to the board and (2) have an accounting or equivalent concentration, as determined by the board in a regulation. The Act instead requires, beginning October 1, 2025, the applicant to have, from a college or university acceptable to the board, an appropriate accounting concentration or equivalent, as determined by the board in its regulations, and a (1) bachelor's degree, (2) bachelor's degree plus an additional 30 college semester hours, or (3) post-baccalaureate degree. The Act limits the board's authority to adopt regulations on education requirements to implementing the Act's requirements, rather than allowing the regulations to specify these requirements.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### [HB 7081, PA 25-76](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSURE PORTABILITY FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS.**

This Act generally allows the Department of Public Health (DPH) to grant a license, without examination, to marital and family therapists (MFTs) licensed or certified in other U.S. states, territories, or commonwealths. Under current law, (1) DPH may do so only if the other jurisdiction's licensure standards are equivalent to or higher than Connecticut's, and (2) for jurisdictions whose standards do not meet that threshold, applicants may substitute three years of work experience for the supervised practicum or internship and postgraduate experience generally required for licensure here. (Under the Act, the condition in (1) above continues to apply to MFT associates seeking licensure without examination.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### [CT HB 7095, SA 25-3](#)

### **AN ACT REQUIRING AN ACTION PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CT TO BECOME A MEMBER OF AN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES.**

#### [UConn Testimony](#)

**This Act requires UConn to develop an action plan to increase the likelihood of receiving an invitation to become a member of an association of research universities in the United States.** The plan must include, specifications for (1) the metrics that said university will track, the time frame and resources required to meet such metrics and the state-wide economic impact of such membership, and (2) any recommendations for legislation to assist said university in meeting such metrics and to support such membership.

**The report is due January 1, 2026,** and must be submitted, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, such action plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement.

Effective July 1, 2025

**CT HB 7287, PA 25-168**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

**§ 69 — FINISH LINE SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

Requires the Board of Regents (BOR) to establish a finish line scholars program awarding grants to students who received a Mary Ann Handley program award and then enroll in a bachelor's program at Charter Oak State College or CSU. **UConn is not included in the Act. \$7.7M is provided in the Expanded PACT Program.**

**§§ 262 & 263 — ROBERTA B. WILLIS SCHOLARSHIPS**

Limits the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program to need-based grants and need and merit-based grants by eliminating the Charter Oak grant (§ 263). Requires OHE to annually notify institutions of their estimated funding for these awards by November 1<sup>st</sup> (§ 262).

§ 262 Effective July 1, 2025

§ 263 Effective July 1, 2026

**CT HB 7288, PA 27-174**

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE AND CONCERNING GRANT PROGRAMS, STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS, REVISIONS TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS STATUTES AND VARIOUS PROVISIONS REVISING AND IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.**

**§77 — UCONN FACULTY RECRUITMENT AND HIRING PROGRAM**

**Changes the UConn Faculty Recruitment and Hiring Program to prohibit the university from using bond funds under the program for salaries or compensation for new faculty hires but continues to allow UConn to use bond funds for laboratories, including related construction, renovation and equipment cost to support recruitment under the program. Existing law requires UConn's Board of Trustees to biennially develop a plan for recruiting and hiring research faculty and implement a faculty recruitment and hiring program in accordance with its plan.** Relatedly, existing law authorizes \$46.1 million in GO bonds over a five year period, from FY 22 to FY 26, for this program (CGS § 10a-110n).

Effective July 1, 2025

**§197 — HIGHER EDUCATION DEGREES PATHWAY**

**Requires the Board of Regents, UConn Board of Trustees, and POST to take specific actions towards helping police officers earn higher education degrees. By January 1, 2026, the Act requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education, UConn's Board of Trustees, and POST to jointly submit a report to the Public Safety and Security Committee that includes a career pathway and schedule that they must develop.** The pathway must help police officers earn higher education degrees and include a schedule of credits that officers may receive at UConn (and all its campuses) and the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities for the training they received in order to be certified, and maintain their certification, as police officers. The boards and POST must promote this pathway to encourage police officers to earn higher education degrees, and their report must describe their plans for promoting it.

