
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1247

AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE.

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BACKGROUND

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes new state general obligation (GO) and special tax obligation (STO) bonds and adjusts several current bonds and bond programs. It also creates new bond programs and reporting requirements.

Additionally, the bill makes several technical and conforming changes, including removing a cross reference to a bill that was not enacted (§ 96).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025, for FY 26 authorizations, and July 1, 2026, for FY 27 authorizations; remaining sections are effective July 1, 2025, unless otherwise noted.

**§§ 1-38, 55, 93-95, 98, 103, 104 & 108 — NEW BOND
AUTHORIZATIONS FOR STATE AGENCY PROJECTS AND
GRANTS**

Authorizes new state GO bonds for FYs 26 and 27 for various capital improvements, grant programs, and other initiatives

The bill authorizes new GO bonds for FYs 26 and 27 for the state projects and grant programs listed in the table below. The bonds are subject to standard issuance procedures and have a maximum term of 20 years.

The bill includes a standard provision requiring that, as a condition of bond authorizations for grants to private entities, each granting agency include repayment provisions in its grant contract in case the

facility for which the grant is made ceases to be used for the grant purposes within 10 years of the grantee receiving it. The required repayment is reduced by 10% for each full year that the facility is used for the grant purpose.

Table: GO Bond Authorizations for State Projects and Grant Programs for FYs 26 and 27

§§	Agency	For	FY 26	FY 27
STATE CAPITAL PROJECTS				
2(a), 21(a)	Office of Policy and Management (OPM)	Information technology capital investment program	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000
2(b), 21(b)	Department of Veterans Affairs	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to buildings and grounds, and land acquisition	20,000,000	10,000,000
		Expansion of the Middletown State Veterans Cemetery	7,500,000	0
2(c), 21(c)	Department of Administrative Services (DAS)	Upgrades and modernization of the Capitol Area System	16,000,000	0
		Installation of solar photovoltaic systems on state property, excluding state forests, parks, open spaces, and natural area preserves	20,000,000	0
		Infrastructure repairs and improvements, including (1) fire, safety, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance; (2) improvements to state-owned buildings and grounds, including energy conservation and off-site improvements; (3) preservation of unoccupied buildings and grounds, including office development, acquisition, and renovations for additional parking; and (4) security improvements at state-occupied buildings	0	10,000,000
		Purchase of equipment, minor improvements, and other associated costs for a new data center	0	16,000,000
2(d), 21(d)	Department of Emergency Services and Public	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to buildings and grounds, including utilities, mechanical systems, and energy	10,000,000	50,000,000

§§	Agency	For	FY 26	FY 27
	Protection (DESPP)	conservation projects		
2(e), 21(e)	Department of Motor Vehicles	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to buildings and grounds	15,000,000	2,500,000
		Alterations, including relocation, of the Wethersfield office	15,000,000	0
2(f), 21(f)	Military Department	State matching funds for anticipated federal reimbursable projects	5,000,000	3,000,000
		Alterations, renovations, and improvements to buildings and grounds, including utilities, mechanical systems, and energy conservation	1,000,000	1,000,000
		Construction of a Medical Readiness Center	5,000,000	0
		State matching funds for the anticipated federal reimbursable project at the Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group in Groton	17,000,000	0
2(g)	Department of Agriculture (DoAg)	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to existing state-owned buildings	5,000,000	0
2(h), 21(g)	Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)	Recreation and natural heritage trust program for recreation, open space, resource protection, and resource management	3,000,000	3,000,000
		Alterations, renovations, and new construction at state parks and other recreation facilities, including ADA improvements	40,000,000	30,000,000
		Water pollution control projects at state facilities and engineering reports for regional planning agencies	500,000	500,000
		Renewable energy or combined heat and power projects in state buildings or projects in state buildings and assets to decrease environmental impacts, including those that (1) improve energy efficiency; (2) reduce greenhouse gas emissions from building heating and cooling, including by installing renewable thermal	5,000,000	5,000,000

§§	Agency	For	FY 26	FY 27
		heating systems; (3) expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure to support charging on state property; (4) reduce water use; and (5) reduce waste generation and disposal		
		Dam repairs, including state-owned dams	2,500,000	2,500,000
		Design costs and purchase of a research vessel	500,000	7,000,000
		Recreation and natural heritage trust program for recreation, open space, resource protection, and resource management	0	3,000,000
2(i), 21(h)	Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA)	Alterations, renovations, and improvements at the Connecticut Convention Center and Rentschler Field	17,000,000	17,000,000
		Alterations, renovations, and improvements to parking garages in Hartford	5,000,000	5,000,000
2(j)	Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to existing state-owned buildings, including predesign costs	1,200,000	0
2(k)	Department of Public Health	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to existing state-owned buildings	500,000	0
2(l), 21(i)	Department of Developmental Services	(1) Fire, safety, and environmental improvements to regional facilities and intermediate care facilities for client and staff needs, including compliance with current codes, and (2) site improvements, handicapped access improvements, utilities, repair or replacement of roofs, air conditioning, and other building renovations and additions at all state-owned facilities	7,000,000	7,000,000
2(m), 21(j)	Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services	(1) Fire, safety, and environmental improvements to regional facilities and intermediate care facilities for client and staff needs, including compliance with current codes, and (2) site improvements, handicapped access improvements, utilities, repair or	20,000,000	40,000,000

