Substitute Senate Bill No. 477

Public Act No. 26-76

AN ACT CONCERNING THE FAILURE TO FILE FOR CERTAIN GRAND LIST EXEMPTIONS, A MUNICIPAL OPTION TO ABATE DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES ON CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND, ALLOCATIONS OF CERTAIN STATE FUNDS AND ITEMS IMPLEMENTING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.

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

Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (76) of section 12-81 of the general statutes, any person otherwise eligible for a 2025 grand list exemption pursuant to said subdivision in the town of Berlin, except that such person failed to file the required statement within the time period prescribed, shall be regarded as having filed such statement in a timely manner if such person files such statement not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section and pays the late filing fee pursuant to section 12-81k of the general statutes. Upon confirmation of the receipt of such fee and verification of the exemption eligibility of such property, the assessor shall approve the exemption for such property. If taxes, interest or penalties have been paid on the property for which such exemption is approved, the town of Berlin shall reimburse such person in an amount equal to the amount by which such taxes, interest and penalties exceed any taxes payable if the statement had been filed in a timely manner.

Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (7) of section 12-81 of the general statutes and section 12-87a of the general statutes, any person otherwise eligible for a 2025 grand list exemption pursuant to said subdivision (7) in the town of Lebanon, except that such person failed to file the required statement within the time period prescribed, shall be regarded as having filed such statement in a timely manner if such person files such statement not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section and pays the late filing fee pursuant to section 12-87a of the general statutes. Upon confirmation of the receipt of such fee and verification of the exemption eligibility of such property, the assessor shall approve the exemption for such property. If taxes, interest or penalties have been paid on the property for which such exemption is approved, the town of Lebanon shall reimburse such person in an amount equal to the amount by which such taxes, interest and penalties exceed any taxes payable if the statement had been filed in a timely manner.

Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (7) of section 12-81 of the general statutes and section 12-87a of the general statutes, any person otherwise eligible for a 2025 grand list exemption pursuant to said subdivision in the city of Meriden, except that such person failed to file the required statement within the time period prescribed, shall be regarded as having filed such statement in a timely manner if such person files such statement not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section and pays the late filing fee pursuant to section 12-87a of the general statutes. Upon confirmation of the receipt of such fee and verification of the exemption eligibility of such property, the assessor shall approve the exemption for such property. If taxes, interest or penalties have been paid on the property for which such exemption is approved, the city of Meriden shall reimburse such person in an amount equal to the amount by which such taxes, interest and penalties exceed any taxes payable if

the statement had been filed in a timely manner.

Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (76) of section 12-81 of the general statutes, any person otherwise eligible for a 2024 grand list exemption pursuant to said subdivision in the city of Middletown, except that such person failed to file the required statement within the time period prescribed, shall be regarded as having filed such statement in a timely manner if such person files such statement not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section and pays the late filing fee pursuant to section 12-81k of the general statutes. Upon confirmation of the receipt of such fee and verification of the exemption eligibility of such property, the assessor shall approve the exemption for such property. If taxes, interest or penalties have been paid on the property for which such exemption is approved, the city of Middletown shall reimburse such person in an amount equal to the amount by which such taxes, interest and penalties exceed any taxes payable if the statement had been filed in a timely manner.

Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (7) of section 12-81 of the general statutes and section 12-87a of the general statutes, any person otherwise eligible for a 2025 grand list exemption pursuant to said subdivision (7) in the city of Middletown, except that such person failed to file the required statement within the time period prescribed, shall be regarded as having filed such statement in a timely manner if such person files such statement not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section and pays the late filing fee pursuant to section 12-87a of the general statutes. Upon confirmation of the receipt of such fee and verification of the exemption eligibility of such property, the assessor shall approve the exemption for such property. If taxes, interest or penalties have been paid on the property for which such exemption is approved, the city of Middletown shall reimburse such person in an

amount equal to the amount by which such taxes, interest and penalties exceed any taxes payable if the statement had been filed in a timely manner.

Sec. 6. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (76) of section 12-81 of the general statutes, any person otherwise eligible for a 2025 grand list exemption pursuant to said subdivision in the city of Waterbury, except that such person failed to file the required statement within the time period prescribed, shall be regarded as having filed such statement in a timely manner if such person files such statement not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section and pays the late filing fee pursuant to section 12-81k of the general statutes. Upon confirmation of the receipt of such fee and verification of the exemption eligibility of such property, the assessor shall approve the exemption for such property. If taxes, interest or penalties have been paid on the property for which such exemption is approved, the city of Waterbury shall reimburse such person in an amount equal to the amount by which such taxes, interest and penalties exceed any taxes payable if the statement had been filed in a timely manner.

Sec. 7. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (7) of section 12-81 of the general statutes and section 12-87a of the general statutes, any person otherwise eligible for a 2025 grand list exemption pursuant to said subdivision (7) in the town of West Hartford, except that such person failed to file the required statement within the time period prescribed, shall be regarded as having filed such statement in a timely manner if such person files such statement not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section and pays the late filing fee pursuant to section 12-87a of the general statutes. Upon confirmation of the receipt of such fee and verification of the exemption eligibility of such property, the assessor shall approve the exemption for such property. If taxes, interest or

penalties have been paid on the property for which such exemption is approved, the town of West Hartford shall reimburse such person in an amount equal to the amount by which such taxes, interest and penalties exceed any taxes payable if the statement had been filed in a timely manner.

Sec. 8. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 204 of the general statutes, a municipality may, by vote of its legislative body or, in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting, by vote of the board of selectmen, abate all or a portion of the total amount of any delinquent real property taxes owed to the municipality for the 2013 and 2014 grand lists, inclusive, on any parcel of land that is less than six thousand square feet and has been owned continuously under the same ownership for not less than forty-five years.

Sec. 9. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 12-55 and 12-111 of the general statutes, the acts and proceedings of the officers and officials of the town of Wilton related to the mailing of the notice of assessment increase for the October 1, 2025, grand list for said town and the hearings for appeals of such assessments conducted by the board of assessment appeals of said town are validated.

Sec. 10. (*Effective from passage*) Up to $45,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by public act 26-68, to the Office of Legislative Management, for Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for the same purpose.

Sec. 11. Subsection (q) of section 36 of public act 25-168, as amended by section 12 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is

substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(q) The sum of $210,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by **[**this act**]** section 12 of public act 26-68, to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and the sum of **[**$210,000**]** $220,000 of the amount appropriated in said section to the Department of Education, for Various Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, shall be made available in said fiscal years to provide a grant to Stamford Public Education Foundation.

Sec. 12. Subsection (vv) of section 36 of public act 25-168, as amended by section 12 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(vv) The sum of $500,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by **[**this act**]** section 12 of public act 26-68, to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and the sum of $500,000 of the amount appropriated in said section to the Department of Education, for **[**Various Grants**]** SERC, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, shall be made available in said fiscal years to provide a grant to the State Education Resource Center for disconnected youth programming.

Sec. 13. Subsection (h) of section 46b-231 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(h) **[**(1) On and after July 1, 2023, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred sixty-nine thousand eight hundred eighty dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred sixty-one thousand six hundred eighty-two dollars.**]**

[(2)**]** (1) On and after July 1, 2024, the Chief Family Support

Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred seventy-four thousand nine hundred seventy-six dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred sixty-six thousand five hundred thirty-three dollars.

[(3)**]** (2) On and after July 1, 2025, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred eighty-one thousand one hundred one dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred seventy-two thousand three hundred sixty-one dollars.

(3) On and after July 1, 2026, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred eighty-eight thousand nine hundred seventy-nine dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred seventy-nine thousand eight hundred fifty-nine dollars.

Sec. 14. Subsection (b) of section 46b-236 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(b) **[**(1) On and after July 1, 2023, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred fifty-two dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.**]**

[(2)**]** (1) On and after July 1, 2024, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred sixty dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

[(3)**]** (2) On and after July 1, 2025, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred sixty-nine dollars and

expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

(3) On and after July 1, 2026, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred eighty dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

Sec. 15. Subsection (a) of section 51-47 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) The judges of the Superior Court, judges of the Appellate Court and judges of the Supreme Court shall receive annually salaries as follows:

[(1) On and after July 1, 2023, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred thirty-three thousand five hundred twelve dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred twenty-four thousand three hundred ninety dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, two hundred sixteen thousand sixty-three dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred thirteen thousand six hundred seventy-four dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred two thousand nine hundred fifty-seven dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred ninety-nine thousand two hundred twenty-three dollars; and (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred ninety-five thousand one hundred sixty-seven dollars.**]**

[(2)**]** (1) On and after July 1, 2024, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred forty thousand five hundred eighteen dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred thirty-one thousand

one hundred twenty-one dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, two hundred twenty-two thousand five hundred forty-five dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred twenty thousand eighty-four dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred nine thousand forty-six dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, two hundred five thousand one hundred ninety-nine dollars; and (G) each judge of the Superior Court, two hundred one thousand twenty-three dollars.

[(3)**]** (2) On and after July 1, 2025, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred forty-eight thousand nine hundred thirty-six dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred thirty-nine thousand two hundred ten dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, two hundred thirty thousand three hundred thirty-four dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred twenty-seven thousand seven hundred eighty-six dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred sixteen thousand three hundred thirty-six dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, two hundred twelve thousand three hundred eighty-one dollars; and (G) each judge of the Superior Court, two hundred eight thousand fifty-nine dollars.

(3) On and after July 1, 2026, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred fifty-nine thousand seven hundred sixty-four dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred forty-nine thousand six hundred sixteen dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, two hundred forty thousand three hundred fifty-four dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred thirty-seven thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, two hundred twenty-five thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge

of the Superior Court, two hundred twenty-one thousand six hundred twenty dollars; and (G) each judge of the Superior Court, two hundred seventeen thousand one hundred nine dollars.

Sec. 16. Subsection (b) of section 51-47 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(b) **[**(1) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2023, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand three hundred thirty-one dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand three hundred thirty-one dollars in additional compensation and each Superior Court judge designated as the chief administrative judge for facilities, administrative appeals, judicial marshal service or judge trial referees or for the Family, Juvenile, Criminal or Civil Division of the Superior Court shall receive one thousand three hundred thirty-one dollars in additional compensation.**]**

[(2)**]** (1) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2024, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand three hundred seventy-one dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand three hundred seventy-one dollars in additional compensation and each Superior Court judge designated as the chief administrative judge for facilities, administrative appeals, judicial marshal service or judge trial referees or for the Family, Juvenile, Criminal or Civil Division of the Superior Court shall receive one thousand three hundred seventy-one dollars in additional compensation.

[(3)**]** (2) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2025, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand four hundred nineteen dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand four hundred nineteen dollars in additional compensation and each Superior Court judge designated as the chief administrative judge for facilities, administrative appeals, judicial marshal service or judge trial referees or for the Family, Juvenile, Criminal or Civil Division of the Superior Court shall receive one thousand four hundred nineteen dollars in additional compensation.

(3) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2026, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand four hundred eighty-one dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand four hundred eighty-one dollars in additional compensation and each Superior Court judge designated as the chief administrative judge for facilities, administrative appeals, judicial marshal service or judge trial referees or for the Family, Juvenile, Criminal or Civil Division of the Superior Court shall receive one thousand four hundred eighty-one dollars in additional compensation.

Sec. 17. Subsection (f) of section 52-434 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(f) Each judge trial referee shall receive, for acting as a referee or as a single auditor or committee of any court or for performing duties assigned by the Chief Court Administrator with the approval of the Chief Justice, for each day the judge trial referee is so engaged, in

addition to the retirement salary: (1) **[**(A) On and after July 1, 2023, the sum of two hundred ninety-four dollars; (B) on**]** (A) On and after July 1, 2024, the sum of three hundred two dollars; **[**and (C)**]** (B) on and after July 1, 2025, the sum of three hundred twelve dollars; and (C) on and after July 1, 2026, the sum of three hundred twenty-six dollars; and (2) expenses, including mileage. Such amounts shall be taxed by the court making the reference in the same manner as other court expenses.

Sec. 18. Section 12-263p of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 61 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

As used in sections 12-263p to 12-263x, inclusive, and section 362 of public act 26-68, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue Services;

(2) "Department" means the Department of Revenue Services;

(3) "Taxpayer" means any health care provider subject to any tax or fee under section 12-263q or 12-263r;

(4) "Health care provider" means an individual or entity that receives any payment or payments for health care items or services provided;

(5) "Gross receipts" means the amount received, whether in cash or in kind, from patients, third-party payers and others for taxable health care items or services provided by the taxpayer in the state, including retroactive adjustments under reimbursement agreements with third-party payers, without any deduction for any expenses of any kind;

(6) "Net revenue" means gross receipts less payer discounts, charity care and bad debts, to the extent the taxpayer previously paid tax under section 12-263q on the amount of such bad debts;

(7) "Payer discounts" means the difference between a health care

provider's published charges and the payments received by the health care provider from one or more health care payers for a rate or method of payment that is different than or discounted from such published charges. "Payer discounts" does not include charity care or bad debts;

(8) "Charity care" means free or discounted health care services rendered by a health care provider to an individual who cannot afford to pay for such services, including, but not limited to, health care services provided to an uninsured patient who is not expected to pay all or part of a health care provider's bill based on income guidelines and other financial criteria set forth in the general statutes or in a health care provider's charity care policies on file at the office of such provider. "Charity care" does not include bad debts or payer discounts;

(9) "Received" means "received" or "accrued", construed according to the method of accounting customarily employed by the taxpayer;

(10) "Hospital" means any health care facility, as defined in section 19a-630, that (A) is licensed by the Department of Public Health as a short-term general hospital or children's general hospital; (B) is maintained primarily for the care and treatment of patients with disorders other than mental diseases; (C) meets the requirements for participation in Medicare as a hospital; and (D) has in effect a utilization review plan, applicable to all Medicaid patients, that meets the requirements of 42 CFR 482.30, as amended from time to time, unless a waiver has been granted by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services;

(11) "Inpatient hospital services" means, in accordance with federal law, all services that are (A) ordinarily furnished in a hospital for the care and treatment of inpatients; (B) furnished under the direction of a physician or dentist; and (C) furnished in a hospital. "Inpatient hospital services" does not include skilled nursing facility services and intermediate care facility services furnished by a hospital with swing

bed approval;

(12) "Inpatient" means a patient who has been admitted to a medical institution as an inpatient on the recommendation of a physician or dentist and who (A) receives room, board and professional services in the institution for a twenty-four-hour period or longer, or (B) is expected by the institution to receive room, board and professional services in the institution for a twenty-four-hour period or longer, even if the patient does not actually stay in the institution for a twenty-four-hour period or longer;

(13) "Outpatient hospital services" means, in accordance with federal law, preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative or palliative services that are (A) furnished to an outpatient; (B) furnished by or under the direction of a physician or dentist; and (C) furnished by a hospital;

(14) "Outpatient" means a patient of an organized medical facility or a distinct part of such facility, who is expected by the facility to receive, and who does receive, professional services for less than a twenty-four-hour period regardless of the hour of admission, whether or not a bed is used or the patient remains in the facility past midnight;

(15) "Nursing home" means any licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision;

(16) "Intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities" or "intermediate care facility" means a residential facility for persons with intellectual disability that is certified to meet the requirements of 42 CFR 442, Subpart C, as amended from time to time, and, in the case of a private facility, licensed pursuant to section 17a-227;

(17) "Medicare day" means a day of nursing home care service provided to an individual who is eligible for payment, in full or with a coinsurance requirement, under the federal Medicare program,

including fee for service and managed care coverage;

(18) "Nursing home resident day" means a day of nursing home care service provided to an individual and includes the day a resident is admitted and any day for which the nursing home is eligible for payment for reserving a resident's bed due to hospitalization or temporary leave and for the date of death. For purposes of this subdivision, a day of nursing home care service shall be the period of time between the census-taking hour in a nursing home on two successive calendar days. "Nursing home resident day" does not include a Medicare day or the day a resident is discharged;

(19) "Intermediate care facility resident day" means a day of intermediate care facility residential care provided to an individual and includes the day a resident is admitted and any day for which the intermediate care facility is eligible for payment for reserving a resident's bed due to hospitalization or temporary leave and for the date of death. For purposes of this subdivision, a day of intermediate care facility residential care shall be the period of time between the census-taking hour in a facility on two successive calendar days. "Intermediate care facility resident day" does not include the day a resident is discharged;

(20) "Medicaid" means the program operated by the Department of Social Services pursuant to section 17b-260 and authorized by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time; **[**and**]**

(21) "Medicare" means the program operated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in accordance with Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time; and

(22) "Health system" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-508c.

