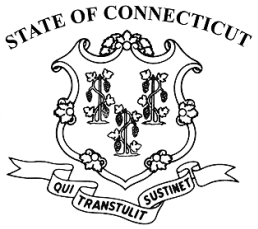

Senate Bill No. 1202

June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-2

AN ACT CONCERNING PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE AND OTHER ITEMS TO IMPLEMENT THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2023.

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

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Housing shall convert the loan made to the Community Development Financial Institution Alliance for the establishment of a revolving loan fund as authorized under section 9 of special act 97-1 and approved by the State Bond Commission on September 27, 2002, to a grant-in-aid in accordance with section 8-218 of the general statutes.

Sec. 2. Subsection (p) of section 3-20j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(p) (1) Prior to July 1, **[**2021**]** 2023, net earnings of investments of proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to section 3-20 or pursuant to this section and accrued interest on the issuance of such bonds and premiums on the issuance of such bonds shall be deposited to the credit of the General Fund, after (A) payment of any expenses incurred by the Treasurer or State Bond Commission in connection with such issuance, or (B) application to interest on bonds, notes or other obligations of the state.

(2) On and after July 1, **[**2021**]** 2023, notwithstanding subsection (f) of section 3-20, (A) net earnings of investments of proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to section 3-20 or pursuant to this section and accrued interest on the issuance of such bonds shall be deposited to the credit of the General Fund, and (B) premiums, net of any original issue discount, on the issuance of such bonds shall, after payment of any expenses incurred by the Treasurer or State Bond Commission in connection with such issuance, be deposited at the direction of the Treasurer to the credit of an account or fund to fund all or a portion of any purpose or project authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to any bond act up to the amount authorized by the State Bond Commission, provided the bonds for such purpose or project are unissued, and provided further the certificate of determination the Treasurer files with the secretary of the State Bond Commission for such authorized bonds sets forth the amount of the deposit applied to fund each such purpose and project. Upon such filing, the Treasurer shall record bonds in the amount of net premiums credited to each purpose and project as set forth in the certificate of determination of the Treasurer as deemed issued and retired and the Treasurer shall not thereafter exercise authority to issue bonds in such amount for such purpose or project. Upon such recording by the Treasurer, such bonds shall be deemed to have been issued, retired and no longer authorized for issuance or outstanding for the purposes of section 3-21, and for the purpose of aligning the funding of such authorized purpose and project with amounts generated by net premiums, but shall not constitute an actual bond issuance or bond retirement for any other purposes including, but not limited to, financial reporting purposes.

Sec. 3. Section 31-71a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

[Whenever**]** As used in sections 31-71a to 31-71i, inclusive, and section 5 of this act:

(1) "Employer" includes any individual, partnership, association, joint stock company, trust, corporation, the administrator or executor of the estate of a deceased person, the conservator of the estate of an incompetent, or the receiver, trustee, successor or assignee of any of the same, employing any person, including the state and any political subdivision thereof;

(2) "Employee" includes any person suffered or permitted to work by an employer;

(3) "Wages" means compensation for labor or services rendered by an employee, whether the amount is determined on a time, task, piece, commission or other basis of calculation;

(4) "Commissioner" means the Labor Commissioner.

Sec. 4. Section 31-71f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) Each employer shall: (1) Advise his employees in writing, at the time of hiring, of the rate of remuneration, hours of employment and wage payment schedules, and (2) make available to his employees, either in writing or through a posted notice maintained in a place accessible to his employees, any employment practices and policies or change therein with regard to wages, vacation pay, sick leave, health and welfare benefits and comparable matters.

(b) Each employer employing a domestic worker, as defined in section 5 of this act, shall advise the domestic worker, in writing, at the time of hiring, of: (1) The rate of remuneration, hours of employment and wage payment schedules; (2) the job duties and responsibilities; (3) the availability of sick leave, days of rest, vacation, personal days and holidays, whether such days are paid or unpaid and the rate at which such days accrue; (4) whether the employer may charge any fees or costs for board and lodging, and, if so, the amount of such fees or costs; and

(5) how to file a complaint for a violation of the domestic worker's rights.

Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Domestic worker" means any employee who is paid or who is told he or she will be paid to perform work of a domestic nature in or about a private dwelling, including, but not limited to, housekeeping, laundering, meal preparation, home companion, home management or child care services or the caretaking of individuals, including sick, convalescing and elderly individuals, or other household services for occupants of the private dwelling or the guests of such occupants. "Domestic worker" does not include (A) any individual providing babysitting services on an irregular or intermittent basis; or (B) a personal care attendant, as defined in section 17b-706 of the general statutes, providing services pursuant to a state-funded program, including, but not limited to, (i) the program for individuals with acquired brain injuries, established pursuant to section 17b-260a of the general statutes, (ii) the personal care assistance program, established pursuant to section 17b-605a of the general statutes, (iii) the Connecticut home-care program for the elderly, established pursuant to section 17b-342 of the general statutes, (iv) the pilot program to provide home care services to disabled persons, established pursuant to section 17b-617 of the general statutes, (v) the individual and family support waiver program administered by the Department of Developmental Services, or (vi) the comprehensive waiver program administered by the Department of Developmental Services;

(2) "Nonprofit organization" means any organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time; and

(3) "Qualified organization" means: (A) Any nonprofit organization that has not less than five years of experience working with domestic

workers; or (B) any organization that works with a nonprofit organization that has not less than five years of experience advocating for domestic workers or other low-wage workers.

(b) The commissioner shall establish a domestic workers education and training grants program to provide grants to qualified organizations for the following purposes:

(1) To provide education and training for domestic workers and employers addressing laws regarding minimum wage, overtime, sick leave, record-keeping, wage adjudication and retaliation and the requirements of subsection (b) of section 31-71f of the general statutes;

(2) To provide one or more online resources for domestic workers and employers on state laws and regulations relating to domestic workers; and

(3) To provide technical and legal assistance to domestic workers and employers through legal service providers.

(c) The commissioner may enter into an agreement pursuant to chapter 55a of the general statutes, with a person, firm or corporation to administer the grants program established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

(d) The commissioner, in consultation with such person, firm or corporation, if applicable, shall create guidelines necessary for the administration of the provisions of this section.

Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Call center" means a facility or other operation through which employees receive telephone calls or electronic communication for the purpose of providing customer assistance or other customer service;

(2) "Employer" means a business entity that employs (A) fifty or more employees, excluding part-time employees; or (B) fifty or more employees that in the aggregate work at least fifteen hundred hours per week, excluding overtime hours, for the purpose of staffing a call center;

(3) "Part-time employee" means an employee who is employed for an average of fewer than twenty hours per week or who has been employed for fewer than six of the twelve months preceding the date on which notice is required under this section; and

(4) "Commissioner" means the Labor Commissioner.

(b) A call center employer that intends to relocate a call center, or one or more facilities or operating units within a call center comprising not less than thirty per cent of the call center's or operating unit's total call volume, when compared to the previous twelve-month average call volume of operations or substantially similar operations, from this state to a foreign country shall notify the commissioner at least one hundred days prior to such relocation.

(c) A call center employer that violates subsection (b) of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars for each day of such violation, except that the commissioner may reduce such amount for just cause shown.

(d) The commissioner shall compile an annual list of each call center employer that relocated a call center, or one or more facilities or operating units within a call center comprising at least thirty per cent of the call center's total volume of operations, from this state to a foreign country. The commissioner shall make such list available to the public and shall prominently display a link to such list on the Labor Department's Internet web site.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, a call center

employer on the annual list compiled under subsection (d) of this section shall be ineligible for any direct or indirect state grants, state guaranteed loans, state tax benefits or other state financial support for a period of five years from the date such list is published.

(f) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, a call center employer on the annual list compiled under subsection (d) of this section shall remit the unamortized value of any state grant, guaranteed loan, state tax benefit or other state financial support such call center employer has received in the five-year period prior to the date such call center was placed on such list. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent an employer from receiving any grant to provide training or other employment assistance to individuals who are selected as being in particular need of training or other employment assistance due to the transfer or relocation of the employer's call center, facility or operating units.

(g) The commissioner, in consultation with the appropriate agency providing a loan or grant, may waive the ineligibility for state financial support under subsection (e) of this section and the remittance requirement under subsection (f) of this section if the employer demonstrates that such ineligibility and requirement would: (1) Threaten state or national security, (2) result in substantial job loss in this state, or (3) harm the environment.

(h) The department head of each state agency shall ensure that for all new contracts or new agreements entered into on and after October 1, 2021, all state business-related call center and customer service work is performed by state contractors or other agents or subcontractors entirely within this state, except that, if any such contractor, other agent or subcontractor performs work outside this state and adds customer service employees who will perform work pursuant to such new contracts or agreements, such new employees shall immediately be

employed within this state. Businesses subject to a contract or agreement agreed to prior to October 1, 2021, with terms extending beyond October 1, 2023, shall be subject to the provisions of this subsection if the contract or agreement is renewed.

(i) No provision of this section shall be construed to permit withholding or denial of payments, compensation or benefits under any other provision of the general statutes, including, but not limited to, state unemployment compensation, disability payments or worker retraining or readjustment funds, to workers employed by employers that relocate from this state to a foreign country.

(j) Nothing in this section shall be construed as creating a private cause of action against an employer who has violated, or is alleged to have violated, any provision of this section.

Sec. 7. Subsection (h) of section 31-49g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(h) (1) Any moneys expended from the General Fund for the purpose of administering the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program, or providing compensation to covered employees, shall be reimbursed to the General Fund not later than October 1, 2022.

(2) Any moneys expended from any bond authorizations allocated to the authority for the purpose of administering the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program shall be reimbursed to the General Fund according to a plan to be established by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in consultation with the State Treasurer. Such plan shall provide for a repayment schedule that provides for repayment by the authority of the debt service deemed attributable to such bond authorizations. Such repayment shall commence during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and shall continue until repayment is

complete, according to the terms of the plan. The authority may repay unpaid amounts earlier than the plan established by the secretary.

Sec. 8. (*Effective October 1, 2021*) Not later than January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Board of Regents for Higher Education 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 higher education and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall include: (1) The methods used to allocate the current fiscal year's General Fund block grants to institutions, and the resulting total amount each institution will receive over the fiscal year; (2) for the prior fiscal year, the amount of non-General Fund revenues transferred from each institution to the system office for any purpose, including the methods used to determine the transferred amounts and a description of each such purpose; and (3) a list of institutional staff or faculty that were temporarily stationed at the system office or reassigned new duties at the system office during the prior fiscal year, including the following information for each staff or faculty member: (A) Title at the institution and at the system office, (B) system office duties, (C) cumulative length of time stationed at or reassigned to the system office, and (D) in which budget, institutional or system office, the person's personal services costs were accounted.

Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the chief of a volunteer fire department for a distressed municipality, as defined in section 32-9p of the general statutes, shall submit to the State Fire Administrator a report on the yearly average of the number of volunteer firefighters from such municipality's volunteer fire department who enrolled in Firefighter I certification and recruit training based on the preceding four years, except the year commencing January 1, 2020, shall not be included in any such four preceding years for purposes of calculating such average.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, the State Fire Administrator shall award a grant to any distressed municipality with a volunteer fire department for the purposes of covering costs related to the provision of Firefighter I certification and recruit training for volunteer firefighters at regional fire schools. The amount of such grant award for each such distressed municipality shall be equal to the product of (1) the average cost of a Firefighter I certification and recruit training program at a regional fire school, and (2) the average number of volunteer firefighters from such distressed municipality's volunteer fire department who enrolled at a regional fire school for such certification and training.

(c) Not later than February 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the State Fire Administrator shall submit, 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 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies a report on the (1) reports submitted by the chiefs of volunteer fire departments of distressed municipalities pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, and (2) average cost of a Firefighter I certification and recruit training program at a regional fire school.

Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 5-156a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) (1) The state employees retirement system shall be funded on an actuarial reserve basis. The Retirement Commission shall, on or before December first, annually certify to the General Assembly the amount necessary on the basis of an actuarial determination to gradually establish and subsequently maintain the retirement fund on such determined actuarial reserve basis, and make such other recommendations with regard to such fund and its administration as the commission deems appropriate. The Retirement Commission shall,

at least once every two years, prepare a valuation of the assets and liabilities of the system. On the basis of each such valuation, it shall redetermine the normal rate of contribution and, until it is amortized, the unfunded past service liability. The General Assembly shall review the commission's recommendations and certification and shall appropriate to the retirement fund the amount certified by the Retirement Commission as necessary provided said certification is in compliance with this section at the time of certification, and the amount so certified shall not be reduced or used for other than the purposes of this section.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the Retirement Commission shall not finalize any valuation prepared pursuant to said subdivision, or certify the amount necessary to maintain the retirement fund on an actuarial reserve basis pursuant to said subdivision, until such valuation and certification account for any funds deemed to be appropriated to the State Employees Retirement Fund pursuant to subsection (c) of section 4-30a.

Sec. 11. Section 51-47 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(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, 2014, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, one hundred ninety-four thousand seven hundred fifty-seven dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred eighty-seven thousand one hundred forty-eight dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, one hundred eighty thousand two hundred four dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred seventy-eight thousand two hundred ten dollars; (E) each judge of the

Appellate Court, one hundred sixty-nine thousand two hundred forty-five dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred sixty-six thousand one hundred fifty-eight dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred sixty-two thousand seven hundred fifty-one dollars.

(2) On and after July 1, 2015, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred thousand five hundred ninety-nine dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred ninety-two thousand seven hundred sixty-three dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, one hundred eighty-five thousand six hundred ten dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred eighty-three thousand five hundred fifty-six dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred seventy-four thousand three hundred twenty-three dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred seventy-one thousand one hundred forty-three dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred sixty-seven thousand six hundred thirty-four dollars.

(3) On and after July 1, 2017, and prior to October 31, 2017, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred six thousand six hundred seventeen dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred ninety-eight thousand five hundred forty-five dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, one hundred ninety-one thousand one hundred seventy-eight dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred eighty-nine thousand sixty-three dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred seventy-nine thousand five hundred fifty-two dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred seventy-six thousand two hundred seventy-seven dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred seventy-two thousand six hundred sixty-three dollars.

(4) On and after October 31, 2017, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred thousand five hundred ninety-nine dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred ninety-two thousand seven hundred sixty-three dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, one hundred eighty-five thousand six hundred ten dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred eighty-three thousand five hundred fifty-six dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred seventy-four thousand three hundred twenty-three dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred seventy-one thousand one hundred forty-three dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred sixty-seven thousand six hundred thirty-four dollars.**]**

[(5)**]** (1) On and after July 1, 2019, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred six thousand six hundred seventeen dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, one hundred ninety-eight thousand five hundred forty-five dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court, one hundred ninety-one thousand one hundred seventy-eight dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred eighty-nine thousand sixty-three dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred seventy-nine thousand five hundred fifty-two dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred seventy-six thousand two hundred seventy-seven dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred seventy-two thousand six hundred sixty-three dollars.

(2) On and after July 1, 2021, (A) the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, two hundred fifteen thousand nine hundred fifteen dollars; (B) the Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Supreme Court, Appellate Court or Superior Court, two hundred seven thousand four hundred eighty dollars; (C) each associate judge of the Supreme Court,

one hundred ninety-nine thousand seven hundred eighty-one dollars; (D) the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred ninety-seven thousand five hundred seventy-one dollars; (E) each judge of the Appellate Court, one hundred eighty-seven thousand six hundred sixty-three dollars; (F) the Deputy Chief Court Administrator if a judge of the Superior Court, one hundred eighty-four thousand two hundred nine dollars; (G) each judge of the Superior Court, one hundred eighty thousand four hundred sixty dollars.

[(b) (1) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2014, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand one hundred nine dollars in annual salary, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand one hundred nine dollars in annual salary 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 one hundred nine dollars in annual salary.

(2) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2015, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand one hundred forty-two dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand one hundred forty-two 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 one hundred forty-two 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, 2017, and prior to October 31, 2017, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand one hundred seventy-seven dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand one hundred seventy-seven 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 one hundred seventy-seven dollars in additional compensation.

(4) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after October 31, 2017, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand one hundred forty-two dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand one hundred forty-two 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 one hundred forty-two dollars in additional compensation.**]**

[(5)**]** (b) (1) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2019, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand one hundred seventy-seven dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand one

hundred seventy-seven 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 one hundred seventy-seven dollars in additional compensation.

(2) In addition to the salary such judge is entitled to receive under subsection (a) of this section, on and after July 1, 2021, a judge designated as the administrative judge of the appellate system shall receive one thousand two hundred thirty dollars in additional compensation, each Superior Court judge designated as the administrative judge of a judicial district shall receive one thousand two hundred thirty 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 two hundred thirty dollars in additional compensation.

(c) Each such judge shall be an elector and a resident of this state, shall be a member of the bar of the state of Connecticut and shall not engage in private practice, nor on or after July 1, 1985, be a member of any board of directors or of any advisory board of any state bank and trust company, state bank or savings and loan association, national banking association or federal savings bank or savings and loan association. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude a senior judge from participating in any alternative dispute resolution program approved by STA-FED ADR, Inc.

(d) Each such judge, excluding any senior judge, who has completed not less than ten years of service as a judge of either the Supreme Court, the Appellate Court, or the Superior Court, or of any combination of such courts, or of the Court of Common Pleas, the Juvenile Court or the

Circuit Court, or other state service or service as an elected officer of the state, or any combination of such service, shall receive semiannual longevity payments based on service as a judge of any or all of such six courts, or other state service or service as an elected officer of the state, or any combination of such service, completed as of the first day of July and the first day of January of each year, as follows:

(1) A judge who has completed ten or more years but less than fifteen years of service shall receive one-quarter of three per cent of the annual salary payable under subsection (a) of this section.

(2) A judge who has completed fifteen or more years but less than twenty years of service shall receive one-half of three per cent of the annual salary payable under subsection (a) of this section.

(3) A judge who has completed twenty or more years but less than twenty-five years of service shall receive three-quarters of three per cent of the annual salary payable under subsection (a) of this section.

(4) A judge who has completed twenty-five or more years of service shall receive three per cent of the annual salary payable under subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 12. Subsection (f) of section 52-434 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(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, 2014, the sum of two hundred forty-four dollars, (B) on and after July 1, 2015, the sum of two hundred fifty-one dollars, (C) on and after July 1, 2017, and prior to October 31, 2017, the sum of two hundred fifty-nine dollars, (D)

on and after October 31, 2017, the sum of two hundred fifty-one dollars, and (E) on**]** (A) On and after July 1, 2019, the sum of two hundred fifty-nine dollars, and (B) on and after July 1, 2021, the sum of two hundred seventy-one 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. 13. Subsection (h) of section 46b-231 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[(h) (1) On and after July 1, 2014, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred forty-one thousand six hundred eighty-six dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred thirty-four thousand eight hundred forty-eight dollars.

(2) On and after July 1, 2015, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred forty-five thousand nine hundred thirty-six dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred thirty-eight thousand eight hundred ninety-three dollars.

(3) On and after July 1, 2017, and prior to October 31, 2017, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred fifty thousand three hundred fourteen dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred forty-three thousand sixty dollars.

(4) On and after October 31, 2017, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred forty-five thousand nine hundred thirty-six dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred thirty-eight thousand eight hundred ninety-three dollars.**]**

[(5)**]** (h) (1) On and after July 1, 2019, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred fifty thousand three hundred fourteen dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred forty-three thousand sixty dollars.

(2) On and after July 1, 2021, the Chief Family Support Magistrate shall receive a salary of one hundred fifty-seven thousand seventy-eight dollars, and other family support magistrates shall receive an annual salary of one hundred forty-nine thousand four hundred ninety-eight dollars.

Sec. 14. Subsection (b) of section 46b-236 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[(b) (1) On and after July 1, 2014, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred eleven dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

(2) On and after July 1, 2015, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred seventeen dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

(3) On and after July 1, 2017, and prior to October 31, 2017, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred twenty-three dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

(4) On and after October 31, 2017, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred seventeen dollars and

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

[(5)**]** (b) (1) On and after July 1, 2019, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred twenty-three dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

(2) On and after July 1, 2021, each family support referee shall receive, for acting as a family support referee, in addition to the retirement salary, the sum of two hundred thirty-three dollars and expenses, including mileage, for each day a family support referee is so engaged.

Sec. 15. Subsection (b) of section 19a-754a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) The Office of Health Strategy shall be responsible for the following:

(1) Developing and implementing a comprehensive and cohesive health care vision for the state, including, but not limited to, a coordinated state health care cost containment strategy;

(2) Promoting effective health planning and the provision of quality health care in the state in a manner that ensures access for all state residents to cost-effective health care services, avoids the duplication of such services and improves the availability and financial stability of such services throughout the state;

(3) Directing and overseeing the State Innovation Model Initiative and related successor initiatives;

(4) (A) Coordinating the state's health information technology

initiatives, (B) seeking funding for and overseeing the planning, implementation and development of policies and procedures for the administration of the all-payer claims database program established under section 19a-775a, (C) establishing and maintaining a consumer health information Internet web site under section 19a-755b, and (D) designating an unclassified individual from the office to perform the duties of a health information technology officer as set forth in sections 17b-59f and 17b-59g;

(5) Directing and overseeing the Health Systems Planning Unit established under section 19a-612 and all of its duties and responsibilities as set forth in chapter 368z; **[**and**]**

(6) Convening forums and meetings with state government and external stakeholders, including, but not limited to, the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, to discuss health care issues designed to develop effective health care cost and quality strategies; and

(7) (A) Administering the Covered Connecticut program established under section 16 of this act in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services, Insurance Commissioner and Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, and (B) consulting with the Commissioner of Social Services and Insurance Commissioner for the purposes set forth in section 17 of this act.

Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Affordable Care Act" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1080 of the general statutes;

(2) "Covered Connecticut program" means the program established under subsection (b) of this section;

(3) "Exchange" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1080

of the general statutes;

(4) "Health carrier" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1080 of the general statutes;

(5) "Individual market" has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 18024(a), as amended from time to time;

(6) "Office of Health Strategy" means the Office of Health Strategy established under section 19a-754a of the general statutes; and

(7) "Silver level" has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 18022(d), as amended from time to time.

(b) There is established within the Office of Health Strategy the Covered Connecticut program for the purpose of reducing the state's uninsured rate. The Office of Health Strategy shall administer said program in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services, Insurance Commissioner and exchange, and, as part of said program, the Office of Health Strategy shall:

(1) Provide premium and cost-sharing subsidies that are sufficient to ensure fully subsidized coverage:

(A) On and after July 1, 2021, for parents and needy caretaker relatives, and their tax dependents not older than twenty-six years of age, who (i) are eligible for premium and cost-sharing subsidies for a qualified health plan, (ii) are ineligible for Medicaid because their income exceeds the Medicaid income limits under chapter 319v of the general statutes, (iii) have household income up to one hundred seventy-five per cent of the federal poverty level, and (iv) are receiving coverage under the benchmark qualified health plan offered through the exchange in the individual market at a silver level of coverage; and

(B) On and after July 1, 2022, for all parents, needy caretaker relatives

and nonpregnant low-income adults who (i) are between eighteen and sixty-four years of age, (ii) are eligible for premium and cost-sharing subsidies for a qualified health plan, (iii) are ineligible for Medicaid because their income exceeds the Medicaid income limits under chapter 319v of the general statutes, (iv) have household income up to one hundred seventy-five per cent of the federal poverty level, and (v) are receiving coverage under the benchmark qualified health plan offered through the exchange in the individual market at a silver level of coverage;

(2) Not earlier than July 1, 2022, provide dental and nonemergency medical transportation services, as provided under chapter 319v of the general statutes, to all parents, needy caretaker relatives and nonpregnant low-income adults who (A) are between eighteen and sixty-four years of age, (B) are eligible for premium and cost-sharing subsidies for a qualified health plan, (C) are ineligible for Medicaid because their income exceeds the Medicaid income limits under chapter 319v of the general statutes, (D) have household income up to one hundred seventy-five per cent of the federal poverty level, and (E) are receiving coverage under the benchmark qualified health plan offered through the exchange in the individual market at a silver level of coverage;

(3) Establish procedures to, on a quarterly basis, pay in reimbursement to each health carrier offering the qualified health plan described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, as applicable, the premium and cost-sharing subsidies required under subdivision (1) of this subsection to ensure fully subsidized coverage; and

(4) Consult with the Commissioner of Social Services and Insurance Commissioner for the purposes set forth in section 17 of this act.

(c) (1) The Office of Health Strategy may, subject to the approval

required under subdivision (3) of this subsection, seek a waiver pursuant to Section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act, as amended from time to time, to advance the purpose of the Covered Connecticut program. The Office of Health Strategy shall implement such waiver if the federal government issues such waiver.

(2) The Office of Health Strategy shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, human services and insurance containing any proposed waiver described in subdivision (1) of this subsection before seeking such waiver from the federal government.

(3) Not later than thirty days after the Office of Health Strategy submits a report under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, human services and insurance shall convene a joint public hearing on the proposed waiver contained in the report submitted pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, separately vote to approve or reject such proposed waiver and advise the Office of Health Strategy of their approval or rejection of such proposed waiver. If any committee takes no action on such proposed waiver within the thirty-day period, the proposed waiver shall be deemed rejected.

(d) The benefits and subsidies provided for individuals as part of the Covered Connecticut program shall not be considered income for such individuals for the purposes of chapter 229 of the general statutes.

(e) Not later than January 1, 2022, and every six months thereafter, the Office of Health Strategy shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, human services and insurance. Such report shall contain

a description of the operations and finances of, and progress made by, the Covered Connecticut program for the immediately preceding six-month period.

Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Social Services shall seek, in accordance with the provisions of section 17b-8 of the general statutes and in consultation with the Insurance Commissioner and the Office of Health Strategy established under section 19a-754a of the general statutes, a waiver under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, to seek federal funds to support the Covered Connecticut program established under section 16 of this act. Upon approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Commissioner of Social Services shall implement the waiver.

Sec. 18. Section 17b-8 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall submit an application for a federal waiver or renewal of such waiver of any assistance program requirements, except such application pertaining to routine operational issues, and any proposed amendment to the Medicaid state plan to make a change in program requirements that would have required a waiver were it not for the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, P.L. 111-152 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, and, for the waiver application required under section 17 of this act, the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance, prior to the submission of such application or proposed amendment to the federal government. Not later than thirty days after the date of their receipt of such application or proposed amendment, the joint standing committees shall: (1) Hold a public

hearing on the waiver application, or (2) in the case of a proposed amendment to the Medicaid state plan, notify the Commissioner of Social Services whether or not said joint standing committees intend to hold a public hearing. Any notice to the commissioner indicating that the joint standing committees intend to hold a public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Medicaid state plan shall state the date on which the joint standing committees intend to hold such public hearing, which shall not be later than sixty days after the joint standing committees' receipt of the proposed amendment. At the conclusion of a public hearing held in accordance with the provisions of this section, the joint standing committees shall advise the commissioner of their approval, denial or modifications, if any, of the commissioner's waiver application or proposed amendment. If the joint standing committees advise the commissioner of their denial of the commissioner's waiver application or proposed amendment, the commissioner shall not submit the application for a federal waiver or proposed amendment to the federal government. If such committees do not concur, the committee chairpersons shall appoint a committee of conference which shall be composed of three members from each joint standing committee. At least one member appointed from each joint standing committee shall be a member of the minority party. The report of the committee of conference shall be made to each joint standing committee, which shall vote to accept or reject the report. The report of the committee of conference may not be amended. If a joint standing committee rejects the report of the committee of conference, that joint standing committee shall notify the commissioner of the rejection and the commissioner's waiver application or proposed amendment shall be deemed approved. If the joint standing committees accept the report, the committee having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies shall advise the commissioner of their approval, denial or modifications, if any, of the commissioner's waiver application or proposed amendment. If the joint standing committees do not so advise the commissioner during the thirty-day period, the waiver application

or proposed amendment shall be deemed approved. Any application for a federal waiver, waiver renewal or proposed amendment submitted to the federal government by the commissioner, pursuant to this section, shall be in accordance with the approval or modifications, if any, of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, and, for the waiver application required under section 17 of this act, the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance.

(b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall annually, not later than December fifteenth, notify the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services of potential Medicaid waivers and amendments to the Medicaid state plan that may result in a cost savings for the state. The commissioner shall notify the committees of the possibility of any Medicaid waiver application or proposed amendment to the Medicaid state plan that the commissioner is considering in developing a budget for the next fiscal year before the commissioner submits such budget for legislative approval.

(c) Thirty days prior to submission of an application for a waiver from federal law, renewal of such waiver or proposed amendment to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly under subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services shall publish a notice that the commissioner intends to seek such a waiver or waiver renewal, or submit a proposed amendment to the federal government in the Connecticut Law Journal and on the Department of Social Services' Internet web site, along with a summary of the provisions of the waiver application or the proposed amendment and the manner in which individuals may submit comments. The commissioner shall allow thirty

days for written comments on the waiver application or proposed amendment prior to submission of the application for a waiver, waiver renewal or proposed amendment to the General Assembly under subsection (a) of this section and shall include all written comments with the waiver, waiver renewal application or proposed amendment in the submission to the General Assembly.

(d) The commissioner shall include with any waiver application or proposed amendment submitted to the federal government pursuant to this section: (1) Any written comments received pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and (2) a complete transcript of the joint standing committee proceedings held pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, including any additional written comments submitted to the joint standing committees at such proceedings. The joint standing committees shall transmit any such materials to the commissioner for inclusion with any such waiver application or proposed amendment.

Sec. 19. Section 38a-1084 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The exchange shall:

(1) Administer the exchange for both qualified individuals and qualified employers;

(2) Commission surveys of individuals, small employers and health care providers on issues related to health care and health care coverage;

(3) Implement procedures for the certification, recertification and decertification, consistent with guidelines developed by the Secretary under Section 1311(c) of the Affordable Care Act, and section 38a-1086, of health benefit plans as qualified health plans;

(4) Provide for the operation of a toll-free telephone hotline to respond to requests for assistance;

(5) Provide for enrollment periods, as provided under Section 1311(c)(6) of the Affordable Care Act;

(6) Maintain an Internet web site through which enrollees and prospective enrollees of qualified health plans may obtain standardized comparative information on such plans including, but not limited to, the enrollee satisfaction survey information under Section 1311(c)(4) of the Affordable Care Act and any other information or tools to assist enrollees and prospective enrollees evaluate qualified health plans offered through the exchange;

(7) Publish the average costs of licensing, regulatory fees and any other payments required by the exchange and the administrative costs of the exchange, including information on moneys lost to waste, fraud and abuse, on an Internet web site to educate individuals on such costs;

(8) On or before the open enrollment period for plan year 2017, assign a rating to each qualified health plan offered through the exchange in accordance with the criteria developed by the Secretary under Section 1311(c)(3) of the Affordable Care Act, and determine each qualified health plan's level of coverage in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary under Section 1302(d)(2)(A) of the Affordable Care Act;

(9) Use a standardized format for presenting health benefit options in the exchange, including the use of the uniform outline of coverage established under Section 2715 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 USC 300gg-15, as amended from time to time;

(10) Inform individuals, in accordance with Section 1413 of the Affordable Care Act, of eligibility requirements for the Medicaid program under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) under Title XXI of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, or any applicable state or local public program, and enroll an individual in

such program if the exchange determines, through screening of the application by the exchange, that such individual is eligible for any such program;

(11) Collaborate with the Department of Social Services, to the extent possible, to allow an enrollee who loses premium tax credit eligibility under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code and is eligible for HUSKY A or any other state or local public program, to remain enrolled in a qualified health plan;

(12) Establish and make available by electronic means a calculator to determine the actual cost of coverage after application of any premium tax credit under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code and any cost-sharing reduction under Section 1402 of the Affordable Care Act;

(13) Establish a program for small employers through which qualified employers may access coverage for their employees and that shall enable any qualified employer to specify a level of coverage so that any of its employees may enroll in any qualified health plan offered through the exchange at the specified level of coverage;

(14) Offer enrollees and small employers the option of having the exchange collect and administer premiums, including through allocation of premiums among the various insurers and qualified health plans chosen by individual employers;

(15) Grant a certification, subject to Section 1411 of the Affordable Care Act, attesting that, for purposes of the individual responsibility penalty under Section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code, an individual is exempt from the individual responsibility requirement or from the penalty imposed by said Section 5000A because:

(A) There is no affordable qualified health plan available through the exchange, or the individual's employer, covering the individual; or

(B) The individual meets the requirements for any other such exemption from the individual responsibility requirement or penalty;

(16) Provide to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States the following:

(A) A list of the individuals granted a certification under subdivision (15) of this section, including the name and taxpayer identification number of each individual;

(B) The name and taxpayer identification number of each individual who was an employee of an employer but who was determined to be eligible for the premium tax credit under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code because:

(i) The employer did not provide minimum essential health benefits coverage; or

(ii) The employer provided the minimum essential coverage but it was determined under Section 36B(c)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code to be unaffordable to the employee or not provide the required minimum actuarial value; and

(C) The name and taxpayer identification number of:

(i) Each individual who notifies the exchange under Section 1411(b)(4) of the Affordable Care Act that such individual has changed employers; and

(ii) Each individual who ceases coverage under a qualified health plan during a plan year and the effective date of that cessation;

(17) Provide to each employer the name of each employee, as described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (16) of this section, of the employer who ceases coverage under a qualified health plan during a plan year and the effective date of the cessation;

(18) Perform duties required of, or delegated to, the exchange by the Secretary or the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States related to determining eligibility for premium tax credits, reduced cost-sharing or individual responsibility requirement exemptions;

(19) Select entities qualified to serve as Navigators in accordance with Section 1311(i) of the Affordable Care Act and award grants to enable Navigators to:

(A) Conduct public education activities to raise awareness of the availability of qualified health plans;

(B) Distribute fair and impartial information concerning enrollment in qualified health plans and the availability of premium tax credits under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code and cost-sharing reductions under Section 1402 of the Affordable Care Act;

(C) Facilitate enrollment in qualified health plans;

(D) Provide referrals to the Office of the Healthcare Advocate or health insurance ombudsman established under Section 2793 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 USC 300gg-93, as amended from time to time, or any other appropriate state agency or agencies, for any enrollee with a grievance, complaint or question regarding the enrollee's health benefit plan, coverage or a determination under that plan or coverage; and

(E) Provide information in a manner that is culturally and linguistically appropriate to the needs of the population being served by the exchange;

(20) Review the rate of premium growth within and outside the exchange and consider such information in developing recommendations on whether to continue limiting qualified employer status to small employers;

(21) Credit the amount, in accordance with Section 10108 of the Affordable Care Act, of any free choice voucher to the monthly premium of the plan in which a qualified employee is enrolled and collect the amount credited from the offering employer;

(22) Consult with stakeholders relevant to carrying out the activities required under sections 38a-1080 to 38a-1090, inclusive, including, but not limited to:

(A) Individuals who are knowledgeable about the health care system, have background or experience in making informed decisions regarding health, medical and scientific matters and are enrollees in qualified health plans;

(B) Individuals and entities with experience in facilitating enrollment in qualified health plans;

(C) Representatives of small employers and self-employed individuals;

(D) The Department of Social Services; and

(E) Advocates for enrolling hard-to-reach populations;

(23) Meet the following financial integrity requirements:

(A) Keep an accurate accounting of all activities, receipts and expenditures and annually submit to the Secretary, the Governor, the Insurance Commissioner and the General Assembly a report concerning such accountings;

(B) Fully cooperate with any investigation conducted by the Secretary pursuant to the Secretary's authority under the Affordable Care Act and allow the Secretary, in coordination with the Inspector General of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, to:

(i) Investigate the affairs of the exchange;

(ii) Examine the properties and records of the exchange; and

(iii) Require periodic reports in relation to the activities undertaken by the exchange; and

(C) Not use any funds in carrying out its activities under sections 38a-1080 to 38a-1089, inclusive, that are intended for the administrative and operational expenses of the exchange, for staff retreats, promotional giveaways, excessive executive compensation or promotion of federal or state legislative and regulatory modifications;

(24) (A) Seek to include the most comprehensive health benefit plans that offer high quality benefits at the most affordable price in the exchange, (B) encourage health carriers to offer tiered health care provider network plans that have different cost-sharing rates for different health care provider tiers and reward enrollees for choosing low-cost, high-quality health care providers by offering lower copayments, deductibles or other out-of-pocket expenses, and (C) offer any such tiered health care provider network plans through the exchange; **[**and**]**

(25) Report at least annually to the General Assembly on the effect of adverse selection on the operations of the exchange and make legislative recommendations, if necessary, to reduce the negative impact from any such adverse selection on the sustainability of the exchange, including recommendations to ensure that regulation of insurers and health benefit plans are similar for qualified health plans offered through the exchange and health benefit plans offered outside the exchange. The exchange shall evaluate whether adverse selection is occurring with respect to health benefit plans that are grandfathered under the Affordable Care Act, self-insured plans, plans sold through the exchange and plans sold outside the exchange; **[**.**]** and

(26) Consult with the Commissioner of Social Services, Insurance Commissioner and Office of Health Strategy, established under section 19a-754a for the purposes set forth in section 16 of this act.

Sec. 20. Subsection (a) of section 19a-202 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Upon application to the Department of Public Health any municipal health department shall annually receive from the state an amount equal to one dollar and **[**eighteen**]** ninety-three cents per capita, provided such municipality (1) employs a full-time director of health, except that if a vacancy exists in the office of director of health or the office is filled by an acting director for more than three months, such municipality shall not be eligible for funding unless the Commissioner of Public Health waives this requirement; (2) submits a public health program and budget which is approved by the Commissioner of Public Health; (3) appropriates not less than one dollar per capita, from the annual tax receipts, for health department services; (4) has a population of fifty thousand or more; and (5) meets the requirements of section 19a-207a, within available appropriations. Such municipal department of health may use additional funds, which the Department of Public Health may secure from federal agencies or any other source and which it may allot to such municipal department of health. The money so received shall be disbursed upon warrants approved by the chief executive officer of such municipality. The Comptroller shall annually in July and upon a voucher of the Commissioner of Public Health, draw the Comptroller's order on the State Treasurer in favor of such municipal department of health for the amount due in accordance with the provisions of this section and under rules prescribed by the commissioner. Any moneys remaining unexpended at the end of a fiscal year shall be included in the budget of such municipal department of health for the ensuing year. This aid shall be rendered from

appropriations made from time to time by the General Assembly to the Department of Public Health for this purpose.

Sec. 21. Subsection (a) of section 19a-245 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Upon application to the Department of Public Health, each health district that has a total population of fifty thousand or more, or serves three or more municipalities irrespective of the combined total population of such municipalities, shall annually receive from the state an amount equal to **[**one dollar and eighty-five**]** two dollars and sixty cents per capita for each town, city and borough of such district, provided (1) the Commissioner of Public Health approves the public health program and budget of such health district, (2) the towns, cities and boroughs of such district appropriate for the maintenance of the health district not less than one dollar per capita from the annual tax receipts, and (3) the health district meets the requirements of section 19a-207a, within available appropriations. Such district departments of health are authorized to use additional funds, which the Department of Public Health may secure from federal agencies or any other source and which it may allot to such district departments of health. The district treasurer shall disburse the money so received upon warrants approved by a majority of the board and signed by its chairman and secretary. The Comptroller shall quarterly, in July, October, January and April, upon such application and upon the voucher of the Commissioner of Public Health, draw the Comptroller's order on the State Treasurer in favor of such district department of health for the amount due in accordance with the provisions of this section and under rules prescribed by the commissioner. Any moneys remaining unexpended at the end of a fiscal year shall be included in the budget of the district for the ensuing year. This aid shall be rendered from appropriations made from time to time by the General Assembly to the Department of Public Health for this

purpose.

Sec. 22. Section 1-139a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

The financial assets of the **[**Connecticut Institute for Municipal Studies**]** Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at Central Connecticut State University are transferred to **[**the Connecticut State University System**]** The University of Connecticut for the purposes of the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at **[**Central Connecticut State University**]** The University of Connecticut. The records, files, intellectual property rights and copyright rights of the **[**Connecticut Institute for Municipal Studies**]** Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at Central Connecticut State University are transferred to the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at **[**Central Connecticut State University**]** The University of Connecticut.

Sec. 23. Subdivision (6) of subsection (b) of section 2-111 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(6) The director of the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at **[**Central Connecticut State University**]** The University of Connecticut;

Sec. 24. Subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of section 4-68s of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(b) Each program inventory required by subsection (a) of this section shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, human services, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and finance, revenue and bonding, the Office of Fiscal Analysis, and the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at **[**Central

Connecticut State University**]** The University of Connecticut.

(c) Not later than November 1, 2018, and annually thereafter by November first, the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at **[**Central Connecticut State University**]** The University of Connecticut shall submit a report containing a cost-benefit analysis of the programs inventoried in subsection (a) of this section to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and finance, revenue and bonding, and the Office of Fiscal Analysis, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

(d) The Office of Policy and Management and the Office of Fiscal Analysis may include the cost-benefit analysis provided by the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut under subsection (c) of this section in their reports submitted to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and finance, revenue and bonding on or before November fifteenth annually, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 2-36b.

Sec. 25. Subsection (a) of section 7-608 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established a Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Advisory Board. The board shall consist of the following voting members: (1) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; (2) the **[**president**]** director of the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at **[**Central Connecticut State University**]** The University of Connecticut; (3) the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities; (4) the heads of those state agencies deemed appropriate by the secretary; (5) the chief executive officer of a municipality in which

a neighborhood revitalization zone planning committee, pursuant to this chapter, was established on or before July 1, 1998; and (6) one member of each such neighborhood revitalization zone planning committee appointed by the chief executive officer based upon recommendations submitted to him by such committee. In a municipality having more than one neighborhood revitalization zone planning committee, each committee shall submit its recommendations to the chief executive officer and he shall choose the board member to be appointed from such recommendations. Each member of the board may designate a person to represent him on said board. The membership of the board shall be increased on September 1, 1999, and annually thereafter, to reflect the addition of a municipal chief executive officer and a member of a neighborhood revitalization zone planning committee having been established in the preceding twelve months, in a municipality not previously represented on said board. The members of the board shall serve without compensation.

Sec. 26. Subdivision (9) of subsection (b) of section 54-1s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(9) The director of the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at **[**Central Connecticut State University**]** <u>The University of Connecticut</u>, or a designee; and

Sec. 27. Subsection (b) of section 54-142f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(b) The council shall consist of the following members: (1) The House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees or the chairperson's designee, who shall be a member of the General Assembly; (2) the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of

the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees or the chairperson's designee, who shall be a member of the General Assembly; (3) the House and Senate ranking members or their designees, who shall be members of the General Assembly; (4) the undersecretary of the Office of Policy and Management Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, or the undersecretary's designee; (5) the Commissioner of Correction, or the commissioner's designee; (6) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee; (7) the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioner's designee; (8) the executive director of the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, or the executive director's designee; (9) the executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's designee; (10) a justice-impacted person, to be appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; (11) a representative from the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut, to be appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; (12) a representative from the Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now, to be appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; (13) a representative from the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, to be appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; (14) a representative from the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at The University of Connecticut, to be appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; (15) a representative from the Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice, to be appointed by the Senate chairperson of the

joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; (16) a representative from the National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls, to be appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; (17) a representative from the New Haven Legal Assistance Association Reentry Clinic, to be appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; (18) a representative from the Service Employees' International Union, Local 32BJ, to be appointed by the House chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees; and (19) a representative from Voices of Women of Color, to be appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees.

Sec. 28. Section 19a-7d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) **[**The**]** Not later than January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Public Health **[**may**]** shall establish, within available **[**appropriations**]** resources, a program to provide three-year grants to community-based providers of primary care services in order to expand access to health care for the uninsured. The grants may be awarded to community-based providers of primary care for (1) funding for direct services, (2) recruitment and retention of primary care clinicians and registered nurses through subsidizing of salaries or through a loan repayment program, and (3) capital expenditures. The community-based providers of primary care under the direct service program shall provide, or arrange access to, primary and preventive services, referrals to specialty services, including rehabilitative and mental health services, inpatient

care, prescription drugs, basic diagnostic laboratory services, health education and outreach to alert people to the availability of services. Primary care clinicians and registered nurses participating in the state loan repayment program or receiving subsidies shall provide services to the uninsured based on a sliding fee schedule, provide free care if necessary, accept Medicare assignment and participate as Medicaid providers, or provide nursing services in school-based health centers and expanded school health sites, as such terms are defined in section 19a-6r. The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish eligibility criteria, services to be provided by participants, the sliding fee schedule, reporting requirements and the loan repayment program. For the purposes of this section, "primary care clinicians" includes family practice physicians, general practice osteopaths, obstetricians and gynecologists, internal medicine physicians, pediatricians, dentists, certified nurse midwives, advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants and dental hygienists.

(b) Funds appropriated for the state loan repayment program shall not lapse until fifteen months following the end of the fiscal year for which such funds were appropriated.

Sec. 29. Subsection (a) of section 19a-490 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

(a) "Institution" means a hospital, short-term hospital special hospice, hospice inpatient facility, residential care home, nursing home facility, home health care agency, home health aide agency, behavioral health facility, assisted living services agency, substance abuse treatment facility, outpatient surgical facility, outpatient clinic, an infirmary operated by an educational institution for the care of students enrolled in, and faculty and employees of, such institution; a facility engaged in providing services for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment or care of

human health conditions, including facilities operated and maintained by any state agency; and a residential facility for persons with intellectual disability licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disability. "Institution" does not include any facility for the care and treatment of persons with mental illness or substance use disorder operated or maintained by any state agency, except Whiting Forensic Hospital and the hospital and psychiatric residential treatment facility units of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center;

Sec. 30. Section 19a-490 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (q) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

(NEW) (q) "Psychiatric residential treatment facility" means a nonhospital facility with a provider agreement with the Department of Social Services to provide inpatient services to Medicaid-eligible individuals under the age of twenty-one.

Sec. 31. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Public Health shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, concerning licensure by the Department of Public Health of the psychiatric residential treatment facilities, as defined in subsection (q) of section 19a-490 of the general statutes at the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center.

(b) The commissioner may implement policies and procedures concerning the licensure of the psychiatric residential treatment facilities of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center while in the process of adopting regulations pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, provided (1) notice of intent to adopt regulations is published on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of implementation of such policies and procedures, and (2) such policies and procedures are consistent with the proposed regulations. Any policies and procedures

implemented under this subsection shall be valid until the time final regulations are adopted.

Sec. 32. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Labor Commissioner shall, within available appropriations, establish the Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate within the Labor Department to provide assistance to individuals who are unemployed.

(b) The Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate may:

(1) Assist unemployed individuals seeking benefits administered by the Labor Department under chapter 567 of the general statutes;

(2) Assist unemployed individuals to understand their rights and responsibilities with respect to benefits administered by the department under chapter 567 of the general statutes;

(3) Provide information to the public, state agencies, legislators and others regarding the problems and concerns of unemployed individuals and make recommendations for resolving such problems and concerns;

(4) Assist unemployed individuals with the filing of appeals in connection with the benefits administered by the department under chapter 567 of the general statutes;

(5) Analyze and monitor the development and implementation of federal, state and local laws, regulations and policies relating to unemployed individuals and recommend changes the office deems necessary to the appropriate federal, state or local governmental entity;

(6) Receive and review complaints of unemployed individuals and make recommendations to the commissioner for resolving such complaints;

(7) Access prior employment records of an unemployed individual to the extent permitted under state and federal law;

(8) Establish and maintain an Internet web site and a toll-free number, or any other free calling option, to allow unemployed individuals access to the services and information provided by the Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate; and

(9) Take any other actions necessary to fulfill the purposes of this section.

(c) Not later than October 1, 2021, the Labor Commissioner shall designate an Unemployed Workers' Advocate, who shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner, to manage the daily activities and duties of the Office of the Unemployed Workers' Advocate. The Unemployed Workers' Advocate shall have the necessary qualifications to perform the duties of said office, including, but not limited to, having expertise and experience in the fields of unemployment compensation benefits and advocacy for the rights of unemployed individuals. Within available appropriations, the Unemployed Workers' Advocate shall appoint and employ such assistants, employees and personnel as deemed necessary for the efficient and effective administration of the activities of the office.

Sec. 33. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall pay from the grants-in-aid authorized in subsection (e) of section 13 of public act 20-1 of the regular session the amount of seven million dollars to the town of Preston for the purposes described in section 32-763 of the general statutes.

Sec. 34. Subsection (f) of section 4-89 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(f) The provisions of this section shall not apply to appropriations to (1) the Office of Higher Education for (A) student financial assistance for the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program established under section 10a-173, or **[**to**]** (B) the minority advancement program established

under subsection (b) of section 10a-11, (2) the Board of Regents for Higher Education for Connecticut higher education centers of excellence established under section 10a-25h, **[**to the Office of Higher Education for the minority advancement program established under subsection (b) of section 10a-11, or to**]** (3) the operating funds of the constituent units of the state system of higher education established pursuant to sections 10a-105, 10a-99 and 10a-77, or (4) the Connecticut Open Educational Resource Coordinating Council established under section 10a-44d. Such appropriations shall not lapse until the end of the fiscal year succeeding the fiscal year of the appropriation except that centers of excellence appropriations deposited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education in the Endowed Chair Investment Fund, established under section 10a-20a, shall not lapse but shall be held permanently in the Endowed Chair Investment Fund and any moneys remaining in higher education operating funds of the constituent units of the state system of higher education shall not lapse but shall be held permanently in such funds. On or before September first, annually, the Office of Higher Education and Board of Regents for Higher Education shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, through the Office of Fiscal Analysis, concerning the amount of each such appropriation carried over from the preceding fiscal year.

Sec. 35. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall collect data on the use of funds by each executive branch state agency and each private entity that receives an allocation pursuant to section 41 of special act 21-15 and section 306 of this act. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, the interim report due on August 31, 2021, and the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports required to be submitted to the United States Treasury to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly

having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies.

(b) (1) Not later than October 1, 2021, and quarterly thereafter, to April 1, 2024, inclusive, the Board of Regents for Higher Education 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 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall include (A) a full accounting of all funds allocated to the regional community-technical college system, the Connecticut State University System and Charter Oak State College pursuant to section 41 of special act 21-15 and section 306 of this act; and (B) for each constituent unit receiving funds, (i) the total amount of funds received, and (ii) the programmatic or other permitted purposes for which such funds were used, and the amount of funds used for each program or other permitted purpose.

(2) Not later than October 1, 2021, and quarterly thereafter, to April 1, 2024, inclusive, the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut 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 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall include (A) a full accounting of all funds allocated to The University of Connecticut pursuant to section 41 of special act 21-15 and section 306 of this act; (B) the total amount of funds received by said university; and (C) the programmatic or other permitted purposes for which such funds were used, and the amount of funds used for each program or other permitted purpose.

(c) Not later than October 1, 2021, and quarterly thereafter, to April 1, 2024, inclusive, the Chief Court Administrator 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 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall include (1) a full accounting of all funds allocated to the judicial branch pursuant to section 41 of special act 21-15 and section 306 of this act, and (2) for each judicial branch state agency, (A) the total amount of funds received; and (B) the programmatic or other permitted purposes for which such funds were used, and the amount of funds used for each program or other permitted purpose.

Sec. 36. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Community action agency" means a public or private nonprofit agency which has previously been designated by and authorized to accept funds from the federal Community Services Administration for community action agencies under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, or a successor agency established pursuant to section 17b-892 of the general statutes;

(2) "Community health worker" means a public health outreach professional with an in-depth understanding of the experience, language, culture and socioeconomic needs of the community and who provides a range of services, including, but not limited to, outreach, engagement, education, coaching, informal counseling, social support, advocacy, care coordination, research related to social determinants of health and basic screenings and assessments of any risks associated with social determinants of health; and

(3) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related mutation thereof recognized by said organization as a communicable respiratory disease.

(b) The Department of Public Health shall establish a community health worker grant program. The purpose of such program shall be to

provide grants to community action agencies that employ community health workers who provide a range of services to persons adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The department may enter into an agreement, pursuant to chapter 55a of the general statutes, with a person, firm, corporation or other entity to operate such program.

(c) The Department of Public Health shall publish on its Internet web site a notice of grant availability for the period beginning on the effective date of this section and ending on June 30, 2023.

(d) Each community action agency applying for a grant under this section shall submit an application in such form and manner as prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health. Each application shall include the following information: (1) The location of the principal place of business of the applicant; (2) the number of community health workers employed by the applicant or that the applicant seeks to employ and the range of services provided or to be provided by such community health workers; (3) an explanation of the intended use of the grant being applied for; and (4) such other information that the commissioner deems necessary.

(e) The Department of Public Health shall review all grant applications received under the program and determine which applications are eligible for funding. Criteria for such determinations shall be established by the department and included in the notice of grant availability described in subsection (c) of this section.

(f) The amount of any grant issued pursuant to this section shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars annually and the total amount of grants issued shall not exceed six million dollars. No grant shall be issued pursuant to this section after June 30, 2023.

(g) (1) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Public Health shall 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 public health and human services regarding the progress of the program and including any requisite legislative proposals to accomplish the goals of the program.

(2) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Public Health 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 public health and human services. Such report shall include the following data regarding the program: (A) The number of grants provided and the amount of such grants; (B) the identities of the community action agencies that received such grants; (C) the intended use of each grant provided, as described by the community action agency pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of this section; (D) the number of community health workers employed by each community action agency that received a grant at the time such agency received such grant and information regarding the services provided by such community health workers; and (E) the number of community health workers employed by each community action agency that received a grant at the conclusion of the program and information regarding the services provided by such community health workers.

Sec. 37. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of $3,000,000 allocated in section 41 of special act 21-15 and section 306 of this act, to the Department of Public Health, for Community Health Workers, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, shall be for the purposes of the program established pursuant to section 36 of this act.

Sec. 38. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding any provision of section 22a-174 of the general statutes and any regulation adopted pursuant to said section, the Commissioner of Energy and

Environmental Protection shall not require any permittee who seeks to replace a retort that constitutes, or is part of, a stationary source located on a cemetery property that: (1) Consists of not less than two hundred fifty acres, (2) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and (3) was established prior to 1865, to relocate any stack associated with such source or install best available control technology for any hazardous air pollutant provided such permittee replaces such retort not later than October 1, 2023.

Sec. 39. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Attorney General may, pursuant to the Attorney General's authority under section 3-125 of the general statutes, enter into any agreement concerning any state-wide opioid claim, including an agreement to compromise, release, waive or otherwise settle such claim, on behalf of the state and any political subdivisions. For the purposes of this section, "state-wide opioid claim" means any claim the state asserts or could assert concerning the manufacturing, marketing, distributing or selling of opioids, or activities related thereto.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, no claimant may assert any state-wide opioid claim for which the state has entered into an agreement to compromise, release, waive or otherwise settle such claim pursuant to this section.

Sec. 40. Section 22a-151 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

As used in sections 22a-151 to 22a-158, inclusive:

(1) "By-product material" means **[**radioactive material as defined in Section 11e of Public Law 85-256 (Act of September 2, 1957) and Public Law 89-645 (Act of October 13, 1966), as amended or as interpreted or modified by duly promulgated regulations of the United States Atomic Energy Commission pursuant thereto**]** each of the following: (A) Any

radioactive material, other than special nuclear material, that is yielded in or made radioactive by exposure to radiation which is incidental to the process of producing or utilizing special nuclear material; (B) the tailings or wastes produced by the extraction or concentration of uranium or thorium from any ore processed primarily for its source material content, including discrete surface wastes resulting from uranium solution extraction processes but excluding any underground ore bodies depleted by such solution extraction processes; (C) any discrete source of radium-226 that is produced, extracted or converted after extraction for use for a commercial, medical or research activity; (D) any material that was made radioactive by use of a particle accelerator and that is produced, extracted or converted after extraction for use for a commercial, medical or research activity; and (E) any discrete source of naturally occurring radioactive material, other than source material, that is extracted or converted after extraction for use in a commercial, medical or research activity, if the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines that the source would pose a threat similar to the threat posed by a discrete source of radium-226 to the public health and safety;

(2) "Ionizing radiation" means gamma rays and x-rays, alpha and beta particles, high speed electrons, neutrons, protons and other nuclear particles, but not sound or radio waves, or visible, infrared or ultra violet light. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall be empowered to make regulations amending or modifying this definition;

(3) "General license" means a license effective pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection without the filing of an application for, or issuance of a licensing document for, the transfer, transport, acquisition, ownership, possession or use of quantities of, or devices or equipment utilizing by-product, source, special nuclear materials or other radioactive material

occurring naturally or produced artificially;

(4) "Specific license" means a license, issued after application, to use, manufacture, produce, transfer, transport, receive, acquire, own, or possess quantities of, or devices or equipment utilizing by-product, source, special nuclear materials or other radioactive material occurring naturally or produced artificially;

(5) "Person" means any individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, firm, association, trust, estate, public or private institution, group, agency, other than any federal agency, political subdivision of this state, any other state or political subdivision or agency thereof, and any legal successor, representative, agent or agency of any of the foregoing, other than the United States **[**Atomic Energy**]** Nuclear Regulatory Commission or any successor thereto, and other than agencies of the government of the United States licensed by the United States **[**Atomic Energy**]** Nuclear Regulatory Commission or any successor thereto;

(6) "Registration" means registration in conformance with the requirements of section 22a-148. The issuance of a specific license pursuant to sections 22a-151 to 22a-158, inclusive, shall be deemed to satisfy fully any registration requirements set forth in said section;

(7) "Source material" means **[**material as defined in Section 11z of Public Law 85-256 (Act of September 2, 1957) and Public Law 89-645 (Act of October 13, 1966), as amended or as interpreted or modified by duly promulgated regulations of the United States Atomic Energy Commission pursuant thereto**]** each of the following: (A) Uranium, thorium or any combination of said elements, in any physical or chemical form; (B) any other material if the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines the material to be source material; and (C) ores that contain uranium, thorium or any combination of said elements in a concentration by weight of 0.05 per cent or more, or in

such lower concentration if the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines the material in such concentration to be source material;

(8) "Special nuclear material" means: **[**material as defined in Section 11aa of Public Law 85-256 (Act of September 2, 1957) and Public Law 89-645 (Act of October 13, 1966), as amended or as interpreted or modified by duly promulgated regulations of the United States Atomic Energy Commission pursuant thereto.**]** (A) Plutonium, uranium 233, uranium enriched in the isotope 233 or in the isotope 235 and any other material if the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines the material to be such special nuclear material, but does not include source material; or (B) any material artificially enriched by any elements, isotopes or materials listed in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision not including source materials;

(9) "Radioactive materials" means any solid, liquid or gas that emits ionizing radiation spontaneously;

(10) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection or the commissioner's designee or agent;

(11) "Naturally occurring radioactive material" means material that contains radionuclides that are naturally present in the environment in materials, including, but not limited to, rocks, soil, minerals, natural gas, petroleum and ground or surface water;

(12) "Discrete source" means a radionuclide that was processed such that its concentration within a material was purposely increased for use for commercial, medical or research activities.

