



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10413



Offered by:

REP. CANDELORA V., 86<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ZUPKUS, 89<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. O'DEA, 125<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. NUCCIO, 53<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

REP. RUTIGLIANO, 123<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

REP. POLLETTA, 68<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ACKERT, 8<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: House Bill No. 7287

File No.

Cal. No.

**"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."**

- 1 Strike line T219 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

"Personal Services	36,300,761	36,737,758"
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- 2 Strike line T220 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

"Other Expenses	19,267,953	20,313,217"
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- 3 In line T238, adjust AGENCY TOTAL accordingly

- 4 Strike line T363 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

"Medicaid	3,647,280,000	3,889,130,000"
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5 In line T386, adjust AGENCY TOTAL accordingly

6 In line T663, adjust TOTAL - GENERAL FUND accordingly

7 In line T671, adjust NET - GENERAL FUND accordingly

8 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
9 internal references accordingly:

10 "Sec. 501. Section 17b-261 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
11 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

12 (a) Medical assistance shall be provided for any otherwise eligible  
13 person (1) whose income, including any available support from legally  
14 liable relatives and the income of the person's spouse or dependent  
15 child, is not more than one hundred fifty-nine per cent, pending  
16 approval of a federal waiver applied for pursuant to subsection (e) of  
17 this section, of the benefit amount paid to a person with no income  
18 under the temporary family assistance program, and (2) if such person  
19 is an institutionalized individual as defined in Section 1917 of the Social  
20 Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(h)(3), and has not made an assignment or  
21 transfer or other disposition of property for less than fair market value  
22 for the purpose of establishing eligibility for benefits or assistance under  
23 this section. Any such disposition shall be treated in accordance with  
24 Section 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(c). Any  
25 disposition of property made on behalf of an applicant or recipient or  
26 the spouse of an applicant or recipient by a guardian, conservator,  
27 person authorized to make such disposition pursuant to a power of  
28 attorney or other person so authorized by law shall be attributed to such  
29 applicant, recipient or spouse. A disposition of property ordered by a  
30 court shall be evaluated in accordance with the standards applied to any  
31 other such disposition for the purpose of determining eligibility. The  
32 commissioner shall establish the standards for eligibility for medical  
33 assistance at one hundred fifty-nine per cent of the benefit amount paid  
34 to a household of equal size with no income under the temporary family  
35 assistance program. In determining eligibility, the commissioner shall

36 not consider as income Aid and Attendance pension benefits granted to  
37 a veteran, as defined in section 27-103, or the surviving spouse of such  
38 veteran. Except as provided in section 17b-277 and section 17b-292, the  
39 medical assistance program shall provide coverage to persons under the  
40 age of nineteen with household income up to one hundred ninety-six  
41 per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset limit and to  
42 persons under the age of nineteen, who qualify for coverage under  
43 Section 1931 of the Social Security Act, with household income not  
44 exceeding one hundred ninety-six per cent of the federal poverty level  
45 without an asset limit, and their parents and needy caretaker relatives,  
46 who qualify for coverage under Section 1931 of the Social Security Act,  
47 with household income not exceeding one hundred thirty-three per cent  
48 of the federal poverty level without an asset limit. Such levels shall be  
49 based on the regional differences in such benefit amount, if applicable,  
50 unless such levels based on regional differences are not in conformance  
51 with federal law. Any income in excess of the applicable amounts shall  
52 be applied as may be required by said federal law, and assistance shall  
53 be granted for the balance of the cost of authorized medical assistance.  
54 The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide applicants for  
55 assistance under this section, at the time of application, with a written  
56 statement advising them of (A) the effect of an assignment or transfer or  
57 other disposition of property on eligibility for benefits or assistance, (B)  
58 the effect that having income that exceeds the limits prescribed in this  
59 subsection will have with respect to program eligibility, and (C) the  
60 availability of, and eligibility for, services provided by the Connecticut  
61 Home Visiting System, established pursuant to section 17b-751b. For  
62 coverage dates on or after January 1, 2014, the department shall use the  
63 modified adjusted gross income financial eligibility rules set forth in  
64 Section 1902(e)(14) of the Social Security Act and the implementing  
65 regulations to determine eligibility for HUSKY A, HUSKY B and  
66 HUSKY D applicants, as defined in section 17b-290. Persons who are  
67 determined ineligible for assistance pursuant to this section shall be  
68 provided a written statement notifying such persons of their ineligibility  
69 and advising such persons of their potential eligibility for one of the  
70 other insurance affordability programs as defined in 42 CFR 435.4.

