# 2023 Legislative Wrap-Up

## Finance, Revenue, and Bonding

<u>Public Act No. 23-134-HB06930 (R)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF BEST PRACTICES FOR GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES OF MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PLANS.

To (1) require municipalities to provide certain information to the Comptroller regarding their retirement plans and governance structures for such plans, and (2) require the development of best practices and training resources to assist municipalities to implement or improve their governance structures for such plans.

Status: Approved by the House. Approved by the Senate. Awaits the Governor's signature.

## **Government Administration and Elections**

Special Act No. 21-15-HB06689 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH, 2023, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND MAKING DEFICIENCY AND ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH, 2021.

Below are sections of the bill that impact our membership:

## § 73 — OFFICE OF WORKFORCE STRATEGY LOCATION:

Moves OWS from the Office of the Governor to DECD for administrative purposes only.

## §§ 76-83 — TRANSFER OF MUNICIPAL GRANT FUNDING FROM MRSA TO MRSF:

Principally makes certain municipal grants, including PILOT and motor vehicle property tax grants, payable from MRSF rather than MRSA and correspondingly diverts certain tax revenue to that fund, rather than MRSA, to cover the grants; specifies supplemental revenue sharing grant amounts for certain municipalities and districts; changes the date by which OPM must make PILOT grants to municipalities.

# § 99 — INDEPENDENT COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PROGRAM APPROVAL EXEMPTIONS:

Makes permanent the law exempting qualifying independent colleges and universities from the Office of Higher Education's program approval process for an unlimited number of higher education programs per academic year; requires independent higher education institutions to at least annually update the credentials database with any new, modified, or discontinued programs.

# § 100 — CONTRACT ASSIGNMENTS BY STATE AGENCIES:

Allows the OPM secretary to execute an MOU with a department head to assign the department head the authority to enter into a contract or written agreement using funds appropriated to the secretary for the contract's or agreement's purposes; allows budgeted agencies' department heads to similarly assign this authority upon the secretary's approval.

# § 119 — SB 7 PROHIBITION ON COST RECOVERY FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES, LOBBYING COSTS, AND ADS:

Narrows the scope of a provision in sSB 7, as amended, that prohibits utility companies' rate recovery for certain expenses like trade association membership, lobbying, and advertising.

## § 122 — DUI AND CRIMINAL RECORD ERASURE:

Specifies that DUI is not eligible for automatic criminal record erasure until 10 years after the person's most recent conviction and makes DUI convictions ineligible for erasure if the person has a second DUI conviction within ten years.

# §§ 123-126 — CANNABIS SOCIAL EQUITY AND INNOVATION AND PREVENTION AND RECOVERY SERVICES FUNDS:

Renames two funds to specify they are "cannabis" funds; specifies that money may only be expended through General Assembly appropriations.

# §§ 137-139 — DEBT FREE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE ROBERTA B. WILLIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

Extends eligibility for the state's debt-free community college program to returning students; makes various changes to the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program, including requiring FY 24 awards to use ARPA funds first and excluding regional-community technical colleges from the program.

# § 142 — PRORATED PILOT GRANTS:

Increases tiered PILOT grant rates by three percentage points, from 50%, 40%, and 30% to 53%, 43%, and 33% for tier one, two, and three municipalities, respectively.

### § 143 — BATTERSON PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY:

Requires the DEEP commissioner to study the feasibility of, and recommend options for, public recreational access to Batterson Park, hold public meetings on park redevelopment, and report to the Environment Committee by January 15, 2024.

# § 172 — APPRENTICESHIP REPORTING DATA:

Requires apprenticeship program sponsors to annually give DOL certain information about the extent to which apprentices are successfully completing their program.

## §§ 183 & 184 — STUDENT LOAN REIMBURSEMENT PILOT PROGRAM:

Requires OHE, within available appropriations, to establish a pilot program to reimburse eligible people for up to \$5,000 a year (for a total of up to \$20,000) for their student loan payments; makes payments deductible from a person's state adjusted gross income.

# § 212 — ATTORNEY GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS:

Modifies the qualifications to serve as attorney general.

§§ 241-257, 418, 424 & 425 — BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPEAL

Repeals more than 20 boards, commissions, working groups, panels, and task forces.

# §§ 315-317 — TAX RETURN INFORMATION FOR ACCESS HEALTH OUTREACH:

Requires Access Health CT and DRS to enter into a memorandum of understanding to share information so that Access Health CT may do targeted outreach to state residents.

## §§ 363-365 — CORPORATION BUSINESS TAX SURCHARGE EXTENSION:

Extends the 10% corporation business tax surcharge for three additional years to the 2023, 2024, and 2025 income years.

## §§ 366 & 367 — HUMAN CAPITAL INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT:

Increases the human capital investment tax credit from 5% to 10% (for most eligible investments) and 25% (for eligible child care-related expenditures); makes donations or capital contributions to nonprofits for establishing child care centers for use by children residing in the community a credit-eligible investment; allows corporations to use the 25% human capital investment credits to reduce up to 70% of their corporation business tax liability, rather than 50.01%.

## §§ 368 & 369 — FILM AND DIGITAL MEDIA TAX CREDIT:

Increases, for the 2024 and 2025 income years, the redemption rate for film and digital media tax credits claimed against the sales tax from 78% to 92% of the credits' face value; requires production companies and DECD to report certain information on the companies' job creation.

## § 370 — FIXED CAPITAL INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT:

Allows certain Connecticut-headquartered corporations that own at least 80% of an LLC to claim the fixed capital investment tax credit for amounts the LLC invested in qualifying fixed capital.

## §§ 371 & 372 — ANGEL INVESTOR TAX CREDITS FOR CANNABIS BUSINESSES:

Eliminates the 40% angel investor tax credit for eligible investments in approved cannabis businesses beginning July 1, 2023.

## § 373 — HISTORIC HOMES REHABILITATION TAX CREDIT:

Changes the taxes against which historic homes rehabilitation tax credits may be claimed.

#### §§ 376-381 & 422 — PASS-THROUGH-ENTITY TAX:

Researcher: HP Page 18 6/6/23 Starting in 2024, (1) makes the PE tax optional, (2) changes the method for calculating the tax base, (3) eliminates the corporation tax credit for PE taxes paid, and (4) eliminates the option for PEs to file a combined return with one or more commonly-owned PEs; reimposes a requirement that PEs file an income tax return and pay the tax on behalf of any nonresident member for whom the business is the only source of Connecticut income.

## § 382 — HIGHWAY USE TAX REPORTING FREQUENCY:

Requires carriers subject to the highway use tax to file returns and submit payments quarterly, rather than monthly as current law requires, starting with the fourth quarter of 2023.

## § 383 — DIESEL FUEL TAX RATE:

Sets the diesel fuel tax rate at 49.2 cents per gallon in FY 24.

# §§ 384 & 386 — TAXATION OF AVIATION FUEL:

Exempts sales of aviation fuel from the petroleum products gross earnings tax (PGET) starting July 1, 2023, and, starting July 1, 2025, subjects it to a new aviation fuel tax at a 15 cents per gallon rate.

### § 388 — TAX CREDIT FOR PRE- AND POST-BROADWAY PRODUCTIONS AND LIVE THEATRICAL TOURS:

Establishes a new tax credit for production companies of eligible theater productions performed at qualified facilities in Connecticut; caps the total credits allowed at \$2.5 million per fiscal year.

# § 391 — TAX GAP ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY AND DRS PLAN:

Requires DRS to (1) estimate the state's tax gap, develop a strategy to reduce the gap, and evaluate related staffing needs; (2) report information on this estimate and strategy to the legislature; and (3) publish a plan for the agency for closing the tax gap.

## § 392 — TAX INCIDENCE REPORT:

Expands the scope of DRS's biennial tax incidence report by requiring that the report include (1) the PE tax and other taxes generating at least \$100 million and (2) additional information on tax burden distribution, effective tax rates, and tax credit and modification distribution.

## § 393 — PERSONAL INCOME TAX RATES:

Starting with the 2024 tax year, decreases the bottom two marginal income tax rates from (1) 3% to 2% and (2) 5% to 4.5%; gradually eliminates the benefit of the bill's decreased marginal rates for taxpayers beginning with taxable incomes exceeding \$105,000 (single filers and married filing separately), \$168,000 (heads of household), or \$210,000 (joint filers).

#### § 394 — RETIREMENT INCOME EXEMPTIONS:

Starting in 2024, extends eligibility for the pension and annuity and IRA income tax exemptions to taxpayers with federal AGIs of at least (1) \$100,000 but less than \$150,000 for joint filers and (2) \$75,000 but less than \$100,000 for other filing statuses; gradually reduces the exemption for these taxpayers until it fully phases out at \$100,000 or \$150,000 as applicable.

# §§ 394 & 396 — CANNABIS BUSINESS EXPENSES DEDUCTION:

Allows cannabis licensees to deduct from the state personal income or corporation business tax ordinary and necessary business expenses that would otherwise be eligible for a federal tax deduction but are disallowed because marijuana is a controlled substance.

# § 395 — EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC) INCREASE:

Increases the state EITC from 30.5% to 40% of the federal credit.

## § 397 — SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPTION FOR NONPRESCRIPTION OPIOID ANTAGONISTS:

Exempts nonprescription opioid antagonists from the state sales and use tax.

## § 398 — GAAP DEFICIT:

Deems that \$1 is appropriated in FYs 24-25 to pay off the state's GAAP deficit.

## § 399 — TRANSFER OF FY 24 GENERAL FUND REVENUE TO FY 25:

Requires the state comptroller to transfer \$95 million of FY 24 General Fund resources for use in FY 25.

# § 403 — TASK FORCE TO REVIEW BOARDS OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS PROCEEDINGS:

Establishes a seven-member task force to review boards of assessment appeals proceedings and report to the legislature by January 1, 2024.

## § 526 — STANDARD WAGE LAW:

Modifies the state's standard wage law to, among other things, (1) require contractors covered by the law to meet certain notice posting requirements, (2) specify which benefits are covered by the 30% surcharge that contractors must pay under certain circumstances, and (3) allow aggrieved employees to bring a civil action in Superior COURT.

# §§ 540-544 — DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACTOR PREQUALIFICATION:

Increases, from \$500,000 to \$1 million, several thresholds relating to DAS contractor prequalification; requires contractors and substantial contractors to include specified information in their bids for DAS contracts of more than \$500,000 but less than \$1 million; requires DAS to hold an annual training on state contracting requirements.

§ 73 — OFFICE OF WORKFORCE STRATEGY LOCATION: Moves the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS) administratively from the Office of the Governor to the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

§§ 76-83 — TRANSFER OF MUNICIPAL GRANT FUNDING FROM MRSA TO MRSF: Shifts certain municipal grants, such as PILOT and motor vehicle property tax grants, to be payable from the Municipal Revenue

- Sharing Fund (MRSF) instead of the Municipal Revenue Sharing Account (MRSA). Correspondingly diverts specific tax revenue to MRSF for covering these grants. Specifies supplemental revenue-sharing grant amounts for select municipalities and districts. Adjusts the deadline for the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to make PILOT grants to municipalities.
- § 99 INDEPENDENT COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PROGRAM APPROVAL EXEMPTIONS: Permanently exempts qualifying independent colleges and universities from the program approval process of the Office of Higher Education (OHE) for an unlimited number of higher education programs per academic year. Requires independent higher education institutions to annually update the credentials database with new, modified, or discontinued programs.
- § 100 CONTRACT ASSIGNMENTS BY STATE AGENCIES: Empowers the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to enter into an MOU with a department head, assigning them the authority to enter into contracts or written agreements using funds appropriated to the Secretary. Allows budgeted agencies' department heads to similarly assign this authority upon the Secretary's approval.
- § 119 SB 7 PROHIBITION ON COST RECOVERY FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES, LOBBYING COSTS, AND ADS: Narrows the scope of a provision in Senate Bill 7, prohibiting utility companies from recovering certain expenses like trade association membership, lobbying, and advertising costs through rate recovery.
- § 122 DUI AND CRIMINAL RECORD ERASURE: Specifies that DUI convictions are not eligible for automatic criminal record erasure until 10 years after the person's most recent conviction. Makes DUI convictions ineligible for erasure if the person has a second DUI conviction within 10 years.
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- § 143 BATTERSON PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY: Directs the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to study the feasibility of public recreational access to Batterson Park. Requires public meetings on park redevelopment and a report to the Environment Committee by January 15, 2024.
- § 172 APPRENTICESHIP REPORTING DATA: Requires apprenticeship program sponsors to provide the Department of Labor (DOL) with annual information regarding the success rate of apprentices completing their programs.
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- § 212 ATTORNEY GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS: Adjusts the qualifications required to serve as attorney general.
- §§ 241-257, 418, 424 & 425 BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPEAL: Repeals over 20 boards, commissions, working groups, panels, and task forces.
- §§ 315-317 TAX RETURN INFORMATION FOR ACCESS HEALTH OUTREACH: Requires Access Health CT and the Department of Revenue Services (DRS) to share information through a memorandum of understanding, allowing targeted outreach to state residents.
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corporation business tax liability.

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- § 370 FIXED CAPITAL INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT: Enables certain Connecticut-headquartered corporations to claim the fixed capital investment tax credit for qualifying fixed capital investments made by LLCs in which they hold at least 80% ownership.
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- § 392 TAX INCIDENCE REPORT: Expands the biennial tax incidence report by the Department of Revenue Services (DRS) to include the PE tax and other taxes generating at least \$100 million. Requires additional information on tax burden distribution, effective tax rates, and distribution of tax credits and modifications.
- § 393 PERSONAL INCOME TAX RATES: Starting from the 2024 tax year, decreases the bottom two marginal income tax rates. The rates change from 3% to 2% and from 5% to 4.5%. Gradually eliminates the benefit of the decreased marginal rates for taxpayers with taxable incomes exceeding specified thresholds.
- § 394 RETIREMENT INCOME EXEMPTIONS: Starting from 2024, extends eligibility for the pension and annuity and IRA income tax exemptions to taxpayers within specific income thresholds. Gradually reduces the exemption until it phases out completely at certain income levels.
- §§ 394 & 396 CANNABIS BUSINESS EXPENSES DEDUCTION: Allows cannabis licensees to deduct ordinary and necessary business expenses from state personal income or corporation business tax. These deductions would otherwise be disallowed due to federal restrictions on deducting expenses related to controlled substances.
- § 395 EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC) INCREASE: Increases the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) from 30.5% to 40% of the federal credit.
- § 397 SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPTION FOR NONPRESCRIPTION OPIOID ANTAGONISTS: Exempts nonprescription opioid antagonists from the state sales and use tax.
- § 398 GAAP DEFICIT: Appropriates \$1 in FYs 24-25 to address the state's GAAP deficit.
- § 399 TRANSFER OF FY 24 GENERAL FUND REVENUE TO FY 25: Requires the state comptroller to transfer \$95 million of FY 24 General Fund resources for use in FY 25.
- § 403 TASK FORCE TO REVIEW BOARDS OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS PROCEEDINGS: Establishes a task force to review boards of assessment appeals proceedings and provide a report to the legislature by

January 1, 2024.

§ 526 — STANDARD WAGE LAW: Modifies the state's standard wage law to include requirements for contractors, such as notice posting obligations, the coverage of benefits under specific circumstances, and the ability of aggrieved employees to bring civil actions in Superior Court.

§§ 540-544 — DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACTOR PREQUALIFICATION: Raises various thresholds related to DAS contractor prequalification from \$500,000 to \$1 million. Requires additional information in bids for DAS contracts within a certain range. Mandates DAS to conduct an annual training on state contracting requirements.

#### Public Act 23-129-HB06826 – AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR FALSE AND FRAUDULENT CLAIMS.

A similar measure was a significant concern to CTCPA during the 2022 legislative session because it included tax claims, unlike the federal False Claim Act, so we defeated it. This year we worked with the Attorney General's office, and they added language to carve out taxes, making the legislation unproblematic for CTCPA members; therefore, we did not oppose this false claims act measure.

Status: Signed by the Governor

#### **General Law**

# <u>Public Act No. 23-98-SB01058 (R)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CONSUMER PROTECTION AND FINANCIAL REPORTING BY CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS.

To: (1) Implement the Attorney General's recommendations concerning (A) price gouging, (B) disclosure of certain records during the pendency of an investigation, (C) erasure, in lieu of return, of certain electronic materials upon completion of an investigation, (D) disclosure of precise geolocation data, (E) the privacy protection guaranty and enforcement account, (F) identity theft, (G) personal data privacy, (H) ticketing for entertainment events, (I) telemarketing, and (J) charitable solicitation campaigns; and (2) enable certain charitable organizations to include with their annual financial statements a review report in lieu of an audit report.

Status: Passed the House and the Senate. Awaits the Governor's Signature.

# <u>Public Act No. 23-16-SB01103 (R)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AUTOMATED DECISION-MAKING AND PERSONAL DATA PRIVACY.

To: (1) Establish an Office of Artificial Intelligence; (2) exempt air carriers from certain provisions concerning data privacy; (3) provide that a controller shall not process the personal data of a consumer for purposes of targeted advertising, or sell the consumer's personal data without the consumer's consent, under circumstances where a controller has actual knowledge, or wilfully disregards, that the consumer is at least thirteen years of age but younger than sixteen years of age; and (4) establish a task force to (A) study artificial intelligence, and (B) develop an artificial intelligence bill of rights.

Status: Amended by the Senate (Senate Amendment A). Passed both the House and the Senate. Signed by the Governor.

# Public Act No. 23-119-HB05314 (s) - AN ACT CONCERNING CONSUMER AGREEMENTS AND CONSUMER BILLS.

To: (1) Require any business that enters into a consumer agreement that contains an automatic renewal or continuous services provision to provide various consumer notices and enable any consumer who enters into such an agreement online to terminate such agreement online; (2) require certain persons doing business in this state to provide bills to certain consumers in paper form; and (3) provide that certain persons doing business in this state shall not impose any charge or fee for providing bills to consumers in paper form.

Status: Passed both the House and the Senate. Awaits the Governor's signature.

<u>Public Act No. 23-50-HB06548 (R)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR REGULATION.

To: (1) Authorize (A) alcoholic liquor manufacturers to enter into alternating proprietorship agreements,

and (B) certain liquor permittees to enter into contract manufacturing agreements; (2) establish temporary auction permits; (3) provide that a permitted manufacturer of spirits or beer that also holds a farmers' market sales permit may sell, and offer free tastings of, its spirits or beer at a farmers' market operated as a nonprofit enterprise or association; (4) expand the off-site farm winery sales and wine, cider and mead tasting permit to include additional liquor permittees; (5) eliminate the sunset date concerning the period during which certain liquor permittees may sell liquor in sealed containers for offpremises consumption; (6) replace temporary beer and liquor permits with a temporary liquor permit for noncommercial entities; (7) authorize the Department of Consumer Protection to issue farmers' market sales permits to spirits manufacturers; (8) authorize certain liquor manufacturers that hold out- of-state shipper's permits for beer to engage in additional sales and shipping activities under festival permits; (9) provide that no person who assists an applicant, backer or liquor permittee in submitting an application for a liquor permit shall submit, or cause to be submitted, any false statement in connection with such application, or engage in any conduct which delays or impedes the Department of Consumer Protection in processing such application, provide that submitting any such statement or engaging in any such conduct shall constitute an unfair or deceptive trade practice within the meaning of the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act and authorize the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to impose civil penalties on any person who submits any such statement or engages in any such conduct; (10) provide that a liquor permittee shall be a director, employee, member, officer, partner or shareholder of its backer; (11) provide that the department may summarily suspend a renewed liquor permit if the liquor permittee fails to timely submit a fire marshal certificate to the department; (12) subject beer manufacturers to beer keg identification, receipt and refund requirements; (13) eliminate special club, charitable organization, nonprofit public television corporation and nonprofit corporation permits; and (14) make minor, technical and conforming changes to the Liquor Control Act.

Status: Passed both the House and the Senate. Signed by the Governor.

# Public Act No. 23-79-HB06699 (R) -- AN ACT CONCERNING CANNABIS REGULATION.

To: (1) Define "edible cannabis product"; (2) establish off-site event permits for retailers and hybrid retailers of adult-use cannabis; (3) redefine "bona fide labor organization"; (4) transfer certain duties concerning labor peace agreements to the Labor Department; (5) require the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to adopt certain regulations concerning cannabis labeling and packaging; (6) expand the permitted activities of product packagers; (7) provide that a delivery service that employs twelve or more individuals to deliver cannabis may only use individuals employed on a full-time basis to deliver cannabis; (8) establish an Office of the Cannabis Ombudsman; and (9) establish a task force to study the potential impact of authorizing individuals who are authorized to cultivate cannabis in their residences to sell, at retail, such cannabis at events organized, at least in part, to facilitate such sales. Status: House passed with House Amendment A. Passed the Senate. Awaits the Governor's signature.

Public Act No. 23-99-HB06767 (R) -- AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER

To implement the Department of Consumer Protection's recommendations concerning licensing and enforcement.

Status: Passed both the House and the Senate. Awaits the Governor's signature.

PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT.

<u>Public Act No. 23-52-HB06768 (R)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PRESCRIPTION DRUG REGULATION.

To implement the Department of Consumer Protection's recommendations concerning prescription drug regulation.

Status: Passed both the House and the Senate. Signed by the Governor.

SB01154 (R) – AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AUDITORS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

To implement the recommendations of the Auditors of Public Accounts contained in their 2022 annual

report, including to exempt the disclosure of whistleblower complaints received by the auditors, authorize the Department of Motor Vehicles to conduct periodic background checks of school bus and student transportation vehicle drivers, require the local legislative body or regional board of education to hold a public meeting before submitting a corrective action plan regarding certain audits and replace references to "comprehensive annual financial reports" with "annual comprehensive financial reports". Status: Senate passed with Senate Amendment A. Passed the House. Awaits the Governor's signature.

# <u>Public Act No. 23-178-SB01189 (R)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEADLINE FOR FILING NOMINATING PETITIONS WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE.

To require that the deadline for filing nominating petitions with the Secretary of the State be seven days earlier than the deadline for filing such petitions with town clerks.

Status: Approved by the Senate. Approved by the House. Awaits the Governor's signature.

## **Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee**

# Public Act No. 23-180-HB06774 – AN ACT CONCERNING POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.

We passed this measure in the final minutes of the legislative session. It increases the CPA Exam testing window from 18 months to 30 months and starts the testing window running when the results are announced rather than when the test is taken. The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) only made this change to the Uniform Accountancy Act about a month ago, but at CTCPA's urging the State Board of Accountancy moved quickly and voted unanimously to seek the change legislatively.

Status: Signed by the Governor.

#### **Judiciary**

# <u>Public Act No. 23-56-SB00003 (s)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING ONLINE PRIVACY, DATA AND SAFETY PROTECTIONS.