Sec. 41. Section 22a-153 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall supervise and regulate in the interest of the public health and safety the

use of ionizing radiation within the state.

(b) Said commissioner may employ, subject to the provisions of chapter 67, and prescribe the powers and duties of such persons as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 22a-151 to 22a-158, inclusive.

(c) Said commissioner shall **[**make such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of said sections.**]** adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning sources of ionizing radiation and radioactive materials, including, but not limited to, regulations:

(1) Necessary to secure agreement state status from the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission pursuant to section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, 42 USC 2021, as amended from time to time;

(2) Relating to the construction, operation, control, tracking, security or decommissioning of sources of ionizing radiation, including, but not limited to, any modification or alteration of such sources;

(3) Relating to the production, transportation, use, storage, possession, management, treatment, disposal or remediation of radioactive materials;

(4) Relating to planning for and responding to terrorist or other emergency events, or the potential for such events, that involve or may include radioactive materials;

(5) Necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 22a-151 to 22a-158, inclusive;

(6) Establishing fees for the licensure of sources of ionizing radiation, that, in conjunction with the fees collected pursuant to section 22a-148, shall be sufficient for the administration, implementation and

enforcement of an ionizing radiation program; and

(7) To reciprocate in the recognition of specific licenses issued by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) or another state that has reached agreement with the NRC pursuant to 42 USC 2021(b), as amended from time to time.

(d) The Governor, or the commissioner, is authorized to employ such consultants, experts and technicians as **[**he shall deem**]** are necessary for the purpose of conducting investigations and reporting **[**to him**]** on matters connected with the implementation of the provisions of **[**said**]** sections 22a-148 to 22a-158, inclusive.

(e) Any fees collected in accordance with section 22a-148 or 22a-150, or any regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, shall be deposited in the General Fund.

(f) The commissioner may establish radiation exposure guidelines for emergency responders and the public for the management of emergencies involving radioactive materials. Any such guidelines shall be compatible with the recommendations of the federal government and the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements.

Sec. 42. Subsection (a) of section 22a-154 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection **[**may provide by regulation for**]** shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, for the general or specific licensing of **[**by-product, source, special nuclear materials and other**]** sources of ionizing radiation. **[**, or devices or equipment utilizing such materials, and for amendment, suspension, or revocation of licenses issued pursuant thereto**]** The commissioner may issue, deny, renew, modify, suspend or revoke such licenses and may include such terms and conditions in such

licenses that the commissioner deems necessary. Nothing in this section shall be construed to confer authority to the commissioner to regulate materials or activities reserved to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission under 42 USC 2021(c) and 10 CFR 150.

Sec. 43. Section 22a-157 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

No person shall construct, operate, use, manufacture, produce, transport, transfer, receive, acquire, decommission, own or possess any source of ionizing radiation, unless **[**exempt, licensed or registered in accordance with the provisions of sections 22a-148 to 22a-158, inclusive**]** such activity is in compliance with all requirements of this chapter, including any regulation adopted, or registration or license issued pursuant to this chapter. No person shall produce, transport, store, possess, manage, treat, remediate, distribute, sell, install, repair or dispose of any radioactive materials, unless such activity is in compliance with all requirements of this chapter, including any regulation adopted, or registration or license issued pursuant to this chapter. No person shall fail to register a source of ionizing radiation required to be registered under this chapter, including as required by any regulation adopted, or registration or license issued pursuant to this chapter.

Sec. 44. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may take steps that the commissioner deems necessary to protect human health and the environment, including, but not limited to, investigating, monitoring, abating, containing, mitigating or removing any hazard, potential hazard, pollution, contamination or potential pollution or contamination if: (1) Any person causes or is responsible for any exposure hazard or potential exposure hazard from radioactive materials, radioactive waste or a source of ionizing radiation, or causes or is responsible for pollution, contamination or potential pollution or

contamination of any land, water, air or other natural resource of the state through a discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, release, leakage, seepage or filtration of radioactive material or radioactive waste, and does not act immediately to prevent, abate, contain, mitigate or remove such hazard, potential hazard, pollution, contamination, or potential pollution or contamination, to the satisfaction of the commissioner, or (2) the person responsible is unknown, and such hazard, potential hazard, pollution, contamination, or potential pollution or contamination, is not being prevented, abated, contained, mitigated or removed by the federal government, any state agency, any municipality or any regional or interstate authority. The commissioner may enter into a contract with any person for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subsection.

(b) Any person who causes or is responsible for any exposure hazard or potential exposure hazard from radioactive materials, radioactive waste or a source of ionizing radiation or who causes or is responsible for pollution, contamination, or potential pollution or contamination of any land, water, air or other natural resource of the state through a discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, release, leakage, seepage or filtration of radioactive material or radioactive waste shall be liable for all costs and expenses incurred by the commissioner in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, including all costs and expenses to restore the air, water, land and other natural resources of the state, and shall be liable for all attorneys' fees, court costs and any other legal expenses incurred by the state regarding the recovery of such costs. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the commissioner from seeking additional compensation or such other relief that a court may award, including punitive damages. When such hazard, potential hazard, pollution, contamination or potential pollution or contamination results from the action or inaction of more than one person, each person shall be held jointly and severally liable for such costs. Upon request of the commissioner, the Attorney General shall bring a civil action to recover

all such costs and expenses from the person who caused or is responsible for any such hazard, potential hazard, pollution, contamination or potential pollution or contamination.

(c) Any person who prevents, abates, contains, removes or mitigates any (1) exposure hazard or potential exposure hazard from radioactive materials, radioactive waste or a source of ionizing radiation that is not authorized by a provision of the general statutes, any regulation, registration or license, or (2) any pollution or contamination or potential pollution or contamination of any land, water, air or other natural resources of the state through a discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, release, leakage, seepage or filtration of radioactive material or radioactive waste that is not authorized by a provision of the general statutes, any regulation, registration or license, shall be entitled to reimbursement of the reasonable costs incurred or expended for such abatement, containment, removal or mitigation from any person whose negligent, reckless, knowing or intentional action or inaction caused such hazard, potential hazard, pollution, contamination or potential pollution or contamination. When such hazard, potential hazard, pollution, contamination or potential pollution or contamination results from the action or inaction of more than one person, each such person shall be held jointly and severally liable for such costs.

(d) Whenever the commissioner incurs contractual obligations in carrying out the authority vested in the commissioner pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and the person who causes or is responsible for the hazard, potential hazard, pollution, contamination or potential pollution or contamination does not assume the tasks and responsibilities that are the subject of such contractual obligations, the commissioner shall request the Attorney General to bring a civil action, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, to recover the costs and expenses of such contractual obligations and other costs and expenses provided for in subsection (b) of this section. If the person responsible

is unknown, the commissioner shall request the federal government to assume such contractual obligations to the extent provided for by federal law.

Sec. 45. Subsection (a) of section 22a-6a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) Any person who knowingly or negligently violates any provision of section 14-100b or 14-164c, subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 15-121, section 15-171, 15-172, 15-175, 22a-5, 22a-6 or 22a-7, chapter 440, chapter 441, section 22a-69 or 22a-74, subsection (b) of section 22a-134p, **[**section**]** sections 22a-148 to 22a-150, inclusive, 22a-153, 22a-154, 22a-157, 22a-158, 22a-162, 22a-171, 22a-174, 22a-175, 22a-177, 22a-178, 22a-181, 22a-183, 22a-184, 22a-190, 22a-208, 22a-208a, 22a-209, 22a-213, 22a-220, 22a-225, 22a-231, 22a-336, 22a-342, 22a-345, 22a-346, 22a-347, 22a-349a, 22a-358, 22a-359, 22a-361, 22a-362, 22a-365 to 22a-379, inclusive, 22a-401 to 22a-411, inclusive, 22a-416, 22a-417, 22a-424 to 22a-433, inclusive, 22a-447, 22a-449, 22a-450, 22a-451, 22a-454, 22a-458, 22a-461, 22a-462 or 22a-471, or any regulation, order or permit adopted or issued thereunder by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall be liable to the state for the reasonable costs and expenses of the state in detecting, investigating, controlling and abating such violation. Such person shall also be liable to the state for the reasonable costs and expenses of the state in restoring the air, waters, lands and other natural resources of the state, including plant, wild animal and aquatic life to their former condition insofar as practicable and reasonable, or, if restoration is not practicable or reasonable, for any damage, temporary or permanent, caused by such violation to the air, waters, lands or other natural resources of the state, including plant, wild animal and aquatic life and to the public trust therein. Institution of a suit to recover for such damage, costs and expenses shall not preclude the application of any other remedies.

Sec. 46. Section 16a-101 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Atomic energy" **[**means all forms of energy released in the course of nuclear fission or nuclear transformation**]** has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 2014, as amended from time to time;

(2) "By-product material" means **[**any radioactive materials, except special nuclear materials, yielded in or made radioactive by exposure to the radiation incident to the process of producing or utilizing special nuclear materials**]** each of the following: (A) Any radioactive material, other than special nuclear material, that is yielded in or made radioactive by exposure to radiation which is incidental to the process of producing or utilizing special nuclear material; (B) the tailings or wastes produced by the extraction or concentration of uranium or thorium from any ore processed primarily for its source material content, including discrete surface wastes resulting from uranium solution extraction processes but excluding any underground ore bodies depleted by such solution extraction processes; (C) any discrete source of radium-226 that is produced, extracted or converted after extraction for use for a commercial, medical or research activity; (D) any material that was made radioactive by use of a particle accelerator and that is produced, extracted or converted after extraction for use for a commercial, medical or research activity; and (E) any discrete source of naturally occurring radioactive material, other than source material, that is extracted or converted after extraction for use in a commercial, medical or research activity, if the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines that the source would pose a threat similar to the threat posed by a discrete source of radium-226 to the public health and safety;

(3) "Production facility" **[**means (A) any equipment or device capable

of the production of special nuclear material in such quantity as to be of significance to the common defense and security, or in such manner as to affect the health and safety of the public; or (B) any important component part especially designed for such equipment or device**]** has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 2014, as amended from time to time;

(4) "Special nuclear material" means: (A) **[**plutonium and uranium enriched in the isotope 233 or in the isotope 235, and any other material which the Governor declares by order to be special nuclear material after the United States Atomic Energy Commission has determined the material to be such; or (B) any material artificially enriched by any of the foregoing**]** Plutonium, uranium 233, uranium enriched in the isotope 233 or in the isotope 235, and any other material if the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines the material to be such special nuclear material, but does not include source material; or (B) any material artificially enriched by any elements, isotopes or materials listed in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision not including source materials;

(5) "Utilization facility" **[**means (A) any equipment or device, except an atomic weapon, capable of making use of special nuclear materials in such quantity as to be of significance to the common defense and security, or in such manner as to affect the health and safety of the public, or peculiarly adapted for making use of atomic energy in such quantity as to be of significance to the common defense and security, or in such manner as to affect the health and safety of the public; or (B) any important component part especially designed for such equipment or device.**]** has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 2014, as amended from time to time;

(6) "Radioactive material" means any solid, liquid or gas that emits ionizing radiation spontaneously;

(7) "Source material" means each of the following: (A) Uranium, thorium or any combination of said elements, in any physical or chemical form; (B) any other material if the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines the material to be source material; and (C) ores that contain uranium, thorium or any combination of said elements in a concentration by weight of 0.05 per cent or more, or in such lower concentration if the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines the material in such concentration to be source material;

(8) "Naturally occurring radioactive material" means material that contains radionuclides that are naturally present in the environment in materials, including, but not limited to, rocks, soil, minerals, natural gas, petroleum and ground or surface water;

(9) "Discrete source" means a radionuclide that was processed such that its concentration within a material was purposely increased for use for commercial, medical or research activities.

Sec. 47. Subsection (b) of section 22a-148 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(b) No person, firm, corporation, town, city or borough shall operate or cause to be operated any source of ionizing radiation or shall produce, transport, store, possess or dispose of radioactive materials except under conditions which comply with regulations or with orders imposed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection for the protection of the public health and preservation of the environment. Such regulations or orders shall be **[**based to the extent deemed practicable by said department on**]** compatible with the regulations of the United States **[**Atomic Energy**]** Nuclear Regulatory Commission, issued under authority granted to said commission by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, **[**and entitled "Standards for Protection

against Radiation", or, if such regulations should be deemed inappropriate by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, on the latest recommendations of the National Committee on Radiation, as published by the United States Department of Commerce, National Bureau of Standards**]** as codified in 42 USC 2014, as amended from time to time. No regulation pertaining to radiation sources and radioactive materials proposed to be issued by the commissioner shall become effective until thirty days after it has been submitted to the Coordinator of Atomic Development Activities unless, upon a finding of emergency need, the governor by order waives all or any part of said thirty-day period. In no case shall any source of ionizing radiation be utilized otherwise than at the lowest practical level consistent with the best use of the radiation facilities or radioactive materials involved.

Sec. 48. Section 22a-152 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

The Governor, on behalf of this state, is authorized to enter into agreements with the government of the United States providing for **[**discontinuance**]** relinquishment of certain of the programs of the government of the United States with respect to sources of ionizing radiation and the assumption thereof by this state, as provided for in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Sec. 49. Section 16a-100 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) The state of Connecticut endorses the action of the Congress of the United States in enacting the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to institute a program to encourage the widespread participation in the development and utilization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes to the maximum extent consistent with the common defense and security and with the health and safety of the public; and therefore declares the policy of the

state to be (1) to cooperate actively in the program thus instituted; (2) to develop programs for the control of ionizing and nonionizing radiation compatible with federal programs for regulation of by-product, source and special nuclear material; and **[**(2)**]** (3) to the extent that the regulation of special nuclear materials and by-product materials, of production facilities and utilization facilities and of persons operating such facilities may be within the jurisdiction of the state, to provide for the exercise of the state's regulatory authority so as to conform, as nearly as may be, to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 and regulations issued thereunder, to the end that there may, in effect, be a single harmonious system of regulation within the state.

(b) The state of Connecticut recognizes that the development of industries producing or utilizing atomic energy may result in new conditions calling for changes in the laws of the state and in regulations issued thereunder with respect to health and safety, working conditions, workers' compensation, transportation, public utilities, life, health, accident, fire and casualty insurance, the conservation of natural resources, including wildlife, and the protection of streams, rivers and airspace from pollution, and therefore declares the policy of the state to be (1) to adapt its laws and regulations to meet the new conditions in ways that will encourage the healthy development of industries producing or utilizing atomic energy while at the same time protecting the public interest; (2) to initiate continuing studies of the need for changes in the relevant laws and regulations of the state by the respective agencies of the state which are responsible for their administration; **[**and**]** (3) to assure the coordination of the studies thus undertaken, particularly with other atomic industrial development activities of the state and with the development and regulatory activities of other states and of the government of the United States; and (4) to cooperate with the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the states in promoting the uniformity of radiation laws and regulations, the administration and enforcement of such laws and regulations.

Sec. 50. Subsection (a) of section 16a-102 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall coordinate all atomic development activities in the state. Said commissioner or his designee shall (1) advise the Governor with respect to atomic industrial development within the state; (2) act as coordinator of the development and regulatory activities of the state relating to the industrial and commercial uses of atomic energy; (3) act as **[**deputy of the Governor**]** the Governor's designee in matters relating to atomic energy, including participation in the activities of any committee formed by the New England states to represent their interests in such matters and also cooperation with other states and with the government of the United States; (4) coordinate the studies, recommendations and proposals of the several departments and agencies of the state required by section 16a-103 with each other and also with the programs and activities of the development commission. **[**So far as practicable, he shall coordinate the studies conducted, and the recommendations and proposals made, in this state with like activities in the New England and other states and with the policies and regulations of the Energy Research and Development Administration and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. In carrying out his duties, he shall proceed in close cooperation with the development commission.**]** The commissioner shall consult with and review regulations and procedures of the agencies of the state with respect to the regulation of sources of radiation to assure consistency and to prevent unnecessary duplication, inconsistencies or gaps in regulatory requirements.

Sec. 51. Subsection (a) of section 4 of special act 05-14 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For purposes of voting at meetings held by such district, any tenant in common of any interest in real property shall have a vote equal

to the fraction of such tenant in common's ownership of such interest. Any joint tenant of any interest in real property shall vote as if each such tenant owned an equal fractional share of such real property. A corporation shall have its vote cast by the chief executive officer of such corporation or such officer's designee. Any entity that is not a corporation shall have its vote cast by a person authorized by such entity to cast its vote. A municipality shall have its vote cast by a person authorized to vote by (1) the board of selectmen in a town that does not have a charter, special act or home rule ordinance relating to its form of government, (2) the council, board of aldermen, representative town meeting, board of selectmen or other elected legislative body described in a charter, special act, consolidation ordinance or home rule ordinance relating to the form of government in a city, consolidated town and city, consolidated town and borough or town, or (3) the board of burgesses or other elected legislative body in a borough. No owner shall have more than one vote. The outcome of a tied vote shall be determined by the vote of the owner holding the greatest per cent of real property within such district, calculated by land mass area.

Sec. 52. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 1 of public act 21-54 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) (1) On and after **[**October**]** July 1, 2022, the commissioner shall provide voice communication service to persons who are in the custody of the commissioner and confined in a correctional facility. The commissioner may supplement such voice communication service with any other communication service, including, but not limited to, video communication and electronic mail services. Any such communication service shall be provided free of charge to such persons and any communication, whether initiated or received through any such service, shall be free of charge to the person initiating or receiving the communication.

(2) Each person in the custody of the commissioner and confined in a correctional facility shall be eligible to use the voice communication service described in subdivision (1) of this subsection for at least ninety minutes on each day of such person's confinement, provided the provisions of this subdivision shall not be interpreted to interfere with the standard operations of the facility in which such person is confined.

(c) On and after **[**October**]** July 1, 2022, the state shall not receive revenue for the provision of any communication service to any person in the custody of the commissioner and confined in a correctional facility.

Sec. 53. (*Effective from passage*) Section 2 of public act 21-54 shall take effect July 1, 2022.

Sec. 54. Section 10a-77 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (i) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(NEW) (i) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall not assess or charge a graduation fee to any student enrolled in a regional community-technical college for the purpose of graduating from such regional community-technical college.

Sec. 55. Section 10a-99 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (i) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(NEW) (i) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall not assess or charge a graduation fee to any student enrolled in the Connecticut State University System for the purpose of graduating from a state university within such system.

Sec. 56. Subsection (e) of section 10a-143 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(e) The board shall fix fees for examinations and for such other purposes as the board deems necessary on behalf of Charter Oak State College and may make refunds and other disposition of same as provided by law or regulation. The board may make contracts, leases or other agreements in connection with its responsibilities. The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall not assess or charge a graduation fee to any student enrolled in Charter Oak State College for the purpose of graduating from such college.

Sec. 57. Section 10a-105 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (l) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(NEW) (l) The Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut shall not assess or charge a graduation fee to any student enrolled in The University of Connecticut for the purpose of graduating from such university.

Sec. 58. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 38a-91vv of the general statutes, as amended by section 2 of public act 21-120, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(2) Establish a board of directors who shall serve in a volunteer capacity. The membership of the board of directors shall include, but need not be limited to, a real estate agent or broker, two owners of residential buildings who have concrete foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrrhotite, a chief executive or such chief executive's designee of a municipality in which residential buildings with concrete foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrrhotite are located, an individual with professional investment experience and currently registered as an investment adviser pursuant to title 36b, the executive directors of the Capitol Region Council of Governments and the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments or such executive directors' designees and

representatives from the insurance and banking industries, who shall not have professional relationships with any bank or insurance company that has a financial interest in residential buildings subject to the provisions of this section and sections 7-374b, 8-441, 8-442, 8-443, 8-444, subparagraph (B) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 12-701 and section 29-265f. The speaker, the minority leader of the House of Representatives, the president pro tempore of the Senate and the Senate Republican president pro tempore shall each appoint a member of the General Assembly as a nonvoting, ex-officio member of the board of directors. The Governor shall appoint two members to the board of directors, one of whom shall be appointed as a nonvoting **[**, ex-officio**]** member and considered an ex-officio member under the bylaws adopted by the captive insurance company. It shall not constitute a conflict of interest for a member of the board of directors, who is the owner of a residential building which has a concrete foundation that has deteriorated due to the presence of pyrrhotite, or the spouse or dependent child of such member, to apply for or receive assistance from the captive insurance company established under this section, to repair or replace such concrete foundation, provided such member shall abstain from deliberation, action or vote by the board of directors in specific respect to such member's application or the application of such spouse or dependent child;

Sec. 59. Section 8 of public act 21-120, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the purposes of this section, "qualified geologist" means a geologist certified by the American Institute of Professional Geologists, licensed by the National Association of State Boards of Geology or certified or licensed by another organization deemed suitable by the State Geologist.

(b) (1) Not later than January 1, 2022, the operator of any quarry established on or before July 1, 2021, that produces aggregate for use in

concrete intended for use or sale shall prepare a geological source report and provide such report to the State Geologist and Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection. Such report shall be prepared in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, and shall include, but need not be limited to, (A) the mining, processing, storage and quality control methods utilized by such operator, (B) a description of the characteristics of the aggregate to be excavated at such quarry, which shall be prepared by a qualified geologist, (C) a description of the products to be produced by such quarry, (D) a copy of the results of an inspection of face material and geologic log analysis completed by a qualified geologist, and (E) petrographic analyses of representative core samples, completed by a qualified geologist, unless such quarry is active and has a satisfactory performance history as determined by the commissioner. Not later than January 1, 2026, and every four years thereafter, such operator shall update such report and provide such updated report to the State Geologist and commissioner.

(2) The operator of any quarry established after July 1, 2021, that intends to produce aggregate for use in concrete intended for use or sale shall prepare a geological source report, described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, and provide such report to the State Geologist and commissioner prior to offering such aggregate for use or sale. Such operator shall update such report every four years thereafter and provide such updated report to the State Geologist and commissioner.

(3) Not later than January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the operator of each quarry that produces aggregate for use in concrete intended for use or sale shall provide such quarry's operations plan to the State Geologist and commissioner.

Sec. 60. Section 9 of public act 21-120 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, not later than

July 1, 2022, and not less than annually thereafter, the operator of each quarry that sells or provides aggregate intended for use in concrete, shall submit a written report to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection and the State Geologist, containing the results of a third-party test of the sulfur content of such aggregate. Such test shall be conducted by a third-party certified or accredited to conduct testing in accordance with American Society for Testing Materials standard **[**C33/C33M, Standard Specification for Concrete Aggregates**]** E1621, Standard Guide for Elemental Analysis by Wavelength Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry. Such certification or accreditation shall be provided by the International Organization for Standardization, United States Army Corps of Engineers, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, International Accreditation Service or a similar organization.

(b) Each test conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall include:

(1) The performance of a rapid total sulfur test on a ten-pound sample of aggregate by any of the following means: (A) X-ray fluorescence analysis, (B) purge and trap gas chromatography analysis, (C) analysis by combustion furnace, or (D) other technology deemed at least as accurate by the State Geologist. Representative samples shall be collected and managed in accordance with American Society for Testing and Materials standard D75/D75M, Standard Practice for Sampling Aggregates, reduced to a size appropriate for laboratory testing and pulverized for analysis;

(2) If the total sulfur content of the sample in per cent by mass is less than one per cent and equal to or greater than one-tenth per cent, the performance of x-ray diffraction, magnetic susceptibility or petrographic analyses to determine the presence and relative abundance of pyrrhotite in the sample; and

(3) If the results of the test conducted pursuant to this section reveal that pyrrhotite is present in the sample, a petrographic analysis based on American Society for Testing and Materials standards C295, Standard Guide for Petrographic Examination of Aggregates for Concrete, and C294, Standard Descriptive Nomenclature for Constituents of Concrete Aggregates, shall be conducted to determine the acceptance and use of the aggregate.

(c) If the results of the test conducted pursuant to this section reveal that the total sulfur content of the sample in per cent by mass is less than one-tenth per cent, an operator may sell or provide such aggregate for use in concrete for a period of four years beginning on the date of receipt of such test results and shall not be required to submit a report pursuant to subsection (a) of this section during such period.

(d) If the results of the test conducted pursuant to this section reveal that the total sulfur content of the sample in per cent by mass is equal to or greater than one per cent, an operator shall not sell or provide such aggregate for use in concrete.

(e) If the results of the test performed pursuant to this section reveal that the total sulfur content of the sample in per cent by mass is less than one per cent and equal to or greater than one-tenth per cent and (1) no pyrrhotite is present, an operator may sell or provide such aggregate for use in concrete for a period of one year beginning on the date of receipt of such test results; and (2) pyrrhotite is present, an operator shall not sell or provide such aggregate in a manner inconsistent with the acceptance and use indicated by the results of a petrographic analysis undertaken pursuant to this section or requirement or restriction established by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection pursuant to subsection (f) of this section.

(f) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in consultation with the State Geologist, may, if the results of the test

performed pursuant to this section reveal that the total sulfur content of the sample in per cent by mass is less than one per cent and equal to or greater than one-tenth per cent and pyrrhotite is present, (1) require the operator of the quarry to conduct additional petrographic and materials testing; **[**, including but not limited to a mortar bar expansion test pursuant to American Society for Testing and Materials standard C1293, Standard Test Method for Determination of Length Change of Concrete Due to Alkali-Silica Reaction, or C227, Standard Test Method for Potential Alkali Reactivity of Cement-Aggregate Combinations;**]** and (2) implement restrictions on the sale or use of aggregate from such quarry in concrete.

(g) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to, definitions for the terms "rapid total sulfur test", "x-ray fluorescence analysis", "purge and trap gas chromatography analysis", "analysis by combustion furnace", "x-ray diffraction", "magnetic susceptibility analysis" **[**,**]** and "petrographic analysis". **[**and "mortar bar expansion test".**]**

Sec. 61. (*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. 62. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall, within available appropriations, aggregate data related to existing federal and state housing programs in the state to analyze the impact of such programs on economic and racial segregation. Such review shall include, but need not be limited to, data relating to (1) housing development programs, (2) housing affordability initiatives, (3) communities where low-income housing tax credits and

rental assistance are spent, and (4) specific neighborhood racial and economic demographics. In collecting and measuring such data, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall implement tools such as the dissimilarity index and the five dimensions of segregation used by the United States Bureau of the Census.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2022, and biennially 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 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing. Such report shall include a summary of any findings and recommendations relating to the data collected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 63. Section 3-55j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Twenty million dollars of the moneys available in the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established **[**by**]** pursuant to section 3-55i shall be paid to municipalities eligible for a state grant in lieu of taxes pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-18b in addition to the grants payable to such municipalities pursuant to section 12-18b subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. Such grant shall be equal to that paid to the municipality pursuant to this subsection for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. Any eligible special services district shall receive a portion of the grant payable under this subsection to the town in which such district is located. The portion payable to any such district under this subsection shall be the amount of the grant to the town under this subsection which results from application of the district mill rate to exempt property in the district. As used in this subsection and subsection (c) of this section, "eligible special services district" means any special services district created by a town charter, having its own governing body and for the assessment year commencing October 1, 1996, containing fifty per cent or more of the value of total taxable

property within the town in which such district is located.

(b) No municipality shall receive a grant pursuant to subsection (a) of this section which, when added to the amount of the grant payable to such municipality pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-18b, would exceed one hundred per cent of the property taxes which would have been paid with respect to all state-owned real property, except for the exemption applicable to such property, on the assessment list in such municipality for the assessment date two years prior to the commencement of the state fiscal year in which such grants are payable, except that, notwithstanding the provisions of said subsection (a), no municipality shall receive a grant pursuant to said subsection which is less than one thousand six hundred sixty-seven dollars.

(c) Twenty million one hundred twenty-three thousand nine hundred sixteen dollars of the moneys available in the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established **[**by**]** pursuant to section 3-55i shall be paid to municipalities eligible for a state grant in lieu of taxes pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-18b, in addition to the grants payable to such municipalities pursuant to section 12-18b, subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section. Such grant shall be equal to that paid to the municipality pursuant to this subsection for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. Any eligible special services district shall receive a portion of the grant payable under this subsection to the town in which such district is located. The portion payable to any such district under this subsection shall be the amount of the grant to the town under this subsection which results from application of the district mill rate to exempt property in the district.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, no municipality shall receive a grant pursuant to said subsection which, when added to the amount of the grant payable to such municipality pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-18b, would exceed one hundred per cent of the property taxes which, except for any exemption

applicable to any private nonprofit institution of higher education, nonprofit general hospital facility or freestanding chronic disease hospital under the provisions of section 12-81, would have been paid with respect to such exempt real property on the assessment list in such municipality for the assessment date two years prior to the commencement of the state fiscal year in which such grants are payable.

(e) Thirty-five million dollars of the moneys available in the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established **[**by**]** pursuant to section 3-55i shall be paid to municipalities in accordance with the provisions of section 7-528, except that for the purposes of section 7-528, "adjusted equalized net grand list per capita" means the equalized net grand list divided by the total population of a town, as defined in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 10-261, multiplied by the ratio of the per capita income of the town to the per capita income of the town at the one hundredth percentile among all towns in the state ranked from lowest to highest in per capita income, and "equalized net grand list" means the net grand list of such town upon which taxes were levied for the general expenses of such town two years prior to the fiscal year in which a grant is to be paid, equalized in accordance with section 10-261a.

(f) Five million four hundred seventy-five thousand dollars of the moneys available in the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established **[**by**]** pursuant to section 3-55i shall be paid to the following municipalities in accordance with the provisions of section 7-528, except that for the purposes of said section 7-528, "adjusted equalized net grand list per capita" means the equalized net grand list divided by the total population of a town, as defined in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of section 10-261, multiplied by the ratio of the per capita income of the town to the per capita income of the town at the one hundredth percentile among all towns in the state ranked from lowest to highest in per capita income, and "equalized net grand list" means the net grand

list of such town upon which taxes were levied for the general expenses of such town two years prior to the fiscal year in which a grant is to be paid, equalized in accordance with section 10-261a: Bridgeport, Hamden, Hartford, Meriden, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Waterbury and Windham.

(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (f), inclusive, of this section, the total grants paid to the following municipalities from the moneys available in the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established **[**by**]** pursuant to section 3-55i shall be as follows:

Bloomfield	$ 267,489
Bridgeport	10,506,506
Bristol	1,004,050
Chaplin	141,725
Danbury	1,612,564
Derby	432,162
East Hartford	522,421
East Lyme	488,160
Groton	2,037,088
Hamden	1,592,270
Manchester	1,014,244
Meriden	1,537,900
Middletown	2,124,960
Milford	676,535
New Britain	3,897,434
New London	2,649,363
North Haven	268,582
Norwalk	1,451,367
Norwich	1,662,147
Preston	461,939
Rocky Hill	477,950

Stamford	1,570,767
Union	38,101
Voluntown	156,902
Waterbury	5,179,655
Wethersfield	371,629
Windham	1,307,974
Windsor Locks	754,833

(h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, and each fiscal year thereafter, if the amount of grant payable to a municipality in accordance with this section is increased as the result of an appropriation to the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund for such fiscal year which exceeds eighty-five million dollars, the portion of the grant payable to each eligible service district, in accordance with subsections (a) and (c) of this section shall be increased by the same proportion as the grant payable to such municipality under this section as a result of said increased appropriation.

(i) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, inclusive, the municipalities of Ledyard, Montville, Norwich, North Stonington and Preston shall each receive a grant of five hundred thousand dollars which shall be paid from the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established **[**by**]** pursuant to section 3-55i and which shall be in addition to the grants paid to said municipalities pursuant to subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of this section.

(j) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000, June 30, 2001, and June 30, 2002, the sum of forty-nine million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars shall be paid to municipalities, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year thereafter, the sum of forty-seven million five hundred thousand dollars shall be paid to municipalities, in accordance with this subsection, from the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established **[**by**]** pursuant to section 3-55i. The grants

payable under this subsection shall be used to proportionately increase the amount of the grants payable to each municipality in accordance with subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section and shall be in addition to the grants payable under subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of this section.

(k) The amount of the grant payable to each municipality in accordance with subsection (j) of this section shall be reduced proportionately in the event that the total of the grants payable to each municipality pursuant to this section exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants with respect to such year.

(l) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (k), inclusive, of this section, and section 3-55i, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, no municipality shall be paid a grant from the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund established pursuant to section 3-55i, if a school under the jurisdiction of the board of education for such municipality, or an intramural or interscholastic athletic team associated with such school, uses any name, symbol or image that depicts, refers to or is associated with a state or federally recognized Native American tribe or a Native American individual, custom or tradition, as a mascot, nickname, logo or team name.

(2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply (A) to a municipality in which a school under the jurisdiction of the board of education for such municipality or an intramural or interscholastic athletic team associated with such school uses a name, symbol or image (i) depicting or referring to a state or federally recognized Native American tribe with the written consent of such tribe, or (ii) associated with a Native American individual, custom or tradition with the written consent of a state or federally recognized Native American tribe (I) located in or associated with the geographic region in which such school is located, or (II) historically associated with such

school or intramural or interscholastic athletic team, and (B) until the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to a municipality that timely notifies the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in a form and manner prescribed by the secretary, (i) that a school under the jurisdiction of the board of education for such municipality or an intramural or interscholastic athletic team associated with such school uses a name, symbol or image that would disqualify such municipality from receiving a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, (ii) that such school or team intends to change such name, symbol or image or obtain written consent, and (iii) of the reason that such school or team has not yet changed such name, symbol or image or obtained written consent. For the purposes of this subdivision, written consent shall be demonstrated in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and shall include, but not be limited to, a tribal council resolution, agreement between a tribal government and municipality or statement of consent endorsed by a tribal government.

Sec. 64. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Treasurer may modify or suspend the contribution to the designated surplus reserve of the Short-Term Investment Fund when, in the Treasurer's discretion, market conditions warrant such action in the best interests of the Short-Term Investment Fund's investors.

Sec. 65. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a beverage container recycling grant program account. All moneys in such account shall be used by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to provide forgivable grants in urban centers and environmental justice communities in accordance with the beverage container recycling grant program described in subsection (b) of this section. For the purposes of this section "urban center" has the same meaning as "regional center", as contained in the state plan of

conservation and development, as amended from time to time, "environmental justice community" has the same meaning as provided in section 22a-20a of the general statutes, and "beverage container" and "redemption center" have the same meanings as provided in section 22a-243 of the general statutes, respectively.

(b) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall implement the beverage container recycling grant program. The beverage container recycling grant program shall provide funding for new beverage container redemption centers that are located in communities that lack access to beverage container redemption locations. Such grant program shall prioritize the award of such grants to first-time redemption center owners and those that are locally-owned, minority-owned and women-owned businesses. When awarding grants pursuant to such program, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or the commissioner's designee, shall consider current access to beverage container redemption sites, walking distances to such sites, public access to reliable transportation, population density, customer convenience, type of redemption technology to be deployed and the volume of beverage containers sold in the relevant community.

(c) Grant proceeds received pursuant to the beverage container recycling grant program may be used for infrastructure, technology and costs associated with the establishment of a beverage container redemption center and for initial operational expenses of such redemption center. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, shall issue, not later than December 1, 2021, a grant application process that distributes such grant proceeds described in subsection (d) of this section, on a rolling basis.

(d) Any grant awarded pursuant to the grant program described in this section shall not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars in any fiscal year.

(e) Any person or entity that receives a grant pursuant to the beverage container recycling grant program shall, not later than October first of each year, submit to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection a financial audit of grant expenditures by such person or entity until all grant moneys have been expended by such person or entity. Any such audit shall be prepared by an independent auditor and if said commissioner finds that any such grant is used for purposes that are not in conformity with uses set forth in this section, said commissioner may require repayment of such grant.

Sec. 66. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 8-2*l* of the general statutes, any zoning regulation or any other ordinance regulating a proposed building, structure, development or use located in a floodplain, as defined in said section, the space in certain buildings constructed on parcels located at 601 Norwich Avenue, 603 Norwich Avenue and 609 Norwich Avenue in the village of Taftville, in the city of Norwich, which parcels are situated above the one-hundred-year flood elevation plus one foot of freeboard, shall be permitted for residential and commercial use.

Sec. 67. Subsection (c) of section 17a-238a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) The Commissioner of Developmental Services shall report**,** **[**on the department's web site**]** in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, at least annually, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies concerning the number of individuals determined by the department to be eligible for funding or services from the department and who (1) have unmet residential care needs, (2) have unmet employment opportunity and day service needs, or (3) are eligible for the department's behavioral services program and are waiting for a funding allocation. The commissioner

shall post such report on the department's Internet web site.

Sec. 68. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a level of need assessment system advisory committee for the purpose of advising the Commissioner of Developmental Services on matters relating to such system.

(b) The committee shall be composed of the following members:

(1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

(2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;

(4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(7) The Commissioner of Developmental Services, or the commissioner's designee; and

(8) Ten appointed by the Commissioner of Developmental Services, one of whom shall be a representative of CT DDS Families First, one of whom shall be a representative of The Arc Connecticut and eight of whom shall be representatives of families with firsthand experience with individuals with composite scores of one to eight, inclusive, on the Department of Developmental Services' level of need assessment and screening tool.

(c) Any appointment that is vacant for one year or more shall be made by the Commissioner of Developmental Services. The commissioner

shall notify the appointing authority of the commissioner's choice of member for appointment not less than thirty days before making such appointment.

(d) The committee shall meet not less than quarterly. On or before January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the committee shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on its activities to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health.

(e) Administrative support for the activities of the committee may be provided by the Department of Developmental Services. The department shall post the committee's meeting dates and meeting minutes on the department's Internet web site.

Sec. 69. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) If the Connecticut Lottery Corporation is licensed to sell lottery tickets for lottery draw games through the corporation's Internet web site, an online service or a mobile application pursuant to section 4 of public act 21-23, the corporation shall establish an "online lottery ticket sales fund" into which all revenue from online lottery ticket sales shall be deposited, from which all payments and expenses of the corporation related to such sales shall be paid and from which transfers to the General Fund and the debt-free community college account, established in section 70 of this act, shall be made pursuant to subsection (d) of section 12-812 of the general statutes.

Sec. 70. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) There is established an account to be known as the "debt-free community college account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account, including, but not limited to, (1) state appropriations for the debt-free community college program established pursuant to section 10a-174 of the general statutes, and (2) deposits from the Connecticut Lottery Corporation in accordance with subsection (d) of

section 12-812 of the general statutes. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Board of Regents for Higher Education for the purposes of the debt-free community college program established pursuant to section 10a-174 of the general statutes.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2023, July 1, 2023, January 1, 2024, and January first annually thereafter, the president of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation shall report to the Board of Regents for Higher Education (1) the amount of revenue received by the corporation from online lottery ticket sales, as defined in section 12-801 of the general statutes, during the current fiscal year, and (2) an estimate of the amount that will be deposited in the debt-free community college account from such sales pursuant to subsection (d) of section 12-812 of the general statutes during the next fiscal year.

Sec. 71. Section 12-801 of the general statutes, as amended by section 28 of public act 21-23, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

As used in section 12-563a and sections 12-800 to 12-818, inclusive, and section 69 of this act, the following terms have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

(1) "Board" or "board of directors" means the board of directors of the corporation;

(2) "Corporation" means the Connecticut Lottery Corporation as created under section 12-802;

(3) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;

(4) "Division" means the former Division of Special Revenue in the Department of Revenue Services;

(5) "Fantasy contest" has the same meaning as provided in section 1

of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23;

(6) "Lottery" means (A) the Connecticut state lottery conducted prior to the transfer authorized under section 12-808 by the Division of Special Revenue, (B) after such transfer, the Connecticut state lottery conducted by the corporation pursuant to sections 12-563a and 12-800 to 12-818, inclusive, and section 4 of public act 21-23, (C) the state lottery referred to in subsection (a) of section 53-278g, and (D) keno conducted by the corporation pursuant to section 12-806c, or sections 2 and 4 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23;

(7) "Keno" means a lottery game in which a subset of numbers are drawn from a larger field of numbers by a central computer system using an approved random number generator, wheel system device or other drawing device;

(8) "Lottery and gaming fund" means a fund or funds established by, and under the management and control of, the corporation, into which all lottery, sports wagering and fantasy contest revenues of the corporation are deposited, other than revenues derived from online lottery ticket sales, from which all payments and expenses of the corporation are paid, other than those payments and expenses related to online lottery ticket sales, and from which transfers to the General Fund or the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund, established in section 10-183vv, are made pursuant to section 12-812, but "lottery and gaming fund" does not include the online lottery ticket sales fund established under section 69 of this act;

(9) "Online lottery ticket sales" means the sale of lottery tickets for lottery draw games through the corporation's Internet web site, an online service or a mobile application, pursuant to a license issued to the corporation under section 4 of public act 21-23;

[(9)**]** (10) "Online sports wagering" has the same meaning as provided in section 1 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23;

[(10)**]** (11) "Operating revenue" means total revenue received from lottery sales and sports wagering less all cancelled sales and amounts paid as prizes but before payment or provision for payment of any other expenses;

[(11)**]** (12) "Retail sports wagering" has the same meaning as provided in section 1 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23; and

[(12)**]** (13) "Skin" has the same meaning as provided in section 1 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23.

Sec. 72. Subsection (a) of section 12-806 of the general statutes, as amended by section 29 of public act 21-23, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The purposes of the corporation shall be to: (1) Operate and manage the lottery, and retail sports wagering, online sports wagering and fantasy contests if licensed pursuant to section 4 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23, in an entrepreneurial and business-like manner free from the budgetary and other constraints that affect state agencies; (2) provide continuing and increased revenue to the people of the state through the lottery, and retail sports wagering, online sports wagering and fantasy contests if licensed pursuant to section 4 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23, by being responsive to market forces and acting generally as a corporation engaged in entrepreneurial pursuits; (3) pay to the trustee of the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund, established in section 10-183vv, the amounts, if any, required pursuant to subsection (c) of section 12-812; (4) transfer to the debt-free community college account, established pursuant to section 70 of this act, the amounts required by subsection (d) of section 12-812; and **[**(4)**]** (5) ensure that the lottery, and retail sports wagering, online sports

wagering and fantasy contests, if licensed pursuant to section 4 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23, continue to be operated with integrity and for the public good.

Sec. 73. Section 12-812 of the general statutes, as amended by section 33 of public act 21-23, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) (1) The president of the corporation, subject to the direction of the board, shall conduct daily, weekly, multistate, special instant or other lottery games and shall determine the number of times a lottery shall be held each year, the form and price of the tickets and the aggregate amount of prizes, which shall not be less than forty-five per cent of the sales unless required by the terms of any agreement entered into for the conduct of multistate lottery games. The proceeds of the sale of tickets, other than from online lottery ticket sales, shall be deposited in the lottery and gaming fund of the corporation from which prizes shall be paid, upon vouchers signed by the president, or by either of two persons designated and authorized by him, in such numbers and amounts as the president determines. The corporation may limit its liability in games with fixed payouts and may cause a cessation of sales of tickets of certain designation when such liability limit has been reached.

(2) The president of the corporation, subject to the direction of the board, shall conduct retail sports wagering, online sports wagering and fantasy contests, if licensed to do so pursuant to section 4 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23. The proceeds of such wagering and contest activities shall be deposited in the lottery and gaming fund of the corporation from which winnings shall be paid and from which the payments required by sections 18 and 19 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23 shall be made.

(b) The president, subject to the direction of the board, may enter into agreements for the sale of product advertising on lottery tickets, play slips and other lottery media.

(c) On a weekly basis, the president shall estimate, and certify to the State Treasurer, that portion of the balance in the lottery and gaming fund which exceeds the current needs of the corporation for the payment of prizes and winnings, the payments required by sections 18 and 19 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-23, the payment of current operating expenses and funding of approved reserves of the corporation. The corporation shall transfer the amount so certified from the lottery and gaming fund of the corporation to the General Fund upon notification of receipt of such certification by the Treasurer, except that if the amount on deposit in the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund, established in section 10-183vv, is less than the required minimum capital reserve, as defined in subsection (b) of said section, the corporation shall pay such amount so certified to the trustee of the fund for deposit in the fund. If the corporation transfers any moneys to the General Fund at any time when the amount on deposit in said capital reserve fund is less than the required minimum capital reserve, the amount of such transfer shall be deemed appropriated from the General Fund to the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Fund Bonds Special Capital Reserve Fund.

(d) The proceeds of online lottery ticket sales shall be deposited in the online lottery ticket sales fund of the corporation established pursuant to section 69 of this act. On a weekly basis, the president shall estimate, and certify to the State Treasurer, that portion of the balance in such fund which exceeds the current needs of the corporation for the payment of prizes, the payment of current operating expenses and funding of approved reserves of the corporation related to online lottery ticket sales. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, upon notification of receipt of such certification by the State Treasurer, the corporation shall transfer the amount so certified to the General Fund. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the corporation shall, upon notification of receipt of such certification by the State Treasurer, (1) transfer the amount so certified

to the debt-free community college account established pursuant to section 70 of this act, until the corporation has transferred a total of fourteen million dollars in a fiscal year to said account, and (2) transfer any amount remaining after the transfers required by subdivision (1) of this subsection to the General Fund.

Sec. 74. Section 12-813 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The corporation may sell lottery tickets for lottery draw games through the corporation's Internet web site, an online service or a mobile application, if licensed to do so pursuant to section 4 of public act 21-23, and sell lottery tickets at any location in the state determined by the president which, in the opinion of the president, will best enhance lottery revenues, except that no license shall be issued by the Department of Consumer Protection to any person to engage in business exclusively as a lottery sales agent. Subject to the provisions of subdivision (15) of subsection (b) of section 12-806, the president may authorize compensation to such agents in such manner and amounts and subject to such limitations as he may determine if he finds such compensation is necessary to assure adequate availability of lottery tickets, provided, if such agent is a lessee of state property and his rental fee is based upon the gross receipts of his business conducted thereon, all receipts from the sale of such lottery tickets shall be excluded from such gross receipts for rental purposes. The president may suspend for cause any licensed agent, subject to a final determination through a hearing provided by the Department of Consumer Protection.

(b) All moneys received by lottery sales agents from the sale of lottery tickets constitute property of the corporation while in such agent's possession and shall be held in trust for the corporation by such agents. The president shall require lottery sales agents to deposit, in a special or suspense account in the name of the corporation to the credit of the corporation, which the president shall establish, in institutions which

are legal for the deposit of state funds under section 4-33, all moneys received by such agents from the sale of lottery tickets, less the amount of compensation authorized under subsection (a) of this section and less the amounts paid out as prizes and, if requested by the president, to conform with the corporation their recorded receipts and transactions in the sale of lottery tickets, in such form and with such information as the president may require. Lottery sales agents shall not commingle lottery sales funds with other funds.

(c) The president may require lottery sales agents to provide surety bonds, letters of credit or such other form of security as the president deems acceptable to ensure the performance of such agents' duties and obligations to the corporation.

(d) No ticket shall be sold at a price greater than that fixed by the president, subject to the direction of the board and no sale shall be made other than by a licensed lottery sales agent or his designated employee, or by such other lawful means, including online lottery ticket sales. No person shall sell a lottery ticket to a minor and no minor shall purchase a lottery ticket. Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. A minor may receive a lottery ticket as a gift.

Sec. 75. (*Effective from passage*) On and after the effective date of this section, the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall, in conjunction with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, expand the pilot program known as the CRISIS Initiative: Connection to Recovery through Intervention, Support, and Initiating Services to Troop D.

Sec. 76. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to study the costs and benefits of expanding the pilot program known as the CRISIS Initiative: Connection to Recovery through Intervention, Support, and Initiating Services throughout the state. At a minimum,

such expanded program would include the components of the pilot program that require training for state police officers, coordination between state police officers and mental health professionals and referrals to facilities for mental health services. The task force shall consider input and recommendations from participants in the pilot program at Troop E, community stakeholders and other interested parties.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who is a member of the mental health services community;

(2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who is a sworn member of the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, who is a representative of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association;

(4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a member of a board of directors at a hospital in the state;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who is an emergency medical responder, emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic, as those terms are defined in section 20-206jj of the general statutes;

(6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who is a representative of Griswold PRIDE;

(7) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or the commissioner's designee; and

(8) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, or the commissioner's designee.

(c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

(g) Not later than January 1, 2022, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2022, whichever is later.

Sec. 77. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut shall establish November first or another date jointly chosen by such boards to annually be known as a "Fee-Free Day". Such boards shall not charge an application fee to any student who (1) will graduate or has graduated from a public or nonpublic high school in the state, (2) has completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid,

and (3) submits an application for admission on such day to any of the public institutions of higher education governed by such boards.

Sec. 78. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) There is established within the Office of Policy and Management a Geographic Information Systems Office. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall designate an employee of the Office of Policy and Management to serve as Geographic Information Officer. Such employee shall have extensive knowledge of the principles, practices, terminology and trends in geographic information systems, spatial data, analysis and related technology and experience in administration, project management, policy development, coordination of services and planning. Such employee shall (1) oversee the operations of the Geographic Information Systems Office, (2) manage the staff of such office, and (3) in conjunction with the Geographic Information Systems Advisory Council created under section 79 of this act, establish goals for such office within the scope of the powers and duties described in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) The Geographic Information Officer shall be responsible for (1) coordinating the collection, compilation and dissemination of geographic information systems data across the state, including from and to state agencies, regional councils of governments, municipalities and other constituencies; (2) managing a geospatial data clearinghouse for public access to such information through the online repository described in subsection (i) of section 4-67p of the general statutes; (3) supporting economic development efforts in the state through the provision of such information; (4) providing training and outreach on the use of such information; (5) administering the creation and acquisition of geospatial data, including aerial imagery and elevation and parcel information; (6) adopting geospatial data standards, guidelines and procedures to ensure consistency and quality of such data; and (7) performing technical data processing to aggregate and

organize existing data sets and create new data sets.

Sec. 79. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) There is created a Geographic Information Systems Advisory Council to consult with the Geographic Information Officer, designated pursuant to section 78 of this act, on matters relating to (1) the coordination, procurement, processing, storage and distribution of free and public geographic information systems data; and (2) the powers and duties described in section 4d-90 of the general statutes. In the course of such consultation, the advisory council shall (A) develop (i) priorities regarding the performance of any action described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, and (ii) an annual five-year plan for such performance, and (B) make recommendations to the Geographic Information Officer concerning such priorities and plan.

(b) The Geographic Information Systems Advisory Council shall consist of the following members:

(1) The Geographic Information Officer, or the officer's designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the advisory council;

(2) The Chief Data Officer, or the officer's designee;

(3) One representative of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, who has expertise in geographic information systems, appointed by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection;

(4) One representative of the Department of Transportation, who has expertise in geographic information systems, appointed by the Commissioner of Transportation;

(5) One representative of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, who has expertise in geographic information systems, appointed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public

Protection;

(6) One representative of the Department of Public Health, who has expertise in geographic information systems, appointed by the Commissioner of Public Health;

(7) Two representatives of different regional councils of governments, who have expertise in geographic information systems, including aerial imagery acquisition and the provision of geographic information to municipalities, appointed by the chairperson of the Connecticut Association of Councils of Governments;

(8) Two representatives of different municipal governments, who have expertise in geographic information systems and are members of the Connecticut GIS Network, appointed by the president of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities;

(9) One representative of The University of Connecticut, who has experience in providing the state's geospatial information, including state-wide aerial imagery and elevation, to various constituencies, appointed by the president of The University of Connecticut;

(10) One representative of a public utility company, appointed by the chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority; and

(11) Two representatives from different private companies, neither of which is a public utility company, who have expertise in mapping applications for commercial purposes, one of whom is appointed jointly by the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development and the other of whom is appointed jointly by the ranking members of such committee.

(c) All initial appointments to the advisory council shall be made not later than January 1, 2022. Each member of the advisory council shall

serve for a term of two years and may serve until a successor is appointed and has qualified, except that in the event of any vacancy the appointing authority shall fill such vacancy for the unexpired portion of such term.

(d) Not later than March 1, 2022, and biennially thereafter, the Geographic Information Officer, or the officer's designee, as applicable, shall convene a meeting of the advisory council. All other meetings of the advisory council shall be as scheduled by said officer or designee.

Sec. 80. Section 2-79e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established the Connecticut Data Analysis Technology Advisory Board, which shall be part of the Legislative Department.

(b) The board shall consist of the following members: (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; (2) two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (3) two appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives; and (4) two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate. All appointed members shall have professional experience or academic qualifications in data analysis, data management, data policy, geospatial information systems or other related fields and may not be a member of the General Assembly. Additional nonvoting ex-officio members shall include the following officials, or their designees: The Commissioner of Administrative Services, the executive director of the Freedom of Information Commission, the Attorney General, the Chief Court Administrator, the State Librarian, the Treasurer, the Secretary of the State, the Comptroller, the Geographic Information Officer and the Chief Data Officer. The Chief Data Officer shall serve as the nonvoting chairperson of the board.

(c) All initial appointments to the board shall be made not later than

July 1, 2018. The terms of the appointed members shall be coterminous with the terms of the appointing authority for each member. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term. A member of the board may serve more than one term. The chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the board, which shall be held not later than August 1, 2018.

(d) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government administration shall serve as administrative staff of the board. Upon the request of any voting member of the board and with the concurrence of the chairperson of the board, or a vote of the board, the employees of the Offices of Legislative Research and Fiscal Analysis shall provide assistance to the board.

(e) The board shall have the following powers and duties: (1) To advise the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government and municipalities concerning data policy, including, but not limited to, best practices in the public, private and academic sectors for data analysis, management, storage, security, privacy and visualization and the use of data to grow the economy; (2) to advise the Office of Policy and Management regarding **[**the online repository**]** online repositories for geospatial and other data, including those established under section 4-67p; (3) to issue reports and recommendations in accordance with section 11-4a; (4) upon the request of at least two members of the board, to request any agency data officer or agency head to appear before the board to answer questions; (5) to request from any executive department, board, commission or other agency of the state such assistance and data as necessary and available to carry out the purposes of this section; (6) to make recommendations to the legislative leaders and the directors of the offices of Fiscal Analysis and Legislative Research regarding data analysis skills and related expertise that the

leaders and said offices may seek to cultivate among their staff through training or as a consideration when hiring staff; and (7) to establish bylaws to govern its procedures.

(f) The board shall meet at least twice a year and may meet at such other times as deemed necessary by the chairperson or a majority of the members of the board.

Sec. 81. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, (1) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related mutation thereof recognized by the World Health Organization as a communicable respiratory disease; (2) "equity" and "equitable" means efforts, regulations, policies, programs, standards, processes and any other functions of government or principles of law and governance intended to: (A) Identify and remedy past and present patterns of discrimination or inequality against and disparities in outcome for any class protected in chapter 814c of the general statutes; (B) ensure that such patterns of discrimination, inequality and disparities in outcome, whether intentional or unintentional, are neither reinforced nor perpetuated; and (C) prevent the emergence and persistence of foreseeable future patterns of discrimination against or disparities in outcome for any class protected in chapter 814c of the general statutes; (3) "underserved communities" means populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social and civic life, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons; Asian Americans and Pacific Islander and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality, and (4) "department head" has the same meaning as provided in section 4-5 of the general statutes.

(b) The Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities shall oversee a study of equity in state government programs and actions. Not later than October 1, 2021, the Department of Administrative Services, in consultation with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and the Office of Policy and Management, shall issue a request for proposals to hire a national consultant with expertise in qualitative and quantitative research to conduct a study and make recommendations as outlined in subsections (e) and (f) of this section. The deadline for responding to the request for proposals shall be not more than seventy-five days from the date of issuance of the request for proposals.

(c) The commission, in consultation with the department and the office, shall develop criteria for evaluating proposals relating to conducting such study, including, but not limited to, (1) the anticipated cost of completing such a study; (2) the anticipated timeline for completing such a study; and (3) the proposers' experience in conducting and completing such a study.

(d) Not later than February 1, 2022, the commission, in consultation with the department and the office shall evaluate the proposals submitted under subsection (a) of this section and select the proposer which shall conduct the study.

(e) The selected proposer conducting the study shall, in consultation with the department, commission and office:

(1) (A) Examine the best methods, consistent with applicable law, to assist state agencies in assessing equity with respect to race, national origin**,** ethnicity, religion, income, geography, sex**,** gender identity, sexual orientation and disability that are identified in the federal Office of Management and Budget report required by President Biden's January 20, 2021, Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal

Government, (B) whether those methods would be appropriate for use in assessing state agency policies and actions, and (C) if such methods are not appropriate, what alternative methods would be more appropriate for use at the state level to assist state agencies in assessing equity with respect to race, ethnicity, religion, income, geography, gender identity, sexual orientation and disability;

(2) Identify the best methods, consistent with applicable law, to assist state agencies in assessing the existing barriers to equity for underserved communities experiencing negative health and economic impacts of COVID-19; and

(3) Consider whether to recommend legislation to create pilot programs to test model assessment tools and assist state agencies in doing so.

(f) The selected proposer shall also, in consultation with the commission, department and office, and each department head:

(1) Evaluate certain key programs and policies of each state agency as identified by each department head, to assess whether underserved communities and their members face systemic barriers in accessing benefits and opportunities available pursuant to those policies and programs;

(2) Analyze potential barriers that underserved communities and individuals may face to enrollment in and access to benefits and services in state programs;

(3) Evaluate existing inequities or barriers in department programs or policies that were revealed or worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(4) Evaluate whether new policies, regulations or guidance documents may be necessary to advance equity in state agency actions

and programs.

(g) In complying with the provisions of this section, the selected proposer and department heads shall work with the commission to consult with members of communities that have been historically underrepresented in state government and underserved by, or subject to discrimination in, state policies and programs. Each department head shall evaluate opportunities, consistent with applicable law, to increase coordination, communication and engagement with community-based organizations and civil rights organizations.

(h) Not later than February 15, 2023, the commission, in consultation with the department and the office, shall submit the findings of such study and any recommendations for legislative action concerning such study, 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 government administration.