Sec. 19. Section 12-263aa of the 2026 supplement to the general

statutes, as amended by section 61 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) For the state fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, through June 30, 2026, the tax imposed under section 12-263q on the provision of inpatient hospital services and outpatient hospital services shall cease to be imposed if the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (1) determines that such tax is an impermissible tax under Section 1903(w) of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, or (2) does not approve the applicable Medicaid state plan amendments necessary for the state to receive federal financial participation under the Medicaid program for the payments set forth in subsection (i) of section 17b-239 and subsection (c) of section 17b-239e. In the event of such a determination or disapproval, the General Assembly shall consider, during the next occurring regular or special session, whichever is sooner, such amendments to the general statutes as are necessary to comply with federal law regarding such tax.

(b) For the state fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2026, the taxes imposed under section 12-263q on the provision of inpatient hospital services and outpatient hospital services as well as the supplemental payments to hospitals set forth in subsection (c) of section 17b-239e shall revert in all respects to the structure and amounts set forth in said sections, as they existed on June 1, 2025, if any of the following occur: (1) The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services determines that either tax is impermissible under Section 1903(w) of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, or declines to issue any tax waiver that may be required; (2) the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services does not approve, without material modification, the applicable Medicaid state plan amendments necessary for the state to receive federal financial participation under the Medicaid program for the payments set forth in subsection (c) of section 17b-239e; or (3) any aspect of the amendments to the taxes on inpatient hospital services or

outpatient services or changes to the amounts of supplemental payments to hospitals pursuant to the provisions of this act are found to be invalid. In the event of such a determination or disapproval, the General Assembly shall consider, during the next occurring regular or special session, whichever is sooner, such amendments to the general statutes as are necessary to comply with federal law regarding such tax and such payments. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, reversion to the June 1, 2025, tax and payment structure shall not be required if the taxes on the provision of inpatient hospital services and outpatient hospital services are permissible under federal law and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services approves state plan amendments or other federal authorities necessary to implement payment methodologies that, in the aggregate, produce a total state-wide level of payments under subsection (c) of section 17b-239e that is not materially less than the total state-wide level of payments contemplated under this act, and that results in the combined value of supplemental payments, disproportionate share hospital payments, faculty practice plan payments and hospital-affiliated medical group payments to each health system and its affiliates being as nearly equivalent as practicable to the payment levels contemplated under this act, with variation permitted only to the extent necessary to obtain federal approval or comply with federal law. For purposes of this subsection, "faculty practice plan", "hospital-affiliated medical group" and "health system" have the same meanings as provided in section 17b-239e.

Sec. 20. Sections 357 and 361 of public act 26-68 are repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 21. (*Effective from passage*) Up to $200,000 of the unexpended balance appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by public act 26-68, to the Auditors of Public Accounts, for Personal Services, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse on June

30, 2026, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for Other Expenses.

Sec. 22. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of section 7-188 of the general statutes, from the effective date of this section until December 31, 2026, any municipality with a population of greater than twenty thousand and less than thirty thousand, as determined by the most recent federal decennial census, may initiate an action, including by petition signed by not less than ten per cent of the electors of such municipality pursuant to subsection (a) of section 7-188 of the general statutes, for the purpose of amending the charter of such municipality, upon a majority vote of the entire membership of the appointing authority of such municipality.

Sec. 23. Section 13 of number 467 of the special acts of 1943, as amended by number 56 of the special acts of 1949, number 10 of the special acts of 1957, section 2 of special act 74-29, special act 76-36, special act 87-58, special act 89-35 and section 23 of special act 09-13, is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

The board of governors of the Cornfield Point Association shall prepare and submit a budget to said association at each annual meeting **[**a budget**]** of the association and recommend a tax assessment **[**for the purpose of and**]** based upon said budget, **[**but not to exceed five hundred**]** provided no such assessment shall exceed one thousand dollars on each lot of land having a dwelling or cottage thereon, **[**located within the limits of the association, and not to exceed one**]** or two hundred dollars on each vacant lot, **[**located within the limits of said association,**]** as the same shall appear of record on October first of the preceding year. **[**Said**]** The association shall have the power to decrease said budget **[**and**]** or rate of tax assessment recommended by **[**said**]** the board of governors, but in no case shall **[**it have the power to**]** the association increase **[**the**]** such budget **[**and**]** or rate of tax assessment. The rate of tax assessment recommended by the board of governors

shall be final unless decreased by the association at such annual meeting. The tax collector of **[**said**]** the association shall collect such tax assessments and keep a tax record**,** **[**shall be kept and**]** signed by the secretary of **[**said**]** the association**,** on or before the first Saturday of October in each year**.** **[**and warrants may be issued**]** The tax collector may issue a warrant for the collection of money due on **[**the**]** annual bills **[**,**]** pursuant to the provisions of section 12-145 of the general statutes. Such tax assessment shall be a lien upon the property upon which it **[**shall be**]** is laid**.** **[**and such**]** Such lien may be continued by certificate and shall be recorded on the land records of the town of Old Saybrook pursuant to the provisions of the general statutes relating to continuance of tax liens.

Sec. 24. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2-14 of the general statutes or any other provision of the general statutes or any special act, charter or ordinance, the request of the Cornfield Point Association for an amendment to the association's charter, as set forth in section 23 of this act, pursuant to the resolution adopted by the association on June 21, 2025, and filed with the Secretary of the State on February 10, 2026, otherwise valid except for the failure to timely file such resolution, is validated.

Sec. 25. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-62 of the general statutes or any municipal charter, special act or home rule ordinance, the city of Hartford, which is required to implement a revaluation of real property for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2026, pursuant to section 12-62 of the general statutes, may defer such implementation until the assessment year commencing October 1, 2027, provided such deferral is approved by the legislative body of such city. The rate maker, as defined in section 12-131 of the general statutes, may prepare new rate bills under the provisions of chapter 204 of the general statutes to carry out the provisions of this section.

(b) Any required revaluation subsequent to any deferred revaluation implemented pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be implemented in accordance with the provisions of section 12-62 of the general statutes. Such subsequent revaluation shall recommence at the point in the schedule required pursuant to section 12-62 of the general statutes that such city was following prior to such deferral.

Sec. 26. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 19a-754i of the general statutes, as amended by section 367 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is inserted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) (1) For each calendar year, beginning on January 1, 2023, the secretary shall, if the payer or provider entity subject to the cost growth benchmark, quality benchmarking or primary care spending target requests a meeting, meet with such payer or provider entity to review and validate the total medical expenses data collected pursuant to section 19a-754h for such payer or provider entity. The secretary shall review information provided by the payer or provider entity and, if deemed necessary, amend findings for such payer or provider prior to the identification of payer or provider entities that exceeded the health care cost growth benchmark or failed to meet the primary care spending target for the performance year as set forth in section 19a-754h. Not later than July 1, 2028, in assessing compliance with the health care cost growth benchmark and determining whether to identify a payer or provider entity as exceeding such benchmark, the secretary shall use the revised methodology adopted pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection **[**(c)**]** (h) of section 19a-754g, and shall not identify any payer or provider entity as exceeding such benchmark based solely on commercial payment growth, or on commercial trends viewed in isolation. In assessing compliance with the hospital payment growth benchmark and in determining whether to identify a hospital as exceeding such benchmark, the secretary shall use the hospital payment growth

methodology, including consideration of the factors set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection, and shall not identify any hospital as exceeding the hospital payment growth benchmark based solely on commercial payment growth, or on commercial trends viewed in isolation. Such assessment shall specifically consider unique circumstances applicable to pediatric providers. The secretary shall identify, not later than May first of such calendar year, each payer or provider entity that exceeded the health care cost growth benchmark or failed to meet the primary care spending target or quality benchmarks for the performance year.

Sec. 27. Subsection (c) of section 19a-754j of the general statutes, as amended by section 368 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(c) Not later than March first annually, the secretary shall notify any payer, provider entity, hospital or other entity that exceeded the cost growth benchmark, primary care spending target, quality benchmarks or hospital payment growth benchmark, as applicable. Upon the request of such payer, provider entity, hospital or other entity, including a drug manufacturer identified as a significant contributor, the secretary shall make available to such payer, provider entity, hospital or other entity (1) the all-payer claims database data sets, analytic files and methodology used to determine such benchmarks or targets, as applicable, provided the payer, provider entity, hospital or other entity receives approval from the all-payer claims database release committee, (2) payment of any required fees, and (3) an executed data release agreement for raw data to the extent permitted by law and sufficient to enable such entity to assess, verify or challenge the secretary's determination. The **[**all payer**]** <u>all-payer</u> claims database release committee shall expedite any release requests made by an entity under this section. Not later than January 1, 2027, the secretary shall establish an expedited all-payer claims database data request process for payers,

provider entities, hospitals and other entities identified as exceeding the cost growth benchmark, primary care spending target or hospital payment growth benchmark. Such process shall require the chairperson of such release committee, or the chairperson's designee, to meet with the secretary and approve or disapprove an application from an identified entity not later than ten days after such meeting. Not later than five days after any approval of an application, the secretary shall send a data use agreement to the identified entity. Not later than ten days after receiving an approved data use agreement from such identified entity, the secretary shall provide the data to such identified entity. Identified entities shall be exempt from payment of a data release fee. The secretary shall consider any timely challenge submitted by an identified entity. In making and publicly presenting a cost-driver assessment, the secretary shall use the revised methodology adopted pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection **[**(d)**]** (h) of section 19a-754g and examine the contribution of material changes in clinical risk and payment methodologies.

Sec. 28. Subsection (d) of section 355 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(d) Consistent with 26 CFR 1.501(r)-(4), as amended from time to time, if a language is spoken by at least one thousand individuals or five per cent of the community served by the hospital facility or likely to be affected or encountered by the hospital facility, such hospital shall translate each notice required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section **[**shall have the following statement printed on the first page of such notice:

"If a language is spoken by at least one thousand individuals or five per cent of the community served by the hospital facility or likely to be affected or encountered by the hospital facility, then the hospital shall translate the notice**]** into such other language. **[**".**]**

Sec. 29. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of title 16 of the general statutes, or the final decision and rulings of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority in docket number 24-08-03, the project identified as "project number NE 53142" shall be eligible for a tariff described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 16-244z of the general statutes under terms applicable to a municipal customer, provided such project receives final approval from the authority.

(b) The state, acting through the Commissioner of Administrative Services, is authorized to contract with the project owner and the Connecticut Green Bank to select electricity accounts of the state that will be beneficial accounts for any power generated by the project identified in subsection (a) of this section. In determining the project's eligibility, the authority may consider the financial condition of the municipality in which the project shall be located. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (34) of subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes, the project will be deemed a customer-side distributed resource for the purposes of section 16-243*l* of the general statutes.

Sec. 30. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (i) of section 4-176 of the general statutes, the Connecticut Siting Council may reopen, upon application by the petitioner, the petition for a declaratory ruling identified as "petition number 1668" for the siting council's consideration. In determining whether to issue a declaratory ruling pursuant to this section, the siting council may consider the financial condition of the municipality in which the project identified in said petition shall be located.

Sec. 31. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any regulations or procedures adopted by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, the deadline for completing the project identified as "project number 3066" in docket number 22-08-04 of the authority shall be three years from the effective date of this section.

Sec. 32. Section 16-243hh of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Not later than January 1, 2025, each gas company, as defined in section 16-1, shall institute a program to provide a rebate to any customers of such company that use natural gas for a shared clean energy facility, as defined in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-244z, that was selected in a solicitation pursuant to said subsection. **[**on or before December 31, 2023.**]** The amount of such rebate shall equal the retail delivery charge that such company charges such customer for transporting natural gas to such shared clean energy facility. Such company may recover the costs of providing such rebates through such company's decoupling mechanism pursuant to section 16-19tt. The authority may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

Sec. 33. Section 248 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Not later than January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Social Services shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, finance, revenue and bonding and public health regarding the collection of moneys for deposit in the hospital supplemental payment account and the use of funds in such account during the preceding calendar year.

Sec. 34. Section 275 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2027, and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2027*):

(a) As used in this section, "eligible production company", "production expenses or costs" and "state-certified qualified production"

have the same meanings as provided in section 12-217jj of the general statutes.

(b) (1) For the income years commencing January 1, 2027, and prior to January 1, 2029, any eligible production company that is eligible for a credit under subsection (b) of section 12-217jj of the general statutes may apply to the Department of Economic and Community Development, in the manner provided under subsection (h) of said section, for a production tax credit voucher for an additional credit as provided under this section.

(2) The additional credit for an eligible production company under this section shall be for production expenses or costs incurred for a state-certified qualified production for which principal photography shooting occurs in the city of Bridgeport, Hartford or New Haven, or any combination thereof, for at least **[**one day**]** twenty days, and shall be as follows: (A) For any such company incurring such expenses or costs of not less than one hundred thousand dollars, but not more than five hundred thousand dollars, a credit equal to thirty per cent of such expenses or costs; (B) for any such company incurring such expenses or costs of more than five hundred thousand dollars, but not more than one million dollars, a credit equal to thirty-five per cent of such expenses or costs; and (C) for any such company incurring such expenses or costs of more than one million dollars, a credit equal to fifty per cent of such expenses or costs.

(3) The aggregate amount of all production tax credit vouchers issued by the Department of Economic and Community Development for the additional credit under this section shall not exceed one million five hundred thousand dollars for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2027, and prior to January 1, 2029.

(4) Upon the issuance of an eligibility certificate to an eligible production company pursuant to subsection (h) of section 12-217jj of the

general statutes, the Department of Economic and Community Development shall, based on information provided in the application for such certificate, determine whether such production reasonably anticipates that principal photography shooting will occur in the city of Bridgeport, Hartford or New Haven, or any combination thereof, for at least twenty days, and that production expenses or costs will meet the minimum threshold set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(5) If, at the time of issuance of an eligibility certificate pursuant to subsection (h) of section 12-217jj of the general statutes, the Department of Economic and Community Development determines that an eligible production company's state-certified, qualified production may qualify for the additional credit pursuant to this section, the department shall provide written notice to such production company that such production company may be eligible for the additional credit established pursuant to this section, including a description of the production cost or expense requirements described in subdivision (2) of this subsection, and the application requirements for any such production company to apply for a tax credit voucher under this section.

(6) Any notice provided by the Department of Economic and Community Development, pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection, shall identify an estimated amount reserved for an eligible production company from the aggregate amount established pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection, and, upon request, the remaining balance of unreserved funds available under such aggregate amount. Any such provision of notice and reservation of funds shall not constitute final approval of the additional credit and shall not guarantee the issuance of a production tax credit voucher. The issuance of any such voucher shall remain subject to the eligible production company's completion of the production, submission and approval of a production tax credit voucher application, verification of qualified production expenses or costs, satisfaction of the requirements of this subsection and

compliance with all applicable provisions under section 12-217jj of the general statutes.

(c) For production tax credit vouchers issued pursuant to this section, all or part of any such credit may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 207, 208, 211 or 219 of the general statutes, for the income year in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the five immediately succeeding income years, and may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, in accordance with subsection (e) of 12-217jj of the general statutes.

Sec. 35. Subsection (b) of section 216 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2027*):

(b) Each insurer, health care center, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, fraternal benefit society or other entity that delivers, issues for delivery, renews, amends or continues an individual or group health insurance policy in this state providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general statutes, or utilization review company that conducts utilization review for such insurer, center, corporation, society or entity, and issues prior authorization for, or precertifies, any infusion or injection service to be provided at an infusion center on or after January 1, 2027, shall, at the time of issuing such prior authorization or precertification for such service, provide the covered person with a written or electronic notice disclosing that if such service is provided at any hospital-based outpatient infusion center located outside the hospital campus, such covered person may incur financial liability that is greater than the financial liability such covered person would incur for such service if such service were provided at a non-hospital-based infusion center.

Sec. 36. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 57 of public act 26-42 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*

July 1, 2026):

(2) Nothing in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be construed to (A) prevent any officer, agent or person described in said subdivision, **[**when off duty,**]** from accessing, traveling to and from, or remaining at a law enforcement building that (i) was constructed and occupied by a municipal or state law enforcement agency prior to July 1, 2026, (ii) is operated by a municipal or state law enforcement agency, and (iii) is located within two hundred fifty feet of an elections site, (B) prevent any such officer, agent or person from voting in accordance with the provisions of title 9 of the general statutes or, **[**otherwise**]** when off duty, engaging in protected political expression, or **[**(B)**]** (C) prohibit any such officer, agent or person from (i) passing within two hundred fifty feet of an elections site only for as long as necessary to be within such two hundred fifty feet while on the way to a place or location other than such elections site, **[**or**]** (ii) when off duty, remaining within two hundred fifty feet of an elections site only for as long as necessary to be within such two hundred fifty feet while present at a place or location other than such elections site, or (iii) residing within such two hundred fifty feet. For purposes of this subdivision, "law enforcement unit building" means any building or structure that is utilized by a police officer, as defined in section 7-294a of the general statutes, in the course of performing official duties, including, but not limited to, a headquarters, a station, a substation or a barracks.