71 (b) For the purposes of the Medicaid program, the Commissioner of  
72 Social Services shall consider parental income and resources as available  
73 to a child under eighteen years of age who is living with his or her  
74 parents and is blind or disabled for purposes of the Medicaid program,  
75 or to any other child under twenty-one years of age who is living with  
76 his or her parents.

77 (c) For the purposes of determining eligibility for the Medicaid  
78 program, an available asset is one that is actually available to the  
79 applicant or one that the applicant has the legal right, authority or  
80 power to obtain or to have applied for the applicant's general or medical  
81 support. If the terms of a trust provide for the support of an applicant,  
82 the refusal of a trustee to make a distribution from the trust does not  
83 render the trust an unavailable asset. Notwithstanding the provisions of  
84 this subsection, the availability of funds in a trust or similar instrument  
85 funded in whole or in part by the applicant or the applicant's spouse  
86 shall be determined pursuant to the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act  
87 of 1993, 42 USC 1396p. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply  
88 to a special needs trust, as defined in 42 USC 1396p(d)(4)(A), as  
89 amended from time to time. For purposes of determining whether a  
90 beneficiary under a special needs trust, who has not received a disability  
91 determination from the Social Security Administration, is disabled, as  
92 defined in 42 USC 1382c(a)(3), the Commissioner of Social Services, or  
93 the commissioner's designee, shall independently make such  
94 determination. The commissioner shall not require such beneficiary to  
95 apply for Social Security disability benefits or obtain a disability  
96 determination from the Social Security Administration for purposes of  
97 determining whether the beneficiary is disabled.

98 (d) The transfer of an asset in exchange for other valuable  
99 consideration shall be allowable to the extent the value of the other  
100 valuable consideration is equal to or greater than the value of the asset  
101 transferred.

102 (e) The Commissioner of Social Services shall seek a waiver from  
103 federal law to permit federal financial participation for Medicaid

104 expenditures for families with incomes of one hundred forty-three per  
105 cent of the temporary family assistance program payment standard.

106 (f) To the extent permitted by federal law, Medicaid eligibility shall  
107 be extended for one year to a family that becomes ineligible for medical  
108 assistance under Section 1931 of the Social Security Act due to income  
109 from employment by one of its members who is a caretaker relative or  
110 due to receipt of child support income. A family receiving extended  
111 benefits on July 1, 2005, shall receive the balance of such extended  
112 benefits, provided no such family shall receive more than twelve  
113 additional months of such benefits.

114 (g) An institutionalized spouse applying for Medicaid and having a  
115 spouse living in the community shall be required, to the maximum  
116 extent permitted by law, to divert income to such community spouse in  
117 order to raise the community spouse's income to the level of the  
118 minimum monthly needs allowance, as described in Section 1924 of the  
119 Social Security Act. Such diversion of income shall occur before the  
120 community spouse is allowed to retain assets in excess of the  
121 community spouse protected amount described in Section 1924 of the  
122 Social Security Act. The Commissioner of Social Services, pursuant to  
123 section 17b-10, may implement the provisions of this subsection while  
124 in the process of adopting regulations, provided the commissioner  
125 prints notice of intent to adopt the regulations in the Connecticut Law  
126 Journal within twenty days of adopting such policy. Such policy shall  
127 be valid until the time final regulations are effective.

128 (h) To the extent permissible under federal law, an institutionalized  
129 individual, as defined in Section 1917 of the Social Security Act, 42 USC  
130 1396p(h)(3), shall not be determined ineligible for Medicaid solely on  
131 the basis of the cash value of a life insurance policy worth less than ten  
132 thousand dollars provided the individual is pursuing the surrender of  
133 the policy.

