OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 16-2, May 2016 Special Session—SB 501 Emergency Certification

AN ACT ADJUSTING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2017

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Modifies previously adopted revenue estimates for FY 17; adopts revenue estimate for MRSF

§§ 1-8 — FY 17 APPROPRIATIONS CHANGES

Modifies FY 17 appropriations in seven appropriated funds and appropriates funds to a new Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund

The act modifies FY 17 appropriations for state agency operations and programs in seven of the state's appropriated funds as shown in Table 1. It also appropriates funds to the newly established Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund (see § 41 below).

e e	Fund	FY 17 Net Appropriation		
8	Funa	Prior Law	Act	Increase or (Reduction)

Table 1: Changes in FY 17 Net Appropriations by Fund

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1	General Fund	\$ 18,711,158,675	\$ 17,886,469,644	(\$ 824,689,031)
2	Special Transportation Fund	1,496,138,933	1,463,408,052	(32,730,881)
3	Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund	61,779,907	58,076,612	(3,703,295)
4	Banking Fund	29,889,297	30,066,200	176,903
5	Insurance Fund	81,351,940	80,448,042	(903,898)
6	Consumer Counsel and Public Utility Control Fund	26,953,593	27,308,485	354,892
7	Workers' Compensation Fund	26,982,874	26,917,168	(65,706)
8	Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund	N/A	185,000,000	185,000,000

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§ 9 — BIOMEDICAL TRUST FUND ALLOCATIONS

Allocates fund resources to the Department of Public Health, UConn, and other institutions for health research and programs

The act requires approximately \$7.6 million of the unobligated Biomedical Research Trust Fund resources that remain after the General Fund transfer (see § 9 below) to be spent for the purposes shown in Table 2.

Table 2: FY 16 Unobligated Biomedical Research Trust Fund Resources Allocated in FY 17 by Purpose

Entity	Amount	FY 17 Purpose
University of Connecticut Health Center	\$650,000	Melanoma research
	650,000	Bladder Cancer Institute
Yale School of Medicine	1,300,000	Children's Diabetes Research Program
Griffin Hospital	1,300,000	Multiple Sclerosis Treatment Center
	2,339,428	Children's health initiatives
Department of Public Health	64,675	Childhood lead poisoning programs
(DPH)	1,037,429	Programs for children with special health care needs
	237,895	Genetic diseases programs

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§§ 9, 12-14, 19, 27-30 & 44 — TRANSFERS TO THE GENERAL FUND

Transfers funds from various sources to the General Fund for FY 17

As Table 3 shows, the act transfers 33 million from various sources to the General Fund in FY 17.

ş	Source	Amount
9	Biomedical Research Trust Fund	\$2,000,000
12	Community Investment Account	1,000,000
13	Emissions Enterprise Fund	1,600,000
14	Betting Taxes Account	500,000
19 (a)	Tobacco and Health Trust Fund	700,000
27	Municipal Video Competition Trust Account	2,000,000
28	School Bus Seat Belt Account	2,000,000
29	Individual Development Account Reserve Fund	200,000
30	Wage and Workplace Standards—Penalty Fund	200,000
44	Municipal Revenue Sharing Account (MRSA) (by June 30, 2016)	22,800,000

Table 3.	Transfers to	h the	General	Fund for FY 17
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EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016, except the MRSA transfer is effective upon passage.

§§ 10-11 — TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FUND TRANSFERS

Redirects funds in FYs 16-18 from scheduled Tobacco Settlement Fund transfers to the General Fund

The act redirects \$4 million of annual, scheduled Tobacco Settlement Fund (TSF) transfers to the General Fund in FYs 16-18 for a total of \$12 million, as Table 4 shows.

FY	Transfers from TSF under Prior Law	Redirected Transfers from TSF under the Act
16	After the required General Fund transfers, the remainder to the Tobacco Health and Trust Fund	After the required General Fund transfer, \$4 million of the remainder to the General Fund to be carried forward to FY 17 and then, if any funds remain, to the Tobacco and Health Trust Fund

Table 4: Changes in TSF Transfers in FYs 16-18

17	\$4 million to the Biomedical Research Trust Fund	\$4 million to the General Fund
18	\$4 million to the Biomedical Research Trust Fund	\$4 million to the General Fund

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except FYs 17 and 18 transfers take effect July 1, 2016.

§§ 15, 24 & 25 — FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

Carries forward certain agencies' unspent funds and requires them to be used for different purposes in FY 17

The act carries forward various unspent balances from prior year's appropriations and requires them to be used for different purposes in FY 17, rather than lapsing at the end of the fiscal year (see Table 5).

