

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 7184

January Session, 2025

* H B 0 7 1 8 4 G S 0 3 1 9 2 5 *

AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT, INCLUDING A REVIEW OF STATE PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACTS WITH NONPROFIT PROVIDERS, STATE AGENCY CONTRACTS FOR CONSULTING SERVICES, MUNICIPAL GRANTS AND CERTAIN NONRESIDENT BIDDER CONTRACT AWARDS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (Effective from passage) The Office of Legislative 2 Management shall conduct a study regarding the feasibility of 3 reestablishing the duties, responsibilities and staffing of the former 4 Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee within the 5 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of 6 matters relating to government oversight, including, but not limited to, 7 what additional staffing it would require, what costs would be 8 associated with providing additional resources for the committee and 9 any potential benefits of such reestablishment. Not later than February 10 1, 2026, the executive director of the Office of Legislative Management 11 shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a 12 of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General 13 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government 14 oversight. Such report shall include any findings of such study and any 15 recommendations for legislation to implement such findings.

16 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section and

17 section 3 of this act, (1) "nonprofit human services provider" means a 18 nonprofit entity that contracts with the state to provide health and 19 human services that may include, but need not be limited to: (A) 20 Services for persons with a physical disability, (B) services for persons 21 with intellectual disability or developmental disabilities, including, but 22 not limited to, autism spectrum disorder, and (C) behavioral health 23 services; and (2) "purchase of service contract" and "state agency" have the same meanings as provided in section 4-70b of the general statutes, 24 25 as amended by this act.

26 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, and every five years thereafter, the 27 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall, in consultation 28 with representatives of nonprofit human services providers, complete a 29 review of the state's purchase of service contracts with nonprofit human 30 services providers to determine whether the rates such providers are 31 paid to deliver health and human services pursuant to such contracts 32 adequately compensate such providers for providing the level of 33 services expected by the state agency contracting with such provider. 34 For any review conducted after July 1, 2026, the secretary shall examine 35 the contracts and agreements for such services of not less than two state 36 agencies each year.

37 (c) Not later than February 1, 2027, and every five years thereafter, 38 the secretary shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of 39 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of 40 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human 41 services, government administration, government oversight and 42 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall 43 include (1) a summary of the results of the review conducted under 44 subsection (b) of this section, (2) any applicable recommendations 45 concerning requiring contracting state agencies to reduce contractual 46 expectations if those expectations are not adequately funded by the 47 contract or agreement, and (3) any recommended legislation necessary 48 to implement such recommendations.

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Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) Not later than January 1, 2026,

50 and triennially thereafter, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and 51 Management shall conduct a review of any reports that nonprofit 52 human services providers are required to file with various state 53 agencies, including requirements for program licensure or certification. 54 Such review shall include, but not be limited to, the number of reports 55 that are required to be filed, the amount of overlapping information in 56 such reports, the time and resources needed for providers to prepare and file the reports, the reasons for requiring such reports and an 57 58 analysis of how the reports are utilized by the state agency receiving 59 such reports. State agencies and nonprofit human services providers 60 shall provide any information requested by the secretary for purposes 61 of such review.

(b) The secretary shall eliminate or consolidate any reporting
required by a state agency that the secretary identifies under subsection
(a) of this section as unduly burdensome or duplicative, unless such
reporting is (1) necessary to prevent fraud or misuse of funds, (2)
prescribed under federal law or regulation for the use of federal funds,
or (3) required under any provision of state law.

68 (c) Not later than February 1, 2027, and triennially thereafter, the 69 secretary shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of 70 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of 71 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human 72 services, government administration, government oversight and 73 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall 74 include a summary of the results of the review conducted under 75 subsection (a) of this section, any reporting eliminated or consolidated 76 under subsection (b) of this section and any recommendations for any 77 legislation necessary to eliminate burdensome or duplicative reporting 78 requirements required under state law.

Sec. 4. Subsection (d) of section 4-70b of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*,
2025):

82 (d) The secretary shall establish uniform policies and procedures for 83 obtaining, managing and evaluating the quality and cost effectiveness 84 of direct health and human services purchased from a private provider organization or municipality. To the extent permissible under federal 85 86 law, such policies and procedures shall include, but not be limited to, a 87 requirement that a private provider organization receive payment for 88 any services provided pursuant to a purchase of service contract not later than forty-five days after the receipt of a properly completed claim 89 90 or the receipt of such services, whichever is later, in accordance with 91 section 4a-71. The secretary shall require all state agencies which 92 purchase direct health and human services to comply with such policies 93 and procedures.

94 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

95 (1) "Consultant" means any professional who (A) is registered or 96 licensed to practice such profession in accordance with the applicable 97 provisions of the general statutes or any planner or any environmental, 98 management or financial specialist, and (B) provides consultant services 99 to a state agency pursuant to a contract with such state agency, 100 including, but not limited to, any architect, professional engineer, 101 accountant, planner or environmental, management or financial 102 specialist;

(2) "Consultant services" includes administrative, planning, analysis,
statistical or research services rendered by any architect, professional
engineer, accountant, planner or environmental, management or
financial specialist as well as incidental services that members of such
professions and those in their employ are authorized to perform, for
purposes of recommending a state agency course of action;

(3) "Firm" means any individual, partnership, corporation, joint
venture, association or other legal entity authorized by law to offer
consultant services; and

(4) "State agency" means any office, department, board, council,commission, institution, constituent unit of the state system of higher

education, technical education and career school or other agency in theexecutive branch of state government.