Sec. 37. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2027*) (a) Any elector may submit a request, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary of the State, to the municipal clerk of the municipality of such elector's voting residence to automatically receive an application for an absentee ballot for each election and referendum, and primary if applicable, conducted in such municipality. For each active elector who submits a request under this subsection, the municipal clerk shall issue an absentee ballot application (1) ninety days prior to each such election, primary or

referendum for which such elector is eligible to vote, or as soon as is practicable, whichever is earlier, and (2) with such elector's information already completed, except that the information of any person providing assistance to such elector need not be already completed.

(b) Prior to the issuance of an absentee ballot application pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the registrars of voters and municipal clerk of a municipality shall compare (1) the list of electors with automatic absentee ballot application status in such municipality, against (2) the official active registry list of such municipality, for the purpose of identifying any elector who appears on the list described in subdivision (1) of this subsection but does not appear on the list described in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(c) An elector with automatic absentee ballot application status under subsection (a) of this section shall be removed from such status whenever (1) such elector notifies the municipal clerk, in writing, that such elector no longer wishes to retain such automatic absentee ballot application status, (2) such elector has been identified as not appearing on the official registry list of the municipality, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, (3) an absentee ballot application issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to such elector by the municipal clerk is returned as undeliverable, or (4) such elector's name is placed on the inactive registry list compiled under section 9-35 of the general statutes.

Sec. 38. Section 9 of public act 26-42 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 39. Section 55 of public act 26-68 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 40. Section 333 of public act 21-2 of the June special session is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The Commissioner of Social Services shall adjust rates of reimbursement under the Medicaid program so that (1) a nurse-midwife licensed pursuant to chapter 377 of the general statutes receives the same rate as an obstetrician-gynecologist licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes for performing the same medical service or procedure, **[**and**]** (2) a podiatrist licensed pursuant to chapter 375 of the general statutes receives the same rate as a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes for performing the same medical service or procedure, and (3) an optometrist licensed pursuant to chapter 380 of the general statutes receives the same rate as a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes for performing the same medical service or procedure in Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes 92004, 92014, 92015 and 92250. The commissioner shall seek federal approval to amend the Medicaid state plan, if necessary, to adjust rates of reimbursement in accordance with this section.

Sec. 41. Section 217 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Campus" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-508c of the general statutes;

(2) "Facility fee" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-508c of the general statutes;

(3) "Hospital" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-490 of the general statutes;

(4) "Infusion center" means a site that offers intravenous infusions and intramuscular or subcutaneous injections of medications, fluids or biological products for complex medical conditions, including, but not limited to, cancers and autoimmune disorders; and

(5) "Surprise bill" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-477aa of the general statutes.

(b) The Insurance Department, in consultation with the Office of the Healthcare Advocate, shall, within available appropriations, conduct a study of (1) potential methods to lower the costs associated with infusion and injection services provided at hospital-based outpatient infusion centers located outside hospital campuses, (2) appropriate patient protections for stop-loss insurance coverage used in conjunction with self-funded employee health benefit plans, and (3) surprise bills for ground ambulance services.

(c) Not later than October 1, 2027, the Insurance Department shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance on the results and recommendations of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, recommendations concerning:

(1) Whether payments for services provided at an infusion center should be (A) set at not greater than ten per cent above the Medicare average sales price calculated in accordance with 42 CFR 414.904, as amended from time to time, or a different reimbursement rate payable under Medicare, or (B) based on data from the all-payer claims database established under section 19a-755a of the general statutes; and

(2) Whether a facility fee for services provided at an infusion center should be prohibited.

Sec. 42. Section 332 of public act 25-168, as amended by section 445 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17b-340d of the general

statutes, the Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available appropriations, increase nursing home facility rates to support wage increases for **[**licensed nurses engaged solely in direct patient care services and supports and not employed in administrative functions**]** nursing, nurse's aide, dietary, housekeeping, laundry and maintenance and plant operation personnel of three per cent effective July 1, 2025, three per cent effective July 1, 2026, and four per cent effective January 1, 2027, except effective July 1, 2026, the director and assistant director of nursing shall not be included. Facilities that receive a rate adjustment for wage enhancements for employees but do not provide such enhancements may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the adjustment.

Sec. 43. Section 17b-355 of the general statutes, as amended by section 6 of public act 26-74, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) In determining whether a request submitted pursuant to sections 17b-352 to 17b-354, inclusive, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 26-74, will be granted, modified or denied, the Commissioner of Social Services shall consider the following: (1) The financial feasibility of the request and its impact on the applicant's rates and financial condition, (2) the contribution of the request to the quality, accessibility and cost-effectiveness of the delivery of long-term care in the region, including consideration of the nursing home's star rating on the five-star quality rating system for nursing homes published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, (3) whether there is clear public need for the request, (4) the relationship of any proposed change to the applicant's current utilization statistics and the effect of the proposal on the utilization statistics of other facilities in the applicant's service area, (5) the business interests of all owners, partners, associates, incorporators, directors, sponsors, stockholders and operators and the personal background of such persons, and (6) any other factor which the

Department of Social Services deems relevant. In considering whether there is clear public need for any request for the relocation of beds to a replacement facility, or for new beds added to an existing facility or a new facility, the commissioner shall consider whether there is a demonstrated bed need in the towns within a fifteen-mile radius of the town in which the beds are proposed to be located and whether the availability of beds in the applicant's service area will be adversely affected.

(b) Any proposal to relocate nursing home beds from an existing facility to a new facility shall not increase the number of Medicaid certified beds and shall result in the closure of at least one currently licensed facility. The commissioner may request that any applicant seeking to replace an existing facility reduce the number of beds in the new facility by a percentage that is consistent with the department's strategic state-wide long-term rebalancing plan for long-term care. If an applicant seeking to replace an existing facility with a new facility owns or operates more than one nursing facility, the commissioner may request that the applicant close two or more facilities before approving the proposal to build a new facility. The commissioner shall also consider whether an application to establish a new or replacement nursing facility proposes a nontraditional, small-house style nursing facility and incorporates goals for nursing facilities referenced in the department's strategic state-wide long-term rebalancing plan for long-term care, including, but not limited to, (1) promoting person-centered care, (2) providing enhanced quality of care, (3) creating community space for all nursing facility residents, and (4) developing stronger connections between the nursing facility residents and the surrounding community.

(c) Demonstrated bed need shall be based on the recent occupancy percentage of area nursing facilities with occupancy above ninety-six per cent for a minimum of two consecutive quarters. The department

may consider projected bed need into the future at occupancy above ninety-six per cent using the latest strategic state-wide long-term rebalancing plan for long-term care as published by the department. The commissioner may also consider area specific utilization and reductions in utilization rates to account for the increased use of less institutional alternatives.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, as a component of a project involving the relocation of nursing home beds to establish bed configurations to not more than two beds per room, the commissioner may establish bed need based on an occupancy percentage below ninety-six per cent.

Sec. 44. Section 17b-372a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Commissioners of Social Services, Correction and Mental Health and Addiction Services may establish or contract for the establishment of a chronic or convalescent nursing home on state-owned or private property to care for individuals who (1) require the level of care provided in a nursing home, and (2) are transitioning from a correctional facility in the state, or (3) receive services from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. A nursing home developed under this section is not required to comply with the provisions of sections 17b-352 to 17b-354, inclusive, and subsection (b) of section 19a-521b if such provisions are in conflict with this section.

Sec. 45. Section 420 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-283 of the general statutes, or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said section

requiring a completed grant application be submitted prior to June 30, 2025, the school building project at Suffield Middle School in the town of Suffield with costs not to exceed one hundred nineteen million five hundred thousand dollars shall be included in section **[**1 of this act**]** 396 of public act 26-68 and shall subsequently be considered for a grant commitment from the state, provided the town of Suffield files an application for such school building project prior to July 1, **[**2026**]** 2027, and meets all other provisions of chapter 173 of the general statutes or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said chapter and is eligible for grant assistance pursuant to said chapter.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-285a of the general statutes, or any regulation adopted by the State Board of Education or the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to said section concerning the reimbursement percentage that a local board of education may be eligible to receive for a school building project, the reimbursement percentage determined pursuant to said section shall be increased by ten percentage points for the town of Suffield for the school building project at Suffield Middle School.

Sec. 46. Subdivision (5) of subsection (g) of section 13 of public act 26-14 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(5) Hold or store the contracting public agency's automated license plate reader data **[**(A) with the automated license plate reader data held or stored pursuant to a contract with a different public agency concerning automated license plate reader data or any such data held or stored pursuant to a contract with any other person concerning such data, or (B)**]** in a manner that is not in accordance with industry-recognized data security practices, including, but not limited to, using encryption when transmitting or storing such data.

Sec. 47. Section 52 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall distribute $250,000 as a regional performance incentive program grant to the **[**Southeastern Connecticut**]** South Central Region Council of Governments for a **[**pilot program to consolidate**]** study on the consolidation of public service answering points.

Sec. 48. Section 3-109 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

The American robin, Turdus migratorius, shall be the state bird, provided in the month of March of each year, the American robin and Suzanne Brigit Bird, also known as Sue Bird, shall be the state birds.

Sec. 49. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than June 30, 2026, the sum of $500,000 from the nonlapsing account described in section 12 of public act 23-170 shall be provided as a grant-in-aid to the Northwest Resource Recovery Authority.

Sec. 50. Section 12-704d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Angel investor" means an accredited investor, as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission, or network of accredited investors who review new or proposed businesses for potential investment and who may seek active involvement, such as consulting and mentoring, in a qualified Connecticut business or a qualified cannabis business, but "angel investor" does not include (A) a person controlling fifty per cent or more of the Connecticut business or cannabis business invested in by the angel investor, (B) a venture capital

company, or (C) any bank, bank and trust company, insurance company, trust company, national bank, savings association or building and loan association for activities that are a part of its normal course of business;

(2) "Cash investment" means the contribution of cash, at a risk of loss, to a qualified Connecticut business or a qualified cannabis business in exchange for qualified securities;

(3) "Connecticut business" means any business, other than a cannabis business, with its principal place of business in Connecticut;

(4) "Related person" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-217w;

(5) "Control" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-217w;

[(4)**]** (6) "Bioscience" means manufacturing pharmaceuticals, medicines, medical equipment or medical devices and analytical laboratory instruments, operating medical or diagnostic testing laboratories, or conducting pure research and development in life sciences;

[(5)**]** (7) "Advanced materials" means developing, formulating or manufacturing advanced alloys, coatings, lubricants, refrigerants, surfactants, emulsifiers or substrates;

[(6)**]** (8) "Photonics" means generation, emission, transmission, modulation, signal processing, switching, amplification, detection and sensing of light from ultraviolet to infrared and the manufacture, research or development of opto-electronic devices, including, but not limited to, lasers, masers, fiber optic devices, quantum devices, holographic devices and related technologies;

[(7)**]** (9) "Information technology" means software publishing, motion

picture and video production, teleproduction and postproduction services, telecommunications, data processing, hosting and related services, custom computer programming services, computer system design, computer facilities management services, other computer related services and computer training;

[(8)**]** (10) "Clean technology" means the production, manufacture, design, research or development of clean energy, green buildings, smart grid, high-efficiency transportation vehicles and alternative fuels, environmental products, environmental remediation and pollution prevention;

[(9)**]** (11) "Qualified securities" means any form of equity, including a general or limited partnership interest, common stock, preferred stock, with or without voting rights, without regard to seniority position that must be convertible into common stock;

[(10)**]** (12) "Emerging technology business" means any business that is engaged in bioscience, advanced materials, photonics, information technology, clean technology or any other emerging technology as determined by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development;

[(11)**]** (13) "Cannabis business" means a cannabis establishment (A) for which a social equity applicant has been granted a provisional license or a license, (B) in which a social equity applicant or social equity applicants have an ownership interest of at least sixty-five per cent, and (C) such social equity applicant or social equity applicants have control of such establishment;

[(12)**]** (14) "Social equity applicant" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420;

[(13)**]** (15) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420; and

[(14)**]** (16) "Cannabis establishment" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-420.

(b) There shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed under this chapter, other than the liability imposed by section 12-707, for a cash investment by an angel investor of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars in the qualified securities of a Connecticut business or a cannabis business. The credit shall be in an amount equal to (1) twenty-five per cent of such investor's cash investment in a Connecticut business, or (2) forty per cent of such investor's cash investment in a cannabis business, provided the total tax credits allowed to any angel investor shall not exceed five hundred thousand dollars. The credit shall be claimed in the taxable year in which such cash investment is made by the angel investor. The credit may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part.

(c) To qualify for a tax credit pursuant to this section, a cash investment shall be in:

(1) A Connecticut business that (A) has been approved as a qualified Connecticut business pursuant to subsection (d) of this section; (B) had annual gross revenues of less than one million dollars in the most recent income year of such business; (C) has fewer than twenty-five employees, not less than **[**seventy-five**]** fifty per cent of whom reside in this state; (D) has been operating in this state for less than seven consecutive years; (E) is primarily owned by the management of the business and their families; and (F) received less than two million dollars in cash investments eligible for the tax credits provided by this section; or

(2) A cannabis business that (A) has been approved as a qualified cannabis business pursuant to subsection (d) of this section; (B) had annual gross revenues of less than one million dollars in the most recent income year of such business; (C) has fewer than twenty-five employees, not less than seventy-five per cent of whom reside in this state; (D) is

primarily owned by the management of the business and their families; and (E) received less than two million dollars in cash investments eligible for the tax credits provided by this section.

(d) (1) A Connecticut business or a cannabis business may apply to Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, for approval as a Connecticut business or cannabis business, as applicable, qualified to receive cash investments eligible for a tax credit pursuant to this section, provided on and after July 1, 2026, separate applications from a Connecticut business and related persons thereto shall be considered a single application for a Connecticut business for purposes of this section. The application shall include (A) the name of the business and a copy of the organizational documents of such business, (B) a business plan, including a description of the business and the management, product, market and financial plan of the business, (C) a description of the business's innovative technology, product or service, (D) a statement of the potential economic impact of the business, including the number, location and types of jobs expected to be created, (E) a description of the qualified securities to be issued and the amount of cash investment sought by the business, (F) a statement of the amount, timing and projected use of the proceeds to be raised from the proposed sale of qualified securities, and (G) such other information as the chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, may require.

(2) Said chief executive officer shall, on a monthly basis, compile a list of approved applications, categorized by the cash investments being sought by the qualified Connecticut business or the qualified cannabis business and type of qualified securities offered.

(e) (1) Any angel investor that intends to make a cash investment in a business on such list may apply to Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, to reserve a tax credit in the amount indicated by such investor. Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall not reserve tax credits under this section for any investments made in a qualified

Connecticut business on or after July 1, 2028, or for any investments made in a qualified cannabis business on or after July 1, 2023.

(2) The aggregate amount of all tax credits under this section that may be reserved by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall not exceed (A) for cash investments made in qualified Connecticut businesses, six million dollars annually for the fiscal years commencing July 1, 2010, to July 1, 2012, inclusive, and five million dollars for each fiscal year thereafter, and (B) for cash investments made in qualified cannabis businesses, fifteen million dollars annually for the fiscal years commencing July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022.

(3) With respect to the tax credits available under this section for investments in qualified Connecticut businesses, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall not reserve more than seventy-five per cent of such tax credits for investments in emerging technology businesses, except if any such credits remain available for reservation after April first in any fiscal year, such remaining credits may be reserved for investments in such businesses and may be prioritized for veteran-owned, women-owned or minority-owned businesses and businesses owned by individuals with disabilities.

(4) The amount of the credit allowed to any investor pursuant to this section shall not exceed the amount of tax due from such investor under this chapter, other than section 12-707, with respect to such taxable year. Any tax credit that is claimed by the angel investor but not applied against the tax due under this chapter, other than the liability imposed under section 12-707, may be carried forward for the five immediately succeeding taxable years until the full credit has been applied.

(f) If the angel investor is an S corporation or an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, the tax credit may be claimed by the shareholders or partners of the angel investor. If the angel investor is a single member limited liability company that is

disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, the tax credit may be claimed by such limited liability company's owner, provided such owner is a person subject to the tax imposed under this chapter.