ş	Agency	Prior Purpose	New FY 17 Purpose	Amount
15	Department of Rehabilitative Services	Part-time interpreters	Personal services	Up to \$200,000
24	Secretary of the State	Commercial Recording Division	 (1) Reprogramming the CONCORD business database to comply with changes to the LLC statutes (2) Supporting the E-Regulations system 	300,000
25 (a)	Legislative Management	Other expenses	National Center for Higher Education Management Systems Contract	Up to 7,500
25 (b)	Legislative Management	Other expenses	Various engineering and architectural studies	Up to 264,034

Table 5: Funds Carried Forward to FY 17

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§ 16 — REDUCTIONS FOR MUNICIPAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND HEALTH DISTRICTS

Requires pro rata payment reductions to municipal and district health departments

The act requires the public health commissioner to reduce, on a pro rata basis, payments to municipal and district health departments by \$517,114. To receive state funding, existing law requires (1) municipalities to have a full-time health department and a population of at least 50,000 and (2) health districts to have a total population of at least 50,000 or serve three or more municipalities, regardless of their combined total population. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§ 17 — SAFE DRINKING WATER REPORT

Requires DPH report on costs of administering safe drinking water standards

The act requires the public health commissioner to prepare a report on how much it will

cost DPH to continue administering its safe drinking water standards for public drinking water. He must prepare this report in consultation with the Water Planning Council and submit it to OPM and the Appropriations; Public Health; and Finance, Revenue and Bonding committees by January 15, 2017.

At a minimum, the report must (1) project the costs of administering the standards for FYs 18-22, (2) project the state and federal funds available to support DPH's efforts to keep drinking water safe, and (3) recommend fees or other methods to sustain those efforts. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§§ 18 & 19 — TOBACCO AND HEALTH TRUST FUND

Eliminates funding from the fund for asthma-related programs and changes the funding recipient for improving services for people with autism

The act eliminates a FY 17 \$500,000 transfer from the Tobacco and Health Trust Fund to DPH for various asthma-related programs. It also makes DSS, rather than DDS, the recipient of a FY 17 \$750,000 transfer for implementing study recommendations about services for people with autism.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§ 20 — EDUCATION COST SHARING FUNDING

Reduces FY 17 education cost sharing grants

The act reduces, from \$2,069.7 million to \$2,037.6 million, the total amount of education cost sharing (ECS) grants for FY 17. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§§ 21-22 — PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

Reduces FY 17 state PILOTS for state-owned property and hospitals and private colleges

The law exempts state-owned property from local property taxes, but it requires the state to reimburse cities, towns, and boroughs for a specified portion of the revenue loss (i.e., payments in lieu of taxes or "PILOTs"). The act reduces, from \$83.6 million to \$66.7 million, the total amount of FY 17 PILOTs for state-owned property. In doing so, the act supersedes the law requiring proportionate reductions when there are insufficient funds for each grant at the required amount. Under that law, each reduction must equal or exceed the municipality's FY 2015 reimbursement rate.

The law also exempts hospitals and private colleges from local property taxes, but it similarly requires the state to reimburse municipalities and special taxing districts for a specified portion of the revenue loss. The act reduces, from \$125.5 million to \$115.0 million, the total amount of FY 17 PILOTs for hospital- and college-owned property, thereby superseding the requirement for proportionate reductions described above. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§§ 23 — MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT AND MOHEGAN FUND GRANTS

Reduces the total amount of FY 17 Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund grants to municipalities

The act reduces, from \$61.8 million to \$58.1 million, the total amount of FY 17 Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund grants to municipalities and specifies each municipality's grant amount. It produces this \$3.7 million reduction by superseding the statutory formulae for calculating each municipality's grant amount. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§ 26 — ARTS AND TOURISM GRANTS

Requires OPM to implement the arts and tourism grants lapse proportionately

The act requires the OPM secretary, in implementing the arts and tourism lapse, to reduce proportionally the grants made by the Department of Economic and Community Development for tourism, arts, and youth development. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§§ 31 & 32 — FY 16 DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATIONS AND REDUCTIONS

Appropriates funds to cover deficiencies in certain agencies and programs in FY 16 and reduces other FY 16 appropriations by the same amount

The act (1) appropriates a total of \$66,365,000 from the General Fund to cover deficiencies in various state agencies and programs for FY 16, as shown in Table 6, and (2) reduces appropriations to various state agencies and programs for FY 16 by the same amount, as shown in Table 7.