Sec. 82. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 1 of public act 21-43 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(1) "Covered project" means a renewable energy project that is situated on land in this state, commences construction on or after July 1, 2021, and has a total nameplate capacity of two megawatts or more. "Covered project" does not include (A) any renewable energy project **[**(A)**]** (i) selected in a competitive solicitation conducted by **[**(i)**]** (I) the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, or **[**(ii)**]** (II) an electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, and **[**(B)**]** (ii) approved by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority prior to January 1, 2022, or (B) any renewable energy project under contract with another entity and approved by the relevant regulatory authority, as applicable, prior to January 1, 2022;

Sec. 83. Section 38a-477g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section: (1) "Covered person", "facility" and "health carrier" have the same meanings as provided in section 38a-591a, (2) "health care provider" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (a) of section 38a-477aa, and (3) "intermediary", "network", "network plan" and "participating provider" have the same meanings as provided in subsection (a) of section 38a-472f.

(b) (1) Each contract entered into, renewed or amended on or after January 1, 2017, between a health carrier and a participating provider shall include:

(A) A hold harmless provision that specifies protections for covered persons. Such provision shall include the following statement or a substantially similar statement: "Provider agrees that in no event, including, but not limited to, nonpayment by the health carrier or intermediary, the insolvency of the health carrier or intermediary, or a breach of this agreement, shall the provider bill, charge, collect a deposit from, seek compensation, remuneration or reimbursement from, or have any recourse against a covered person or a person (other than the health carrier or intermediary) acting on behalf of the covered person for services provided pursuant to this agreement. This agreement does not prohibit the provider from collecting coinsurance, deductibles or copayments, as specifically provided in the evidence of coverage, or fees for uncovered services delivered on a fee-for-service basis to covered persons. Nor does this agreement prohibit a provider (except for a health care provider who is employed full-time on the staff of a health carrier and has agreed to provide services exclusively to that health carrier's covered persons and no others) and a covered person from agreeing to continue services solely at the expense of the covered person, as long as the provider has clearly informed the covered person that the health carrier does not cover or continue to cover a specific

service or services. Except as provided herein, this agreement does not prohibit the provider from pursuing any available legal remedy.";

(B) A provision that in the event of a health carrier or intermediary insolvency or other cessation of operations, the participating provider's obligation to deliver covered health care services to covered persons without requesting payment from a covered person other than a coinsurance, copayment, deductible or other out-of-pocket expense for such services will continue until the earlier of (i) the termination of the covered person's coverage under the network plan, including any extension of coverage provided under the contract terms or applicable state or federal law for covered persons who are in an active course of treatment, as set forth in subdivision (2) of subsection (g) of section 38a-472f, or are totally disabled, or (ii) the date the contract between the health carrier and the participating provider would have terminated if the health carrier or intermediary had remained in operation, including any extension of coverage required under applicable state or federal law for covered persons who are in an active course of treatment or are totally disabled;

(C) (i) A provision that requires the participating provider to make health records available to appropriate state and federal authorities involved in assessing the quality of care provided to, or investigating grievances or complaints of, covered persons, and (ii) a statement that such participating provider shall comply with applicable state and federal laws related to the confidentiality of medical and health records and a covered person's right to view, obtain copies of or amend such covered person's medical and health records; and

(D) **[**Definitions**]** (i) If such contract is entered into, renewed or amended before July 1, 2022, definitions of what is considered timely notice and a material change for the purposes of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, or (ii) if such contract is entered into, renewed or amended on or after July 1, 2022, (I) a statement

disclosing the ninety-day advance written notice requirement established under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section and what is considered a material change for the purposes of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, and (II) provisions affording the participating provider a right to appeal any proposed change to the provisions, other documents, provider manuals or policies disclosed pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section.

(2) The contract terms set forth in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall (A) be construed in favor of the covered person, (B) survive the termination of the contract regardless of the reason for the termination, including the insolvency of the health carrier, and (C) supersede any oral or written agreement between a health care provider and a covered person or a covered person's authorized representative that is contrary to or inconsistent with the requirements set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(3) No contract subject to this subsection shall include any provision that conflicts with the provisions contained in the network plan or required under this section, section 38a-472f or section 38a-477h.

(4) No health carrier or participating provider that is a party to a contract under this subsection shall assign or delegate any right or responsibility required under such contract without the prior written consent of the other party.

(c) (1) At the time a contract subject to subsection (b) of this section is signed, the health carrier or such health carrier's intermediary shall disclose to a participating provider: **[**all**]**

(A) All provisions and other documents incorporated by reference in such contract; and

(B) If such contract is entered into, renewed or amended on or after July 1, 2022, all provider manuals and policies incorporated by reference

in such contract, if any.

(2) While such contract is in force, the health carrier shall:

(A) If such contract is entered into, renewed or amended before July 1, 2022, timely notify a participating provider of any change to **[**such**]** the provisions or other documents specified under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection that will result in a material change to such contract; or

(B) If such contract is entered into, renewed or amended on or after July 1, 2022, provide to a participating provider at least ninety days' advance written notice of any change to the provisions or other documents specified under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, and any change to the provider manuals and policies specified under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, that will result in a material change to such contract or the procedures that a participating provider must follow pursuant to such contract.

(d) (1) (A) Each contract between a health carrier and an intermediary entered into, renewed or amended on or after January 1, 2017, shall satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

(B) Each intermediary and participating providers with whom such intermediary contracts shall comply with the applicable requirements of this subsection.

(2) No health carrier shall assign or delegate to an intermediary such health carrier's responsibilities to monitor the offering of covered benefits to covered persons. To the extent a health carrier assigns or delegates to an intermediary other responsibilities, such health carrier shall retain full responsibility for such intermediary's compliance with the requirements of this section.

(3) A health carrier shall have the right to approve or disapprove the

participation status of a health care provider or facility in such health carrier's own or a contracted network that is subcontracted for the purpose of providing covered benefits to the health carrier's covered persons.

(4) A health carrier shall maintain at its principal place of business in this state copies of all intermediary subcontracts or ensure that such health carrier has access to all such subcontracts. Such health carrier shall have the right, upon twenty days' prior written notice, to make copies of any intermediary subcontracts to facilitate regulatory review.

(5) (A) Each intermediary shall, if applicable, (i) transmit to the health carrier documentation of health care services utilization and claims paid, and (ii) maintain at its principal place of business in this state, for a period of time prescribed by the commissioner, the books, records, financial information and documentation of health care services received by covered persons, in a manner that facilitates regulatory review, and shall allow the commissioner access to such books, records, financial information and documentation as necessary for the commissioner to determine compliance with this section and section 38a-472f.

(B) Each health carrier shall monitor the timeliness and appropriateness of payments made by its intermediary to participating providers and of health care services received by covered persons.

(6) In the event of the intermediary's insolvency, a health carrier shall have the right to require the assignment to the health carrier of the provisions of a participating provider's contract that address such participating provider's obligation to provide covered benefits. If a health carrier requires such assignment, such health carrier shall remain obligated to pay the participating provider for providing covered benefits under the same terms and conditions as the intermediary prior to the insolvency.

(e) The commissioner shall not act to arbitrate, mediate or settle (1) disputes regarding a health carrier's decision not to include a health care provider or facility in such health carrier's network or network plan, or (2) any other dispute between a health carrier, such health carrier's intermediary or one or more participating providers, that arises under or by reason of a participating provider contract or the termination of such contract.

Sec. 84. Section 29-11 of the general statutes, as amended by section 7 of public act 21-32, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The bureau in the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection known as the State Police Bureau of Identification shall be maintained for the purposes of: (1) Providing an authentic record of each person sixteen years of age or over who is charged with the commission of any crime involving moral turpitude, (2) providing definite information relative to the identity of each person so arrested, (3) providing a record of the final judgment of the court resulting from such arrest, unless such record has been erased pursuant to section 54-142a, and (4) maintaining a central repository of complete criminal history record disposition information. The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection is directed to maintain the State Police Bureau of Identification, which bureau shall receive, classify and file in an orderly manner all fingerprints, pictures and descriptions, including previous criminal records as far as known of all persons so arrested, and shall classify and file in a like manner all identification material and records received from the government of the United States and from the various state governments and subdivisions thereof, and shall cooperate with such governmental units in the exchange of information relative to criminals. The State Police Bureau of Identification shall accept fingerprints of applicants for admission to the bar of the state and, to the extent permitted by federal law, shall

exchange state, multistate and federal criminal history records with the State Bar Examining Committee for purposes of investigation of the qualifications of any applicant for admission as an attorney under section 51-80. The record of all arrests reported to the bureau after March 16, 1976, shall contain information of any disposition within ninety days after the disposition has occurred.

(b) Any cost incurred by the State Police Bureau of Identification in conducting any name search and fingerprinting of applicants for admission to the bar of the state shall be paid from fees collected by the State Bar Examining Committee.

(c) (1) (A) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall charge the following fees for the service indicated: **[**(A)**]** (i) Name search, thirty-six dollars; **[**(B)**]** (ii) fingerprint search, seventy-five dollars; **[**(C)**]** (iii) personal record search, seventy-five dollars; **[**(D)**]** (iv) letters of good conduct search, seventy-five dollars; **[**(E)**]** (v) bar association search, seventy-five dollars; **[**(F)**]** (vi) fingerprinting, fifteen dollars; and **[**(G)**]** (vii) criminal history record information search, seventy-five dollars.

[(2)**]** (B) The commissioner may waive fees imposed under subparagraph **[**(G) of subdivision (1) of this subsection**]** (A)(vii) of this subdivision for any applicant requesting a criminal history record information search for the purpose of applying for a pardon authorized pursuant to section 54-124a, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 21-32, provided such applicant completes a form prescribed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection representing such person's indigency.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any (A) federal, state or municipal agency, (B) volunteer fire company or department, or (C) volunteer ambulance service or company. The commissioner shall not require a

volunteer fire company or department or a volunteer ambulance service or company to provide proof of insurance as a condition to receiving the waiver of fees pursuant to the provisions of this subsection.

(d) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may enter into one or more agreements with independent contractors requiring such contractors to receive and transmit by electronic means fingerprints and demographic information to the State Police Bureau of Identification for the processing of criminal history records checks. The commissioner shall require such contractors to: (1) Collect and remit the fee charged for fingerprinting, as provided in subsection (c) of this section, to the State Police Bureau of Identification, and (2) comply with terms and conditions as the commissioner shall prescribe to protect and ensure the security, privacy, confidentiality and value of the fingerprints and demographic information received and transmitted by such contractors. The commissioner may authorize such contractors to charge a convenience fee, which shall not exceed fifteen dollars, for fingerprinting.

(e) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, necessary to implement the provisions of the National Child Protection Act of 1993, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the Volunteers for Children Act of 1998, and the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact as provided in section 29-164f to provide for national criminal history records checks to determine an employee's or volunteer's suitability and fitness to care for the safety and well-being of children, the elderly and individuals with disabilities.

Sec. 85. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There shall be, in any municipality with a population of at least one hundred forty thousand, an election monitor for the municipal election in 2021 and the state election in 2022 to detect and prevent irregularity and impropriety in the management of election administration procedures and the conduct of said elections

in such municipality. The office of the Secretary of the State shall contract with an individual to serve in such capacity as election monitor until December 31, 2022, unless such contract is terminated for any reason by the Secretary of the State prior to said date. Such election monitor shall: (1) Not be considered a state employee; (2) be compensated in accordance with such contract; and (3) be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties. Costs related to the service of such election monitor shall be paid from moneys appropriated to the Secretary for such purpose. Such municipality shall provide for such election monitor any office space, supplies, equipment and services necessary to properly carry out the duties and responsibilities of the position. As used in this section, "population" means the estimated number of people according to the most recent version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant to section 3-90 of the general statutes.

(b) An election monitor appointed under subsection (a) of this section shall: (1) Conduct inspections, inquiries and investigations relating to any duty or responsibility under title 9 of the general statutes to be carried out by any official of the municipality or appointee of such official; (2) have access to all records, data and material maintained by or available to any such official or appointee; and (3) immediately report to the Secretary of the State any irregularity or impropriety in the performance of any duty or responsibility described in subdivision (1) of this subsection. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the State Elections Enforcement Commission from taking any action authorized under section 9-7b of the general statutes.

Sec. 86. Section 1 of special act 21-1 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, not later than April 26, 2021, the Governor shall submit to the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate

recommended allocations of federal funds designated for the state pursuant to the provisions of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, except for any funds designated under the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. Not later than five days after receipt of the recommended allocations, the speaker and the president pro tempore shall submit the recommended allocations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Said committee shall report their approval or modifications, if any, of such recommended allocations to the speaker and the president pro tempore not later than May 16, 2021. **[**The**]** Any partial or final allocations of such funds shall be authorized by public or special act of the General Assembly. Disbursement of such funds shall be in accordance with such partial or final allocations and no disbursement of such funds shall occur prior to such authorization.

(b) If it is determined that any amount allocated by the General Assembly pursuant to subsection (a) of this section is not allowable under guidance provided by the federal government, including, but not limited to, the United States Treasury, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall immediately notify the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies of the specific amount and recipient of such allocation and the reason for such determination.

Sec. 87. Subsection (b) of section 9-19h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) (1) In addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section, and except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles **[**, not later than January 1, 1994,**]** shall

include an application for the admission of an elector with each application form provided for a motor vehicle operator's license and a motor vehicle operator's license renewal, which are issued under subpart (B) of part III of chapter 246, and with each application form provided for an identity card issued under section 1-1h. Such application form for the admission of an elector **[**(1)**]** (A) shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, **[**(2)**]** (B) shall not include any provisions for the witnessing of the application, and **[**(3)**]** (C) shall contain a statement that **[**(A)**]** (i) specifies each eligibility requirement, **[**(B)**]** (ii) contains an attestation that the applicant meets each such requirement, and **[**(C)**]** (iii) requires the signature of the applicant under penalty of perjury. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall accept any such completed application for admission which is submitted in person, **[**or**]** by mail **[**. The**]** or through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. Except as provided in said subdivision, the applicant shall state on such form, under penalty of perjury, the applicant's name, bona fide residence address, date of birth, whether the applicant is a United States citizen, party enrollment, if any, prior voting address, if registered previously, and that the applicant's privileges as an elector are not forfeited by reason of conviction of a felony. No Social Security number on any such application form for the admission of an elector filed prior to January 1, 2000, may be disclosed to the public or to any governmental agency. The commissioner shall indicate on each such form the date of receipt of such application to ensure that any eligible applicant is registered to vote in an election if it is received by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles by the last day for registration to vote in an election. The commissioner shall provide the applicant with an application receipt, on a form approved by the Secretary of the State and on which the commissioner shall record the date that the commissioner received the application, using an official date stamp bearing the words "Department of Motor Vehicles". The commissioner shall provide such receipt whether the application was submitted in person, **[**or**]** by mail or through an electronic system

pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. The commissioner shall forthwith transmit the application to the registrars of voters of the applicant's town of residence. If a registration application is accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in a regular election, the application shall be transmitted to the registrars of voters of the town of voting residence of the applicant not later than five days after the date of acceptance. The procedures in subsections (c), (d), (f) and (g) of section 9-23g which are not inconsistent with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, shall apply to applications made under this section. The commissioner is not an admitting official and may not restore, under the provisions of section 9-46a, electoral privileges of persons convicted of a felony.

(2) (A) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall provide an electronic system, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to effectuate the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection regarding application for admission of an elector, except that the condition that an applicant state and attest to meeting each eligibility requirement may be waived for any such eligibility requirement verified independently by said commissioner through a federally approved identity verification program or other evidence acceptable to said commissioner. Such electronic system may provide for the transmittal to the Secretary of an applicant's signature on file with said commissioner. The use of any such electronic system shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.

(B) (i) Unless otherwise provided in this subparagraph, if the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles determines that a person applying for a motor vehicle operator's license, a motor vehicle operator's license renewal or an identity card meets each eligibility requirement for admission as an elector, said commissioner shall forthwith transmit an application for such person's admission as an elector to the registrars of

voters of the town of residence of such person through an electronic system pursuant to this subdivision, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, except that no such application shall be transmitted if such person declines to apply for such admission.

(ii) If said commissioner determines that a person applying for a motor vehicle operator's license, a motor vehicle operator's license renewal or an identity card is not a United States citizen, said commissioner shall not provide such person an opportunity to apply for admission as an elector through an electronic system pursuant to this subdivision and shall not transmit any application for such admission on behalf of such person.

(iii) If said commissioner cannot determine whether a person applying for a motor vehicle operator's license, a motor vehicle operator's license renewal or an identity card is a United States citizen, such person shall attest to his or her United States citizenship as a precondition of said commissioner processing such person's application for admission as an elector through an electronic system pursuant to this subdivision.

Sec. 88. Section 9-19i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Any change of address form submitted by a person in accordance with law for purposes of a motor vehicle operator's license shall serve as notification of change of address for voter registration for the person unless the person states on the form that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall forthwith transmit such change of address information to the registrars of voters of the town of the former address of the person. If the name of the person appears on the registry list of the town, and if the new address is also within such town, the registrars shall enter the name of such elector on the registry list at the place where he then resides. If the

name of the person appears on the registry list of the town and if the new address is outside such town, the registrars shall remove the name of such elector from the registry list and send the elector the notice, information and application required by subsection (c) of section 9-35, except that if said commissioner is using an electronic system pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary of the State may prescribe alternative procedures for sending such notice and information and may waive the requirement to send such application.

(b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall provide an electronic system, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to effectuate the purposes of subsection (a) of this section regarding notifications of change of address for voter registration. Such electronic system may provide for the transmittal to the Secretary of an applicant's signature on file with said commissioner. The use of any such electronic system shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.

Sec. 89. Section 9-23n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

(a) As used in this section, "voter registration agency" means (1) public assistance offices, (2) all offices in the state that provide state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities, (3) libraries that are open to the public, and (4) such other appropriate offices as the Secretary of the State shall designate in accordance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.

(b) **[**Voter registration agencies shall**]** (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, each voter registration agency shall (A) distribute mail voter registration application forms, **[**(2)**]** (B) assist applicants for **[**such**]** assistance or services provided by the agency in completing voter registration application forms, except for applicants

who refuse **[**such**]** assistance **[**, (3)**]** in completing such forms, (C) accept completed voter registration application forms and provide each applicant with an application receipt, on which the agency shall record the date that the agency received the application, using an official date stamp bearing the name of the agency, and **[**(4)**]** (D) immediately transmit all such applications to the registrars of voters of the town of voting residence of the applicants. The agency shall provide such receipt whether the application was submitted in person, **[**or**]** by mail or through an electronic system pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. If a registration application is accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in a regular election, the application shall be transmitted to the registrars of voters of the town of voting residence of the applicant not later than five days after the date of acceptance. **[**The**]** Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the voter registration agency shall indicate on the completed mail voter registration application form, without indicating the identity of the voter registration agency, the date of its acceptance by such agency, to ensure that any eligible applicant is registered to vote in an election if it is received by the registration agency by the last day for registration to vote in an election. If a state-funded program primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities provides services to a person with a disability at the person's home, the agency shall provide such voter registration services at the person's home. The procedures in subsections (c), (d), (f) and (g) of section 9-23g that are not inconsistent with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, shall apply to applications made under this section. Officials and employees of such voter registration agencies are not admitting officials, as defined in section 9-17a, and may not restore, under the provisions of section 9-46a, electoral privileges of persons convicted of a felony.

(2) (A) Each voter registration agency shall provide an electronic system, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the State, to effectuate

the purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection regarding application for admission of an elector, except that the condition that an applicant state and attest to meeting each eligibility requirement may be waived for any such eligibility requirement verified independently by the agency through a federally approved identity verification program or other evidence acceptable to the agency. Such electronic system may provide for the transmittal to the Secretary of an applicant's signature on file with the voter registration agency. The use of any such electronic system shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time.

(B) (i) Unless otherwise provided in this subparagraph, if the voter registration agency determines that a person applying for assistance or services provided by the agency meets each eligibility requirement for admission as an elector, the agency shall forthwith transmit an application for such person's admission as an elector to the registrars of voters of the town of residence of such person through an electronic system pursuant to this subdivision, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, except that no such application shall be transmitted if such person declines to apply for such admission.

(ii) If the voter registration agency determines that a person applying for assistance or services provided by the agency is not a United States citizen, the agency shall not provide such person an opportunity to apply for admission as an elector through an electronic system pursuant to this subdivision and shall not transmit any application for such admission on behalf of such person.

(iii) If the voter registration agency cannot determine whether a person applying for assistance or services provided by the agency is a United States citizen, such person shall attest to his or her United States citizenship as a precondition of the agency processing such person's application for admission as an elector through an electronic system pursuant to this subdivision.

Sec. 90. Section 9-23o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

A voter registration agency, as defined in section 9-23n shall comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, and (1) shall distribute with each application for **[**service or**]** assistance or services provided by the agency, and with each recertification, renewal or change of address form relating to such **[**service or**]** assistance or services, a mail voter registration application form approved by the Secretary of the State, and (2) during each application for such assistance or services and each recertification, renewal or change of address relating to such assistance or services, shall use an electronic system described in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 9-23n in accordance with said subdivision to effectuate the purposes of subdivision (1) of said subsection regarding application for admission of an elector, unless the applicant declines to register to vote pursuant to the provisions of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time. Such declination shall be in writing, except in the case of an application for service or assistance provided by a library, or a recertification, renewal or change of address form relating to such library service or assistance. Such voter registration agency shall provide each applicant to register to vote the same degree of assistance with regard to the completion of the registration application form as is provided by the agency with regard to the completion of its own forms, unless the applicant refuses such assistance.

Sec. 91. Section 9-23p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

Each public institution of higher education shall (1) distribute mail voter registration application forms, and **[**(2)**]** assist applicants who request assistance in completing such voter registration application forms, and (2) use an electronic system described in subdivision (2) of

subsection (b) of section 9-23n in accordance with said subdivision to effectuate the purposes of subdivision (1) of said subsection regarding application for admission of an elector, and assist applicants who request assistance in so applying through such electronic system.

Sec. 92. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Secretary of the State shall develop and implement a system or systems through which the Secretary may permit any person to submit an electronic signature for the purpose of signing any form or application to be filed pursuant to chapters 141 to 154, inclusive, of the general statutes. The Secretary may include in, or exclude from, such system any such form or application. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any such form or application on which any such electronic signature appears shall be deemed to have been signed in the original.

(b) A state agency, upon the request of the Secretary of the State, shall provide any information to the Secretary that the Secretary deems necessary to maintain the system or systems described in subsection (a) of this section. The Secretary shall not use the information obtained from any state agency except for the purpose of allowing any person to sign any form or application to be filed pursuant to chapters 141 to 154, inclusive, of the general statutes.

Sec. 93. Subsection (c) of section 9-17 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) In addition to the sessions held pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the registrars of voters in each town shall: **[**hold**]**

(1) Hold one session each year, between the first of January and the last day of the school year, at each public high school in such town, for the admission of persons who are eligible for admission under subsection (a) or (b) of section 9-12, provided, in the case of a public high

school in a regional school district, such session shall be held on a rotating basis by the registrars of voters for each town which is a member of the regional school district. The registrars of voters need not give notice of this session by publication in a newspaper; **[**.**]** and

(2) Distribute each year, on the fourth Tuesday of September, at each public high school in such town, information regarding eligibility for admission under subsection (a) or (b) of section 9-12 and procedures for applying for such admission. The registrars of voters and the principal of any such public high school shall determine the best means of distributing such information at such public high school.

Sec. 94. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) From the effective date of this section to June 30, 2024, each employer shall grant to (1) each employee in the case of a state election, or (2) each employee who is an elector in the case of any special election for United States senator, representative in Congress, state senator or state representative, two hours unpaid time off from such employee's regularly scheduled work on the day of any such election, for the purpose of voting at such election during the hours of voting specified in section 9-174 of the general statutes, if the employee requests such time off not less than two working days prior to such election.

Sec. 95. Subsection (a) of section 9-12 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Each citizen of the United States who has attained the age of eighteen years, and who is a bona fide resident of the town to which the citizen applies for admission as an elector shall, on approval by the registrars of voters or town clerk of the town of residence of such citizen, as prescribed by law, be an elector, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section. For purposes of this section, a person shall be deemed to have attained the age of eighteen years on the day of the person's

eighteenth birthday and a person shall be deemed to be a bona fide resident of the town to which the citizen applies for admission as an elector if such person's dwelling unit is located within the geographic boundaries of such town. **[**No mentally incompetent person shall be admitted as an elector.**]**

Sec. 96. Section 9-45 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The Commissioner of Correction shall, on or before the fifteenth day of each month, transmit to the Secretary of the State a list of all persons who, during the preceding calendar month, have been (1) convicted in the Superior Court of a felony and committed to the custody of the Commissioner of Correction for confinement in a correctional institution or facility, or **[**a community residence**]** (2) returned to confinement in a correctional institution or facility from parole or special parole, release pursuant to section 18-100, 18-100c, 18-100e, 18-100h or 18-100i or furlough pursuant to section 18-101a. Such lists shall include the names, birth dates and addresses of such persons, with the dates of their conviction and the crimes of which such persons have been convicted, or the dates of the violation of their parole, special parole, release or furlough and the nature of such violation, as applicable. The Secretary of the State shall transmit such lists to the registrars of the towns in which such **[**convicted**]** persons who have been convicted or returned to confinement, as applicable, resided at the time of their conviction or violation of parole, special parole, release or furlough and to the registrars of any towns where the **[**secretary**]** Secretary believes such persons may be electors. The registrars of such towns shall compare the same with the list of electors upon their registry lists and, after written notice mailed by certified mail to each of the persons named at the last-known place of address of such person, shall erase such names from the registry lists in their respective towns or voting districts.

(b) Any person who procures such person or another to be registered after having been disfranchised by reason of conviction of crime and committed to the custody of the Commissioner of Correction for confinement in a correctional institution or facility or a community residence, and any person who votes at any election after having forfeited such privileges by reason of conviction of crime and confinement, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars and imprisoned not more than one year.

Sec. 97. Section 9-46 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) A person shall forfeit such person's right to become an elector and such person's privileges as an elector upon conviction of a felony and (1) committal to the custody of the Commissioner of Correction for confinement in a correctional institution or facility, **[**or**]** but not a community residence, (2) committal to confinement in a federal correctional institution or facility, or (3) committal to the custody of the chief correctional official of any other state or a county of any other state for confinement in a correctional institution or facility, **[**or**]** but not a community residence, in such state or county.

(b) If a person has forfeited such person's privileges as an elector under subsection (a) of this section, has regained such privileges under section 9-46a and is subsequently returned to confinement in a correctional institution or facility, but not a community residence, from parole or special parole, release pursuant to section 18-100, 18-100c, 18-100e, 18-100h or 18-100i or furlough pursuant to section 18-101a, such person shall again forfeit such privileges.

[(b)**]** (c) No person who has forfeited and not regained such person's privileges as an elector **[**,**]** as provided in section 9-46a, or who has regained such privileges and again forfeited such privileges as provided in subsection (b) of this section, may be a candidate for or hold public

office.

Sec. 98. Section 9-46a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) (1) A person who has been convicted of a felony and committed to confinement in a **[**federal or other state**]** correctional institution or facility **[**or community residence**]** of the federal government or of another state shall have such person's electoral privileges restored **[**upon the payment of all fines in conjunction with the conviction and**]** once such person has been **[**discharged**]** released from confinement. **[**, and, if applicable, parole.**]**

(2) A person who has been convicted of a felony and is committed to confinement in a community residence of the federal government or of another state shall have such person's electoral privileges restored if such person had previously forfeited such electoral privileges.

(b) (1) Upon the release from confinement in a correctional institution or facility **[**or a community residence**]** of a person who has been convicted of a felony and committed to the custody of the Commissioner of Correction, **[**and, if applicable, the discharge of such person from parole, (1)**]** (A) the person shall have the right to become an elector, **[**(2)**]** (B) the Commissioner of Correction shall give the person a document certifying that the person has been released from such confinement, **[**and, if applicable, has been discharged from parole, (3)**]** (C) if the person was an elector at the time of such felony conviction and, after such release, **[**and any such discharge,**]** is residing in the same municipality in which the person resided at the time of such felony conviction, the person's electoral privileges shall be restored, and **[**(4)**]** (D) if the person was an elector at the time of such felony conviction and, after such release, **[**and any such discharge,**]** is residing in a different municipality or if the person was not an elector at the time of such felony conviction, the person's electoral privileges shall be restored or granted

upon submitting to an admitting official satisfactory proof of the person's qualifications to be admitted as an elector. The provisions of **[**subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection**]** subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of this subdivision shall not apply to any person convicted of a felony for a violation of any provision of this title until such person has been discharged from any parole or probation for such felony.

(2) A person who has been convicted of a felony and committed to the custody of the Commissioner of Correction and is confined in a community residence shall have such person's electoral privileges restored if such person had previously forfeited such electoral privileges.

(c) The registrars of voters of the municipality in which a person is admitted as an elector pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section, within thirty days after the date on which such person is admitted, shall notify the registrars of voters of the municipality wherein such person resided at the time of such person's conviction that such person's electoral rights have been so restored.

(d) The Commissioner of Correction shall establish procedures to inform those persons who have been convicted of a felony and committed to the custody of said commissioner for confinement in a correctional institution or facility or a community residence, and are eligible to have their electoral privileges restored or granted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, of the right and procedures to have such privileges restored. The **[**Office of Adult Probation**]** Commissioner of Correction shall, within available appropriations, inform such persons who are on **[**probation on January 1, 2002**]** parole or special parole, or confined in a community residence, of their right to become electors and procedures to have their electoral privileges restored, which shall be in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

(e) The Commissioner of Correction shall, on or before the fifteenth day of each month, transmit to the Secretary of the State a list of all persons convicted of a felony and committed to the custody of said commissioner who, during the preceding calendar month, have (1) been released from confinement in a correctional institution or facility, or (2) begun confinement in a community residence. **[**and, if applicable, discharged from parole.**]** Such lists shall include the names, birth dates and addresses of such persons, with the dates of their convictions and the crimes of which such persons have been convicted. The Secretary **[**of the State**]** shall transmit such lists to the registrars of the municipalities in which such convicted persons resided at the time of their convictions and to the registrars of any municipalities where the **[**secretary**]** Secretary believes such persons may be electors.

Sec. 99. Subsection (a) of section 9-225 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the town clerk or assistant town clerk of each town shall warn the electors therein to meet on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November in the even-numbered years, at six o'clock a.m., which warning shall be given by publication (A) in a newspaper having a general circulation in such town, or towns in the case of a joint publication under subsection (b) of this section, not more than fifteen nor less than five days previous to holding such election, and (B) on such town's Internet web site, not more than fifteen nor less than five days previous to holding such election. The clerk in each town shall, in the warning for such election, give notice of (i) the time and the location of **[**the**]** each polling place in the town, **[**and**]** (ii) in towns divided into voting districts, **[**of**]** the time and the location of **[**the**]** each polling place in each district, and (iii) the time and the location of each location designated for election day registration in the town, at which such election will be held. The town

clerk shall record each such warning.

(2) For the state election in 2020, and any election held pursuant to section 9-211, 9-212, 9-215 or 9-218 on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, the warning under subsection (a) of this section shall be given not more than seven nor less than four days previous to holding such election.

Sec. 100. Section 9-226 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The warning of each municipal election shall specify the objects for which such election is to be held. **[**Notice**]** Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, notice of a town election shall be given by the town clerk or assistant town clerk, by publishing a warning (1) in a newspaper published in such town or having a general circulation therein, such publication to be not more than fifteen **[**,**]** nor less than five days previous to holding the election, and (2) on such town's Internet web site, such publication to be not more than fifteen nor less than five days previous to holding the election. The town clerk in each town shall, in the warning for such election, give notice of (A) the time and the location of **[**the**]** each polling place in the town, **[**and,**]** (B) in towns divided into voting districts, **[**of**]** the time and the location of **[**the**]** each polling place in each district, and (C) the time and the location of each location designated for election day registration in the town. The town clerk shall record each such warning. **[**Notice**]** Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, notice of an election of a city or borough shall be given by publishing a warning (i) in a newspaper published within the limits of such city or borough **[**,**]** or having a general circulation therein, not more than fifteen nor less than five days previous to holding the election, and (ii) on the Internet web site of such city or borough, or the town having such city or borough within such town's limits, not more than fifteen nor less than five days previous to holding the election, which warning shall include notice of (I) the time

and the location of **[**the**]** each polling place in such city or borough**,** **[**and,**]** (II) in cities and boroughs divided into voting districts, **[**of**]** the time and the location of **[**the**]** each polling place in each district, and (III) the time and the location of each location designated for election day registration in such city or borough.

(b) For any municipal election held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, the notice under subsection (a) of this section shall be given not more than seven nor less than four days previous to holding such election.

Sec. 101. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 9-140 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) **[**Application**]** (1) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, application for an absentee ballot shall be made to the clerk of the municipality in which the applicant is eligible to vote or has applied for such eligibility. Any person who assists another person in the completion of an application shall, in the space provided, sign the application and print or type his name, residence address and telephone number. Such signature shall be made under the penalties of false statement in absentee balloting. The municipal clerk shall not invalidate the application solely because it does not contain the name of a person who assisted the applicant in the completion of the application. The municipal clerk shall not distribute with an absentee ballot application any material which promotes the success or defeat of any candidate or referendum question. The municipal clerk shall maintain a log of all absentee ballot applications provided under this subsection, including the name and address of each person to whom applications are provided and the number of applications provided to each such person. Each absentee ballot application provided by the municipal clerk shall be consecutively numbered and be stamped or marked with the name of the municipality issuing the application. The application shall be

signed by the applicant under the penalties of false statement in absentee balloting on **[**(1)**]** (A) the form prescribed by the Secretary of the State pursuant to section 9-139a, **[**(2)**]** (B) a form provided by any federal department or agency if applicable pursuant to section 9-153a, or **[**(3)**]** (C) any of the special forms of application prescribed pursuant to section 9-150c, 9-153a, 9-153b, 9-153d, 9-153e, 9-153f or 9-158d, if applicable. Any such absentee ballot applicant who is unable to write may cause the application to be completed by an authorized agent who shall, in the spaces provided for the date and signature, write the date and name of the absentee ballot applicant followed by the word "by" and his own signature. If the ballot is to be mailed to the applicant, the applicant shall list the bona fide personal mailing address of the applicant in the appropriate space on the application.

[(b)**]** (2) A municipal clerk may transmit an application to a person under this subsection by facsimile machine or other electronic means, if so requested by the applicant. If a municipal clerk has a facsimile machine or other electronic means, an applicant may return a completed application to the clerk by such a machine or device, provided the applicant shall also mail the original of the completed application to the clerk, either separately or with the absentee ballot that is issued to the applicant. If the clerk does not receive such original application by the close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or referendum, the absentee ballot shall not be counted.

(b) On and after July 1, 2021:

(1) Application for an absentee ballot may also be made to the Secretary of the State through an online system established and maintained by the Secretary for such purpose if an applicant's signature is in a database described in subsection (b) of section 9-19k, or the system described in section 92 of this act, and such signature may be imported into such online application system.

(2) In order for an application for an absentee ballot to be submitted through the online system described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the applicant's signature shall be obtained from a database described in subsection (b) of section 9-19k, or the system described in section 92 of this act, and the applicant shall, on an online form prescribed by the Secretary, (A) type his or her name, (B) indicate the municipality in which such applicant is eligible to vote or has applied for such eligibility, and (C) mark a box associated with the following statement:

"By clicking on the box below, I swear or affirm all of the following under penalty of false statement in absentee balloting:

1. I am the person whose name is provided on this form, and I desire to apply for an absentee ballot.

2. I am eligible to vote in the municipality provided on this form or have applied for such eligibility.

3. I authorize the Department of Motor Vehicles or other Connecticut state agency to transmit to the Connecticut Secretary of the State my signature that is on file with such agency and understand that such signature will be used by the Secretary on this online application for an absentee ballot as if I had signed this form personally."

(3) Not later than twenty-four hours after receipt of any submitted application for an absentee ballot through the online system described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the Secretary shall transmit such application to the clerk of the municipality indicated in such application.

Sec. 102. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 9-140b of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) An absentee ballot shall be cast at a primary, election or

referendum only if: (1) It is mailed by (A) the ballot applicant, (B) a designee of a person who applies for an absentee ballot because of illness or physical disability, or (C) a member of the immediate family of an applicant who is a student, so that it is received by the clerk of the municipality in which the applicant is qualified to vote not later than the close of the polls; (2) it is returned by the applicant in person to the clerk by the day before a regular election, special election or primary or prior to the opening of the polls on the day of a referendum; (3) it is returned by a designee of an ill or physically disabled ballot applicant, in person, to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or referendum; (4) it is returned by a member of the immediate family of the absentee voter, in person, to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or referendum; (5) in the case of a presidential or overseas ballot, it is mailed or otherwise returned pursuant to the provisions of section 9-158g; or (6) it is returned with the proper identification as required by the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time, if applicable, inserted in the outer envelope so such identification can be viewed without opening the inner envelope. A person returning an absentee ballot to the municipal clerk pursuant to subdivision (3) or (4) of this subsection shall present identification and, on the outer envelope of the absentee ballot, sign his name in the presence of the municipal clerk, and indicate his address, his relationship to the voter or his position, and the date and time of such return. As used in this section, "immediate family" means a dependent relative who resides in the individual's household or any spouse, child**,** **[**or**]** parent or sibling of the individual.

(b) As used in this section and section 9-150c, "designee" means (1) a person who is caring for the applicant because of the applicant's illness or physical disability, including but not limited to, a licensed physician or a registered or practical nurse, (2) a member of the applicant's family, who is designated by an absentee ballot applicant and who consents to such designation, or (3) **[**if no such person consents or is available, then**]**

a police officer, registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters or assistant registrar of voters in the municipality in which the applicant resides.

(c) (1) For purposes of this section, "mailed" means (A) sent by the United States Postal Service or any commercial carrier, courier or messenger service recognized and approved by the Secretary of the State, or (B) **[**for the state election in 2020,**]** deposited in a secure drop box designated by the municipal clerk for such purpose, in accordance with instructions prescribed by the Secretary.

(2) In the case of absentee ballots mailed under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, beginning on the twenty-ninth day before **[**the state election in 2020**]** each election, primary or referendum, and on each weekday thereafter until the close of the polls at such election, primary or referendum, the municipal clerk shall **[**(A)**]** retrieve from the secure drop box described in said subparagraph each such ballot deposited in such drop box. **[**, and (B) if the drop box is located outside a building other than the building where the clerk's office is located, arrange for the clerk or the clerk's designee to be escorted by a police officer during such retrieval.**]**

Sec. 103. Section 9-140e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Any elector who is permanently physically disabled or suffering from a long-term illness and who files an application for an absentee ballot with a certification from a primary care provider, indicating that such elector is permanently physically disabled or suffering from a long-term illness and unable to appear in person at such elector's designated polling location, shall be eligible for permanent absentee ballot status and shall receive an absentee ballot for each election, primary or referendum conducted in such elector's municipality for which such elector is eligible to vote. Such elector's permanent absentee ballot status shall remain in effect until such elector: (1) Is removed from the official

registry list of the municipality, (2) is removed from permanent absentee ballot status pursuant to the provisions of this section, or (3) requests that he or she no longer receive such permanent absentee ballot status.

(b) The registrars of voters shall send written notice to each such elector with permanent absentee ballot status in January of each year, on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, for the purpose of determining if such elector continues to reside at the address indicated on the elector's permanent absentee ballot application. If (1) such written notice is returned as undeliverable, or (2) not later than **[**thirty**]** sixty days after such notice is sent to the elector, the elector fails to return such notice to the registrars of voters, as directed on the form, the elector in question shall be removed from permanent absentee ballot status. If such elector indicates on such notice that the elector no longer resides at such address and the elector's new address is within the same municipality, the registrars of voters shall change the elector's address pursuant to section 9-35 and such elector shall retain permanent absentee ballot status. If the elector indicates on such notice that the elector no longer resides in the municipality, the registrars of voters shall remove such individual from the registry list of the municipality and send such individual an application for voter registration. Failure to return such written notice shall not result in the removal of an elector from the official registry list of the municipality or from permanent absentee ballot status.

Sec. 104. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Whenever voter registration information maintained under title 9 of the general statutes by the Secretary of the State or any registrar of voters is provided pursuant to any provision of the general statutes, disclosure of a voter's date of birth shall be limited to only the month and year of birth, unless such voter registration information is requested and used for a governmental purpose, as determined by the Secretary, in which case the voter's complete date of birth shall be provided. As used in this

section, a governmental purpose shall include, but not be limited to, jury administration.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any motor vehicle operator's license number, identity card number, Social Security number and any other unique identifier used for the purpose of generating a voter registration record, or added to such record for compliance with the requirements of the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time, shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, if a voter submits to the Secretary of the State a signed statement that nondisclosure of such voter's name from the official registry list is necessary for the safety of such voter or the voter's family, the name and address of such voter on his or her voter registration record shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed, except that an election, primary or referendum official may view such information on the official registry list when such list is used by any such official at a polling place on the day of an election, primary or referendum. Such signed statement shall be sworn under penalty of false statement, as provided in section 53a-157b of the general statutes.

Sec. 105. Section 9-450 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Nominations by major parties for any state, district or municipal office to be filled under the provisions of any law relating to elections to fill vacancies, unless otherwise provided therein, shall be made in accordance with the provisions of sections 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive.

(b) (1) **[**(A)**]** In the case of nominations for representatives in Congress and judges of probate in probate districts composed of two or more towns, provided for in sections 9-212 and 9-218, the delegates to the

convention for the last state election shall be the delegates for the purpose of selecting a candidate to fill such vacancy. If a vacancy occurs in the delegation from any town, political subdivision or district, such vacancy may be filled by the town committee of the town in which the delegate resided. Endorsements by political party conventions pursuant to this subsection may be made and certified at any time after the resignation or death creating such vacancy and not later than the fiftieth day before the day of the election. No such endorsement shall be effective until the presiding officer or secretary of any district convention has certified the endorsement to the Secretary of the State.

[(B)**]** (2) If such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state or municipal election in November of any year, no primary shall be held for the nomination of any political party and the party-endorsed candidate so selected shall be deemed, for the purposes of this chapter, the person certified by the Secretary of the State pursuant to section 9-444 as the nominee of such party.

[(C)**]** (3) Except as provided in **[**subparagraph (B) of this**]** subdivision (2) of this subsection, if a candidacy for nomination is filed by or on behalf of any person other than a party-endorsed candidate not later than **[**fourteen days**]** the day after the party endorsement and in conformity with the provisions of section 9-400, a primary shall be held in each municipality of the district and each part of a municipality which is a component part of the district, to determine the nominee of such party for such office, except as provided in section 9-416a. Such primary shall be held on the day that the writs of election issued by the Governor, pursuant to section 9-212, ordered the election to be held, and new writs of election shall be issued by the Governor in accordance with section 9-212.

[(D)**]** (4) Unless the provisions of **[**subparagraph (B) of this**]** subdivision (2) of this subsection apply, petition forms for candidacies

for nomination by a political party pursuant to this subdivision shall be available from the Secretary of the State beginning on the day following the issuance of writs of election by the Governor pursuant to section 9-212, except when a primary has already been held, and the provisions of section 9-404a shall otherwise apply to such petitions.

[(E)**]** (5) The registry lists used pursuant to this subsection shall be the last-completed lists, as provided in sections 9-172a and 9-172b.

[(2)**]** (c) In the case of judges of probate in probate districts composed of a single town, the day named for the election shall be not earlier than the one hundred fifteenth day following the day on which the writ of election is issued, and the times specified in sections 9-391, 9-405 and 9-423 shall be applicable.

[(3) (A)**]** (d) (1) In the case of nominations for senators in Congress provided for in section 9-211, the delegates to the convention for the last state election shall be the delegates for the purpose of selecting a candidate to fill such vacancy. If a vacancy occurs in the delegation from any town or political subdivision, such vacancy may be filled by the town committee of the town in which the delegate resided. Endorsements by political party conventions pursuant to this subsection may be made and certified at any time after the resignation or death creating such vacancy and not later than the fifty-sixth day before the day of the primary. No such endorsement shall be effective until the presiding officer or secretary of any state convention has certified the endorsement to the Secretary of the State.

[(B)**]** (2) If such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state or municipal election in November of any year, no primary shall be held for the nomination of any political party and the party-endorsed candidate so selected shall be deemed, for the purposes of this chapter, the person certified by the Secretary of the State, pursuant to section 9-

444, as the nominee of such party. In such an event, endorsements by political party conventions shall be made not later than sixty days prior to the election.

[(C)**]** (3) Except as provided in **[**subparagraph (B) of this**]** subdivision (2) of this subsection, if a candidacy for nomination is filed by or on behalf of any person other than a party-endorsed candidate not later than **[**fourteen days**]** the day after the party endorsement and in conformity with the provisions of section 9-400, a primary shall be held on the fifty-sixth day prior to the day of the election in each municipality to determine the nominee of such party for such office, except as provided in section 9-416a.

[(D)**]** (4) Unless the provisions of **[**subparagraph (B) of this**]** subdivision (2) of this subsection apply, petition forms for candidacies for nomination by a political party pursuant to this subdivision shall be available from the Secretary of the State beginning on the day following the issuance of writs of election by the Governor, pursuant to section 9-211, except when a primary has already been held and the provisions of section 9-404a shall otherwise apply to such petitions.

[(E)**]** (5) The registry lists used pursuant to this subsection shall be the last-completed lists, as provided in sections 9-172a and 9-172b.

[(4)**]** (e) The times specified in sections 9-391, 9-405 and 9-423 shall be applicable to any special town election held to fill a vacancy in any town office under subsection (b) of section 9-164. Except as provided under subsection (c) of section 9-164, any election held to fill a vacancy in any municipal office under the provisions of any special act shall be held not earlier than the one hundred twenty-seventh day following the day upon which warning of such election is issued, and the times specified in sections 9-391, 9-405 and 9-423 shall be applicable.

Sec. 106. Subsection (a) of section 9-212 of the general statutes is

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) In case of a vacancy in the office of representative in Congress from any district, the Governor, except as otherwise provided by law, shall not more than ten days after the occurrence of such vacancy issue writs of election directed to the town clerks or assistant town clerks, in such district, ordering an election to be held on the sixtieth day after the issue of such writs on a day, other than a Saturday or Sunday, to fill such vacancy, provided (1) if such a vacancy occurs between the one hundred twenty-fifth day and the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state or municipal election in November of any year, the Governor shall so issue such writs on the sixtieth day before the day of such regular election, ordering an election to be held on the day of such regular election, (2) if such a vacancy occurs after the sixty-third day before the day of a regular state election but before the regular state election, the Governor shall not issue such writs and no election shall be held under this section, unless the position vacated is that of member-elect, in which case the Governor shall issue such writs and an election shall be held as provided in this section, and (3) if a primary for such office occurs pursuant to **[**subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1)**]** subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 9-450, the Governor shall, within ten days following the filing of a candidacy for nomination by a person other than the party-endorsed candidate, issue new writs of election, in place of those first issued pursuant to this section.

Sec. 107. Subsection (a) of section 9-320f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Not earlier than the fifteenth day after any election or primary and not later than two business days before the canvass of votes by the Secretary of the State, Treasurer and Comptroller, for any federal or state election or primary, or by the town clerk for any municipal election

or primary, the registrars of voters shall conduct a manual audit or, for an election or primary held on or after January 1, 2016, an electronic audit authorized under section 9-320g of the votes recorded in not less than five per cent of the voting districts in the state, district or municipality, whichever is applicable. For the purposes of this section, any central location used in a municipality for the counting of absentee ballots shall be deemed a voting district. Such manual or electronic audit shall be noticed in advance and be open to public observation. Any election official who participates in the administration and conduct of an audit pursuant to this section shall be compensated by the municipality at the standard rate of pay established by such municipality for elections or primaries, as the case may be.

Sec. 108. Section 9-159q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Institution" means a veterans' health care facility, residential care home, health care facility for the handicapped, nursing home, rest home, mental health facility, alcohol or drug treatment facility, an infirmary operated by an educational institution for the care of its students, faculty and employees or an assisted living facility; and

(2) "Designee" means an elector of the same town and political party as the appointing registrar of voters, which elector is not an employee of the institution at which supervised voting is conducted.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, **[**to the contrary,**]** if less than twenty of the patients in any institution in the state are electors, absentee ballots voted by such electors shall, upon request of either registrar of voters in the town of such electors' voting residence or the administrator of such institution, be voted under the supervision of such registrars of voters or their designees in accordance with the

provisions of this section. The registrars of voters of a town other than the town in which an institution is located may refuse a request by the administrator of such institution when, in their written opinion, the registrars agree that such request is unnecessary, in which case this section shall not apply. Such registrars shall inform the administrator and the town clerk of the electors' town of voting residence of their refusal.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, such request shall be made in writing and filed with the town clerk and registrars of voters of the town of such electors' voting residence, not more than forty-five days prior to an election or thirty-four days prior to a primary and not later than the seventh day prior to an election or primary. The request shall specify the name and location of the institution and the date and time when the registrars of voters or their designees shall supervise the casting of absentee ballots at the institution. The request shall also specify one or more alternate dates and times when supervised voting may occur. No request shall specify a date or an alternate date for supervised voting which is later than the last business day before the election or primary.

(d) The town clerk shall not mail or otherwise deliver an absentee ballot to an applicant who is a patient in any institution if a request for supervision of absentee balloting at that institution has been filed with the clerk during the period set forth in subsection (c) of this section. The clerk shall instead deliver such ballot or ballots to the registrars of voters or their designees who will supervise the voting of such ballots in accordance with this section.

(e) Except in the case of a written refusal as provided in subsection (b) of this section, upon receipt of a request for supervision of absentee balloting during the period set forth in subsection (c) of this section, the registrar or registrars of voters who received the request shall inform the registrar or administrator who made the request and the town clerk

as to the date and time when such supervision shall occur, which shall be the date and time contained in the request or the alternate date and time contained in the request. If the registrar or registrars fail to select either date, the supervision shall take place on the date and time contained in the request. If a request for supervision of absentee balloting at an institution is filed during the period set forth in subsection (c) of this section and the town clerk receives an application for an absentee ballot from a patient in the institution after the date when supervised balloting occurred, either registrar of voters may request, in writing, to the appropriate town clerk and registrars of voters that the supervision of the voting of absentee ballots at such institution in accordance with this section be repeated, and in such case the registrars or their designees shall supervise absentee balloting at such institution on the date and at the time specified in the subsequent request, which shall be not later than the last business day before the election or primary.

(f) On the date when the supervision of absentee balloting at any institution is to occur, the town clerk shall deliver to the registrars or their designees the absentee ballots and envelopes for all applicants who are electors of such clerk's town and patients at such institution. The ballot and envelopes shall be prepared for delivery to the applicant as provided in sections 9-137 to 9-140a, inclusive. The registrars or their designees shall furnish the town clerk a written receipt for such ballots.

(g) The registrars or their designees, as the case may be, shall jointly deliver the ballots to the respective applicants at the institution and shall jointly supervise the voting of such ballots. The ballots shall be returned to the registrars or their designees by the electors in the envelopes provided and in accordance with the provisions of sections 9-137, 9-139 and 9-140a. If any elector asks for assistance in voting his ballot, two registrars or their designees of different political parties or, for a primary, their designees of different candidates, shall render such

assistance as they deem necessary and appropriate to enable such elector to vote his ballot. The registrars or their designees may reject a ballot when (1) the elector declines to vote a ballot, or (2) the registrars or their designees are unable to determine how the elector who has requested their assistance desires to vote the ballot. When the registrars or their designees reject a ballot, they shall mark the serially-numbered outer envelope "rejected" and note the reasons for rejection. Nothing in this section shall limit the right of an elector to vote his ballot in secret.

(h) After all ballots have been voted or marked "rejected" in accordance with subsection (g) of this section, the registrars or their designees shall jointly deliver or mail them in the envelopes, which shall be sealed, to the appropriate town clerk, who shall retain them until delivered in accordance with section 9-140c.

(i) When an institution is located in a town having a primary, the registrar in that town of the party holding the primary shall appoint for each such institution, one designee of the party-endorsed candidates and one designee of the contestants from the lists, if any, submitted by the party-endorsed candidates and contestants. Such registrar shall notify all party-endorsed candidates and all contestants of their right to submit a list of potential designees under this section. Each party-endorsed candidate and each contestant may submit to such registrar in writing a list of names of potential designees, provided any such list shall be submitted not later than ten days before the primary. If no such lists are submitted within said period, such registrar shall appoint one designee of the party-endorsed candidates and one designee of the contestants. Each designee appointed pursuant to this section shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duties, and the registrar shall file a certificate of each designation with his town clerk.

(j) Any registrar of voters who has filed a request that the absentee balloting at an institution be supervised and any registrar required to conduct a supervision of voting under this section, who neglects to

perform any of the duties required of him by this section so as to cause any elector to lose his vote shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. Any registrar from the same town as a registrar who has filed such a request may waive his right to participate in the supervision of absentee balloting.

(k) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, **[**to the contrary,**]** if the spouse or a child of a registrar of voters or a dependent relative residing in the registrar's household is a candidate in the election or primary for which supervised absentee voting is to occur, such registrar shall not supervise such absentee voting but may designate the deputy registrar of voters or an assistant registrar of voters, appointed by the registrar pursuant to section 9-192, to supervise the absentee voting in his place.

(l) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, **[**if a town clerk receives twenty or more absentee ballot applications from the same street address in a town, including, but not limited to, an apartment building or complex, absentee ballots voted by the electors submitting such applications may, at the discretion of the registrars of voters of such town, be voted under the supervision of such registrars of voters or their designees in accordance with the same procedures set forth in this section for supervised absentee voting at institutions.**]** the Secretary of the State may suspend the supervision of absentee balloting under this section and section 9-159r, provided the Secretary (1) suspends such supervision of absentee balloting in recognition of a declaration by the Governor of a civil preparedness emergency, pursuant to section 28-9, or a public health emergency, pursuant to section 19a-131, and (2) submits a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections advising of such suspension and specifying alternative actions to be taken to provide opportunities for absentee voting by electors described in this section and section 9-159r.

Sec. 109. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) In the case of an elector unable to appear at such elector's polling place because of a visual impairment, the Secretary of the State shall electronically provide to such elector an absentee ballot in a format capable of being read by a computer-related device and printed. Each such ballot signed by such elector, returned to the municipal clerk in accordance with section 9-140b of the general statutes, and that otherwise satisfies all requirements for returned absentee ballots shall be counted.

Sec. 110. Section 9-264 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

An elector who requires assistance to vote, by reason of blindness, disability or inability to write or to read the ballot, may be given assistance by a person of the elector's choice, other than (1) the elector's employer, (2) an agent of such employer, (3) an officer or agent of the elector's union, or (4) a candidate for any office on the ballot, unless the elector is a member of the immediate family of such candidate. The person assisting the elector may accompany the elector into the voting booth <u>at the polling place or the location designated for election day registration</u>. Such person shall register such elector's vote upon the ballot as such elector directs. Any person accompanying an elector into the voting booth <u>at the polling place or the location designated for election day registration</u> who deceives any elector in registering the elector's vote under this section or seeks to influence any elector while in the act of voting, or who registers any vote for any elector or on any question other than as requested by such elector, or who gives information to any person as to what person or persons such elector voted for, or how such elector voted on any question, shall be guilty of a class D felony. As used in this section, "immediate family" means "immediate family" as defined in section 9-140b.

Sec. 111. Subsection (a) of section 9-232 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

passage):

(a) **[**Each registrar may appoint one or more challengers in his town or district, one of whom may be present at the offering of any vote; and any such challenger or any**]** Any elector may challenge the right of any person offering to vote, on the ground of want of identity with the person on whose name the vote is offered, or disfranchisement or lack of bona fide residence, and the moderator shall decide upon the right of the person so challenged to vote.

Sec. 112. Section 9-235d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of sections 9-233, 9-235 and 9-258 **[**to the contrary,**]** a United States citizen who is sixteen or seventeen years of age and a bona fide resident of a town may be **[**(1)**]** appointed as **[**a challenger or**]** (1) an unofficial checker in an election, or (2) **[**appointed as**]** a checker, translator, ballot clerk or voting tabulator tender in an election after (A) attending poll worker training, and (B) receiving the written permission of a parent, guardian or the principal of the school that the citizen attends if the citizen is a secondary school student and the citizen is to be appointed to work on a day when such school is in session.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of section 9-436 or 9-436a **[**to the contrary,**]** a United States citizen who is sixteen or seventeen years of age and a bona fide resident of a town or political subdivision holding a primary may be **[**(1)**]** appointed as **[**a challenger or**]** (1) a candidate checker in the primary, or (2) **[**appointed as**]** a checker, translator, ballot clerk or voting tabulator tender in a primary after (A) attending poll worker training, and (B) receiving the written permission of a parent, guardian or the principal of the school that the citizen attends if the citizen is a secondary school student and the citizen is to be appointed to work on a day when such school is in session.

Sec. 113. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 9-258 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For municipalities with more than one voting district, the election officials of each polling place shall be electors of the state and shall consist of (1) one moderator, (2) at least one but not more than two official checkers, (3) two assistant registrars of voters of opposite political parties, each of whom shall be residents of the town, (4) **[**not more than two challengers if the registrars of voters have appointed challengers pursuant to section 9-232, (5)**]** at least one but not more than two ballot clerks, and **[**(6)**]** (5) at least one but not more than two voting tabulator tenders for each voting tabulator in use at the polling place. A known candidate for any office shall not serve as an election official on election day or serve at the polls in any capacity, except that (A) a municipal clerk or a registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same office, may perform his or her official duties, and (B) a deputy registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters, may perform his or her official duties. If, in the opinion of the registrar of voters, the public convenience of the electors in any voting district so requires, provision shall be made for an additional line or lines of electors at the polling place and, if more than one line of electors is established, at least one but not more than two additional official checkers and at least one but not more than two ballot clerks for each line of electors shall be appointed and, if more than one tabulator is used in a polling place, at least one but not more than two additional voting tabulator tenders shall be appointed for each additional machine so used. Head moderators, central counting moderators and absentee ballot counters appointed pursuant to law shall also be deemed election officials.