Effective from passage

## **§§216 & 217 — CHANGES TO HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADDITION OF NEW SUBCOMMITTEE TO MONITOR CSCU**

### **UConn Testimony**

Establishes a subcommittee of the Higher Education Financial Sustainability Advisory Board to monitor Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) expenditures and sustainability plans and requires the board to make recommendations to the General Assembly on these plans; repeals a budget Act provision creating a working group on CSCU reserve funds. (Also repeals Sec. 191 (b) Budget Act HB 7287, as amended by House “A”, creating a working group to oversee and monitor expenditures from each reserve fund of CSCU or the higher education institutions within CSCU).

Effective July 1, 2025

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **SB 1312, PA 25-117**

#### **AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LABOR DEPARTMENT.**

Among other things, this Act :

**§ 1** Decreases, from 60 to 40 days after a quarterly statement is provided, the amount of time an employer has to file a written protest with the Department of Labor (DOL) on the payment of unemployment insurance benefits due to fraud or error.

Effective October 1, 2025

**§ 3** Requires physicians, physician assistants (PAs), and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to report suspected occupational diseases to the Department of Labor.

Effective from passage

### **CT SB 1426, PA 25-4**

#### **AN ACT MAKING CHANGES TO THE FIREFIGHTERS CANCER RELIEF PROGRAM**

This Act makes various changes to a program that provides workers’ compensation-like benefits to firefighters who have certain cancers and meet other criteria. Generally, the program requires an eligible firefighter’s employer to pay the benefits and then be reimbursed from the state’s firefighters cancer relief account.

Among other things, the Act:

1. expands the types of cancers covered by the program to include skin cancer and makes changes to other eligibility criteria;
2. makes changes to clarify the process for state-employed firefighters to apply for program benefits;
3. requires the program’s benefits to be provided in the same way they would be if the firefighter’s cancer had been caused by an occupational disease, rather than a personal injury, under the workers’ compensation law;
4. authorizes workers’ compensation administrative law judges (ALJs) to adjudicate a firefighter’s appeal of a denial of benefits from the program; and
5. makes various minor, technical, and conforming changes.

Effective October 1, 2025

## MARINE SCIENCES

[CT HB 6222, PA 25-14](#)

### AN ACT CONCERNING THE TAKING OF EASTERN OYSTERS AND INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES

The Act requires the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) commissioner to review a study of the appropriate minimum harvest length for eastern oysters done **by an in-state university-based marine research, education, and outreach program**. In doing the review, he may consult with scientific experts on the appropriate minimum length. The Act also requires him to issue a detailed recommendation to the Environment Committee by February 1, 2026, for the minimum harvest length for eastern oysters. The recommendation must be based on the review and any scientific consultations and enable optimal health conditions for the oysters and oyster beds.

## MEDICAID

[SB 1473, PA 25-63](#)

### AN ACT REQUIRING MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR FDA-APPROVED GENE THERAPIES TO TREAT SICKLE CELL DISEASE.

This Act requires the Department of Social Services commissioner to give Medicaid coverage for federal Food and Drug Administration- approved gene therapies to treat sickle cell disease. The commissioner must apply for any federal initiative, including the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' cell and gene therapy access model, to increase cost-effective access to these therapies (which conforms to current practice). The commissioner must report, by January 1, 2026, to the Human Services Committee on (1) efforts to increase cost-effective access to the therapies, (2) the number of Medicaid recipients who received Medicaid-covered therapies and the state's cost to provide them, and (3) estimated state appropriations needed to provide this coverage.

Effective from passage

[CT HB 7287, PA 25-168](#)

### AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.

#### § 47 — AHEAD FEDERAL DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Requires DSS, within available appropriations, to develop a plan to implement alternative payment methods for hospitals voluntarily participating in the AHEAD federal demonstration program; authorizes DSS to apply for a federal Medicaid waiver to implement these alternative payment methods.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### § 341 — MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR BREAST PROSTHESES

Requires the DSS commissioner to distribute information on Medicaid coverage for breast prostheses.

Effective from passage

## **§ 362 — HOSPITAL MEDICAID SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS**

Increases Medicaid supplemental payments to hospitals by \$140 million for FY 27 and requires this total to be increased in subsequent years by \$25 million over the preceding year if the total amount of hospital provider tax collected for that year increased by \$25 million over the preceding year.

Effective July 1, 2026

## **PHARMACY**

### **CT HB 7192, PA 25-167**

## **AN ACT IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BIPARTISAN DRUG TASK FORCE.**

The Act makes various changes regarding prescription drug costs.

Among other things:

**§5** Establishes the Prescription Drug Shortage Task Force to study drug shortage risks and mitigation strategies, including in-state production. **Task force members include: the chief executive officer of the University of Connecticut Health Center, or the chief executive officer's designee.** The task force reports annually starting January 1, 2026, to relevant legislative committees.

Effective from passage

**§ 6** Allows the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to utilize bond proceeds from the Manufacturing Assistance Act (MAA) program to support prescription drug production capacity in the state.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§§ 9-18** Creates a Canadian Prescription Drug Importation Program (CPDIP). The Act requires DCP to hire a consultant to study the feasibility of establishing a CPDIP.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§§ 19-20** Requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to negotiate bulk prescription drug purchases on behalf of “drug purchasing” agencies. Section 20 additionally allows such agencies to join interstate prescription drug purchasing compacts.

Effective July 1, 2025

**§ 22** Requires DSS to petition the federal Department of Health and Human Services to authorize generic, lower cost forms of GLP-1 prescription drugs to treat obesity or diabetes. If approved, the Act requires DSS to contract for such generic GLP-1 drugs to support HUSKY Health members.

Effective from passage

## **PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

### **CT SB 1367, PA 25-25**

#### **AN ACT PROHIBITING A BAIL BONDSMAN OR AGENT FROM APPREHENDING A PRINCIPAL ON A BOND ON THE PREMISES, GROUNDS OR CAMPUS OF ANY HEALTH CARE FACILITY, SCHOOL, INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR HOUSE OF WORSHIP**

This Act prohibits professional bail bondsmen or surety bail bond or bail enforcement agents from taking or trying to take the principal on a bond into custody on the premises, grounds, or campus of any: 1. state-operated or Department of Public Health (DPH)-licensed health care facility or institution, or office of a DPH-licensed health care provider; 2. school or higher education institution; or 3. house of worship.

Effective October 1, 2025

### **CT SB 1426, PA 25-4**

#### **AN ACT MAKING CHANGES TO THE FIREFIGHTERS CANCER RELIEF PROGRAM**

This Act makes various changes to a program that provides workers' compensation-like benefits to firefighters who have certain cancers and meet other criteria. Generally, the program requires an eligible firefighter's employer to pay the benefits and then be reimbursed from the state's firefighters cancer relief account.

Among other things, the Act:

1. expands the types of cancers covered by the program to include skin cancer and makes changes to other eligibility criteria; 2. makes changes to clarify the process for state-employed firefighters to apply for program benefits; 3. requires the program's benefits to be provided in the same way they would be if the firefighter's cancer had been caused by an occupational disease, rather than a personal injury, under the workers' compensation law; 4. authorizes workers' compensation administrative law judges (ALJs) to adjudicate a firefighter's appeal of a denial of benefits from the program; and 5. makes various minor, technical, and conforming changes.

Effective October 1, 2025

### **CT HB 7053, SA 25-24**

#### **AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP UNIFORM STATUTORY DEFINITIONS OF "FIRST RESPONDER" AND "ESSENTIAL WORKER"**

This Act establishes a working group to develop uniform statutory definitions of the terms "first responder" and "essential worker."

Effective from passage

### **CT HB 7073, PA 25-100**

#### **AN ACT CONCERNING POLICE OFFICER REVIEW OF CERTAIN RECORDINGS.**

This Act makes changes about when police officers may review recordings from body-worn (e.g., body camera) or dashboard camera recording equipment, including requiring that recordings must be disclosed to the public regardless of the status of any disciplinary investigation no later than 96 hours after a request for the public disclosure. It also makes other changes regarding the public disclosure of such recordings.

Effective October 1, 2025

[CT HB 7200, PA 25-160](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING BLEEDING CONTROL TRAINING AND KITS.**

The Act allows the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to administer a bleeding control trainer qualification program by partnering with a nonprofit organization to provide this training. This Act also allows the Department of Public Health (DPH) to work with health districts to install bleeding control kits in public buildings.

Effective July 1, 2025

[CT HB 7201, PA 25-56](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING A SUPPLEMENTAL PARAMEDIC.**

[UConn Testimony](#)

**This Act allows UConn’s emergency medical services (EMS) organization (i.e. the Storrs campus fire department) to apply to the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner for a certificate of authorization as a supplemental paramedic in a similar way as existing law allows for supplemental first responders.** The Act defines “supplemental paramedic” as an EMS organization that holds a certificate of authorization from DPH and responds to the victim of a sudden illness or injury when available and called upon. This certificate will allow UConn Fire Department paramedics to respond to emergency calls covered by another primary service area responder (PSAR). By law, a PSAR is a specific geographic area to which DPH assigns a designated EMS provider for each category of emergency medical response services (CGS § 19a-175). (Currently, UConn Fire Department is not the PSAR for paramedic services on the Storrs campus.) The Act also specifies which first responders control and direct emergency activities while at the scene of an emergency medical call. Specifically, if any combination of a PSAR, supplemental paramedic, and supplemental first responder is at the scene at the same time, the PSAR must control and direct emergency activities. If a PSAR is not present, the supplemental paramedic must do so. **The Act and designation relates to the geographic area of the Storrs campus only.**

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

[CT HB 7287, PA 25-168](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

**§ 181 — EMS ADMINISTERING GLUCAGON NASAL POWDER**

Requires EMS personnel to receive training on administering glucagon and allows them to administer glucagon nasal powder when necessary.

Effective from passage

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE AND CONCERNING GRANT PROGRAMS, STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS, REVISIONS TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS STATUTES AND VARIOUS PROVISIONS REVISING AND IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.**

**§197 — HIGHER EDUCATION DEGREES PATHWAY**

**Requires the Board of Regents, UConn Board of Trustees, and POST to take specific actions towards helping police officers earn higher education degrees. By January 1, 2026, the Act requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education, UConn's Board of Trustees, and POST to jointly submit a report to the Public Safety and Security Committee that includes a career pathway and schedule that they must develop.** The pathway must help police officers earn higher education degrees and include a schedule of credits that officers may receive at UConn (and all its campuses) and the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities for the training they received in order to be certified, and maintain their certification, as police officers. The boards and POST must promote this pathway to encourage police officers to earn higher education degrees, and their report must describe their plans for promoting it.

Effective from passage

**RESEARCH**

**AN ACT CONCERNING ASSORTED PROPOSALS TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MILITARY SERVICE OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS IN CONNECTICUT.**

**§ 17 — VETERAN STUDIES**

**This Act requires DVA to enter into an MOU with UConn's School of Public Policy to study (1) veteran property tax exemptions and (2) the municipal veteran representative program, and submit reports on these studies to the legislature by January 1, 2027.**

With the advice of the advisory committee that the Act creates, UConn must conduct studies on: (1) veteran property tax exemptions and (2) the municipal veteran representative program. The budget provides [\\$75,000 in FY 26](#) to UConn for conducting these studies. The Act requires the School of Public Policy, in consultation with the Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee, to study the projected impact on state and municipal finances of changing: (1) the exemption amounts of various veteran property tax exemptions and (2) any limits on the amount of property belonging to or held in trust for an eligible taxpayer in order to qualify for these exemptions. The study must also evaluate modifications to the income-based exemptions and increase factors applicable to these exemptions triggered by property revaluations.

Effective July 1, 2025

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF ANIMALS FROM CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

This Act requires public and private higher education institutions, under certain circumstances, to offer any rabbit, guinea pig, or ferret used for research or testing to an animal adoption or rescue organization for adoption. An institution must make the adoption offer when the (1) research or testing is complete, (2) destruction of the animal

is not required, and (3) animal is no longer needed by the institution. Existing law already requires these institutions to make an adoption offer for cats and dogs used in research or testing. The law allows the institutions to enter into agreements with adoption or rescue organizations for this purpose. It specifies that these organizations include a collaboration of individuals or nonprofit organizations who sell or place animals that were removed from animal shelters, municipal dog pounds, or homes.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### [CT HB 7042, PA 25-43](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIREARM INDUSTRY RESPONSIBILITY ACT, FIREARMS PERMITS AND ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATES AND SELF-DEFENSE.**

#### [UConn Testimony](#)

This Act requires firearm industry members to establish, implement, and enforce certain measures (“reasonable controls”) designed to (1) prevent the in-state sales or distribution of firearms and specified related products to certain people (e.g., straw purchasers or people banned by law from possessing firearms) or in a way that is reasonably foreseeable to promote conversion into an illegal product and (2) ensure compliance with certain existing firearm-related laws. It also places certain restrictions on firearm industry members, such as prohibiting them from purposely and knowingly advertising industry products in a way that promotes unlawful sales or use or an unreasonable public safety risk.

The Act allows a person who has suffered harm due to a violation, a municipality, or the state to sue a firearm industry member under these provisions. The Act specifies the available court relief for prevailing plaintiffs in these lawsuits, such as compensatory damages, punitive damages, or costs and attorney’s fees.

Separately, the Act shortens the look-back period, from 20 to eight years, for certain in-state misdemeanor convictions to disqualify someone from being issued a handgun permit, handgun eligibility certificate, or long gun eligibility certificate.

The Act also adds certain misdemeanor convictions that occur in other jurisdictions to the list of offenses that disqualify a person from being issued these firearm credentials.

Effective October 1, 2025

#### [CT HB 7095, SA 25-3](#)

### **AN ACT REQUIRING AN ACTION PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT TO BECOME A MEMBER OF AN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES.**

#### [UConn Testimony](#)

**This Act requires UConn to develop an action plan to increase the likelihood of receiving an invitation to become a member of an association of research universities in the United States.** The plan must include, specifications for (1) the metrics that said university will track, the time frame and resources required to meet such metrics and the state-wide economic impact of such membership, and (2) any recommendations for legislation to assist said university in meeting such metrics and to support such membership.

The report is due January 1, 2026, and must be submitted, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, such action plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement.

Effective July 1, 2025

**[CT HB 7287, PA 25-168](#)**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

**§ 140 — UCONN HEALTH NEUROMODULATION CENTER**

**Requires the UConn Health Center to establish a Center of Excellence for Neuromodulation Treatments funded in year two, FY 27 at \$2M.**

**STATE AGENCIES**

**[CT SB 1295, PA 25-113](#)**

**AN ACT CONCERNING BROADBAND INTERNET, GAMING, SOCIAL MEDIA, ONLINE SERVICES AND CONSUMER CONTRACTS.**

Among other things, this Act (§1): Beginning January 31, 2027, the Act requires state agencies that propose to contract for the purchase of broadband Internet access service, when all other factors are equal, to give preference to providers that offer affordable broadband to eligible households. Under the Act, a “state agency” is any office; department, except DESPP; board; council; commission; institution; constituent unit of the state’s higher education system; technical education and career school; or other executive, legislative, or judicial branch agency.

Effective July 1, 2025

**[CT SB 1357, 25-111](#)**

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS STATUTES CONCERNING CONSUMER PROTECTION.**

Among other things, this Act:

**§ 33** Establishes conditions for using a device to convert cash into prepaid cards as a means to comply with the law’s requirement to accept cash as payment in retail sales. By law, someone conducting retail sales in the state, with certain exceptions, cannot (1) refuse to accept cash as payment, (2) post signs saying that cash is not accepted, or (3) charge a higher price for using cash. The Act allows them to comply with this requirement by providing customers with a device to turn cash into a prepaid card as long as the person and the device vendor do not directly or indirectly require: 1. a fee for the initial receipt of the prepaid card or to use the card (including fees to check the card balance, deposit additional funds, or any recurring fees); 2. a minimum deposit above \$1; 3. an expiration date for the funds deposited on the prepaid card; 4. a limit on the number of card transactions; or 5. a consumer to give their personally identifiable information (including phone number, email address, or Social Security number) to get the card.

The Act also requires:

1. the device to produce a printed receipt with the amount deposited onto the card, when requested, and
2. a retail store to (a) accept cash during any time period when a device malfunctions at the store and (b) post a sign at a conspicuous location near the device stating that the store must accept cash if a device malfunctions.

The Act excludes from these provisions (1) retail transactions that are conducted in person at a location where no individual is employed to assist a person with the purchase of goods or services and (2) services offered by health care providers and professionals (services requiring licensure or other legal authorization). The Act also allows DCP to adopt regulations to implement these provisions.

Effective from passage

#### [CT SB 1468, PA 25-156](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY REGARDING AGENCY PURCHASE CARD USE AND REGISTRATION OF HOMEMAKER-COMPANION AGENCIES AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES.**

This Act requires any new procedures on state agency purchasing card (P-card) use to include certain provisions, such as specifying the types of transactions allowed, limits on certain types of purchases, and deadline requirements for submitting receipts. It also requires each state agency to appoint an employee as its P-card coordinator, with certain responsibilities, such as issuing P-cards to authorized employees and reviewing receipts and other documentation related to their use. By law, the comptroller may allow state budgeted agencies to use P-cards for purchases up to \$250,000 (unless the agency has approval to exceed that amount from the comptroller and the Department of Administrative Services commissioner). The law requires the agencies, or any of their officials, employees, or agents, to use the cards under procedures established by the comptroller. **Under the Act, each budgeted agency that paid for an expense with a P-card during the immediately preceding fiscal year must, starting by August 1, 2026, annually report to the comptroller on its P-card usage during the preceding fiscal year and any enforcement of violations of the Act's required policies. The report must be on a comptroller-prescribed form.**

Effective October 1, 2025

#### [CT HB 5004, PA 25-125](#)

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES AND ASSOCIATED JOB SECTORS**

#### [UConn Testimony](#)

This Act establishes various requirements relating broadly to energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals. Among other things, it:

**§ 2** Requires the state to reach an economy-wide net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emission level by January 1, 2050. It establishes this requirement as part of the state's Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA). Under current law, the GWSA requires the state to reduce GHG emissions from all sources to a level at least:

1. 10% below the 1990 emission level by 2020,
2. 45% below the 2001 emission level by 2030, and
3. 80% below the 2001 emission level by 2050.

It also requires the state to reduce GHG emissions from electricity supplied to electric customers in the state to zero by 2040. The Act sets a new GHG reduction level requirement of 65% below the 2001 emission level by 2040. It also requires that, by 2050, the state be at an economy-wide net-zero level, if direct and indirect GHG emissions are at least 80% below the 2001 level. (Direct emissions include those from manufacturing processes and factory stacks. Indirect emissions include those from electricity consumed by commercial and industrial businesses.)

By law, the DEEP commissioner determines emission levels. GHG includes any chemical or physical substance emitted into the air that the DEEP commissioner reasonably anticipates will cause or contribute to climate change (e.g., carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride).  
State Agency Goals (§ 1)

The Act establishes the following GHG emission reduction goals for all state agencies, as a whole:

1. 45% from 2001 levels by 2030,
2. 70% from 2016 levels by 2040, and
3. a level determined to be net-zero by 2050.

It sets a separate goal for the agencies to use only zero-carbon generating electricity by 2030. The Act allows agencies to consider the social costs of GHG emissions (e.g., net agricultural productivity, harms to human health, property damage, and the value of ecosystem services) when evaluating the costs and benefits of their activities and facility improvements to meet these GHG reduction goals. By January 1, 2026, the DEEP commissioner must publish guidelines for state agencies on the social cost of GHG emissions on the department's website.

Effective from passage

**§ 6 and 7** Establish a statutory Connecticut Clean Economy Council to advise on strategies and policies to strengthen the state's climate mitigation, clean energy, resilience, and sustainability programs, particularly for vulnerable communities (i.e. populations that may be disproportionately affected by climate change). **One member must be a representative of a higher education institution who has expertise in technical education.**

Effective from passage

**§ 11** Requires DAS to develop a (1) process for considering certain energy-related aspects when deciding to repair or build state real assets under its authority and (2) plan and budget to retrofit existing fossil fuel-based heating and cooling systems to those that operate without carbon-emitting fuels.

Effective from passage

[\*\*CT HB 7090, PA 25-147\*\*](#)

## **AN ACT CONCERNING THE TIMING AND SCOPE OF AUDITS BY THE AUDITORS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

This Act requires the Auditors of Public Accounts (APA) to conduct limited performance engagements and follow-up on agency's corrective actions.

Effective October 1, 2025

## TRANSPORTATION

### [CT SB 1377, PA 25-65](#)

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES AND DRIVERS, THE PROJECTION OF A LASER AT AN AIRCRAFT OR FLIGHT PATH, AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SAFETY DEVICES, SMALL HARBOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, THE CT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL, BUS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AND THE NAMING OF CERTAIN ROADS AND BRIDGES**

This Act makes various changes in transportation-related laws. It also makes minor, technical, and conforming changes. Among other things, it:

#### **§ 66 — AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE PILOT PROGRAM REPEAL**

The Act repeals a statute (CGS § 13a-260) that generally requires OPM, in consultation with certain agencies, to create an autonomous vehicle testing pilot program in certain municipalities selected for participation. **Higher education could have been an autonomous vehicle tester.**

Effective July 1, 2025

## VETERANS ISSUES

### [CT HB 6442, PA 25-15](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS MEASURES RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES IN CONNECTICUT**

This Act includes:

#### **§ 9 — STUDY OF DENTAL SERVICES FOR VETERANS**

The Act requires the DVA commissioner to evaluate dental services provided to veterans in the state and identify areas for improvement (such as opportunities to expand access to these services and increase enrollment in U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (U.S. DVA) dental insurance program). The commissioner must report on his evaluation, as well as any recommendations for legislation, to the Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee by February 1, 2026.

Effective from passage

### [CT HB 6438 PA 25-95](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING ASSORTED PROPOSALS TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MILITARY SERVICE OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS IN CONNECTICUT.**

#### **§§ 9-13 — FEE WAIVERS AT PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

This Act expands the higher education tuition waiver program for eligible National Guard members and veterans with wartime service to cover (1) higher education extension fees and (2) tuition at Charter Oak State College **The Act expands the higher education tuition waiver program to cover certain extension fees for eligible National Guard members and veterans with wartime service. It requires the regional community-technical colleges, the Connecticut State University System, and UConn to waive fees for educational extension programs, including for courses taken during summer and winter school sessions or intersessions.** Current law requires these institutions to waive eligible veterans' and National Guard members' tuition, which does not include these

fees. The Act makes various conforming changes, including incorporating these extension fee waivers into the calculation of waiver amounts that the state must annually reimburse to these institutions' operating funds through an appropriation. Under current law, the reimbursement amount is based only on tuition waivers. The Act also establishes a tuition fee waiver for eligible National Guard members and veterans with wartime service who attend Charter Oak State College, with generally the same eligibility requirements as the tuition waiver program.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **§ 17 — VETERAN STUDIES**

**This Act requires DVA to enter into an MOU with UConn's School of Public Policy to study (1) veteran property tax exemptions and (2) the municipal veteran representative program, and submit reports on these studies to the legislature by January 1, 2027.**

**With the advice of the advisory committee that the Act creates, UConn must conduct studies on (1) veteran property tax exemptions and (2) the municipal veteran representative program.** With the advice of the advisory committee that the Act creates, UConn must conduct studies on: (1) veteran property tax exemptions and (2) the municipal veteran representative program. The budget provides [\\$75,000 in FY 26](#) to UConn for conducting these studies. The Act requires the School of Public Policy, in consultation with the Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee, to study the projected impact on state and municipal finances of changing: (1) the exemption amounts of various veteran property tax exemptions and (2) any limits on the amount of property belonging to or held in trust for an eligible taxpayer in order to qualify for these exemptions. The study must also evaluate modifications to the income-based exemptions and increase factors applicable to these exemptions triggered by property revaluations.

Effective July 1, 2025

#### **VOTING ISSUES**

[CT HB 7287, PA 25-168](#)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET.**

#### **§ 293 — ADDITIONAL EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS ON CERTAIN COLLEGE CAMPUSES**

Requires municipalities with 1,000 or more students living on a college campus or institutional housing in the municipality to establish an additional early voting location on campus. **UConn Storrs is already in compliance with this requirement.**