



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 8700



Offered by:

REP. RITTER, 1st Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

REP. ROJAS, 9th Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.

REP. WALKER, 93rd Dist.

SEN. OSTEN, 19th Dist.

REP. HORN, 64th Dist.

SEN. FONFARA, 1st Dist.

To: House Bill No. 6863

File No. 817

Cal. No. 511

**"AN ACT MAKING DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The following sums are
4 appropriated from the GENERAL FUND for the purposes herein
5 specified for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T1	GENERAL FUND	2024-2025
T2		
T3	DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS	
T4	Other Expenses	650,000
T5		
T6	DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	
T7	Personal Services	4,000,000
T8	Other Expenses	1,000,000

T9	W. C. Administrator	562,120
T10		
T11	DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
T12	Expert Witnesses	5,000
T13		
T14	DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION	
T15	Personal Services	3,442,000
T16	Criminal Justice Information System	1,000,000
T17	Connecticut State Firefighter's Association	65,000
T18		
T19	MILITARY DEPARTMENT	
T20	Personal Services	100,000
T21	Other Expenses	131,177
T22		
T23	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	
T24	Other Expenses	500,000
T25		
T26	COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES	
T27	Personal Services	260,000
T28		
T29	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING	
T30	Personal Services	250,000
T31	Housing/Homeless Services	18,000,000
T32		
T33	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH	
T34	Other Expenses	996,000
T35	Local and District Departments of Health	18,801
T36		
T37	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER	
T38	Personal Services	100,000
T39		
T40	DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES	
T41	Community Residential Services	6,416,000
T42		
T43	DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES	

T44	Personal Services	25,100,000
T45		
T46	DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	
T47	Medicaid	284,000,000
T48	Old Age Assistance	350,000
T49	Aid To The Blind	22,000
T50	State Administered General Assistance	50,000
T51		
T52	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	
T53	Adult Education	420,485
T54	Excess Cost - Student Based	291,499
T55		
T56	TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM	
T57	Personal Services	4,400,000
T58	Other Expenses	7,000,000
T59		
T60	OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD	
T61	Birth to Three	900,000
T62		
T63	TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BOARD	
T64	Retirees Health Service Cost	9,600,000
T65		
T66	DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION	
T67	Personal Services	40,600,000
T68		
T69	DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	
T70	Other Expenses	1,650,000
T71		
T72	JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT	
T73	Personal Services	1,951,097
T74	Other Expenses	5,692,000
T75	Alternative Incarceration Program	516,000
T76	Juvenile Alternative Incarceration	661,000
T77		
T78	PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES COMMISSION	
T79	Personal Services	991,200
T80		
T81	STATE COMPTROLLER - FRINGE BENEFITS	

T82	Higher Education Alternative Retirement System	69,000,000
T83	Employers Social Security Tax	5,900,000
T84	Retired State Employees Health Service Cost	35,000,000
T85	Other Post Employment Benefits	16,000,000
T86		
T87	WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS - DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	
T88	Workers Comp Claims - UConn	200,000
T89	Workers Comp Claims - DMHAS	1,000,000
T90	Workers Comp Claims - DOC	6,000,000
T91		
T92	TOTAL - GENERAL FUND	554,791,379

6 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) The amounts appropriated to the
7 following agencies in section 1 of public act 23-204 are reduced by the
8 following amounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T93	GENERAL FUND	2024-2025
T94		
T95	OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT	
T96	Personal Services	5,000,000
T97		
T98	DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SERVICES	
T99	Personal Services	4,550,000
T100		
T101	OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT	
T102	Personal Services	4,600,000
T103	Municipal Restructuring	30,000,000
T104		
T105	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	
T106	Sheff Settlement	4,500,000
T107	Sheff Transportation	6,000,000
T108	Aspiring Educators Diversity Scholarship Program	8,000,000
T109	Magnet Schools	14,000,000
T110		
T111	OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD	
T112	Early Care and Education	12,000,000