(g) A review of the cumulative effectiveness of the credit under this section shall be conducted by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, by July first annually. Such review shall include, but need not be limited to, the number and type of Connecticut businesses and cannabis businesses that received angel investments, the number of angel investors and the aggregate amount of cash investments, the current status of each Connecticut business and cannabis business that received angel investments, the number of employees employed in each year following the year in which such Connecticut business or cannabis business received the angel investment and the economic impact in the state of the Connecticut business or cannabis business that received the angel investment. Such review shall be submitted to the Office of Policy and Management and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

Sec. 51. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Individual with limited-English proficiency" means an individual whose primary and preferred language is not English, and who has a limited ability to read, speak, write or understand English;

(2) "State agency" means any department, board, commission, office or other agency within the executive branch of state government;

(3) "State-wide language access implementation plan" or "plan" means the plan developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section;

(4) "High-priority public-facing document" means any printed or electronic form, notice or instruction that is necessary to apply for, obtain, maintain or renew a public benefit, public service, vital record

or identification document and is specified as such in the state-wide language access implementation plan;

(5) "Identification document" means a document that can be used to verify the holder's identity, including, but not limited to, a driver's license;

(6) "Vital records" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-36 of the general statutes;

(7) "Interpretation services" means the provision of spoken language assistance, including, but not limited to, in-person interpretation, telephonic interpretation and video remote interpretation, for purposes of enabling an individual with limited-English proficiency to access services, benefits, information, hearings, meetings, programs or other interactions for government services;

(8) "Translation services" means the provision of written materials, including, but not limited to, forms, applications, notices, instructions, Internet web site content and other informational materials in languages other than English; and

(9) "Sign language access" means the provision of qualified sign language interpretation and other appropriate communication supports for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or who use sign language in order to access services, benefits, information, hearings, meetings, programs or other interactions for government services.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2027, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services, Social Services and Public Health, and any other department head or stakeholder deemed appropriate by the secretary, shall develop a state-wide language access implementation plan for state agencies. Such plan shall be designed to improve access to public services and benefits and increase meaningful access to public

programs, hearings, meetings, appeals, workforce development, licensure, identification documents and other governmental opportunities that support family economic engagement and mobility. The secretary shall update such plan not less than every two years thereafter.

(c) Such plan shall:

(1) Assess the language access needs of individuals with limited-English proficiency in the state, using the most recent American Community Survey published by the United States Census Bureau and any available relevant state agency service data;

(2) Identify the twelve most common non-English languages spoken by individuals with limited-English proficiency in the state;

(3) Inventory, or require the inventory of, public-facing printed and electronic forms, applications, notices, Internet web sites, public meetings, hearings, appeals, complaint processes, application processes, workforce development programs and other civic or governmental interactions and service delivery points used by state agencies;

(4) Identify and prioritize high-priority, public-facing documents and interactions for phased translation and interpretation, including identification of hearings, meetings, complaint processes and workforce development programs for which live interpretation or sign language access is necessary, and designate a limited number of high-priority, public-facing documents and interactions for phase one implementation of the plan;

(5) Establish a phased implementation schedule for state agencies, including designation of which state agencies, documents, interactions and service delivery points should be included in the phase one implementation of the plan, in a manner that maximizes administrative efficiencies and minimizes unnecessary costs by using, where

practicable, centralized procurement of translation and interpretation services, shared language access services templates and glossaries across state agencies, existing personnel, technology-assisted translation tools with appropriate review by state agency personnel for accuracy, accessibility and public use, and other strategies identified by the secretary;

(6) Establish recommended standards for translation services, interpretation services, sign language access, accessibility, plain language notices of available translation services and interpretation services, and agency reporting;

(7) Include recommendations for potential expansion of language access requirements, as appropriate, to local and regional boards of education, the constituent units of the state system of public higher education, health care facilities or institutions receiving state funds or federal funds administered by the state, and state contractors; and

(8) Identify any legislation, appropriation, administrative action or procurement change necessary to implement such plan and recommendations for expansion.

(d) Not later than January 15, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government administration, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, education, higher education, public health and human services. Such report shall include (1) a summary of the plan developed pursuant to this section, or of any updates to such plan, (2) any estimated costs or cost savings associated with using centralized procurement, shared services, existing personnel, technology-assisted translation tools and phased implementation of the plan, (3) any recommendations for potential

expansion of language access requirements, as described in subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of this section, and (4) any recommendations for legislation to implement the provisions of this section.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to (1) require any state agency to translate any printed or electronic forms or applications maintained by the state agency prior to any deadlines or phases established in the state-wide language access implementation plan, (2) limit the state-wide language access implementation plan to written forms or applications, or (3) alter any separate obligations under state or federal law relating to disabilities.

Sec. 52. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, "individual with limited-English proficiency", "sign language access", "translation services" and "interpretation services" have the same meanings as provided in section 51 of this act. Not later than January 1, 2027, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management shall develop a language access plan for the legislative branch concerning public hearings, public meetings, and notices and content posted on any Internet web site, to improve access for individuals with limited-English proficiency or individuals who need sign language access. Such plan shall (1) identify legislative documents and interactions that should be prioritized for translation services, interpretation services or sign language access, (2) establish a process for individuals to request translation or interpretation services for legislative public hearings or public meetings, and (3) include any recommendations for any legislation, appropriation or administrative action necessary to implement such plan.

(b) Not later than January 15, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government administration and

appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall include a summary of the language access plan or any revisions to such plan and any recommendations for legislation or appropriations for the implementation of such plan.

(c) Not later than July 1, 2027, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management shall post information concerning the availability of language assistance services and the process by which an individual may require translation services, interpretation services or sign language access on the Internet web site of the General Assembly.

Sec. 53. Section 31-3mm of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) The Labor Department, within available appropriations, shall establish a program to distribute youth employment and training funds to regional workforce development boards for services to persons ages fourteen to twenty-four.

(b) Funds provided for in this section shall be allocated **[**as follows: (1) Thirty-two and five-tenths per cent to Capitol Workforce Partners; (2) twenty-two and five-tenths per cent to The Workforce Alliance; (3) twelve and five-tenths per cent to The Workplace, Inc.; (4) twenty-two and five-tenths per cent to the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Inc.; and (5) ten per cent to the Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board**]** to the regional workforce development boards by the Labor Commissioner based on a formula established by the Labor Commissioner, in collaboration with the regional workforce development boards, that utilizes available data, including, but not limited to, (1) the number of students in each workforce development region that are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, (2) the number of economically disadvantaged youth in each workforce development region determined by the most recent American Community Survey conducted by United States Census Bureau, and (3) the number of at-

risk students, as defined in section 21 of public act 24-45, in each workforce development region, provided the amount allocated to the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Inc. shall not be less than the amount allocated to such board in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

(c) The Labor Commissioner, in collaboration with the regional workforce development boards, may update the formula established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section in order to reflect current conditions in the workforce development regions, provided the amount allocated to the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Inc. shall not be less than the amount allocated to such board in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

Sec. 54. Section 464 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The sum of $100,000,006 is appropriated to the Office of Policy and Management, for Various Municipal Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and shall be made available as a one-time payment in said fiscal year and expended as follows:

Town	Grant for Fiscal Year 2026
Andover	17,751
Ansonia	261,746
Ashford	24,858
Avon	60,304
Barkhamsted	20,054
Beacon Falls	32,957
Berlin	75,947
Bethany	21,913
Bethel	95,477
Bethlehem	14,158
Bloomfield	264,102

Bolton	29,551
Bozrah	12,185
Branford	70,511
Bridgeport	10,373,486
Bridgewater	1,831
Bristol	991,338
Brookfield	46,102
Brooklyn	106,086
Burlington	44,057
Canaan	29,770
Canterbury	36,403
Canton	29,695
Chaplin	155,805
Cheshire	715,676
Chester	21,671
Clinton	51,998
Colchester	116,408
Colebrook	6,257
Columbia	22,616
Cornwall	7,988
Coventry	61,253
Cromwell	66,024
Danbury	1,592,148
Darien	28,726
Deep River	18,488
Derby	426,691
Durham	25,339
East Granby	30,354
East Haddam	35,476
East Hampton	104,793
East Hartford	1,390,427
East Haven	342,732
East Lyme	536,657
East Windsor	77,422
Eastford	14,635
Easton	20,603
Ellington	64,632
Enfield	575,188
Essex	15,263

Fairfield	818,108
Farmington	1,669,896
Franklin	15,866
Glastonbury	76,932
Goshen	7,837
Granby	40,940
Greenwich	161,948
Griswold	171,970
Groton	2,239,466
Guilford	52,719
Haddam	42,348
Hamden	1,572,111
Hampton	14,776
Hartford	13,107,801
Hartland	27,482
Harwinton	25,174
Hebron	30,258
Kent	15,707
Killingly	333,903
Killingworth	30,712
Lebanon	41,770
Ledyard	1,703,834
Lisbon	42,901
Litchfield	35,537
Lyme	7,909
Madison	205,858
Manchester	1,001,403
Mansfield	2,613,732
Marlborough	30,635
Meriden	1,518,429
Middlebury	33,414
Middlefield	16,332
Middletown	2,348,250
Milford	667,970
Monroe	51,404
Montville	2,090,413
Morris	7,647
Naugatuck	418,778
New Britain	4,671,689

New Canaan	14,857
New Fairfield	42,694
New Hartford	22,147
New Haven	12,419,995
New London	2,912,568
New Milford	188,992
Newington	453,379
Newtown	216,181
Norfolk	27,508
North Branford	49,136
North Canaan	36,047
North Haven	265,182
North Stonington	1,336,723
Norwalk	1,432,992
Norwich	3,126,949
Old Lyme	17,974
Old Saybrook	29,797
Orange	86,627
Oxford	103,082
Plainfield	283,649
Plainville	121,099
Plymouth	133,545
Pomfret	32,424
Portland	52,900
Preston	1,807,504
Prospect	47,719
Putnam	164,942
Redding	48,331
Ridgefield	44,831
Rocky Hill	471,899
Roxbury	2,027
Salem	35,835
Salisbury	5,599
Scotland	19,307
Seymour	114,457
Sharon	10,902
Shelton	135,076
Sherman	3,450
Simsbury	76,945

Somers	425,850
South Windsor	77,457
Southbury	115,615
Southington	181,419
Sprague	45,613
Stafford	161,510
Stamford	1,550,880
Sterling	56,351
Stonington	40,066
Stratford	406,351
Suffield	516,210
Thomaston	42,738
Thompson	71,358
Tolland	52,389
Torrington	743,529
Trumbull	125,054
Union	37,619
Vernon	325,941
Voluntown	172,490
Wallingford	270,800
Warren	1,732
Washington	8,299
Waterbury	5,114,077
Waterford	171,858
Watertown	278,092
West Hartford	392,543
West Haven	1,336,369
Westbrook	46,507
Weston	6,109
Westport	188,683
Wethersfield	366,924
Willington	55,458
Wilton	45,578
Winchester	136,056
Windham	1,819,472
Windsor	154,121
Windsor Locks	745,276
Wolcott	95,678
Woodbridge	13,949

Woodbury	26,755
Woodstock	32,548

(b) The funds appropriated in subsection (a) of this section to the Office of Policy and Management, for Various Municipal Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse and shall be available to the Office of Policy and Management for the same purpose for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027.

(c) Not later than January 1, 2027, each municipality shall report to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management concerning the expenditure of the grant identified in subsection (a) of this section.

(d) Such one-time payment to the town of Bridgeport shall not be considered part of the budgeted appropriation for education for the town for purposes of calculating the minimum budget requirement for the town of Bridgeport pursuant to section 10-262j of the general statutes.

Sec. 55. Section 480 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The sum of **[**$3,000,000**]** $4,000,000 of the amount appropriated in section **[**1**]** 2 of public act 25-168, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 26-68, to the Department of Transportation, for Rail Operations, for the fiscal year ending June 30, **[**2026, and the**]** 2027, shall be made available in said fiscal year for the Shore Line East rail line.

(b) The sum of **[**$4,000,000**]** $3,000,000 of the amount appropriated in **[**said**]** section 2 of public act 25-168 to the Department of Transportation, for Rail Operations, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, shall be **[**made available**]** expended in said fiscal **[**years**]** year for the purpose of increasing service on the Shore Line East rail line.

Sec. 56. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 10a-174d of the

2026 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 470 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(4) "Qualifying student" means any person who (A) participated and maintained program eligibility in the debt-free community college program, established pursuant to section 10a-174, and received an associate's degree at the Connecticut State Community College during the fall semester of 2025 or spring semester of 2026, or any semester thereafter, (B) enrolls as a full-time or part-time student for the fall semester of 2026, or any semester thereafter, at a state university within the Connecticut State University System or Charter Oak State College in a program leading to a bachelor's degree, (C) is classified as an in-state student pursuant to section 10a-29, (D) made satisfactory academic progress while enrolled at the Connecticut State Community College and continues to make satisfactory academic progress while enrolled at such state university or Charter Oak State College, (E) has completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, and (F) has accepted all available financial aid;

Sec. 57. Section 356 of public act 26-68 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 58. Section 207 of public act 26-68 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 59. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 274 of public act 26-68 is amended to read as follows (*Effective January 1, 2027*):

(2) The workforce and productivity gap contribution plan shall include:

(A) A formula for a surcharge to be assessed annually for each income or taxable year in which an employer maintains a productivity gap. Such surcharge shall reflect the financial delta between an employer's

baseline productivity levels and its reduced payroll expenses for the applicable income or taxable year, and shall be structured to ensure that efficiency gains realized through the displacement of employees are recaptured by the state on an ongoing basis to mitigate the resulting economic impact;

[(B) An augmented productivity tax exemption that ensures that any augmented productivity achieved by an employer is permanently exempt from taxation by the state;**]**

[(C)**]** (B) Administrative procedures for the reporting and collection of such surcharge, based on Connecticut-specific payroll and tax data; and

[(D)**]** (C) The establishment of a workforce and economic stability account, in which the **[**surcharges**]** surcharge collected **[**shall be deposited and**]** funds shall be used **[**exclusively for the purposes of workforce retraining, technical education and career transition programs for displaced employees**]** for grants to employers to acquire and train staff on generative or assistive artificial intelligence technologies that demonstrate a measurable increase in per-worker output without a corresponding reduction in headcount.

Sec. 60. (*Effective from passage*) Up to $100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by public act 26-68, to the Department of Correction, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, shall be made available to the Office of the Healthcare Advocate to conduct a study on Department of Correction facilities attaining accreditation for health services, including mental health services, from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

Sec. 61. Section 250 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

There is established an account to be known as the **[**"innocence project**]** "CT innocence fund revolving loan account", which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Judicial Branch for the purposes of the provision of loans to claimants who may meet the qualifications for compensation pursuant to section 54-102uu of the general statutes.

Sec. 62. Section 251 of public act 26-68 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

The sum of $400,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, to the Judicial Department, for Legal Aid, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and the sum of $500,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, to the Judicial Department, for Legal Aid, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, shall be transferred to the **[**innocence project**]** CT innocence fund revolving loan account established in section 250 of **[**this act**]** public act 26-68.

Sec. 63. Section 27-19e of the general statutes, as amended by section 487 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[(a)**]** There is established an account to be known as the "Governor's Guards horse account", which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account, which shall include, but not be limited to, donations for the specific purpose of offsetting the costs of maintaining Governor's Guards' horses. Moneys in the account shall be allocated and accounted for by each unit. Funds generated by or attributable to a specific unit shall be credited to that unit and expended solely for expenses incurred in connection with the costs of maintaining the Governor's Guards horses that are related to the operations of that unit.

[(b) There is established a subaccount within the Governor's Guards horse account, established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, to be known as the "First Company Governor's Horse Guard account" to be used solely for activities relating to the First Company Governor's Horse Guard in Avon.

(c) There is established a subaccount within the Governor's Guards horse account, established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, to be known as the "Second Company Governor's Horse Guard account" to be used solely for activities relating to the Second Company Governor's Horse Guard in Newtown.

(d)**]** Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Adjutant General for the purposes of facilitating the operations of the Governor's Guards, in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Sec. 64. Section 7 of public act 26-21 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) The **[**Department of Education**]** Commissioner of Transportation shall administer a grant program to provide grants to local and regional boards of education for the (1) purchase of passes for the use of **[**state-owned or state-controlled bus**]** public bus transportation services, including services provided by transit districts established under chapter 103a of the general statutes, and (2) distribution of such passes, without cost, to students who are enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, of a public school under the jurisdiction of such local or regional board of education. Applications for grants shall be filed with the **[**department**]** commissioner at such time and in such manner as the **[**department**]** commissioner prescribes. The **[**department**]** commissioner may develop guidelines and grant criteria as **[**it**]** the commissioner deems necessary to administer such grant program.

(b) Each local or regional board of education receiving a grant award

under this section shall submit, at such time and in such form as the **[**department**]** commissioner prescribes, any reports and financial statements required by the **[**department**]** commissioner. If the **[**department**]** commissioner finds that any grant awarded pursuant to this section is being used for purposes that are not in conformity with the purposes of this section, the **[**department**]** commissioner may require the repayment of the grant to the state.

(c) Not later than July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the **[**Department of Education**]** commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and transportation. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, the amount of grants awarded during the prior year and an assessment of the impact of the grant program on student outcomes.

Sec. 65. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of $2,500,000 of the amount appropriated in section 2 of public act 25-168, as amended by public act 26-68, to the Department of Transportation, for Bus Operations, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, shall be expended by the department in said fiscal year for the purpose of (1) discounting the lawful charge to use state-owned or state-controlled bus public transportation for veterans, as defined in section 27-103 of the general statutes, and students who are enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, of a public school, and (2) issuing grants under the program established pursuant to section 7 of public act 26-21 and section 64 of this act.