(b) For municipalities with one voting district, the election officials of such polling place shall be electors of the state and shall consist of (1)

one moderator, (2) at least one but not more than two official checkers, (3) **[**not more than two challengers if the registrars of voters have appointed challengers pursuant to section 9-232, (4)**]** at least one but not more than two voting tabulator tenders for each voting tabulator in use at the polling place, and **[**(5)**]** (4) at least one but not more than two ballot clerks. Additionally, such election officials may consist of two registrars of voters of opposite political parties, or two assistant registrars of voters of opposite political parties, as the case may be, subject to the requirements of sections 9-259 and 9-439, provided if the registrars of voters are present in the polling place, they shall appoint at least one designee to be present in their office. A known candidate for any office shall not serve as an election official on election day or serve at the polls in any capacity, except that (A) a municipal clerk or a registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same office, may perform his or her official duties, and (B) a deputy registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters, may perform his or her official duties. If, in the opinion of the registrar of voters, the public convenience of the electors in any voting district so requires, provision shall be made for an additional line or lines of electors at the polling place and, if more than one line of electors is established, at least one but not more than two additional official checkers for each line of electors shall be appointed and, if more than one tabulator is used in a polling place, at least one but not more than two additional voting tabulator tenders shall be appointed for each additional tabulator so used. Head moderators, central counting moderators and absentee ballot counters appointed pursuant to law shall be deemed to be election officials.

Sec. 114. Subsection (c) of section 9-436 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) The registrar shall appoint from among the enrolled party members in the state, to serve in each polling place, the primary polling

place officials, who shall consist of (1) one moderator, (2) at least one **[**,**]** but not more than two official checkers, **[**not more than two challengers if the registrar deems it necessary, and**]** (3) at least one **[**and**]** but not more than two ballot clerks, **[**and**]** (4) at least one but not more than two voting tabulator tenders for each tabulator in use at such primary, and **[**,**]** (5) in towns with two or more voting districts, at least one **[**and**]** but not more than two assistant registrars, provided **[**(1)**]** (A) in the case of either a municipality or a political subdivision holding a primary, if no enrolled party member can be found or no such person consents to serve as a moderator, the registrar may appoint any elector who resides in the state and is a certified moderator to be moderator, **[**(2)**]** (B) in the case of a political subdivision holding a primary, if an insufficient number of enrolled party members who reside in the state consent to serve as checkers, **[**challengers,**]** voting tabulator tenders or assistant registrars, the registrar may appoint any elector who resides in the state to be a checker, **[**challenger,**]** voting tabulator tender or assistant registrar, and **[**(3)**]** (C) in the case of either a municipality or a political subdivision holding more than one primary on the same day for different political parties, one certified moderator may serve as moderator for both primaries, if the registrars of voters so agree. If unaffiliated electors are authorized under section 9-431 to vote for some but not all of the offices to be contested at the primary, the registrar shall appoint two additional checkers to check the list of unaffiliated electors who are authorized to vote on the separate tabulators. If unaffiliated electors are authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary of either of two parties in the same polling place, whether for some or for all offices to be contested at the primary, each such registrar shall appoint two additional checkers to check the list of unaffiliated electors who are authorized to vote in either such primary.

Sec. 115. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Secretary of the State shall consult with various department heads, as defined in section 4-5 of the general statutes, including, but not limited to, the Commissioner of

Consumer Protection, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, to conduct a study of the technological and staffing capabilities of various state agencies to provide an electronic system to effectuate the purposes of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 9-23n of the general statutes.

(b) Not later than February 1, 2023, the Secretary shall submit to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, (1) a report on the findings of such study, and (2) recommendations for legislation to authorize any such state agency to provide such an electronic system.

Sec. 116. Subsection (a) of section 9-164 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

(a) (1) (A) **[**Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, there shall be held in each municipality, biennially, a municipal election on the first Monday of May or the Tuesday after the first Monday of November, of the odd-numbered years, whichever date the legislative body of such municipality determines, provided, if no action is taken by the legislative body to so designate the date of such election, such election shall be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November of the odd-numbered years.**]** On and after January 1, 2022, and notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, there shall be held in each municipality, biennially, a municipal election on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November of the odd-numbered years, except that such municipal election may be held on the first Monday of May of the odd-numbered years if the legislative body of such municipality so determines by a three-fourths vote.

(B) In any municipality where the legislative body determines to hold

its municipal election on the first Monday of May of the odd-numbered years in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, such legislative body may subsequently determine by a majority vote to hold such municipal election on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November of the odd-numbered years.

(2) In any municipality where the term of any elected official would expire prior to the next regular election held under the provisions of this section, the term of such official shall be extended to the date of such election.

Sec. 117. Section 9-164b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

As to any board or commission of a municipality with a rotating membership, some of the members of which, prior to **[**the**]** any change **[**to a uniform**]** in a municipal election date for such municipality under section 9-164, were elected for terms beginning approximately one year after the date of their election, the legislative body of such municipality may provide for such conforming changes in the beginning date of the terms of office as are designed to continue the rotation with regard to such office as it existed prior to such change, and in the absence of such action by such legislative body, the beginning date of the terms of such office shall be so changed by the clerk of the municipality in preparing the list provided for under section 9-254. With respect to any board or commission of a municipality with a rotating membership established under sections 8-1, 8-4a, 8-5 and 8-19, the authority empowered to prescribe the term of office of the members of such board or commission, if it is authorized under said sections to provide for an odd-numbered year term, may further provide for deferred terms by prescribing which terms are to begin approximately one year from the date on which the terms of municipal officers generally begin in such municipality.

Sec. 118. Section 9-164c of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

[After January 1, 1970, any municipality may by charter, or by vote of the legislative body approved at a referendum of the electors to be held within thirty days thereafter, change the date of its municipal election by designating the alternate date specified in section 9-164 as the date of the municipal election, provided (1) no such charter provision adopted, nor such vote of such legislative body so approved, within six months prior to any municipal election may be effective with respect thereto, and (2) in changing from the November municipal election date specified in section 9-164 to the May municipal election date therein specified, the terms of incumbent municipal elected officials shall be diminished to conform to such change but for a period of not more than nine months and (3) in changing from the May municipal election date specified in section 9-164 to the November date therein specified, the terms of incumbent municipal elected officials shall be extended to conform to such change but for a period of not more than nine months.**]** On and after January 1, 2022, (1) any municipality may change the date of its municipal election in accordance with the provisions of section 9-164, (2) in any municipality that changes from the November municipal election date specified in said section to the May municipal election date specified in said section, the terms of incumbent municipal elected officials shall be diminished to conform to such change but for a period of not more than nine months, and (3) in any municipality that changes from the May municipal election date specified in said section to the November date specified in said section, the terms of incumbent municipal election officials shall be extended to conform to such change but for a period of not more than nine months.

Sec. 119. Section 9-164e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

Before any action is taken under sections **[**9-164a**]** 9-164b to 9-164f, inclusive, 9-187 and 9-187a, such proposed action shall be submitted by

the legislative body to the municipal attorney of the municipality taking such action for approval as to conforming to law.

Sec. 120. Section 9-164f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

Nothing in sections **[**9-164a**]** 9-164b to 9-164e, inclusive, 9-187 and 9-187a, shall affect the election of registrars of voters.

Sec. 121. Section 9-187a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

Except as provided in sections **[**9-164a**]** 9-164b to 9-164f, inclusive, the term of each elected municipal official shall begin within seventy days after the municipal election at which such official is elected, on the day within such period prescribed by special act or charter provision, or, in the absence of such special act or charter provision, on the day within such period as is prescribed by action of the legislative body of such municipality, provided (1) in each municipality which holds its municipal election on the first Monday of May in the odd-numbered years, in the absence of such special act or charter provision, or action of the legislative body, such terms shall begin on the first day of July following the municipal election at which such official is elected, and (2) in each municipality which holds its municipal election on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November in the odd-numbered years, with the exception of the term of the town clerk, in the absence of such special act, or charter provision, or action of the legislative body, such term shall begin on the second Tuesday next following the day of the municipal election at which such official is elected, and (3) in each municipality which holds its municipal election on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November in the odd-numbered years, the term of the town clerk shall be two years from the first Monday of January next succeeding his election, unless otherwise provided by charter or special act. Whenever the beginning date of the terms of elected municipal officials is so

determined or changed, within the limits hereinabove specified, the authority providing therefor may provide for the conforming diminution or extension of terms of incumbents.

Sec. 122. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to study the feasibility of implementing procedures whereby an absentee ballot applicant uses a single envelope, instead of two, for the return of such applicant's absentee ballot. Such study shall include an examination and identification of each section of the general statutes that would require amending in order to implement such procedures.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

(2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(3) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(4) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(5) One appointed by the House of Representatives chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections;

(6) One appointed by the Senate chairperson of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections;

(7) One appointed by the House of Representatives ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections;

(8) One appointed by the Senate ranking member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters

relating to elections;

(9) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee;

(10) Two appointed by the president of the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut, each of whom shall be enrolled in a different political party from the other; and

(11) One appointed by the president of the Connecticut Town Clerks Association.

(c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) or (8) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

(g) Not later than January 1, 2022, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2022, whichever is later.

Sec. 123. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working group to (1) examine employing risk-limiting audits to determine the accuracy of election results, including (A) the feasibility of implementing such audits, (B) the different methods used in such audits and the practical considerations for implementation of each such method within the existing statutory framework, (C) any potential equipment necessary to implement one or more of such methods, (D) the procedures necessary to implement one or more of such methods, and (E) any changes to such statutory framework necessary to implement one or more of such methods, and (2) within available appropriations, oversee a pilot program in not less than five and not more than ten municipalities of one or more of such methods for the municipal elections held in such municipalities in 2021.

(b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

(1) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee, who shall be the chairperson of such working group;

(2) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

(3) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(4) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(6) Two appointed by the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections, each of whom shall be enrolled in a different political party from the other;

(7) Two appointed by the Secretary of the State, one of whom shall be admitted to the practice of law in this state and have expertise in the

election laws of this state, and the other of whom shall be a statistician;

(8) Two appointed by the president of the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut, each of whom shall be enrolled in a different political party from the other; and

(9) The director of the Center for Voting Technology Research at The University of Connecticut, or the director's designee.

(c) Any member of the working group appointed under subdivision (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee, as chairperson of the working group, shall schedule the first meeting of such working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

(g) Not later than January 31, 2022, the working group shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, and to the Secretary of the State. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 31, 2022, whichever is later.

Sec. 124. Section 9-374 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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

No authority of the state or any political subdivision thereof having jurisdiction over the conduct of any primary shall permit the name of a party-endorsed candidate for an office or position to be printed on the official ballot to be used at any such primary unless a copy of the party rules regulating such party and its method of selecting party-endorsed candidates for nomination to such office or for election as town committee members, as the case may be, has been filed in the office of the Secretary of the State at least sixty days before such candidate is selected under such method of endorsement. The selection of delegates to conventions shall not be valid unless at least one copy of the party rules regulating the manner of making such selection has been filed in the office of the Secretary of the State at least sixty days before such selection is made. A duplicate copy of such rules shall also be filed with the state central committee of such party. A copy of the local party rules, relating to a party in a municipality, shall be filed forthwith by the town chairman or the secretary of the town committee of such party in such municipality with the Secretary of the State. The state party rules shall be filed by the state chairman or the secretary of the state central committee of such party. In the case of a minor party, no authority of the state or any subdivision thereof having jurisdiction over the conduct of any election shall permit the name of a candidate of such party for any office to be printed on the official ballot unless at least one copy of the party rules regulating the manner of nominating a candidate for such office has been filed in the office of the Secretary of the State at least **[**sixty**]** one hundred eighty days before the nomination of such candidate. In the case of a minor party, the selection of town committee members and delegates to conventions shall not be valid unless at least one copy of the party rules regulating the manner of making such selection has been filed in the office of the Secretary of the State at least sixty days before such selection is made. A copy of local party rules shall forthwith be also filed with the town clerk of the municipality to which

they relate. Party rules shall not be effective until sixty days after the filing of the same with the Secretary of the State. A party in any municipality for which local party rules with respect to any office or position have not been filed as provided in this section shall, as to such office or position, be subject to the provisions of the effective state rules of such party applicable in municipalities which do not have local party rules, until such time as local party rules therefor are filed and become effective as provided in this section. The town chairman of a party in any municipality for which local party rules have not been adopted and filed as provided in this section shall forthwith file a statement with the Secretary of the State to the effect that such party in such municipality does not have local party rules. The term "party rules" as used in this section includes any amendment to such party rules. When any amendment is to be filed as required by this section, complete party rules incorporating such amendment shall be filed, together with a separate copy of such amendment.

Sec. 125. Section 2 of public act 21-81 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established a Council on Sexual Misconduct Climate Assessments, which shall be part of the Legislative Department. The council shall have the following powers and duties: (1) Develop a list of data points to be collected by institutions of higher education through student responses to sexual misconduct climate assessments. Such data points shall include, but not be limited to, data regarding (A) student awareness of institutional policies and procedures related to sexual assault, stalking and intimate partner violence, (B) if a student reported sexual assault, stalking or violence to an institution of higher education or law enforcement, the response to and results of such report, and (C) student perceptions of campus safety; (2) recommend one or more sexual misconduct climate assessments that collect the data points identified by the council; (3) recommend guidelines for the

implementation of such assessments, which shall include, but need not be limited to, procedures for (A) achieving a high rate of response to such assessments to ensure statistically accurate survey results, (B) protecting the confidentiality of respondents to such assessments, and (C) receiving responses to such assessments from as broad and diverse a segment of the student population as possible; and (4) perform such other acts as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the duties described in this section.

(b) The council shall consist of the following members:

(1) The cochairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement;

(2) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who has expertise in the development and design of sexual misconduct climate assessments;

(3) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who has expertise in statistics, data analytics or econometrics related to higher education assessments;

(4) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a representative of the Victim Rights Center of Connecticut;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a Title IX coordinator at an institution of higher education in the state;

(6) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee;

(7) The president of The University of Connecticut, or the president's designee;

(8) Two designated by the Board of Regents for Higher Education, one of whom represents the Connecticut State University System and one of whom represents the regional community-technical college system;

(9) One designated by the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, who represents the independent institutions of higher education in the state;

(10) Three designated by the Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence, one of whom is a victim of sexual assault or intimate partner violence who resides in a rural community in the state, one of whom is a victim of sexual assault or intimate partner violence who resides in an urban community in the state and at least one of whom is a person who is black, indigenous or a person of color;

(11) One designated by the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, who is a victim of intimate partner violence;

(12) One designated by True Colors, Inc., who identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or a queer;

(13) The staff director of the Every Voice Coalition of Connecticut, or the staff director's designee; and

(14) Three students, designated by the Every Voice Coalition of Connecticut, one of whom is enrolled at a public institution of higher education, one of whom is enrolled at an independent institution of higher education and at least one of whom is a person who is black, indigenous or a person of color.

(c) Any member of the council appointed or designated under subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the council shall be made not later than

sixty days after **[**the effective date of this section**]** July 1, 2021, and shall terminate on June 30, 2026, regardless of when the initial appointment or designation was made. Any member of the council may serve more than one term.

(e) The cochairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education shall jointly select the chairperson of the council from among the members of the council. The chairperson of the council shall schedule the first meeting of the council, which shall be held not later than sixty days after **[**the effective date of this section**]** July 1, 2021.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education shall serve as administrative staff of the council.

(g) Members of the council who are appointed or designated shall serve for four-year terms, which shall commence on the date of appointment, except as provided in subsection (d) of this section. Members shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed or designated.

(h) Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing or designating authority not later than thirty days after the vacancy occurs. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term.

(i) A majority of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

(j) The members of the council shall serve without compensation, but shall, within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

(k) The council shall meet as often as deemed necessary by the

chairperson or a majority of the council. Any appointed or designated member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend fifty per cent of all meetings held during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from the council.

(l) Not later than January 1, 2022, and every two years thereafter, the council shall submit, 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 higher education and to each institution of higher education in the state the (1) list of data points developed by the council, and (2) recommended sexual misconduct climate assessments and guidelines for the implementation of such assessments.

Sec. 126. Section 9-417 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[If**]** (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, if within the time specified in section 9-405, no candidacy for nomination by a political party to a municipal office has been filed by or on behalf of a person other than a party-endorsed candidate or, in the case of election as member of the town committee of such party, by persons other than party-endorsed candidates numbering at least twenty-five per cent of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party either in the municipality or in the political subdivision, as the case may be, in conformity with the provisions of sections 9-405 to 9-412, inclusive, and 9-414, no primary shall be held by such party for such office or for town committee members, as the case may be, and the party-endorsed candidate or candidates for such office shall be deemed to have been lawfully chosen as the nominee or nominees of such party to such office, or, as the case may be, and the party-endorsed candidates for election as members of the town committee shall be deemed to have been lawfully elected to such positions at the times specified in section 9-392.

(b) In the case of any municipality having a population of one hundred thousand or more and in which a party by its rules provides, pursuant to subsection (g) of section 9-390, that the town committee members of such party be chosen at direct primaries, if, by four o'clock p.m. on the forty-ninth day preceding the first Tuesday in March in even-numbered years, the number of persons who have requested petition forms for candidacies for election as members of such town committee and filed a signed statement consenting to be a candidate for such position, in accordance with subsection (c) of section 9-409, is equal to or less than the number of town committee members to be elected by such party, but at least twenty-five per cent of such number, in accordance with section 9-411, then (1) the requirements regarding such persons' filing of candidacies for election under section 9-405 and signed petitions under section 9-406 shall not apply, (2) the requirements regarding the registrar's receipt of petition pages and certification of signatures on such pages under section 9-412 shall not apply, and (3) no primary shall be held by such party for town committee members and such persons shall be deemed to have lawfully been elected to such positions at the times specified in section 9-392. As used in this subsection, "population" means the estimated number of people according to the most recent version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant to section 3-90.

Sec. 127. Section 9-135 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Any elector eligible to vote at a primary or an election and any person eligible to vote at a referendum may vote by absentee ballot if such elector or person is unable to appear at such elector's or person's polling place during the hours of voting for any of the following reasons: (1) Such elector's or person's active service with the armed forces of the United States; (2) such elector's or person's absence from the town of such elector's or person's voting residence during all of the hours of

voting; (3) such elector's or person's illness; (4) such elector's or person's physical disability; (5) the tenets of such elector's or person's religion forbid secular activity on the day of the primary, election or referendum; (6) the required performance of such elector's or person's duties as a primary, election or referendum official, including as a town clerk or registrar of voters or as staff of the clerk or registrar, at a polling place other than such elector's or person's own during all of the hours of voting at such primary, election or referendum; or (7) for the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, the sickness of COVID-19. As used in this section, "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related mutation thereof recognized by said organization as a communicable respiratory disease.

(b) No person shall misrepresent the eligibility requirements for voting by absentee ballot prescribed in subsection (a) of this section, to any elector or prospective absentee ballot applicant.

Sec. 128. Section 9-137 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Each absentee ballot shall be returned to the municipal clerk, inserted in an inner envelope which shall be capable of being sealed and which shall have printed on its face a form containing the following statements:

"I hereby state under the penalties of false statement in absentee balloting that I am eligible to vote at the primary, election or referendum in the municipality in which this absentee ballot is to be cast and that I expect to be unable to appear at my polling place during the hours of voting at such primary, election or referendum for one or more of the following reasons: (1) My active service in the armed forces; (2) my absence from the town in which I am eligible to vote during all of the

hours of voting; (3) my illness or physical disability; (4) the tenets of my religion which forbid secular activity on the day of the primary, election or referendum; or (5) my duties as a primary, election or referendum official.

Date ....

.... (Signature)"

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, for the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, each inner envelope in which an absentee ballot is returned to the municipal clerk shall have printed on its face a form containing the following statements:

"I hereby state under the penalties of false statement in absentee balloting that I am eligible to vote at the primary, election or referendum in the municipality in which this absentee ballot is to be cast and that I expect to be unable to appear at my polling place during the hours of voting at such primary, election or referendum for one or more of the following reasons: (1) My active service in the armed forces; (2) my absence from the town in which I am eligible to vote during all of the hours of voting; (3) my illness or physical disability; (4) the tenets of my religion which forbid secular activity on the day of the primary, election or referendum; (5) my duties as a primary, election or referendum official; or (6) the sickness of COVID-19.

Date ....

.... (Signature)"

Sec. 129. Section 9-139b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Secretary of the State may make any changes in any forms prescribed by this chapter which, in the opinion of the Secretary, are necessary to conform to the applicable provisions of federal law.

(b) For the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, the Secretary of the State may make any changes in any forms prescribed by this chapter or in any printed, recorded or electronic material issued pursuant to this chapter which, in the opinion of the Secretary, are necessary to conform to the applicable provisions of law.

Sec. 130. Subsection (g) of section 9-140 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(g) (1) On the first day of issuance of absentee voting sets the municipal clerk shall mail an absentee voting set to each applicant whose application was received by the clerk prior to that day. When the clerk receives an application during the time period in which absentee voting sets are to be issued he shall mail an absentee voting set to the applicant, within twenty-four hours, unless the applicant submits his application in person at the office of the clerk and asks to be given his absentee voting set immediately, in which case the clerk shall comply with the request. Any absentee voting set to be mailed to an applicant shall be mailed to the bona fide personal mailing address shown on the application. Issuance of absentee voting sets shall also be subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, section 9-150c and section 9-159q concerning persons designated to deliver or return ballots in cases involving unforeseen illness or disability and supervised voting at certain health care institutions.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, for the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or

referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, each absentee voting set required to be mailed to an applicant under said subdivision (A) shall be mailed by the municipal clerk within forty-eight hours after the application for such absentee voting set is received by the clerk, or (B) may be mailed by a third-party mailing vendor approved and selected by the Secretary of the State for use by the municipal clerk for such purpose, provided any contract between the Secretary of the State and any such vendor shall require that such vendor mail each absentee voting set within seventy-two hours after the application for such absentee voting set is received by such vendor from the clerk.

Sec. 131. Section 9-140c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The municipal clerk shall retain the envelopes containing absentee ballots received by him under section 9-140b and shall not open such envelopes. The municipal clerk shall endorse over his signature, upon each outer envelope as he receives it, the date and precise time of its receipt. The clerk shall make an affidavit attesting to the accuracy of all such endorsements, and at the close of the polls shall deliver such affidavit to the head moderator, who shall endorse the time of its receipt and return it to the clerk after all counting is complete. The clerk shall preserve the affidavit for one hundred eighty days in accordance with the requirements of section 9-150b. The clerk shall keep a list of the names of the applicants who return absentee ballots to the clerk under section 9-140b. The list shall be preserved as a public record as required by section 9-150b.

(b) (1) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, beginning not earlier than the seventh day before the election, primary or referendum and on any weekday thereafter, all absentee ballots received by the municipal clerk at or prior to eleven o'clock a.m. of such day may be sorted into voting districts by the municipal clerk and

checked as provided in this subparagraph. On any such day, beginning as soon as the ballots have been sorted, the registrars of voters, without opening the outer envelopes, may check the names of the applicants returning ballots on the official checklist to be used at the election, primary or referendum by indicating "absentee" or "A" preceding each such name and, if unaffiliated electors are authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary of either of two parties, the designation of the party in which the applicants are voting preceding each such name. Unless absentee ballots are to be counted in the respective polling places, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, the registrars shall also place such indication on a duplicate checklist to be retained by the municipal clerk until the municipal clerk delivers such duplicate checklist to the registrars, in accordance with subsection (e) of this section, for the use of the absentee ballot counters pursuant to subsection (i) of this section.

(B) For the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, beginning on the fourteenth day before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum and on any weekday thereafter, all absentee ballots received by the municipal clerk at or prior to eleven o'clock a.m. of such day may be sorted into voting districts by the municipal clerk and checked as provided in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

(2) All absentee ballots received at or prior to eleven o'clock a.m. of the last day before the election, primary or referendum which is not a Sunday or legal holiday, shall be sorted into voting districts by the municipal clerk and checked as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection not later than such last day.

(c) If the name of the applicant returning the ballot is not on the official checklist for any polling place in such municipality, the registrars shall endorse on the face of such outer envelope the word

"rejected", followed by a statement of the reasons for rejection, and the outer envelope shall not be opened or the ballot counted.

(d) After such checking has been completed on any such day, the municipal clerk shall seal the unopened ballots in a package and retain them in a safe place.

(e) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, ballots received at or prior to eleven o'clock a.m. on the last day before the election, primary or referendum shall be delivered by the municipal clerk to the registrars between ten o'clock a.m. and twelve o'clock noon on the day of the election or primary and at twelve o'clock noon on the day of a referendum. Unless absentee ballots are to be counted in the respective polling places, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, the municipal clerk shall also deliver to the registrars at this time the duplicate checklist provided for in subsection (b) of this section, for the use of the absentee ballot counters pursuant to subsection (i) of this section.

(2) (A) For the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021:

(i) Ballots received, sorted and checked prior to five o'clock p.m. on the (I) fourth day before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum may be delivered by the municipal clerk to the registrars at five o'clock p.m. on such fourth day, (II) third day before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum may be so delivered at five o'clock p.m. on such third day, and (III) second day before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum may be so delivered at five o'clock p.m. on such second day;

(ii) Ballots received not later than eleven o'clock a.m. on the last day before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum shall be delivered by the municipal clerk to the registrars at six o'clock a.m. on the day of **[**the**]**

such election, primary or referendum; and

(iii) Each time ballots are delivered pursuant to this subparagraph, the municipal clerk shall also deliver to the registrars at such time a copy of the duplicate checklist provided for in subsection (b) of this section, current as of the time of such delivery, for the use of the absentee ballot counters pursuant to subsection (i) of this section.

(B) The municipal clerk may deliver the ballots at times later than those provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection or subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, as applicable, provided any such time is mutually agreed upon by the municipal clerk and registrars and is not later than eight o'clock p.m. on the day of the election, primary or referendum.

(f) Absentee ballots timely received by the clerk after eleven o'clock a.m. of such last day before an election, primary or referendum shall be sorted into voting districts by the clerk and retained by the clerk separately until delivered to the registrars of voters for checking.

(g) Any or all of such ballots received after eleven o'clock a.m. of such last day before an election, primary or referendum and before six o'clock p.m. on the day of the election, primary or referendum shall, upon request of the registrars, be delivered to the registrars by the municipal clerk at six o'clock p.m. on the day of the election, primary or referendum for checking, or at a later time mutually agreed upon by the clerk and registrars, provided such time is not later than eight o'clock p.m. on the day of the election, primary or referendum.

(h) Absentee ballots received after six o'clock p.m. on the day of the election, primary or referendum and any ballots received prior to six o'clock p.m. of such day which were not delivered earlier shall be delivered to the registrars at the close of the polls for checking. Although absentee ballots shall be checked by the registrars of voters at various times throughout the election, primary or referendum day, absentee

ballots may be counted at one single time during such day.

(i) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the absentee ballot counters, upon receipt of the ballots delivered by the municipal clerk to the registrars at six o'clock p.m. on the day of the election, primary or referendum and at the close of the polls pursuant to subsections (g) and (h) of this section, shall check the names of the applicants returning ballots on the duplicate checklist in the same manner as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

(2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the names of applicants whose ballots were delivered at six o'clock p.m. on the day of the election, primary or referendum shall be called in to the appropriate polling places where they shall be checked by the checkers on the official checklists, and they shall also be checked by the absentee ballot counters on the duplicate checklist required under subsection (b) of this section.

(B) Whenever absentee ballots are counted in any polling place pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, the names of applicants whose ballots were delivered at six o'clock p.m. on the day of the election, primary or referendum shall be checked by the absentee ballot counters and checkers at such polling place on the official checklist used at such polling place.

(3) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the names of applicants whose ballots were delivered at the close of the polls shall be checked by the absentee ballot counters on the official checklists used at the polling places and such official checklists, bearing the certifications required by section 9-307, shall be delivered by the registrars or assistant registrars to the central counting moderator for that purpose.

(B) Whenever absentee ballots are counted in any polling place

pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, the official checklist used at such polling place shall remain in such polling place for checking by the absentee ballot counters at such polling place.

(4) If the name of an applicant returning a ballot has been checked on the official checklist as having voted in person the absentee ballot counters shall, in checking the ballots, endorse on the face of the outer envelope the word "rejected" followed by a statement of the reason for rejection, and the outer envelope shall not be opened or the ballot counted.

(5) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, when central counting is completed and the result is announced, the central counting moderator shall deliver the duplicate checklist, the official checklists and the returns required by section 9-150b to the head moderator.

(B) Whenever absentee ballots are counted in any polling place pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, and such counting is completed and the result for such polling place is announced, the moderator for such polling place shall deliver the official checklist used at such polling place and the return required by section 9-150b to the head moderator.

(j) Each time absentee ballots are delivered by the clerk to the registrars pursuant to this section, the clerk and registrars shall execute an affidavit of delivery and receipt stating the number of ballots delivered. The clerk shall preserve the affidavit for the period prescribed in section 9-150b.

(k) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the absentee ballot counters shall count, in the manner provided in section 9-150a, each group of absentee ballots upon receipt from the registrars.

(2) For the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or

referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, whenever absentee ballots are to be processed before the day of **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-147a, the absentee ballot counters shall process, in the manner provided in section 9-150e, each group of absentee ballots upon receipt from the registrars.

(l) The municipal clerk shall retain all outer envelopes containing absentee ballots received by him after the close of the polls, unopened, for the period prescribed in section 9-150b.

Sec. 132. Section 9-147a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c) of this section, at any election, primary or referendum, all absentee ballots shall, within existing resources, be counted in the manner provided in section 9-150a at a central location designated by the registrars of voters in writing to the municipal clerk at least twenty days before the election, primary or referendum, which location shall be published in the warning for the election, primary or referendum. Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, if unaffiliated electors are authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary of either of two parties, all absentee ballots shall be separated, counted, tallied and placed in depository envelopes by voting district. Any member of the public may observe the counting of absentee ballots at such central location.

(b) At any election, primary or referendum, all absentee ballots may be counted in the manner provided in section 9-150a in the respective polling places if the registrars of voters agree that such absentee ballots should be so counted. If unaffiliated electors are authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary of either of two parties, absentee ballots may be counted in the respective polling places if the parties agree that such absentee ballots should be so counted. Any election

official serving in a polling place may observe the counting of absentee ballots at such polling place.

(c) (1) For the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, absentee ballots may be processed before the day of **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum in the manner provided in section 9-150e. Any such processing shall take place at a central location designated by the registrars of voters in writing to the municipal clerk at least ten days before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum, which location shall be published in the warning for **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum.

(2) If absentee ballots are to be processed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the registrars of voters and municipal clerk shall jointly certify such fact in writing to the Secretary of the State at least ten days before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum. Such written certification shall (A) include the name, street address and relevant contact information associated with the designated central location, and (B) list the name and address of each absentee ballot counter appointed pursuant to section 9-147c. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such written certification not later than two days after receipt of such certification and may require the appointment of one or more additional absentee ballot counters.

(3) In the case of absentee ballots delivered to the registrars on the day of **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum, nothing in this subsection shall preclude the counting of such absentee ballots in the respective polling places pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

Sec. 133. Section 9-433 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) After the deadline set forth in section 9-400 for filing

candidacies, and upon the completion of the tabulation of petition signatures, if any, if one or more candidacies for nomination by a political party to a state or district office have been filed in accordance with the provisions of section 9-400, the Secretary of the State shall notify the clerk of each town within the state or within the district, as the case may be, that a primary is to be held by such party for the nomination of such party to such office. Such notice shall include a list of all the proposed candidates, those endorsed by the convention as well as those filing candidacies, together with their addresses and the titles of the office for which they are candidates and, if applicable, a statement that unaffiliated electors may vote in the primary. **[**The**]** Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the clerk of each such town shall thereupon cause such notice to be published forthwith in a newspaper having a general circulation in such town, or towns in the case of a joint publication under subsection (b) of this section, together with a statement of the date upon which the primary is to be held, the hours during which the polls shall be open and the location of the polls.

(2) For any primary for nomination by a political party to a state or district office held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, the notice published by the clerk of the town under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be so published not more than seven nor less than four days previous to holding such election.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of any charter or home rule ordinance, the warning under subsection (a) of this section may be published jointly by two or more towns in a newspaper, provided all other requirements of this section with respect to such warning are met.

Sec. 134. Section 9-435 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Except as provided in sections 9-418 and 9-419, if in any municipality, within the time specified in section 9-405, a candidacy for

nomination by a political party to any municipal office or for election as a town committee member is filed with the registrar, in conformity with the provisions of sections 9-405 to 9-412, inclusive, and section 9-414, by or on behalf of any person other than party-endorsed candidates, the registrar shall forthwith after the deadline for certification of party-endorsed candidates notify the clerk of such municipality that a primary is to be held by such party for the nomination of such party to such office or for the election by such party of town committee members, as the case may be. Such notice shall include a list of all the proposed candidates, those endorsed as well as those filing candidacies, together with their addresses and the titles of the offices or positions for which they are candidates. In the case of a primary for justices of the peace, such notice shall also contain the complete ballot designation of each slate pursuant to subsection (h) of section 9-437. **[**The**]** Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the clerk of the municipality shall thereupon cause such notice to be published forthwith in a newspaper having a general circulation in such municipality, together with a statement of the date upon which the primary is to be held, the hours during which the polls shall be open and the location of the polls. The clerk of the municipality shall also file such notice with the Secretary of the State not later than three business days after receipt of such notice from the registrar of voters. The clerk shall forthwith publish any change in the proposed candidates, listing such changes.

(b) For any primary for nomination by a political party to a municipal office, or for the election by a political party of town committee members, held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, the notice published by the clerk of the municipality under subsection (a) of this section shall be so published not more than seven nor less than four days previous to holding such election.

Sec. 135. Section 9-150e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-150a, for the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, in any municipality in which absentee ballots are processed pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-147a:

(a) (1) Not earlier than five o'clock p.m. on the fourth day before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum, the absentee ballot counters shall proceed to the central counting location at the times designated by the registrars of voters;

(2) At the time each group of ballots is delivered pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 9-140c, the counters shall proceed as hereinafter provided;

(3) Except with respect to ballots marked "Rejected" pursuant to section 9-140c or other applicable law, the counters shall then remove the inner envelopes from the outer envelopes, shall note the total number of absentee ballots received and shall report such total to the moderator. The counters shall similarly note and separately so report the total numbers of presidential ballots and overseas ballots received pursuant to sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive;

(4) If the statement on the inner envelope has not been signed as required by section 9-140a, such inner envelope shall not be opened or the ballot removed therefrom, and such inner envelope shall be replaced in the opened outer envelope which shall be marked "Rejected" and the reason therefor endorsed thereon by the counters; and

(5) Not earlier than the day of **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum, and after the duties under subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection have been performed, absentee ballots shall be counted in the manner provided in subsections (e) to (m), inclusive, of section 9-150a.

(b) In accordance with instructions which shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the State not later than ten days before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum, each group of ballots delivered pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 9-140c shall be kept secure (1) throughout the performance of the duties under subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section, and (2) after such performance until such time on the day of **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum that absentee ballots are counted in the manner provided in subsections (e) to (m), inclusive, of section 9-150a. The requirements of this subsection shall be in addition to all other applicable requirements under this title regarding the security of absentee ballots and any related materials.

Sec. 136. Section 9-159r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes to the contrary, if twenty or more of the patients in any institution in the state are electors, absentee ballots voted by such electors shall be voted under the supervision of the registrars of voters or their designees of the town in which the institution is located, in accordance with the provisions of this section. As used in this section, "institution" has the same meaning as provided in section 9-159q.

(b) Application for an absentee ballot for any such patient shall be made to the clerk of the town in which such patient is eligible to vote. The application procedure set forth in section 9-140 shall apply, except that the clerk shall deliver the absentee voting set for any such application to the clerk of the town in which the institution is located, who shall deliver all such voting sets he receives to the registrars of such town, on the date when the supervision of absentee balloting is to occur. The ballots and envelopes shall be prepared for delivery to the applicant as provided in sections 9-137 to 9-140a, inclusive. The registrars or their designees shall furnish the town clerk a written receipt for such ballots.

The registrars of the town in which an institution is located and the administrator of the institution shall mutually agree on a date and time for such supervision of absentee balloting, which shall be not later than the last business day before the election or primary.

(c) The supervision of absentee balloting under this section shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of subsections (g), (h), (i) and (k) of section 9-159q.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of this section, for the state election in 2020, and any election or primary held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, the Secretary of the State may waive any requirement under said subsections, provided the Secretary (1) waives such requirement in recognition of the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020, and has consulted with the Commissioner of Public Health or said commissioner's designee regarding such waiver, (2) has given written notice to the town clerk and registrars of voters in each municipality, and (3) has submitted a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections advising of such waiver and specifying alternative actions to be taken to provide opportunities for absentee voting by electors described in this section.

Sec. 137. Section 9-159o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Any elector who has returned an absentee ballot to the municipal clerk and who finds such elector is able to vote in person shall proceed before ten o'clock a.m. on election, primary or referendum day to the municipal clerk's office and request that such elector's ballot be withdrawn. The municipal clerk shall remove the ballot from the sealed package and shall mark the serially-numbered outer envelope, which

shall remain unopened, "rejected" and note the reasons for rejection. The elector shall also endorse the envelope. The rejected ballot shall then be returned to the sealed package until delivered on election, primary or referendum day to the registrars of voters in accordance with section 9-140c. The municipal clerk shall then give the elector a signed statement directed to the moderator of the voting district in which the elector resides stating that the elector has withdrawn such elector's absentee ballot and may vote in person. Upon delivery of the statement by the elector to the moderator, the moderator shall cause the absentee indication next to the name of the elector to be stricken from the official checklist and the elector may then have such elector's name checked and vote in person. Unless absentee ballots are to be counted in the respective polling places pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a, the municipal clerk shall also cause the absentee indication next to the name of the elector to be stricken from the duplicate checklist to be used by the absentee ballot counters.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, for the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, any elector who has returned an absentee ballot to the municipal clerk and who finds such elector is able to vote in person shall proceed before five o'clock p.m. on the fourth day before **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum to the municipal clerk's office and request that such elector's ballot be withdrawn.

Sec. 138. Subsection (g) of section 9-150b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(g) (1) No such depository envelope shall be opened except by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, by the State Elections Enforcement Commission pursuant to a subpoena issued under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 9-7b or within five business days after an

election, primary or referendum for the purpose of a recanvass conducted pursuant to law. After such a recanvass the depository envelopes and their contents shall be returned to the municipal clerk and preserved for the stated period.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, for the state election in 2020, and any election, primary or referendum held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, no such depository envelope shall be opened for the purpose of a recanvass conducted pursuant to law except within seven business days after **[**the**]** such election, primary or referendum as provided in section 9-311.

Sec. 139. Section 9-307 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Immediately after the polls are closed, the official checker or checkers, appointed under the provisions of section 9-234, shall make and deliver to the moderator a certificate stating the whole number of names on the registry list or enrollment list including, if applicable, unaffiliated electors authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary, and the number checked as having voted in that election or primary. For the purpose of computing the whole number of names on the registry list, the lists of persons who have applied for presidential or overseas ballots prepared in accordance with section 9-158h shall be included. If a paper registry list is used, the registrars or assistant registrars, as the case may be, shall write and sign with ink, on the list or lists so used and checked, a certificate of the whole number of names registered on the list eligible to vote in the election or primary and the number checked as having voted in that election or primary, and deposit it in the office of the municipal clerk not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls. If an electronic version of the registry list is used, the electronic device upon which such list is stored shall be returned to the registrars of voters who shall cause the electronic

registry list to be printed. Such printed list shall be signed by each registrar, who shall deposit such list in the office of the municipal clerk not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls. The municipal clerk shall carefully preserve the paper registry list or printed electronic registry list, as applicable, on file, with the marks on it without alteration, for public inspection, and shall immediately enter a certified copy of such certificate on the town records. Subject to the provisions of section 7-109, the municipal clerk may destroy any voting checklist four years after the date upon which it was used. The moderator shall place the certificate which the moderator received from the official checker or checkers in the office of the municipal clerk not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, for the state election in 2020, and any election or primary held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, any certificate or list required under said subsection to be deposited or placed in the office of the municipal clerk shall be so deposited or placed not later than ninety-six hours after the close of the polls at such election or primary.

Sec. 140. Section 9-309 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Upon the close of the polls, the moderator, in the presence of the other election officials, shall immediately lock the voting tabulator against voting and immediately cause the vote totals for all candidates and questions to be produced. The moderator shall, in the order of the offices as their titles are arranged on the ballot, read and announce in distinct tones the result as shown, giving the number indicated and indicating the candidate to whom such total belongs, and shall read the votes recorded for each office on the ballot. The moderator shall also, in the same manner, announce the vote on each constitutional amendment, proposition or other question voted on. The vote so announced by the

moderator shall be taken down by each checker and recorded on the tally sheets. Each checker shall record the number of votes received for each candidate on the ballot and also the number received by each person for whom write-in ballots were cast. The moderator shall make a preliminary list from the vote totals produced by the tabulators and shall prepare such preliminary list for transmission to the Secretary of the State pursuant to section 9-314. After such preliminary list has been transmitted to the Secretary of the State, the canvass may be temporarily interrupted, during which time the moderator shall (1) return the keys for all tabulators to the registrars of voters, (2) seal the tabulators against voting or being tampered with, (3) prepare and seal individual envelopes for all (A) write-in ballots, (B) absentee ballots, (C) moderators' returns, and (D) other notes, worksheets or written materials used at the election, and (4) store all such tabulators and envelopes in a secure place or places directed by the registrars of voters. At the end of such temporary interruption, the moderator shall receive such keys from the registrars and shall take possession of and break the seal on all such tabulators and envelopes for the purpose of completing the canvass. The result totals shall remain in full public view until the statement of canvass and all other reports have been fully completed and signed by the moderator, checkers and registrars, or assistant registrars, as the case may be. Any other remaining result of the votes cast shall be publicly announced by the moderator not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls. Such public announcement shall consist of reading both the name of each candidate, with the designating number and letter on the ballot and the absentee vote as furnished to the moderator by the absentee ballot counters, and also the vote cast for and against each question submitted. While such announcement is being made, ample opportunity shall be given to any person lawfully present to compare the results so announced with the result totals provided by the tabulator and any necessary corrections shall then and there be made by the moderator, checkers and registrars or assistant registrars, after which the compartments of the voting tabulator shall be closed and

locked. In canvassing, recording and announcing the result, the election officials shall be guided by any instructions furnished by the Secretary of the State.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, for the state election in 2020, and any election held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, after the preliminary list has been transmitted to the Secretary of the State, any other remaining result of the votes cast required under said subsection to be publicly announced by the moderator shall be so announced not later than ninety-six hours after the close of the polls at such election.

Sec. 141. Section 9-311 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) If, within three days after an election, it appears to the moderator that there is a discrepancy in the returns of any voting district, such moderator shall forthwith within said period summon, by written notice delivered personally, the recanvass officials, consisting of at least two checkers of different political parties and at least two absentee ballot counters of different political parties who served at such election, and the registrars of voters of the municipality in which the election was held and such other officials as may be required to conduct such recanvass. Such written notice shall require the clerk or registrars of voters, as the case may be, to bring with them the depository envelopes required by section 9-150a, the package of write-in ballots provided for in section 9-310, the absentee ballot applications, the list of absentee ballot applications, the registry list and the moderators' returns and shall require such recanvass officials to meet at a specified time not later than the fifth business day after such election to recanvass the returns of a voting tabulator or voting tabulators or absentee ballots or write-in ballots used in such district in such election. If any of such recanvass officials are unavailable at the time of the recanvass, the registrar of voters of the same political party as that of the recanvass

official unable to attend shall designate another elector having previous training and experience in the conduct of elections to take his place. Before such recanvass is made, such moderator shall give notice, in writing, to the chairman of the town committee of each political party which nominated candidates for the election, and, in the case of a state election, not later than twenty-four hours after a determination is made regarding the need for a recanvass to the Secretary of the State, of the time and place where such recanvass is to be made; and each such chairman may send representatives to be present at such recanvass. Such representatives may observe, but no one other than a recanvass official may take part in the recanvass. If any irregularity in the recanvass procedure is noted by such a representative, he shall be permitted to present evidence of such irregularity in any contest relating to the election.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, for the state election in 2020, and any election held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, (A) if, within five days after **[**the**]** such election, it appears to the moderator that there is a discrepancy in the returns of any voting district, such moderator shall forthwith within said period summon, by written notice delivered personally, the recanvass officials to conduct such recanvass in accordance with the provisions of said subdivision, and (B) such written notice shall require such recanvass officials to meet not later than the seventh business day after **[**the**]** such election for such purpose.

(b) The moderator shall determine the place or places where the recanvass shall be conducted and, if such recanvass is held before the tabulators are boxed and collected in the manner required by section 9-266, the moderator may either require that such recanvass of such tabulators be conducted in each place where the tabulators are located, or he may require that they be removed to one central place, where such

recanvass shall be conducted. All recanvassing procedures shall be open to public observation. Such recanvass officials shall, in the presence of such moderator and registrars of voters, make a record of the number on the seal and the number on the protective counter, if one is provided, on each voting tabulator specified by such moderator. Such registrars of voters in the presence of such moderator shall turn over the keys of each such tabulator to such recanvass officials, and such recanvass officials, in the presence of such registrars of voters and moderator, shall immediately proceed to recanvass the vote cast thereon, and shall then open the package of absentee ballots and recanvass the vote cast thereon. In the course of the recanvass of the absentee ballot vote the recanvass officials shall check all outer envelopes for absentee ballots against the inner envelopes for such ballots and against the registry list to verify postmarks, addresses and registry list markings and also to determine whether the number of envelopes from which absentee ballots have been removed is the same as the number of persons checked as having voted by absentee ballot. The write-in ballots shall also be recanvassed at this time. All of the recanvass officials shall use the same forms for tallies and returns as were used at the original canvass and the absentee ballot counters shall also sign the tallies.

(c) (1) The votes shall be announced and recorded in the manner prescribed in section 9-309 on return forms provided by the registrars of voters and appended thereto shall be a statement signed by the moderator indicating the time and place of the recanvass and the names, addresses, titles and party affiliations of the recanvass officials. The write-in ballots shall be replaced in a properly secured sealed package. Upon the completion of such recanvass, any tabulator used in such recanvass shall be locked and sealed, the keys thereof shall immediately be returned to such registrars of voters and such tabulator shall remain so locked until the expiration of fourteen days after such election or for such longer period as is ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction. The absentee ballots shall be replaced in their wrappers and be resealed

by the moderator in the presence of the recanvass officials. Upon the completion of such recanvass, such moderator and at least two of the recanvass officials of different political parties shall forthwith prepare and sign such return forms which shall contain a written statement giving the result of such recanvass for each tabulator and each package of absentee ballots whose returns were so recanvassed, setting forth whether or not the original canvass was correctly made and stating whether or not the discrepancy still remains unaccounted for. Such return forms containing such statement shall forthwith be filed by the moderator in the office of such clerk. If such recanvass reveals that the original canvass of returns was not correctly made, such return forms containing such statement so filed with the clerk shall constitute a corrected return. In the case of a state election, a recanvass return shall be made in duplicate on a form prescribed and provided by the Secretary of the State, and the moderator shall file one copy with the Secretary of the State and one copy with the town clerk not later than ten days after the election. Such recanvass return shall be substituted for the original return and shall have the same force and effect as an original return.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, for the state election in 2020, and any election held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, each copy of the recanvass return required under said subdivision to be filed by the moderator with the Secretary of the State and the town clerk shall be so filed not later than twelve days after **[**the**]** such election.

(d) As used in this section, (1) "moderator" means, in the case of municipalities not divided into voting districts, the moderator of the election and, in the case of municipalities divided into voting districts, the head moderator of the election, and (2) "registrars of voters", in a municipality where there are different registrars of voters for different voting districts, means the registrars of voters in the voting district in

which, at the last-preceding election, the presiding officer for the purpose of declaring the result of the vote of the whole municipality was moderator.

Sec. 142. Section 9-314 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) As used in this subsection, "moderator" means the moderator of each state election in each town not divided into voting districts and the head moderator in each town divided into voting districts. The moderator shall make a preliminary list of the votes given for each of the following officers: Presidential electors, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, United States senator, representative in Congress, state senator, judge of probate, state representative and registrars of voters when said officers are to be chosen, as reported solely by the tabulator, as provided in section 9-309, in the moderator's town and shall immediately transmit such preliminary list to the Secretary of the State not later than midnight on election day. Once the preliminary list has been transmitted to the Secretary of the State, the moderator shall make a duplicate list of the votes given in the moderator's town for each of the following officers: Presidential electors, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, United States senator, representative in Congress, state senator, judge of probate, state representative and registrars of voters when said officers are to be chosen. Such duplicate list shall indicate the total number of names on the official check list of such town and the total number of names checked as having voted. The moderator shall transmit such duplicate list to the Secretary of the State by electronic means as prescribed by the Secretary of the State not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls on election day. The moderator shall also seal and deliver one of such duplicate lists to the Secretary of the State not later than the third day after the election. Any such

moderator who fails to so transmit or deliver such duplicate list to the Secretary of the State by the time required shall pay a late filing fee of fifty dollars. The moderator shall also deliver one of such duplicate lists to the clerk of such town. The Secretary of the State shall enter the returns in tabular form in books kept by the Secretary for that purpose and present a printed report of the same, with the name of, and the total number of votes received by, each of the candidates for said offices, to the General Assembly at its next session.

(b) As used in this subsection, "moderator" means the moderator of each municipal election in each town not divided into voting districts, and the head moderator in each town divided into voting districts. The moderator shall make a preliminary list of the votes given for each municipal office elected at such municipal election, as reported solely by the tabulator, as provided in section 9-309, in the moderator's town and shall immediately transmit such preliminary list to the Secretary of the State not later than midnight on election day. Once the preliminary list has been transmitted to the Secretary of the State, the moderator shall make a duplicate list of the votes given in the moderator's town for each municipal office elected at such municipal election. Such duplicate list shall indicate the total number of names on the official check list of such town and the total number of names checked as having voted and shall be on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State. The moderator shall transmit such duplicate list to the Secretary of the State by electronic means as prescribed by the Secretary of the State not later than forty-eight hours after the close of the polls on election day. The moderator shall also seal and deliver one of such duplicate lists to the Secretary of the State not later than the third day after the election. Any such moderator who fails to so transmit or deliver such duplicate list to the Secretary of the State by the time required shall pay a late filing fee of fifty dollars. The moderator shall also deliver one of such duplicate lists to the clerk of such town.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, for the state election in 2020, and any election held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, (1) the duplicate list required under said subsections to be transmitted by electronic means to the Secretary by such moderator shall be so transmitted not later than ninety-six hours after the close of the polls on such election day, and (2) the duplicate list required under said subsections to be sealed and delivered to the Secretary shall be so delivered not later than the fifth day after **[**the**]** such election.

Sec. 143. Subsection (a) of section 9-322a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) Not later than forty-eight hours following each regular election, the registrars of voters shall provide the results of the votes cast at such election to the town clerk. Not later than nine o'clock a.m. on the third day following each regular election, the head moderator, registrars of voters and town clerk for each town divided into voting districts shall meet to identify any error in the returns. Not later than one o'clock p.m. on the third day following each regular election, the head moderator shall correct any error identified and file an amended return with the Secretary of the State, the town clerk and the registrars of voters.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, for the state election in 2020, and any regular election held on or after the effective date of this section but prior to November 3, 2021, (A) the results of the votes cast at **[**the**]** such election required under said subdivision to be provided to the town clerk by the registrars of voters shall be so provided not later than ninety-six hours following **[**the**]** such election, (B) the meeting to identify any error in the returns required under said subdivision among the head moderator, registrars of voters and town clerk for each town divided into voting districts shall occur not later than nine o'clock a.m. on the fifth day following **[**the**]**

such election, and (C) any identified error required under said subdivision to be corrected, and any amended return required under said subdivision to be filed with the Secretary of the State, the town clerk and the registrars of voters, by the head moderator shall be so corrected or filed, as applicable, not later than one o'clock p.m. on the fifth day following **[**the**]** such election.

Sec. 144. (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 7-192a of the general statutes, the Secretary of the State shall establish a pilot program for the manual or electronic verification of signatures on the inner envelopes for returned absentee ballots at the 2022 state election. The Secretary shall randomly select five municipalities for participation in such pilot program, in accordance with the following: (1) One municipality with a population of less than ten thousand; (2) one municipality with a population of ten thousand or greater, but less than twenty-five thousand; (3) one municipality with a population of twenty-five thousand or greater, but less than fifty thousand; (4) one municipality with a population of fifty thousand or greater, but less than one hundred thousand; and (5) one municipality with a population of one hundred thousand or greater. For the purposes of this section, "population" means the estimated number of people according to the most recent version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant to section 3-90 of the general statutes.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2023, the Secretary of the State shall submit a report on the findings of the pilot program described in subsection (a) of this section and recommendations for legislation to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 145. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Public Health shall provide to any person who has received a COVID-19 vaccination, or, if such person is a minor child, such person's parent or

guardian, information that was provided by a COVID-19 vaccination provider to the department regarding such person's COVID-19 vaccination status upon request by such person, parent or guardian. The department shall not disclose such person's COVID-19 vaccination status to any other person or entity unless such person, parent or guardian authorizes such disclosure in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health.

Sec. 146. Section 14 of public act 21-132 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Student athlete" means a student enrolled at an institution of higher education who participates in an intercollegiate athletic program;

(2) "Intercollegiate athletic program" means a program at an institution of higher education for sports played at the collegiate level for which eligibility requirements for participation by a student athlete are established by a national association for the promotion or regulation of college athletics;

(3) "Compensation" means the receipt, whether directly or indirectly, of any cryptocurrency, money, goods, services, other item of value, in-kind contributions and any other form of payment or remuneration;

(4) "Endorsement contract" means a written agreement under which a student athlete is employed or receives compensation for the use by another party of such student athlete's person, name, image or likeness in the promotion of any product, service or event;

(5) "Sports agent" means a duly licensed person who negotiates or solicits a contract on behalf of a student athlete in accordance with the Sports Agent Responsibility and Trust Act, 15 USC 7801, et seq., as

amended from time to time;

(6) "NCAA" has the same meaning as provided in section 10a-55k of the general statutes;

(7) "Institutional marks" means the name, logo, trademarks, mascot, unique colors, copyrights and other defining insignia of an institution of higher education;

(8) "Institution of higher education" means an institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-55 of the general statutes, and a for-profit institution of higher education licensed to operate in this state;

(9) "Official team activities" means all games, practices, exhibitions, scrimmages, team appearances, team photograph sessions, sports camps sponsored by the institution of higher education and other team-organized activities, including, but not limited to, individual photograph sessions, news media interviews and other related activities as specified by the institution of higher education; and

(10) "Prohibited endorsements" means receipt of compensation by, or employment of, a student athlete for use of the student athlete's person, name, image or likeness in association with any product, category of companies, brands or types of endorsement contracts that the institution of higher education prohibits endorsing by policy.

(b) On or after **[**September 1, 2021**]** January 1, 2022, or the date on which an institution of higher education in the state adopts or updates its policy in accordance with subdivision (3) of subsection (f) of this section, whichever is earlier, any student athlete who is enrolled at such institution of higher education may earn compensation through an endorsement contract or employment in an activity that is unrelated to any intercollegiate athletic program and obtain the legal or professional representation of an attorney or sports agent through a written agreement, provided such student athlete complies with the policy or

policies adopted by his or her institution of higher education regarding student athlete endorsement contracts and employment activities.

(c) Each institution of higher education shall adopt one or more policies regarding student athlete endorsement contracts and employment activities. Such policy or policies shall include provisions for: (1) Requiring a student athlete to disclose and submit a copy to his or her institution of higher education of each endorsement contract, written agreement for employment and representation agreement executed by the student athlete; (2) prohibiting a student athlete from entering into an agreement that conflicts with the provisions of any agreement to which the institution of higher education is a party, provided such institution shall disclose to the student athlete or the student athlete's attorney or sports agent the provisions of the agreement that are in conflict; (3) prohibiting a student athlete from using or consenting to the use of any institutional marks during such student athlete's performance of the endorsement contract or employment activity; (4) prohibiting a student athlete's performance of the endorsement contract or employment activity from interfering with any official team activities or academic obligations; and (5) identifying any prohibited endorsements.

(d) No provision of this section shall be construed to (1) require an institution of higher education or an athletic association or conference, including, but not limited to, the NCAA to compensate a student athlete for use of his or her name, image or likeness; (2) require a student athlete or any other person to compensate an institution of higher education or an athletic association or conference, including, but not limited to, the NCAA for a student athlete's endorsement contract or employment activity that is in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section; (3) qualify any scholarship that a student athlete receives from an institution of higher education as compensation; (4) qualify a student athlete as an employee of an institution of higher education; (5) require

an institution of higher education to take any action in violation of the Discrimination Based on Sex and Blindness Act, 20 USC 1681, et seq., as amended from time to time; (6) prohibit a student athlete from engaging in an employment activity that entails coaching or performing a sport, provided such activity is not related to any intercollegiate athletic program; or (7) prohibit an institution of higher education from using a student athlete's name, image or likeness in connection with official team activities.

(e) No athletic association or conference, including, but not limited to, the NCAA, on the basis of a student athlete's endorsement contract, employment activity or representation by an attorney or sports agent pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, shall (1) prohibit or prevent an institution of higher education or its intercollegiate athletic program from participating in intercollegiate sports, (2) restrict or revoke a student athlete's eligibility to participate in an intercollegiate athletic program, (3) prohibit or prevent a student athlete from earning compensation from such endorsement contract or employment activity, or (4) prohibit or prevent a student athlete from representation by a duly licensed attorney or sports agent.

(f) (1) No institution of higher education, on the basis of a student athlete's endorsement contract, employment activity or representation by an attorney or sports agent pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, shall (A) prohibit or prevent such student athlete from earning compensation from such endorsement contract or employment activity, (B) prohibit or prevent such student athlete from representation by a duly licensed attorney or sports agent, or (C) restrict or revoke such student athlete's eligibility for a scholarship or to participate in the intercollegiate athletic program at such institution.

(2) Notwithstanding section 1-210 of the general statutes with respect to public institutions of higher education, no institution of higher education shall disclose any record of the compensation received by a

student athlete from an endorsement contract or employment activity entered into or engaged in pursuant to subsection (b) of this section unless the institution receives the written consent of the student athlete for each disclosure.

(3) Not later than **[**September 1, 2021**]** January 1, 2022, the governing board of each institution of higher education shall adopt or update its policies, as necessary, to carry out the purposes of this section.