T113		
T114	TOTAL - GENERAL FUND	88,650,000

9 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) The following sums are appropriated
10 from the SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND for the purposes herein
11 specified for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T115	SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	2024-2025
T116		
T117	DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	
T118	State Insurance and Risk Mgmt Operations	460,000
T119		
T120	STATE COMPTROLLER - FRINGE BENEFITS	
T121	Employers Social Security Tax	1,500,000
T122	Other Post Employment Benefits	850,000
T123		
T124	WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS - DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	
T125	Workers' Compensation Claims	1,300,000
T126		
T127	TOTAL - SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	4,110,000

12 Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) The amount appropriated to the
13 following agency in section 2 of public act 23-204 is reduced by the
14 following amount for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T128	SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND	2024-2025
T129		
T130	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
T131	Personal Services	4,110,000
T132		
T133	TOTAL - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	4,110,000

15 Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) The following sums are appropriated
 16 from the BANKING FUND for the purposes herein specified for the
 17 fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T134	BANKING FUND	2024-2025
T135		
T136	DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	
T137	Personal Services	100,000
T138	Fringe Benefits	20,000
T139		
T140	DEPARTMENT OF BANKING	
T141	Indirect Overhead	144,997
T142		
T143	TOTAL - BANKING FUND	264,997

18 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) The amount appropriated to the
 19 following agency in section 4 of public act 23-204 is reduced by the
 20 following amount for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T144	BANKING FUND	2024-2025
T145		
T146	DEPARTMENT OF BANKING	
T147	Personal Services	264,997
T148		
T149	TOTAL - BANKING FUND	264,997

21 Sec. 7. (*Effective from passage*) The following sums are appropriated
 22 from the INSURANCE FUND for the purposes herein specified for the
 23 fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T150	INSURANCE FUND	2024-2025
T151		
T152	INSURANCE DEPARTMENT	
T153	Indirect Overhead	560,635
T154		

T155	OFFICE OF THE HEALTHCARE ADVOCATE	
T156	Indirect Overhead	26,850
T157		
T158	TOTAL - INSURANCE FUND	587,485

24 Sec. 8. (*Effective from passage*) The amount appropriated to the
 25 following agency in section 5 of public act 23-204 is reduced by the
 26 following amount for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T159	INSURANCE FUND	2024-2025
T160		
T161	INSURANCE DEPARTMENT	
T162	Fringe Benefits	587,485
T163		
T164	TOTAL - INSURANCE FUND	587,485

27 Sec. 9. (*Effective from passage*) The following sum is appropriated from
 28 the CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND
 29 for the purposes herein specified for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T165	CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND	2024-2025
T166		
T167	OFFICE OF CONSUMER COUNSEL	
T168	Indirect Overhead	59,499
T169		
T170	TOTAL - CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND	59,499

30 Sec. 10. (*Effective from passage*) The amounts appropriated to the
 31 following agencies in section 6 of public act 23-204 are reduced by the
 32 following amounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T171	CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND	2024-2025
T172		

T173	OFFICE OF CONSUMER COUNSEL	
T174	Fringe Benefits	59,499
T175		
T176	TOTAL - CONSUMER COUNSEL AND PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL FUND	59,499

33 Sec. 11. (*Effective from passage*) The following sum is appropriated
34 from the WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND for the purposes herein
35 specified for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T177	WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND	2024-2025
T178		
T179	WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION	
T180	Indirect Overhead	196,993
T181		
T182	TOTAL - WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND	196,993

36 Sec. 12. (*Effective from passage*) The amounts appropriated to the
37 following agencies in section 7 of public act 23-204 are reduced by the
38 following amounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025:

T183	WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND	2024-2025
T184		
T185	WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION	
T186	Fringe Benefits	196,993
T187		
T188	TOTAL - WORKERS' COMPENSATION FUND	196,993

39 Sec. 13. Subsection (b) of section 31-308 of the general statutes is
40 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
41 *passage*):