§§	Agency	For	FY 26	FY 27
		replacement of roofs, air conditioning, and other building renovations and additions at all state-owned facilities		
		Design and installation of sprinkler systems, including related fire safety improvements, in direct patient care buildings	10,000,000	15,000,000
		Planning and design for replacement of Whiting Forensic Hospital at Connecticut Valley Hospital in Middletown	50,000,000	0
2(n), 21(k)	Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)	District-wide facility infrastructure upgrades, security improvements, vehicle and equipment purchases, and emergency repairs	30,000,000	30,000,000
		Information technology and support equipment	8,000,000	8,000,000
		Design and construction of a new Windham Technical High School	113,705,019	0
		Capital improvement projects at E.C. Goodwin Technical High School	0	35,000,000
2(o), 21(l)	UConn Health Center	System telecommunications infrastructure upgrades, improvements, and expansions	3,000,000	3,000,000
		Equipment, library collections, and telecommunications	10,000,000	10,000,000
		Deferred maintenance, code compliance, and infrastructure improvements	0	30,000,000
2(p), 21(m)	Connecticut State Colleges and Universities	All community colleges: deferred maintenance, code compliance, and infrastructure improvements	30,000,000	0
		All universities: deferred maintenance, code compliance, and infrastructure improvements	30,000,000	0
		All state colleges and universities: energy-efficiency program	5,000,000	0
		Gateway Community College: acquisition, design, and construction of facilities for workforce development programs, including such programs for the transportation, alternative energy, advanced manufacturing, and health sectors	1,000,000	0

§§	Agency	For	FY 26	FY 27
		Naugatuck Valley Community College: design for the renovation of Kinney Hall	1,000,000	0
		Norwalk Community College: alterations, renovations, and improvements to the B wing building	1,000,000	0
		System telecommunications infrastructure upgrades, improvements, and expansions	0	5,000,000
2(q), 21(n)	Department of Correction	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to existing state-owned buildings for inmate housing, programming and staff training space, and additional inmate capacity, and for support facilities and off-site improvements	50,000,000	55,000,000
2(r), 21(o)	Department of Children and Families	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to existing state-owned buildings	5,000,000	5,000,000
2(s), 21(p)	Judicial Department	Alterations, renovations, and improvements to buildings and grounds at state-owned and maintained facilities	10,000,000	10,000,000
		Security improvements at various state-owned and maintained facilities	2,000,000	2,000,000
		Alterations and improvements in compliance with the ADA	10,000,000	10,000,000
		Implementation of the Technology Strategic Plan Project	10,000,000	5,000,000
		Development of new courthouses, including land acquisition and parking	25,000,000	25,000,000
2(t)	Connecticut Airport Authority	Alterations, renovations, and improvements at the Tweed-New Haven Airport	10,000,000	0
2(u)	Secretary of the State's Office	Replacement of or improvements to the eRegulations System	4,000,000	0
		Improvements in compliance with the ADA to the office's website	1,000,000	0
94	Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority	Capitalization	0	30,000,000

§§	Agency	For	FY 26	FY 27
98	Office of Workforce Strategy	Supporting workforce innovation and sustainability	30,000,000	0
HOUSING PROJECTS				
9, 28	Department of Housing (DOH)	Housing development and rehabilitation, including improvements to certain kinds of state-assisted affordable housing and housing-related financial assistance programs, including administrative expenses	200,000,000	200,000,000
93		Time to Own program	60,000,000	60,000,000
95		Grants or forgivable loans to Time to Own program participants for capital improvements to residential properties purchased with program assistance	0	5,000,000
GRANTS				
13(a), 32(a)	OPM	Grants to distressed municipalities	7,000,000	7,000,000
		Grants to support municipalities, homeowners, and small businesses that have been impacted by a catastrophic event	15,000,000	0
		Grants to state-licensed acute care hospitals for construction of facilities for adult inpatient psychiatric beds	2,500,000	2,500,000
55		Grants to municipalities (§ 55; specifies the grant amounts for each municipality)	91,000,000	91,000,000
108		Funding a public school district repair and improvement project program to assist public school operators with the costs of minor capital repairs, improvements, and maintenance	30,000,000	30,000,000
13(b), 32(b)	DEEP	Grants to contain, remove, or mitigate identified hazardous waste disposal sites	7,600,000	17,000,000
		Grants to municipalities for improvements to incinerators and landfills, including bulky waste landfills	6,800,000	2,900,000
		Grants to identify, investigate, contain, remove, or mitigate contaminated industrial sites in urban areas	20,000,000	20,000,000