(g) No provision of subsections (d) and (f) of this section shall be construed to prevent an institution of higher education or an athletic association or conference, including, but not limited to, the NCAA, from prohibiting a student athlete's participation in an intercollegiate athletic program, revoking a student athlete's eligibility for a scholarship or taking any other punitive or legal action if such student athlete's endorsement contract, employment activity or representation by an attorney or sport agent does not comply with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

(h) No student athlete may receive compensation for use of such student athlete's name, image or likeness as an inducement to attend, enroll in or continue attending a specific institution of higher education or intercollegiate athletic program.

Sec. 147. Section 1-200 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

As used in this chapter, the following words and phrases **[**shall**]** have the following meanings, except where such terms are used in a context which clearly indicates the contrary:

(1) "Public agency" or "agency" means:

(A) Any executive, administrative or legislative office of the state or any political subdivision of the state and any state or town agency, any

department, institution, bureau, board, commission, authority or official of the state or of any city, town, borough, municipal corporation, school district, regional district or other district or other political subdivision of the state, including any committee of, or created by, any such office, subdivision, agency, department, institution, bureau, board, commission, authority or official, and also includes any judicial office, official, or body or committee thereof but only with respect to its or their administrative functions, and for purposes of this subparagraph, "judicial office" includes, but is not limited to, the Division of Public Defender Services;

(B) Any person to the extent such person is deemed to be the functional equivalent of a public agency pursuant to law; or

(C) Any "implementing agency", as defined in section 32-222.

(2) "Meeting" means any hearing or other proceeding of a public agency, any convening or assembly of a quorum of a multimember public agency, and any communication by or to a quorum of a multimember public agency, whether in person or by means of electronic equipment, to discuss or act upon a matter over which the public agency has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power. "Meeting" does not include: Any meeting of a personnel search committee for executive level employment candidates; any chance meeting, or a social meeting neither planned nor intended for the purpose of discussing matters relating to official business; strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining; a caucus of members of a single political party notwithstanding that such members also constitute a quorum of a public agency; an administrative or staff meeting of a single-member public agency; and communication limited to notice of meetings of any public agency or the agendas thereof. A quorum of the members of a public agency who are present at any event which has been noticed and conducted as a meeting of another public agency under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act shall not

be deemed to be holding a meeting of the public agency of which they are members as a result of their presence at such event.

(3) "Caucus" means (A) a convening or assembly of the enrolled members of a single political party who are members of a public agency within the state or a political subdivision, or (B) the members of a multimember public agency, which members constitute a majority of the membership of the agency, or the other members of the agency who constitute a minority of the membership of the agency, who register their intention to be considered a majority caucus or minority caucus, as the case may be, for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, provided (i) the registration is made with the office of the Secretary of the State for any such public agency of the state, in the office of the clerk of a political subdivision of the state for any public agency of a political subdivision of the state, or in the office of the clerk of each municipal member of any multitown district or agency, (ii) no member is registered in more than one caucus at any one time, (iii) no such member's registration is rescinded during the member's remaining term of office, and (iv) a member may remain a registered member of the majority caucus or minority caucus regardless of whether the member changes his or her party affiliation under chapter 143.

(4) "Person" means natural person, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association or society.

(5) "Public records or files" means any recorded data or information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used, received or retained by a public agency, or to which a public agency is entitled to receive a copy by law or contract under section 1-218, whether such data or information be handwritten, typed, tape-recorded, <u>videotaped,</u> printed, photostated, photographed or recorded by any other method.

(6) "Executive sessions" means a meeting of a public agency at which

the public is excluded for one or more of the following purposes: (A) Discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health or dismissal of a public officer or employee, provided that such individual may require that discussion be held at an open meeting; (B) strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation to which the public agency or a member thereof, because of the member's conduct as a member of such agency, is a party until such litigation or claim has been finally adjudicated or otherwise settled; (C) matters concerning security strategy or the deployment of security personnel, or devices affecting public security; (D) discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate by the state or a political subdivision of the state when publicity regarding such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction would adversely impact the price of such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated or abandoned; and (E) discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein described in subsection (b) of section 1-210.

(7) "Personnel search committee" means a body appointed by a public agency, whose sole purpose is to recommend to the appointing agency a candidate or candidates for an executive-level employment position. Members of a "personnel search committee" shall not be considered in determining whether there is a quorum of the appointing or any other public agency.

(8) "Pending claim" means a written notice to an agency which sets forth a demand for legal relief or which asserts a legal right stating the intention to institute an action in an appropriate forum if such relief or right is not granted.

(9) "Pending litigation" means (A) a written notice to an agency which sets forth a demand for legal relief or which asserts a legal right stating

the intention to institute an action before a court if such relief or right is not granted by the agency; (B) the service of a complaint against an agency returnable to a court which seeks to enforce or implement legal relief or a legal right; or (C) the agency's consideration of action to enforce or implement legal relief or a legal right.

(10) "Freedom of Information Act" means this chapter.

(11) "Governmental function" means the administration or management of a program of a public agency, which program has been authorized by law to be administered or managed by a person, where (A) the person receives funding from the public agency for administering or managing the program, (B) the public agency is involved in or regulates to a significant extent such person's administration or management of the program, whether or not such involvement or regulation is direct, pervasive, continuous or day-to-day, and (C) the person participates in the formulation of governmental policies or decisions in connection with the administration or management of the program and such policies or decisions bind the public agency. "Governmental function" shall not include the mere provision of goods or services to a public agency without the delegated responsibility to administer or manage a program of a public agency.

(12) "Electronic equipment" means any technology that facilitates real-time public access to meetings, including, but not limited to, telephonic, video or other conferencing platforms.

(13) "Electronic transmission" means any form or process of communication not directly involving the physical transfer of paper or another tangible medium, which (A) is capable of being retained, retrieved and reproduced by the recipient, and (B) is retrievable in paper form by the recipient.

Sec. 148. Section 1-206 of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Any denial of the right to inspect or copy records provided for under section 1-210 shall be made to the person requesting such right by the public agency official who has custody or control of the public record, in writing, within four business days of such request, except when the request is determined to be subject to subsections (b) and (c) of section 1-214, in which case such denial shall be made, in writing, within ten business days of such request. Failure to comply with a request to so inspect or copy such public record within the applicable number of business days shall be deemed to be a denial.

(b) (1) Any person denied the right to inspect or copy records under section 1-210 or wrongfully denied the right to attend any meeting of a public agency or denied any other right conferred by the Freedom of Information Act may appeal therefrom to the Freedom of Information Commission, by filing a notice of appeal with said commission. A notice of appeal shall be filed not later than thirty days after such denial, except in the case of an unnoticed or secret meeting, in which case the appeal shall be filed not later than thirty days after the person filing the appeal receives actual or constructive notice that such meeting was held. For purposes of this subsection, such notice of appeal shall be deemed to be filed on the date it is received by said commission or on the date it is postmarked, if received more than thirty days after the date of the denial from which such appeal is taken. Upon receipt of such notice, the commission shall serve upon all parties, by certified or registered mail or by electronic transmission, a copy of such notice together with any other notice or order of such commission. In the case of the denial of a request to inspect or copy records contained in a public employee's personnel or medical file or similar file under subsection (c) of section 1-214, the commission shall include with its notice or order an order requiring the public agency to notify any employee whose records are the subject of an appeal, and the employee's collective bargaining

representative, if any, of the commission's proceedings and, if any such employee or collective bargaining representative has filed an objection under said subsection (c), the agency shall provide the required notice to such employee and collective bargaining representative by certified mail, return receipt requested, by electronic transmission or by hand delivery with a signed receipt. A public employee whose personnel or medical file or similar file is the subject of an appeal under this subsection may intervene as a party in the proceedings on the matter before the commission. Said commission shall, after due notice to the parties, hear and decide the appeal within one year after the filing of the notice of appeal. The commission shall adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54, establishing criteria for those appeals which shall be privileged in their assignment for hearing. Any such appeal shall be heard not later than thirty days after receipt of a notice of appeal and decided not later than sixty days after the hearing. If a notice of appeal concerns an announced agency decision to meet in executive session or an ongoing agency practice of meeting in executive sessions, for a stated purpose, the commission or a member or members of the commission designated by its chairperson shall serve notice upon the parties in accordance with this section and hold a preliminary hearing on the appeal not later than seventy-two hours after receipt of the notice, provided such notice shall be given to the parties at least forty-eight hours prior to such hearing. During such preliminary hearing, the commission shall take evidence and receive testimony from the parties. If after the preliminary hearing the commission finds probable cause to believe that the agency decision or practice is in violation of sections 1-200 and 1-225, the agency shall not meet in executive session for such purpose until the commission decides the appeal. If probable cause is found by the commission, it shall conduct a final hearing on the appeal and render its decision not later than five days after the completion of the preliminary hearing. Such decision shall specify the commission's findings of fact and conclusions of law.

(2) In any appeal to the Freedom of Information Commission under subdivision (1) of this subsection or subsection (c) of this section, the commission may confirm the action of the agency or order the agency to provide relief that the commission, in its discretion, believes appropriate to rectify the denial of any right conferred by the Freedom of Information Act. The commission may declare null and void any action taken at any meeting which a person was denied the right to attend and may require the production or copying of any public record. In addition, upon the finding that a denial of any right created by the Freedom of Information Act was without reasonable grounds and after the custodian or other official directly responsible for the denial has been given an opportunity to be heard at a hearing conducted in accordance with sections 4-176e to 4-184, inclusive, the commission may, in its discretion, impose against the custodian or other official a civil penalty of not less than twenty dollars nor more than one thousand dollars. If the commission finds that a person has taken an appeal under this subsection frivolously, without reasonable grounds and solely for the purpose of harassing the agency from which the appeal has been taken, after such person has been given an opportunity to be heard at a hearing conducted in accordance with sections 4-176e to 4-184, inclusive, the commission may, in its discretion, impose against that person a civil penalty of not less than twenty dollars nor more than one thousand dollars. The commission shall notify a person of a penalty levied against him pursuant to this subsection by written notice sent by certified or registered mail or electronic transmission. If a person fails to pay the penalty within thirty days of receiving such notice, the Superior Court shall, on application of the commission, issue an order requiring the person to pay the penalty imposed. If the executive director of the commission has reason to believe an appeal under subdivision (1) of this subsection or subsection (c) of this section (A) presents a claim beyond the commission's jurisdiction; (B) would perpetrate an injustice; or (C) would constitute an abuse of the commission's administrative process, the executive director shall not schedule the appeal for hearing without

first seeking and obtaining leave of the commission. The commission shall provide due notice to the parties and review affidavits and written argument that the parties may submit and grant or deny such leave summarily at its next regular meeting. The commission shall grant such leave unless it finds that the appeal: (i) Does not present a claim within the commission's jurisdiction; (ii) would perpetrate an injustice; or (iii) would constitute an abuse of the commission's administrative process. Any party aggrieved by the commission's denial of such leave may apply to the superior court for the judicial district of New Britain, within fifteen days of the commission meeting at which such leave was denied, for an order requiring the commission to hear such appeal.

(3) In making the findings and determination under subdivision (2) of this subsection the commission shall consider the nature of any injustice or abuse of administrative process, including but not limited to: (A) The nature, content, language or subject matter of the request or the appeal, including, among other factors, whether the request or appeal is repetitious or cumulative; (B) the nature, content, language or subject matter of prior or contemporaneous requests or appeals by the person making the request or taking the appeal; (C) the nature, content, language or subject matter of other verbal and written communications to any agency or any official of any agency from the person making the request or taking the appeal; (D) any history of nonappearance at commission proceedings or disruption of the commission's administrative process, including, but not limited to, delaying commission proceedings; and (E) the refusal to participate in settlement conferences conducted by a commission ombudsman in accordance with the commission's regulations.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection to the contrary, in the case of an appeal to the commission of a denial by a public agency, the commission may, upon motion of such agency, confirm the action of the agency and dismiss the appeal without a hearing if it finds, after

examining the notice of appeal and construing all allegations most favorably to the appellant, that (A) the agency has not violated the Freedom of Information Act, or (B) the agency has committed a technical violation of the Freedom of Information Act that constitutes a harmless error that does not infringe the appellant's rights under said act.

(5) Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection, a public agency may petition the commission for relief from a requester that the public agency alleges is a vexatious requester. Such petition shall be sworn under penalty of false statement, as provided in section 53a-157b, and shall detail the conduct which the agency alleges demonstrates a vexatious history of requests, including, but not limited to: (A) The number of requests filed and the total number of pending requests; (B) the scope of the requests; (C) the nature, content, language or subject matter of the requests; (D) the nature, content, language or subject matter of other oral and written communications to the agency from the requester; and (E) a pattern of conduct that amounts to an abuse of the right to access information under the Freedom of Information Act or an interference with the operation of the agency. Upon receipt of such petition, the executive director of the commission shall review the petition and determine whether it warrants a hearing. If the executive director determines that a hearing is not warranted, the executive director shall recommend that the commission deny the petition without a hearing. The commission shall vote at its next regular meeting after such recommendation to accept or reject such recommendation and, after such meeting, shall issue a written explanation of the reasons for such acceptance or rejection. If the executive director determines that a hearing is warranted, the commission shall serve upon all parties, by certified or registered mail <u>or electronic transmission</u>, a copy of such petition together with any other notice or order of the commission. The commission shall, after due notice to the parties, hear and either grant or deny the petition within one year after its filing. Upon a grant of such petition, the commission may provide appropriate relief commensurate

with the vexatious conduct, including, but not limited to, an order that the agency need not comply with future requests from the vexatious requester for a specified period of time, but not to exceed one year. Any party aggrieved by the commission's granting of such petition may apply to the superior court for the judicial district of New Britain, within fifteen days of the commission meeting at which such petition was granted, for an order reversing the commission's decision.

(c) Any person who does not receive proper notice of any meeting of a public agency in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act may appeal under the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. A public agency of the state shall be presumed to have given timely and proper notice of any meeting as provided for in said Freedom of Information Act if notice is given in the Connecticut Law Journal or a Legislative Bulletin. A public agency of a political subdivision shall be presumed to have given proper notice of any meeting, if a notice is timely sent under the provisions of said Freedom of Information Act by (1) first-class mail to the address, or (2) electronic transmission to the information processing system, as defined in section 1-267, indicated in the request of the person requesting the same. If such commission determines that notice was improper, it may, in its sound discretion, declare any or all actions taken at such meeting null and void.

(d) Any party aggrieved by the decision of said commission may appeal therefrom, in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-183, in any such appeal of a decision of the commission, the court may conduct an in camera review of the original or a certified copy of the records which are at issue in the appeal but were not included in the record of the commission's proceedings, admit the records into evidence and order the records to be sealed or inspected on such terms as the court deems fair and appropriate, during the appeal. The commission shall have standing to

defend, prosecute or otherwise participate in any appeal of any of its decisions and to take an appeal from any judicial decision overturning or modifying a decision of the commission. If aggrievement is a jurisdictional prerequisite to the commission taking any such appeal, the commission shall be deemed to be aggrieved. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3-125, legal counsel employed or retained by said commission shall represent said commission in all such appeals and in any other litigation affecting said commission. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-183 and section 52-64, all process shall be served upon said commission at its office. Any appeal taken pursuant to this section shall be privileged in respect to its assignment for trial over all other actions except writs of habeas corpus and actions brought by or on behalf of the state, including informations on the relation of private individuals. Nothing in this section shall deprive any party of any rights he may have had at common law prior to January 1, 1958. If the court finds that any appeal taken pursuant to this section or section 4-183 is frivolous or taken solely for the purpose of delay, it shall order the party responsible therefor to pay to the party injured by such frivolous or dilatory appeal costs or attorney's fees of not more than one thousand dollars. Such order shall be in addition to any other remedy or disciplinary action required or permitted by statute or by rules of court.

(e) Within sixty days after the filing of a notice of appeal alleging violation of any right conferred by the Freedom of Information Act concerning records of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection relating to the state's hazardous waste program under sections 22a-448 to 22a-454, inclusive, the Freedom of Information Commission shall, after notice to the parties, hear and decide the appeal. Failure by the commission to hear and decide the appeal within such sixty-day period shall constitute a final decision denying such appeal for purposes of this section and section 4-183. On appeal, the court may, in addition to any other powers conferred by law, order the disclosure

of any such records withheld in violation of the Freedom of Information Act and may assess against the state reasonable attorney's fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred in an appeal in which the complainant has prevailed against the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Sec. 149. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section, "public agency", "meeting", "executive session", "electronic equipment" and "electronic transmission" have the same meanings as provided in section 1-200 of the general statutes. On and after the effective date of this section until April 30, 2022, a public agency may hold a public meeting that is accessible to the public by means of electronic equipment or by means of electronic equipment in conjunction with an in-person meeting, in accordance with the provisions of this section. Not less than forty-eight hours before any public agency, except for the General Assembly, conducts a regular meeting by means of electronic equipment, such agency shall provide direct notification in writing or by electronic transmission to each member of the public agency and post a notice that such agency intends to conduct the meeting solely or in part by means of electronic equipment (1) in the agency's regular office or place of business, (2) in the office and on the Internet web site of the Secretary of the State for any such public agency of the state or quasi-public agency, in the office of the clerk of such subdivision for any public agency of a political subdivision of the state that is not a quasi-public agency, or in the office of the clerk of each municipal member of any multitown district or agency, and (3) if the agency has an Internet web site, on such Internet web site. Not less than twenty-four hours prior to any such meeting, such agency shall post the agenda for any such meeting in the same manner as the notice of the meeting in accordance with subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this subsection. Such notice and agenda shall include instructions for the public, to attend and provide comment or otherwise participate in the meeting, by means of electronic equipment or in person, as applicable and permitted

by law. Any such notice and agenda shall be posted in accordance with the provisions of section 1-225 of the general statutes.

(b) Any public agency that conducts a meeting, other than an executive session or special meeting, as described in this section, solely by means of electronic equipment, shall (1) provide any member of the public (A) upon a written request submitted not less than twenty-four hours prior to such meeting, with a physical location and any electronic equipment necessary to attend such meeting in real-time, and (B) the same opportunities to provide comment or testimony and otherwise participate in such meeting that such member of the public would be accorded if such meeting were held in person, except that a public agency is not required to adjourn or postpone a meeting if a member of the public loses the ability to participate because of an interruption, failure or degradation of such person's connection to the meeting by electronic equipment; (2) ensure that such meeting is recorded or transcribed, excluding any portion of the meeting that is an executive session, and such transcription or recording is posted on the agency's Internet web site and made available to the public to view, listen to and copy in the agency's office or regular place of business not later than seven days after the meeting and for not less than forty-five days thereafter; and (3) if a quorum of the members of a public agency attend a meeting by means of electronic equipment from the same physical location, permit members of the public to attend such meeting in such physical location. Any public agency that conducts a meeting shall provide members of the public agency the opportunity to participate by means of electronic equipment, except that a public agency is not required to adjourn or postpone a meeting if a member loses the ability to participate because of an interruption, failure or degradation of that member's connection by electronic equipment, unless the member's participation is necessary to form a quorum.

(c) Any public agency other than the General Assembly that conducts

a special meeting shall include in the notice of such meeting whether the meeting will be conducted solely or in part by means of electronic equipment and, not less than twenty-four hours prior to such meeting, shall post such notice and an agenda of the meeting in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of section 1-225 of the general statutes. If such special meeting is to be conducted by means of electronic equipment, such notice and agenda shall include instructions for the public, by means of electronic equipment or in person, to attend and provide comment or otherwise participate in the meeting, as applicable and permitted by law.

(d) Any vote taken at a meeting during which any member participates by means of electronic equipment shall be taken by roll call, unless the vote is unanimous. The minutes of the meeting shall record a list of members that attended such meeting in person and a list of members that attended such meeting by means of electronic equipment.

(e) Any member of a public agency or the public who participates orally in a meeting of a public agency conducted by means of electronic equipment shall make a good faith effort to state such member's name and title, if applicable, at the outset of each occasion that such member participates orally during an uninterrupted dialogue or series of questions and answers.

(f) Whenever a meeting being conducted by means of electronic equipment is interrupted by the failure, disconnection or, in the chairperson's determination, unacceptable degradation of the electronic means of conducting a meeting, or if a member necessary to form a quorum loses the ability to participate because of the interruption, failure or degradation of such member's connection by electronic equipment, the public agency may, not less than thirty minutes and not more than two hours from the time of the interruption or the chairperson's determination, resume the meeting (1) in person, if a quorum is present in person, or (2) if a quorum is restored by means of

electronic equipment, solely or in part by such electronic equipment. In each case of resumption of such meeting, electronic access shall be restored to the public if such capability has been restored. The public agency shall, if practicable, post a notification on its Internet web site and inform attendees by electronic transmission of the expected time of resumption or of the adjournment or postponement of the meeting, as applicable, and may announce at the beginning of any meeting what preplanned procedures are in place for resumption of a meeting in the event of an interruption as described in this subsection.

(g) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a public agency to offer members of the public who attend a meeting by means of electronic equipment the opportunity for public comment, testimony or other participation if the provision of such opportunity is not required by law for members of the public who attend such a meeting in person.

Sec. 150. Section 1-227 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The public agency shall, where practicable, give notice by mail or electronic transmission of each regular meeting, and of any special meeting which is called, at least one week prior to the date set for the meeting, to any person who has filed a written request for such notice with such body, except that such body may give such notice as it deems practical of special meetings called less than seven days prior to the date set for the meeting. Such notice requirement shall not apply to the General Assembly, either house thereof or to any committee thereof. Any request for notice filed pursuant to this section shall be valid for one year from the date on which it is filed unless a renewal request is filed. Renewal requests for notice shall be filed within thirty days after January first of each year. Such public agency may establish a reasonable charge for sending such notice based on the estimated cost of providing such service.

Sec. 151. Section 1-228 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The public agency may adjourn any regular or special meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment. Less than a quorum may so adjourn from time to time. If all members are absent from any regular meeting the clerk or the secretary of such body may declare the meeting adjourned to a stated time and place and shall cause a written notice of the adjournment to be given in the same manner as provided in section 1-225, for special meetings, unless such notice is waived as provided for special meetings. A copy of the order or notice of adjournment shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the regular or special meeting was held and on the Internet web site of the public agency, if applicable, within twenty-four hours after the time of the adjournment. When an order of adjournment of any meeting fails to state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be held at the hour specified for regular meetings, by ordinance, resolution, by law or other rule.

Sec. 152. Section 7-8 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The moderator of any town meeting, and of any meeting of any society or other community lawfully assembled, may, when any disorder arises in the meeting and the offender refuses to submit to the moderator's lawful authority, order any proper officer to take the offender into custody and, if necessary, to remove the offender from such meeting until the offender conforms to order or, if need be, until such meeting is closed, and thereupon such officer shall have power to command all necessary assistance. Any person refusing to assist when commanded shall be liable to the same penalties as for refusing to assist constables in the execution of their duties; but no person commanded to assist shall be deprived of such person's right to act in the meeting, nor shall the offender be so deprived any longer than the offender refuses

to conform to order. If such offender is attending such meeting by means of electronic equipment, as defined in section 1-200, the moderator may terminate such offender's attendance by electronic equipment until such time as the offender conforms to order or, if need be, until such meeting is closed.

Sec. 153. Section 1-232 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

In the event that any meeting of a public agency is interrupted by any person or group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are wilfully interrupting the meetings, the members of the agency conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. If such person or group of persons is attending such meeting by means of electronic equipment, as defined in section 1-200, the members of the public agency may terminate such person's or group of persons' attendance by electronic equipment until such time as such person or group of persons conforms to order or, if need be, until such meeting is closed. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Duly accredited representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit such public agency from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for wilfully disturbing the meeting.

Sec. 154. (*Effective from passage*) The Connecticut Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations established pursuant to section 2-79a of the general statutes, shall, in consultation with the Freedom of Information Commission established pursuant to section 1-205 of the general statutes, the Connecticut Association of Municipal Attorneys and the Chief Information Officer or the Chief Information Officer's designee, conduct a study concerning the implementation of

the provisions of section 149 of this act, and the feasibility of remote participation and voting during meetings, including remote voting using electronic equipment such as conference call, videoconference or other technology. Not later than February 1, 2022, the commission 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 planning and development. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) findings, including any challenges encountered, (2) recommendations concerning best practices for the implementation of said provisions, (3) an analysis of the feasibility of remote participation and voting during meetings using electronic equipment such as conference call, videoconference or other technology, and (4) the identification of funding sources for the implementation of remote participation and voting during meetings using such electronic equipment.

Sec. 155. Section 7-34a of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(NEW) (f) Any town clerk who receives a fee pursuant to this section may permit the payment of such fee on an Internet web site designated by the clerk, in a manner prescribed by the clerk.

Sec. 156. Section 7-51a of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (e) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(NEW) (e) Any registrar of vital statistics who receives payment pursuant to this section may permit such payment to be made on an Internet web site designated by the registrar, in a manner prescribed by the registrar.

Sec. 157. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) For the purposes of sections 7-148j, 7-148k, 7-148bb, 7-148ii and 7-152b of the general statutes,

"electronic equipment" means any technology that facilitates real-time communication between two or more individuals, including, but not limited to, telephonic, video and other conferencing platforms.

Sec. 158. Section 7-148j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

Any board, commission, council, committee or other agency established or designated pursuant to sections 7-148i to 7-148n, inclusive, and subparagraph (B) of subdivision (9) of subsection (c) of section 7-148, may be given the following powers: (1) The power to issue subpoenas or subpoenas duces tecum, enforceable upon application to the Superior Court, to compel the attendance of persons at hearings either in person or by means of electronic equipment and the production of books, documents, records and papers; (2) the power to issue written interrogatories and require written answers under oath thereto, enforceable upon application to the Superior Court; (3) the power to hold hearings relating to any allegation of discriminatory practice which it has found reasonable cause to believe has occurred and to issue any appropriate orders including those authorized by section 46a-86; and (4) the power to petition the Superior Court for enforcement of any order issued by it upon a finding that a violation of the local code of prohibited discriminatory practices has occurred, including the power to petition the Superior Court for temporary injunctive relief upon a finding that irreparable harm to the complainant will otherwise occur or for any other relief authorized by sections 46a-89 and 46a-90a.

Sec. 159. Section 7-148k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

Any complaint filed pursuant to sections 7-148i to 7-148n, inclusive, and subparagraph (B) of subdivision (9) of subsection (c) of section 7-148 shall be made under oath. No finding of a violation of a local code of prohibited discriminatory practices shall be made except after a

hearing conducted in person or by means of electronic equipment. The respondent at any such hearing shall be given reasonable advance written notice of the hearing, shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, and shall be permitted to testify and present and cross-examine witnesses. The decision resulting from the hearing shall be in writing and shall include written findings of the facts upon which the decision is based.

Sec. 160. Section 7-148bb of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act, municipal charter or home rule ordinance, the chief elected officials of two or more municipalities may initiate a process for such municipalities to enter into an agreement to share revenues received for payment of real and personal property taxes. The agreement shall be prepared pursuant to negotiations and shall contain all provisions on which there is mutual agreement between the municipalities, including, but not limited to, specification of the tax revenues to be shared, collection and uses of such shared revenue. The agreement shall establish procedures for amendment, termination and withdrawal. The negotiations shall include an opportunity for public participation. Such participation may take place in person, in writing or by means of electronic equipment. The agreement shall be approved by each municipality that is a party to the agreement by resolution of the legislative body. As used in this section "legislative body" means the council, commission, board, body or town meeting, by whatever name it may be known, having or exercising the general legislative powers and functions of a municipality and "municipality" means any town, city or borough, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough.

Sec. 161. Section 7-148ii of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) Any person who, on or after October 1, 2011, commences an action to foreclose a mortgage on residential property shall register such property with the town clerk of the municipality in which the property is located at the time and place of the recording of the notice of lis pendens as to the residential property being foreclosed in accordance with section 52-325. Such registration may be completed electronically in a manner prescribed by such clerk and shall be maintained by the municipality separate and apart from the land records.

(b) Registration made pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall contain (1) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the plaintiff in the foreclosure action and, if such plaintiff is an entity or an individual who resides out-of-state, the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of a direct contact in the state, provided such a direct contact is available; (2) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the person, local property maintenance company or other entity serving as such plaintiff's contact with the municipality for any matters concerning the residential property; and (3) the following heading in at least ten-point boldface capital letters: NOTICE TO MUNICIPALITY: REGISTRATION OF PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED. The plaintiff in the foreclosure action shall indicate on such registration whether it prefers to be contacted by first class mail or electronic mail and the preferred addresses for such communications. Such plaintiff shall report to the town clerk of the municipality in which the property is located, by mail, electronic mail or other form of delivery, any change in the information provided on the registration not later than thirty days following the date of the change of information. At the time of registration, such plaintiff shall pay a land record filing fee to the municipality as specified in section 7-34a.

(c) Any person in whom title to a residential property has vested on or after October 1, 2011, through a foreclosure action pursuant to

sections 49-16 to 49-21, inclusive, or 49-26, shall register such property, in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, with the municipality in which such property is located not later than fifteen days after absolute title vests in such person. If such person is the plaintiff in the foreclosure action, such person shall, prior to the expiration of such fifteen-day period, update the registration with any change in registration information for purposes of complying with said subsection (d). The updated registration shall include the following heading in at least ten-point boldface capital letters: NOTICE TO MUNICIPALITY: UPDATED REGISTRATION FOR PROPERTY ACQUIRED THROUGH FORECLOSURE.

(d) Registration made pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be mailed, sent by electronic mail or delivered to the town clerk of the municipality in which the residential property is located and include (1) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the registrant and, if the registrant is an entity or an individual who resides out-of-state, the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of a direct contact in the state, provided such a direct contact is available; (2) the date on which absolute title vested in the registrant; (3) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the person, local property maintenance company or other entity responsible for the security and maintenance of the residential property; and (4) the following heading in at least ten-point boldface capital letters: NOTICE TO MUNICIPALITY: REGISTRATION OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED THROUGH FORECLOSURE. The registration, or updated registration, shall be accompanied by a land record filing fee payable to the municipality as specified in section 7-34a. The registrant shall report to the town clerk by mail, electronic mail or other form of delivery any change in the information provided on the registration not later than thirty days from the date of the change in information.

(e) If a registrant required to register pursuant to subsection (c) of this

section fails to comply with any provision of the general statutes or of any municipal ordinance concerning the repair or maintenance of real estate, including, without limitation, an ordinance relating to the prevention of housing blight pursuant to subparagraph (H)(xv) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section 7-148, the maintenance of safe and sanitary housing as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section 7-148, or the abatement of nuisances as provided in subparagraph (E) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section 7-148, the municipality may issue a notice to the registrant citing the conditions on such property that violate such provisions. Such notice shall be sent by either first class or electronic mail, or both, and shall be sent to the address or addresses of the registrant identified on the registration. A copy of such notice shall be sent by first class mail or electronic mail to the person, property maintenance company or other entity responsible for the security and maintenance of the residential property designated on the registration. Such notice shall comply with section 7-148gg.

(f) The notice described in subsection (e) of this section shall provide a date, reasonable under the circumstances, by which the registrant shall remedy the condition or conditions on such registrant's property. If the registrant, registrant's contact or registrant's agent does not remedy the condition or conditions on such registrant's property before the date following the date specified in such notice, the municipality may enforce its rights under the relevant provisions of the general statutes or of any municipal ordinance.

(g) A municipality shall only impose registration requirements upon registrants and plaintiffs in foreclosure actions in accordance with this section, except that any municipal registration requirements effective on or before October 1, 2009, shall remain effective.

(h) Any plaintiff in a foreclosure action who fails to register in accordance with this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of one

hundred dollars for each violation, up to a maximum of five thousand dollars. Each property for which there has been a failure to register shall constitute a separate violation.

(i) Any person in whom title to a residential property has vested on or after October 1, 2011, through a foreclosure action pursuant to sections 49-16 to 49-21, inclusive, or 49-26, and who has not registered in accordance with subsection (c) of this section within thirty days of absolute title vesting in such owner shall be subject to a civil penalty of two hundred fifty dollars for each violation, up to a maximum of twenty-five thousand dollars. Each property for which there has been a failure to register shall constitute a separate violation.

(j) An authorized official of the municipality may file a civil action in Superior Court to collect the penalties imposed pursuant to subsections (h) and (i) of this section, which penalties shall be payable to the treasurer of such municipality. Such penalties shall not create or constitute a lien against the residential property.

(k) Neither the registration by a foreclosing party nor the failure to register in accordance with subsection (a) of this section shall imply or create any legal obligations on the part of the foreclosing party to repair, maintain or secure the residential property for which a registration is required prior to the time that title passes to the foreclosing party.

Sec. 162. Section 7-152b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) Any town, city or borough may establish by ordinance a parking violation hearing procedure in accordance with this section. The Superior Court shall be authorized to enforce the assessments and judgments provided for under this section.

(b) The chief executive officer of the town, city or borough shall appoint one or more parking violation hearing officers, other than

policemen or persons who issue parking tickets or work in the police department, to conduct the hearings authorized by this section.

(c) A town, city or borough may, at any time within two years from the expiration of the final period for the uncontested payment of fines, penalties, costs or fees for any alleged violation under any ordinance adopted pursuant to section 7-148 or sections 14-305 to 14-308, inclusive, send notice to the motor vehicle operator, if known, or the registered owner of the motor vehicle by first class mail at his address according to the registration records of the Department of Motor Vehicles or by electronic mail, if the operator or owner's electronic mail address is known. Such notice shall inform the operator or owner: (1) Of the allegations against him and the amount of the fines, penalties, costs or fees due; (2) that he may contest his liability before a parking violations hearing officer by delivering in person, by electronic mail or by mail written notice within ten days of the date thereof; (3) that if he does not demand such a hearing, an assessment and judgment shall enter against him; and (4) that such judgment may issue without further notice. Whenever a violation of such an ordinance occurs, proof of the registration number of the motor vehicle involved shall be prima facie evidence in all proceedings provided for in this section that the owner of such vehicle was the operator thereof; provided, the liability of a lessee under section 14-107 shall apply.

(d) If the person who is sent notice pursuant to subsection (c) of this section wishes to admit liability for any alleged violation, such person may, without requesting a hearing, pay the full amount of the fines, penalties, costs or fees admitted to in person or by mail to an official designated by the town, city or borough. Such payment shall be inadmissible in any proceeding, civil or criminal, to establish the conduct of such person or other person making the payment. Any person who does not **[**deliver or mail written demand for**]** demand a hearing within ten days of the date of the first notice provided for in

subsection (c) of this section shall be deemed to have admitted liability, and the designated town official shall certify such person's failure to respond to the hearing officer. The hearing officer shall thereupon enter and assess the fines, penalties, costs or fees provided for by the applicable ordinances and shall follow the procedures set forth in subsection (f) of this section.

(e) Any person who requests a hearing shall be given written notice of the date, time and place for the hearing. Such hearing shall be held not less than fifteen days nor more than thirty days from the date of the mailing of notice, provided the hearing officer shall grant upon good cause shown any reasonable request by any interested party for postponement or continuance. An original or certified copy of the initial notice of violation issued by a policeman or other issuing officer shall be filed and retained by the town, city or borough, be deemed to be a business record within the scope of section 52-180 and be evidence of the facts contained therein. The presence of the policeman or issuing officer shall be required at the hearing if such person so requests. A person wishing to contest his liability shall appear at the hearing <u>in person or by means of electronic equipment,</u> and may present evidence in his behalf. A designated town official, other than the hearing officer, may present evidence on behalf of the town. If such person fails to appear, the hearing officer may enter an assessment by default against him upon a finding of proper notice and liability under the applicable statutes or ordinances. The hearing officer may accept from such person copies of police reports, Department of Motor Vehicles documents and other official documents by mail and may determine thereby that the appearance of such person is unnecessary. The hearing officer shall conduct the hearing in the order and form and with such methods of proof as he deems fair and appropriate. The rules regarding the admissibility of evidence shall not be strictly applied, but all testimony shall be given under oath or affirmation. The hearing officer shall announce his decision at the end of the hearing. If he determines that

the person is not liable, he shall dismiss the matter and enter his determination in writing accordingly. If he determines that the person is liable for the violation, he shall forthwith enter and assess the fines, penalties, costs or fees against such person as provided by the applicable ordinances of that town, city or borough.

(f) If such assessment is not paid on the date of its entry, the hearing officer shall send by first class mail a notice of the assessment to the person found liable and shall file, not less than thirty days or more than twelve months after such mailing, a certified copy of the notice of assessment with the clerk of a superior court facility designated by the Chief Court Administrator together with an entry fee of eight dollars. The certified copy of the notice of assessment shall constitute a record of assessment. Within such twelve-month period, assessments against the same person may be accrued and filed as one record of assessment. The clerk shall enter judgment, in the amount of such record of assessment and court costs of eight dollars, against such person in favor of the town, city or borough. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the hearing officer's assessment, when so entered as a judgment, shall have the effect of a civil money judgment and a levy of execution on such judgment may issue without further notice to such person.

(g) A person against whom an assessment has been entered pursuant to this section is entitled to judicial review by way of appeal. An appeal shall be instituted within thirty days of the mailing of notice of such assessment by filing a petition to reopen assessment, together with an entry fee in an amount equal to the entry fee for a small claims case pursuant to section 52-259, at the Superior Court facility designated by the Chief Court Administrator, which shall entitle such person to a hearing in accordance with the rules of the judges of the Superior Court.

Sec. 163. Section 7-245 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

For the purposes of this chapter: (1) "Acquire a sewerage system" means obtain title to all or any part of a sewerage system or any interest therein by purchase, condemnation, grant, gift, lease, rental or otherwise; (2) "alternative sewage treatment system" means a sewage treatment system serving one or more buildings that utilizes a method of treatment other than a subsurface sewage disposal system and that involves a discharge to the groundwaters of the state; (3) "community sewerage system" means any sewerage system serving two or more residences in separate structures which is not connected to a municipal sewerage system or which is connected to a municipal sewerage system as a distinct and separately managed district or segment of such system; (4) "construct a sewerage system" means to acquire land, easements, rights-of-way or any other real or personal property or any interest therein, plan, construct, reconstruct, equip, extend and enlarge all or any part of a sewerage system; (5) "decentralized system" means managed subsurface sewage disposal systems, managed alternative sewage treatment systems or community sewerage systems that discharge sewage flows of less than five thousand gallons per day, are used to collect and treat domestic sewage, and involve a discharge to the groundwaters of the state from areas of a municipality; (6) "decentralized wastewater management district" means areas of a municipality designated by the municipality through a municipal ordinance when an engineering report has determined that the existing subsurface sewage disposal systems may be detrimental to public health or the environment and that decentralized systems are required and such report is approved by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection with concurring approval by the Commissioner of Public Health, after consultation with the local director of health; (7) <u>"electronic equipment" means any technology that facilitates real-time communication between two or more individuals, including, but not limited to, telephonic, video and other conferencing platforms; (8)</u> "municipality" means any metropolitan district, town, consolidated town and city, consolidated town and borough, city,

borough, village, fire and sewer district, sewer district and each municipal organization having authority to levy and collect taxes; **[**(8)**]** (9) "operate a sewerage system" means own, use, equip, reequip, repair, maintain, supervise, manage, operate and perform any act pertinent to the collection, transportation and disposal of sewage; **[**(9)**]** (10) "person" means any person, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association or public agency; **[**(10)**]** (11) "remediation standards" means pollutant limits, performance requirements, design parameters or technical standards for application to existing sewage discharges in a decentralized wastewater management district for the improvement of wastewater treatment to protect public health and the environment; **[**(11)**]** (12) "sewage" means any substance, liquid or solid, which may contaminate or pollute or affect the cleanliness or purity of any water; and **[**(12)**]** (13) "sewerage system" means any device, equipment, appurtenance, facility and method for collecting, transporting, receiving, treating, disposing of or discharging sewage, including, but not limited to, decentralized systems within a decentralized wastewater management district when such district is established by municipal ordinance pursuant to section 7-247.

Sec. 164. Section 7-255 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) The water pollution control authority may establish and revise fair and reasonable charges for connection with and for the use of a sewerage system. The owner of property against which any such connection or use charge is levied shall be liable for the payment thereof. Municipally-owned and other tax-exempt property which uses the sewerage system shall be subject to such charges under the same conditions as are the owners of other property, but nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the levying of any property tax by any municipality against any property exempt by the general statutes from property taxation. No charge for connection with or for the use of a

sewerage system shall be established or revised until after a public hearing before the water pollution control authority at which the owner of property against which the charges are to be levied shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed charges. Such hearing may be conducted in person or by means of electronic equipment. Notice of the time, place and purpose of such hearing shall be published at least ten days before the date thereof in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality and on the Internet web site of the municipality. A copy of the proposed charges shall be on file in the office of the clerk of the municipality and available for inspection by the public for at least ten days before the date of such hearing. When the water pollution control authority has established or revised such charges, it shall file a copy thereof in the office of the clerk of the municipality and, not later than five days after such filing, shall cause the same to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality and on the Internet web site of the municipality. Such publication shall state the date on which such charges were filed and the time and manner of paying such charges and shall state that any appeals from such charges must be taken within twenty-one days after such filing. In establishing or revising such charges the water pollution control authority may classify the property connected or to be connected with the sewer system and the users of such system, including categories of industrial users, and may give consideration to any factors relating to the kind, quality or extent of use of any such property or classification of property or users including, but not limited to, (1) the volume of water discharged to the sewerage system, (2) the type or size of building connected with the sewerage system, (3) the number of plumbing fixtures connected with the sewerage system, (4) the number of persons customarily using the property served by the sewerage system, (5) in the case of commercial or industrial property, the average number of employees and guests using the property and (6) the quality and character of the material discharged into the sewerage system. The water pollution control authority may establish minimum charges for

connection with and for the use of a sewerage system. Any person aggrieved by any charge for connection with or for the use of a sewerage system may appeal to the superior court for the judicial district wherein the municipality is located and shall bring any such appeal to a return day of said court not less than twelve or more than thirty days after service thereof. The judgment of the court shall be final.

(b) Any municipality may, by ordinance, provide for the payment to the water pollution control authority by such municipality of the whole or a portion of such charges for specified classifications of property or users, provided such classifications are established by the water pollution control authority in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section and meet the requirements of the federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, P.L. 92-500, as amended from time to time. **[**amended.**]**

(c) Any municipality may, by ordinance, provide for optional methods of payment of sewer use charges to the water pollution control authority by (1) elderly taxpayers who are eligible for tax relief under the provisions of section 12-129b, section 12-170aa or a plan of tax relief for elderly taxpayers provided by such municipality in accordance with section 12-129n or (2) any taxpayer under the age of sixty-five who is eligible for tax relief under the provisions of a plan for tax relief provided by such municipality in accordance with subdivision (2) of section 12-129n.

Sec. 165. Section 7-257 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

The water pollution control authority may order the owner of any building to which a sewerage system is available to connect such building with the system or order the owner to construct and connect the building to an alternative sewage treatment system. No such order shall be issued until after a public hearing with respect thereto is

conducted in person or by means of electronic equipment after due notice in writing to such property owner. Any owner aggrieved by such an order may, within twenty-one days, appeal to the superior court for the judicial district wherein the municipality is located. Such appeal shall be brought to a return day of said court not less than twelve or more than thirty days after service thereof. The judgment of the court shall be final. If any owner fails to comply with an order to connect, the water pollution control authority shall cause the connection to be made and shall assess the expense thereof against such owner.

Sec. 166. Section 12-111 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) Any person, including any lessee of real property whose lease has been recorded as provided in section 47-19 and who is bound under the terms of a lease to pay real property taxes and any person to whom title to such property has been transferred since the assessment date, claiming to be aggrieved by the doings of the assessors of such town may appeal therefrom to the board of assessment appeals. Such appeal shall be filed **[**,**]** in writing **[**,**]** or by electronic mail in a manner prescribed by such board on or before February twentieth. The **[**written**]** appeal shall include, but is not limited to, the property owner's name, name and position of the signer, description of the property which is the subject of the appeal, name, **[**and**]** mailing address and electronic mail address of the party to be sent all correspondence by the board of assessment appeals, reason for the appeal, appellant's estimate of value, signature of property owner, or duly authorized agent of the property owner, and date of signature. The board shall notify each aggrieved taxpayer who filed **[**a written**]** an appeal in the proper form and in a timely manner, no later than March first immediately following the assessment date, of the date, time and place of the appeal hearing. Such notice shall be sent no later than seven calendar days preceding the hearing date except that the board may elect not to conduct an appeal hearing for any

commercial, industrial, utility or apartment property with an assessed value greater than one million dollars. The board shall, not later than March first, notify the appellant that the board has elected not to conduct an appeal hearing. An appellant whose appeal will not be heard by the board may appeal directly to the Superior Court pursuant to section 12-117a. The board shall determine all appeals for which the board conducts an appeal hearing and send written notification of the final determination of such appeals to each such person within one week after such determination has been made. Such written notification shall include information describing the property owner's right to appeal the determination of such board. Such board may equalize and adjust the grand list of such town and may increase or decrease the assessment of any taxable property or interest therein and may add an assessment for property omitted by the assessors which should be added thereto; and may add to the grand list the name of any person omitted by the assessors and owning taxable property in such town, placing therein all property liable to taxation which it has reason to believe is owned by such person, at the percentage of its actual valuation, as determined by the assessors in accordance with the provisions of sections 12-64 and 12-71, from the best information that it can obtain, and if such property should have been included in the declaration, as required by section 12-42 or 12-43, it shall add thereto twenty-five per cent of such assessment; but, before proceeding to increase the assessment of any person or to add to the grand list the name of any person so omitted, it shall mail to such person, postage paid, at least one week before making such increase or addition, a written or printed notice addressed to such person at the town in which such person resides, to appear before such board and show cause why such increase or addition should not be made. When the board increases or decreases the gross assessment of any taxable real property or interest therein, the amount of such gross assessment shall be fixed until the assessment year in which the municipality next implements a revaluation of all real property pursuant to section 12-62, unless the assessor increases or decreases the

gross assessment of the property to (1) comply with an order of a court of jurisdiction, (2) reflect an addition for new construction, (3) reflect a reduction for damage or demolition, or (4) correct a factual error by issuance of a certificate of correction. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, if, prior to the next revaluation, the assessor increases or decreases a gross assessment established by the board for any other reason, the assessor shall submit a written explanation to the board setting forth the reason for such increase or decrease. The assessor shall also append the written explanation to the property card for the real estate parcel whose gross assessment was increased or decreased.

(b) If an extension is granted to any assessor or board of assessors pursuant to section 12-117, the date by which a taxpayer shall be required to submit a **[**written**]** request for appeal to the board of assessment appeals shall be extended to March twentieth and said board shall conduct hearings regarding such requests during the month of April. The board shall send notification to the taxpayer of the time and date of an appeal hearing at least seven calendar days preceding the hearing date, but no later than the first day of April. If the board elects not to hear an appeal for commercial, industrial, utility or apartment property described in subsection (a) of this section, the board shall notify the taxpayer of such decision no later than the first day of April.

Sec. 167. Section 12-117 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) The period prescribed by law for the completion of the duties of any assessor, board of assessors or board of assessment appeals may, for due cause shown, be extended by the chief executive officer of the town for a period not exceeding one month, and in the case of the board of assessment appeals in any town in the assessment year in which a revaluation, pursuant to section 12-62, is required to be effective, such period shall be extended by said chief executive officer for a period not exceeding two months. Not later than two weeks after granting an

extension as provided under this subsection, the chief executive officer shall send **[**written**]** notice of the extension to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management by mail or electronic mail in a manner prescribed by the secretary.

(b) If, in the assessment year in which a revaluation is required to be effective, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management determines, on the basis of information provided **[**, in writing,**]** by the board of assessment appeals and the chief executive officer, that the number of appeals pending before such board is such as to preclude fair and equitable consideration of such appeals within the extended period of time provided under subsection (a) of this section, the secretary may authorize a postponement of the implementation of said revaluation until the assessment day next ensuing. If the secretary authorizes such postponement, the town shall not be subject to the penalty provisions of subsection (d) of section 12-62. Upon receipt of the secretary's notice of authorization, the assessor shall revise the real property grand list for the assessment year with respect to which such postponement is applicable, to reflect assessments for such property effective in the assessment year immediately preceding. The real property grand list from which such appeals are taken shall then become the real property grand list for the assessment day next ensuing, subject only to transfers of ownership, additions for new construction, reductions for demolitions and such adjustments as are authorized by the board of assessment appeals, unless the assessor revalues all real property for said assessment day in accordance with section 12-62. The secretary shall not grant an authorization to a town, pursuant to this subsection, in consecutive years.

(c) During any assessment year in which the provisions of subsection (b) of this section become applicable, the assessor or board of assessors shall, not later than thirty days after the date on which the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management authorizes the postponement of

revaluation, complete the grand list as required by subsection (b) of this section. An increase notice shall be prepared in the manner prescribed by section 12-55, and, **[**mailed,**]** not later than the tenth day after the completion of said grand list, mailed or sent by electronic mail to each owner whose property valuation on said grand list increased above the valuation of such property in the last-preceding assessment year. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-112, any owner may appeal such increase to the board of assessment appeals not later than thirty days after the date of such notice. If the assessor or board of assessors fails to comply with the notice requirements in this subsection, any such increase shall not take effect until the next succeeding assessment date.

Sec. 168. Subsection (a) of section 12-170f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) Any renter, believing himself or herself to be entitled to a grant under section 12-170d for any calendar year, shall apply for such grant to the assessor of the municipality in which the renter resides or to the duly authorized agent of such assessor or municipality on or after April first and not later than October first of each year with respect to such grant for the calendar year preceding each such year. **[**,**]** Such application shall be made on a form prescribed and furnished by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management **[**to the assessor**]** or electronically in a manner prescribed by the secretary. Municipalities that require notarization of a landlord verification of property rental on an application under this section (1) shall exempt a renter from the requirement if a landlord verification for the same property rental by the same renter has been previously notarized, and (2) shall not delay submission of the application of an otherwise qualified renter to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management if the renter fails to meet the deadline for notarizing such landlord verification. A renter

may apply to the secretary prior to December fifteenth of the claim year for an extension of the application period. The secretary may grant such extension in the case of extenuating circumstance due to illness or incapacitation as evidenced by a certificate signed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse to that extent, or if the secretary determines there is good cause for doing so. A renter making such application shall present to such assessor or agent, in substantiation of the renter's application, a copy of the renter's federal income tax return, and if not required to file a federal income tax return, such other evidence of qualifying income, receipts for money received, or cancelled checks, or copies thereof, and any other evidence the assessor or such agent may require. When the assessor or agent is satisfied that the applying renter is entitled to a grant, such assessor or agent shall issue a certificate of grant in such form as the secretary may prescribe and supply showing the amount of the grant due.

Sec. 169. Section 12-170g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

Any person aggrieved by the action of the assessor or agent in fixing the amount of the grant under section 12-170f, or in disapproving the claim therefor may apply to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management in writing or electronically in a manner prescribed by the secretary, within thirty business days from the date of notice given to such person by the assessor or agent, giving notice of such grievance. The secretary shall promptly consider such notice and may grant or deny the relief requested, provided such decision shall be made not later than thirty business days after the receipt of such notice. If the relief is denied, the applicant shall be notified forthwith, and the applicant may appeal the decision of the secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 12-120b.

Sec. 170. Subsection (a) of section 12-170w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*

1, 2021):

(a) No claim shall be accepted under section 12-170v unless the taxpayer or authorized agent of such taxpayer files an application with the assessor of the municipality in which the property is located, **[**in such form and manner as the assessor may prescribe,**]** during the period from February first to and including May fifteenth of any year in which benefits are first claimed. **[**, including**]** Such application shall be made in writing or electronically in a manner prescribed by the assessor, and shall include such information as is necessary to substantiate such claim in accordance with requirements in such application. A taxpayer may make application to the assessor in writing or electronically in a manner prescribed by the assessor prior to August fifteenth of the claim year for an extension of the application period. The assessor may grant such extension in the case of extenuating circumstance due to illness or incapacitation as evidenced by a certificate signed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse to that extent, or if the assessor determines there is good cause for doing so. The taxpayer shall present to the assessor a paper or electronic copy of such taxpayer's federal income tax return and the federal income tax return of such taxpayer's spouse, if filed separately, for such taxpayer's taxable year ending immediately prior to the submission of the taxpayer's application, or if not required to file a federal income tax return, such other evidence of qualifying income in respect to such taxable year as the assessor may require. Each such application, together with the federal income tax return and any other information submitted in relation thereto, shall be examined by the assessor and a determination shall be made as to whether the application is approved. Upon determination by the assessor that the applying homeowner is entitled to tax relief in accordance with the provisions of section 12-170v and this section, the assessor shall notify the homeowner and the municipal tax collector of the approval of such application. The municipal tax collector shall determine the maximum amount of the tax due with respect to such

homeowner's residence and thereafter the property tax with respect to such homeowner's residence shall not exceed such amount. After a taxpayer's claim for the first year has been filed and approved such taxpayer shall file such an application biennially. In respect to such application required after the filing and approval for the first year the assessor in each municipality shall notify each such taxpayer concerning application requirements by **[**regular**]** mail, or, at the taxpayer's option, electronic mail, not later than February first of the assessment year in which such taxpayer is required to reapply, **[**enclosing**]** providing a copy of the required application form. Such taxpayer may submit such application to the assessor, **[**by mail,**]** provided it is received by the assessor not later than April fifteenth in the assessment year with respect to which such tax relief is claimed. Not later than April thirtieth of such year the assessor shall notify, by mail evidenced by a certificate of mailing, any such taxpayer for whom such application was not received by said April fifteenth concerning application requirements and such taxpayer shall submit not later than May fifteenth such application personally, or for reasonable cause, by a person acting on behalf of such taxpayer as approved by the assessor.

Sec. 171. Section 12-170aa of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established, for the assessment year commencing October 1, 1985, and each assessment year thereafter, a revised state program of property tax relief for certain elderly homeowners as determined in accordance with subsection (b) of this section, and additionally for the assessment year commencing October 1, 1986, and each assessment year thereafter, the property tax relief benefits of such program are made available to certain homeowners who are permanently and totally disabled as determined in accordance with said subsection (b) of this section.

(b) (1) The program established by this section shall provide for a

reduction in property tax, except in the case of benefits payable as a grant under certain circumstances in accordance with provisions in subsection (j) of this section, applicable to the assessed value of certain real property, determined in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, for any (A) owner of real property, including any owner of real property held in trust for such owner, provided such owner or such owner and such owner's spouse are the grantor and beneficiary of such trust, (B) tenant for life or tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under section 12-48, or (C) resident of a multiple-dwelling complex under certain contractual conditions as provided in said subsection (j) of this section, who (i) at the close of the preceding calendar year has attained age sixty-five or over, or whose spouse domiciled with such homeowner, has attained age sixty-five or over at the close of the preceding calendar year, or is fifty years of age or over and the surviving spouse of a homeowner who at the time of his death had qualified and was entitled to tax relief under this section, provided such spouse was domiciled with such homeowner at the time of his death or (ii) at the close of the preceding calendar year has not attained age sixty-five and is eligible in accordance with applicable federal regulations to receive permanent total disability benefits under Social Security, or has not been engaged in employment covered by Social Security and accordingly has not qualified for benefits thereunder but who has become qualified for permanent total disability benefits under any federal, state or local government retirement or disability plan, including the Railroad Retirement Act and any government-related teacher's retirement plan, determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to contain requirements in respect to qualification for such permanent total disability benefits which are comparable to such requirements under Social Security; and in addition to qualification under (i) or (ii) above, whose taxable and nontaxable income, the total of which shall hereinafter be called "qualifying income", in the tax year of such homeowner ending immediately preceding the date of application for benefits under the program in this section, was not in excess of sixteen

thousand two hundred dollars, if unmarried, or twenty thousand dollars, jointly with spouse if married, subject to adjustments in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection, evidence of which income shall be required in the form of a signed affidavit to be submitted to the assessor in the municipality in which application for benefits under this section is filed. Such affidavit may be filed electronically, in a manner prescribed by the assessor. The amount of any Medicaid payments made on behalf of such homeowner or the spouse of such homeowner shall not constitute income. The amount of tax reduction provided under this section, determined in accordance with and subject to the variable factors in the schedule of amounts of tax reduction in subsection (c) of this section, shall be allowed only with respect to a residential dwelling owned by such qualified homeowner and used as such homeowner's primary place of residence. If title to real property or a tenancy interest liable for real property taxes is recorded in the name of such qualified homeowner or his spouse making a claim and qualifying under this section and any other person or persons, the claimant hereunder shall be entitled to pay his fractional share of the tax on such property calculated in accordance with the provisions of this section, and such other person or persons shall pay his or their fractional share of the tax without regard for the provisions of this section, unless also qualified hereunder. For the purposes of this section, a "mobile manufactured home", as defined in section 12-63a, or a dwelling on leased land, including but not limited to a modular home, shall be deemed to be real property and the word "taxes" shall not include special assessments, interest and lien fees.

(2) The amounts of qualifying income as provided in this section shall be adjusted annually in a uniform manner to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security income, with each such adjustment of qualifying income determined to the nearest one hundred dollars. Each such adjustment of qualifying income shall be prepared by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management in relation to the annual

inflation adjustment in Social Security, if any, becoming effective at any time during the twelve-month period immediately preceding the first day of October each year and the amount of such adjustment shall be distributed to the assessors in each municipality not later than the thirty-first day of December next following.

(3) For purposes of determining qualifying income under subdivision (1) of this subsection with respect to a married homeowner who submits an application for tax reduction in accordance with this section, the Social Security income of the spouse of such homeowner shall not be included in the qualifying income of such homeowner, for purposes of determining eligibility for benefits under this section, if such spouse is a resident of a health care or nursing home facility in this state receiving payment related to such spouse under the Title XIX Medicaid program. An applicant who is legally separated pursuant to the provisions of section 46b-40, as of the thirty-first day of December preceding the date on which such person files an application for a grant in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, may apply as an unmarried person and shall be regarded as such for purposes of determining qualifying income under said subsection.