42 (b) With respect to the following injuries, the compensation, in
43 addition to the usual compensation for total incapacity but in lieu of all
44 other payments for compensation, shall be seventy-five per cent of the

45 average weekly earnings of the injured employee, calculated pursuant
 46 to section 31-310, after such earnings have been reduced by any
 47 deduction for federal or state taxes, or both, and for the federal
 48 Insurance Contributions Act made from such employee's total wages
 49 received during the period of calculation of the employee's average
 50 weekly wage pursuant to said section 31-310, but in no case more than
 51 one hundred per cent, raised to the next even dollar, of the average
 52 weekly earnings of production and related workers in manufacturing in
 53 the state, as determined in accordance with the provisions of section 31-
 54 309, or less than fifty dollars weekly. All of the following injuries include
 55 the loss of the member or organ and the complete and permanent loss
 56 of use of the member or organ referred to:

T189	MEMBER	INJURY	WEEKS OF
T190			COMPENSATION
T191	Arm		
T192	Master arm	Loss at or above elbow	208
T193	Other arm	Loss at or above elbow	194
T194	Hand		
T195	Master hand	Loss at or above wrist	168
T196	Other hand	Loss at or above wrist	155
T197	One leg	Loss at or above knee	155
T198	One foot	Loss at or above ankle	125
T199	Hearing		
T200		Both ears	104
T201		One ear	35
T202	One eye		
T203		Complete and permanent	
T204		loss of sight in, or	
T205		reduction of sight to	

<i>HB 6863</i>		<i>Amendment</i>
T206	one-tenth or less	
T207	of normal vision	157
T208	Thumb*	
T209	On master hand	63
T210	On other hand	54
T211	Fingers**	
T212	First finger	36
T213	Second finger	29
T214	Third finger	21
T215	Fourth finger	17
T216	Toes***	
T217	Great toe	28
T218	Other toes	9
T219	Back	Number of weeks
T220		which the
T221		proportion of
T222		incapacity
T223		represents to a
T224		maximum of 374
T225		weeks
T226	Heart	520
T227	Brain	520
T228	Carotid artery	520
T229	Pancreas	416
T230	Liver	347
T231	Stomach	260
T232	Loss of bladder	233
T233	Speech	163

<i>HB 6863</i>		<i>Amendment</i>
T234	Lung	117
T235	Cervical spine	117 <u>(until June 30,</u>
T236		<u>2025)</u>
T237	Kidney	117
T238	Rib cage	Bilateral 69
T239	Ovary	35
T240	Testis	35
T241	Mammary	35
T242	Nose	Sense and respiratory function 35
T243	Jaw	Mastication 35
T244	Uterus	35-104
T245	Vagina	35-104
T246	Penis	35-104
T247	Coccyx	Actual removal 35
T248	Sense of smell	17
T249	Sense of taste	17
T250	Spleen	In addition to scar 13
T251	Gall bladder	13
T252	Tooth	Minimum 1
T253	Loss of drainage duct of eye	
T254	(If corrected by prosthesis)	17 for each
T255	Loss of drainage duct of eye	
T256	(If uncorrected by prosthesis)	33 for each
T257	Pelvis	percentage of back
T258	<u>On and after July 1, 2025:</u>	
T259	<u>Intestinal tract</u>	<u>347</u>
T260	<u>Esophagus</u>	<u>180</u>
T261	<u>Cervical Spine</u>	<u>208</u>

57 *The loss or loss of use of one phalanx of a thumb shall be construed
58 as seventy-five per cent of the loss of the thumb.

59 **The loss or loss of use of one phalanx of a finger shall be construed
60 as fifty per cent of the loss of the finger. The loss of or loss of use of two
61 phalanges of a finger shall be construed as ninety per cent of the loss of
62 the finger.

63 ***The loss or loss of use of one phalanx of a great toe shall be
64 construed as sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the loss of the great toe.
65 The loss of the greater part of any phalanx shall be construed as the loss
66 of a phalanx and shall be compensated accordingly.