134 (i) Medical assistance shall be provided, in accordance with the  
135 provisions of subsection (e) of section 17a-6, to any child under the

136 supervision of the Commissioner of Children and Families who is not  
137 receiving Medicaid benefits, has not yet qualified for Medicaid benefits  
138 or is otherwise ineligible for such benefits. Medical assistance shall also  
139 be provided to any child in the behavioral services program operated  
140 by the Department of Developmental Services who is not receiving  
141 Medicaid benefits, has not yet qualified for Medicaid benefits or is  
142 otherwise ineligible for benefits. To the extent practicable, the  
143 Commissioner of Children and Families and the Commissioner of  
144 Developmental Services shall apply for, or assist such child in qualifying  
145 for, the Medicaid program.

146 (j) The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide Early and  
147 Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment program services, as  
148 required and defined as of December 31, 2005, by 42 USC 1396a(a)(43),  
149 42 USC 1396d(r) and 42 USC 1396d(a)(4)(B) and applicable federal  
150 regulations, to all persons who are under the age of twenty-one and  
151 otherwise eligible for medical assistance under this section.

152 (k) A veteran, as defined in section 27-103, and any member of his or  
153 her family, who applies for or receives assistance under the Medicaid  
154 program, shall apply for all benefits for which he or she may be eligible  
155 through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the United  
156 States Department of Defense.

157 [(l) On and after January 1, 2023, and until June 30, 2024, the  
158 Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available appropriations,  
159 provide state-funded medical assistance to any child twelve years of age  
160 and younger, regardless of immigration status, (1) whose household  
161 income does not exceed two hundred one per cent of the federal poverty  
162 level without an asset limit, and (2) who does not otherwise qualify for  
163 Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, or an offer of  
164 affordable, employer-sponsored insurance, as defined in the Affordable  
165 Care Act, as an employee or a dependent of an employee. On and after  
166 July 1, 2024, the commissioner shall, within available appropriations,  
167 provide state-funded medical assistance to any child fifteen years of age  
168 and younger, regardless of immigration status, who qualifies pursuant

169 to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection. A child eligible for such  
170 assistance under this subsection shall continue to receive such assistance  
171 until such child is nineteen years of age, provided the child continues to  
172 meet the eligibility requirements prescribed in subdivisions (1) and (2)  
173 of this subsection. The provisions of section 17b-265 shall apply with  
174 respect to any medical assistance provided pursuant to this subsection.]

175 Sec. 502. Section 17b-292 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
176 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

177 (a) A child who resides in a household with household income that  
178 exceeds one hundred ninety-six per cent of the federal poverty level but  
179 does not exceed three hundred eighteen per cent of the federal poverty  
180 level may be eligible for benefits under HUSKY B. [Until June 30, 2024,  
181 the Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available  
182 appropriations, provide state-funded medical assistance to any child  
183 twelve years of age and younger, regardless of immigration status, (1)  
184 with a household income that exceeds two hundred one per cent of the  
185 federal poverty level but does not exceed three hundred twenty-three  
186 per cent of the federal poverty level, and (2) who does not otherwise  
187 qualify for Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, or an  
188 offer of affordable, employer-sponsored insurance, as defined in the  
189 Affordable Care Act, as an employee or a dependent of an employee.  
190 On and after July 1, 2024, the commissioner shall, within available  
191 appropriations, provide state-funded medical assistance to any child  
192 fifteen years of age and younger, regardless of immigration status, who  
193 qualifies pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection. A child  
194 eligible for such assistance under this subsection shall continue to  
195 receive such assistance until such child is nineteen years of age,  
196 provided the child continues to meet the eligibility requirements  
197 prescribed in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.] The provisions  
198 of section 17b-265 shall apply with respect to any medical assistance  
199 provided pursuant to this subsection.

200 (b) Whenever a court or family support magistrate orders a  
201 noncustodial parent to provide health insurance for a child, such parent

202 may provide for coverage under HUSKY B.

203 (c) To the extent allowed under federal law, the commissioner shall  
204 not pay for services or durable medical equipment under HUSKY B if  
205 the member has other insurance coverage for such services or  
206 equipment. If a HUSKY B member has limited benefit insurance  
207 coverage for services that are also covered under HUSKY B, the  
208 commissioner shall require such other coverage to pay for the goods or  
209 services prior to any payment under HUSKY B.

210 (d) On or after [April 1, 2022] July 1, 2025, the commissioner shall  
211 provide medical assistance for prenatal care and extend medical  
212 assistance for postpartum care for twelve months after birth to a HUSKY  
213 B beneficiary with legal immigration status, to the extent permissible  
214 under federal law. The commissioner shall amend the state plan for the  
215 Children's Health Insurance Program in accordance with the American  
216 Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to provide federal reimbursement to the state  
217 for such postpartum care extension and shall extend such coverage  
218 following federal approval, provided such coverage shall not be  
219 extended to HUSKY B beneficiaries without legal immigration status.  
220 The commissioner shall take any other action necessary under federal  
221 law to maintain federal reimbursement for such postpartum coverage.  
222 A newborn child who otherwise meets the eligibility criteria for HUSKY  
223 B shall be eligible for benefits retroactive to his or her date of birth,  
224 provided an application is filed on behalf of the child not later than  
225 thirty days after such date. Any uninsured child born in a hospital in  
226 this state or in a border state hospital shall be enrolled on an expedited  
227 basis in HUSKY B, provided (1) the parent or caretaker relative of such  
228 child resides in this state, and (2) the parent or caretaker relative of such  
229 child authorizes enrollment in the program. The commissioner shall pay  
230 any premium cost such household would otherwise incur for the first  
231 four months of coverage.

232 (e) The commissioner shall implement presumptive eligibility for  
233 children applying for Medicaid and may, if cost effective, implement  
234 presumptive eligibility for children in households with income not



235 exceeding three hundred eighteen per cent of the federal poverty level  
236 applying for HUSKY B. Such presumptive eligibility determinations  
237 shall be in accordance with applicable federal law and regulations. The  
238 commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to  
239 establish standards and procedures for the designation of an  
240 organization as a qualified entity to grant presumptive eligibility. A  
241 qualified entity shall, at the time a presumptive eligibility determination  
242 is made, provide assistance to applicants with the completion and  
243 submission of an application for a full eligibility determination. In  
244 establishing such standards and procedures, the commissioner shall  
245 ensure the representation of state-wide and local organizations that  
246 provide services to children of all ages in each region of the state.

247 (f) In accordance with 42 CFR 435.1110, the commissioner shall  
248 provide Medicaid during a presumptive eligibility period to individuals  
249 who are determined presumptively eligible by a qualified hospital. A  
250 hospital making such a presumptive eligibility determination shall  
251 provide assistance to individuals in completing and submitting an  
252 application for full Medicaid benefits.

253 (g) The commissioner shall implement HUSKY B while in the process  
254 of adopting necessary policies and procedures in regulation form in  
255 accordance with the provisions of section 17b-10.

256 Sec. 503. Section 14-49b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
257 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

258 (a) [(1)] For each new registration or renewal of registration of any  
259 motor vehicle with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles pursuant to this  
260 chapter, the person registering such vehicle shall pay to the  
261 commissioner a fee of fifteen dollars for registration for a triennial  
262 period, ten dollars for registration for a biennial period and five dollars  
263 for registration for an annual period, except that any individual who is  
264 sixty-five years of age or older on or after January 1, 1994, may, at the  
265 discretion of such individual, pay the fee for a one-year period if such  
266 individual obtains a one-year registration under subsection (a) of

267 section 14-49. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any  
268 motor vehicle that is not self-propelled, that is electrically powered, or  
269 that is exempted from payment of a registration fee. This fee may be  
270 identified as the "federal Clean Air Act fee" on any registration form  
271 provided by the commissioner. Payments collected pursuant to the  
272 provisions of this subsection shall be deposited as follows: [(A)] (1) Fifty-  
273 seven and one-half per cent of such payments collected shall be  
274 deposited into the Special Transportation Fund established pursuant to  
275 section 13b-68, and [(B)] (2) forty-two and one-half per cent of such  
276 payments collected shall be deposited into the General Fund. The fee  
277 required by this subsection is in addition to any other fees prescribed by  
278 any other provision of this title for the registration of a motor vehicle.  
279 No part of the federal Clean Air Act fee shall be subject to a refund under  
280 subsection (z) of section 14-49.

281 [(2)] (b) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the  
282 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with  
283 the Commissioners of Energy and Environmental Protection,  
284 Transportation and Motor Vehicles, shall submit a report, in accordance  
285 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of  
286 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
287 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, the environment and  
288 transportation indicating [(A)] (1) the amount of payments collected  
289 pursuant to [subdivision (1) of this] subsection (a) of this section during  
290 the preceding fiscal year, and [(B)] (2) all state funds expended during  
291 the preceding fiscal year associated with implementing the  
292 requirements of the federal Clean Air Act, improving air quality and  
293 reducing transportation sector greenhouse gas emissions.

294 [(b)] For each new registration or renewal of registration of any motor  
295 vehicle with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles pursuant to this  
296 chapter, the person registering such vehicle shall pay to the  
297 commissioner a fee of fifteen dollars for registration for a triennial  
298 period or ten dollars for registration for a biennial period for the  
299 following registration types: Passenger, motorcycle, motor home,

300 combination or antique. Any person who is sixty-five years or older and  
301 who obtains a one-year registration renewal under section 14-49 for  
302 such registration type shall pay five dollars for the annual registration  
303 period. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any motor  
304 vehicle that is not self-propelled or that is exempted from payment of a  
305 registration fee. This fee shall be identified as the "Passport to the Parks  
306 Fee" on any registration form provided by the commissioner. Payments  
307 collected pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall be deposited  
308 in the Passport to the Parks account established pursuant to section 23-  
309 15h. The fee required by this subsection is in addition to any other fees  
310 prescribed by any other provision of this title for the registration of a  
311 motor vehicle. No part of the "Passport to the Parks Fee" shall be subject  
312 to a refund under subsection (z) of section 14-49.]

313 Sec. 504. Section 23-10b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
314 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

315 The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may  
316 provide outdoor recreation-related services to the public at state park  
317 and forest recreation areas. Such services may include rentals of  
318 bicycles, boats, cabins and tents, sale of firewood and operation of camp  
319 stores supplying camping necessities. Fees for such services shall be set  
320 by the commissioner, according to market value. [Revenue from such  
321 services shall be deposited in the Passport to the Parks account  
322 established pursuant to section 23-15h for use in the state park and forest  
323 facilities.] Such services and fees shall not affect admission, parking,  
324 camping and related existing fees. No services shall compete with a  
325 concessionaire under contract with the Department of Energy and  
326 Environmental Protection at the time such service is offered.

327 Sec. 505. Section 23-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
328 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

329 All receipts from the operation of the state parks shall be deposited  
330 in the [Passport to the Parks account established pursuant to section 23-  
331 15h] General Fund. Expenditures incurred by the Department of Energy

332 and Environmental Protection for the operation, maintenance and  
333 extension of or improvements to state parks shall be paid with moneys  
334 from the Passport to the Parks account.

335 Sec. 506. Section 23-15b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
336 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

337 [(a)] All funds collected from rent paid by any person for the use of  
338 state park property for any special event of limited duration, including,  
339 but not limited to, weddings and receptions, shall be deposited into the  
340 [Passport to the Parks account, established pursuant to section 23-15h]  
341 General Fund, unless the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
342 Protection enters into a written agreement, signs an instrument or issues  
343 a license which specifically states otherwise.

344 [(b)] Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any funds  
345 received by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
346 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be deposited in the  
347 Passport to the Parks account established pursuant to section 23-15h.  
348 Within said account there shall be a subaccount for each state park from  
349 which funds are collected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section,  
350 which subaccounts shall be held separate and apart from each other.  
351 Each subaccount shall be available to the Commissioner of Energy and  
352 Environmental Protection for maintaining, making improvements to,  
353 erecting structures on or repairing the property, including houses and  
354 other buildings, of the state park for which such subaccount was  
355 established. Nothing in this section shall prevent the commissioner from  
356 obtaining or using funds from sources other than the Passport to the  
357 Parks account for the purposes described in this subsection. Funds in  
358 the Passport to the Parks account shall be used to supplement state  
359 funds appropriated for the general operation of state parks and shall not  
360 replace such appropriated funds for purposes of such general operation.

361 (c) On or before July 1, 2023, and quarterly thereafter, the  
362 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall report to  
363 the Office of Fiscal Analysis and the joint standing committees of the

364 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the  
365 environment and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies on  
366 the state parks for which funds have been collected pursuant to  
367 subsection (a) of this section. Such report shall include (1) the amount of  
368 funds received into the Passport to the Parks account, itemized by  
369 subaccount, (2) the amount of funds the Department of Energy and  
370 Environmental Protection has expended from the account for each park,  
371 (3) the projects for which such funds have been expended, (4) projected  
372 end-of-fiscal year balances for the account and each subaccount, and (5)  
373 position counts funded through the account, whether filled or unfilled  
374 or permanent or seasonal in nature. Said commissioner shall post the  
375 same information on the department's Internet web site.]

376 Sec. 507. Section 23-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
377 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

378 The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may  
379 execute with residents and nonresidents of this state leases of camping  
380 sites and buildings on the state parks for limited periods except as  
381 provided in section 23-16a. [and the proceeds from such leases, together  
382 with any other income resulting from the use of the state parks, shall be  
383 added to the Passport to the Parks account established pursuant to  
384 section 23-15h.] Not later than May 1, 2010, said commissioner shall  
385 establish a schedule of fees payable for the leasing of state camping sites  
386 and buildings for residents of this state in amounts not greater than one  
387 hundred thirty-five per cent of the amounts charged according to the  
388 schedule of camping permit fees established by said commissioner and  
389 in effect as of April 1, 2009. Not later than May 1, 2010, said  
390 commissioner shall establish a schedule of fees payable for the leasing  
391 of state camping sites and buildings for nonresidents of this state in  
392 amounts not greater than one hundred fifty per cent of the amounts  
393 charged according to the schedule of camping permit fees established  
394 by said commissioner and in effect as of April 14, 2010. [Annually, not  
395 later than the first day of November, said commissioner shall allocate  
396 from funds available for state park and forest areas in the then current

397 fiscal year, an amount not less than fifty per cent of the portion of such  
398 fees collected in the preceding fiscal year directly related to the amount  
399 of increase in such fees as required in this section, to be used for  
400 purposes of maintenance and improvement of such state camping sites  
401 and buildings.] Any fees paid for any lease under this section shall not  
402 be subject to refund under section 22a-10 unless (1) the lessee gives  
403 notice of cancellation to the commissioner not later than fourteen days  
404 prior to the date such lease is to commence, (2) the park is closed by  
405 executive order of the Governor, or (3) the lessee submits proof,  
406 satisfactory to the commissioner, of a death or serious illness in the  
407 family which prevents use of the facility during the period of the lease.  
408 The commissioner may deduct a reasonable service charge from any  
409 amount refunded pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (3) of this section.

410 Sec. 508. Section 23-26 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
411 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

412 (a) The commissioner may (1) provide for the collection of fees for  
413 parking, admission, boat launching and other uses of state parks,  
414 forests, boat launches and other state recreational facilities, (2) establish  
415 from time to time the daily and seasonal amount thereof, (3) enter into  
416 contractual relations with other persons for the operation of  
417 concessions, (4) establish other sources of revenue to be derived from  
418 services to the general public using such parks, forests and facilities, (5)  
419 employ such assistants as may be necessary for the collection of such  
420 revenue. [The commissioner shall deposit such revenue derived  
421 therefrom with the State Treasurer in the Passport to the Parks account  
422 established pursuant to section 23-15h.] On and after July 1, 1992, any  
423 increase in any fee or any establishment of a new fee under this section  
424 shall be by regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of  
425 chapter 54. Not later than May 1, 2010, said commissioner shall establish  
426 the daily and seasonal amount of such parking, admission, boat  
427 launching and other use fees for residents of this state in amounts not  
428 greater than one hundred thirty-five per cent of the amounts charged  
429 for such fees by said commissioner as of April 1, 2009. Not later than

430 May 1, 2010, said commissioner shall establish the daily and seasonal  
431 amount of such parking, admission, boat launching and other use fees  
432 for nonresidents of this state in amounts not greater than one hundred  
433 fifty per cent of the amounts charged for such fees by said commissioner  
434 as of April 1, 2009. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the  
435 commissioner may enter into an agreement with any municipality  
436 under which the municipality may retain fees collected by municipal  
437 officers at state boat launches when state employees are not on duty.

438 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
439 the commissioner may establish fees for the public use of the mansion  
440 at Harkness Memorial State Park in Waterford, the Ellie Mitchell  
441 Pavilion at Rocky Neck State Park in East Lyme and Gillette Castle State  
442 Park in East Haddam provided no fee shall be charged to any group  
443 organized as a nonprofit corporation under 26 USC 501(c)(3) for  
444 purposes of providing support to such parks or facilities and further  
445 provided the commissioner shall specify procedures and criteria for the  
446 selection of any private business which is engaged by the state to  
447 provide services during any such public use, including, but not limited  
448 to, catering services. Such fees, procedures and criteria shall be effective  
449 until June 30, 1999, or until regulations are adopted, whichever is  
450 sooner. Regulations implementing such fees, procedures and criteria  
451 shall be adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 on or  
452 before July 1, 1999. Such fees shall be comparable with rents and charges  
453 of similar properties based on fair market rates.

454 (c) The commissioner shall issue to any nonresident of the state, upon  
455 payment of a fee established by said commissioner, a nontransferable  
456 Connecticut private passenger motor vehicle pass which permits free  
457 parking throughout the calendar year at any state park, forest, boat  
458 launch or other state recreational facility, provided the commissioner  
459 shall not be required to issue such a pass to any park, forest or facility  
460 which is wholly managed by a private concessionaire and may require  
461 payment of fees for special events. Not later than May 1, 2010, said  
462 commissioner shall establish the amount of such fee for nonresidents of

463 this state in an amount not greater than one hundred fifty per cent of the  
464 amount charged for such fee by said commissioner as of April 1, 2009.

465 (d) The commissioner shall issue to any resident of the state who is  
466 sixty-five years of age or older and to any resident of this state who is a  
467 disabled veteran, as defined in section 14-254, or under federal law,  
468 without fee, upon application of such resident, a nontransferable  
469 lifetime pass which shall permit free admission and boat access parking  
470 for use at any state park, forest or state recreational facility, provided  
471 the commissioner shall not be required to issue such a pass for use of  
472 any park, forest or facility which is wholly managed by a private  
473 concessionaire and may require payment of fees for special events.

474 (e) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, any person with a  
475 valid Connecticut motor vehicle license plate shall not pay a parking fee  
476 at any state park, forest or other state recreational facility on and after  
477 January 1, 2018.

478 Sec. 509. Section 22a-27x of the general statutes is repealed and the  
479 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

480 The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the city of  
481 Hartford and Riverfront Recapture shall enter into a memorandum of  
482 agreement for the care, maintenance and operation of Batterson Park by  
483 Riverfront Recapture. Such agreement may include, but shall not be  
484 limited to, [ (1) Authorization] authorization for Riverfront Recapture,  
485 through its agents and employees, to enter upon, maintain and operate  
486 all areas of Batterson Park, including, but not limited to, any areas not  
487 under the care, custody and control of the city of Hartford. [, and (2) the  
488 provision of a grant-in-aid from the Department of Energy and  
489 Environmental Protection to Riverfront Recapture, each fiscal year, for  
490 the care, maintenance and operation of Batterson Park through funding  
491 available to such state agency in accordance with the provisions of  
492 section 23-15h.]

493 Sec. 510. Section 22a-27y of the general statutes is repealed and the



494 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

495 The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall enter  
 496 into a memorandum of agreement with the Thames River Heritage Park  
 497 Foundation for the funding of the operations and administration of a  
 498 water taxi boat and tour operations along the Thames River in both the  
 499 city of New London and the city of Groton during the fiscal years ending  
 500 June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2031. [, in accordance with subsection (a) of  
 501 section 23-15h.]

502 Sec. 511. (*Effective June 30, 2025*) Not later than June 30, 2025, the  
 503 Comptroller shall transfer the balances remaining in the Passport to the  
 504 Parks account, established under section 23-15h of the general statutes,  
 505 revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2025, to the General Fund.

506 Sec. 512. Sections 17b-292b, 17b-257e and 23-15h of the general  
 507 statutes are repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2025*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Sec. 501	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	17b-261
Sec. 502	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	17b-292
Sec. 503	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	14-49b
Sec. 504	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	23-10b
Sec. 505	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	23-15
Sec. 506	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	23-15b
Sec. 507	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	23-16
Sec. 508	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	23-26
Sec. 509	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	22a-27x
Sec. 510	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	22a-27y
Sec. 511	<i>June 30, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 512	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	Repealer section