(c) The amount of reduction in property tax provided under this section shall, subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, be determined in accordance with the following schedule:

Qualifying Income		Tax Reduction As Percentage Of Property Tax	Tax Reduction For Any Year	
Over	Not Exceeding			
Married Homeowners			Maximum	Minimum
$ 0	$11,700	50%	$1,250	$400
11,700	15,900	40	1,000	350
15,900	19,700	30	750	250
19,700	23,600	20	500	150

23,600	28,900	10	250	150
28,900		None		

Unmarried Homeowners

$ 0	$11,700	40%	$1,000	$350
11,700	15,900	30	750	250
15,900	19,700	20	500	150
19,700	23,600	10	250	150
23,600		None		

(d) Any homeowner qualified for tax reduction in accordance with subsection (b) of this section in an amount to be determined under the schedule of such tax reduction in subsection (c) of this section, shall in no event receive less in tax reduction than the minimum amount of such reduction applicable to the qualifying income of such homeowner according to the schedule in said subsection (c).

(e) Any claim for tax reduction under this section shall be submitted for approval, on the application form prepared for such purpose by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in the first year claim for such tax relief is filed and biennially thereafter. Such application form may be submitted by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the secretary. The amount of tax reduction approved shall be applied to the real property tax payable by the homeowner for the assessment year in which such application is submitted and approved. If any such homeowner has qualified for tax reduction under this section, the tax reduction determined shall, when possible, be applied and prorated uniformly over the number of installments in which the real property tax is due and payable to the municipality in which he resides. In the case of any homeowner who is eligible for tax reduction under this section as a result of increases in qualifying income, effective with respect to the assessment year commencing October 1, 1987, under

the schedule of qualifying income and tax reduction in subsection (c) of this section, exclusive of any such increases related to social security adjustments in accordance with subsection (b) of this section, the total amount of tax reduction to which such homeowner is entitled shall be credited and uniformly prorated against property tax installment payments applicable to such homeowner's residence which become due after such homeowner's application for tax reduction under this section is accepted. In the event that a homeowner has paid in full the amount of property tax applicable to such homeowner's residence, regardless of whether the municipality requires the payment of property taxes in one or more installments, such municipality shall make payment to such homeowner in the amount of the tax reduction allowed. The municipality shall be reimbursed for the amount of such payment in accordance with subsection (g) of this section. In respect to such application required biennially after the filing and approval for the first year, the tax assessor in each municipality shall notify each such homeowner concerning application requirements by **[**regular**]** mail or, at such homeowner's option, electronic mail, not later than February first, annually enclosing a copy of the required application form. Such homeowner may submit such application to the assessor by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, provided it is received by the assessor not later than April fifteenth in the assessment year with respect to which such tax reduction is claimed. Not later than April thirtieth of such year the assessor shall notify, by mail evidenced by a certificate of mailing, any such homeowner for whom such application was not received by said April fifteenth concerning application requirements and such homeowner shall be required not later than May fifteenth to submit such application personally or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, or, for reasonable cause, by a person acting on behalf of such taxpayer as approved by the assessor. In the year immediately following any year in which such homeowner has submitted application and qualified for tax reduction in accordance with this section, such homeowner shall be

presumed, without filing application therefor, to be qualified for tax reduction in accordance with the schedule in subsection (c) of this section in the same percentage of property tax as allowed in the year immediately preceding. If any homeowner has qualified and received tax reduction under this section and subsequently in any calendar year has qualifying income in excess of the maximum described in this section, such homeowner shall notify the tax assessor by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, on or before the next filing date and shall be denied tax reduction under this section for the assessment year and any subsequent year or until such homeowner has reapplied and again qualified for benefits under this section. Any such person who fails to so notify the tax assessor of his disqualification shall refund all amounts of tax reduction improperly taken and be fined not more than five hundred dollars.

(f) Any homeowner, believing such homeowner is entitled to tax reduction benefits under this section for any assessment year, shall make application as required in subsection (e) of this section, to the assessor of the municipality in which the homeowner resides, for such tax reduction at any time from February first to and including May fifteenth of the year in which tax reduction is claimed. A homeowner may make application to the secretary prior to August fifteenth of the claim year for an extension of the application period. The secretary may grant such extension in the case of extenuating circumstance due to illness or incapacitation as evidenced by a certificate signed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse to that extent, or if the secretary determines there is good cause for doing so. Such application for tax reduction benefits shall be submitted on a form prescribed and furnished by the secretary to the assessor. In making application the homeowner shall present to such assessor, in substantiation of such homeowner's application, a copy of such homeowner's federal income tax return, including a copy of the Social Security statement of earnings for such homeowner, and that of such

homeowner's spouse, if filed separately, for such homeowner's taxable year ending immediately prior to the submission of such application, or if not required to file a return, such other evidence of qualifying income in respect to such taxable year as may be required by the assessor. When the assessor is satisfied that the applying homeowner is entitled to tax reduction in accordance with this section, such assessor shall issue a certificate of credit, in such form as the secretary may prescribe and supply showing the amount of tax reduction allowed. A duplicate of such certificate shall be delivered to the applicant and the tax collector of the municipality and the assessor shall keep the fourth copy of such certificate and a copy of the application. Any homeowner who, for the purpose of obtaining a tax reduction under this section, wilfully fails to disclose all matters related thereto or with intent to defraud makes false statement shall refund all property tax credits improperly taken and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. Applications filed under this section shall not be open for public inspection.

(g) On or before July first, annually, each municipality shall submit to the secretary a claim for the tax reductions approved under this section in relation to the assessment list of October first immediately preceding. On or after December 1, 1987, any municipality that neglects to transmit to the secretary the claim as required by this section shall forfeit two hundred fifty dollars to the state, except that the secretary may waive such forfeiture in accordance with procedures and standards established by regulations adopted in accordance with chapter 54. Subject to procedures for review and approval of such data pursuant to section 12-120b, said secretary shall, on or before December fifteenth next following, certify to the Comptroller the amount due each municipality as reimbursement for loss of property tax revenue related to the tax reductions allowed under this section, except that the secretary may reduce the amount due as reimbursement under this section by up to one hundred per cent for any municipality that is not eligible for a grant under section 32-9s. The Comptroller shall draw an

order on the Treasurer on or before the fifth business day following December fifteenth and the Treasurer shall pay the amount due each municipality not later than the thirty-first day of December. Any claimant aggrieved by the results of the secretary's review shall have the rights of appeal as set forth in section 12-120b. The amount of the grant payable to each municipality in any year in accordance with this section shall be reduced proportionately in the event that the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this section with respect to such year.

(h) Any person who is the owner of a residential dwelling on leased land, including any such person who is a sublessee under terms of the lease agreement applicable to such land, shall be entitled to claim tax relief under the provisions of this section, subject to all requirements therein except as provided in this subdivision, with respect to property taxes paid by such person on the assessed value of such dwelling, provided (1) the dwelling is such person's principal place of residence, (2) such lease or sublease requires that such person as the lessee or sublessee, whichever is applicable, pay all property taxes related to the dwelling and (3) such lease or sublease is recorded in the land records of the town.

(i) If any person with respect to whom a claim for tax reduction in accordance with this section has been approved for any assessment year transfers, assigns, grants or otherwise conveys on or after the first day of October but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year the interest in real property to which such claim for tax credit is related, regardless of whether such transfer, assignment, grant or conveyance is voluntary or involuntary, the amount of such tax credit shall be a pro rata portion of the amount otherwise applicable in such assessment year to be determined by a fraction the numerator of which shall be the number of full months from the first day of October in such assessment year to the date of such conveyance and the denominator of which shall

be twelve. If such conveyance occurs in the month of October the grantor shall be disqualified for tax credit in such assessment year. The grantee shall be required within a period not exceeding ten days immediately following the date of such conveyance to notify the assessor thereof by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, or in the absence of such notice, upon determination by the assessor that such transfer, assignment, grant or conveyance has occurred, the assessor shall (1) determine the amount of tax reduction to which the grantor is entitled for such assessment year with respect to the interest in real property conveyed and notify the tax collector of the reduced amount of tax reduction applicable to such interest and (2) notify the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management on or before the October first immediately following the end of the assessment year in which such conveyance occurs of the reduction in such tax reduction for purposes of a corresponding adjustment in the amount of state payment to the municipality next following as reimbursement for the revenue loss related to such tax reductions. On or after December 1, 1987, any municipality which neglects to transmit to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management the claim as required by this section shall forfeit two hundred fifty dollars to the state provided the secretary may waive such forfeiture in accordance with procedures and standards established by regulations adopted in accordance with chapter 54. Upon receipt of such notice from the assessor, the tax collector shall, if such notice is received after the tax due date in the municipality, within ten days thereafter mail, **[**or**]** hand or deliver by electronic mail, at the grantee's option, a bill to the grantee stating the additional amount of tax due as determined by the assessor. Such tax shall be due and payable and collectible as other property taxes and subject to the same liens and processes of collection, provided such tax shall be due and payable in an initial or single installment not sooner than thirty days after the date such bill is mailed or handed to the grantee and in equal amounts in any remaining, regular installments as the same are due and payable.

(j) (1) Notwithstanding the intent in subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section to provide for benefits in the form of property tax reduction applicable to persons liable for payment of such property tax and qualified in accordance with requirements related to age and income as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a certain annual benefit, determined in amount under the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of this section but payable in a manner as prescribed in this subsection, shall be provided with respect to any person who (A) is qualified in accordance with said requirements related to age and income as provided in subsection (b) of this section, including provisions concerning such person's spouse, and (B) is a resident of a dwelling unit within a multiple-dwelling complex containing dwelling units for occupancy by certain elderly persons under terms of a contract between such resident and the owner of such complex, in accordance with which contract such resident occupies a certain dwelling unit subject to the express provision that such resident has no legal title, interest or leasehold estate in the real or personal property of such complex, and under the terms of which contract such resident agrees to pay the owner of the complex a fee, as a condition precedent to occupancy and a monthly or other such periodic fee thereafter as a condition of continued occupancy. In no event shall any such resident be qualified for benefits payable in accordance with this subsection if, as determined by the assessor in the municipality in which such complex is situated, such resident's contract with the owner of such complex, or occupancy by such resident (i) confers upon such resident any ownership interest in the dwelling unit occupied or in such complex, or (ii) establishes a contract of lease of any type for the dwelling unit occupied by such resident.

(2) The amount of annual benefit payable in accordance with this subsection to any such resident, qualified as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, shall be determined in relation to an assumed amount of property tax liability applicable to the assessed value for the dwelling

unit which such resident occupies, as determined by the assessor in the municipality in which such complex is situated. Annually, not later than the first day of June, the assessor in such municipality, upon receipt of an application for such benefit submitted in accordance with this subsection by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, by any such resident, shall determine, with respect to the assessment list in such municipality for the assessment year commencing October first immediately preceding, the portion of the assessed value of the entire complex, as included in such assessment list, attributable to the dwelling unit occupied by such resident. The assumed property tax liability for purposes of this subsection shall be the product of such assessed value and the mill rate in such municipality as determined for purposes of property tax imposed on said assessment list for the assessment year commencing October first immediately preceding. The amount of benefit to which such resident shall be entitled for such assessment year shall be equivalent to the amount of tax reduction for which such resident would qualify, considering such assumed property tax liability to be the actual property tax applicable to such resident's dwelling unit and such resident as liable for the payment of such tax, in accordance with the schedule of qualifying income and tax reduction as provided in subsection (c) of this section, subject to provisions concerning maximum allowable benefit for any assessment year under subsections (c) and (d) of this section. The amount of benefit as determined for such resident in respect to any assessment year shall be payable by the state as a grant to such resident equivalent to the amount of property tax reduction to which such resident would be entitled under subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section if such resident were the owner of such dwelling unit and qualified for tax reduction benefits under said subsections (a) to (i), inclusive.

(3) Any such resident entitled to a grant as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be required to submit an application to the

assessor in the municipality in which such resident resides for such grant **[**to**]** by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, **[**in the municipality in which such resident resides**]** at any time from February first to and including the fifteenth day of May in the year in which such grant is claimed, on a form prescribed and furnished for such purpose by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. Any such resident submitting an application for such grant shall be required to present to the assessor, in substantiation of such application, a copy of such resident's federal income tax return, and if not required to file a federal income tax return, such other evidence of qualifying income, receipts for money received or cancelled checks, or copies thereof, and any other evidence the assessor may require. Not later than the first day of July in such year, the assessor shall submit to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (A) a copy of the application prepared by such resident, together with such resident's federal income tax return, if required to file such a return, and any other information submitted in relation thereto, (B) determinations of the assessor concerning the assessed value of the dwelling unit in such complex occupied by such resident, and (C) the amount of such grant approved by the assessor. Said secretary, upon approving such grant, shall certify the amount thereof and not later than the fifteenth day of September immediately following submit approval for payment of such grant to the State Comptroller. Not later than five business days immediately following receipt of such approval for payment, the State Comptroller shall draw his or her order upon the State Treasurer and the Treasurer shall pay the amount of the grant to such resident not later than the first day of October immediately following.

(k) If the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management makes any adjustments to the grants for tax reductions or assumed amounts of property tax liability claimed under this section subsequent to the Comptroller the payment of said grants in any year, the amount of such adjustment shall be reflected in the next payment the Treasurer shall

make to such municipality pursuant to this section.

Sec. 172. Section 12-170cc of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

Any person aggrieved by the action of the assessor or assessors in fixing the amount of a credit under subsection (f) of section 12-170aa, or in disapproving the claim therefor may appeal to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in writing or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the secretary, within thirty business days from the date of notice given to such person by the assessor or assessors, giving notice of such grievance. The secretary shall promptly consider such notice and may grant or deny the relief requested, provided such decision shall be made not later than thirty business days after the receipt of such notice. If the relief is denied, the applicant shall be notified forthwith and may appeal the decision of the secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 12-120b.

Sec. 173. Subsection (a) of section 29-263 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) Except as provided in subsection (h) of section 29-252a and the State Building Code adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of section 29-252, after October 1, 1970, no building or structure shall be constructed or altered until an application has been filed with the building official and a permit issued. Such application shall be filed in person, by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the building official. Such permit shall be issued or refused, in whole or in part, within thirty days after the date of an application. No permit shall be issued except upon application of the owner of the premises affected or the owner's authorized agent. No permit shall be issued to a contractor who is required to be registered pursuant to chapter 400, for work to be performed by such contractor, unless the name, business address and

Department of Consumer Protection registration number of such contractor is clearly marked on the application for the permit, and the contractor has presented such contractor's certificate of registration as a home improvement contractor. Prior to the issuance of a permit and within said thirty-day period, the building official shall review the plans of buildings or structures to be constructed or altered, including, but not limited to, plans prepared by an architect licensed pursuant to chapter 390, a professional engineer licensed pursuant to chapter 391 or an interior designer registered pursuant to chapter 396a acting within the scope of such license or registration, to determine their compliance with the requirements of the State Building Code and, where applicable, the local fire marshal shall review such plans to determine their compliance with the Fire Safety Code. Such plans submitted for review shall be in substantial compliance with the provisions of the State Building Code and, where applicable, with the provisions of the Fire Safety Code.

Sec. 174. Section 29-264 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

The State Building Inspector may, upon application by a builder setting forth that a set of plans and specifications will be utilized in more than one municipality to acquire building permits, review and approve any set of plans and specifications for the construction or erection of any building or structure designed to provide dwelling space for not more than two families if such set of plans and specifications meet the requirements of the State Building Code. Any building official shall issue a building permit upon application by a builder and presentation to him of such a set of plans and specifications bearing the approval of the State Building Inspector if all other local ordinances are complied with. <u>Such application may be delivered in person, by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the building official.</u>

Sec. 175. Section 29-266 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) A board of appeals shall be appointed by each municipality. Such board shall consist of five members, all of whom shall meet the qualifications set forth in the State Building Code. A member of a board of appeals of one municipality may also be a member of the board of appeals of another municipality.

(b) When the building official rejects or refuses to approve the mode or manner of construction proposed to be followed or the materials to be used in the erection or alteration of a building or structure, or when it is claimed that the provisions of the code do not apply or that an equally good or more desirable form of construction can be employed in a specific case, or when it is claimed that the true intent and meaning of the code and regulations have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted, or when the building official issues a written order under subsection (c) of section 29-261, the owner of such building or structure, whether already erected or to be erected, or his authorized agent may appeal in writing or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the board of appeals, from the decision of the building official to the board of appeals. When a person other than such owner claims to be aggrieved by any decision of the building official, such person or his authorized agent may appeal, in writing or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the board of appeals, from the decision of the building official to the board of appeals, and before determining the merits of such appeal the board of appeals shall first determine whether such person has a right to appeal. Upon receipt of an appeal from an owner or his representative or approval of an appeal by a person other than the owner, the chairman of the board of appeals shall appoint a panel of not less than three members of such board to hear such appeal. Such appeal shall be heard in the municipality for which the building official serves within five days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, after the date of receipt of such appeal. Such panel shall render a decision upon the appeal and file the same with the building official from whom such appeal has been taken not later than five days,

exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, following the day of the hearing thereon. A copy of such decision shall be mailed, prior to such filing, to the party taking such appeal. Any person aggrieved by the decision of a panel may appeal to the Codes and Standards Committee within fourteen days after the filing of the decision with the building official. Any determination made by the local panel shall be subject to review de novo by said committee.

(c) If, at the time that a building official makes a decision under subsection (b) of this section, there is no board of appeals for the municipality in which the building official serves, a person who claims to be aggrieved by such decision may submit an appeal **[**, in writing,**]** to the chief executive officer of such municipality. Such appeal may be made in writing or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the chief executive officer. If, within five days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, after the date of receipt of such appeal by such officer, the municipality fails to appoint a board of appeals from among either its own residents or residents of other municipalities, such officer shall file a notice of such failure with the building official from whom the appeal has been taken and, prior to such filing, mail a copy of the notice to the person taking the appeal. Such person may appeal the decision of the building official to the Codes and Standards Committee within fourteen days after the filing of such notice with the building official. If the municipality succeeds in appointing a board of appeals, the chief executive officer of the municipality shall immediately transmit the written appeal to such board, which shall review the appeal in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

(d) Any person aggrieved by any ruling of the Codes and Standards Committee may appeal to the superior court for the judicial district where such building or structure has been or is being erected.

Sec. 176. Section 4-124n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

A regional council of governments shall adopt bylaws for the conduct of its business and shall annually elect from among the representatives to the council a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary, a treasurer **[**, who shall be bonded,**]** and such other officers as may be designated or permitted in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for alternate representatives of the council to attend and vote at any meeting in place of absent representatives and may provide for the organization of a regional planning commission. **[**No representative shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.**]** The bylaws **[**shall**]** may provide for an executive committee of the council and **[**an executive committee of the regional planning commission and may provide**]** for additional committees including nonvoting advisory committees. Meetings of the council shall be called **[**by the chairman or as the bylaws shall otherwise provide**]** pursuant to the bylaws and minutes of all meetings of the council, its committees and other official actions shall be filed in the office of the council and shall be of public record.

Sec. 177. Section 4-124s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Regional council of governments" means any such council organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive;

(2) "Municipality" means a town, city or consolidated town and borough;

(3) "Legislative body" means the board of selectmen, town council, city council, board of alderman, board of directors, board of representatives or board of the warden and burgesses of a municipality;

(4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management or the designee of the secretary; **[**and**]**

(5) "Regional educational service center" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-282; **[**.**]** and

(6) "Employee organization" means any lawful association, labor organization, federation or council having as a primary purpose the improvement of wages, hours and other conditions of employment.

(b) There is established a regional performance incentive program that shall be administered by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. **[**On or before December 31, 2011, and annually thereafter, any**]** Any regional council of governments, **[**any two or more municipalities acting through a regional council of governments, any economic development district, any**]** regional educational service center or **[**any**]** a combination thereof may submit a proposal to the secretary for: (1) The **[**joint**]** provision of any service that one or more participating municipalities of such council **[**,**]** or local or regional board of education of such regional educational service center **[**or agency**]** currently provide but which is not provided on a regional basis, (2) **[**a planning study regarding the joint provision of any service on a regional basis, or (3) shared information technology services**]** the redistribution of grants awarded pursuant to sections 4-66g, 4-66h, 4-66m and 7-536, according to regional priorities, or (3) regional revenue sharing among such participating municipalities pursuant to section 7-148bb. A copy of said proposal shall be sent to the legislators representing said participating municipalities or local or regional boards of education. Any **[**local or regional board of education or**]** regional educational service center serving a population greater than one hundred thousand may submit a proposal to the secretary for a regional special education initiative.

(c) (1) A regional council of governments **[**, an economic development district, a**]** or regional educational service center **[**or a local or regional board of education**]** shall submit each proposal in the form and manner the secretary prescribes and shall, at a minimum, provide the following information for each proposal: (A) Service or initiative description; (B)

the explanation of the need for such service or initiative; (C) the method of delivering such service or initiative on a regional basis; (D) the organization that would be responsible for regional service or initiative delivery; (E) a description of the population that would be served; (F) the manner in which the proposed regional service or initiative delivery will achieve economies of scale for participating municipalities or boards of education; (G) the amount by which participating municipalities will reduce their mill rates as a result of savings realized; (H) a cost benefit analysis for the provision of the service or initiative by each participating municipality and by the entity or board of education submitting the proposal; (I) a plan of implementation for delivery of the service or initiative on a regional basis; (J) a resolution endorsing such proposal approved by the **[**legislative**]** governing body of **[**each participating municipality; and (K)**]** the council or center, which shall include a statement that not less than twenty-five per cent of the cost of such proposal shall be funded by the council or center in the first year of operation, and that by the fourth year of operation the council or center shall fund one hundred per cent of such cost; (K) a resolution endorsing such proposal approved by the governing body of the council of each planning region in which the service or initiative is to be provided; (L) an acknowledgment from any employee organization that may be impacted by such proposal that they have been informed of and consulted about the proposal; and (M) an explanation of the potential legal obstacles, if any, to the regional provision of the service or initiative, and how such obstacles will be resolved.

(2) The secretary shall review each proposal and shall award grants for proposals the secretary determines best **[**meet the requirements of this section. In awarding such grants, the secretary shall give priority to a proposal submitted by (A) any entity specified in subsection (a) of this section that includes participation of all of the member municipalities of such entity, and which may increase the purchasing power of participating municipalities or provide a cost savings initiative resulting

in a decrease in expenses of such municipalities, allowing such municipalities to lower property taxes, (B) any economic development district, and (C) any local or regional board of education**]** satisfy the following criteria: (A) The proposed service or initiative will be available to or benefit all participating members of the regional council of governments or regional educational service center regardless of such members' participation in the grant application process; (B) when compared to the existing delivery of services by participating members of the council or center, the proposal demonstrates (i) a positive cost benefit to such members, (ii) increased efficiency and capacity in the delivery of services, (iii) a diminished need for state funding, and (iv) increased cost savings; (C) the proposed service or initiative promotes cooperation among participating members that may lead to a reduction in economic or social inequality; (D) the proposal has been approved by a majority of the members of the council or center and, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, contains a statement that not less than twenty-five per cent of the cost of such proposal shall be funded by the council or center in the first year of operation, and that by the fourth year of operation the council or center shall fund one hundred per cent of such cost; and (E) any employee organizations that may be impacted by such proposal have been informed of and consulted about such proposal, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(d) **[**On or before December 31, 2013, and annually thereafter until December 31, 2018, in addition to any proposal submitted pursuant to this section, any municipality or regional council of governments may apply to the secretary for a grant to fund: (1) Operating costs associated with connecting to the state-wide high speed, flexible network developed pursuant to section 4d-80, including the costs to connect at the same rate as other government entities served by such network; and (2) capital cost associated with connecting to such network, including expenses associated with building out the internal fiber network connections required to connect to such network, provided the secretary

shall make any such grant available in accordance with the two-year schedule by which the Bureau of Enterprise Systems and Technology recommends connecting each municipality and regional council of governments to such network. Any municipality or regional council of governments shall submit each application in the form and manner the secretary prescribes.**]** Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 7-339a to 7-339*l*, inclusive, or any other provision of the general statutes, no regional council of governments or regional educational service center or any member municipalities or local or regional boards of education of such councils or centers shall be required to execute an interlocal agreement to implement a proposal submitted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(e) Any board of education awarded a grant for a proposal submitted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may deposit any cost savings realized as a result of the implementation of the proposed service or initiative into a nonlapsing account pursuant to section 10-248a.

[(e)**]** (f) The secretary shall submit to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding a report on the grants provided pursuant to this section. Each such report shall (1) include information on the amount of each grant **[**,**]** and the potential of each grant for leveraging other public and private investments, and (2) describe any property tax reductions and improved services achieved by means of the program established pursuant to this section. The secretary shall submit a report for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2011, not later than February 1, 2012, and shall submit a report for each subsequent fiscal year not later than the first day of March in such fiscal year. **[**Such reports shall include the property tax reductions achieved by means of the program established pursuant to this section.**]**

Sec. 178. Subsection (b) of section 8-31b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

passage):

(b) A regional council of governments may accept or participate in any grant, donation or program available to any political subdivision of the state and may also accept or participate in any grant, donation or program made available to counties by any other governmental or private entity. Notwithstanding the provisions of any special or public act, any political subdivision of the state may enter into an agreement with a regional council of governments to perform jointly or to provide, alone or in cooperation with any other entity, any service, activity or undertaking that the political subdivision is authorized by law to perform. A regional council of governments established pursuant to this section may administer and provide regional services to municipalities by affirmative vote of the member municipalities of such council, and may delegate such authority to subregional groups of such municipalities. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 7-339a to 7-339*l*, inclusive, the administration and provision of such services shall not require the execution of any interlocal agreement. Regional services provided to member municipalities shall be determined by each regional council of governments, except as provided in subsection (b) of section 9-229 and section 9-229b, and may include, without limitation, the following services: (1) Engineering; (2) inspectional and planning; (3) economic development; (4) public safety; (5) emergency management; (6) animal control; (7) land use management; (8) tourism promotion; (9) social; (10) health; (11) education; (12) data management; (13) regional sewerage; (14) housing; (15) computerized mapping; (16) household hazardous waste collection; (17) recycling; (18) public facility siting; (19) coordination of master planning; (20) vocational training and development; (21) solid waste disposal; (22) fire protection; (23) regional resource protection; (24) regional impact studies; and (25) transportation.

Sec. 179. Section 4-66k of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established an account to be known as the "regional planning incentive account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Except as provided in subsection **[**(d)**]** (e) of this section, moneys **[**,**]** in the account shall be expended by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management **[**in accordance with subsection (b) of this section**]** for the purposes of first providing funding to regional planning organizations in accordance with the provisions of subsections (b)**,** **[**and**]** (c) and (d) of this section and then to providing grants under the regional performance incentive program established pursuant to section 4-124s.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional planning organization, as defined in section 4-124i, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars. Any regional council of governments that is comprised of any two or more regional planning organizations that voluntarily consolidate on or before December 31, 2013, shall receive an additional payment in an amount equal to the amount the regional planning organizations would have received if such regional planning organizations had not voluntarily consolidated.

(c) **[**Beginning in the fiscal year**]** For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, **[**and annually thereafter**]** to June 30, 2021, inclusive, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional council of governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j, in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars plus fifty cents per capita, using population information from the most recent federal decennial census. Any regional council of governments that is comprised of any two or more regional planning organizations, as defined in section 4-124i, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013,

that voluntarily consolidated on or before December 31, 2013, shall receive a payment in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars for each such regional planning organization that voluntarily consolidated on or before said date.

(d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional council of governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j, in the amount of one hundred eighty-five thousand five hundred dollars plus sixty-eight cents per capita, using population information from the most recent federal decennial census.

(2) Not later than July 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, each regional council of governments shall submit to the secretary a proposal for expenditure of the funds described in subdivision (1) of this subsection. Such proposal may include, but need not be limited to, a description of (A) functions, activities or services currently performed by the state or municipalities that may be provided in a more efficient, cost-effective, responsive or higher quality manner by such council, a regional educational service center or similar regional entity; (B) anticipated cost savings relating to the sharing of government services, including, but not limited to, joint purchasing; (C) the standardization and alignment of various regions of the state; or (D) any other initiatives that may facilitate the delivery of services to the public in a more efficient, cost-effective, responsive or higher quality manner.

[(d)**]** (e) There is established a regionalization subaccount within the regional planning incentive account. If the Connecticut Lottery Corporation offers online its existing lottery draw games through the corporation's Internet web site, online service or mobile application, the revenue from such online offering that exceeds an amount equivalent to the costs of the debt-free community college program under section 10a-174 shall be deposited in the subaccount, or, if such online offering is not established, the amount provided under subsection (b) of section 364 of

public act 19-117 for regionalization initiatives shall be deposited in the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount shall be expended only for the purposes recommended by the task force established under section 4-66s.

Sec. 180. Section 4-66r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the fiscal **[**year**]** years ending June 30, 2018, **[**and each fiscal year thereafter**]** and June 30, 2019, each regional council of governments shall, within available appropriations, receive a grant-in-aid to be known as a regional services grant, the amount of which shall be based on a formula to be determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, unless the secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before November 1, 2017. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, **[**or any fiscal year thereafter,**]** unless the secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before July 1, 2018. **[**, and annually thereafter.**]**

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 29 of public act 19-117, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, each regional council of governments shall receive a grant-in-aid to be known as a regional services grant, the amount of which shall be determined pursuant to section 4-66k. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, or any fiscal year thereafter, unless the secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before July 1, 2019, and annually thereafter. The secretary may provide biennial spending plan approval process guidelines at the secretary's discretion.

(c) Each regional council of governments shall use such grant funds

for planning purposes and to achieve efficiencies in the delivery of municipal services, without diminishing the quality of such services. On or before October 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, each regional council of governments shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development and finance, revenue and bonding, and to the secretary. Such report shall (1) summarize the expenditure of such grant funds in the prior fiscal year, (2) describe any regional program, project or initiative currently provided or planned by the council, (3) review the performance of any existing regional program, project or initiative relative to its initial goals and objectives, (4) analyze the existing services provided by member municipalities or by the state that, in the opinion of the council, could be more effectively or efficiently provided on a regional basis, and (5) provide recommendations for legislative action concerning potential impediments to the regionalization of services.

Sec. 181. Section 4-66*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "FY 15 mill rate" means the mill rate a municipality used during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015;

(2) "Mill rate" means, unless otherwise specified, the mill rate a municipality uses to calculate tax bills for motor vehicles;

(3) "Municipality" means any town, city, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough. "Municipality" includes a district for the purposes of subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section;

(4) "Municipal spending" means:

Municipal Municipal

$$\frac{\text{spending for the fiscal year prior to the current fiscal year} - \text{spending for the fiscal year two years prior to the current year}}{\text{Municipal spending for the fiscal year two years prior to the current year}} \times 100 = \text{Municipal spending;}$$

(5) "Per capita distribution" means:

$$\frac{\text{Municipal population}}{\text{Total state population}} \times \text{Sales tax revenue} = \text{Per capita distribution}$$

(6) "Pro rata distribution" means:

$$\frac{\text{Municipal weighted mill rate calculation}}{\text{Sum of all municipal weighted mill rate calculations combined}} \times \text{Sales tax revenue} = \text{Pro rata distribution;}$$

(7) "Regional council of governments" means any such council organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive;

(8) "Municipal population" means the number of persons in a municipality according to the most recent estimate of the Department of Public Health;

(9) "Total state population" means the number of persons in this state

according to the most recent estimate published by the Department of Public Health;

(10) "Weighted mill rate" means a municipality's FY 15 mill rate divided by the average of all municipalities' FY 15 mill rate;

(11) "Weighted mill rate calculation" means per capita distribution multiplied by a municipality's weighted mill rate;

(12) "Sales tax revenue" means the moneys in the account remaining for distribution pursuant to subdivision **[**(7)**]** (6) of subsection (b) of this section;

(13) "District" means any district, as defined in section 7-324; and

(14) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

(b) There is established an account to be known as the "municipal revenue sharing account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. The secretary shall set aside and ensure availability of moneys in the account in the following order of priority and shall transfer or disburse such moneys as follows:

(1) Ten million dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, shall be transferred not later than April fifteenth for the purposes of grants under section 10-262h;

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make motor vehicle property tax grants payable to municipalities pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be expended not later than August first annually by the secretary;

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make the grants payable from the select

payment in lieu of taxes grant account established pursuant to section 12-18c shall annually be transferred to the select payment in lieu of taxes account in the Office of Policy and Management;

(4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, moneys sufficient to make the municipal revenue sharing grants payable to municipalities pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section shall be expended not later than October thirty-first annually by the secretary;

[(5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, seven million dollars shall be expended for the purposes of the regional services grants pursuant to subsection (e) of this section to the regional councils of governments;**]**

[(6)**]** (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys may be expended for the purpose of supplemental motor vehicle property tax grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and

[(7)**]** (6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys in the account remaining shall be expended annually by the secretary for the purposes of the municipal revenue sharing grants established pursuant to subsection **[**(f)**]** (d) of this section. Any such moneys deposited in the account for municipal revenue sharing grants between October first and June thirtieth shall be distributed to municipalities on the following October first and any such moneys deposited in the account between July first and September thirtieth shall be distributed to municipalities on the following January thirty-first. Any municipality may apply to the Office of Policy and Management on or after July first for early disbursement of a portion of such grant. The Office of Policy and Management may approve such an application if it finds that early disbursement is required in order for a municipality to meet its cash flow needs. No early disbursement approved by said

office may be issued later than September thirtieth.

(c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, motor vehicle property tax grants to municipalities that impose mill rates on real property and personal property other than motor vehicles greater than 39 mills or that, when combined with the mill rate of any district located within the municipality, impose mill rates greater than 39 mills, shall be made in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of property taxes levied by the municipality and any district located within the municipality on motor vehicles for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2013, and the amount such levy would have been if the mill rate on motor vehicles for said assessment year was 39 mills.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, motor vehicle property tax grants to municipalities that impose mill rates on real property and personal property other than motor vehicles greater than 45 mills or that, when combined with the mill rate of any district located within the municipality, impose mill rates greater than 45 mills, shall be made in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of property taxes levied by the municipality and any district located within the municipality on motor vehicles for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2016, and the amount such levy would have been if the mill rate on motor vehicles for said assessment year was 45 mills.

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, any municipality that imposed a mill rate for real and personal property of more than 39 mills during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and effected a revaluation of real property for the 2014 or 2015 assessment year that resulted in an increase of 4 or more mills over the prior mill rate, may apply to the Office of Policy and Management for a supplemental motor vehicle property tax grant. The Office of Policy and Management may approve such an application, within available funds, provided such supplemental grant does not reduce any amount payable to any other

municipality.

(4) Not later than fifteen calendar days after receiving a property tax grant pursuant to this section, the municipality shall disburse to any district located within the municipality the amount of any such property tax grant that is attributable to the district.

[(d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, each municipality shall receive a municipal revenue sharing grant, which shall be payable August 1, 2016, from the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund established in section 4-66p. The total amount of the grant payable is as follows:

Municipality	Grant Amount
Andover	66,705
Ansonia	605,442
Ashford	87,248
Avon	374,711
Barkhamsted	76,324
Beacon Falls	123,341
Berlin	843,048
Bethany	114,329
Bethel	392,605
Bethlehem	42,762
Bloomfield	438,458
Bolton	106,449
Bozrah	53,783
Branford	570,402
Bridgeport	14,476,283
Bridgewater	15,670
Bristol	1,276,119
Brookfield	343,611
Brooklyn	103,910
Burlington	193,490

Canaan	14,793
Canterbury	58,684
Canton	211,078
Chaplin	48,563
Cheshire	594,084
Chester	57,736
Clinton	268,611
Colchester	330,363
Colebrook	29,694
Columbia	111,276
Cornwall	11,269
Coventry	252,939
Cromwell	288,951
Danbury	2,079,675
Darien	171,485
Deep River	93,525
Derby	462,718
Durham	150,019
East Granby	106,222
East Haddam	186,418
East Hampton	263,149
East Hartford	3,877,281
East Haven	593,493
East Lyme	243,736
East Windsor	232,457
Eastford	23,060
Easton	155,216
Ellington	321,722
Enfield	911,974
Essex	74,572
Fairfield	795,318
Farmington	335,287

Franklin	26,309
Glastonbury	754,546
Goshen	30,286
Granby	244,839
Greenwich	366,588
Griswold	243,727
Groton	433,177
Guilford	456,863
Haddam	170,440
Hamden	4,491,337
Hampton	38,070
Hartford	13,908,437
Hartland	27,964
Harwinton	113,987
Hebron	208,666
Kent	26,808
Killingly	351,213
Killingworth	85,270
Lebanon	149,163
Ledyard	307,619
Lisbon	45,413
Litchfield	169,828
Lyme	21,862
Madison	372,897
Manchester	1,972,491
Mansfield	525,280
Marlborough	131,065
Meriden	1,315,347
Middlebury	154,299
Middlefield	91,372
Middletown	964,657
Milford	1,880,830

Monroe	404,221
Montville	401,756
Morris	28,110
Naugatuck	2,405,660
New Britain	5,781,991
New Canaan	168,106
New Fairfield	288,278
New Hartford	140,338
New Haven	2,118,290
New London	750,249
New Milford	565,898
Newington	651,000
Newtown	572,949
Norfolk	20,141
North Branford	292,517
North Canaan	66,052
North Haven	487,882
North Stonington	107,832
Norwalk	3,401,590
Norwich	1,309,943
Old Lyme	79,946
Old Saybrook	101,527
Orange	284,365
Oxford	171,492
Plainfield	310,350
Plainville	363,176
Plymouth	255,581
Pomfret	54,257
Portland	192,715
Preston	58,934
Prospect	197,097
Putnam	76,399

Redding	189,781
Ridgefield	512,848
Rocky Hill	405,872
Roxbury	15,998
Salem	85,617
Salisbury	20,769
Scotland	36,200
Seymour	343,388
Sharon	19,467
Shelton	706,038
Sherman	39,000
Simsbury	567,460
Somers	141,697
South Windsor	558,715
Southbury	404,731
Southington	889,821
Sprague	89,456
Stafford	243,095
Stamford	2,372,358
Sterling	77,037
Stonington	202,888
Stratford	1,130,316
Suffield	321,763
Thomaston	158,888
Thompson	114,582
Tolland	303,971
Torrington	2,435,109
Trumbull	745,325
Union	17,283
Vernon	641,027
Voluntown	33,914
Wallingford	919,984

Warren	11,006
Washington	25,496
Waterbury	13,438,542
Waterford	259,091
Watertown	453,012
West Hartford	1,614,320
West Haven	1,121,850
Westbrook	80,601
Weston	211,384
Westport	262,402
Wethersfield	940,267
Willington	121,568
Wilton	380,234
Winchester	224,447
Windham	513,847
Windsor	593,921
Windsor Locks	256,241
Wolcott	340,859
Woodbridge	247,758
Woodbury	200,175
Woodstock	97,708
Borough of Danielson	-
Borough of Litchfield	-
Bloomfield, Blue Hills FD	92,961
Enfield Thompsonville FD #2	354,311
Manchester - Eighth Utility District	436,718
Middletown - City Fire	910,442
Middletown So Fire	413,961
Norwich CCD	552,565
Norwich TCD	62,849
Simsbury FD	221,536
Plainfield Fire District	-

Windham, Special Service District #2	640,000
Windham 1st Taxing District	-
Windham First	
West Haven First Center (D1)	1,039,843
West Haven: Allingtown FD (D3)	483,505
West Haven: West Shore FD (D2)	654,640

(2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, each municipality shall receive a municipal sharing grant payable not later than October thirty-first of each year. The total amount of the grant payable is as follows:

Municipality	Grant Amount
Andover	96,020
Ansonia	643,519
Ashford	125,591
Avon	539,387
Barkhamsted	109,867
Beacon Falls	177,547
Berlin	1,213,548
Bethany	164,574
Bethel	565,146
Bethlehem	61,554
Bloomfield	631,150
Bolton	153,231
Bozrah	77,420
Branford	821,080
Bridgeport	9,758,441
Bridgewater	22,557
Bristol	1,836,944
Brookfield	494,620
Brooklyn	149,576

Burlington	278,524
Canaan	21,294
Canterbury	84,475
Canton	303,842
Chaplin	69,906
Cheshire	855,170
Chester	83,109
Clinton	386,660
Colchester	475,551
Colebrook	42,744
Columbia	160,179
Cornwall	16,221
Coventry	364,100
Cromwell	415,938
Danbury	2,993,644
Darien	246,849
Deep River	134,627
Derby	400,912
Durham	215,949
East Granby	152,904
East Haddam	268,344
East Hampton	378,798
East Hartford	2,036,894
East Haven	854,319
East Lyme	350,852
East Windsor	334,616
Eastford	33,194
Easton	223,430
Ellington	463,112
Enfield	1,312,766
Essex	107,345
Fairfield	1,144,842

Farmington	482,637
Franklin	37,871
Glastonbury	1,086,151
Goshen	43,596
Granby	352,440
Greenwich	527,695
Griswold	350,840
Groton	623,548
Guilford	657,644
Haddam	245,344
Hamden	2,155,661
Hampton	54,801
Hartford	1,498,643
Hartland	40,254
Harwinton	164,081
Hebron	300,369
Kent	38,590
Killingly	505,562
Killingworth	122,744
Lebanon	214,717
Ledyard	442,811
Lisbon	65,371
Litchfield	244,464
Lyme	31,470
Madison	536,777
Manchester	1,971,540
Mansfield	756,128
Marlborough	188,665
Meriden	1,893,412
Middlebury	222,109
Middlefield	131,529
Middletown	1,388,602

Milford	2,707,412
Monroe	581,867
Montville	578,318
Morris	40,463
Naugatuck	1,251,980
New Britain	3,131,893
New Canaan	241,985
New Fairfield	414,970
New Hartford	202,014
New Haven	114,863
New London	917,228
New Milford	814,597
Newington	937,100
Newtown	824,747
Norfolk	28,993
North Branford	421,072
North Canaan	95,081
North Haven	702,295
North Stonington	155,222
Norwalk	4,896,511
Norwich	1,362,971
Old Lyme	115,080
Old Saybrook	146,146
Orange	409,337
Oxford	246,859
Plainfield	446,742
Plainville	522,783
Plymouth	367,902
Pomfret	78,101
Portland	277,409
Preston	84,835
Prospect	283,717

Putnam	109,975
Redding	273,185
Ridgefield	738,233
Rocky Hill	584,244
Roxbury	23,029
Salem	123,244
Salisbury	29,897
Scotland	52,109
Seymour	494,298
Sharon	28,022
Shelton	1,016,326
Sherman	56,139
Simsbury	775,368
Somers	203,969
South Windsor	804,258
Southbury	582,601
Southington	1,280,877
Sprague	128,769
Stafford	349,930
Stamford	3,414,955
Sterling	110,893
Stonington	292,053
Stratford	1,627,064
Suffield	463,170
Thomaston	228,716
Thompson	164,939
Tolland	437,559
Torrington	1,133,394
Trumbull	1,072,878
Union	24,878
Vernon	922,743
Voluntown	48,818

Wallingford	1,324,296
Warren	15,842
Washington	36,701
Waterbury	5,595,448
Waterford	372,956
Watertown	652,100
West Hartford	2,075,223
West Haven	1,614,877
Westbrook	116,023
Weston	304,282
Westport	377,722
Wethersfield	1,353,493
Willington	174,995
Wilton	547,338
Winchester	323,087
Windham	739,671
Windsor	854,935
Windsor Locks	368,853
Wolcott	490,659
Woodbridge	274,418
Woodbury	288,147
Woodstock	140,648

(e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and each fiscal year thereafter, each regional council of governments shall receive a regional services grant, the amount of which will be based on a formula to be determined by the secretary, except that, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, thirty-five per cent of such grant moneys shall be awarded to regional councils of governments for the purpose of assisting regional education service centers in merging their human resource, finance or technology services with such services provided by municipalities within the region. For the fiscal year ending

June 30, 2017, three million dollars shall be expended by the secretary from the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund established in section 4-66p for the purpose of the regional services grant. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, or any fiscal year thereafter, unless the secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before July 1, 2017, and annually thereafter. The regional councils of governments shall use such grants for planning purposes and to achieve efficiencies in the delivery of municipal services by regionalizing such services, including, but not limited to, region-wide consolidation of such services. Such efficiencies shall not diminish the quality of such services. A unanimous vote of the representatives of such council shall be required for approval of any expenditure from such grant. On or before October 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter, each such council shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development and finance, revenue and bonding. Such report shall summarize the expenditure of such grants and provide recommendations concerning the expansion, reduction or modification of such grants.**]**

[(f)**]** (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, each municipality shall receive a municipal revenue sharing grant as follows:

(1) (A) A municipality having a mill rate at or above twenty-five shall receive the per capita distribution or pro rata distribution, whichever is higher for such municipality.

(B) Such grants shall be increased by a percentage calculated as follows:

Sum of per capita distribution amount
for all municipalities having a mill rate

below twenty-five – pro rata distribution
amount for all municipalities
having a mill rate below twenty-five

Sum of all grants to municipalities
calculated pursuant to subparagraph (A)
of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(C) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision, Hartford shall receive not more than 5.2 per cent of the municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this subsection; Bridgeport shall receive not more than 4.5 per cent of the municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this subsection; New Haven shall receive not more than 2.0 per cent of the municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this subsection and Stamford shall receive not more than 2.8 per cent of the equalization grants distributed pursuant to this subsection. Any excess funds remaining after such reductions in payments to Hartford, Bridgeport, New Haven and Stamford shall be distributed to all other municipalities having a mill rate at or above twenty-five on a pro rata basis according to the payment they receive pursuant to this subdivision; and

(2) A municipality having a mill rate below twenty-five shall receive the per capita distribution or pro rata distribution, whichever is less for such municipality.

(3) For the purposes of this subsection, "mill rate" means the mill rate for real property and personal property other than motor vehicles.

[(g)**]** (e) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a municipality may disburse any municipal revenue sharing grant funds to a district within such municipality.

[(h)**]** (f) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection (d) **[**or (f)**]** of this section shall be reduced if such municipality increases its adopted budget expenditures for such fiscal year above a cap equal to the amount of adopted budget expenditures authorized for the previous fiscal year by 2.5 per cent or more or the rate of inflation, whichever is greater. Such reduction shall be in an amount equal to fifty cents for every dollar expended over the cap set forth in this subsection. For the purposes of this section, (A) "municipal spending" does not include expenditures for debt service, special education, implementation of court orders or arbitration awards, expenditures associated with a major disaster or emergency declaration by the President of the United States, a disaster emergency declaration issued by the Governor pursuant to chapter 517 or any disbursement made to a district pursuant to subsection (c) or **[**(g)**]** (e) of this section, budgeting for an audited deficit, nonrecurring grants, capital expenditures or payments on unfunded pension liabilities, (B) "adopted budget expenditures" includes expenditures from a municipality's general fund and expenditures from any nonbudgeted funds, and (C) "capital expenditure" means a nonrecurring capital expenditure of one hundred thousand dollars or more. Each municipality shall annually certify to the secretary, on a form prescribed by said secretary, whether such municipality has exceeded the cap set forth in this subsection and if so the amount by which the cap was exceeded.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection (d) or **[**(f)**]** (e) of this section shall not be reduced in the case of a municipality whose adopted budget expenditures exceed the cap set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection by an amount proportionate to any increase to its municipal population from the previous fiscal year, as determined by the secretary.

[(i)**]** (g) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection **[**(f)**]** (d) of this section shall be reduced proportionately in the event that the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount available for such grants in the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

Sec. 182. (NEW) (*Effective April 1, 2022*) (a) For the purposes of this section, "beverage" includes alcoholic liquor or an alcoholic beverage, as defined in section 30-1 of the general statutes, "food establishment" means a food establishment that is licensed or permitted to operate pursuant to section 19a-36i of the general statutes, and "municipality" has the same meaning as provided in section 8-1a of the general statutes.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, special act, municipal charter or ordinance, the zoning commission of each municipality shall allow any licensee or permittee of a food establishment operating in such municipality to engage in outdoor food and beverage service as an accessory use of such food establishment's permitted use. Such accessory use shall be allowed as of right, subject only to any required administrative site plan review to determine conformance with zoning requirements not contemplated by this section, provided such accessory use would not result in the expansion of a nonconforming use.

(c) Any such licensee or permittee may engage in outdoor food and beverage service (1) on public sidewalks and other pedestrian pathways abutting the area permitted for principal use and on which vehicular access is not allowed, (A) provided a pathway (i) is constructed in compliance with physical accessibility guidelines, as applicable, under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12101, et seq., as amended from time to time, and (ii) such pathway extends for the length of the lot upon which the area permitted for principal use is located, and not less than four feet in width, not including any area on a street or

highway, shall remain unobstructed for pedestrian use, and (B) subject to reasonable conditions imposed by the municipal official or agency that issues right-of-way or obstruction permits; (2) on off-street parking spaces associated with the permitted use, notwithstanding any municipal ordinance or zoning regulation establishing minimum requirements for off-street parking; (3) on any lot, yard, court or open space abutting the area permitted for principal use, provided (A) such lot, yard, court or open space is located in a zoning district where the operation of food establishments is permitted, (B) such use is in compliance with any applicable requirements for access or pathways pursuant to physical accessibility guidelines under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12101, et seq., as amended from time to time, and (C) the licensee or permittee obtains written authorization to engage in such service from the owner of such lot, yard, court or open space and provides a copy of such authorization to the zoning commission; and (4) until 9 o'clock p.m., or a time established by the zoning commission of the municipality, whichever is later.

Sec. 183. Section 22a-201c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For each registration of a new motor vehicle with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles pursuant to chapter 246, the person registering such vehicle shall pay to the commissioner a fee of **[**ten**]** fifteen dollars, in addition to any other fees required for registration, **[**for registration for a biennial period**]** for the following registration types: Passenger, motor home, combination or antique. **[**Any person who is sixty-five years or older and who obtains a one-year registration for a new motor vehicle under section 14-49 for such registration type shall pay five dollars for the annual registration period.**]**

(b) For each new registration or renewal of registration of any motor vehicle, except a new motor vehicle, with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles pursuant to chapter 246, the person registering such vehicle

shall pay to the commissioner a fee of seven dollars and fifty cents for registration for a triennial period and five dollars for registration for a biennial period for the following registration types: Passenger, motor home, combination or antique. Any person who is sixty-five years or older and who obtains a **[**one-year registration or**]** one-year registration renewal for any motor vehicle **[**, except a new motor vehicle,**]** under section 14-49 for such registration type shall pay two dollars and fifty cents for the annual registration period.

(c) The fee imposed by this subsection may be identified as the "greenhouse gas reduction fee" on any registration form, or combined with the fee specified by subdivision (3) of subsection (k) of section 14-164c on any registration form. The first three million dollars received from the payment of such fee shall be deposited into the Connecticut hydrogen and electric automobile purchase rebate program account, established pursuant to subsection (c) of section 22a-202. Any revenue from such fee in excess of the first three million dollars in each fiscal year shall be deposited into the General Fund. No part of the greenhouse gas reduction fee shall be subject to a refund under subsection **[**(aa)**]** (z) of section 14-49.

Sec. 184. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of section 7-190 of the general statutes, any other provision of the general statutes, special act, charter or ordinance, the initiation of the charter revision process and the appointment and composition of the members of the charter revision commission as approved by motion and vote of the board of selectmen of the town of Columbia on September 1, 2020, is validated. All acts, votes and proceedings of the officers and officials of the town of Columbia pertaining to or taken in reliance on said motion and vote, including the acts of said charter revision commission, are validated and effective as of the date taken.

Sec. 185. Subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the general statutes is amended by adding subdivisions (98) to (103), inclusive, as follows

(*Effective from passage*):

(NEW) (98) The Governor shall proclaim the second Sunday of June annually to be Connecticut Race Amity Day, to reflect and affirm the dignity of the diverse racial, cultural and religious backgrounds of the residents of the state. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

(NEW) (99) The Governor shall proclaim the month of September annually to be Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month, to raise public awareness of the associated presentation and available treatments for brain aneurysms. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the month.

(NEW) (100) The Governor shall proclaim May thirteenth of each year to be Xeroderma Pigmentosum Awareness Day, to raise awareness of this genetic disorder characterized by an extreme sensitivity to ultraviolet rays. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

(NEW) (101) The Governor shall proclaim the second week of February of each year to be Kindness Week, to promote acts of kindness among the residents of the state. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the week.

(NEW) (102) The Governor shall proclaim the last week of June of each year to be Social Media Safety and Awareness Week, to raise awareness of social media usage's potential effect on mental health and social media safety. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the week.

(NEW) (103) The Governor shall proclaim the month of March to be Peace Corps Month, in recognition of the service provided by the

volunteers of the Peace Corps in supporting the global community. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the month.

Sec. 186. Subdivision (96) of subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(96) The Governor shall proclaim the week of April sixteenth of each year to be Advance Directive Awareness **[**Day**]** Week, to raise public awareness of the importance of planning ahead for health care decisions and to encourage the use of advance directives. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the **[**day**]** week.

Sec. 187. Section 525 of public act 21-175 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

A portion of Connecticut Route 21 from the intersection of **[**Connecticut**]** United States Route 44 in the town of Putnam to the **[**Putnam-Thompson town line**]** intersection of Connecticut Route 193 in the town of **[**Putnam**]** Thompson shall be designated the **[**"Calvin William Heath Silver Star Recipient Memorial Highway"**]** "Silver Star Recipient Calvin William Heath Memorial Highway".

Sec. 188. Section 526 of public act 21-175 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

A portion of Connecticut Route 193 from the intersection of Connecticut Route 200 (Quaddick Road) to Chase Road in the town of Thompson shall be designated as the **[**"John J. Lindley Memorial Highway"**]** "Joseph J. Lindley Memorial Highway".

Sec. 189. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to study the state workforce and retiring employees. Such study shall

include, but need not be limited to, an examination of adequate succession planning for state employees in order to recruit and maintain the best talent in the state workforce, as well as a review of barriers to managerial recruitment.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees;

(2) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government administration and elections;

(3) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

(4) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(5) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;

(6) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(7) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(8) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

(9) Four appointed by the chairpersons of the task force, one of whom shall be an executive branch employee in the MP pay plan, one of whom shall be a judicial employee in the MP pay plan, one of whom shall be a higher education employee in the MP pay plan and one of whom shall represent an organization that advocates for the rights of managerial employees in the state.

(c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) or (8) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees shall be the chairpersons of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

(g) (1) Not later than January 1, 2022, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor and public employees and government administration and elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

(2) The report submitted pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall include, but not be limited to, a review of: (A) The number of managerial and exempt employees who are eligible to retire from the convening of the task force through the end of calendar year 2022, (B) succession planning of executive branch agencies in preparation for retirements, and (C) barriers to recruitment into the managerial and exempt workforce including, but not limited to, (i) parity in pay structure compared to employees in collective bargaining units, (ii) parity in health care insurance contributions compared to

employees in collective bargaining units, (iii) salary compression and inversion among managerial employees and employees in collective bargaining units, and (iv) opportunities for professional development and continuing education.

(3) The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2022, whichever is later.

Sec. 190. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, (1) "personal protective equipment" means specialized clothing or equipment worn for protection against infectious disease, including, but not limited to, protective equipment for the eyes, face, head and extremities, protective clothing and protective shields and barriers, (2) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related mutation thereof recognized by the World Health Organization as a communicable respiratory disease, and (3) "state agency" means any office, department, board, council, commission, institution, constituent unit of the state system of higher education, technical education and career school or other agency in the executive, legislative or judicial branch of state government.

(b) Not later than October 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall (1) compile, and thereafter periodically update, a list of companies domiciled in this state that during the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020, under sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the general statutes due to COVID-19 and any extension of such declarations, changed the company's business model to produce personal protective equipment to respond to COVID-19, and (2) post such list on the Internet web site of the Department of Administrative Services. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, on and after August 1, 2021, any state agency purchasing personal protective equipment shall make reasonable efforts to purchase not less than twenty-five per cent of such

personal protective equipment from companies on such list. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply if such equipment is not available for purchase from a company on such list or does not meet the requirements of the purchasing state agency.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to (1) require the purchase of personal protective equipment that is expired or that does not otherwise meet recognized industry standards, or (2) waive any applicable competitive bidding requirements for purchases of personal protective equipment.

(d) Not later than July 31, 2021, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Administrative Services 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 commerce and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, the most recent list compiled under subsection (b) of this section.

Sec. 191. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Banking Commissioner may, by order, establish a process to permit individuals engaging in an activity pursuant to a license or registration issued by the commissioner under title 36a of the general statutes to conduct such activity from a location other than an office location licensed on the system, as defined in section 36a-2 of the general statutes.

Sec. 192. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The aggregate principal amount of energy consumption and environmental impact lease financings that are in effect on or after July 1, 2021, shall not exceed fifteen million dollars for such lease financings that are: (1) Entered into by the state directly or through a state agency for improvements in state-owned buildings, (2) for the purpose of reducing energy consumption or environmental impacts, and (3) not otherwise exempt from such

fifteen-million-dollar aggregate amount pursuant to a provision of a public or special act.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "state agency" means any office, department, board, council, commission, institution, constituent unit of the state system of higher education, technical education and career school or other agency in the executive, legislative or judicial branch of state government.

Sec. 193. Subsection (b) of section 16a-38k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) Not later than January 1, **[**2020**]** 2022, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Commissioner of Administrative Services, shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to adopt state building construction standards that (1) **[**are based on**]** adopt by reference a nationally recognized model for sustainable construction codes that promotes the construction of high performance green buildings that have reduced emissions, have enhanced building occupant health and comfort, are designed to conserve water resources, are designed to promote sustainable and regenerative materials cycles and provide enhanced resilience to natural, technological and human-caused hazards, and (2) include a standard for inclusion of electric vehicle charging stations, and thereafter update such regulations as the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection deems necessary. Said regulations shall adopt by reference the nationally recognized model for sustainable construction codes referenced in this subsection. Any amendment to said state building construction standards shall be limited to administrative matters, geotechnical and weather-related portions of said state building construction standards, amendments to said state building construction standards necessitated by a provision of the general statutes and any other matter which, based on substantial

evidence, necessitates an amendment to said state building construction standards.

Sec. 194. Subsection (p) of section 5-200 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(p) When such authority is not otherwise conferred by statute, the commissioner **[**may**]** shall issue orders to provide that (1) executive or judicial department employees exempt from the classified service or not included in any prevailing bargaining unit contract, except unclassified employees of any board of trustees of the constituent units of higher education, be granted rights and benefits not less than those granted to employees in the classified service or covered under such contracts, or (2) retirement benefits for state employees exempt from the classified service or not included in any prevailing bargaining unit contract be adjusted to provide retirement benefits for such employees which are the same as those most frequently provided under the terms of approved bargaining unit contracts in effect at the time of such adjustment. When such authority is not otherwise conferred by statute, the board of trustees of any constituent unit of the state system of higher education may issue orders to provide that the unclassified employees of such board be granted rights and benefits not less than those granted to employees of the board who are covered under a prevailing bargaining unit contract. Where there is a conflict between an order granting such rights and benefits and any provision of the general statutes, such order shall prevail. Such orders shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. If the secretary approves such order, and such order is in conflict with any provision of the general statutes, the secretary shall forward a copy of such order to the joint committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of labor matters.