67 [If] For any matter filed with the Workers' Compensation
68 Commission on or after July 1, 1993, that remains open and pending
69 before said commission on the effective date of this section, and for any
70 matter filed with said commission on and after the effective date of this
71 section, (1) if the injury consists of the loss of a substantial part of a
72 member resulting in a permanent partial loss of the use of a member, or
73 if the injury results in a permanent partial loss of function, the
74 administrative law judge [may, in the administrative law judge's
75 discretion] shall, in lieu of other compensation, award to the injured
76 employee the proportion of the sum provided in this subsection for the
77 total loss of, or the loss of the use of, the member or for incapacity or
78 both that represents the proportion of total loss or loss of use found to
79 exist, and any voluntary agreement submitted in which the basis of
80 settlement is such proportionate payment may, if otherwise
81 conformable to the provisions of this chapter, be approved by the
82 administrative law judge; [in the administrative law judge's discretion.]
83 and (2) notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, an injured
84 employee who has reached maximum medical improvement and is
85 eligible for benefits pursuant to this subsection, but whose injuries
86 continue to result in total incapacity to work pursuant to section 31-307,
87 shall continue to be eligible to receive total incapacity benefits pursuant
88 to section 31-307 until such period of total incapacity ends.
89 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the complete loss or

90 loss of use of an organ which results in the death of an employee shall
91 be compensable pursuant only to section 31-306, as amended by this act.

92 Sec. 14. Subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 31-306 of the
93 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
94 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

95 (6) In all cases where there are no presumptive dependents, but (A)
96 where there are one or more persons wholly dependent in fact, the
97 compensation in case of death shall be divided according to the relative
98 degree of their dependence, or (B) where there are no persons wholly
99 dependent in fact, the compensation shall be divided equally among the
100 parents of the deceased employee. Compensation payable under this
101 subdivision shall be paid for not more than three hundred and twelve
102 weeks from the date of the death of the employee. The compensation, if
103 paid to those wholly dependent in fact, shall be paid at the full
104 compensation rate. The compensation, if paid to those partially
105 dependent in fact upon the deceased employee as of the date of the
106 injury, shall not, in total, be more than the full compensation rate nor
107 less than twenty dollars weekly, nor, if the average weekly sum
108 contributed by the deceased at the date of the injury to those partially
109 dependent in fact is more than twenty dollars weekly, not more than the
110 sum so contributed.

111 Sec. 15. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working
112 group to study rehabilitation services available to injured employees
113 under chapter 568 of the general statutes. Such study shall include, but
114 need not be limited to, an examination of (1) whether the provisions of
115 chapter 568 of the general statutes adequately fund rehabilitation
116 services for all injured employees, (2) methods to encourage injured
117 employees to utilize such services, including providing stipends to
118 injured employees who utilize such services, and (3) the provisions of
119 section 31-308a of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

120 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

121 (1) The chairpersons and the ranking members of the joint standing
122 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
123 relating to the judiciary and labor and public employees, or their
124 designees, who shall serve as nonvoting, ex-officio members of the
125 working group; provided (A) a chairperson, ranking member or a
126 designee of the chairperson or ranking member, who is a member of the
127 General Assembly, may be selected to serve as a chairperson and voting
128 member of the working group pursuant to subsection (d) of this section,
129 and (B) any designee of a chairperson or ranking member, who is not a
130 member of the General Assembly, shall be a voting member of the
131 working group;

132 (2) The Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services, or the
133 commissioner's designee;

134 (3) The chairperson of the Workers' Compensation Commission, or
135 the chairperson's designee; and

136 (4) The following persons jointly appointed by the chairpersons of the
137 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
138 matters relating to the judiciary and labor and public employees:

139 (A) An attorney who has expertise in representing claimants
140 appearing before the Workers' Compensation Commission;

141 (B) An attorney who has expertise in representing respondents
142 appearing before the Workers' Compensation Commission;

143 (C) A representative of an association representing trial attorneys in
144 the state;

145 (D) A representative of an association representing workers'
146 compensation insurers in the state;

147 (E) A representative of an association representing business and
148 industry in the state; and

149 (F) Four representatives of labor organizations that are affiliated with

150 the Connecticut AFL-CIO;

151 (G) A representative from an association representing municipalities
152 of the state;

153 (H) A representative from an association representing workers'
154 compensation insurance providers; and

155 (I) A representative from an association representing small
156 businesses.

157 (c) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not
158 later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
159 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

160 (d) The chairpersons of the joint standing committees of the General
161 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and
162 labor and public employees shall select two members of the General
163 Assembly, appointed to the working group pursuant to subdivision (1)
164 of subsection (b) of this section, to act as the chairpersons of the working
165 group. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the working
166 group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective
167 date of this section. The working group shall meet not less than once per
168 month and at such other times as may be necessary upon the call of the
169 chairpersons.

170 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committees of the
171 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary
172 and labor and public employees shall serve as administrative staff of the
173 working group.

174 (f) Not later than February 1, 2026, the working group shall submit a
175 preliminary report on its findings and recommendations to the joint
176 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
177 matters relating to the judiciary and labor and public employees, in
178 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.
179 Not later than January 1, 2027, the working group shall submit a final

180 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
181 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
182 relating to the judiciary and labor and public employees, in accordance
183 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working
184 group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January
185 1, 2027, whichever is later.

186 Sec. 16. Section 31-308a of the general statutes is repealed and the
187 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

188 (a) In addition to the compensation benefits provided by section 31-
189 308, as amended by this act, for specific loss of a member or use of the
190 function of a member of the body, or any personal injury covered by this
191 chapter, the administrative law judge, after such payments provided by
192 said section 31-308 have been paid for the period set forth in said section,
193 may award additional compensation benefits for such partial
194 permanent disability equal to seventy-five per cent of the difference
195 between the wages currently earned by an employee in a position
196 comparable to the position held by such injured employee prior to his
197 injury, after such wages have been reduced by any deduction for federal
198 or state taxes, or both, and for the federal Insurance Contributions Act
199 in accordance with section 31-310, and the weekly amount which such
200 employee will probably be able to earn thereafter, after such amount has
201 been reduced by any deduction for federal or state taxes, or both, and
202 for the federal Insurance Contributions Act in accordance with section
203 31-310, to be determined by the administrative law judge based upon
204 the nature and extent of the injury, the training, education and
205 experience of the employee, the availability of work for persons with
206 such physical condition and at the employee's age, but not more than
207 one hundred per cent, raised to the next even dollar, of the average
208 weekly earnings of production and related workers in manufacturing in
209 the state, as determined in accordance with the provisions of section 31-
210 309. If evidence of exact loss of earnings is not available, such loss may
211 be computed from the proportionate loss of physical ability or earning
212 power caused by the injury. The duration of such additional

213 compensation shall be determined upon a similar basis by the
 214 administrative law judge, but in no event shall the duration of such
 215 additional compensation exceed the lesser of (1) the duration of the
 216 employee's permanent partial disability benefits, or (2) five hundred
 217 twenty weeks. Additional benefits provided under this section shall be
 218 available only to employees who are willing and able to perform work
 219 in this state.

220 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
 221 additional benefits provided under this section shall be available [only]
 222 when the nature of the injury and its effect on the earning capacity of an
 223 employee warrant additional compensation.

224 (c) In addition to the benefits available under subsection (a) of this
 225 section, supplemental benefits shall be available to an injured employee
 226 who (1) following the receipt of benefits under subsection (a) of this
 227 section, remains unable to perform the employee's usual work, and (2)
 228 is actively engaged in a vocational rehabilitation service or equivalent
 229 program, or has completed such service or program. As used in this
 230 subsection, "supplemental benefits" means not more than sixty weeks of
 231 benefits under this section, including the benefits previously awarded
 232 under subsection (a) of this section."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	31-308(b)
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	31-306(a)(6)
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	31-308a