§§	Agency	For	FY 26	FY 27
		Grants to municipalities for (1) providing potable water and (2) assessment and remedial action to pollution from perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances	5,000,000	5,000,000
		Various flood control improvements, flood repair, erosion damage repairs, and municipal dam repairs	2,500,000	2,500,000
		Grants to municipalities for open space land acquisition and development for conservation or recreational purposes	10,000,000	10,000,000
		Microgrid and resilience grant and loan pilot program	0	25,000,000
104		Grants or loans for advanced nuclear reactor and offshore wind energy facility site readiness	5,000,000	0
13(c), 32(c)	Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD)	Brownfield Remediation and Revitalization program	40,000,000	40,000,000
		Connecticut Manufacturing Innovation Fund	20,000,000	25,000,000
		Greyfield Revitalization Program (see §§ 99 & 100 below)	20,000,000	30,000,000
103		Grants for housing or economic development projects in rural areas	30,000,000	0
13(d), 32(d)	State Department of Education (SDE)	Grants to regional educational service centers for capital expenses at interdistrict magnet schools; earmarks up to \$10 million for the Capital Region Education Council	20,000,000	0
		Grants to support in-district programming for students with disabilities	10,000,000	10,000,000
13(e), 32(e)	CRDA	Grants to encourage development according to CRDA's statutory purposes	25,000,000	25,000,000
		Grants to East Hartford for general economic development activities, including the development of the infrastructure and improvements to the riverfront; the creation of housing units through rehabilitation and new construction; the demolition	20,000,000	20,000,000

§§	Agency	For	FY 26	FY 27
		or redevelopment of vacant buildings; and redevelopment		
13(f), 32(f)	Department of Transportation (DOT)	Grants to municipalities for the Town Aid Road program	40,000,000	40,000,000
13(g)	DoAg	Grants to hold land for agricultural preservation purposes	10,000,000	0
13(h)	Department of Aging and Disability Services	Grants to aid for aging in place	5,000,000	0
13(i)	Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities	Acquisition, design, construction, and renovation of a facility for a civil rights museum	3,500,000	0
13(j), 32(g)	DOH	Grants to the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) for administering the Homes for CT loan program	10,000,000	10,000,000
		Grants to the New Haven Housing Authority for the PROPEL CT pilot program	2,000,000	0
13(k)	Office of Higher Education	Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program	26,400,000	0

§§ 39-50 — TRANSPORTATION BONDS

Authorizes new STO bonds in FYs 26 and 27 for DOT projects

The bill authorizes new STO bonds in FYs 26 and 27 for DOT projects, as shown in the table below.

Table: STO Bond Authorizations for DOT Projects

<i>Authorized Program Areas</i>	<i>FY 26</i>	<i>FY 27</i>
<i>Bureau of Engineering and Highway Operations</i>		
Interstate highway program	\$31,326,000	\$12,000,000
Urban systems projects	27,400,000	27,500,000
Intrastate highway program	90,000,000	85,000,000
Environmental compliance, soil and groundwater remediation, hazardous material abatement, demolition, salt shed construction and renovation, storage tank replacement, and environmental emergency response at or near state-owned properties or related to DOT operations	23,695,000	23,559,000
State bridge improvement, rehabilitation, and replacement projects	70,600,000	40,600,000

Authorized Program Areas	FY 26	FY 27
Capital resurfacing and related reconstruction	175,000,000	185,000,000
Fix-it-First program to repair the state's bridges	220,000,000	238,600,000
Fix-it-First program to repair the state's roads	159,600,000	193,000,000
Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program	80,000,000	80,000,000
Grants to municipalities for the Town Aid Road Program	40,000,000	40,000,000
Local Bridge Program	20,000,000	20,000,000
Highway and bridge renewal equipment	41,035,214	41,035,214
Community connectivity and alternative mobility program	15,000,000	15,000,000
Transportation Rural Improvement Program	10,000,000	10,000,000
Purchase, installation, and implementation of advanced wrong-way driving technology and other wrong-way driving countermeasures	20,000,000	20,000,000
Automated Work Zone Speed Control Program	5,000,000	5,000,000
Bureau of Public Transportation		
Bus and rail facilities and equipment, including rights-of-way, other property acquisition, and related projects	277,430,000	284,850,000
Northeast Corridor Modernization Match Program	100,000,000	100,000,000
Commercial Rail Freight Lines	10,000,000	10,000,000
Waterways Program	6,000,000	11,000,000
Bureau of Administration		
Department facilities	140,880,000	127,060,000

§§ 51-54, 56, 58, 60-64, 70, 71 & 77 — BOND AUTHORIZATIONS FOR STATUTORY PROGRAMS AND GRANTS

Increases bond authorizations for various statutory grants and purposes and authorizes new bonding for these purposes in FYs 26 and 27

The bill increases bond authorizations for various statutory grants and purposes and authorizes new bonding for these purposes for FYs 26 and 27, as shown in the table below. The bill also makes a technical correction and removes a reference to a fulfilled earmark (§ 51).