Sec. 195. Section 15-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The Governor shall appoint a harbor master, and may appoint a deputy harbor master, for each of the harbors of New Haven, Norwich, Bridgeport, Stamford, Norwalk, Stonington, New London and Branford. **[**, and**]** The Governor may appoint a suitable number of harbor masters and deputy harbor masters in any town in this state which has navigable waters within its limits, provided the appointment of a harbor master or deputy harbor master for the harbor of any municipality which has adopted a harbor management plan, pursuant to chapter 444a, shall be made by the Governor from a list of not less than three nominees submitted by the municipality's harbor management commission, except that if a harbor management commission does not submit at least three nominees, the Governor may appoint as harbor master or deputy harbor master any of the nominees submitted by the harbor management commission or any other person the Governor deems qualified. Appointments shall be for terms of three years from July first in the year of the appointment and until a successor is appointed and qualified, except the term of office of any person appointed before or after July first in any year to a newly created office of harbor master or deputy harbor master shall begin on the day of the appointment and expire on July first next succeeding the completion of the person's third full year in office. Any appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the remainder of the term of the original appointee and until a successor is appointed and qualified.

(b) Harbor masters shall have the general care and supervision of the harbors and navigable waterways over which they have jurisdiction, subject to the direction and control of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, and shall be responsible to the commissioner for the safe and efficient operation of such harbors and navigable waterways in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. The harbor masters or deputy harbor masters shall exercise their duties in a manner

consistent with any harbor management plan adopted pursuant to section 22a-113m for a harbor over which they have jurisdiction. The commissioner may delegate any of his powers and duties under this chapter to such harbor masters or to any existing board of harbor commissioners, but shall at all times be vested with responsibility for the overall supervision of the harbors and navigable waterways of the state.

Sec. 196. Subsection (a) of section 10a-55i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) There is established a Higher Education Consolidation Committee which shall be convened by the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education or such chairpersons' designee, who shall be a member of such joint standing committee. The membership of the Higher Education Consolidation Committee shall consist of the higher education subcommittee on appropriations and the chairpersons, vice chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and appropriations. The Higher Education Consolidation Committee shall establish a meeting and public hearing schedule for purposes of receiving updates from (1) the Board of Regents for Higher Education on the progress of the consolidation of the state system of higher education pursuant to this section, section 4-9c, subsection (g) of section 5-160, section 5-199d, subsection (a) of section 7-323k, subsection (a) of section 7-608, subsection (a) of section 10-9, section 10-155d, subdivision (14) of section 10-183b, sections 10a-1a to 10a-1d, inclusive, 10a-3 and 10a-3a, **[**subsection (a) of section 10a-6a, sections 10a-6b,**]** 10a-8, 10a-10a to 10a-11a, inclusive, 10a-17d and 10a-22a, subsections (f) and (h) of section 10a-22b, subsections (c) and (d) of section 10a-22d, sections 10a-22h and 10a-22k, subsection (a) of section 10a-22n, sections 10a-22r,

10a-22s, 10a-22u, 10a-22v, 10a-22x and 10a-34 to 10a-35a, inclusive, subsection (a) of section 10a-48a, sections 10a-71 and 10a-72, subsections (c) and (f) of section 10a-77, section 10a-88, subsection (a) of section 10a-89, subsection (c) of section 10a-99 and sections 10a-102, 10a-104, 10a-105, 10a-109e, 10a-143 and 10a-168a, and (2) the Board of Regents for Higher Education and The University of Connecticut on the program approval process for the constituent units. The Higher Education Consolidation Committee shall convene its first meeting on or before September 15, 2011, and meet not less than once every two months.

Sec. 197. Subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 10a-11b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(1) One standing subcommittee shall focus on data, metrics and accountability, and build upon the work of the **[**Higher Education Coordinating Council and**]** Preschool through 20 and Workforce Information Network in its measures and data. Such measures shall be used to assess the progress of each public institution of higher education toward meeting the commission's goals. The subcommittee shall collaborate with the Labor Department to (A) produce periodic reports, capable of being sorted by student age, on the employment status, job retention and earnings of students enrolled in academic and noncredit vocational courses and programs, both prior to enrollment and after completion of such courses and programs, who leave the constituent units upon graduation or otherwise, and (B) develop an annual affordability index for public higher education that is based on state-wide median family income. The subcommittee shall submit annual reports to the commission and the constituent units.

Sec. 198. Subsection (c) of section 10a-173 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(c) Within available appropriations, the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program shall include a need and merit-based grant, a need-based grant and a Charter Oak grant. The need and merit-based grant shall be funded at not less than twenty per cent but not more than thirty per cent of available appropriations. The need-based grant shall be funded at up to eighty per cent of available appropriations. The Charter Oak grant shall be not less than one hundred thousand dollars of available appropriations. There shall be an administrative allowance based on one-quarter of one per cent of the available appropriations, but (1) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, not less than three hundred fifty thousand dollars, and (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, not less than one hundred thousand dollars. In addition to the amount of the annual appropriation allocated to the regional community-technical colleges under subsection (e) of this section, and to regional community-technical college students under subsection (d) of this section, not less than two and one-half per cent of the annual appropriation shall be allocated to the regional community-technical colleges to be used for financial aid purposes.

Sec. 199. Subsection (b) of section 93 of public act 21-121 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Each person holding a license as a physician assistant shall, annually, during the month of such person's birth, register with the Department of Public Health, upon payment of a fee of one hundred **[**fifty**]** fifty-five dollars, on blanks to be furnished by the department for such purpose, giving such person's name in full, such person's residence and business address and such other information as the department requests. No such license shall be renewed unless the department is satisfied that the practitioner (1) has met the mandatory continuing medical education requirements of the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants or a successor organization for the certification or recertification of physician assistants that may be approved by the

department; (2) has passed any examination or continued competency assessment the passage of which may be required by said commission for maintenance of current certification by said commission; (3) has completed not less than one contact hour of training or education in prescribing controlled substances and pain management in the preceding two-year period; and (4) for registration periods beginning on or before January 1, 2022, during the first renewal period and not less than once every six years thereafter, earn not less than two contact hours of training or education screening for post-traumatic stress disorder, risk of suicide, depression and grief and suicide prevention training administered by the American Association of Physician Assistants, a hospital or other licensed health care institution or a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

Sec. 200. Section 19a-12d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

On or before the last day of January, April, July and October in each year, the Commissioner of Public Health shall certify the amount of revenue received as a result of any fee increase in the amount of five dollars that (1) took effect October 1, 2015, pursuant to sections 19a-88, 19a-515, 20-65k, 20-74bb, 20-74h, 20-74s, 20-149, 20-162o, 20-162bb, 20-191a, 20-195c, 20-195o, 20-195cc, 20-201, 20-206b, 20-206n, 20-206r, 20-206bb, 20-206*ll*, 20-222a, 20-275, 20-395d, 20-398 and 20-412, and (2) that took effect July 1, 2021, pursuant to section 199 of this act, and transfer such amount to the professional assistance program account established in section 19a-12c.

Sec. 201. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The sum of $449,124 of the funds appropriated in section 1 of special act 21-15, to the Office of Governmental Accountability, for Contracting Standards Board, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, shall lapse on July 1, 2021.

(b) The sum of $454,355 of the funds appropriated in section 1 of

special act 21-15, to the Office of Governmental Accountability, for Contracting Standards Board, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, shall lapse on July 1, 2022.

Sec. 202. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The amounts made available for grants from the Judicial Department to Valley Save Our Youth pursuant to section 31 of special act 21-15 shall be awarded to such organization via TEAM, Inc.

(b) The amounts made available for grants from the Judicial Department to CCSU pursuant to section 31 of special act 21-15 shall instead be awarded to The University of Connecticut, for the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy.

Sec. 203. Section 4-124w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established an Office of Workforce Strategy. The office shall be within the **[**Labor Department an Office of Workforce Competitiveness**]** Office of the Governor, for administrative purposes only.

(b) The department head of the Office of Workforce Strategy shall be the Chief Workforce Officer, who shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, with the powers and duties therein prescribed. The Chief Workforce Officer shall be qualified by training and experience to perform the duties of the office as set forth in this section and shall have knowledge of publicly funded workforce training programs. The **[**Labor Commissioner shall, with the assistance of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness**]** Chief Workforce Officer shall:

(1) Be the **[**Governor's principal workforce development policy advisor;**]** principal advisor for workforce development policy, strategy and coordination to the Governor;

(2) Be the lead state official for the development of employment and training strategies and initiatives;

(3) Be the chairperson of the Workforce Cabinet, which shall consist of agencies involved with employment and training, as designated by the Governor pursuant to section 31-3m. The Workforce Cabinet shall meet at the direction of the Governor or the Chief Workforce Officer;

[(2)**]** (4) Be the liaison between the Governor, the Governor's Workforce Council, established pursuant to section 31-3h and any local, regional, state or federal organizations and entities with respect to workforce development **[**matters**]** policy, strategy and coordination, including, but not limited to, implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as **[**from time to time**]** amended from time to time;

[(3) Coordinate the workforce development activities of all state agencies;**]**

(5) Develop, and update as necessary, a state workforce strategy in consultation with the Governor's Workforce Council and the Workforce Cabinet and subject to the approval of the Governor. The Chief Workforce Officer shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, the state workforce strategy to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, commerce, education, higher education and employment advancement, and labor and public employees at least thirty days before submitting such state workforce strategy to the Governor for his or her approval;

[(4)**]** (6) Coordinate **[**the state's implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and advise and assist the Governor with matters related to said act;**]** workforce development activities (A)

funded through state resources, (B) funded through funds received pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, or (C) administered in collaboration with any state agency for the purpose of furthering the goals and outcomes of the state workforce strategy approved by the Governor pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection and the workforce development plan developed by the Governor's Workforce Council pursuant to the provisions of section 31-11p;

(7) Collaborate with the regional workforce development boards to adapt the best practices for workforce development established by such boards for state-wide implementation, if possible;

(8) Coordinate measurement and evaluation of outcomes across education and workforce development programs, in conjunction with state agencies, including, but not limited to, the Labor Department, the Department of Education and the Office of Policy and Management;

(9) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, review any state plan for each program set forth in Section 103(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, before such plan is submitted to the Governor;

[(5)**]** (10) Establish methods and procedures to ensure the maximum involvement of members of the public, the legislature and local officials in workforce development **[**matters, including implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended**]** policy, strategy and coordination;

[(6) Enter**]** (11) In conjunction with one or more state agencies enter into such contractual agreements, in accordance with established procedures and the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. The Chief Workforce Officer may enter into agreements with

other state agencies for the purpose of performing the duties of the Office of Workforce Strategy, including, but not limited to, administrative, human resources, finance and information technology functions;

(12) Market and communicate the state workforce strategy to ensure maximum engagement with students, trainees, job seekers and businesses while effectively elevating the state's workforce profile nationally;

(13) For the purposes of subsection (a) of section 10-21c identify subject areas, courses, curriculum, content and programs that may be offered to students in elementary and high school in order to improve student outcomes and meet the workforce needs of the state;

(14) Issue guidance to state agencies, the Governor's Workforce Council and regional workforce development boards in furtherance of the state workforce strategy and the workforce development plan developed by the Governor's Workforce Council pursuant to the provisions of section 31-11p. Such guidance shall be approved by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, allow for a reasonable period for implementation and take effect not less than thirty days from such approval. The Chief Workforce Officer shall consult on the development and implementation of any guidance with the agency, council or board impacted by such guidance;

(15) Coordinate, in consultation with the Labor Department and regional workforce development boards to ensure compliance with state and federal laws for the purpose of furthering the service capabilities of programs offered pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, and the United States Department of Labor's American Job Center system;

[(7)**]** (16) Coordinate, in consultation with the Department of Social

Services, with community action agencies to further the state workforce strategy; and

(17) Take any other action necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. **[**; and**]**

[(8) Not later than October 1, 2012, and annually thereafter, submit a report, with the assistance of the Labor Department, to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, economic development, labor and higher education and employment advancement specifying a forecasted assessment by the Labor Department of workforce shortages in occupations in this state for the succeeding two and five-year periods. The report shall also include recommendations concerning (A) methods to generate a sufficient number of workers to meet identified workforce needs, including, but not limited to, scholarship, school-to-career and internship programs, and (B) methods secondary and higher education and private industry can use to address identified workforce needs.

(c) The Labor Department shall be the lead state agency for the development of employment and training strategies and initiatives required to support the state's position in the knowledge economy.**]**

(c) The **[**Labor Commissioner, with the assistance of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness,**]** Chief Workforce Officer may call upon any office, department, board, commission, public institution of higher education or other agency of the state to supply such reports, information, data and assistance as may be reasonable, necessary **[**or**]** and appropriate in order to carry out **[**its**]** the Chief Workforce Officer's or the Office of Workforce Strategy's duties and requirements. Each officer or employee of such office, department, board, commission, public institution of higher education or other agency of the state **[**is authorized and directed to cooperate with the Labor Commissioner and to**]** shall furnish such reports, information, data and assistance as

requested by the Chief Workforce Officer, to the extent permitted under state and federal law. Any request for data from a participating agency in CP20 WIN, established pursuant to section 10a-57g, shall be submitted through CP20 WIN in accordance with the policies and procedures established by CP20 WIN.

(d) The Office of Workforce Strategy shall provide staff to the Governor's Workforce Council and such other resources as the Chief Workforce Officer can make available, and shall coordinate all necessary support that other state agencies make available, as needed by the Governor's Workforce Council.

(e) The Chief Workforce Officer, on behalf of the Governor and the Governor's Workforce Council and in consultation with the Labor Commissioner, shall coordinate the state's role in the implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, and may issue guidance to this effect. The Labor Commissioner shall offer such resources as the commissioner can make available for such purpose.

(f) Not later than October 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit to the Governor and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, higher education and employment advancement, education, commerce, and labor and public employees, a report regarding workforce development in the state. Such report shall include but not be limited to, any programs undertaken by the Office of Workforce Strategy, information on the number of individuals served by such programs, demographic information about such individuals and outcomes of such individuals after completion of a workforce development program.

Sec. 204. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Not later than January 1, 2022, the

Chief Workforce Officer shall submit recommendations to the Governor for updates to the state workforce strategy (1) that address the needs of certain individuals, including, but not limited to, those who are disabled, veterans, long-term unemployed, have a criminal background or have recently been released from prison, and (2) as advised by the Two-Generational Advisory Board, established pursuant to section 17b-112*l* of the general statutes.

Sec. 205. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) There is established an account to be known as the "Office of Workforce Strategy account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account and any funds received from any public or private contributions, gifts, grants, donations, bequests or devises to the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Office of Workforce Strategy for the purposes of funding workforce training programs and supporting administrative expenses of the Office of Workforce Strategy. The Office of Workforce Strategy may enter into contracts or agreements with the constituent units of the state system of higher education and regional workforce development boards for the purposes of this section. The Chief Workforce Officer, in consultation with the Labor Commissioner and the regional workforce development boards, shall (1) ensure that, as appropriate, participants in a workforce training program funded through the Office of Workforce Strategy account also enroll in additional workforce development programs for the purpose of minimizing duplication across existing workforce programs and leveraging federal funds; and (2) establish funding eligibility criteria for workforce training programs for the purpose of meeting the workforce needs of in-demand occupations.

(b) Not later than October 1, 2022, and annually thereafter until October 1, 2025, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit to the Governor and, 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 finance, higher education and employment advancement, education, commerce, and labor and public employees a report regarding the workforce training programs funded through the Office of Workforce Strategy account. Such report shall include but not be limited to, information on the number of individuals served, demographic information about such individuals and outcomes of such individuals after completion of a workforce training program.

Sec. 206. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Office of Workforce Strategy, established pursuant to section 4-124w of the general statutes, shall, in consultation with the Chief Data Officer, the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the Labor Commissioner, the Commissioner of Education, the executive director of the Office of Higher Education or any other stakeholder as identified by the Chief Workforce Officer, establish standards for designating certain credentials, as defined in section 264 of this act, as credentials of value. Such standards may include, but need not be limited to, meeting the workforce needs of employers in the state, completion rates, net cost, whether the credential transfers to or stacks onto another credential of value, average time to completion, types of employment opportunities available upon completion and earnings upon completion. The Office of Workforce Strategy shall not require the submission of an application or any other information from a provider of a credential for such credential to be designated a credential of value.

Sec. 207. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Not later than September 1, 2022, and every two years thereafter until September 1, 2028, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit to the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the Governor and, 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

commerce and higher education and employment advancement a report on (1) credentials, as defined in section 264 of this act, and skills that are in demand in the labor market and that lead to quality jobs, and (2) models and examples of associate degree programs that result in students earning an industry-recognized credential within twelve months from enrollment and is a pathway to one or more bachelor's degree programs.

Sec. 208. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 10-21j of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The Commissioner of Education, in collaboration with the Board of Regents for Higher Education, shall establish the Connecticut Apprenticeship and Education Committee to coordinate and identify (1) potential preapprenticeship and apprenticeship training program integration, and (2) leveraged funding identification of career technical education programs within high schools and programs within higher education institutions for careers in various industries. Such committee shall include, but not be limited to, (A) representatives from the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Labor Department, the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, the Connecticut Manufacturers Collaborative, the Technical Education and Career System, the advanced manufacturing centers at the regional community-technical colleges, independent institutions of higher education in the state that offer training in the field of manufacturing, the **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Office of Workforce Strategy, companies and employee organizations that represent manufacturing workers, and (B) teachers, guidance counselors, school counselors, principals and superintendents.

(b) **[**On or before July 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, the**]** The committee established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section **[**shall**]** may, in such committee's discretion, report, in accordance with the

provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, higher education and workforce development and labor and public employees an analysis of whether current apprenticeship training programs available to Connecticut residents are meeting workforce needs. The committee shall consult with members of the manufacturing industry when producing such report. In addition to consulting with manufacturing industries, the committee shall consult with members of insurance, health care, financial technology, biotechnology, STEM, construction trades and hospitality industries and any other appropriate industry to coordinate and identify potential modern preapprenticeship and apprenticeship training programs and shall review and consider European apprenticeship training programs when producing such report.

Sec. 209. Subsection (a) of section 10-95s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(a) The Technical Education and Career System shall be advised by a Technical Education and Career System board. The board shall consist of eleven members and shall include at least the following, (1) two members with experience in manufacturing or a trade offered by the Technical Education and Career System, or who are alumni of the system, (2) two members who are executives of Connecticut-based employers and who shall be nominated by the **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council, established pursuant to section 31-3h. The Commissioners of Education and Economic and Community Development, **[**and**]** the Labor Commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer, or their respective designees, shall serve as ex-officio members of the board. Members of the board shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the General Assembly, in accordance with the

provisions of section 4-7. Any vacancy shall be filled in the manner provided in section 4-19. The Governor shall appoint the chairperson.

Sec. 210. Subsection (b) of section 17b-688h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) Effective July 1, 1998, the Labor Department shall be responsible for the negotiation, establishment, modification, extension, suspension or termination of contracts for employment services. The Labor Department may provide administration and services directly or through the **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission or**]** regional workforce development boards.

Sec. 211. Subsection (c) of section 17b-688i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(c) Not later than January 1, 1999, and annually thereafter, the Labor Department shall submit a report to the Governor, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, human services and labor and public employees, in accordance with section 11-4a, and the **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council. Each report shall contain an evaluation of the operation of the employment services administered by the Labor Department pursuant to this section, including the number of persons who receive employment services, their gender and outcomes. Each such report shall also provide specific information regarding the cost-effectiveness of the employment services.

Sec. 212. Section 31-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The Labor Commissioner shall collect information upon the

subject of labor, its relation to capital, the hours of labor, the earnings of laboring men and women and the means of promoting their material, social, intellectual and moral prosperity, and **[**shall have power to**]** may summon and examine under oath such witnesses, and may direct the production of, and examine or cause to be produced and examined, such books, records, vouchers, memoranda, documents, letters, contracts or other papers in relation thereto as he deems necessary, and shall have the same powers in relation thereto as are vested in magistrates in taking depositions, but for this purpose persons shall not be required to leave the vicinity of their residences or places of business. Said commissioner shall collect and collate (1) population and employment data to project who is working, who is not working and who will be entering the job market, and **[**shall provide an analysis of**]** (2) data concerning present job requirements and potential needs of new industry. **[**The commissioner shall include in his annual report to the Governor, as provided in section 4-60, all the aforesaid statistical details.**]**

(b) The commissioner **[**shall administer the coordination of all**]** may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, for all programs within the jurisdiction of the Labor Department, including, but not limited to, employment and training programs in the state. **[**and shall implement the plan of the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission as approved by the Governor. The commissioner shall develop and maintain a comprehensive inventory of all employment and training programs in the state, including a listing of all funding sources for each program, the characteristics of the persons served, a description of each program and its results and the identification of areas of program overlap and duplication.

(c) The commissioner shall provide staff to the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission and such other resources as the commissioner can make available.**]**

[(d)**]** (c) The commissioner may request the Attorney General to bring

an action in Superior Court for injunctive relief requiring compliance with any statute, regulation, order or permit administered, adopted or issued by the commissioner.

[(e)**]** (d) The commissioner shall assist state agencies, boards and commissions that issue occupational certificates or licenses in (1) determining when to recognize and accept military training and experience in lieu of all or part of the training and experience required for a specific professional or occupational license, and (2) reviewing and revising policies and procedures to ensure that relevant military education, skills and training are given appropriate recognition in the certification and licensing process.

Sec. 213. Section 31-3b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

[(a) The Labor Commissioner shall appoint a job training coordinator who shall develop and implement innovative programs which will provide (1) job training for (A) workers who are needed by industries planning to locate in Connecticut or by industries located in this state, (B) unskilled entry level workers, (C) workers in need of retraining due to the obsolescence of their skills and (D) workers who need skill training to qualify for advancement, (2) an incentive for the establishment of apprenticeship programs in selected occupations; provided no program shall be developed for occupations where prior skill or training is not typically a prerequisite to hiring, and (3) work training opportunities and placement of the chronically unemployed under section 31-3d.

(b) The Labor Commissioner is authorized to establish an interagency program coordinating committee to coordinate the application of all available resources for the purposes of this section. Said committee shall consist of representatives of various employment and training agencies within the Labor Department and representatives of the Department of

Education and the Department of Economic and Community Development.**]**

[(c)**]** (a) The Labor Commissioner may contract with any public or private agency for educational and job training services.

[(d)**]** (b) The Labor Commissioner may accept and receive funds from any public or private source which become available for the purposes of this section and section 31-3d.

Sec. 214. Section 31-3h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is created, within the **[**Labor Department, the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Office of Workforce Strategy, the Governor's Workforce Council. The Governor's Workforce Council shall constitute a successor council to the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-38d and 4-39.

(b) The duties and responsibilities of the **[**commission**]** council shall include:

(1) Carrying out the duties and responsibilities of a state **[**job training coordinating council**]** workforce board pursuant to the federal **[**Job Training Partnership Act, 29 USC 1532**]** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, **[**a state human resource investment council pursuant to 29 USC 1501 et seq., as amended from time to time,**]** and such other related **[**entities**]** responsibilities as the Governor may direct;

[(2) Reviewing all employment and training programs in the state to determine their success in leading to and obtaining the goal of economic self-sufficiency and to determine if such programs are serving the needs of Connecticut's workers, employers and economy;

(3) Reviewing and commenting on all employment and training programs enacted by the General Assembly;

(4) Implementing**]** (2) Supporting the implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time; **[**. Such implementation shall include (A) developing, in consultation with the regional workforce development boards, a single Connecticut workforce development plan that (i) complies with the provisions of said act and section 31-11p, and (ii) includes comprehensive state performance measures for workforce development activities specified in Title I of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, which performance measures comply with the requirements of 20 CFR Part 666.100, (B) making recommendations to the General Assembly concerning the allocation of funds received by the state under said act and making recommendations to the regional workforce development boards concerning the use of formulas in allocating such funds to adult employment and job training activities and youth activities, as specified in said act, (C) providing oversight and coordination of the state-wide employment statistics system required by said act, (D) as appropriate, recommending to the Governor that the Governor apply for workforce flexibility plans and waiver authority under said act, after consultation with the regional workforce development boards, (E) developing performance criteria for regional workforce development boards to utilize in creating a list of eligible providers, and (F) on or before December 31, 1999, developing a uniform individual training accounts voucher system that shall be used by the regional workforce development boards to pay for training of eligible workers by eligible providers, as required under said act;

(5) Developing and overseeing a plan for the continuous improvement of the regional workforce development boards established pursuant to section 31-3k;

(6) Developing incumbent worker, and vocational and manpower training programs, including customized job training programs to enhance the productivity of Connecticut businesses and to increase the skills and earnings of underemployed and at-risk workers, and other programs administered by the regional workforce development boards. The Labor Department, in collaboration with the regional workforce development boards, shall implement any incumbent worker and customized job training programs developed by the commission pursuant to this subdivision;

(7) Developing a strategy for providing comprehensive services to eligible youths, which strategy shall include developing youth preapprentice and apprentice programs through, but not limited to, technical education and career schools, and improving linkages between academic and occupational learning and other youth development activities; and

(8) Coordinating an electronic state hiring campaign to encourage the reemployment of workers fifty years of age or older to be administered through the Labor Department's Internet web site, which shall include testimony from various employers that demonstrates the value of hiring and retaining workers fifty years of age or older. Not later than January 1, 2015, the commission shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor on the status of such campaign.**]**

(3) Making recommendations to the General Assembly concerning the formula for allocation of funds received by the state under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, pursuant to the provisions of sections 31-11m and 31-11s; and

(4) Convening state agencies, educational institutions business leaders and others to (A) inform state policy regarding workforce

development, (B) help state agencies and educational institutions align with the needs of employers, and (C) help businesses understand how to contribute to the state's workforce efforts.

Sec. 215. Section 31-3i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) **[**The**]** Pursuant to Section 101 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, the members of the **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council shall be: **[**appointed as specified in subsection (b) of this section.**]**

[(b) (1) The commission shall consist of twenty-four members, a majority of whom shall represent business and industry and the remainder of whom shall represent state and local governments, organized labor, education and community based organizations, including a representative of a community action agency, as defined in section 17b-885.

(2) Effective six months after the United States Secretary of Labor approves the single Connecticut workforce development plan submitted to said secretary in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 31-11r, the Governor shall fill any vacancy on the commission from recommendations submitted by the president pro tempore of the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, the minority leader of the Senate and the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(c) Members appointed to the commission prior to June 23, 1999, shall continue to serve on the commission as if they were appointed to the commission as of June 23, 1999. The commission shall meet no less than once every calendar quarter.**]**

(1) The Governor;

(2) A member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, and a member of the Senate, appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(3) Twenty-four members, appointed by the Governor, who (A) are owners of a business, chief executives or operating officers of a business, or other business executives or employers with optimum policy-making or hiring authority; (B) represent businesses or organizations representing businesses that provide employment opportunities that, at a minimum, include high-quality, work-relevant training and development in in-demand industry sectors or occupation in the state; or (C) have been nominated by state business organizations or business trade associations. At a minimum, at least one such member shall represent small businesses, as defined by the United States Small Business Administration.

(4) The Labor Commissioner, Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services, Commissioner of Education, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the Chief Workforce Officer, or their respective designees;

(5) Four representatives of labor organizations, who have been nominated by state labor federations and appointed by the Governor;

(6) An individual, appointed by the Governor, who is a member of a labor organization or a training director from a joint labor-management apprenticeship program, or, if no such joint program exists in the state, such a representative of an apprenticeship program in the state;

(7) Five members, appointed by the Governor, who represent community-based organizations that have demonstrated experience and expertise in addressing employment, training, or education, including one representative of a community action agency, as defined

in section 17b-885, and one representative of a philanthropic organization;

(8) A representative from the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, a representative from The University of Connecticut and a representative from a nonprofit institution of higher education in the state, each appointed by the Governor;

(9) Two superintendents of a local or regional board of education, appointed by the Governor;

(10) Two chief elected officials of municipalities, appointed by the Governor; and

(11) Two members of the public, who are enrolled in or who have recently completed a nondegree workforce training program, appointed by the Governor.

(b) All appointments shall be made in a manner that reflects the diversity of the state, including, but not limited to, geographic, gender identity, racial and ethnic diversity.

(c) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the Governor's Workforce Council from among the members appointed pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section. The Chief Workforce Officer shall serve as the vice-chairperson of the council.

(d) The Governor's Workforce Council may establish an executive committee composed of members appointed by the chairperson. The vice-chairperson of the council shall be a member of any such executive committee. The council may delegate to the executive committee any powers of the council except those powers that are required by law to be exercised by the council. The chairperson may also appoint ad hoc committees, workgroups or task forces to assist the council as appropriate, and shall consult with the vice-chairperson and the

legislative members of the council in making appointments to such ad hoc committees, workgroups or task forces.

(e) Any appointments made to the council prior to October 1, 2021, shall expire on that date.

(f) The council shall meet not less than once every calendar quarter.

(g) The Governor shall establish bylaws for the council pursuant to 20 CFR 679.110(d), which shall include, but need not be limited to, term limitations for members and how appointments will be made.

Sec. 216. Section 31-3j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

As used in sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive:

(1) "Board" means a regional work force development board established under section 31-3k;

[(2) "Commission" means the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission created under section 31-3h;**]**

[(3)**]** (2) "Commissioner" means the Labor Commissioner;

[(4) "Job Training Partnership Act" means the federal Job Training Partnership Act, 29 USC 1501 et seq., as from time to time amended;**]**

[(5)**]** (3) "Municipality" means a town, city, borough, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough;

(4) "Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act" means the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time; and

[(6)**]** (5) "Work force development region" or "region" means an area designated as a service delivery area in accordance with the provisions

of the **[**Job Training Partnership Act**]** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Sec. 217. Section 31-3k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established within the Labor Department a regional work force development board for each work force development region in the state. **[**Each board shall assess the needs and priorities for investing in the development of human resources within the region and shall coordinate a broad range of employment, education, training and related services that shall be focused on client-centered, lifelong learning and shall be responsive to the needs of local business, industry, the region, its municipalities and its citizens.**]**

(b) Each board, within its region, in accordance with the Connecticut workforce development plan approved by the Governor and developed by the Governor's Workforce Council pursuant section 31-11p, the state workforce strategy approved by the Governor and developed by the Chief Workforce Officer pursuant to section 4-124w, any guidance issued by the Chief Workforce Officer pursuant to section 4-124w and any guidance issued by the Labor Commissioner, shall:

(1) **[**Carry out the duties and responsibilities of a private industry council under the Job Training Partnership Act, provided the private industry council within the region elects by a vote of its members to become a board and the Labor Commissioner approves the council as a regional work force development board.**]** (A) Assess the needs and priorities for investing in the development of human resources within the region and shall coordinate a broad range of employment, education, training and related services that shall be focused on client-centered, lifelong learning, (B) be responsive to the needs of local business, industry, the region, its municipalities and its residents, and (C) be the lead agency for any local workforce development initiative.

(2) Within existing resources and consistent with the state employment and training information system **[**and any guidelines issued by the commissioner under subsection (b) of section 31-2,**]** (A) assess regional needs and identify regional priorities for employment and training programs, including, but not limited to, an assessment of the special employment needs of unskilled and low-skilled unemployed persons, including persons receiving state-administered general assistance or short-term unemployment assistance, (B) conduct planning for regional employment and training programs, (C) coordinate such programs to ensure that the programs respond to the needs of labor, business and industry, municipalities within the region, the region as a whole, and all of its citizens, (D) serve as a clearinghouse for information on all employment and training programs in the region, (E) **[**prepare and submit an annual plan containing the board's priorities and goals for regional employment and training programs to the commissioner and the commission for their review and approval, (F)**]** review grant proposals and plans submitted to state agencies for employment and training programs that directly affect the region **[**to determine whether such proposals and plans are consistent with the annual regional plan prepared under subparagraph (E) of this subdivision**]** and inform the **[**commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council and each state agency concerned of the results of the review, **[**(G) evaluate the effectiveness of employment and training programs within the region in meeting the goals contained in the annual regional plan prepared under subparagraph (E) of this subdivision and report its findings to the commissioner and the commission on an annual basis, (H)**]** (F) ensure the effective use of available employment and training resources in the region, and **[**(I)**]** (G) allocate funds where applicable for program operations in the region.

(3) Provide information to the commissioner, **[**concerning (A) all employment and training programs, grants or funds to be effective or available in the region in the following program year, (B) the source and

purpose of such programs, grants or funds, (C) the projected amount of such programs, grants or funds, (D) persons, organizations and institutions eligible to participate in such programs or receive such grants or funds, (E) characteristics of clients eligible to receive services pursuant to such programs, grants or funds, (F) the range of services available pursuant to such programs, grants or funds, (G) goals of such programs, grants or funds, (H) where applicable, schedules for submitting requests for proposals, planning instructions, proposals and plans, in connection with such programs, grants or funds, (I) the program period for such programs, grants or funds, and (J) any other data relating to such programs, grants or funds that the commissioner or the commission deems essential for effective state planning.**]** Chief Workforce Officer or Governor's Workforce Council that the commissioner, Chief Workforce Officer or Governor's Workforce Council deems essential for effective state planning.

(4) Carry out the duties and responsibilities of the local workforce development board for purposes of the **[**federal**]** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. **[**of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended.**]**

[(5) Establish a worker training education committee comprised of persons from the education and business communities within the region, including, but not limited to, regional community-technical colleges and technical education and career schools.**]**

(c) Each board shall make use of grants or contracts with appropriate service providers to furnish all program services under sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive, unless the **[**commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council concurs with the board that direct provision of a service by the board is necessary to assure adequate availability of the service or that a service of comparable quality can be provided more economically by the board. Any board seeking to provide services directly shall **[**include in the annual regional plan submitted to the commissioner and the

commission under subparagraph (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section its plan to provide services directly and appropriate justification for the need to do so. When the decision to provide services directly must be made between annual planning cycles, the board shall**]** submit to the commissioner, the Chief Workforce Officer and the **[**commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council a plan of service and appropriate justification for the need to provide services directly. Such plan of service shall be subject to review and approval by the **[**commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council.

(d) On October 1, **[**2002**]** 2021, and annually thereafter, each board shall submit **[**to the Labor Department**]** in accordance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, data and comprehensive performance measures detailing the results of any education, employment or job training program or activity funded by moneys allocated to the board, including, but not limited to, programs and activities specified in **[**the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended. Such performance measures shall include, but shall not be limited to, the identity and performance of any vendor that enters into a contract with the board to conduct, manage or assist with such programs or activities, the costs associated with such programs or activities, the number, gender and race of persons served by such programs or activities, the number, gender and race of persons completing such programs or activities, occupational skill types, the number, gender and race of persons who enter unsubsidized employment upon completion of such programs or activities, the number, gender and race of persons who remain in unsubsidized employment six months later and the earnings received by such persons**]** said act. The Labor Commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer may require the submission of additional data and performance measures through guidance jointly by said commissioner and officer.

Sec. 218. Section 31-3*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

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 **[**private industry council as provided under the Job Training Partnership Act and the requirements of the federal**]** local board as provided under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. **[**of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended. To the extent consistent with such requirements: (1) Business members shall constitute a majority of each board and shall include owners of businesses, chief executives or chief operating officers of nongovernmental employers, or other business executives who have substantial management or policy responsibilities. Whenever possible, at least one-half of the business and industry members shall be representatives of small businesses, including minority businesses; (2) the nonbusiness members shall include representatives of community-based organizations, state and local organized labor, state and municipal government, human service agencies, economic development agencies and regional community-technical colleges and other educational institutions, including secondary and postsecondary institutions and regional vocational technical schools; (3) the nonbusiness representatives shall be selected by the appointing authority from among individuals nominated by the commissioner and the organizations, agencies, institutions and groups set forth in subdivisions (2) and (5) of this section, and each appointing authority shall solicit nominations from the commissioner and the organizations, agencies, institutions and groups set forth in subdivisions (2) and (5) of this section; (4) labor representatives shall be selected from individuals recommended by recognized state and local labor federations in a

manner consistent with the federal Job Training Partnership Act and the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended; (5) the board shall represent the interests of a broad segment of the population of the region, including the interests of welfare recipients, persons with disabilities, veterans, dislocated workers, younger and older workers, women, minorities and displaced homemakers; and (6) in each region where a private industry council has elected by a vote of its members to become a regional work force development board and the commissioner has approved the council as a board, the initial membership of each board shall include, but not be limited to, the business members of the private industry council in the region.**]**

Sec. 219. Section 31-3m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Not later than July 1, 1992, **[**and annually thereafter,**]** the Governor shall designate appropriate state agencies as agencies involved in employment and training. The department heads of each agency involved in employment and training shall: **[**(1)**]** Not later than August 15, 1992, and annually thereafter, identify to the commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer the employment and training programs administered by the agency that **[**shall be**]** are subject to oversight by one or more boards under the provisions of sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive. **[**; and (2) provide to the commissioner, for distribution to the boards through the commission, information concerning (A) all employment and training programs, grants or funds to be effective or available in the following program year, (B) the source and purpose of such programs, grants or funds, (C) the projected amount of such programs, grants or funds, (D) persons, organizations and institutions eligible to participate in such programs or receive such grants or funds, (E) characteristics of clients eligible to receive services pursuant to such programs, grants or funds, (F) the range of services available pursuant

to such programs, grants or funds, (G) goals of such programs, grants or funds, (H) where applicable, schedules for submitting requests for proposals, planning instructions, proposals and plans, in connection with such programs, grants or funds, (I) the program period for such programs, grants or funds, and (J) any other data relating to such programs, grants or funds that the commissioner or the commission deems essential for effective regional planning**]** The Chief Workforce Officer, jointly with the commissioner and the Governor's Workforce Council, shall facilitate communication and the exchange of information between the boards and the state agencies involved in employment and training.

Sec. 220. Section 31-3n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The commissioner, in consultation with the **[**commission, shall**]** Chief Workforce Officer and the Governor's Workforce Council, may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to carry out the provisions of sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive. **[**The regulations shall establish criteria for the organization and operation of the board and for ensuring that the membership of each board satisfies the requirements of section 31-3*l*.

(b) The commissioner, acting through the commission, shall facilitate communication and exchange of information between the boards and state agencies involved in employment and training.**]**

[(c)**]** (b) The **[**commissioner**]** Chief Workforce Officer shall distribute all information received under the provisions of sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive, to the **[**commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council in order to ensure that the review and coordination duties of the **[**commission**]** council are effectively carried out.

[(d) The commissioner shall submit each annual regional plan

prepared pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 31-3k, together with the recommendations of the commissioner and the commission, to the Governor for final approval.**]**

[(e)**]** (c) The **[**commissioner shall**]** Governor may approve, **[**in consultation with the commission**]** upon the recommendation of the Governor's Workforce Council, each board established pursuant to section 31-3k which meets the requirements of sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive.

Sec. 221. Section 31-3o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

[(a) The commission shall review and approve each annual regional plan prepared pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 31-3k.**]**

[(b)**]** The **[**commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council shall ensure that the membership of each board satisfies the representation requirements of section 31-3*l*, **[**and**]** regulations adopted by the commissioner under section 31-3n and guidance issued pursuant to section 4-124w in accordance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

[(c) The commission shall review and consider the annual report of each board evaluating the effectiveness of employment and training programs, prepared pursuant to subparagraph (G) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 31-3k.**]**

Sec. 222. Section 31-3r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Nothing in sections 31-3j to 31-3r, inclusive, shall be construed or administered in any manner that would conflict with the requirements of the **[**Job Training Partnership Act**]** Workforce Innovation and

Opportunity Act or supersede any statutory duties, responsibilities or obligations of any agency or board, including, but not limited to, any local board of education.

Sec. 223. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 31-3w of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Labor Commissioner, in exercise of any duties including any duties as administrator under chapter 567, shall, within available resources, **[**maintain**]** participate in a state-wide network of job centers which provide to workers, students and employers comprehensive workforce development assistance, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Unemployment compensation, retraining allowances and other forms of federal and state income support;

(2) Career, labor market, educational and job training information, and consumer reports on local training providers;

(3) Career planning and job search assistance;

(4) Applicant recruitment and screening, assessment of training needs, customized job training pursuant to this chapter, apprenticeship programs pursuant to chapter 557 and related consultative services to employers based on their employment needs;

(5) Eligibility determinations and referrals to providers of employment and training services; and

(6) Access to information regarding job openings and, where appropriate, referral to such openings.

(b) In carrying out responsibilities under this section, the commissioner shall:

(1) Collaborate with the **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council established pursuant to section 31-3h, **[**and**]** the regional workforce development boards established pursuant to section 31-3k and the Chief Workforce Officer;

(2) Promote coordination of service delivery and collaboration with other public and private providers of education, human services and employment and training services, including, but not limited to, adult education and literacy providers;

(3) Consult with the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the Chief Workforce Officer to ensure coordination of service delivery to employers;

(4) Conduct outreach to employers and trade associations to ensure that services meet the needs of business and industry; and

(5) Develop a comprehensive job training assistance application for employer-based training services and programs that allows the applicant to apply for any such assistance offered by the state in one application.

Sec. 224. Section 31-3cc of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council, in cooperation with the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity and the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, shall regularly collect and analyze data on state-supported training programs that measure the presence of gender or other systematic bias and work with the relevant boards and agencies to correct any problems that are found.

Sec. 225. Subsection (b) of section 31-11m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

2021):

(b) **[**(1)**]** Funds reserved for state-wide investment activities by the state of Connecticut from the amounts allotted to the state under Sections 127(b)(1)(C), 132(b)(1)(B) and 132(b)(2)(B) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, shall be consistent with the provisions of Section 128(a) of said act. The Governor shall reserve not more than fifteen per cent of such allotted amounts in any fiscal year for state-wide workforce investment activities. At least annually, the Chief Workforce Officer shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, a notice to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations regarding how the funds reserved for state-wide investment activities will be used and if any changes are made in how such funds will be used.

[(2) Such reserved funds may be used only to carry out state-wide youth activities described in Section 129(b) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, or state-wide employment and training activities, for adults or for dislocated workers, described in Section 134(a)(2)(B) or Section 134(a)(3) of said act, provided such use is consistent with the Connecticut workforce development plan developed by the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission under section 31-11p. The percentage of such reserved funds that are used for administrative costs shall be consistent with the provisions of Section 134(a)(3)(B) of said act. For purposes of this subdivision and subdivision (3) of this subsection, "administrative costs" has the same meaning as in 20 CFR Part 667, Subpart B.**]**

Sec. 226. Section 31-11o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]**

Governor's Workforce Council established under section 31-3h is hereby recognized as the state-wide workforce development board for purposes of complying with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time. **[**amended.**]**

Sec. 227. Section 31-11p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission,**]** Governor's Workforce Council, with the assistance of the Labor Commissioner and in consultation with the regional workforce development boards, shall develop a **[**single**]** four-year Connecticut workforce development plan that **[**outlines a five-year strategy for the state of Connecticut's workforce development system and**]** meets the requirements of **[**Sections 111 and 112 of**]** the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time. **[**amended. Said**]** Such plan shall **[**serve as a framework for the development of public policy, fiscal investment and operation of workforce education and job training programs and shall**]** constitute the single state plan for purposes of **[**Section 112 of**]** said act. The **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council, in consultation with the regional workforce development boards, shall update **[**said**]** such plan at least once every **[**five**]** four years.

[(b) The plan shall, at a minimum, include:

(1) Long-term goals for the state's workforce development system. Such goals shall include local control of service delivery, one-stop delivery of services, individual choice for individuals served by the system, accountability for provider performance, coordination of workforce development activities integrating state and federal resources and the establishment of ties between funding and actual

participation in training activities;

(2) Short-term goals, benchmarks and performance measures that the state will use to measure its progress towards meeting the long-term goals identified in subdivision (1) of this subsection;

(3) Identification of the role each institution, entity, organization and program plays in the state-wide workforce development system;

(4) Ways to improve access to public and certified nonpublic postsecondary educational institutions;

(5) A strategy for assessing unmet workforce preparation needs;

(6) A description of comprehensive performance measures to ensure coordination and eliminate duplication of services;

(7) A strategy for assessing types of jobs for which there are shortages of available qualified workers and the geographical concentration of unmet workforce needs in this state;

(8) A strategy for maximizing or redirecting funding to deliver services more effectively to meet the state's workforce development needs;

(9) A provision stating that the members of the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission and the regional workforce development boards shall comply with state ethics laws and the applicable provisions of Sections 111(f) and 117(g) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended;

(10) A provision stating that the Labor Commissioner and the Commissioners of Social Services and Education shall develop a coordinated program of referring workforce development participants to supportive services, including, but not limited to, transportation and

child care services for eligible participants of workforce activities. Such program shall include a requirement that each regional workforce development board submit an annual report to the commission on or before January 31, 2000, and each January thirty-first thereafter detailing such board's plan for coordinating such supportive services;

(11) A description of the state of Connecticut's proposed one-stop delivery system, which shall be consistent with the provisions of Section 134(c) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and shall include a description of the following components: (A) A uniform individual training accounts voucher system which shall be used by the regional workforce development boards to pay for training of eligible workers by eligible providers and which shall include a reporting system that ties funding to actual participation in training programs, (B) the core services, as identified in subdivision (12) of this subsection, which shall be available to adults or dislocated workers, including exemptions from core services, (C) the intensive services, as identified in subdivision (13) of this subsection, which shall be available to adults or dislocated workers who have received the maximum amount of core services but were unable to obtain employment through such core services, including prerequisites for obtaining such intensive services and exemptions from such prerequisites, and (D) the training services, as identified in subdivision (14) of this subsection, which shall be available to adults or dislocated workers who have received intensive services, but were unable to obtain unsubsidized employment through such intensive services, including prerequisites for obtaining such training services and exemptions from such prerequisites;

(12) Identification of core services available under the one-stop delivery system, which shall, at a minimum, include: (A) Determination of whether individuals are eligible to receive assistance under Subtitle B of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L.

113-128, as from time to time amended; (B) outreach, intake and orientation to the information and other services available through the one-stop delivery system; (C) a uniform assessment procedure for screening adults and dislocated workers which shall include, but not be limited to, initial assessment of skill levels, aptitudes, abilities, supportive service needs and for application of the self-sufficiency measurement developed in accordance with the provisions of section 4-66e; (D) job search and placement assistance and, where appropriate, career counseling; (E) provision of (i) employment statistics information, including the provision of accurate information concerning local, regional and national labor market areas, including job vacancy listings in such labor market areas, information on job skills necessary to obtain such vacant jobs and information relating to local occupations in demand and the earnings and skill requirements for such occupations; (ii) provider performance information and program cost information on eligible providers of training services, as described in Section 122 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, provided by program, and eligible providers of youth activities described in Section 123 of said act, eligible providers of adult education described in Title II of said act, providers of postsecondary vocational education activities and vocational education activities, which shall include, but not be limited to, preapprentice programs available through, but not limited to, the Technical Education and Career System, available to school dropouts under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, 20 USC 2301, et seq., and providers of vocational rehabilitation program activities described in Title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 720, et seq.; (iii) information regarding how the local area is performing on the local performance measures and any additional performance information with respect to the one-stop delivery system in the local area; (iv) accurate information concerning the availability of supportive services, including child care and transportation, available through the local area and referral to such

services, as appropriate; (v) information regarding filing claims for unemployment compensation under chapter 567; (F) assistance in establishing eligibility for programs of financial aid assistance for training and education programs that are not funded under said act and are available through the local area; (G) follow-up services, including counseling regarding the workplace, for participants in workforce investment activities authorized under Subtitle B of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, who are placed in unsubsidized employment, for not less than twelve months after the first day of the employment, as appropriate; and (H) assistance in establishing eligibility for authorized activities under Section 403(a)(5) of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 5001 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, available in the local area. For purposes of this subdivision, "local area" refers to an area designated as such pursuant to Section 116 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended;

(13) Identification of intensive services available under the one-stop delivery system, which services may include (A) comprehensive and specialized assessments of the skill levels and service needs of adults and dislocated workers, which may include diagnostic testing, use of special education planning and placement teams and use of other assessment tools and in-depth interviewing and evaluation to identify employment barriers and appropriate employment goals; (B) development of an individual employment plan to identify the employment goals, appropriate achievement objectives and appropriate combination of services for the participant to achieve the employment goals; (C) group counseling; (D) individual counseling and career planning; (E) case management for participants seeking training services authorized under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended; and (F) short-term prevocational services, including development of

learning skills, communication skills, interviewing skills, punctuality, personal maintenance skills and professional conduct, to prepare individuals for unsubsidized employment or training;

(14) Identification of training services authorized under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, that are available under the one-stop delivery system, which services may include a combination of occupational skills training, including training for nontraditional employment, on-the-job training, programs that combine workplace training with related instruction, which may include cooperative education programs, training programs operated by the private sector, skill upgrading and retraining, entrepreneurial training, job readiness training, adult education and literacy activities and customized job training conducted with a commitment by an employer or group of employers to employ an individual upon successful completion of the training;

(15) Development of a uniform system of identifying and certifying eligible providers of the training services described in subdivision (13) of this subsection, which system shall (A) incorporate each of the requirements of Section 122 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and (B) be used by each regional workforce development board in selecting an eligible provider of training services;

(16) A strategy for the establishment of (A) regional youth councils by the regional workforce development boards, which regional youth councils shall (i) recommend eligible providers of youth activities to the council and conduct oversight of eligible providers of youth activities; (ii) in cooperation with local boards of education, identify available programs and activities to assist youths in completing education programs; (iii) identify available programs and activities to assist youths in securing and preserving employment; and (iv) coordinate youth

activities with Job Corps services, coordinate youth activities authorized under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, and improve the connection between court-involved youths and the state labor market; and (B) criteria for selection of regional youth council members and awarding youth program grants for state-wide youth activities described in Section 129(b) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended;

(17) Development of a program to provide job readiness and job search training to unemployed and underemployed noncustodial parents no later than July 1, 2000;

(18) Development of a career pathways program to link alternative education programs to regional community-technical colleges and work-related learning no later than October 1, 2000; and

(19) Any other provisions required to be included in the plan under Sections 111 and 112 of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended.**]**

[(c) The**]** (b) On and after July 1, 2021, the Governor may submit **[**modifications to**]** the **[**single**]** Connecticut workforce development plan **[**approved by**]** and any modifications to such plan to the United States **[**Secretary**]** Secretaries of Labor, **[**as necessary during the five-year period covered by the plan,**]** Health and Human Services and Education, with the advice and assistance of the **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council, provided such plan and any modifications are **[**(1) approved by the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, education, labor and social services, and (2)**]** consistent with the requirements of **[**Sections 111 and 112 of**]** the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time. **[**amended.**]**

Sec. 228. Section 31-11s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) **[**On or before February 9, 2000**]** Not later than October 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, the **[**Connecticut Employment and Training Commission**]** Governor's Workforce Council shall make recommendations consistent with the provisions of the **[**single**]** Connecticut workforce development plan **[**submitted to the Governor**]** developed by the Governor's Workforce Council pursuant to section **[**31-11r**]** 31-11p to the Governor **[**and the General Assembly**]** concerning the appropriation of funds received for adult workforce development activities under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time. **[**amended, for (1) job-related vocational, literacy, language or numerical skills training; (2) underemployed and at-risk workers; (3) individuals with barriers to full-time, stable employment, including language, basic skills and occupational literacy barriers; (4) vocational training using apprentice and preapprentice programs and customized job training programs that are designed to serve at-risk workers and promote job retention and the obtainment of higher wage jobs; (5) special incentives for programs that successfully train (A) women for nontraditional employment, and (B) minorities for occupations or fields of work in which such minorities are underrepresented; and (6) special grants or contracts in each region for training programs that target workers who are difficult to serve, including, but not limited to, workers (A) with limited literacy or numerical skills, (B) without a high school diploma or its equivalent, or (C) for whom English is a second language. For purposes of this section, "nontraditional employment" refers to occupations or fields of work for which women comprise less than twenty-five per cent of the individuals employed in each such occupation or field of work.

(b) On or before February 9, 2000, and annually thereafter, the commission shall make recommendations to the Governor and the

General Assembly concerning the appropriation of funds received under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as from time to time amended, for dislocated workers.**]**

[(c)**]** (b) Pursuant to Section 189(i)(4)(A) of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, P.L. 113-128, as amended from time to time, **[**amended,**]** the Governor is authorized by the General Assembly to apply for a waiver of federal eligibility requirements to allow incumbent workers with annual family incomes that do not exceed two hundred per cent of the poverty level guidelines issued by the federal Department of Health and Human Services to receive job training services.

Sec. 229. Section 4-124z of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) **[**The**]** Not later than January 1, 2022, and as necessary thereafter, the board of the Technical Education and Career System, in consultation with the Chief Workforce Office, the Labor Commissioner, the **[**Commissioner**]** Commissioners of Economic and Community Development, **[**working with the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, the Commissioners of**]** Education and Social Services, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities **[**, in consultation with the superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System**]** and one member of industry representing each of the economic clusters identified by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development pursuant to section 32-1m shall (1) review, evaluate and, as necessary, recommend improvements for certification and degree programs offered by the Technical Education and Career System and the community-technical college system to ensure that such programs meet the employment needs of business and industry, **[**and**]** (2) develop strategies to strengthen the linkage between skill standards for education and training and the employment needs of business and

industry, (3) assess the unmet demand from employers in the state to hire graduates of trade programs from technical education and career schools and the unmet demand from students in the state to enroll in a trade program at a technical education and career school, and (4) assess opportunities to increase utilization of technical education and career schools during after school hours and on weekends.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2002, and annually thereafter, the **[**Commissioner of Education**]** superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, commerce, labor and higher education and employment advancement on **[**(1) the implementation of any recommended programs or strategies within the Technical Education and Career System or the community-technical college system to strengthen the linkage between technical education and career school and community-technical college certification and degree programs and the employment needs of business and industry, and (2)**]** any certification or degree programs offered by technical education and career schools or community-technical colleges that do not meet current industry standards.

Sec. 230. Subsection (b) of section 4-124ff of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) There is established a Council of Advisors on Strategies for the Knowledge Economy to promote the formation of university-industry partnerships, identify benchmarks for technology-based workforce innovation and competitiveness and advise the award process (1) for innovation challenge grants to public postsecondary schools and their business partners, and (2) grants under section 4-124hh. The council shall be chaired by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and shall include the Commissioner of Economic and Community

Development, the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, the Labor Commissioner, the Chief Workforce Officer, the chief executive officer of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated and four representatives from the technology industry, one of whom shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

Sec. 231. Section 4-124gg of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

[Not later than October 1, 2012, the Labor Commissioner, with the assistance of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness and in consultation with the superintendent**]** The board of the Technical Education and Career System, in consultation with the Labor Commissioner, shall create an integrated system of state-wide industry advisory committees for each career cluster offered as part of the Technical Education and Career System and regional community-technical college system. Said committees shall include industry representatives of the specific career cluster. Each committee for a career cluster shall, with support from the Office of Workforce Strategy, Labor Department, Technical Education and Career System, regional community-technical college system and the Department of Education, establish specific skills standards, corresponding curriculum and a career ladder for the cluster which shall be implemented as part of the schools' core curriculum.

Sec. 232. Subsection (a) of section 10-21c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Any local or regional board of education that has a demonstrated

shortage of certified teachers in those fields designated by the State Board of Education or that elects to expand the academic offerings to students in the areas identified by the **[**Labor Commissioner and the Office of Workforce Competitiveness**]** Chief Workforce Officer pursuant to the provisions of section 4-124w may solicit and accept qualified private sector specialists, not necessarily certified to teach, whose services to teach in shortage areas have been donated by business firms, as defined in section 12-631. Private sector specialists who donate their services may be permitted to offer instruction in existing or specially designed curricula, provided no private sector specialist shall be permitted to work more than one-half of the maximum classroom hours of a full-time certified teacher, and provided further no private sector specialist teaching in an area identified by the **[**Labor Commissioner and the Office of Workforce Competitiveness**]** Chief Workforce Officer pursuant to section 4-124w shall have sole responsibility for a classroom. No certified teacher may be terminated, transferred or reassigned due to the utilization of any private sector specialist. Local or regional boards of education shall annually review the need for private sector specialists and shall not renew or place a private sector specialist if certified teachers are available.

Sec. 233. Subsection (a) of section 10-74n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The State Board of Education, in collaboration with the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, the Department of Developmental Services and the Office of Workforce **[**Competitiveness**]** Strategy, shall: (1) Coordinate the provision of transition resources, services and programs to children requiring special education and related services, (2) create, and update as necessary, a fact sheet that lists the state agencies that provide transition resources, services and programs and a brief description of such transition resources, services and programs and

disseminate such fact sheet to local and regional boards of education for distribution to parents, teachers, administrators and boards of education, and (3) annually collect information related to transition resources, programs and services provided by other state agencies and make such information available to parents, teachers, administrators and boards of education.

Sec. 234. Subsection (b) of section 10a-19d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, in consultation with the **[**Labor Department's Office of Workforce Competitiveness, the**]** Department of Education, **[**the**]** Labor Department, Office of Workforce Strategy, Office of Early Childhood, Department of Social Services, Charter Oak State College, early childhood education faculty at two and four-year public and independent institutions of higher education, early childhood education professional associations, early childhood education advocates and practitioners, and persons knowledgeable in the area of career development and programs in early childhood care and education, shall define the preservice and minimum training requirements and competencies for persons involved in early childhood education, from birth to five years of age, including requirements for individual levels of early childhood credentialing and licensing.

Sec. 235. Section 10a-55d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

For purposes of sections 10a-55e to 10a-55h, inclusive, and 10a-80c: **[**and 31-3oo:**]**

(1) "Green technology" means technology that (A) promotes clean energy, renewable energy or energy efficiency, (B) reduces greenhouse

gases or carbon emissions, or (C) involves the invention, design and application of chemical products and processes to eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances; and

(2) "Green jobs" means jobs in which green technology is employed and may include the occupation codes identified as green jobs by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics and any codes identified as green jobs by the Labor Department and the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Sec. 236. Section 10a-55g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Not later than July 1, 2020, the Office of Higher Education and the Labor Department shall each publish on their respective Internet web sites the career ladder for jobs in the green technology industry established and updated by the Office of Workforce **[**Competitiveness**]** Strategy in accordance with section 31-3rr and an inventory of green jobs related equipment used by technical education and career schools and institutions of higher education.