Sec. 66. Section 31-3*l* of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 27 of public act 26-12, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) The members of a board shall be appointed by the chief elected officials of the municipalities in the region in accordance with the

provisions of an agreement entered into by such municipalities. In the absence of an agreement the appointments shall be made by the Governor. The membership of each board shall satisfy the requirements for a local board as provided under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. **[**and include a regional workforce navigator described in subsection (b) of this section.**]**

(b) **[**Each**]** A regional workforce navigator shall be employed by each regional workforce development board and shall coordinate with **[**the**]** such regional workforce development boards, the Governor's Workforce Council and the Labor Department in order to connect individuals participating in adult education programs and students enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, in a public school with workforce opportunities, including, but not limited to, internships, apprenticeships, job shadowing opportunities and credentials offered in the state. For purposes of this subsection "credential" has the same meaning as provided in section 10a-35b.

Sec. 67. Subsection (kk) of section 36 of public act 25-168, as amended by section 12 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(kk) The sum of $75,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 26-68, to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, and the sum of $75,000 of the amount appropriated in said section to the Department of Education, for Various Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, shall be made available in said fiscal years to provide a grant to the United Way of Coastal **[**Fairfield County**]** and Western Connecticut for the Bridgeport Public Schools Debate League.

Sec. 68. Section 41 of public act 26-68 is amended to read as follows

(*Effective from passage*):

Up to $1,150,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 26-68, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Various Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for a grant in-aid to Working Cities **[**Challenge/Middletown**]** Challenge, provided $150,000 of said amount shall be used for Middletown Works.

Sec. 69. Section 5-198 of the general statutes, as amended by section 181 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The offices and positions filled by the following-described incumbents shall be exempt from the classified service:

(1) All officers and employees of the Judicial Department;

(2) All officers and employees of the Legislative Department;

(3) All officers elected by popular vote;

(4) All agency heads, members of boards and commissions and other officers appointed by the Governor;

(5) All persons designated by name in any special act to hold any state office;

(6) All officers, noncommissioned officers and enlisted men in the military or naval service of the state and under military or naval discipline and control;

(7) (A) All correctional wardens, as provided in section 18-82, and (B) all superintendents of state institutions, the State Librarian, the

president of The University of Connecticut and any other commissioner or administrative head of a state department or institution who is appointed by a board or commission responsible by statute for the administration of such department or institution;

(8) The State Historian appointed by the State Library Board;

(9) Deputies to the administrative head of each department or institution designated by statute to act for and perform all of the duties of such administrative head during such administrative head's absence or incapacity;

(10) Executive assistants to each state elective officer and each department head, as defined in section 4-5, provided (A) each position of executive assistant shall have been created in accordance with section 5-214, and (B) in no event shall the Commissioner of Administrative Services or the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management approve more than four executive assistants for a department head and, for any department with two or more deputies, more than two executive assistants for each such deputy;

(11) One personal secretary to the administrative head and to each undersecretary or deputy to such head of each department or institution;

(12) All members of the professional and technical staffs of the constituent units of the state system of higher education, as defined in section 10a-1, of all other state institutions of learning, of the Board of Regents for Higher Education, and of the agricultural experiment station at New Haven, professional and managerial employees of the Department of Education and the Office of Early Childhood, teachers and administrators employed by the Technical Education and Career System and teachers certified by the State Board of Education and employed in teaching positions at state institutions;

(13) Physicians, dentists, student nurses in institutions and other professional specialists who are employed on a part-time basis;

(14) Persons employed to make or conduct a special inquiry, investigation, examination or installation;

(15) Students in educational institutions who are employed on a part-time basis;

(16) Forest fire wardens provided for by section 23-36;

(17) Patients or inmates of state institutions who receive compensation for services rendered therein;

(18) Employees of the Governor including employees working at the executive office, official executive residence at 990 Prospect Avenue, Hartford and the Washington D.C. office;

(19) Persons filling positions expressly exempted by statute from the classified service;

(20) Librarians employed by the State Board of Education or any constituent unit of the state system of higher education;

(21) All officers and employees of the Division of Criminal Justice;

(22) Professional employees in the education professions bargaining unit of the Department of Aging and Disability Services;

(23) Lieutenant colonels in the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection;

(24) The Deputy State Fire Marshal within the Department of Administrative Services;

(25) The chief administrative officer of the Workers' Compensation Commission;

(26) Employees in the education professions bargaining unit;

(27) Disability policy specialists employed by the Council on Developmental Disabilities;

(28) The director for digital media and motion picture activities in the Department of Economic and Community Development; and

(29) (A) Any Director of Communications 1, (B) Director of Communications 1 (Rc), (C) Director of Communications 2, (D) Director of Communications 2 (Rc), (E) Legislative Program Manager, (F) Communications and Legislative Program Manager, (G) Director of Legislation, **[**Regulation and Communication**]** Regulations and Communications, (H) Legislative and Administrative Advisor 1, (I) Legislative and Administrative Advisor 2, (J) Agency Legal Director, other than Agency Legal Director of the Department of Revenue Services or the Office of Policy and Management General Counsel, or (K) Energy and Environmental Protection Office Director (Legal)**,** **[**or First Assistant Commissioner of Revenue Services,**]** as such positions are classified within the Executive Department.

Sec. 70. (*Effective from passage*) Section 2 of public act 26-75 shall take effect from passage and be applicable to income and taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2027.

Sec. 71. Subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of section 314 of public act 22-118 is amended to read as follows (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(2) Grants-in-aid to food systems or food resource organizations for capital improvements or food system enhancements, not exceeding $10,000,000.

Sec. 72. Subsection (b) of section 42-517 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 7 of public act 25-113, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

2026):

(b) The following information and data are exempt from the provisions of sections 42-515 to 42-526, inclusive: (1) Protected health information under HIPAA; (2) patient-identifying information for purposes of 42 USC 290dd-2; (3) identifiable private information for purposes of the federal policy for the protection of human subjects under 45 CFR 46; (4) identifiable private information that is otherwise information collected as part of human subjects research pursuant to the good clinical practice guidelines issued by the International Council for Harmonization of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use; (5) personal data for purposes of the protection of human subjects under 21 CFR Parts 6, 50 and 56, or personal data used or shared in research, as defined in 45 CFR 164.501, that is conducted in accordance with the standards set forth in this subdivision and subdivisions (3) and (4) of this subsection, or other research conducted in accordance with applicable law; (6) information and documents created for purposes of the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986, 42 USC 11101 et seq.; (7) patient safety work product for purposes of section 19a-127o and the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act, 42 USC 299b-21 et seq., as amended from time to time; (8) information derived from any of the health care-related information listed in this subsection that is de-identified in accordance with the requirements for de-identification pursuant to HIPAA; (9) information originating from and intermingled to be indistinguishable with, or information treated in the same manner as, information exempt under this subsection that is maintained by a covered entity or business associate, program or qualified service organization, as specified in 42 USC 290dd-2, as amended from time to time; (10) information used for public health activities and purposes as authorized by HIPAA, community health activities and population health activities; (11) the collection, maintenance, disclosure, sale, communication or use of any personal information bearing on a consumer's credit worthiness, credit

standing, credit capacity, character, general reputation, personal characteristics or mode of living by a consumer reporting agency, furnisher or user that provides information for use in a consumer report, and by a user of a consumer report, but only to the extent that such activity is regulated by and authorized under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681 et seq., as amended from time to time; (12) personal data collected, processed, sold or disclosed in compliance with the Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994, 18 USC 2721 et seq., as amended from time to time; (13) personal data regulated by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 USC 1232g et seq., as amended from time to time; (14) personal data collected, processed, sold or disclosed in compliance with the Farm Credit Act, 12 USC 2001 et seq., as amended from time to time; (15) data processed or maintained (A) in the course of an individual applying to, employed by or acting as an agent or independent contractor of a controller, processor, consumer health data controller or third party, to the extent that the data are collected and used within the context of that role, (B) as the emergency contact information of an individual under sections 42-515 to 42-526, inclusive, used for emergency contact purposes, or (C) that are necessary to retain to administer benefits for another individual relating to the individual who is the subject of the information under subdivision (1) of this subsection and used for the purposes of administering such benefits; (16) personal data collected, processed, sold or disclosed in relation to price, route or service, as such terms are used in the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, 49 USC 40101 et seq., and the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978, 49 USC 41713, as said acts may be amended from time to time; (17) data subject to Title V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, 15 USC 6801 et seq., as amended from time to time; **[**and**]** (18) information included in a limited data set, as described in 45 CFR 164.514(e), as amended from time to time, to the extent such information is used, disclosed and maintained in the manner specified in 45 CFR 164.514(e), as amended from time to time; and (19) precise geolocation data that has been deidentified or aggregated from personal data and is collected,

used, processed, shared or transferred by or to the Department of Transportation for the purposes of transportation planning; traffic management and operations; highway safety analysis; infrastructure design, maintenance or performance monitoring; or public sector research conducted by or on behalf of an authorized state agency.

Sec. 73. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) (1) Each candidate for presidential elector who is endorsed for nomination to such office by a political party under section 9-388 of the general statutes, or who files a candidacy for nomination to such office with a political party designation under section 9-453b of the general statutes, shall execute the following pledge: "If chosen for the office of presidential elector, I agree to serve and to mark my electoral college ballots for the nominees for President and Vice President of the political party by which I was nominated.". A copy of such executed pledge shall be included in the filing of the certificate of endorsement or candidacy for nomination, as applicable.

(2) If a political party's nominee for President or Vice President dies or withdraws as a candidate in accordance with such political party's rules prior to the meeting of presidential electors under section 9-176 of the general statutes, the pledge executed under subdivision 1 of this subsection shall apply to such political party's successor nominee.

(b) Each candidate for presidential elector who files a candidacy for nomination to such office without a political party designation under section 9-453b of the general statutes, or who registers a candidacy associated with a write-in candidate for President under subsection (b) of section 9-175 of the general statutes, shall execute the following pledge: "If chosen for the office of presidential elector, I agree to serve and to mark my electoral college ballots for the candidate for President listed on this filing and for such candidate's running mate as Vice President.". A copy of such executed pledge shall be included in the filing of the candidacy for nomination or the registration associated with

a write-in candidate for President, as applicable.

Sec. 74. Section 9-176 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) The presidential electors of the state shall meet at the office of the Secretary of the State at twelve o'clock noon on the first Tuesday after the second Wednesday of the December following their election **[**and**]** to cast their electoral college ballots for President and Vice President, as required by the Constitution and laws of the United States. **[**, shall cast their ballots for President and Vice President. Each such elector shall cast such elector's ballots for the candidates under whose names such elector ran on the official election ballot, as provided in section 9-175**]** The Secretary of the State shall preside over the casting of such ballots.

(b) (1) If any **[**such**]** presidential elector is absent or if there is a vacancy in the **[**electoral college**]** presidential electors of the state for any cause, the presidential electors present shall **[**, before voting for President and Vice President, elect**]** choose by ballot an **[**elector**]** eligible person to fill such vacancy, and the person so chosen shall be a presidential elector, shall perform the duties of such office and shall cast his or her electoral college ballots for the candidates to whom the presidential elector that he or she is replacing was pledged.

(2) To be eligible to be chosen to fill a vacancy in the presidential electors of the state under subdivision (1) of this subsection, a person shall execute the following pledge: "I agree to serve and to mark my electoral college ballots consistent with the pledge of the presidential elector who I am replacing.".

(c) The Secretary of the State shall provide to each presidential elector the electoral college ballots for President and Vice President. Each presidential elector shall complete such ballots by marking such ballots with his or her votes for President and Vice President, respectively, and

affixing his or her signature and legibly printed name to such ballots.

(d) Each presidential elector shall present such completed ballots to the Secretary of the State, who shall examine such ballots and accept as cast each such ballot marked consistent with the pledge executed by such presidential elector under section 73 of this act or subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, as applicable. In the case of an electoral college ballot marked inconsistent with the pledge so executed, the Secretary shall not accept as cast such ballot.

(e) Any presidential elector who refuses to comply with any provision of subsection (c) or (d) of this section, or marks any electoral college ballot inconsistent with the pledge executed by such presidential elector under section 73 of this act or subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, shall forfeit the office of presidential elector and cause a vacancy in the presidential electors of the state, which vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section. Each time such a vacancy is so filled, the process set forth in subsections (c) and (d) of this section shall be repeated until all electoral college ballots of all presidential electors of the state have been accepted as cast.

(f) After all electoral college ballots of all presidential electors of the state have been accepted as cast, the Secretary of the State shall furnish six duplicate originals of the certificate of ascertainment of appointment of presidential electors previously issued and transmitted by the Secretary pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-315 or an amended version of such certificate prepared pursuant to subsection (h) of this section, as applicable, to the presidential electors. The Secretary shall then assist such presidential electors with preparing, signing and transmitting the six certificates of votes required under 3 USC Sections 9 to 11, inclusive, as amended from time to time, and annexing to all certificates of votes the duplicate originals of the most recent version of the certificate of ascertainment described in this subdivision.

(g) Any presidential elector who refuses to sign any of the certificates of votes, as provided in subsection (f) of this section, shall forfeit the office of presidential elector and cause a vacancy in the presidential electors of the state, which vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section. Each time such a vacancy is so filled, the process set forth in subsections (c), (d) and (f) of this section shall be repeated until all electoral college ballots of all presidential electors of the state have been accepted as cast and all certificates of votes have been signed by all such presidential electors.

(h) After all electoral college ballots of all presidential electors of the state have been accepted as cast and all certificates of votes have been signed by all such presidential electors, the Secretary of the State shall prepare a final list of presidential electors of the state. Whenever the final list of presidential electors of the state differs from the list of presidential electors of the state that was included on the certificate of ascertainment of appointment of presidential electors previously issued and transmitted by the Secretary of the State pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-315, the Secretary shall immediately (1) prepare an amended certificate of ascertainment of appointment of presidential electors that complies with the provisions of 3 USC 5(a)(2), as amended from time to time, (2) issue such amended certificate, and (3) transmit, in the most expeditious method available, such amended certificate to the Archivist of the United States.

(i) Any presidential elector who fails to mark his or her electoral college ballots consistent with the pledge he or she has executed under section 73 of this act or subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, as applicable, shall be ineligible upon such failure and thereafter to the office of presidential elector.

Sec. 75. Section 9-315 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) The votes returned as cast for a senator in Congress, representatives in Congress and presidential electors shall be publicly counted by the Treasurer, Secretary of the State and Comptroller on the last Wednesday of the month in which **[**they**]** such votes were cast, and such votes shall be counted in conformity to any decision rendered by the judges of the Supreme Court as provided in section 9-323. In accordance with the count so made, they shall, on said day, declare what persons are elected senators in the Congress of the United States or representatives in Congress, and the Secretary of the State shall forthwith notify **[**them**]** such persons by mail of their election; and, except in the event that the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote under section 9-175a has taken effect in accordance with Article IV of said agreement, they shall declare the proper number of persons having the greatest number of votes to be presidential electors and, in case of an equal vote for said presidential electors, shall determine by lot from the persons having such equal number of votes the persons appointed, and the Secretary of the State shall forthwith notify **[**them**]** such persons by mail of their appointment.

(b) For the purposes of the Electoral Count Reform Act of 2022, P.L. 117-328, Div. P, Title I, as amended from time to time, the Secretary of the State shall be the executive of the state responsible for issuing a certificate of ascertainment of appointment of presidential electors and, immediately after such issuance, transmitting such certificate to the Archivist of the United States. In preparing such certificate, the Secretary shall specify in the text thereof that (1) the presidential electors appointed under subsection (a) of this section will serve as such unless a vacancy occurs in the presidential electors of the state before the conclusion of the meeting held under section 9-176, in which case an eligible person shall be chosen to fill such vacancy in accordance with the provisions of said section, and (2) if an eligible person is chosen to fill such a vacancy, the Secretary shall issue an amended certificate of ascertainment of appointment of presidential electors, stating the names

comprising the final list of presidential electors of the state, and shall transmit such amended certificate to the Archivist of the United States.