To (1) Establish standards concerning the provision of access to, and sharing of, consumer health data; (2) prohibit geofencing of certain health data; (3) establish additional requirements concerning minors' personal data and social media platform accounts; (4) revise disclosure requirements relating to warrants directed to providers of electronic communication services and remote computing services; (5) establish a duty of care owed by online dating operators to users relating to potential criminal activity of other users; (6) codify in statute the existence and prescribed duties of the Connecticut Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force; and (7) require employers to disclose known instances of sexual harassment and assault when making employment recommendations relating to former employee.

Status: Senate passed with Senate Amendment A. Approved by the House. Awaits the Governor's signature.

## Public Act No. 23-189-SB01023 (R) – AN ACT CONCERNING PROBATE COURT OPERATIONS.

To: (1) Update language specifying the provision of suitable court facilities, (2) establish a new time period by which the Council on Probate Judicial Conduct must publish its findings following the close of a public hearing, (3) make conforming changes to the Connecticut Parentage Act, (4) modify the service of process time period on a petition for parentage claim, (5) clarify Probate Court authority to order or deny geneuvtic testing when parentage is at issue, and (6) require that a conservator of the person execute a written document in advance of the conserved person's death that directs disposition of such person's body upon death.

Status: Approved by the Senate. Approved by the House. Awaits the Governor's signature.

### Public Act 23-127-SB01040 (R) – AN ACT CONCERNING REMOTE NOTARIAL ACTS.

To permit a notary public to remotely notarize certain documents under certain specified circumstances.

Status: Approved by the Senate as amended by Senate Amendment Schedule A. Approved by the Senate. Signed by the Governor.

The CTCPA worked closely with a small coalition and Senator Joan Hartley to negotiate the 15 wage reporting data fields required down to six. The six data fields are occupation, business mailing address, hours worked, the current employee's name, Social Security number, and wages.

Status: Signed by the Governor.

Public Act No. 23-127-HB06797 (R) – AN ACT CONCERNING PLANS FOR THE TREATMENT OF WORKPLACE INJURIES AND ILLNESSES AND ESTABLISHING WORKING GROUPS TO REVIEW ACCESS TO MEDICAL RECORDS AND PARTIAL DISABILITY PAYMENTS UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.

To enhance the ability of injured employees to receive benefits and timely access to medical records under the Workers' Compensation Act.

Status: Approved by House. Approved by the Senate. Signed by the Governor.

# **Labor & Public Employees Committee**

<u>Public Act No. 23-172-SB00228 (s)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYEES' LOSS OF HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AS A RESULT OF A LABOR DISPUTE.

To protect employees' health by ensuring employees have access to health care coverage after losing coverage due to a labor dispute.

Status: Approved by both the House and Senate. Awaits the Governor's signature.

## Special Act No. 23-3-SB00805 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE LABOR DEPARTMENT AND DATA BREACHES.

To require the Labor Commissioner to conduct a study on data breaches and false unemployment claims suffered by the Labor Department.

Status: Approved by the Senate. Approved by the House. Awaits the Governor's signature.

# HB06552 (R) – AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT RETIREMENT SECURITY PROGRAM.

To implement the recommendations of the Comptroller concerning the administration of the Connecticut Retirement Security Program.

Status: House passed with House Amendment A. Approved by the Senate. Awaits the Governor's signature.

## **Planning & Development**

<u>Public Act No 23-152-HB06801 (R) – AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUBMISSION OF INCOME AND EXPENSE INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ASSESSMENT OF INCOME-PRODUCING REAL PROPERTY.</u>

To (1) clarify the process for imposition of a penalty on owners of certain real property for failure to file certain information requested by the assessor, (2) allow for certain filings postmarked within the applicable filing period to be deemed timely, and (3) apply existing billing practices to tax bills issued such owners.

Status: House passed with House Amendment A. Approved by Senate. Awaits the Governor's signature.

<u>Public Act No. 23-132-HB06891 (R)</u> – AN ACT CONCERNING THE ELECTRONIC PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL TAXES.

To allow municipalities to accept property tax payments by electronic payment services.

Status: Approved by the House. Approved by the Senate. Awaits the Governor's signature.