116 (b) Any state agency that contracts with a firm to provide consulting 117 services at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars or more for purposes 118 of producing a study or other report with recommendations for future 119 actions for the state agency to undertake shall, not later than one year 120 after receiving the results of such study or a final report from such firm, 121 submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the 122 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General 123 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government 124 oversight, summarizing the findings of the entity's report, whether any 125 recommendations have been implemented by the agency, whether the 126 state agency intends to implement any such recommendations in the 127 future and, if applicable, by what date.

Sec. 6. Section 2-90 of the general statutes is amended by addingsubsection (j) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(NEW) (j) Said auditors shall audit, in accordance with the provisions of section 7 of this act, the records and accounts of any municipality that received a grant, as described in section 7 of this act, to the extent necessary to determine how the funds of such grant were used. Any municipality being audited by said auditors shall provide any information said auditors deem necessary to conduct such audit.

136 Sec. 7. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2025) (a) On and after October 1, 137 2025, any municipality, as defined in section 4-66l of the general statutes, 138 that receives a grant of funds from the state for purposes of conducting 139 a study shall report (1) the completion of such study to the Auditors of 140 Public Accounts for potential audit of any funds provided for such 141 study, and (2) the findings of any such study to the Office of Policy and 142 Management for posting on the Municipal Grant Portal established 143 under section 4-68dd of the general statutes, as amended by this act, on 144 a form prescribed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and 145 Management. A municipality shall not be eligible to receive more than

one such state grant from a state agency through the same grantprogram for purposes of the same study within a three-year period.

(b) The auditors shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of
section 11-4a of the general statutes, a report with the results of any such
audit to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
cognizance of matters relating to government oversight. The auditors
may consolidate such reports, provided such reports shall be submitted
to the committee not less than annually.

Sec. 8. Section 4-68dd of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) [The] <u>Not later than January 1, 2026, the</u> Secretary of the Office of
Policy and Management shall, within available appropriations,
establish and maintain a single electronic portal available on the Internet
and located on the Office of Policy and Management's Internet web site
for the purpose of posting all state-funded municipal grant applications.
Such electronic portal shall be known as the Municipal Grant Portal.

162 (b) The Municipal Grant Portal shall include, but not be limited to: (1) 163 All state-funded municipal grant applications and municipal reimbursement request forms, (2) a searchable database for locating 164 165 information regarding state-funded municipal grants, [and] (3) not later 166 than July 1, 2026, a searchable database of the reported findings of any 167 study funded by a state grant, as described in section 7 of this act, and 168 (4) features to encourage the active recruitment and participation of 169 municipalities in the state-funded municipal grant application process.

170 Sec. 9. Section 4a-57d of the general statutes is repealed and the 171 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) On or before January 1, 2012, the Commissioner of Administrative
Services, in consultation with the Labor Commissioner, the president of
The University of Connecticut and the Commissioner of Transportation,
or their designees, shall submit a report, in accordance with the
provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor and the joint standing

177 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters 178 relating to labor. Such report shall include (1) an analysis of any law or 179 economic factor that results in a resident bidder being at a disadvantage 180 to a nonresident bidder in submitting the lowest responsible qualified 181 bid, (2) the reason any enacted law designed to give preference to state 182 citizens for employment on public works projects is not being enforced, 183 and (3) recommendations for administrative or legislative action, within 184 the confines of clause 3 of section 8 of article 1 of the United States 185 Constitution, to increase the number of state contracts awarded to 186 resident bidders through an in-state contract preference or otherwise.

187 (b) On or before July 1, 2012, the Commissioner of Administrative 188 Services shall develop and implement a program to increase the number 189 of state contracts awarded to resident bidders through an in-state 190 contract preference or other method selected by the commissioner, 191 provided such program shall not violate clause 3 of section 8 of article 1 192 of the United States Constitution. In developing such program, the 193 commissioner shall consider the findings contained in the report made 194 in accordance with subsection (a) of this section.

195 (c) On or before February 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the 196 Commissioner of Administrative Services shall submit a report, in 197 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing 198 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters 199 relating to government administration on the number of state contracts 200 in excess of fifty thousand dollars that the Department of 201 Administrative Services awarded to nonresident bidders during the 202 calendar year immediately preceding such report, including a 203 description of the goods or services provided pursuant to such contract, 204 the term and cost of the contract and the method of selecting the 205 nonresident bidder. The commissioner may consolidate such report 206 with any other report required to be submitted to such committee.

Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) On or before February 1,
208 2026, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Transportation shall
209 submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the

210 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General 211 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation on the 212 number of state contracts in excess of fifty thousand dollars that the 213 Department of Transportation awarded to nonresident bidders during 214 the calendar year immediately preceding such report, including a 215 description of the goods or services provided pursuant to such contract, 216 the term and cost of the contract and the method of selecting the 217 nonresident bidder. The commissioner may consolidate such report 218 with any other report required to be submitted to such committee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	New section
Sec. 2	from passage	New section
Sec. 3	from passage	New section
Sec. 4	July 1, 2025	4-70b(d)
Sec. 5	from passage	New section
Sec. 6	October 1, 2025	2-90(j)
Sec. 7	October 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 8	October 1, 2025	4-68dd
Sec. 9	October 1, 2025	4a-57d
Sec. 10	October 1, 2025	New section

GOS Joint Favorable Subst.