Sec. 76. Subsection (a) of section 17b-3 of the general statutes, as amended by section 158 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall administer all law under the jurisdiction of the Department of Social Services. The commissioner shall have the power and duty to do the following: (1) Administer, coordinate and direct the operation of the department; (2) adopt and enforce such regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as are necessary to implement the purposes of the department as established by statute; (3) establish rules for the internal operation and administration of the department; (4) establish and develop programs and administer services to achieve the purposes of the department as established by statute; (5) enter into a contract, including, but not limited to, up to five contracts with other states, for facilities, services and programs to implement the purposes of the department as established by statute; (6) process applications and requests for services promptly; (7) with the approval of the Comptroller and in accordance with such procedures as may be specified by the Comptroller, make payments to providers of services for individuals who are eligible for benefits from the department as appropriate; (8) make no duplicate awards for items of assistance once granted, except for replacement of lost or stolen checks on which payment has been stopped; (9) promote economic self-sufficiency where appropriate in the department's programs, policies, practices and staff interactions with recipients; (10) act as advocate for the need of more comprehensive and coordinated programs for persons served by the department; (11) plan services and programs for persons served by the department; (12) coordinate outreach activities by public and private agencies assisting persons served by the department; (13) consult and cooperate with area and private planning agencies; (14)

advise and inform municipal officials and officials of social service agencies about social service programs and collect and disseminate information pertaining thereto, including information about federal, state, municipal and private assistance programs and services; (15) encourage and facilitate effective communication and coordination among federal, state, municipal and private agencies; (16) inquire into the utilization of state and federal government resources which offer solutions to problems of the delivery of social services; (17) conduct, encourage and maintain research and studies relating to social services development; (18) prepare, review and encourage model comprehensive social service programs; (19) maintain an inventory of data and information and act as a clearing house and referral agency for information on state and federal programs and services; (20) conduct, encourage and maintain research and studies and advise municipal officials and officials of social service agencies about forms of intergovernmental cooperation and coordination between public and private agencies designed to advance social service programs; **[**(21) develop an annual summary and analysis of community benefit reporting by hospitals pursuant to section 19a-127k; and (22)**]** and (21) receive reports from each hospital regarding its financial health pursuant to section 19a-486j. The commissioner may require notice of the submission of all applications by municipalities, any agency thereof, and social service agencies, for federal and state financial assistance to carry out social services. The commissioner shall establish state-wide and regional advisory councils.

Sec. 77. Subsection (a) of section 19a-502 of the general statutes, as amended by section 183 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) Any person establishing, conducting, managing or operating any institution without the license required under the provisions of this chapter or without the certificate required under the provisions of

section 19a-561 shall be guilty of a class **[**D felony**]** C misdemeanor and fined not more than **[**five**]** two thousand dollars for each day of continuing action in violation of this chapter or section 19a-561.

Sec. 78. Subsection (b) of section 19a-503 of the general statutes, as amended by section 184 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(b) The commissioner may, after a hearing held in accordance with chapter 54, impose a civil penalty on any person establishing, conducting, managing or operating any institution without the license required under this chapter or without the certificate required under section 19a-561. The amount of any such civil penalty shall not exceed **[**twenty-five**]** five thousand dollars for each day such person is in violation of this chapter or section 19a-561.

Sec. 79. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of section 10-512c of the general statutes, any funds released by the Treasurer to the Commissioner of Early Childhood pursuant to section 10-512b of the general statutes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and that are not fully expended by the end of said fiscal year shall not lapse and shall remain available to the commissioner for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, until such funds are fully expended.

Sec. 80. Section 391 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the city of Hartford shall be paid a supplemental education aid grant in an amount equal to five million dollars of its grant amount listed in section 390 of **[**this act**]** public act 26-68. The amount paid to the city of Hartford shall be paid by the Comptroller, upon certification of the Commissioner of Education, to the treasurer of Hartford not later than June thirtieth of

said fiscal year. All aid paid to the city of Hartford pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision shall be expended for educational purposes only and shall be expended upon the authorization of the board of education for Hartford. Such grant shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational purposes.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, each town shall be paid a supplemental education aid grant equal to the amount prescribed in section 390 of **[**this act**]** public act 26-68. The amount due each town shall be paid by the Comptroller, upon certification of the Commissioner of Education, to the treasurer of each town not later than June thirtieth of said fiscal year. All aid distributed to a town pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision shall be expended for educational purposes only and shall be expended upon the authorization of the local or regional board of education. Such grant shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational purposes. For any town paid a supplemental education aid grant under subdivision (1) of this subsection, such amount paid shall be deducted from the town's grant paid for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027.

(b) Such grant shall not be considered part of the budgeted appropriation for education for the town for purposes of calculating the minimum budget requirement for the town pursuant to section 10-262j of the general statutes.

Sec. 81. Section 223 of public act 26-68 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 82. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 362 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(4) If any protest or appeal is pending on the first day of the next succeeding state fiscal year, the amounts reported by the protesting or

appealing taxpayer shall be used to tentatively calculate the tax due under this section until such protest or appeal is finally resolved. If any amount is revised pursuant to such protest or appeal from the amount originally reported by a hospital, the commissioner shall recalculate for each hospital the amounts due under **[**this**]** section 12-263q of the general statutes, as amended by section 385 of public act 26-68, and shall issue assessments or refunds, as applicable, with respect to any affected calendar quarter.

Sec. 83. Subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 17b-239e of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 363 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(3) (A) For the fiscal years commencing on or after July 1, 2026, the Department of Social Services shall pay Medicaid supplemental payments to nongovernmental hospitals located in the state for inpatient hospital services, outpatient hospital services and hospital-based physician and mid-level services; hospital-affiliated medical groups; and faculty practice plans, as set forth in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, from the hospital supplemental payment account, established by section 359 of public act 26-68. The commissioner shall diligently pursue the federal approvals required for the supplemental pools and payments set forth in this subdivision and shall make such payments while federal approval is being pursued. During the pendency of any request for approval to remove the exemption for children's general hospitals under section 12-263q(b)(2), any children's general hospital that would be eligible for payments under this subdivision if such approval were granted shall be treated as eligible for such payments unless and until the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services denies such request.

Sec. 84. Section 485 of public act 26-68 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 85. Section 263 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to income and taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2026*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue Services;

(2) "Department" means the Department of Revenue Services;

(3) "Income year" means the income year or taxable year, as determined under chapter 207, 208 or 229 of the general statutes, as the case may be;

(4) "Qualified small business" means an employer in the state that (A) is subject to tax under chapter 207, 208 or 229 of the general statutes, (B) employs fewer than fifty employees in the state on the date of its application under subsection (c) of this section, and (C) has adopted an individual coverage health reimbursement arrangement, as described in Section 9831(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, in lieu of a traditional employer-provided health insurance plan;

(5) "Qualified contribution" means a contribution by a qualified small business toward a covered employee's individual coverage health reimbursement arrangement during the income year; **[**and**]**

(6) "Covered employee" means an employee for whom the qualified small employer made a qualified contribution toward an individual coverage health reimbursement arrangement during the income year; and

(7) "Exchange" means the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange established pursuant to section 38a-1081 of the general statutes.

(b) (1) There is established an individual coverage health reimbursement arrangement tax credit for qualified small businesses

whereby a qualified small business may be allowed a tax credit against the taxes imposed under chapter 207, 208 or 229 of the general statutes, other than the liability imposed by section 12-707 of the general statutes, for participation in an individual coverage health reimbursement arrangement through the exchange.

(2) The amount of the credit allowed for an income year shall be equal to the lesser of: (A) The sum of qualified contributions made by the qualified small business during the income year, or (B) one thousand dollars per covered employee. Any tax credit not used in the income year during which it was earned shall expire and shall not be refundable.

(3) A credit under this section may be allowed to a qualified small business for the first income year during which the business offered an individual coverage health reimbursement arrangement and the immediately succeeding income year. No credit shall be allowed for any other income year.

(c) (1) Any qualified small business planning to claim a credit under the provisions of this section shall apply to the commissioner, in such form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, to reserve an allocation for a credit based upon the qualified contributions the business intends to make. Such application shall indicate the amount of qualified contributions that the business intends to make in the first income year during which it offers an individual coverage health reimbursement arrangement and the immediately succeeding income year. The application shall contain such information as the commissioner deems necessary to administer the provisions of this section.

(2) The commissioner shall approve applications for the reservation of a credit on a first-come, first-served basis and shall notify the qualified small business in writing not later than thirty days after the

date of receipt of an application of the commissioner's approval or rejection of the application. If the commissioner approves the application of the qualified small business, the commissioner shall issue a certification letter indicating the amount of the tax credit that has been reserved for such business during each of the two income years for which it is eligible to claim the credit. A qualified small business may not claim a credit under this section in excess of the amount reserved by the commissioner.

(3) The total amount of tax credits reserved under this section shall not exceed five million dollars for any income year.

(4) The commissioner shall provide a copy of each certification letter issued pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection to the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange. The commissioner and the chief executive officer of the exchange may also enter into a memorandum of understanding to share any additional information, including returns and return information as such terms are defined in section 12-15 of the general statutes, with each other to facilitate the administration of the credit available under this section. Any return or return information disclosed by the commissioner shall not be redisclosed by the recipient to a third party without permission from the commissioner and shall only be used by the exchange in the manner prescribed in the memorandum of understanding.

(d) If the qualified small business is an S corporation or an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, the tax credit may be claimed by the shareholders or partners of the qualified small business. If the qualified small business is a single member limited liability company that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, the tax credit may be claimed by the limited liability company's owner.

Sec. 86. (*Effective from passage*) Up to $500,000 of the unexpended

balance of funds appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by public act 26-68, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Various Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, for High Poverty Community Leadership Development, shall not lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for leadership development of a community development corporation and the operations of such corporation in Hartford's South End.

Sec. 87. Section 43 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Up to **[**$100,000**]** $200,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 26-68, to the Judicial Department, for Youth Services Prevention, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be transferred to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Various Grants, and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for a grant-in-aid to My Architecture Workshops.

Sec. 88. Section 51 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Up to **[**$25,000**]** $90,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 26-68, to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for a grant-in-aid to Burns Latino Academy for musical instruments and instruction.

Sec. 89. Section 15-120h of the general statutes, as amended by section 166 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in

lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

As used in sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Airport project" means any acquisition, disposition, demolition, remediation, construction, renovation, repair, replacement, expansion, environmental remediation or other development of real property or improvements that is related to an airport facility or access to an airport facility, including (A) the acquisition of off-airport land required by a permitting agency, (B) for purposes of a runway, a taxilane, a hanger, a depot, an apron, a mezzanine, baggage handling, administration, maintenance, storage, utilities or parking, (C) furniture, fixtures, equipment, communication, navigation, safety infrastructure and systems and other personal property which is reasonably necessary to acquire in connection with such development, and (D) associated interest, reserve fund deposits and other financing costs and charges necessary or incident to the development, financing, completion and placement in operation of any airport project, owned in its entirety by the authority, or suitable for use by the authority, in accordance with the purposes of the authority;

(2) "Authority" means the Tweed-New Haven Airport Authority, as created under section 15-120i;

(3) "Bonds" means bonds of the authority issued under the provisions of this chapter, including refunding bonds, which may be secured by mortgages or the full faith and credit of the authority, the full faith and credit of a participating corporation or any other lawfully pledged security of the authority or a participating corporation, which may include, but need not be limited to, the revenues from the airport or a financing project.

(4) "Cost" in relation to an airport project or any portion of an airport

project financed under the provision of this chapter, includes all or any part of the cost of (A) construction and acquisition of all lands, structures, real or personal property, rights, rights-of-way, franchises, easements, permits, licenses and other interests of any kind which may be owned, held, possessed, transferred, assigned or otherwise acquired or used for an airport project, including the acquisition of off-airport land; (B) demolishing, renovation, expanding or removing any buildings or other structures on acquired land, including the cost of acquiring land upon which such buildings or structures may be moved; (C) environmental remediation; (D) all machinery, equipment, repairs or improvements to other public or private property or infrastructure that is necessary for, incident to or a condition for, the construction, placement, operation or use of airport infrastructure; (E) the payment of offset, impact or compensatory fees or payments for the use of, modifications to or disruption of, public or private properties, adverse impact upon the environment or the health, safety or welfare of the general public, finance charges, interest prior to, during and for a period after, completion of construction, working capital, reserves for principal and interest, extensions, enlargements, additions, replacements, renovations and improvements; (F) engineering, financial and legal services, designs, plans, studies, surveys, inspections, testing, regulatory compliance and certifications, estimates of cost and of revenues, project management, administrative expense, expenses necessary to determine the feasibility or practicability of constructing the airport project; and (G) other expenses necessary or incident to the construction, acquisition, financing or operation of the airport project;

(5) "Federally guaranteed security" means any security, investment or evidence of indebtedness which is either directly or indirectly insured or guaranteed, in whole or in part, concerning the payment of principal and interest by the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof;

(6) "Financing project" means (A) an airport project, (B) the leasing, licensing **[**,**]** or operation of an airport project, and (C) any other activity or property for which the authority is authorized to issue bonds or provide financing under the provisions of this chapter;

(7) "Participating corporation" means any corporation, partnership, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, limited partnership, nonprofit organization, specially chartered corporation or similar type of legal business entity, quasi-public authority or governmental entity;

(8) "Procedure" means each statement, by the authority, of general applicability, without regard to its designation, that implements or prescribes law or policy or describes the organization or procedure of the authority. **[**, including, but not limited to, bylaws.**]** "Procedure" includes the amendment or repeal of a prior regulation, but does not include, unless otherwise provided by any provision of the general statutes, (A) statements concerning only the internal management of the authority and not affecting procedures available to the public, and (B) intra-authority memoranda;

(9) "Proposed procedure" means a proposal by the authority under the provisions of section 15-120k for a new procedure or for a change in, addition to or repeal of an existing procedure.

Sec. 90. Section 167 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, upon certification by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to the Treasurer that the town of East Haven has approved a building permit for a passenger terminal facility located on the East Haven side of the Tweed-New Haven Airport **[**that is adjacent to the town of East Haven**]** and designed to support scheduled and charter commercial

airline flights, including no fewer than two thousand one hundred parking spaces, **[**has opened and is operational**]** but not earlier than July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter until such passenger terminal facility ceases to operate, the Treasurer shall make the following payments in lieu of taxes on behalf of the state:

(1) Four million four hundred thousand dollars to the town of East Haven; and

(2) Two million nine hundred thousand dollars to the city of New Haven.

(b) The payments made pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be in addition to any state grant in lieu of taxes otherwise payable to the town of East Haven or the city of New Haven pursuant to any provision of the general statutes.

Sec. 91. Section 15-120i of the general statutes, as amended by section 168 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) There is created a body politic and corporate to be known as the "Tweed-New Haven Airport Authority". Said authority shall be a public instrumentality and political subdivision of this state and the exercise by the authority of the powers conferred by sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, shall be deemed and held to be the performance of an essential public and governmental function. The Tweed-New Haven Airport Authority shall not be construed to be a department, institution or agency of the state.

(b) (1) The authority shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of fifteen members, each member serving not more than two consecutive four-year terms. The terms of the members shall be staggered so that not more than four members' terms shall expire at the same time.

(2) Until thirty days after the issuance of a building permit in accordance with subdivision (3) of this subsection, the membership of the board shall be appointed as follows: Eight members of the board shall be appointed by the mayor of New Haven and five members shall be appointed by the mayor of East Haven, at least six of whom shall be residents of New Haven or East Haven. Two members of the board shall be appointed by the South Central Regional Council of Governments, each of whom shall be a resident of any of the following towns or cities: Bethany, Branford, Guilford, Hamden, Madison, Milford, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Wallingford, West Haven or Woodbridge.

(3) Thirty days after the issuance by the local building official and fire marshal of a building permit to construct a passenger terminal facility located on the East Haven side of the Tweed-New Haven Airport **[**that is adjacent to the town of East Haven**]** and designed to support scheduled and charter commercial airline flights, including no fewer than two thousand one hundred parking spaces, the membership of the board shall be appointed as follows: Eight members of the board shall be appointed by the mayor of New Haven and seven members shall be appointed by the mayor of East Haven, at least six of whom shall be residents of New Haven or East Haven. Any member appointed by the South Central Regional Council of Governments pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection and serving at the time of the issuance of such permit shall continue to serve until **[**such time as**]** the initial appointment of the two additional members appointed by the mayor of East Haven under this subdivision, at which time the terms of the members appointed by the South Central Regional Council of Governments shall terminate.

(4) The fifteen members of the board of directors appointed by the mayors of New Haven and East Haven shall be special directors vested with additional powers set forth in the bylaws of the Tweed-New Haven

Airport Authority.

(c) The board of directors shall elect a chairperson from among its members and shall annually elect one of its members as vice-chairperson and shall elect other members as officers, and establish bylaws as necessary for the operation of the authority. Members of the board of directors shall receive no compensation for the performance of their duties. No member of the board shall have any financial interest in Tweed-New Haven Airport or any of its tenants or concessions.

(d) The powers of the authority shall be vested in and exercised by the board. Eight members of the board shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting of the board shall be sufficient for any action taken by the board, except as provided in subsection (e) of this section and sections 15-120j and 15-120k. No vacancy in the membership of the board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the board. Any action taken by the board may be authorized by resolution at any regular or special meeting and shall take effect immediately unless otherwise provided in the resolution. Notice of any meeting, whether special or regular, shall be given orally, not less than forty-eight hours prior to the meeting. The board may delegate to three or more of its members, or its officers, agents and employees, such board powers and duties as it may deem proper.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, upon the issuance of a building permit to construct a passenger terminal facility located on the East Haven side of the Tweed-New Haven Airport **[**that is adjacent to the town of East Haven**]** and designed to support scheduled and charter commercial airline flights, including no fewer than two thousand one hundred parking spaces, the following actions shall require the affirmative vote of at least ten members of the board, unless such actions are required to comply with applicable federal law, including mandatory conditions of grants of the Federal Aviation

Administration, the airport operating certificate, safety or security directives or any action necessary to maintain safe airport operations:

(1) Any extension of Runway 2-20 of the airport exceeding six thousand six hundred thirty-five linear feet;

(2) Construction of any new facility, or the structural conversion of any existing airport facility, for the purpose of providing or enabling freight and cargo services;

(3) Any expansion project that increases the operational capacity, passenger capacity, gate or landing position capacity or increases use of airport facilities within the town of East Haven, excluding any project that is part of, and consistent with, the terminal expansion project approved by the authority prior to such permit issuance, including all associated supporting infrastructure necessary to complete such terminal expansion project;

(4) Any addition, material modification or closing of any airport entrances or exits;

(5) Any lease agreement or renewal of a lease agreement pertaining to general aviation services, including the addition of any fixed base operations;

(6) Any amendment to provisions of a lease or other agreement or renewal of a lease or other agreement, for private operation or management of the airport that would impact (A) cargo or freight operations, the construction of a facility or modification of existing facilities to accommodate such operations, (B) community benefits, including, but not limited to, mitigation payments paid by the private operator, (C) operation of parking at the West Terminal and access to such terminal, and (D) the acquisition of additional property; **[**and**]**

(7) The repeal or reduction of noise mitigation or abatement measures

previously approved by the board; and

(8) Any amendments to the bylaws of the authority.

(f) The authority shall have perpetual succession and shall adopt procedures for the conduct of its affairs in accordance with section 15-120k. Such succession shall continue as long as the authority shall have obligations outstanding and until the existence of the authority is terminated by law at which time the rights and properties of the authority shall pass to and be vested in the city of New Haven.

Sec. 92. Section 15-120j of the general statutes, as amended by section 169 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) The authority shall maintain and improve Tweed-New Haven Airport as an important economic development asset for the south central Connecticut region which is comprised of the towns and cities of Bethany, Branford, East Haven, Guilford, Hamden, Madison, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Wallingford, West Haven and Woodbridge. The authority shall have the following powers and duties and may exercise such powers in its own name:

(1) To manage, maintain, supervise and operate Tweed-New Haven Airport and any improvements or additions made to such airport from time to time under this chapter;

(2) To do all things necessary to maintain working relationships with the state, municipalities and persons, and conduct the business of a regional airport, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations;

(3) To charge reasonable fees for the services it performs and modify, reduce or increase such fees, provided fees shall apply uniformly to all airport users;

(4) To enter into contracts, leases and agreements for goods and equipment and for services with airlines, concessions, counsel, engineers, architects, private consultants and advisors;

(5) To contract for the construction, reconstruction, enlargement or alteration of airport projects with private persons and firms in accordance with such terms and conditions as the authority shall determine;

(6) To make plans and studies in conjunction with the Federal Aviation Administration or other state or federal agencies;

(7) To apply for and receive grant funds for airport purposes;

(8) To plan and enter into contracts with municipalities, the state, businesses and other entities to finance the operations and debt of the airport, including compensation to the host municipalities of New Haven and East Haven for the use of the land occupied by the airport;

(9) To borrow funds for airport purposes for such consideration and upon such terms as the authority may determine to be reasonable;

(10) To employ a staff necessary to carry out its functions and purposes and fix the duties, compensation and benefits of such staff;

(11) To issue and sell bonds and to use the proceeds of such bonds for capital improvements to the airport and to provide for the financing of financing projects, and to fund or refund such projects;

(12) To acquire, lease and sell property for airport purposes, subject to applicable requirements of federal law and regulation;

(13) To own, operate, lease, assign, pledge, sell or dispose of personal property of any kind for airport purposes, including, but not limited to, securities, rights and privileges in contract or at law, insurance, security and trade fixtures;

(14) To operate the authority, subject to applicable requirements of federal law and regulation;

[(14)**]** (15) To fix, revise from time to time, charge and collect rates, rents, fees and charges for the use of and services furnished or to be furnished by a financing project or a portion of a financing project and to enter into a contract with any person or participating corporation, public or private, concerning such financing project;

[(15)**]** (16) To make loans to any participating corporation for purposes of providing financing for a financing project in accordance with any agreement between the authority and such corporation;

[(16)**]** (17) To acquire and agree to acquire any federally guaranteed security and pledge or use such security in a manner that the authority determines in its best interest to secure or as a source of repayment on any of its bonds, notes or other obligation or to agree to make a loan to a participating corporation for purposes of acquiring any federally guaranteed security;

[(17)**]** (18) To enter into any contract or series of contracts that the authority deems to be necessary or appropriate concerning the bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority;

[(18)**]** (19) To prepare and issue budgets, reports, procedures, audits and such other materials as may be necessary and desirable to its purposes;

[(19)**]** (20) To accept from any public agency, as defined in section 1-200, insurance, loans or grants for purposes of a financing project or any portion of such project and to receive loans, grants or other assistance, including money, property or services, from any source provided any such assistance is used only for the purposes which such assistance is granted;

[(20)**]** (21) To invest any funds not needed for immediate use or disbursement, in reserve funds, federally guaranteed securities or in the state, including the Short Term Investment Fund created under section 3-27a, Medium-Term Investment Fund created under section 3-28a or other securities, obligations or investments described in a trust agreement or resolution providing for the issuance of **[**bond funds**]** bonds;

[(21)**]** (22) To charge and equitably apportion administrative costs and expenses incurred by the authority in the exercise of the powers and duties of the authority among participating corporations; and

[(22**]** (23) To exercise all other powers granted to such an authority by law.

(b) The authority shall have full control of the operation and management of the airport, including land, buildings and easements by means of a lease to the authority by the city of New Haven and the town of East Haven.

(c) The authority may undertake a financing project for two or more participating corporations jointly and may structure such financing as a single project or as related components thereof. In such cases, all provisions of this section and sections 15-120h to 15-120o, inclusive, shall apply to and for the benefit of the authority and such participating corporations.

Sec. 93. Section 15-120*l* of the general statutes, as amended by section 170 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) The board of directors of the authority is authorized from time to time to issue its bonds, notes and other obligations in such principal amounts as in the opinion of the board shall be necessary to provide sufficient funds for carrying out the purposes set forth in sections 15-

120g to 15-120o, inclusive, including the payment, funding or refunding of the principal of, or interest or redemption premiums on, any bonds, notes and other obligations issued by it whether the bonds, notes or other obligations or interest to be funded or refunded have or have not become due, the establishment of reserves to secure such bonds, notes and other obligations and all other expenditures of the authority incident to and necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes set forth in said sections. In anticipation of the sale of such bonds, the authority may issue negotiable bond anticipation notes and may renew the same from time to time. Such notes shall be paid from any revenues of the authority or other moneys available to the authority and not otherwise pledged, or from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds of the authority in anticipation of which they were issued. Such notes and any resolution authorizing such notes may contain any provisions, conditions or limitations that a resolution authorizing bonds may contain.

(b) Except as otherwise expressly provided in sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, or by the board, every issue of bonds, notes or other obligations, shall be a general obligation of the authority payable out of any moneys or revenues of the authority subject only to any agreements with the holders of particular bonds, notes or other obligations pledging any particular moneys or revenues, which may be subject to any applicable agreements with a participating corporation for any bonds issued on behalf of a participating corporation. Any such bonds, notes or other obligations may be additionally secured by any grant or contributions from any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States or person or a pledge of any moneys, income or revenues of the authority from any source whatsoever. Bonds issued by the authority under the provisions of this chapter are securities (1) in which all public officers and public bodies of the state and the political subdivisions of the state, insurance companies, state banks and trust companies, national banking associations, savings banks, savings and

loan associations, investment companies, executors, administrators, trustees and other fiduciaries may properly and legally invest funds, and (2) which may properly and legally be deposited with and received by any state or municipal officer, state agency or political subdivision of the state for any purpose for which the deposit of bonds or obligations of the state is authorized by law.

(c) Any provision of any law to the contrary notwithstanding, any bonds, notes or other obligations issued by the authority pursuant to sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, shall be fully negotiable within the meaning and for all purposes of title 42a. Any such bonds, notes or other obligations shall be legal investments for all trust companies, banks, investment companies, savings banks, building and loan associations, executors, administrators, guardians, conservators, trustees and other fiduciaries and pension, profit-sharing and retirement funds.

(d) Bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority shall be authorized by resolution of the board of directors of the authority and may be issued in one or more series and shall bear such date or dates, mature at such time or times, in the case of any such bond or note, or any renewal thereof, not exceeding the term of years as the board shall determine from the date of the original issue of such bond or notes, bear interest at such rate or rates, be in such denomination or denominations, be in such form, either coupon or registered, carry such conversion or registration privileges, have such rank or priority, be executed in such manner, be payable in any lawful money of the United States at such place or places within or without this state, and be subject to such terms of redemption, with or without premium, as such resolution or resolutions may provide.

(e) Bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority may be sold at public or private sale at such price or prices as the authority shall determine. The board may by resolution delegate to the chairperson or

vice-chairperson of the board, the executive director or another officer of the authority the power to fix the date of sale of bonds, to receive bids or proposals, to award and sell bonds and to take all other necessary actions to sell and deliver bonds. The exercise of such delegated powers **[**shall**]** may be subject to the approval of the board in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of section 15-120i. The authority may issue interim receipts or certificates while preparing the definitive bonds and shall exchange such receipts or certificates for the definitive bonds.

(f) Bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority may be refunded and renewed from time to time as may be determined by resolution of the board, provided any such refunding or renewal shall be in conformity with any rights of the holders thereof.

(g) Bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority issued under the provisions of sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, shall not be deemed to constitute a debt or liability of the state or of any political subdivision thereof other than the authority or a pledge of the faith and credit of the state or of any such political subdivision other than the authority, and shall not constitute bonds or notes issued or guaranteed by the state within the meaning of section 3-21, but shall be payable solely from the funds herein provided therefor. All such bonds, notes or other obligations shall contain on the face thereof a statement to the effect that neither the state of Connecticut nor any political subdivision thereof other than the authority shall be obligated to pay the same or the interest thereof except from revenues or other funds of the authority and that neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the state of Connecticut or of any political subdivision thereof other than the authority is pledged to the payment of the principal of or the interest on such bonds, notes or other obligations. The authority may issue revenue bonds for the benefit of a participating corporation in accordance with the provisions of sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, provided **[**there is an agreement with the holder of such bonds that in no event shall the**]**

such revenue bonds and the trust agreement or resolution for such revenue bonds state that the authority shall not be liable for the repayment of such revenue bonds from any revenue or assets of the authority other than any assets pledged for such bonds, regardless of whether such assets shall revert to the authority.

(h) Any resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds, notes or other obligations may contain provisions, except as expressly limited in sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, and except as otherwise limited by existing agreements with the holders of bonds, notes or other obligations, that shall be a part of the contract with the holders thereof, as to the following:

(1) The pledging of the full faith and credit of the authority, the full faith and credit of any participating corporation, all or any part of the revenues of a financing project or any revenue-producing contract made by the authority with any participating corporation, any federally guaranteed security and moneys received therefrom purchased with bond proceeds or all or any part of any other property, revenues, funds or legally available moneys to secure the payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds, notes or other obligations or of any issue thereof;

(2) The pledging of all or part of the assets of the authority to secure the payment of the principal and interest on any bonds, notes or other obligations or of any issue thereof, including rental fees and other charges, and the amounts to be raised during each year, and the use and disposition of the revenues;

(3) The establishment of reserves or sinking funds, the making of charges and fees to provide for the same, and the regulation and disposition thereof;

(4) Limitations on the purpose to which the proceeds of sale of bonds,

notes or other obligations may be applied and pledging such proceeds to secure the payment of the bonds, notes or other obligations, or of any issues thereof;

(5) Limitations on the issuance of additional bonds, notes or other obligations; the terms upon which additional bonds, bond anticipation notes or other obligations may be issued and secured and the refunding or purchase of outstanding bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority;

(6) The procedure, if any, by which the terms of any contract with the holders of any bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority may be amended or abrogated, the amount of bonds, notes or other obligations the holders of which must consent thereto, and the manner in which such consent may be given;

(7) Limitations on the amount of moneys derived from the financing project to be expended for operating, administrative or other expenses of the authority;

(8) The vesting in a trustee or trustees of such property, rights, powers and duties in trust as the authority may determine, which may include any or all of the rights, powers and duties of any trustee appointed by the holders of any bonds, notes or other obligations and limiting or abrogating the right of the holders of any bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority to appoint a trustee under this chapter or limiting the rights, powers and duties of such trustee;

(9) Provision for a trust agreement by and between the authority and a corporate trustee which may be any trust company or bank having the powers of a trust company within or without the state, which agreement may provide for the pledging or assigning of any assets or income from assets to which or in which the authority has any rights or interest, and may further provide for such other rights and remedies exercisable by

the trustee as may be proper for the protection of the holders of any bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority and not otherwise in violation of law. Such trust agreement, resolution providing for the issuance of such bonds or other instrument of the authority may secure such bonds by a pledge or assignment of any revenues to be received, any contract or the proceeds of any contract or any other property, revenues, moneys or funds available to the authority for such purpose. Such agreement may provide for the restriction of the rights of any individual holder of bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority or a financing project. All expenses incurred in carrying out the provisions of such trust agreement or resolution may be treated as a part of the cost of operation of the authority or of a financing project. The trust agreement may contain any further provisions which are reasonable to delineate further the respective rights, duties, safeguards, responsibilities and liabilities of the authority; individual and collective holders of bonds, notes and other obligations of the authority and the trustees;

(10) Covenants to do or refrain from doing such acts and things as may be necessary or convenient or desirable in order to better secure any bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority, or which, in the discretion of the authority, will tend to make any bonds, notes or other obligations to be issued more marketable notwithstanding that such covenants, acts or things may not be enumerated in this section;

(11) Provisions permitting any participating corporation to enter into a leasehold mortgage of its leasehold interest in any financing project and the site thereof or to pledge or assign a loan agreement, conditional sale agreement, sale agreement or lease for the benefit of the holders of any bonds issued to finance such financing project; and

(12) Any other matters of like or different character, which in any way affect the security or protection of the bonds, notes or other obligations. All expenses incurred in carrying out the provisions of this chapter shall

be payable solely from funds provided under the authority of this chapter and no liability or obligation shall be incurred by the authority under this section beyond the extent to which moneys have been provided in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(i) Any pledge made by the authority of income, revenues, or other property shall be valid and binding from the time the pledge is made, and shall constitute a pledge within the meaning and for all purposes of title 42a. The income, revenue, or other property so pledged and thereafter received by the authority shall immediately be subject to the lien of such pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and the lien of any such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the authority, irrespective of whether such parties have notice thereof.

(j) The board of directors of the authority may obtain from any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States any insurance or guarantee as to, or of or for the payment or repayment of, interest or principal, or both, or any part thereof, on any bonds, notes or other obligations issued by the authority pursuant to the provisions of sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, and, notwithstanding any other provisions of said sections, to enter into any agreement, contract or any other instrument whatsoever with respect to any such insurance or guarantee except to the extent that such action would in any way impair or interfere with the authority's ability to perform and fulfill the terms of any agreement made with the holders of the bonds, bond anticipation notes or other obligations of the authority.

(k) Neither the members of the board of directors of the authority nor any person executing bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority issued pursuant to sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, shall be liable personally on such bonds, notes or other obligations or be subject to any personal liability or accountability by reason of the issuance thereof, nor shall any director or employee of the authority be personally liable for

damage or injury, not wanton, reckless, wilful or malicious, caused in the performance of his duties and within the scope of his employment or appointment as such director, officer or employee. The authority shall protect, save harmless and indemnify its directors, officers or employees from financial loss and expense, including legal fees and costs, if any, arising out of any claim, demand, suit or judgment by reason of alleged negligence or alleged deprivation of any person's civil rights or any other act or omission resulting in damage or injury, if the director, officer or employee is found to have been acting in the discharge of his duties or within the scope of his employment and such act or omission is found not to have been wanton, reckless, wilful or malicious.

(l) The board of directors of the authority shall have power to purchase bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority out of any funds available therefor. The authority may hold, cancel or resell such bonds, notes or other obligations subject to and in accordance with agreements with holders of its bonds, notes and other obligations.

(m) All moneys received pursuant to the authority of sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, whether as proceeds from the sale of bonds or as revenues, shall be deemed to be trust funds to be held and applied solely as provided in said sections. Any officer with whom, or any bank or trust company with which, such moneys shall be deposited shall act as trustee of such moneys and shall hold and apply the same for the purposes of sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, subject to such regulations as said sections and the resolution authorizing the bonds of any issue or the trust agreement securing such bonds may provide.

(n) Any holder of bonds, notes or other obligations issued under the provisions of sections 15-120g to 15-120o, inclusive, and the trustee or trustees under any trust agreement, except to the extent the rights herein given may be restricted by any resolution authorizing the issuance of, or any such trust agreement securing, such bonds, may, either at law or in equity, by suit, action, mandamus or other proceedings, protect and

enforce any and all rights under the laws of the state or granted hereunder or under such resolution or trust agreement, and may enforce and compel the performance of all duties required by said sections or by such resolution or trust agreement to be performed by the authority or by any officer, employee or agent thereof, including the fixing, charging and collecting of the rates, rents, fees and charges herein authorized and required by the provisions of such resolution or trust agreement to be fixed, established and collected.

(o) The authority may make representations and agreements for the benefit of the holders of any bonds, notes or other obligations of the state which are necessary or appropriate to ensure the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on bonds, notes or other obligations of the state from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, including agreement to pay rebates to the federal government of investment earnings derived from the investment of the proceeds of the bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority. Any such agreement may include: (1) A covenant to pay rebates to the federal government of investment earnings derived from the investment of the proceeds of the bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority, (2) a covenant that the authority will not limit or alter its rebate obligations until its obligations to the holders or owners of such bonds, notes or other obligations are finally met and discharged, and (3) provisions to (A) establish trust and other accounts which may be appropriate to carry out such representations and agreements, (B) retain fiscal agents as depositories for such fund and accounts and (C) provide that such fiscal agents may act as trustee of such funds and accounts.

(p) Authority rates, rents, fees and charges shall be fixed and adjusted considering the aggregate of rates, rents, fees and charges from such financing project in order to provide funds sufficient with other

revenues or moneys available therefor, if any, to (1) pay the cost of maintaining, repairing and operating the financing project and each and every portion thereof, to the extent that the payment of such cost has not otherwise been adequately provided for, (2) pay the principal of and the interest on outstanding bonds of the authority issued for such financing project as the same shall become due and payable, and (3) create and maintain reserves required or provided for in any resolution authorizing, or trust agreement securing, such bonds of the authority. Such rates, rents, fees and charges shall not be subject to supervision or regulation by any department, commission, board, body, bureau or agency of this state other than the authority.

(q) A sufficient amount of the revenues derived in respect of a financing project, except such part of such revenues as may be necessary to pay the cost of maintenance, repair and operation and to provide reserves and for renewals, replacements, extensions, enlargements and improvements as may be provided for in the resolution authorizing the issuance of any bonds of the authority or in the trust agreement securing the same, shall be set aside at such regular intervals as may be provided in such resolution or trust agreement in a sinking or other similar fund which is hereby pledged to, and charged with, the payment of the principal of and the interest on such bonds as the same shall become due, and the redemption price or the purchase price of bonds retired by call or purchase as therein provided. Such pledge shall be valid and binding from the time when the pledge is made and the rates, rents, fees and charges and other revenues or other moneys so pledged and thereafter received by the authority shall immediately be subject to the lien of such pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and the lien of any such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the authority, irrespective of whether such parties have notice thereof. Notwithstanding any provision of the Uniform Commercial Code, neither the resolution, any trust agreement, other agreement nor any

lease by which a pledge is created needs to be filed or recorded except in the records of the authority. The use and disposition of moneys to the credit of such sinking or other similar fund shall be subject to the provisions of the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or of such trust agreement. Unless otherwise provided in such resolution or such trust agreement, such resolution or trust agreement may permit the issuance of bonds having a subordinate lien in respect of the security authorized in this section to other bonds of the authority, and, in such case, the authority may create separate sinking or other similar funds in respect of such subordinate lien bonds.

(r) The authority may issue bonds, notes or other obligations under this section (1) the interest on which may be includable in the gross income of the holder or holders thereof under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, and (2) that may be eligible for tax credits or exemptions or payments from the federal government, or any other desired federal income tax treatment of such bonds, notes or other obligations. Any such bonds, notes or other obligations may be issued only upon a finding by the authority that such issuance is necessary, is in the public interest, and is in furtherance of the purposes and powers of the authority. The state hereby consents to such inclusion only for the bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority so authorized.

(s) The authority may provide for the issuance of bonds of the authority for the purpose of refunding any bonds of the authority then outstanding, including the payment of any redemption premium thereon and any interest accrued or to accrue to the earliest or subsequent date of redemption, purchase or maturity of such bonds. The proceeds of any such bonds issued for the purpose of refunding outstanding bonds may, in the discretion of the authority, be applied to the purchase or retirement at maturity or redemption of such

outstanding bonds either on their earliest or any subsequent redemption date or upon the purchase or at the maturity thereof and may, pending such application, be placed in escrow to be applied to such purchase or retirement at maturity or redemption on such date as may be determined by the authority. Any such escrowed proceeds, pending such use, may be invested and reinvested in federally guaranteed securities and certificates of deposit or time deposits secured by direct obligations of, or obligations unconditionally guaranteed by, the United States, or obligations of a state, a territory, or a possession of the United States, or any political subdivision of such state, territory or possession, or of the District of Columbia, within the meaning of Section 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, the full and timely payment of the principal of and interest on which are secured by an irrevocable deposit of federally guaranteed securities, maturing at such time or times as shall be appropriate to assure the prompt payment, as to principal, interest and redemption premium, if any, of the outstanding bonds to be so refunded. The interest, income and profits, if any, earned or realized on any such investment may also be applied to the payment of the outstanding bonds to be so refunded.

(t) The authority may contract with the holders of any of its bonds or notes for the custody, collection, securing, investment and payment of any reserve funds of the authority, or of any moneys held in trust or otherwise for the payment of bonds or notes, and to carry out such contracts. Any officer with whom, or any bank or trust company with which, such moneys are deposited as trustee thereof shall hold, invest, reinvest and apply such moneys for the purposes thereof, subject to such provisions as this chapter and the resolution authorizing the issue of the bonds or notes or the trust agreement securing such bonds or notes may provide.

Sec. 94. Section 32-75d of the general statutes, as amended by section 173 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(a) There is established an airport development zone, which is comprised of the following census blocks as assigned on October 1, 2011, in the towns of Windsor Locks, Suffield, East Granby and Windsor:

090034701001022, 090034701003000, 090034701003001,
090034701003002, 090034701003003, 090034701003004,
090034701003005, 090034701003017, 090034701003018,
090034701003019, 090034701003020, 090034701003021,
090034701003025, 090034701003026, 090034735022009,
090034735022010, 090034735022011, 090034735022012,
090034735022013, 090034735025004, 090034735027000,
090034735029000, 090034735029001, 090034735029002,
090034735029003, 090034735029004, 090034735029006,
090034761009000, 090034761009010, 090034761009011,
090034761009012, 090034761009013, 090034762001023,
090034762001025, 090034762002009, 090034762002013,
090034763003004, 090034763009000, 090034763009001,
090034763009002, 090034763009003, 090034763009004,
090034763009005, 090034763009006, 090034763009007,
090034763009008, 090034763009009, 090034763009010,
090034763009011, 090034763009012, 090034763009013,
090034763009014, 090034763009015, 090034763009016,
090034763009017, 090034763009018, 090034763009020,
090034763009021, 090034763009022, 090034763009023,
090034763009024, 090034763009025, 090034763009026,
090034763009031, 090034763009033, 090034771014005,
090034771014011, 090034771014012, 090034771014013,
090034771014014, 090034771014017, 090034771014018,
090034771014019, 090034771014020, 090034771023025,
090034771023026, 090034771023027, 090034771023036,
090034701003006, 090034701003022, 090034701003023,
090034701005000, 090034761001039, 090034763009028.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development may

establish additional airport development zones surrounding any of the general aviation airports, as defined in section 15-120aa, or any other airport within the duty, power and authority of the Connecticut Airport Authority, as defined in section 15-120cc, upon receipt from one or more interested municipalities of a proposal recommending the establishment of such a zone.

(1) The commissioner shall consider any such proposal if the commissioner determines that the economic development benefits of establishing a new airport development zone outweigh the anticipated costs to the state and the affected municipalities. Any such proposal shall comply with the state plan of conservation and development adopted pursuant to chapter 297.

(2) A proposal submitted to the commissioner shall include, but not be limited to, an identification of:

(A) The geographical scope of such proposed zone, including designation of all census blocks that are proposed to be incorporated into such zone, provided (i) each zone shall be in accordance with the applicable general aviation airport or other airport's master plan, and (ii) no zone shall extend beyond a two-mile radius of the applicable general aviation airport or other airport without approval of the General Assembly;

(B) The economic development benefits anticipated from the establishment of such zone, including the nature of business and industry that will be developed and the anticipated number of jobs created; and

(C) The anticipated costs of establishing such zone.

(3) The commissioner may modify the geographic scope of the proposed zone to improve, within the commissioner's discretion, the balance between the anticipated economic benefit and the cost to the

state and affected municipalities.

(4) The commissioner may approve the establishment of a new airport development zone.

(5) An airport development zone established pursuant to this subsection shall not include the land on which any general aviation airport or other airport operates, including any state-owned or controlled land.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall establish an airport development zone surrounding **[**Tweed New**]** Tweed-New Haven Airport upon a proposal submitted by the town of East Haven **[**or**]** for census tracts within said town, by the city of New Haven for census tracts within said city or jointly by both said town and city for census tracts within said town and city.

(2) Any such proposal shall comply with the state plan of conservation and development adopted pursuant to chapter 297 and shall include, but need not be limited to, an identification of:

(A) The geographical scope of such proposed zone, including designation of all census blocks that are proposed to be incorporated into such zone, provided such zone shall be in accordance with the master plan of **[**Tweed New**]** Tweed-New Haven Airport and shall not extend beyond a two-mile radius of said airport without approval of the General Assembly;

(B) The economic development benefits anticipated from the establishment of such zone, including the nature of business and industry that will be developed and the anticipated number of jobs created; and

(C) The anticipated costs of establishing such zone.

(3) The commissioner may modify the geographic scope of the proposed zone to improve, within the commissioner's discretion, the balance between the anticipated economic benefit and the cost to the state and affected municipalities.

(4) An airport development zone established pursuant to this subsection shall not include the land on which the **[**Tweed New**]** Tweed-New Haven Airport operates, including any state-owned or controlled land.

Sec. 95. Subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of section 19a-754g of the general statutes, as amended by section 365 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(2) Before finalizing the methodology, the secretary shall provide each hospital with its hospital-specific preliminary results based on the prior year's data, the data and assumptions used to calculate such results and a period of not less than ninety days to validate, verify or challenge such methodology, data, assumptions and preliminary results. The secretary shall consider all timely corrections or challenges submitted by a hospital and shall amend the methodology or preliminary results as appropriate.

Sec. 96. Sections 132 to 137, inclusive, of public act 26-68 are repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 97. Subdivision (2) of subsection (h) of section 19a-754g of the general statutes, as amended by section 365 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(2) Adopt and make available on the office's Internet web site a revised methodology for assessing compliance with the health care cost growth benchmark. Such methodology shall assess cost growth for each

provider entity **[**and hospital**]** in the aggregate across governmental and private payers and shall adjust for clinical risk, and account for changes in payment methodologies that have a material change on cost growth measures; and

Sec. 98. Subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 19a-754g of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 365 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

(3) Not later than January 1, 2029, the secretary shall publish the final hospital payment growth methodology on the office's Internet web site, together with a written response to material comments received, a description of any changes made to the methodology, to the extent feasible and practicable, following testing and validation and an explanation of how the methodology accounts for material changes in patient acuity, clinical complexity, severity of illness, case mix, service intensity, payer mix, service mix, coding guidance, payer claims adjudication practices and services provided.

Sec. 99. Section 224 of public act 25-174, as amended by section 379 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, six million **[**two hundred fifty**]** four hundred ten thousand dollars of the Magnet Schools appropriation provided to the Department of Education for said fiscal year shall be distributed proportionally based on the share of students enrolled in interdistrict magnet school programs operated by entities that are (1) not a local or regional board of education, (2) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173 of the general statutes, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, or (3) any other third-party, not-for-profit corporation

approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Sec. 100. Section 16 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The following sums from the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 26-68, to the Judicial Department, for Youth Services Prevention, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall be made available in said fiscal year as follows:

(1) $75,000 to Dominican American Coalition of Connecticut, Inc.;

(2) $30,000 to Intempo Organization, Inc.;

[(3) $200,000 to My Architecture Workshops, Inc.;**]**

[(4)**]** (3) $50,000 to Second Chance Re-entry Initiative Program (SCRIP); and

[(5)**]** (4) $55,000 to Tri-Town Youth Services.

(b) The sums released by the Judicial Department pursuant to subsection (a) of this section for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, that are not fully expended by the end of said fiscal year shall not lapse and shall remain available to the recipients identified in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of said subsection for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, until such funds are fully expended.

Sec. 101. Section 12-412 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 272 of public act 26-68, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026, and applicable to sales occurring on or after July 1, 2026*):

(NEW) (128) **[**Nonelectronic**]** Sales of nonelectronic school supplies **[**, such as backpacks, lunchboxes, notebooks, pens and pencils, crayons,

rulers and paper**]** that are purchased for nonbusiness purposes. For purposes of implementing the provisions of this subdivision, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall issue policies and procedures to (A) identify a list of qualifying school supplies under this subdivision, and (B) establish criteria to determine when a purchase is made for business purposes. The commissioner shall post such policies and procedures on its Internet web site and submit such policies and procedures to the Secretary of the State for posting on the eRegulations System at least fifteen days prior to the effective date of any such policy or procedure.

Sec. 102. Subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 457 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(3) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, human services, housing and insurance and real estate, or their designees, who shall jointly choose the chairpersons of the working group; and

Sec. 103. Section 180 of public act 26-68 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 13b-268 of the general statutes or any other provision of the general statutes **[**,**]** or special act **[**or regulation**]** that prohibits the construction of any new highway railroad crossing at grade, the Department of Transportation shall allow the town of Newtown or its authority or agent to construct **[**an**]** a public at-grade **[**pedestrian**]** crossing **[**on**]** for pedestrians and bicyclists across the roadway and track of the Stepney Branch of the Housatonic Railroad **[**as part of the Housatonic Valley Rail Trail Railroad**]** at approximately Milepost 0.0 in the town of Newtown, provided such at-grade **[**pedestrian**]** crossing is (1) approved by the legislative body of the town

of Newtown, **[**and**]** the Housatonic Railroad Company and the Maybrook Railroad Company, and (2) constructed in accordance with the **[**department's**]** recommendations from the Department of Transportation. The Housatonic Railroad Company and Maybrook Railroad Company, and their respective successors, shall be deemed an owner, as defined in section 52-557f of the general statutes, of such railroad for the purposes of sections 52-557f to 52-557i, inclusive, of the general statutes.

Sec. 104. (*Effective from passage*) Up to of $100,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by public act 26-68, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Various Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for a grant-in-aid to Angel of Edgewood, Inc.

Sec. 105. (*Effective from passage*) The Legislative Commissioners' Office shall, in codifying the provisions of this act, make such technical, grammatical and punctuation changes as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this act, including, but not limited to, correcting inaccurate internal references.

Sec. 106. Section 29-1*ll* of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, shall establish a project to be known as the social work and law enforcement project to advance the ethical and effective integration of social work services into law enforcement units by preparing social workers, social work students and law enforcement professionals to collaborate in the field of police social work. The project shall be located

at Southern Connecticut State University. The objectives of the project shall be to: (1) Educate and train the social work and law enforcement workforce to collaborate by using a model that integrates police and social work, (2) increase community wellness through training, research, education and policy advocacy concerning the integration of police and social work, (3) strengthen the engagement among social workers, law enforcement officers and community members, and (4) promote dialogue concerning diversity, disparities and systemic racism in criminal and juvenile justice settings. For purposes of this section, "law enforcement unit" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-294a.

(b) Not later than January 1, **[**2026**]** 2027, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with Southern Connecticut State University for an amount not less than eight hundred fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of establishing, expanding and supporting the social work and law enforcement project. Such memorandum shall include, but need not be limited to, a requirement that any use of funding for the project for a purpose other than providing training or education to a police officer shall require the commissioner's written authorization.

Sec. 107. (*Effective from passage*) Section 252 of public act 26-68 shall take effect from its passage.

Sec. 108. (*Effective from passage*) Up to $175,000 of the amount appropriated in section 1 of public act 25-168, as amended by public act 26-68, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Various Grants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, shall not lapse on June 30, 2026, and shall be carried forward and made available during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for a grant-in-aid to Rich Dae Foundation.