Agency	Purpose	Amount
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner	Personal Services	\$ 225,000
	Other Expenses	240,000
Office of Early Childhood	Early Intervention	6,300,000
	Personal Services	2,500,000
Public Defender Services Commission	Assigned CounselCriminal	2,000,000
	Expert Witness	100,000
State Treasurer	Debt Service	35,000,000
State Comptroller	Adjudicated Claims	20,000,000
TOTAL		66,365,000

Table 6: General Fund Appropriations for FY 16 Agency Deficiencies

Table 7: FY 16 Agency Reductions

Agency	Purpose	Amount
Office of Legislative Management	Personal Services	(2,000,000)
Department of Developmental Services	Personal Services	(11,800,000)
Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services	Personal Services	(5,565,000)
State Comptroller	Unemployment Compensation	(1,900,000)
'	Higher Education Alternative Retirement System	(6,500,000)

	Employers Social Security Tax	(8,600,000)
	Retired State Employees Health Service Cost	(30,000,000)
TOTAL		(66,365,000)

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 33 — FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF INTRA-AGENCY FUND TRANSFERS

Changes the threshold triggering the Finance Advisory Committee's required approval for intraagency fund transfers

The act changes the threshold triggering the Finance Advisory Committee's (FAC) required approval before an agency can transfer funds from one appropriation to another. The law allows the governor to make such transfers on an agency's behalf if the original appropriation is insufficient to cover the necessary costs, but it requires the FAC's approval for transfers exceeding specified limits. The act requires the FAC's approval for transfers exceeding \$175,000 or 10% of the appropriated amount, whichever is less. Under prior law, the limits were the lesser of \$50,000 or 10% of the appropriated amount.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 34-36 & 54—CHANGES TO BUDGETED LAPSES

Modifies FY 17 budgeted savings and lapses and limits the amount by which OPM may reduce certain allotments to achieve the savings

Targeted Savings

The act allows the OPM secretary to reduce FY 17 executive branch allotments in order to achieve the required General Fund savings of \$68,848,968 (see § 1 above). It specifies that this authorization does not permit him to reduce any allotments to the (1) Department of Education for education equalization grants or (2) Department of Social Services for hospital supplemental payments.

The act also limits the amount by which the OPM secretary may reduce higher education allotments. Specifically, the reductions are capped at (1) two percent of any allotments for Connecticut State University System, UConn, or UConn Health Center and (2) one percent of any allotment for the regional community-technical colleges.

Unallocated Lapse

The act imposes limitations on the OPM secretary's authority to reduce FY 17 allotments to achieve the executive branch unallocated lapse. Specifically, it prohibits him from (1) reducing municipal aid allotments and (2) causing, when reducing any allotment, the reduction of any appropriation by more than one percent. It also changes the amounts by which the OPM secretary may reduce executive, legislative, and judicial branch allotments in FY 17 to reflect the lapse amounts listed in section one.

Eliminated Lapses

The act repeals the authorizing language for the FY 17 lapses that were eliminated in section one of this act. Table 8 shows the name of the lapse, the affected branch, and the amount by which the OPM secretary was previously authorized to reduce allotments in order to achieve these lapses.

Table 8: Eliminated FY 17 Lapses

OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

Eliminated Lapse	Affected Branch	Previously Authorized Lapse Amount
	Executive	\$ 9,678,316
General Lapse	Legislative	39,492
	Judicial	282,192
	Executive	30,920,000
Statewide Hiring Reduction	Legislative	770,000
	Judicial	3,310,000
General Employee Lapse	N/A	12,816,745

Section one of this act also repeals the budgeted lapses for Overtime Savings (\$10,500,000) and the Municipal Opportunities and Regional Efficiencies (MORE) program (\$20,000,000). But the act does not repeal provisions requiring the OPM secretary to recommend reductions in (1) overtime expenditures for FY 17 in order to save \$10,500,000 (PA 15-244, § 41) and (2) municipal aid to save \$20,000,000 (PA 15-244, § 12). (The governor vetoed the portion of this act eliminating the MORE program lapse.) EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 37-39 — PRIORITY SCHOOL DISTRICT FUNDING AND SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS

Reduces FY 17 priority school district (PSD) funding and makes permanent several one-time FY 15 supplemental PSD grant allocations

The act reduces, from \$38.3 million to \$35.8 million, the priority school district (PSD) program's FY 17 general funding. It does not change the FY 17 PSD grant amounts for extended school building hours or accountability programs. PSD grants, by law, go to school districts with high levels of student poverty and low standardized test scores.

The act makes permanent several one-time FY 15 PSD supplemental grant allocations. Prior law allocated \$2.6 million annually for these grants until FY 15. The act makes this annual allocation permanent.

It also makes permanent a one-time FY 15 \$2.9 million annual supplemental allocation that, by law, the State Department of Education allocates to each PSD in proportion to its regular PSD grant amount. The act also allows PSDs to carry forward into FY 17 unexpended FY 16 grant funds they received after May 2016.

By law, Norwalk receives a PSD grant each year. PA 15-5, June Special Session, (§ 335) increased the grant to \$2,200,070 for FY 15 alone. The act increases the FY 15 grant to \$2,270,000 and makes it permanent for each subsequent fiscal year.

The act also deletes an obsolete provision.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the provision reducing PSD funding for FY 17 takes effect July 1, 2016.

