

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 737



Referred to Committee on FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING

Introduced by: SEN. HARDING, 30<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. MARTIN, 31<sup>st</sup> Dist. SEN. SAMPSON, 16<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. CICARELLA, 34<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. SOMERS, 18<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. HWANG, 28<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. BERTHEL, 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist. SEN. FAZIO, 36<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. GORDON, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. KISSEL, 7<sup>th</sup> Dist.

## AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS INITIATIVES TO REDUCE THE COST OF LIVING IN THE STATE AND IMPLEMENT OTHER REFORMS.

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

1 That the general statutes be amended to: (1) Reduce the marginal 2 income tax rates and simplify the state tax code; (2) establish a property 3 tax levy cap; (3) limit occupational licensing fees to not more than one 4 hundred dollars; (4) reduce taxes, fees and other requirements on 5 businesses, including the allowance of full expensing of capital 6 expenditures; (5) extend the provisions of the fiscal guardrails under 7 subsection (bb) of section 3-20 of the general statutes; (6) lower the 8 existing cap on the state's bonded indebtedness; (7) establish a working 9 group to make recommendations for the elimination of nonessential 10 unfunded municipal mandates and to require a two-thirds majority vote

to enact new municipal mandates; (8) specify that prevailing wage rates 11 12 under section 31-53 of the general statutes apply to state funds above 13 the monetary thresholds set forth in said section and not to private 14 dollars for any project and increase such thresholds for prevailing wage 15 rates to be applicable; (9) prohibit, for purposes of binding arbitration at 16 the state and municipal levels, the consideration of funds available 17 outside the spending cap; (10) eliminate payments of voluntary 18 overtime from the calculation of base salary for purposes of determining 19 state employees' retirement income; (11) require each state agency to 20 review its regulatory and licensure requirements for small businesses 21 and make recommendations to the appropriate legislative committee of 22 legislative changes to streamline procedures and reduce costs; (12) 23 require The University of Connecticut to review and amend its student 24 acceptance policies to increase the percentage of incoming freshman 25 accepted at the Storrs campus that are Connecticut residents; (13) 26 eliminate the provision of state benefits to undocumented immigrants; 27 and (14) convene a working group on tort reform.

## Statement of Purpose:

To reduce the cost of living in the state and implement other reforms.