Table: Statutory Bond Authorizations for FYs 26 and 27

§	Agency	Purpose/Fund	FY 26	FY 27
51	OPM	Urban Action (economic and community development project grants)	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000
52	OPM	Small Town Economic Assistance Program	0	40,000,000
53	OPM	Capital Equipment Purchase Fund	40,000,000	40,000,000

§	Agency	Purpose/Fund	FY 26	FY 27
54	OPM	Local Capital Improvement Program	45,000,000	45,000,000
56	DOH	Housing Trust Fund; requires DOH to provide at least \$100 million to CHFA to administer a revolving loan fund for workforce housing projects	150,000,000	150,000,000
58	DAS	School construction projects	550,000,000	550,000,000
60	DEEP	Clean Water Fund grants	133,000,000	175,000,000
61	DEEP	Clean Water Fund loans (revenue bonds)	50,000,000	500,000,000
62	DEEP	Connecticut bikeway, pedestrian walkway, recreational trail, and greenway grant program	10,000,000	10,000,000
63	DESPP	Nonprofit security infrastructure competitive grant program	10,000,000	10,000,000
64	DECD	Manufacturing Assistance Act; earmarks up to \$50 million for supporting strategic defense initiatives	75,000,000	75,000,000
70	DEEP	Financing and awarding grants for certain projects for multi-family residences	100,000,000	0
77	SDE	School security infrastructure competitive grant program	10,000,000	10,000,000

Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund (§ 71)

The bill increases the existing authorization for the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund by \$100 million, in the amounts of \$25 million per year for FYs 27-30.

§ 57 — SCHOOL AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Reduces the current bond authorization for funding school air quality improvement grants and consolidates several earmarks into a single, smaller one

Existing law authorizes state GO bonds for DAS to fund certain school air quality improvement grants. The bill reduces the current bond authorization by \$138.5 million (from \$375 million to \$236.5 million).

The bill also modifies earmarks that, under current law, are up to \$15 million of the authorization for grants to purchase equipment and

materials for constructing and installing individual classroom air purifiers, with up to \$11.5 million of that amount for UConn as part of the Supplemental Air Filtration for Education program and the remainder for an organization or organizations that provide equipment and materials for individual classroom air purifiers to schools. The bill reduces these to a single earmark of up to \$11.5 million for grants for the above purchases by UConn under the program.

§ 59 — TOWN AID ROAD GRANT REDUCTION TRIGGER

Requires a 10% Town Aid Road program grant reduction if a town or district fails to timely submit its annual report on use of program funding

The bill requires the OPM secretary to reduce a grant to a town or district under the Town Aid Road program by 10% in any fiscal year that the town or district fails to timely submit its annual report to the DOT commissioner by September 1 detailing how the program funds it received were used during the previous fiscal year. However, the bill allows the secretary, in his discretion, to waive a reduction if the town or district submits its report after the due date and provides him with proof of its submission.

§ 65 — INNOVATION CORRIDOR AND CONNECTICUT COMMUNITIES CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

Makes changes to the Innovation Corridor and Connecticut Communities Challenge programs including eliminating sunset dates

Current law authorizes DECD, until June 30, 2024, and as part of implementing the state's Economic Action Plan, to (1) establish the Innovation Corridor program to provide grants for major projects in Connecticut and the Connecticut Communities Challenge program to provide community development grants, and (2) use bond funds, federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, and available resources to provide grants under these programs. The bill eliminates the sunset date on these authorizations and the department's ability to use ARPA funding. Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, total funding for grants under these programs is capped at \$200 million (\$100 million each).

The bill also makes several changes related to the Innovation Corridor program. Specifically, the bill (1) renames it as the Innovation

Clusters program, (2) exempts financial assistance awarded through it from existing law's cap on financial assistance from DECD given without specific legislative approval (see BACKGROUND), and (3) allows the DECD commissioner (or his designee) to serve as on the board of directors for an organization that is awarded financial assistance through the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 66 — COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND 2030

Makes qualifying projects in distressed municipalities eligible for funding from the CIF 2030 program and moves out the due date for the CIF board's annual report

The bill makes two changes related to the Community Investment Fund (CIF) 2030 program, which is generally a five-year, state bond-funded program for financing qualifying economic and community development projects in eligible municipalities. Specifically, the bill extends CIF project eligibility beyond public investment communities and alliance districts to also include distressed municipalities (see BACKGROUND). It also moves out the due date for the CIF board's annual report from August 31 to October 15.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 67 — BROWNFIELD MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM

Makes several changes to the Brownfield Municipal Grant Program, including increasing the possible maximum award from \$4 million to \$6 million and expanding opportunities for participants to receive additional program awards under certain circumstances

Under current law, DECD administers a Brownfield Municipal Grant Program that provides grants of up to \$4 million to municipalities, Connecticut brownfield land banks, and economic development agencies for eligible costs of brownfield remediation or assessment projects and reasonable administrative expenses of up to 5% of the grant awarded.

The bill specifies that these grants may also cover eligible costs for distinct phases of brownfield remediation and assessment projects and makes related conforming changes. It also specifically conditions awards on eligible participants properly applying for them.

Additionally, the bill increases the maximum possible grant award to \$6 million and allows for additional awards that may exceed that limit to related but distinct phases of a project or project addresses if separate applications are submitted.

The bill also makes other changes to the program. It allows, rather than requires, as under current law, the DECD commissioner to give priority to grant applications for brownfields located in federally designated opportunity zones. It also exempts grant recipients from having to enter a remediation program for the property if the grant funds are used for remediation actions that are not site-wide and will not benefit from being in a remediation program.

Additionally, the bill modifies current law's allowance for awarding additional grants to a participant. By law, the DECD commissioner may award an additional grant if he and the DEEP commissioner identify the project as a priority for remediation and the grant will be used to cover unexpected cost overruns or cleanup activities that increase the project's environmental benefits. Under current law, the additional grant also cannot (1) exceed 50% of the original grant or (2) increase the project's total grant funding under the program to more than \$4 million. The bill eliminates the former provision and increases the cap to \$6 million, while specifying that the allowance includes grants toward a project site or distinct project phase.

Lastly, if the projected need for additional funding identified in project implementation exceeds 50% of the original grant award or \$6 million, the bill allows for a new application if proof is provided to the DECD commissioner's satisfaction that (1) new parcels have been added to the original project, (2) the budget required to complete the remediation actions increased due to issues identified during remediation action work, or (3) the initial scope of remediation action has been altered or expanded.

§ 68 — TARGETED BROWNFIELD DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Increases the program's maximum annual loan amount from \$4 million to \$6 million, gives the DECD commissioner discretion on prioritizing applications for certain proposed

projects, and adds an additional exemption for certain loan recipients from having to enter a property remediation program

The bill makes several changes to DECD's Targeted Brownfield Development Loan Program, including:

1. increasing the maximum loan a recipient may receive from \$4 million to \$6 million;
2. allowing, rather than requiring, as under current law, the DECD commissioner to give priority to loan applications for proposed projects located in federally designated opportunity zones; and
3. exempting loan recipients from having to enter a remediation program for the property if the funds are used for remediation actions that are not site-wide and will not benefit from being in a remediation program.

§ 69 — SUPPORTIVE HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Authorizes \$10 million in new state GO bonds for FY 26

The bill authorizes \$10 million in new GO bonds for FY 26 for a DOH grant program for supportive housing for people with an intellectual disability or other developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder. It also makes a technical change to update a cross reference.

§§ 72, 76, 79-81, 83-90 & 92 — BOND CANCELLATIONS AND REDUCTIONS

Cancels or reduces all or part of prior bond authorizations for specified projects and grants

The bill cancels or reduces all or part of current bond authorizations for the projects and grants shown in the table below.

Table: Cancellations and Reductions

§	Agency and Purpose	Current Authorization	Amount Cancelled
72	DECD & CTNext: CTNext Fund and its statutory purposes	\$20,200,000	\$20,000,000
76	OPM: Design and implement the consolidation of higher education systems with the state's CORE system	5,000,000	3,000,000

§	Agency and Purpose	Current Authorization	Amount Cancelled
79	OPM: Developing and implementing databases in the CORE financial system associated with results-based accountability	3,000,000	350,000
80		3,500,000	850,000
81	DAS: Grants to alliance districts for general improvements to school buildings	18,000,000	18,000,000
83	DAS: Grants to priority school districts for projects (including expenditure reimbursements) that are ineligible for school building project grants	30,000,000	30,000,000
84	Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority: Grants for capitalizing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund	25,000,000	8,980,265
85	DAS: Grants to priority school districts for projects (including expenditure reimbursements) that are ineligible for school building project grants	25,000,000	25,000,000
86	Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority: Grants for capitalizing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund	25,000,000	15,000,000
88	DECD: CareerConneCT workforce training programs	20,000,000	15,000,000
90	DECD: CareerConneCT workforce training programs	20,000,000	20,000,000
92	DAS: Electric vehicle purchases and charging infrastructure construction and installation at state facilities	35,000,000	10,000,000

§§ 73 & 74 — HOUSING RECEIVERSHIP REVOLVING FUND

Modifies the types of funds available to compensate certain receivers and types of expenses that are covered by the funds; increases by \$5 million per year the amount that may be spent from the Housing Receivership Revolving Fund in any single municipality

By law, apartment buildings in serious disrepair may be placed in receivership when the owner fails to comply with an order to abate a nuisance. Existing law establishes the Housing Receivership Revolving Fund, administered by the DOH commissioner, and authorizes the Superior Court to allow the fund to be used to cover a receiver's expenses. The law also allows receivers' expenses to be covered by the rents they or the municipality in which the building is located collect (CGS §§ 47a-56 to 47a-56i).

The bill modifies the type of collections available to compensate

receivers by replacing “rents” with “revenue.” It also adds expenses managing a property according to a receiver appointment for associations, communities, and corporations in which members are dependent for support as expenses that may be covered by the revenue collections and the Housing Receivership Revolving Fund.

The bill also increases, from \$1 million to \$6 million per year, the amount that may be spent from the fund in any single municipality.

§ 75 — UCONN FACULTY RECRUITMENT AND HIRING PROGRAM

Changes one of the purposes of the UConn Faculty Recruitment and Hiring Program so that it develops laboratories for faculty instead of supporting their compensation and restricts related bonds to that purpose

Existing law requires UConn’s Board of Trustees to biennially develop a plan for recruiting and hiring research faculty and implement a faculty recruitment and hiring program in accordance with its plan. Relatedly, existing law authorizes \$46.1 million in GO bonds over a five-year period, from FY 22 to FY 26, for this program (CGS § 10a-110n).

The bill changes one of the program’s purposes by requiring it to be used to develop laboratories for hired faculty, including related construction, renovation, and equipment costs, instead of supporting their compensation. The bill relatedly restricts the use of authorized bonds to this purpose.

§ 78 — TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM TRAINING PROGRAMS

Transfers from SDE to CTECS the responsibility for handling bond proceeds dedicated to certain technical high school system training programs

Current law requires SDE to use proceeds from an \$8.5 million GO bond authorization for (1) a technical high school system pilot program to provide expanded educational opportunities, for academic enrichment and trades training for secondary and adult learners, by extending hours at technical high schools in Hamden, Hartford, New Britain, and Waterbury, and (2) grants to technical high schools to provide evening training programs in skilled trades, including manufacturing, masonry, electrical, plumbing, and carpentry, that prepare participants to earn a credential or degree recognized by

employers or trade associations.

The bill transfers the responsibility for handling these bond proceeds from SDE to CTECS.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 82 — STATE CAPITOL AND LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING

Broadens the acceptable use of an existing bond authorization to include construction work on the State Capitol and Legislative Office Building

Existing law authorizes \$1.8 million in GO bonds for the Office of Legislative Management to replace, repair, and repave the State Capitol Complex's roads and sidewalks. The bill broadens the acceptable use of these bonds to include altering, renovating, and restoring the State Capitol and Legislative Office Building, including interior and exterior restoration and compliance with the ADA.

§ 91 — DOH HEALTH CARE WORKER HOUSING PROGRAM REPORTING

Requires DOH and CHFA to submit a report on increasing health care worker housing options

Existing law requires the DOH commissioner and the CHFA executive director to seek to partner with one or more hospitals in the state to increase workforce housing options. It also authorizes up to \$20 million in state GO bonds for DOH to fund the costs associated with the partnership and develop housing for health care workers.

The bill requires, by January 1, 2026, DOH and CHFA to report to the Housing and Finance, Revenue and Bonding committees on the partnership's status, their activities to increase workforce housing options, and recommendations on other ways to increase these housing options.

§ 97 — DOH REPORTING ON BOND-FUNDED HOUSING PROGRAMS

Increases frequency and content of DOH reporting to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee on specified bond-funded programs

Since September 1, 2024, and until September 1, 2026, current law requires DOH to report biannually to the Finance, Revenue and

Bonding Committee specified information on bond funds the department received for (1) the Housing Trust Fund and (2) housing development and rehabilitation under the FY 24-25 bond act or any similar public act. The bill eliminates the sunset date on this report and makes several other changes, including that it be submitted quarterly, be done in consultation with CHFA, and be submitted to the Housing Committee too. It also changes the content of this report.

Current law requires DOH to report the following for the prior fiscal year and six months:

1. the specific programs for which it used these bond funds and amount from each authorization used for each specific program,
2. its activities addressing supportive housing under these programs and how much of each authorization it used for these activities, and
3. the amount from each authorization it gave to CHFA to administer housing-related programs.

The bill instead requires DOH (in consultation with CHFA) to report the following for the prior fiscal year and quarter:

1. the specific programs for which DOH and CHFA used these bond funds and amount from each authorization used for each program, including for the Time to Own, Down Payment Assistance, and Build for CT programs and any other program administered by DOH, including ones that address affordable housing, supportive housing, homelessness, and workforce development housing (even if CHFA spent the funds);
2. a description of DOH's programs that address supportive housing, homelessness, and workforce development housing;
3. a list of the number of projects that are approved, underway, and completed, itemized by municipality; and
4. the number of applications received, loans granted, and

applications denied for the Time to Own and Down Payment Assistance programs, the reasons for denials under these programs, and aggregate information regarding the race, ethnicity, income, and place of residency of these programs' applicants.

§§ 99 & 100 — GREYFIELD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Principally requires DECD to create a grant or loan program to facilitate the repurposing of commercial retail and office space; authorizes the use of \$50 million in bond funds for the program

The bill allows the DECD commissioner, in coordination with the DOH commissioner, Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority, and CRDA, to create a greyfield revitalization program. Under the bill, a “greyfield” is any previously developed commercial retail or office property that (1) is economically nonviable in its current state and exhibits conditions that significantly complicate its redevelopment or reuse, as determined by the DECD commissioner, and (2) is not currently eligible for any brownfield remediation and development program.

The bill requires the greyfield revitalization program to provide grants or loans to facilitate the repurposing of greyfields and to provide grants to the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority or CRDA to provide grants or loans to facilitate the same. The DECD commissioner may use bond funds and available resources to provide up to \$50 million in the aggregate for program grants and loans. (Other sections of the bill authorize \$50 million in GO bonds for the program, see the table above listing GO bond authorizations.)

Under the bill, the DECD commissioner must develop a competitive application process and criteria to evaluate applications submitted and select projects for funding. He may contract with nongovernmental entities, including nonprofit organizations, economic and community development organizations, lending institutions, and technical assistance providers, to administer the program.

Eligible uses of grant or loan funds include:

1. architectural and engineering assessment of buildings and site readiness to determine suitability for conversion to multi-family housing,
2. demolition,
3. remediation and abatement of building materials that were used according to the State Building Code when the structure was constructed,
4. renovation or conversion construction costs,
5. planning studies to assess the viability of one or more potential future project sites under the program, and
6. reasonable administrative expenses not to exceed 5% of any grant awarded.

The bill exempts financial assistance awarded through the program from existing law's cap on financial assistance from DECD given without specific legislative approval (see BACKGROUND).

Relatedly, the bill creates the greyfield revitalization account as a separate, nonlapsing account that must contain (1) the proceeds of bonds issued by the state for deposit into it, (2) interest or other income earned on the investment of money in the account, and (3) any money required by law to be deposited in it. Any balance remaining in the account at the end of any fiscal year must be carried forward in the account for the next fiscal year.

The bill requires all money received in consideration of financial assistance, including payments of principal and interest on any loans made through the greyfield revitalization program, to be credited to the account and become part of its assets. Additionally, regardless of any state statute, the bill allows proceeds of certain Urban Action bond sales be used to capitalize the account if approved by the governor and the State Bond Commission.

Under the bill, the DECD commissioner may use the account's funds

to provide financial assistance for the greyfield revitalization program and up to 5% of the account's fund for administrative costs.

§§ 101 & 114 — DECD GRANTS TO CULTURAL AND HISTORIC SITE NONPROFITS

Requires DECD to accept grant applications from cultural and historic site nonprofits and to file an annual report on these applications; authorizes the department to require a lien on certain properties as a condition for these nonprofits to receive grants of \$100,000 or less

Beginning July 1, 2025, the bill requires DECD to, on a continuing basis, accept applications for grants from nonprofit organizations that sponsor cultural and historic sites. By January 1, 2026, and annually after, the department must submit a report to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee detailing the (1) number of grant applications it received from these nonprofits during the previous calendar year and (2) total amount of funds requested by them.

Separately, the bill authorizes the DECD commissioner to require, for any grant up to \$100,000 to a nonprofit organization sponsoring cultural and historic sites, a lien placed on real or personal property in favor of the state to ensure that the grant amount will be repaid in the event of a change in use of the property. However, the bill does not require DECD to place a lien on property owned by the state, a municipality, or a housing authority. The bill's authorization applies regardless of the terms of specified grants authorized in the past.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the lien provision is effective July 1, 2025.

§ 102 — STRATEGIC SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM

Authorizes DECD to create a strategic supply chain program to provide financial assistance to help develop the supply chains of major and emerging industries in Connecticut; allows the use of up to \$50 million in bond funds for program projects

The bill allows the DECD commissioner to create a strategic supply chain program, which may provide grants, loans, subsidies, or tax credits in support of proposed projects to establish, grow, upgrade, or expand companies, facilities, or workforce training efforts within the supply chains of major and emerging industries in Connecticut, as determined by the commissioner. He, in consultation with the OPM

secretary, may use bond funds, available authorized bond funds, and available allocated bond funds to give up to \$50 million in the aggregate for the program's projects.

The bill requires DECD to develop a competitive application process and criteria to evaluate applications submitted and select projects for funding. It exempts financial assistance awarded through the program from existing law's cap on financial assistance from DECD given without specific legislative approval (see BACKGROUND).

By June 30, 2029, the DECD commissioner must submit a report to the Commerce Committee on the projects funded through the program.

§ 105 — DOH AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOND PROGRAM

Authorizes up to \$50 million in GO bonds for DOH to finance projects to create employment opportunities in the construction industry by developing affordable housing

The bill authorizes up to \$50 million in GO bonds over four years, in amounts of up to \$12.5 million per year from FY 26 through FY 29, for DOH to finance projects to create employment opportunities in the construction industry by developing affordable housing.

If DOH does not use all or part of the capped amount in a fiscal year, that amount is added to the capped amount for the following year. Any issuance costs and capitalized interest may be added to the capped amounts. Subject to the caps, the bill deems the principal amount of the authorized bonds to be an appropriation, allocation, and allotment of the bond amounts. The bonds are subject to standard statutory conditions.

§ 106 — OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD CARE FACILITIES BOND PROGRAM

Authorizes up to \$80 million in GO bonds for OEC to create a competitive grant program for constructing and renovating early childhood education and child care facilities

The bill authorizes up to \$80 million in GO bonds over seven years, in amounts of up to \$11.5 million per year from FY 26 through FY 32, for the Office of Early Childhood (OEC). If the office does not use all or part of the capped amount in a fiscal year, that amount is added to the capped amount for the following year. Any issuance costs and

capitalized interest may be added to the capped amounts.

The bill requires the OEC commissioner to enter into an MOU with the OPM secretary and state treasurer (both acting for the state) about the bond issuance that specifies the extent to which federal, private, and other available funds should be added to the bond proceeds. The MOU must provide for the issuance of these bonds to fund OEC's competitive grant program for constructing and renovating early childhood education and child care facilities. The bill requires the State Bond Commission to approve the MOU, which satisfies the standard approval requirements under the GO Bond Procedure Act.

Subject to the caps, the bill deems the principal amount of the authorized bonds to be an appropriation, allocation, and allotment of the bond amounts. The bonds are subject to standard statutory conditions.

§ 107 — PURA GREEN BOND FUND

Authorizes up to \$2.4 billion in GO bonds for PURA to administer the Green Bond Fund

The bill authorizes up to \$2.4 billion in GO bonds over three years, in amounts of up to \$800 million per year from FY 26 through FY 28, for the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) to administer the Green Bond Fund. (SB 1560, § 16, favorably reported by the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, establishes this fund to pay expenses incurred in connection with programs that (1) benefit the operation of the electric grid in the state, (2) promote energy efficiency, and (3) benefit ratepayers.)

If PURA does not use all or part of the capped amount in a fiscal year, that amount is added to the capped amount for the following year. Any issuance costs and capitalized interest may be added to the capped amounts. Subject to the caps, the bill deems the principal amount of the authorized bonds to be an appropriation, allocation, and allotment of the bond amounts. The bonds are subject to standard statutory conditions.

§§ 109-113 — NEW REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Requires assorted reports by state agencies to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee and others

By October 1, 2025, DAS must submit a report to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding and Government Administration and Elections committees on the status of the design, alteration, renovation, and construction of the facilities for the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. The bill requires the department to continue to provide quarterly reports after the initial due date until the construction is completed.

Also by October 1, 2025, and quarterly after, the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) chancellor, in consultation with the OEC commissioner, must submit a report to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee describing the coordination of efforts between CSCU and OEC to construct, improve, or equip child care centers on or near college and university campuses in the state.

Additionally, by January 1, 2026, and annually after, the CSCU chancellor must submit to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee a five-year capital plan for the CSCU system and a description of the efforts undertaken in the prior year to increase its enrollment.

The bill also requires DAS, by January 1, 2026, to develop a plan to implement the installation of solar photovoltaic systems on developed state properties and submit the plan to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding and Government Administration and Elections committees.

Lastly, by January 1, 2027, and biennially after, CTECS must develop a five-year capital plan for its system and submit it to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025, except the provision on CSCU's five-year capital plan is effective October 1, 2025, and the provision on the CTECS five-year capital plan is effective January 1, 2026.

BACKGROUND

Cap on Financial Assistance

By law, DECD and Connecticut Innovations, Inc. are generally prohibited from awarding more than \$10 million of total financial assistance during any two-year period to an applicant or for a business project unless the assistance is specifically authorized by an act of the legislature (or more than \$20 million in the case of biotechnology business projects) (CGS § 32-462).

Distressed Municipalities

DECD annually ranks municipalities based on their relative economic and fiscal distress and designates the top 25 as “distressed municipalities” (CGS § 32-9p(b)). Most recently, in 2024, DECD designated the following municipalities as distressed: Ansonia, Bridgeport, Chaplin, Derby, East Hartford, Griswold, Hartford, Lisbon, Mansfield, Meriden, Montville, Naugatuck, New Britain, New London, Norwich, Plainfield, Plymouth, Putnam, Sprague, Sterling, Torrington, Waterbury, West Haven, Winchester, and Windham.

Related Bills

sHB 6992 (File 195), favorably reported by the Banking and Finance, Revenue and Bonding committees, requires CHFA to administer a “Homes for CT” loan program that helps owners or developers get funding to build new residential buildings.

HB 6922 (File 311), § 3, favorably reported by the Education and Finance, Revenue and Bonding committees, removes CTECS from the DAS school construction grant program.

sHB 7112 (File 274), § 11, favorably reported by the Finance, Revenue and Bonding and Housing committees, authorizes (1) \$200 million in new GO bonding under the CIF 2030 program for affordable housing projects in FYs 26 and 27 and (2) another \$300 million for this purpose in FYs 28-30.

sSB 1 (File 637), favorably reported by the Education and Judiciary committees, repeals the alliance district program, and in doing so updates terminology in several statutes, including replacing “alliance districts” with “priority school districts” in the CIF 2030 program.

sHB 6859 (File 455), § 11, favorably reported by the Appropriations and Public Safety and Security committees, makes changes to the School Security Infrastructure Grant Program, including allowing, instead of requiring, DESPP to use bond proceeds for school security projects that involve multimedia interoperable communications systems.

HB 5003 (File 198), favorably reported by the Appropriations, Children, and Education committees, requires OEC to administer a new competitive grant program to provide capital grants for the construction and renovation of early childhood education and child care facilities, establishes the early care and education capital account, and authorizes up to \$100 million in state GO bonds over five years to fund the program.

sHB 7239 (File 863), favorably reported by the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, creates the District Repair and Improvement Project program to provide financial assistance for constructing, renovating, repairing, and enlarging public school buildings, grounds, and infrastructure.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 50 Nay 2 (04/24/2025)