§ 40 — SALES TAX DIVERSION TO MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING ACCOUNT (MRSA)

Eliminates the sales tax revenue diversion to MRSA for FY 17

Prior law required the Department of Revenue Services (DRS) commissioner to direct to MRSA (1) 4.7% of sales tax revenue from May 2016 through April 2017, (2) 6.3% for May and June 2017, and (3) 7.9% for July 2017 and thereafter. The act terminates the 4.7% diversion by June 30, 2016, eliminates the 6.3% diversion, and retains the 7.9% diversion.

The act also requires the DRS commissioner to transfer to MRSA any sales tax revenue that accrues on or after July 1, 2016 that is attributed to May through June 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 41 & 46 — TRANSFER OF GRANT PAYMENTS FROM MRSA TO NEW MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING FUND (MRSF)

Transfers the funding source for specified municipal grant programs for FY 17 from MRSA to MRSF

The act establishes MRSF as a separate, nonlapsing fund and appropriates \$185 million in FY 17 to the fund (see § 8 above). Under the act, the OPM secretary must use MRSF, rather than MRSA, to fund the following grant programs for FY 17:

- 1. municipal revenue sharing grants, as described below;
- 2. regional services grants to councils of governments;
- 3. supplemental PILOTs to specified municipalities and districts; and
- 4. supplemental ECS grants.

For FY 17 and each fiscal year thereafter, the act transfers from the General Fund to the MRSF the amount appropriated to OPM from the MRSF. OPM must distribute the funds as specified above. (PA 16-3, May Special Session, (§ 188) limits this transfer to FY 17.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the provision transferring funds to MRSF takes effect July 1, 2016.

§ 42 — MOTOR VEHICLE PROPERTY TAX GRANTS AND MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING GRANTS

Eliminates motor vehicle property tax grants for FY 17 and generally reduces municipal revenue sharing grant amounts for that year; modifies motor vehicle property tax grant formula beginning FY 18

Prior law required OPM, beginning in FY 17, to use MRSA funds to distribute motor vehicle property tax grants and municipal revenue sharing grants to municipalities. For FY 17, the act eliminates the motor vehicle property tax grants and modifies the municipal revenue sharing grant amounts. It specifies the revenue sharing grant amounts for municipalities and special taxing districts, reduces the grant amounts for most towns, and requires OPM to pay the grants by August 1, 2016. Under the act, the revenue sharing grant amounts and payment schedule revert in FY 18 to those specified under existing law.

By law, the motor vehicle grants are limited to municipalities with mill rates, or combined municipal and district mill rates, greater than the capped motor vehicle mill rate. The act specifies that such mill rates are those the municipalities and districts impose on real and personal property other than motor vehicles.

The act also modifies the motor vehicle property tax grant formula for FY 18 and subsequent years. Under prior law, a municipality's grant was equal to the difference between the (1) amount of property taxes a municipality and any district located there levied on motor vehicles for the 2013 assessment year and (2) amount of the 2013 levy at 32 mills in FY 17 or 29.36 mills in FY 18 and subsequent years. The act ties the grant amount to 32 mills, rather than 29.36 mills, for FY 18 and thereafter.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§ 43 — SUPPLEMENTAL PILOT GRANTS

Reduces supplemental PILOT grant amounts for specified municipalities and districts

By law, specified municipalities and districts receive an additional PILOT grant for FY 17. Under prior law, these grants were funded by MRSA funds transferred to the select PILOT account. The act reduces the grant amounts and requires that they be funded through MRSF. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§ 45 — SALES TAX DIVERSION TO SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND (STF)

Reduces the amount of sales tax revenue diverted to the STF for FY 17

By law, the DRS commissioner must deposit a specified percentage of sales tax revenue each month into the STF. For FY 17, the act requires him to reduce each monthly STF deposit by \$4,166,667 (i.e., \$50 million in the aggregate). EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

§§ 47-53 — REVENUE ESTIMATES

Modifies previously adopted revenue estimates for FY 17; adopts revenue estimate for MRSF

The act modifies revenue estimates for FY 17 that were previously adopted in 2015 as part of the 2016-2017 biennial state budget. It also adopts a revenue estimate for the newly established MRSF, as shown in Table 9.

Fund	Prior Law	Act
General Fund	\$18,713,626,722	\$17,886,700,000
Special Transportation Fund	1,596,900,000	1,464,400,000
Mashantucket Pequot & Mohegan Fund	61,800,000	58,100,000
Insurance Fund	81,400,000	84,130,000
Consumer Counsel & Public Utility Control Fund	27,300,000	27,500,000
Workers' Compensation Fund	40,638,000	39,360,000
Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund	N/A	185,000,000

Table 9: Modified FY 17 Revenue Estimates

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage