

Budgetary Matters (State & Municipal)

HB 6824 The Appropriations Committee's \$40.5 billion, two-year budget proposal making appropriations and other provisions related to revenue for the biennium ending June 30, 2017. Plan added approximately \$514 million in spending to Governor Malloy's plan for FY 2016 and \$278 million more for FY 2017. In addition, in an attempt to allow for increased spending, committee arbitrarily re-defined the spending cap to exclude from the cap more than \$ 2 billion in contributions to state employee pension and other retirement plans. Died (House); Merged into HB 7061.

HB 7061 The \$40.5 billion, two-year state budget making appropriations and other provisions related to revenue for the biennium ending June 30, 2017. Increases state spending and raises taxes, much of it on businesses and middle-class taxpayers. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

Business Law & Liability

SB 99 Prescribes data security requirements specifically including encryption and notification requirements; subjects businesses to Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA) if the employer intends to defraud consumer by changing caller ID and the business does not have a consumer relations number. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

SB 934 After strike-all amendment, addresses farmers market beer sales permit. Enacted: **Public Act 15-30**

SB 949 Institutes data security requirements including reporting requirements of state contractors and insurance companies. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

SB 967 Maintains consistency of Connecticut corporate laws and keeps laws in sync with Model Business act by amending certain provisions of the Connecticut Business Corporation Act, Uniform Limited Partnership and the Connecticut Limited Liability Company Act regarding proxies, voting trusts and qualifications for directors. Enacted: **Public Act 15-48**

SB 1032 Creates a fair and reasonable statute of limitations time frame for the state to bring legal action on certain state contracts and projects Enacted: **Public Act 15-28**

SB 1092 Requires a probable cause for issuing an order requiring disclosure of cell phone and internet records and bans the storage of the data for more than 14 days unless data relates to an ongoing criminal investigation. Died (Senate)

HB 6451 Prescribes warranty registrations requirements that may have a negative impact on warranty programs. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

HB 6774 Adopts the Uniform Power of Attorney Act in Connecticut. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

Campaign Finance & Ethics

SB 850 Revises existing ethics rules so that newsletters intended primarily for members, shareholders or employees are not an expenditure, and transportation of members, shareholders or employees to lobby is not an expenditure if no other compensation is provided; increases threshold to \$3,000 in expenditures/ compensation in a calendar year to be deemed a lobbyist. Enacted. **Public Act 15-15**

Commerce/Economic Development

SB 1019 Promotes government transparency by requiring fiscal notes on legislation to include the number of businesses impacted by, and the cost to comply with the bill. Died (Commerce)

Education & Workforce Development

SB 1098 Supports attracting and recruiting more qualified teachers and administrators to Connecticut. Awaiting the Governor's signature

HB 6919 Establishes a task force to develop a strategy for outcome-based financing of higher education and is charged with aligning its goals with the recommendations of the Planning Commission for Higher Education. Awaiting the Governor's signature

HB 7007 Adopts the recommendations of the Connecticut Higher Education Planning Commission. Awaiting the Governor's signature

HB 7023 Among other changes Includes new definitions of "student intern" that are limited to agriculture and technology pathways but

also limits employer liability for those student interns. Awaiting the Governor's signature

Energy & Telecommunications

SB 928 Establishes a two-year pilot program where ratepayers will subsidize up to 6 megawatts of solar power shared among a finite group of subscribers located in close proximity to the solar installation. Awaiting the Governor's signature

SB 1078 Empowers state to enter into regional agreements to address energy challenges. Awaiting the Governor's signature

HB 6838 Significantly increases electric ratepayer subsidies to support solar panel installation in Connecticut and establishes a timeline for ending such subsidies. Awaiting the Governor's signature

HB 6991 Broadens the Green Bank's access to private capitol for funding clean energy and energy efficiency projects. Awaiting the Governor's signature

Environment & Land Use

HB 6830 Makes various changes that expand the flexibility of grant and loan programs for brownfield development. Awaiting the Governor's signature; CBIA supports.

Healthcare

SB 467 Telemedicine can have positive impacts on quality and cost but over regulation by prescribing cost and delivery is a concern. Dictating specific payment structures may negatively impact cost for smaller employers. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

SB 811 The vehicle for the Hospital and Healthcare Roundtable bills; dramatically changes the healthcare landscape and impacts electronic health records, facility fees, hospital & provider mergers and acquisitions, and cost and transparency issues. This bill also requires the state's exchange to develop a website that may drive up the assessment already levied on small employers and individuals insurance policies. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

SB 913 May negatively impact cost for municipalities by allowing municipalities and other non state public employers to join the state employee health insurance pool. Awaiting the Governor's signature; CBIA opposes.

SB 1023 Implements many changes from federal healthcare law but also includes revised definition of small employer (from 50 to 100 employees) which may be a concern since the federal definition may be delayed. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

SB 1085 Certain coverage requirements for mental health conditions. Awaiting the Governor's signature; CBIA opposes.

HB 6736 Regulates contract terms between insurers and optometrists regarding non covered benefits. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

HB 6987 Includes many changes to the public health statues including establishing a rare disease task force. Awaiting the Governor's signature; CBIA supports.

Labor

SB 426 Prohibits employers from requesting employees or prospective employees provide social media passwords to the employer, or requesting or requiring employees to invite the employer to joint their personal online social network as a condition of employment. Enacted: **Public Act 15-6**

SB 428 Provides protection from workplace harassment or discrimination to unpaid interns. Awaiting the Governor's signature

SB 914 Forces employers to settle legitimate wage disputes due to fear of being required to pay double wages by taking away a judge's discretion to award less than double damages in a civil action for the recovery of unpaid regular and overtime wages. Awaiting the Governor's signature; CBIA opposes

SB 963 Requires the state Board of Education to make a curriculum available to public schools on the history of organized labor and the collective bargaining process. Enacted: **Public Act 15-17**

HB 6707 Spreads the cost of unemployment compensation from the employer to the business community as a whole for an

individual terminated as a result of losing a driver's license necessary to perform their job as a result of drunk driving while off duty. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

HB 6850 Prohibits imposing or enforcing any rule that forbids employees from discussing and/or distributing another employee's confidential wage information without the other employee's consent. Awaiting the Governor's signature; CBIA opposes.

Regulatory Development

SB 384 Provides flexibility to businesses that, due to the nature of their operations, would prefer to comply with regulatory filing requirements via traditional means. Senate added provisions regarding certain mayoral elections. Enacted: **Public Act 15-01**

SB 1082 Authorizes agencies to establish electronic filing systems for formal and informal proceedings. The agency must provide at least 30 days notice of its intention to do so and must grant a request from any person for an exemption from any electronic filing requirements due to a hardship communicated in writing to the agency. Awaiting the Governor's signature; CBIA supports.

Taxes (State & Municipal)

SB 1 In part, creates a discriminatory tax structure which is likely to increase taxes on Connecticut businesses. Died (Senate); CBIA opposes.

SB 323 Increases the amount of tax credits allowed under the Neighborhood Assistance Act in any fiscal year from \$5 million to \$10 million. Died (Finance)

SB 326 Aims to make Connecticut more competitive in business recruitment. Died (Finance)

SB 540 Increases the cap on insurance reinvestment fund tax credits by \$50 million while retaining the annual cap in order to

promote business and job growth. Died (Senate)

SB 946 Increases taxes by roughly \$2.5 billion by raising corporate and personal income taxes and making numerous changes to state sales and use taxes. Died (Finance); merged into **HB 7061**

HB 5664 Require the DECD commissioner to establish the "Learn Here, Live Here" program, which assists students save toward a down payment on their first home in CT by segregating a portion of their state income tax payments for up to 10 years after they graduate. Died (Finance)

HB 6259 Requires DECD, in consultation with OPM, to establish the boundaries of regional economic development districts by a date certain which shall encompass the boundaries of one or more regional councils of governments. Awaiting the Governor's signature

HB 6945 Makes it more difficult for job creators to appeal property tax decisions. Died (Senate)

HB 7061 Increases taxes by roughly \$2 billion by raising corporate and personal income taxes and making numerous changes to state sales and use taxes. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

Transportation

HB 6683 Regulates the ride-sharing industry. Died (Senate)

HB 6820 Makes changes to the Franchise Act as it applies to automobile manufacturers, distributors and dealers. Awaiting the Governor's signature.

HB 6823 Continues to transfer authority over the state's airports away from the Department of Transportation and to the Airport Authority. Awaiting the Governor's signature.