Sec. 237. Subsection (b) of section 31-3rr of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) Not later than January 1, 2020, the Office of Workforce **[**Competitiveness**]** Strategy, in consultation with the Office of Higher Education, Department of Education, Labor Department, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, regional workforce development boards and employers, shall, within available appropriations, **[**establish**]** identify a career ladder for jobs in the green technology industry, including, but not limited to, a listing of (1) careers at each level of the green technology industry and the requisite level of education and the salary offered for such career, (2) all course, certificate

and degree programs in green jobs offered by technical education and career schools within the Technical Education and Career System and institutions of higher education in the state, and (3) jobs available in the green technology industry in the state. The Office of Workforce **[**Competitiveness**]** Strategy shall update the green jobs career ladder established pursuant to this section on an as needed basis.

Sec. 238. Section 31-22n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The Governor shall appoint **[**twelve**]** thirteen members to the Connecticut State Apprenticeship Council, each of whom shall have some association with apprentice training. Four shall be representative of Connecticut industry, with one representative each from the manufacturing, building, mechanical and service industries, provided at least one such member represents a business that operates without a collective bargaining agreement; four shall be Connecticut members of national labor organizations with apprentice training programs; **[**four**]** five shall represent the public, **[**one**]** two of whom shall be the Labor Commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer, or their designees. Members shall each serve a term which is coterminous with the term of the Governor, each member to hold office until a successor is appointed. Any vacancy in the membership of the council shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term. It shall meet on the call of the chairman, who shall be the Labor Commissioner, or his or her designee. On or before August first of each year, the council **[**shall**]** may prepare a report describing the activities of the council, this report to be included in the Labor Commissioner's report to the Governor. The members of the council shall not be compensated for their services, but the members, except the Labor Commissioner, and his or her designee, and any state employee, shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Sec. 239. Subsection (b) of section 10-1 of the general statutes is

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) The Governor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the General Assembly, the members of said board, provided each student member (1) is on the list submitted to the Governor pursuant to section 10-2a, (2) is enrolled in a public high school in the state, (3) has completed eleventh grade prior to the commencement of his term, (4) has at least a B plus average, and (5) provides at least three references from teachers in the school the student member is attending. The nonstudent members shall serve for terms of four years commencing on March first in the year of their appointment. The student members shall serve for terms of one year commencing on July first in the year of their appointment. The president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, **[**and**]** the chairperson of the Technical Education and Career System board and the Chief Workforce Officer shall serve as ex-officio members without a vote. Any vacancy in said State Board of Education shall be filled in the manner provided in section 4-19.

Sec. 240. Section 10-375 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The legislative members of the Education Commission of the States representing this state shall be appointed as follows: Two members of the Senate, one of whom shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, and two members of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives and one of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(b) The Governor shall appoint four members to the Education Commission of the States, two of whom shall be the Commissioner of Education and the Chief Workforce Officer. The Governor, or his or her

designee, shall serve as an ex-officio member of said commission.

Sec. 241. Subsection (a) of section 10a-1a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There shall be a Board of Regents for Higher Education **[**who**]** that shall serve as the governing body for the regional community-technical college system, the Connecticut State University System and Charter Oak State College. The board shall consist of twenty-one members who shall be distinguished leaders of the community in Connecticut. The board shall reflect the state's geographic, racial and ethnic diversity. The voting members shall not be employed by or be a member of a board of trustees for any independent institution of higher education in this state or the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut nor shall they be public officials or state employees, as such terms are defined in section 1-79, during their term of membership on the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The Governor shall appoint nine members to the board as follows: Three members for a term of two years; three members for a term of four years; and three members for a term of six years. Thereafter, the Governor shall appoint members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of six years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment. Four members of the board shall be appointed as follows: One appointment by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who shall be an alumnus of the regional community-technical college system, for a term of four years; one appointment by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be a specialist in the education of children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, for a term of three years; one appointment by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall be an alumnus of the Connecticut State University System, for a term of four years; and one appointment by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be an

alumnus of Charter Oak State College, for a term of three years. Thereafter, such members of the General Assembly shall appoint members of the board to succeed such appointees whose terms expire and each member so appointed shall hold office for a period of four years from the first day of July in the year of his or her appointment. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the student advisory committee created under section 10a-3 shall serve as members of the board. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the faculty advisory committee created under section 10a-3a shall serve as ex-officio, nonvoting members of the board for a term of two years and, in their respective roles as chairperson and vice-chairperson, may be invited to any executive session, as defined in section 1-200, of the board by the chairperson of the board. The Commissioners of Education, Economic and Community Development and Public Health, **[**and**]** the Labor Commissioner and the Chief Workforce Officer shall serve as ex-officio, nonvoting members of the board.

Sec. 242. Section 10a-62 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The members of the New England Board of Higher Education shall be appointed as follows: (1) The Governor **[**, with the advice and consent of the General Assembly, shall designate or**]** shall appoint two members, **[**residents of the state, and the**]** who shall be the Commissioner of Education and the Chief Workforce Officer, or their designees; (2) the president pro tempore of the Senate shall appoint **[**one member of the Senate and two residents of the state and the**]** three members who are residents of the state, one of whom shall be a member of the Senate and, upon the recommendation of the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, one of whom shall represent the Connecticut State University System and one of whom shall represent the regional community-technical college system; and (3) the speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint **[**one member of the House of

Representatives and two residents of the state, provided the speaker shall appoint two members in 1969 and one member in 1970 who shall represent the state as members of the New England Board of Higher Education**]** three members who are residents of the state, one of whom shall be a member of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall represent The University of Connecticut based on the recommendation of the president of said university and one of whom shall represent the independent institutions of higher education in the state. The two persons appointed by the Governor shall be appointed for a term of **[**six**]** four years from October twenty-fourth in the year of their appointment, except that in 1969 the Governor shall appoint one member for a term of six years from October 24, 1969. Persons first appointed by the president pro tempore and the speaker shall serve until February 1, 1971, and persons appointed as their successors shall serve for terms of two years each commencing as of the first day of February in the year of their appointment. Persons appointed as of July 1, 2021, may continue to serve the remainder of their terms. Vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of unexpired terms in the same manner as original appointments are made.

Sec. 243. Subsection (b) of section 10a-179a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of the following **[**nine**]** ten members: (1) The State Treasurer, or the Treasurer's designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting member; (2) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting member; (3) the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, or the president's designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting member; (4) the Chief Workforce Office, or the officer's designee, who shall serve as an ex-officio, voting

member; (5) the chairperson of the board of directors of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority; **[**(5)**]** (6) the executive director of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority; **[**(6)**]** (7) two residents of the state, each of whom is an active or retired trustee, director, officer or employee of a Connecticut institution for higher education, appointed by the board of directors of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority; **[**(7)**]** (8) a resident of this state with a favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in the higher education loan field, appointed by the board of directors of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority; and **[**(8)**]** (9) a resident of this state with a favorable reputation for skill, knowledge and experience in either the higher education loan field or in state and municipal finance, appointed by the board of directors of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority. Of the four appointed members, not more than two may be members of the same political party. **[**One appointed member shall serve until the earlier of July 1, 2017, or, if such person was a member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the date on which such member's then current term was originally scheduled to end. One appointed member shall serve until the earlier of July 1, 2018, or, if such person was a member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the date on which such member's then current term was originally scheduled to end. Except as provided in this subsection and notwithstanding the original date of expiration of the term of any person who is an appointed member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board on June 30, 2012, the term of all such persons shall expire on July 1, 2012.**]** The Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority board shall appoint a member or members each for a term of six years or until his or her successor is appointed and has qualified to succeed the members whose terms expire. Said authority board shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired term. A member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental

Loan Authority board shall be eligible for reappointment. Any member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board may be removed by the appointing authority for misfeasance, malfeasance or wilful neglect of duty. Each member of the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority board before entering upon his or her duties shall take and subscribe the oath or affirmation required by section 1 of article eleventh of the State Constitution. A record of each such oath shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the State.

Sec. 244. Subsection (a) of section 32-7p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There shall be a Technology Talent Advisory Committee within the Department of Economic and Community Development. Such committee shall consist of members appointed by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, including, but not limited to, representatives of The University of Connecticut, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, independent institutions of higher education, the Office of Workforce Strategy and private industry. Such members shall be subject to term limits prescribed by the commissioner. **[**All initial appointments to the committee pursuant to this subsection shall be made not later than September 30, 2016.**]** Each member shall hold office until a successor is appointed.

Sec. 245. Subsection (a) of section 32-7n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established a Manufacturing Innovation Advisory Board that shall consist of the following members: (1) Four appointed by the Governor; (2) one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (3) one appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; (4)

one appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; (5) one appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives; (6) one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; (7) one appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives; (8) the Chief Workforce Officer, or the officer's designee; and **[**(8)**]** (9) the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the advisory board. Each appointed member shall (A) have skill, knowledge and experience in industries and sciences related to aerospace, medical devices, digital manufacturing, digital communication or advanced manufacturing; (B) be a university faculty member in or hold a graduate degree in a related discipline, including, but not limited to, additive manufacturing and materials science; (C) have manufacturing education and training expertise; or (D) represent manufacturing related businesses or professional organizations. **[**All initial appointments to the advisory board pursuant to this subsection shall be made not later than July 1, 2014.**]** Appointed members shall each serve a term that is coterminous with the respective appointing authority. Each member shall hold office until a successor is appointed. Any vacancy occurring on the advisory board, other than by expiration of term, shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term.

Sec. 246. Subsection (b) of section 32-39f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) CTNext shall be overseen by a board of directors, which shall be known as the CTNext board of directors or the CTNext board. The CTNext board of directors shall consist of **[**eleven**]** twelve members, **[**a majority**]** at least half of whom shall be serial entrepreneurs representing a diverse range of growth sectors of the Connecticut economy. By education or experience, such members shall be qualified in one or more of the following: Start-up business development, growth

stage business development, investment, innovation place development, urban planning and technology commercialization in higher education. The CTNext board shall consist of the following members: (1) One appointed by the Governor for an initial term of two years; (2) one appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives for an initial term of two years; (3) one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate for an initial term of two years; (4) one appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives for an initial term of one year; (5) one appointed by the majority leader of the Senate for an initial term of one year; (6) one appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives for an initial term of one year; (7) one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate for an initial term of one year; (8) two jointly appointed by the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding for an initial term of two years; and (9) the executive director of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, **[**and**]** the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development **[**, both**]** and the Chief Workforce Officer, each of whom shall serve ex officio. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed by the original appointing authority for two-year terms. Any member of the board shall be eligible for reappointment. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term. The appointing authority for any member may remove such member for misfeasance, malfeasance, wilful neglect of duty or failure to attend three consecutive board meetings. For the purposes of this section, "serial entrepreneur" means an entrepreneur having brought one or more start-up businesses to venture capital funding by an institutional investor and "growth stage business" means a business (A) that has been incorporated for ten years or less, (B) that has raised private capital, and (C) whose annual gross revenue has increased by twenty per cent for each of the three previous income years of such business.

Sec. 247. Section 8-169ss of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The authority, member municipalities and joint member entities shall encourage businesses, as appropriate, to hire local employees. Any business that receives financial assistance from the authority shall enter into an agreement with the **[**Workforce Training Authority established pursuant to section 31-11ii**]** Office of Workforce Strategy for assistance with the training and recruitment of workers.

Sec. 248. Subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of section 31-11ss of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(2) In connection with providing the assistance described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, each liaison designated pursuant to this subsection shall also assist a veteran served by the program to obtain funding for the cost of attending a qualifying advanced manufacturing certificate program. Such funding may include, but need not be limited to, **[**(A)**]** tuition waivers under sections 10a-77 and 10a-99. **[**, and (B) expenditures from the Workforce Training Authority Fund under section 31-11jj.**]**

Sec. 249. Section 31-11rr of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established the Apprenticeship Connecticut initiative to develop work force pipeline programs to train qualified entry-level workers for job placement with manufacturers and employers in other industry sectors in the state that are experiencing sustained work force shortages. The initiative shall include, where practicable, outreach to underserved populations, including youths, to achieve success in the program and support the state's economic development progress.

(b) **[**(1)**]** Not later than **[**January 1, 2019**]** sixty days after the receipt of

funding, the Labor Commissioner, pursuant to the state workforce strategy approved by the Governor and any guidance issued by the Chief Workforce Officer pursuant to section 4-124w shall issue a request for **[**qualifications to solicit**]** proposals from regional industry partnerships for a work force pipeline program to serve the work force needs of manufacturers and other employers in the region. To be eligible to submit a proposal, a regional industry partnership shall include as members of such partnership **[**(A)**]** (1) entities and organizations with expertise in regional economic and work force development, including, but not limited to, entities offering apprenticeship or other work force training programs, **[**(B)**]** (2) the regional work force development board, established pursuant to section 31-3k, for the applicable work force region, and **[**(C)**]** (3) at least one educational institution such as a vocational-technical school or an institution of higher education or at least one employer located in the work force region. A regional industry partnership may include other entities, organizations or institutions that support the goals of the partnership and initiative.

[(2) Prior to the date established by the commissioner for the submission of responses to such request for qualifications, each regional work force development board shall submit a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, that sets forth the most pressing work force needs within such board's region and identifies the industry sector or sectors in which such needs are the greatest.**]**

(c) Each proposal shall be submitted by the partnership through the regional work force development board and shall demonstrate the targeted goal of preparing qualified entry-level workers for careers that provide a living wage. **[**Each proposal**]** The Labor Commissioner shall specify the program components required for each proposal, which shall include, **[**plans for**]** but need not be limited to, the following core program components:

[(1) Identification of the region's most pressing work force needs and the industry sector or sectors in which such needs are the greatest, as reported to the General Assembly pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, and including a detailed plan of how the partnership's proposal will serve the employment needs of workers residing in all towns within the region served by the applicable regional work force development board, focusing on those areas within such region with the most concentrated employment needs;**]**

[(2)**]** (1) Recruitment **[**in the program**]** of, and outreach efforts to, potential job seekers;

[(3) (A) Screening and assessment of individuals interested in manufacturing work or employment in other sectors proposed to be targeted by the partnership, by which individuals will be assessed for work readiness, aptitude for the relevant work skills and on other metrics as specified by the partnership or as recommended by the Labor Department;

(B) Redirecting or connecting individuals determined through the screening and assessment process not to be suited for participation in the program to or with alternative career resources or services available to residents of the state that may be better suited to such individuals;**]**

[(C)**]** (2) Placement of individuals screened and assessed who are selected to participate in a training program, with an employer identified by the partnership, upon such individual's successful completion of the training program. Such identified employer shall commit to hire one or more individuals who successfully complete the training program and may further offer related on-the-job training or other in-house training opportunities to such individual or individuals. The partnership shall seek to leverage any such training or opportunities, apprenticeship programs, **[**the Labor Department's subsidized training and employment program**]** and **[**other**]** any wage-

subsidy programs with employers who commit to hiring individuals, and may seek program funding for retention services;

[(4) (A) Separate training programs for participants (i) in the eleventh or twelfth grade, and (ii) eighteen years of age or older who are not currently enrolled in eleventh or twelfth grade. Such training programs shall be provided by partnership members or with the assistance of other parties as identified in the proposal;**]**

[(B)**]** (3) (A) Training programs shall be not less than five consecutive weeks and not more than twenty-six consecutive weeks in duration. **[**At least one training program offered for each age group shall be provided through a certified preapprenticeship program offered by the Labor Department.**]** Any **[**other**]** training program may include a preapprenticeship component or award industry-recognized certificates, as proposed by the partnership;

[(C)**]** (B) Training programs shall be developed and revised periodically through ongoing consultation with employers targeted for job placement of program participants;

[(5) The duration of a work force pipeline program shall be not less than four years from the date of its establishment;**]**

[(6)**]** (4) For each core program component, identification of specific existing resources available to such partnership through the regional work force development board, the United States Department of Labor's American Job Center system, the state Labor Department, employers, apprenticeship or other work force training programs, educational institutions in the state or other public or private funds; **[**. If the partnership proposes using program funds for the purposes of core program components, it shall demonstrate for each such component that there will be leveraged funding support from existing resources and that the use of program funds for such purposes will not affect the

availability of such existing resources;**]** and

[(7)**]** (5) The following limits shall apply to the use of any program funds awarded to a partnership: (A) Not **[**more**]** less than seventy per cent of such funds shall be used for the training programs set forth in subdivision (4) of this subsection; (B) not **[**more**]** less than twenty per cent of such funds shall be used for supporting services for the program, including recruitment and outreach efforts, screening and assessment, transportation, stipends, workplace tools or equipment and preemployment supports; and (C) not more than ten per cent of such funds shall be used for any other purpose, including administrative costs.

(d) **[**(1)**]** The **[**commissioner**]** Labor Commissioner, pursuant to the state workforce strategy approved by the Governor and any guidance issued by the Chief Workforce Officer pursuant to section 4-124w shall review all qualifying responses to the request for **[**qualifications and**]** proposals, select and fund as many proposals as the commissioner deems to be well-planned and the partnership to be capable of implementing its proposal. **[**The commissioner shall select proposals so as to achieve a goal of not fewer than ten thousand individuals placed into new jobs over the first four years of a program, with one-third of such individuals from the group under subparagraph (A)(i) of subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section and two-thirds of such individuals from the group under subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section.

(2) (A) The commissioner shall award funds to the partnerships selected under subdivision (1) of this subsection in proportion to the magnitude of the work force needs within the work force region proposed to be served, relative to the comparable work force needs within other work force regions of the state, provided no partnership shall receive more than twenty million dollars in total funding. The commissioner may further weight such distribution according to any

total cost per program participant proposed by a partnership that the commissioner deems reasonable, and may give preference to a partnership with a lower total cost per program participant.

(B) The commissioner shall reserve from any funds awarded under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision sufficient funds to support the use of the certified preapprenticeship program offered by the Labor Department and shall transfer such reserved funds to the appropriate departmental account to be used for such purpose.**]**

(e) Any regional industry partnership may seek (1) to leverage tuition or financial assistance programs for purposes of the program and for the benefit of individuals participating in the program, and (2) philanthropic and employer investments to meet the goal set forth in subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section and to support retention of individuals participating in the program.

Sec. 250. Section 10a-57g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Connecticut Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network" or "CP20 WIN" means the Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network maintained in the state.

(2) "Data definitions" means the plain language descriptions of data elements.

(3) "Data dictionary" means a listing of the names of a set of data elements, their definitions and additional meta-data that does not contain any actual data, but provides information about the data in a data set.

(4) "Data elements" mean units of information that are stored or

accessed in any data system, such as a student identification number, course code or cumulative grade point average.

(5) "Meta-data" means the information about a data element that provides context for that data element, such as its definition, storage location, format and size.

(6) "Participating agency" means the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, Department of Education, Labor Department, the Office of Early Childhood, The University of Connecticut, the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges or any entity that has executed **[**a**]** an enterprise memorandum of **[**agreement**]** understanding for participation in the CP20 WIN and has been approved for participation **[**by all other participating agencies**]** pursuant to the terms of the enterprise memorandum of understanding.

(7) "Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network" or "P20 WIN" means a state data system for the purpose of matching and linking longitudinally data of state agencies and other organizations **[**for**]** to inform policy and practice for education, workforce and supportive service efforts, including, but not limited to, the purpose of conducting audits and evaluations of federal and state education programs.

[(8) "P20 WIN Data Request Management Procedure" means the document containing the data request management process.**]**

(8) "Enterprise memorandum of understanding" means a foundational multiparty agreement that sets forth the details of how data is shared and the respective legal rights and responsibilities of each party within the data sharing process, by which the same foundational agreement may be used for new agencies to sign on to the data sharing process and without having to re-sign as agencies sign on or off of such agreement.

(b) There is established a Connecticut Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network. The purpose of the CP20 WIN is to establish processes and structures governing the secure sharing of critical longitudinal data across participating agencies through implementation of the standards and policies of the Preschool through Twenty and Workforce Information Network.

(c) The CP20 WIN shall be governed by an executive board that shall provide oversight of such network. Said executive board shall **[**consist of the following members: The Labor Commissioner, or said commissioner's designee, the Commissioner of Education, or said commissioner's designee, the Commissioner of Early Childhood, or said commissioner's designee, the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, or the president's designee, the president of The University of Connecticut, or the president's designee, the chairperson of the board of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, or a designee of said board**]** include, but need not be limited to, the chief executive officer of each participating agency, or their respective designees, the Chief Workforce Officer, or the officer's designee, and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's designee. The duties of the executive board shall be to:

(1) Advance a vision for the CP20 WIN including a prioritized research agenda with support from the **[**Planning Commission for Higher Education**]** Office of Policy and Management.

(2) Convene as needed to respond to issues from the data governing board.

(3) Identify and work to secure resources necessary to sustain CP20 WIN funding.

(4) Support system implementation, maintenance and improvement by advocating for the CP20 WIN in regard to policy, legislation and

resources.

(5) Advocate and support the state's vision for the CP20 WIN.

(6) Have overall fiscal and policy responsibility for the CP20 WIN.

(7) Ensure that, in any circumstances in which public funds or resources are to be jointly utilized with those from private entities, such arrangements are governed by appropriate agreements approved by the Attorney General.

(8) Establish a data governing board to establish and **[**enforce**]** implement policies related to cross-agency data management, including, but not limited to, data confidentiality and security in alignment with the vision for CP20 WIN and any applicable law. In establishing such policies, the data governing board shall consult with the Office of Policy and Management, in accordance with the provisions of section 4-67n and other applicable statutes and policies.

(d) The executive board established pursuant to this section may appoint advisory committees to make recommendations on data stewardship, data system expansion and processes, and such other areas that will advance the work of CP20 WIN.

(e) On or before January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Chief Workforce Officer may, in consultation with the Chief Data Officer and the Labor Commissioner, submit to the administrator of CP20 WIN a request for data and analysis of such data for the purposes of assessing performance and outcomes of the state's workforce system. Such data and analysis request shall be completed by the administrator of CP20 WIN not later than August 15, 2022, and annually thereafter.

Sec. 251. Section 10a-101 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Whenever the term "state colleges" appears in sections 3-27a, 4-31a, 5-177, 5-275, 10-109a to 10-109d, inclusive, 10-110, 10-113, 10-114, 10-115, 10-115b, 10-115c, 10-115d, 10-115e, 10-115g, 10-115h, 10-115i, 10-116, 10-149, 10-155, 10-325c, 10-326b **[**,**]** and 10-334, **[**and 31-3c,**]** it shall be deemed to mean the "Connecticut State University" System.

Sec. 252. Subsection (b) of section 32-235 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Department of Economic and Community Development (1) for the purposes of sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive, including economic cluster-related programs and activities, and for the Connecticut job training finance demonstration program pursuant to sections 32-23uu and 32-23vv, provided (A) three million dollars shall be used by said department solely for the purposes of section 32-23uu, **[**and not more than five million two hundred fifty thousand dollars of the amount stated in said subsection (a) may be used by said department for the purposes of section 31-3u,**]** (B) not less than one million dollars shall be used for an educational technology grant to the deployment center program and the nonprofit business consortium deployment center approved pursuant to section 32-41*l*, (C) not less than two million dollars shall be used by said department for the establishment of a pilot program to make grants to businesses in designated areas of the state for construction, renovation or improvement of small manufacturing facilities, provided such grants are matched by the business, a municipality or another financing entity. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall designate areas of the state where manufacturing is a substantial part of the local economy and shall make grants under such pilot program which are likely to produce a significant economic development benefit for the designated area, (D) five million dollars

may be used by said department for the manufacturing competitiveness grants program, (E) one million dollars shall be used by said department for the purpose of a grant to the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, for the purposes of subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 32-7f, (F) fifty million dollars shall be used by said department for the purpose of grants to the United States Department of the Navy, the United States Department of Defense or eligible applicants for projects related to the enhancement of infrastructure for long-term, on-going naval operations at the United States Naval Submarine Base-New London, located in Groton, which will increase the military value of said base. Such projects shall not be subject to the provisions of sections 4a-60 and 4a-60a, (G) two million dollars shall be used by said department for the purpose of a grant to the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc., for manufacturing initiatives, including aerospace and defense, and (H) four million dollars shall be used by said department for the purpose of a grant to companies adversely impacted by the construction at the Quinnipiac Bridge, where such grant may be used to offset the increase in costs of commercial overland transportation of goods or materials brought to the port of New Haven by ship or vessel, (2) for the purposes of the small business assistance program established pursuant to section 32-9yy, provided fifteen million dollars shall be deposited in the small business assistance account established pursuant to said section 32-9yy, (3) to deposit twenty million dollars in the small business express assistance account established pursuant to section 32-7h, (4) to deposit four million nine hundred thousand dollars per year in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and June 30, 2021, and nine million nine hundred thousand dollars in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, in the CTNext Fund established pursuant to section 32-39i, which shall be used by CTNext to provide grants-in-aid to designated innovation places, as defined in section 32-39j, planning grants-in-aid pursuant to section 32-39*l*, and grants-in-aid for projects that network innovation places pursuant to subsection (b) of section 32-39m, provided not more than three million

dollars be used for grants-in-aid for such projects, and further provided any portion of any such deposit that remains unexpended in a fiscal year subsequent to the date of such deposit may be used by CTNext for any purpose described in subsection (e) of section 32-39i, (5) to deposit two million dollars per year in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2019, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, in the CTNext Fund established pursuant to section 32-39i, which shall be used by CTNext for the purpose of providing higher education entrepreneurship grants-in-aid pursuant to section 32-39g, provided any portion of any such deposit that remains unexpended in a fiscal year subsequent to the date of such deposit may be used by CTNext for any purpose described in subsection (e) of section 32-39i, (6) for the purpose of funding the costs of the Technology Talent Advisory Committee established pursuant to section 32-7p, provided two million dollars per year in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, shall be used for such purpose, (7) to provide (A) a grant-in-aid to the Connecticut Supplier Connection in an amount equal to two hundred fifty thousand dollars in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, and (B) a grant-in-aid to the Connecticut Procurement Technical Assistance Program in an amount equal to three hundred thousand dollars in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, (8) to deposit four hundred fifty thousand dollars per year, in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, in the CTNext Fund established pursuant to section 32-39i, which shall be used by CTNext to provide growth grants-in-aid pursuant to section 32-39g, provided any portion of any such deposit that remains unexpended in a fiscal year subsequent to the date of such deposit may be used by CTNext for any purpose described in subsection (e) of section 32-39i, (9) to transfer fifty million dollars to the Labor Department which shall be used by said department for the purpose of funding work force pipeline programs selected pursuant to section 31-11rr, provided, notwithstanding the provisions of section 31-11rr, (A) not less than five million dollars shall be provided to the workforce development board in Bridgeport serving

the southwest region, for purposes of such program, and the board shall distribute such money in proportion to population and need, and (B) not less than five million dollars shall be provided to the workforce development board in Hartford serving the north central region, for purposes of such program, (10) to transfer twenty million dollars to Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, provided ten million dollars shall be used by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated for the purpose of the proof of concept fund established pursuant to subsection (b) of section 32-39x and ten million dollars shall be used by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated for the purpose of the venture capital fund program established pursuant to section 32-41oo. Not later than thirty days prior to any use of unexpended funds under subdivision (4), (5) or (8) of this subsection, the CTNext board of directors shall provide notice of and the reason for such use to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce and finance, revenue and bonding.

Sec. 253. Section 4-5 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head" means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, Commissioner of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue Services, Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and Families, Commissioner of Consumer Protection, Commissioner of Correction, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, State Board of Education, Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health, Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Commissioner of Social Services, Commissioner of Developmental Services, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Veterans

Affairs, Commissioner of Housing, Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services, the Commissioner of Early Childhood, the executive director of the Office of Military Affairs, the executive director of the Office of Health Strategy, **[**and**]** the executive director of the Technical Education and Career System and the Chief Workforce Officer. As used in sections 4-6 and 4-7, "department head" also means the Commissioner of Education.

Sec. 254. Section 4-5 of the general statutes, as amended by section 6 of public act 17-237, section 279 of public act 17-2 of the June special session, section 20 of public act 18-182 and section 283 of public act 19-117, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head" means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, Commissioner of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue Services, Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and Families, Commissioner of Consumer Protection, Commissioner of Correction, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, State Board of Education, Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health, Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Commissioner of Social Services, Commissioner of Developmental Services, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, Commissioner of Housing, Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services, the Commissioner of Early Childhood, the executive director of the Office of Military Affairs, **[**and**]** the executive director of the Technical Education and Career System and the Chief Workforce Officer. As used in sections 4-6 and 4-7, "department head" also means the Commissioner of Education.

Sec. 255. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The amount appropriated in section 1 of special act 21-15, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Office of Workforce Strategy, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, shall not be expended and the amount of $0 shall be appropriated for such purpose. The total amount appropriated to the department shall be reduced by the same amount for each fiscal year.

(b) The following sum is appropriated from the GENERAL FUND for the purpose herein specified for the fiscal years indicated:

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE	2021-2022	2022-2023
Office of Workforce Strategy	250,000	250,000
AGENCY TOTAL	3,251,173	3,334,048

Sec. 256. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Office of Workforce Strategy may expend funds received by the state pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the purpose of supporting workforce development initiatives in accordance with state and federal law.

Sec. 257. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section and section 258 of this act:

(1) "Participating institution" means (A) an institution of higher education within the Connecticut State University System, or (B) any other institution of higher education in the state that enters into a memorandum of agreement with the Board of Regents for Higher Education in accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

(2) "Other institution of higher education" means an institution of higher education in the state that (A) is not within the Connecticut State University System, (B) is a nonprofit institution of higher education, (C) has graduated one hundred or more students with a bachelor's degree each year for the preceding four years, (D) maintains eligibility to

participate in financial aid programs governed by Title IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time to time, (E) has not been determined by the United States Department of Education to have a financial responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available, and (F) is accredited as a degree-granting institution in good standing for ten years or more by a regional accrediting association recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education, and maintains such accreditation status.

(b) Not later than April 1, 2022, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, in consultation with institutions of higher education that are eligible to be participating institutions, shall (1) establish the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program, and (2) adopt rules, procedures and forms necessary to implement such program. Under the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program, a participating institution shall admit an applicant as a full-time, first-year student to an in-person bachelor's degree program if such applicant (A) meets or exceeds the academic threshold established pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, (B) qualifies as an in-state student pursuant to section 10a-29 of the general statutes, (C) is in his or her last school year before graduation and enrolled at a public high school in the state or a nonpublic high school in the state, approved pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, and (D) if required by a participating institution, earns a high school diploma, an adult education diploma, or other equivalent credential. A participating institution may conduct a comprehensive review of any application submitted by an applicant who applies through the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program, which may entail requesting additional application materials from such applicant or result in denying admission to such applicant. Each participating institution shall make an effort to minimize the number of students subjected to a comprehensive review if such student meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of this subsection.

Applicants admitted to a participating institution under the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program are not guaranteed admission into any specific bachelor's degree program at such institution.

(c) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall create a simple online application form for students to apply to participating institutions under the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program. Such application form (1) shall require a student to verify that such student meets the qualifications specified in subsection (b) of this section, and (2) may require a student to provide such student's state-assigned student identifier, if such student has a state-assigned student identifier pursuant to section 10-10a of the general statutes. Such application form shall not require an application fee or the submission of an essay or recommendation letters. Such application shall embed or link to information and resources regarding (A) college admissions and financial aid, and (B) the net cost of completing a bachelor's degree program, graduation rates, average earnings for graduates of participating institutions and, if possible, common majors at each participating institution.

(d) Any other institution of higher education may enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Board of Regents for Higher Education to participate in the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program. Each such other institution of higher education shall use the online application form created pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and comply with the provisions of subsection (e) of this section. The Board of Regents for Higher Education may charge a reasonable fee to such other institution of higher education that is not a constituent unit of the state system of higher education for participation in the program. Such fee shall not exceed the board's cost for including such other institution of higher education in the program or twenty-five thousand dollars, whichever is less.

(e) (1) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall establish (A)

a minimum class rank percentile for applicants to qualify for admission through the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program to each participating institution, and (B) a standardized method for calculating grade point average that shall be used to determine class rank percentile.

(2) Each participating institution shall establish an academic threshold for admission to such institution through the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program. Any other institution of higher education shall establish one or more of the following academic thresholds: (A) The minimum class rank percentile established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, (B) a minimum grade point average calculated in accordance with the standardized method established by the board pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, or (C) a combination of a minimum grade point average calculated in accordance with the standardized method established by the board pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection and performance on a nationally recognized college readiness assessment administered to students enrolled in grade eleven pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 10-14n of the general statutes. Each state university within the Connecticut State University System shall establish the academic threshold set forth in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision and may establish the additional academic thresholds set forth in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of this subdivision. An applicant shall be deemed to have satisfied the academic threshold for admission to a participating institution through the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program if such applicant satisfies any one of the academic thresholds established by such institution.

(3) No governing board of a participating institution shall establish policies or procedures that require any academic qualifications in

addition to the qualifications specified in subsection (b) of this section and the academic threshold established pursuant to this subsection for the purposes of the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program.

(f) No participating institution shall consider the admission of a student through the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program in determining such student's eligibility for need-based or merit-based financial aid.

(g) The supervisory agent of a nonpublic high school in the state may submit an application to the Board of Regents for Higher Education, in the form and manner prescribed by the board, to participate in the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program. The board shall approve any such application provided such nonpublic high school (1) is accredited by a generally recognized accrediting organization or is operated by the United States Department of Defense, and (2) complies with the provisions of section 258 of this act.

Sec. 258. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, for the purpose of qualifying a student for the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program, established pursuant to section 257 of this act, each local and regional board of education shall (1) calculate a grade point average using the standardized method established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education pursuant to subsection (e) of section 257 of this act, for each student who completes eleventh grade, and (2) determine whether such student's class rank percentile is above or below the minimum established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education pursuant to subsection (e) of section 257 of this act. Each local and regional board of education shall share a student's grade point average and whether such student is above or below the minimum class rank percentile with (A) the student, (B) the student's parent or guardian, (C) the Department of Education, in the form and manner prescribed by the department, and (D) upon the student's request, a

participating institution for the purposes of applying to such participating institution under the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a local or regional board of education to publish or provide a class ranking for any student or to publish on a student's transcript the grade point average calculated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section or whether such student is above or below the minimum class rank percentile established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education pursuant to subsection (e) of section 257 of this act.

(c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board education shall notify each student enrolled in his or her final year of high school, and the parent or guardian of such student, whether such student may be admitted to at least one participating institution under the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program based on the academic threshold established by such institution pursuant to subsection (e) of section 257 of this act.

Sec. 259. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Eligible organization" means any provider of a training program including, but not limited to, a provider of a training program listed on the Labor Department's Eligible Training Provider List, an apprenticeship or preapprenticeship program sponsor, a provider of an alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of Education, an institution of higher education, a private occupational school, an employer, a state or municipal agency and a public or nonprofit social service provider in the state; and

(2) "Approved class" means a set of employees, clients, students or customers of an eligible organization.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of

Transportation shall establish the CTpass program to allow individuals in an approved class for an eligible organization to use certain public transit services without cost or at a reduced cost. The commissioner shall post information regarding the CTpass program and application process for such program on the Department of Transportation's Internet web site in a manner that, in the commissioner's discretion, will maximize awareness and participation by the greatest number of eligible organizations.

(c) Upon receipt of an application from an eligible organization to participate in the CTpass program, the commissioner may negotiate the terms and conditions and enter into a contract with such eligible organization. The commissioner may treat several eligible organizations as a single eligible organization for the purposes of a contract under the CTpass program. Such terms and conditions shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) the amount of compensation or reimbursement required from the eligible organization, (2) the definition of approved class specific to the eligible organization, and (3) any limitations on times of use or types of public transit services available to the approved class. The compensation or reimbursement negotiated in the contract shall be in an amount as the commissioner deems necessary or advisable, provided the amount is sufficient to ensure that transit service expenditures incurred by the department do not increase as a result of the CTpass program and to cover any administrative costs incurred by the department in the operation of the CTpass program. A contract under the CTpass program shall be valid upon the approval of the Office of Policy and Management for a term of not more than two years, except the first contract with an eligible organization shall not exceed twelve months. Prior to any renewal of a contract with an eligible organization under the CTpass program, the commissioner shall consider prior pass utilization information and any transit service expenditure increases incurred by the department for the purpose of re-evaluating the amount of compensation or reimbursement required

from such eligible organization.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Transportation shall submit a report to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management on the financial data and pass utilization information for each contract under the CTpass program.

Sec. 260. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) Not later than December 1, 2021, and annually thereafter until December 1, 2024, each employer in the state with one hundred or more employees shall notify the employees of such employer who are residents of the state about (1) whether such employer offers to employees an education assistance program under 26 USC 127, and (2) if an education assistance program is offered to employees, the benefits included in such program and the manner in which an employee may enroll in such program.

(b) An employee shall have no cause of action against an employer for not offering an education assistance program under 26 USC 127 to employees or for failure to notify employees about such program pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall make information and resources regarding education assistance programs under 26 USC 127 available to employers in the state.

Sec. 261. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The University of Connecticut shall (1) to the extent possible, remove prerequisites from each University of Connecticut Early College Experience course offered in the state, and (2) work with local and regional boards of education to increase access to such Early College Experience courses.

(b) Not later than October 1, 2022, The University of Connecticut shall submit to the Commissioner of Education and, 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 higher education and education a report on (1) the prerequisites required for University of Connecticut Early College Experience courses, (2) how these prerequisites compare to prerequisites required for similar courses offered by other institutions of higher education and for advanced placement, International Baccalaureate and Cambridge International programs, (3) the demographics of enrolled students, and (4) the actions taken by the university to increase access to its Early College Experience courses.

Sec. 262. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Not later than February 1, 2022, the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut and the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall each submit to the Commissioner of Education and, 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 higher education a report on its policies for each institution of higher education governed by such board concerning when course credit is awarded to an undergraduate student attending such institution of higher education for such student's score on an advanced placement, an International Baccalaureate, a Cambridge International or a University of Connecticut Early College Experience exam taken while enrolled in high school.

Sec. 263. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) Any information contained in a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or a state application for student financial aid and personally identifiable information contained in applications for admission to institutions of higher education, including applications under the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program established pursuant to section 257 of this act, held by any department, board, commission, public institution of higher education or any other agency of the state, or any local or regional board of education or state-administered school system shall not be deemed to be a public record for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, as

defined in section 1-200 of the general statutes, and shall not be subject to disclosure under the provisions of section 1-210 of the general statutes.

(b) Any confidential information about an individual, including, but not limited to, information from an individual's application for admission, application for financial aid or immigration status, that becomes known to an officer, employee or agent of a local or regional board of education or an institution of higher education in the state may be disclosed to a federal immigration authority, as defined in section 54-192h of the general statutes, only if such disclosure is:

(1) Authorized in writing by the individual to whom the information pertains, or by the parent or guardian of such individual if the individual is a minor or not legally competent to consent to such disclosure;

(2) Necessary in furtherance of a criminal investigation of terrorism; or

(3) Otherwise required by state or federal law or in compliance with a judicial warrant or court order issued by a judge or magistrate of the state or federal judicial branches.

Sec. 264. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Credential" means a documented award issued by an authorized body, including, but not limited to, a (A) degree or certificate awarded by an institution of higher education, private occupational school or provider of an alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of Education for teachers, (B) certification awarded through an examination process designed to demonstrate acquisition of designated knowledge, skill and ability to perform a specific job, (C) license issued by a governmental agency which permits an individual to practice a specific occupation upon verification that such individual

meets a predetermined list of qualifications, and (D) documented completion of an apprenticeship or job training program; and

(2) "Credential status type" means the official status of a credential which is either active, deprecated, probationary or superseded.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2023, the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, in consultation with the advisory council established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, shall create a database of credentials offered in the state for the purpose of explaining the skills and competencies earned through a credential in uniform terms and plain language. In creating the database, the executive director shall utilize the minimum data policy of the New England Board of Higher Education's High Value Credentials for New England initiative, the uniform terms and descriptions of Credentials Engine's Credential Transparency Description Language and the uniform standards for comparing and linking credentials in Credential Engine's Credential Transparency Description Language-Achievement Standards Network. At a minimum, the database shall include the following information for each credential: (1) Credential status type, (2) the entity that owns or offers the credential, (3) the type of credential being offered, (4) a short description of the credential, (5) the name of the credential, (6) the Internet web site that provides information relating to the credential, (7) the language in which the credential is offered, (8) the estimated duration for completion, (9) the industry related to the credential which may include its code under the North American Industry Classification System, (10) the occupation related to the credential which may include its code under the standard occupational classification system of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor or under The Occupational Information Network, (11) the estimated cost for earning the credential, and (12) a listing of online or physical locations where the credential is offered.

(c) There is established an advisory council for the purpose of advising the executive director of the Office of Higher Education on the implementation of the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. The advisory council shall consist of (1) representatives from the Office of Workforce Strategy, Office of Higher Education, Office of Policy and Management, Labor Department, Department of Education, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, The University of Connecticut and independent institutions of higher education, and (2) the Chief Data Officer, or such officer's designee. The Chief Workforce Officer, the Chief Data Officer and the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or their designees, shall be cochairpersons of the advisory council and shall schedule the meetings of the advisory council.

(d) Not later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, each regional workforce development board, community action agency, as defined in section 17b-885 of the general statutes, institution of higher education, private occupational school, provider of an alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of Education, and provider of a training program listed on the Labor Department's Eligible Training Provider List shall submit information, in the form and manner prescribed by the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, about any credential offered by such institution, school or provider for inclusion in the database created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. Such information shall include, but need not be limited to, the data described in subdivisions (1) to (12), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section, except an institution of higher education may omit the data required pursuant to subdivisions (6), (9) and (10) of subsection (b) of this section if such data is not applicable to a credential offered by such institution.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any state agency or department to submit credential information to the database

created pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

(f) The Labor Department may, in consultation with the advisory council established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, require any program sponsor of a preapprenticeship or apprenticeship program registered with the department to submit information about such program to the Office of Higher Education for inclusion in such database.

Sec. 265. Subsection (l) of section 10a-34 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (b) to (j), inclusive, of this section and subject to the authority of the State Board of Education to regulate teacher education programs, **[**up to twelve new programs of higher learning in any academic year and any program modifications proposed by**]** an independent institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-173, shall not **[**be subject to**]** require approval by the Office of Higher Education for any new programs of higher learning or any program modifications proposed by such institution until June 30, 2023, and for up to fifteen new programs of higher learning in any academic year or any program modifications proposed by such institution on and after July 1, 2023, provided (1) the institution maintains eligibility to participate in financial aid programs governed by Title IV, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended from time to time, (2) the United States Department of Education has not determined that the institution has a financial responsibility score that is less than 1.5 for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available, and (3) the institution has been located in the state and accredited as a degree-granting institution in good standing for ten years or more by a regional accrediting association recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education and maintains such accreditation status. Each

institution that is exempt from program approval by the Office of Higher Education under this subsection shall file with the office (A) on and after July 1, 2023, an application for approval of any new program of higher learning in excess of **[**twelve**]** fifteen new programs in any academic year, (B) a program actions form, as created by the office, prior to students enrolling in any new program of higher learning or any existing program subject to a program modification, and (C) not later than July first, and annually thereafter, (i) until June 30, 2024, a list and brief description of any new programs of higher learning introduced by the institution in the preceding academic year and any existing programs of higher learning discontinued by the institution in the preceding academic year, (ii) the institution's current program approval process and all actions of the governing board concerning approval of any new program of higher learning, and (iii) the institution's financial responsibility composite score, as determined by the United States Department of Education, for the most recent fiscal year for which the data necessary for determining the score is available.

Sec. 266. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Not later than October 1, 2023, the executive director of the Office of Higher Education shall submit recommendations, 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 higher education on program approval and modification required pursuant to the provisions of section 10a-34 of the general statutes.

Sec. 267. Section 10a-35a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Notwithstanding sections 10a-34 to 10a-35, inclusive, the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall have the authority, in accordance with the provisions of said sections and the standards set forth in any regulations promulgated thereunder, to (1) review and approve recommendations for the establishment of new academic programs for

the universities within the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical colleges and Charter Oak State College, and (2) until June 30, 2024, report all new programs and program changes to the Office of Higher Education.

(b) Notwithstanding sections 10a-34 to 10a-35, inclusive, the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut shall (1) have the authority, in accordance with the provisions of said sections and the standards set forth in any regulations promulgated thereunder, to review and approve recommendations for the establishment of new academic programs at the university, and (2) until June 30, 2024, report all new programs and program changes to the Office of Higher Education.

Sec. 268. Subsection (a) of section 10a-6 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall: (1) Establish policies and guidelines for the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College; (2) develop a master plan for higher education and postsecondary education at the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College consistent with the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (3) establish tuition and student fee policies for the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College; (4) monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and viability of the state universities, the regional community-technical colleges and Charter Oak State College in accordance with criteria established by the board; (5) merge or close institutions within the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College in accordance with criteria established by the board, provided (A) such recommended merger or closing shall require a two-thirds vote of the

board, and (B) notice of such recommended merger or closing shall be sent to the committee having cognizance over matters relating to education and to the General Assembly; (6) review and approve mission statements for the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College and role and scope statements for the individual institutions and campuses of such constituent units; (7) review and approve any recommendations for the establishment of new academic programs submitted to the board by the state universities within the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical colleges and Charter Oak State College, and, in consultation with the affected constituent units, provide for the initiation, consolidation or termination of academic programs; (8) develop criteria to ensure acceptable quality in (A) programs at the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College, and (B) institutions within the Connecticut State University System and the regional community-technical college system and enforce standards through licensing and accreditation; (9) prepare and present to the Governor and General Assembly, in accordance with section 10a-8, consolidated operating and capital expenditure budgets for the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College developed in accordance with the provisions of said section 10a-8; (10) review and make recommendations on plans received from the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College to implement the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (11) appoint advisory committees with representatives from public and independent institutions of higher education to study methods and proposals for coordinating efforts of the public institutions of higher education under its jurisdiction with The University of Connecticut and the independent institutions of higher education to implement the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (12) evaluate (A) means of implementing the goals identified in section 10a-11c, and (B)

any recommendations made by the Planning Commission for Higher Education in implementing the strategic master plan pursuant to section 10a-11b through alternative and nontraditional approaches such as external degrees and credit by examination; (13) coordinate programs and services among the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College; (14) assess opportunities for collaboration with The University of Connecticut and the independent institutions of higher education to implement the goals identified in section 10a-11c; (15) make or enter into contracts, leases or other agreements in connection with its responsibilities under this part, provided all acquisitions of real estate by lease or otherwise shall be subject to the provisions of section 4b-23; (16) be responsible for the care and maintenance of permanent records of institutions of higher education dissolved after September 1, 1969; (17) prepare and present to the Governor and General Assembly legislative proposals affecting the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College; (18) develop and maintain a central higher education information system and establish definitions and data requirements for the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College; (19) until June 30, 2024, report all new programs and program changes at the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College to the Office of Higher Education; and (20) undertake such studies and other activities as will best serve the higher educational interests of the Connecticut State University System, the regional community-technical college system and Charter Oak State College.

Sec. 269. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2023, each private occupational school, as defined in section 10a-22a of the general statutes, regional workforce development board, community action agency, as defined in section 17b-885 of the general

statutes, and each provider of an alternate route to certification program approved by the State Board of Education, shall submit, in a form and manner prescribed by the executive director of the Office of Higher Education, certain data collected by such school, board, agency or program for each student or trainee enrolled in a program that earns a credential, as defined in section 264 of this act, offered by such school, board, agency or program. Such data shall include, but need not be limited to, gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, course enrollment, course completion, credential completion, fees and tuition charged, federal student loans received, federal student loan balances, and for any student who has a state-assigned student identifier pursuant to section 10-10a of the general statutes, such student identifier. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require a student or trainee to provide information about gender identity, age, race or ethnicity if not otherwise required by law.

(b) Personally identifiable information provided to the Office of Higher Education pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall not be deemed to be a public record for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200 of the general statutes, and shall not be subject to disclosure under the provisions of section 1-210 of the general statutes. The office may share information submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section with another state agency, another state or territory, the federal government or to support a data request submitted through CP20 WIN in accordance with the policies and procedures of CP20 WIN, established pursuant to section 10a-57g of the general statutes, for the purposes of program administration, audit, evaluation or research, provided the recipient of such data agrees to a data sharing agreement pursuant to section 271 of this act if such recipient is not a state agency, another state or territory or the federal government.

Sec. 270. Subsection (j) of section 31-225a of the general statutes is

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(j) (1) (A) Each employer subject to this chapter shall submit quarterly, on forms supplied by the administrator, a listing of wage information, including the name of each employee receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter, such employee's Social Security account number and the amount of wages paid to such employee during such calendar quarter.

(B) Commencing with the third calendar quarter of 2024, unless waived pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection, any employer subject to this chapter, with one hundred or more employees, shall include in the quarterly filing submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the following data for each employee receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter: Such employee's gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, veteran status, disability status, highest education completed, home address, address of primary work site, occupational code under the standard occupational classification system of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, hours worked, days worked, salary or hourly wage, employment start date in the current job title and, if applicable, employment end date. The information required pursuant to this subparagraph shall be included in the quarterly filings of employers subject to this chapter with ninety-nine or fewer employees commencing with the third calendar quarter of 2026, except employers subject to this chapter with forty-nine or fewer employees without an electronic payroll system shall include such information commencing with the third calendar quarter of 2028. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to require an employee to provide information about gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, veteran status or disability status if not otherwise required by law. The administrator may issue guidance defining each such data field.

(2) **[**Commencing with the first calendar quarter of 2014, each**]** Each employer subject to this chapter who reports wages for employees receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter, and each person or organization that, as an agent, reports wages for employees receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter on behalf of one or more employers subject to this chapter shall submit quarterly the information required by subdivision (1) of this subsection **[**on magnetic tape, diskette, or other similar electronic means which the administrator may prescribe**]** electronically, in a format and manner prescribed by the administrator, unless such employer or agent receives a waiver pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection.

(3) Any employer that fails to submit the information required by subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection in a timely manner, as determined by the administrator, shall be liable to the administrator for a late filing fee of twenty-five dollars. Any employer that fails to submit the information required by subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection under a proper state unemployment compensation registration number shall be liable to the administrator for a fee of twenty-five dollars. All fees collected by the administrator under this subdivision shall be deposited in the Employment Security Administration Fund.

(4) **[**Commencing with the first calendar quarter of 2014, each**]** Each employer subject to this chapter who makes contributions or payments in lieu of contributions for employees receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter, and each person or organization that, as an agent, makes contributions or payments in lieu of contributions for employees receiving wages in employment subject to this chapter on behalf of one or more employers subject to this chapter shall make such contributions or payments in lieu of contributions electronically.

(5) Any employer or any person or organization that, as an agent, **[**submits**]** is required to submit information pursuant to subdivision (2)

of this subsection, **[**or makes**]** make contributions or payments in lieu of contributions pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection or submit information pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection may request in writing, not later than thirty days prior to the date a submission of information or a contribution or payment in lieu of contribution is due, that the administrator waive **[**the**]** such requirement. **[**that such submission or contribution or payment in lieu of contribution be made electronically.**]** The administrator shall grant such request if, on the basis of information provided by such employer or person or organization and on a form prescribed by the administrator, the administrator finds that there would be undue hardship for such employer or person or organization. The administrator shall promptly inform such employer or person or organization of the granting or rejection of the requested waiver. The decision of the administrator shall be final and not subject to further review or appeal. Such waiver shall be effective for twelve months from the date such waiver is granted.

(6) The name and identifying information of an employer and personally identifiable information about an employee provided to the administrator pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not be deemed to be a public record for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and shall not be subject to disclosure under the provisions of section 1-210. The administrator or the department may share information provided pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection with another state agency, another state or territory, the federal government or to support a data request submitted through CP20 WIN in accordance with the policies and procedures of CP20 WIN, established pursuant to section 10a-57g, for the purposes of program administration, audit, evaluation or research, provided the recipient of such data enters into a data sharing agreement pursuant to section 271 of this act if such recipient is not a state agency, another state or territory, or the federal

government.

Sec. 271. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) A data sharing agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-15 of the general statutes, subsection (j) of section 31-225a of the general statutes or section 269 of this act by an office, department, board, commission, public institution of higher education or other instrumentality of the state with one or more individuals or organizations that allows for the sharing of data held by such state instrumentality shall include, but need not be limited to, the following provisions:

(1) The purposes for which any party that has entered into a data sharing agreement with a state instrumentality will use such data and a restriction that such data may only be used for purposes authorized in the data sharing agreement;

(2) The specific individuals, within any party that has entered into a data sharing agreement with a state instrumentality, who may access or use such data;

(3) Data provided by the state instrumentality shall not be shared with another party unless such party has entered into a data sharing agreement with such instrumentality pursuant to this section and with approval from such instrumentality;

(4) Data shall not be copied or stored in any location by any party, unless approved by the state instrumentality in the agreement;

(5) All data shall be stored and accessed in a secure manner, as prescribed in the data sharing agreement;

(6) Procedures for notifying the state instrumentality of any breach of such agreement;

(7) If any provision of the data sharing agreement or the application

of such agreement is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of such agreement that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application;

(8) A party entering into a data sharing agreement shall not (A) use records or information obtained for such data for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law, or (B) share, disclose or make accessible in any manner, directly or indirectly, such information or records to any federal or state agency that enforces federal immigration law, or to any officer or agent of such agency, unless required in compliance with a judicial warrant or court order issued by a judge or magistrate on behalf of the state or federal judicial branches;

(9) A data sharing agreement shall have an explicit term of length;

(10) If personally identifying information is permitted or required to be shared pursuant to a data sharing agreement, a description of any methods to de-identify such data.

(b) Any data or information shared with a third party pursuant to a data sharing agreement that is not subject to disclosure under section 1-210 of the general statutes by a state instrumentality shall not be subject to disclosure by such third party under section 1-210 of the general statutes.

(c) Any data sharing agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed a public record. Any state instrumentality that enters into such an agreement shall not release any information that may endanger data security or safety.

(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any contracts entered into by a state agency that comply with section 4e-70 of the general statutes.

Sec. 272. Subsection (b) of section 12-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(b) The commissioner may disclose (1) returns or return information to (A) an authorized representative of another state agency or office, upon written request by the head of such agency or office, when required in the course of duty or when there is reasonable cause to believe that any state law is being violated, or (B) an authorized representative of an agency or office of the United States, upon written request by the head of such agency or office, when required in the course of duty or when there is reasonable cause to believe that any federal law is being violated, provided no such agency or office shall disclose such returns or return information, other than in a judicial or administrative proceeding to which such agency or office is a party pertaining to the enforcement of state or federal law, as the case may be, in a form which can be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer except that the names and addresses of jurors or potential jurors and the fact that the names were derived from the list of taxpayers pursuant to chapter 884 may be disclosed by the Judicial Branch; (2) returns or return information to the Auditors of Public Accounts, when required in the course of duty under chapter 23; (3) returns or return information to tax officers of another state or of a Canadian province or of a political subdivision of such other state or province or of the District of Columbia or to any officer of the United States Treasury Department or the United States Department of Health and Human Services, authorized for such purpose in accordance with an agreement between this state and such other state, province, political subdivision, the District of Columbia or department, respectively, when required in the administration of taxes imposed under the laws of such other state, province, political subdivision, the District of Columbia or the United States, respectively, and when a reciprocal arrangement exists; (4) returns or return information in any action, case or proceeding

in any court of competent jurisdiction, when the commissioner or any other state department or agency is a party, and when such information is directly involved in such action, case or proceeding; (5) returns or return information to a taxpayer or its authorized representative, upon written request for a return filed by or return information on such taxpayer; (6) returns or return information to a successor, receiver, trustee, executor, administrator, assignee, guardian or guarantor of a taxpayer, when such person establishes, to the satisfaction of the commissioner, that such person has a material interest which will be affected by information contained in such returns or return information; (7) information to the assessor or an authorized representative of the chief executive officer of a Connecticut municipality, when the information disclosed is limited to (A) a list of real or personal property that is or may be subject to property taxes in such municipality, or (B) a list containing the name of each person who is issued any license, permit or certificate which is required, under the provisions of this title, to be conspicuously displayed and whose address is in such municipality; (8) real estate conveyance tax return information or controlling interest transfer tax return information to the town clerk or an authorized representative of the chief executive officer of a Connecticut municipality to which the information relates; (9) estate tax returns and estate tax return information to the Probate Court Administrator or to the court of probate for the district within which a decedent resided at the date of the decedent's death, or within which the commissioner contends that a decedent resided at the date of the decedent's death or, if a decedent died a nonresident of this state, in the court of probate for the district within which real estate or tangible personal property of the decedent is situated, or within which the commissioner contends that real estate or tangible personal property of the decedent is situated; (10) returns or return information to the (A) Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for purposes of subsection (b) of section 12-7a, and (B) Office of Fiscal Analysis for purposes of, and subject to the provisions of, subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of section 12-7b; (11) return

information to the Jury Administrator, when the information disclosed is limited to the names, addresses, federal Social Security numbers and dates of birth, if available, of residents of this state, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-701; (12) returns or return information to any person to the extent necessary in connection with the processing, storage, transmission or reproduction of such returns or return information, and the programming, maintenance, repair, testing or procurement of equipment, or the providing of other services, for purposes of tax administration; (13) without written request and unless the commissioner determines that disclosure would identify a confidential informant or seriously impair a civil or criminal tax investigation, returns and return information which may constitute evidence of a violation of any civil or criminal law of this state or the United States to the extent necessary to apprise the head of such agency or office charged with the responsibility of enforcing such law, in which event the head of such agency or office may disclose such return information to officers and employees of such agency or office to the extent necessary to enforce such law; (14) names and addresses of operators, as defined in section 12-407, to tourism districts, as defined in section 10-397; (15) names of each licensed dealer, as defined in section 12-285, and the location of the premises covered by the dealer's license; (16) to a tobacco product manufacturer that places funds into escrow pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of section 4-28i, return information of a distributor licensed under the provisions of chapter 214 or chapter 214a, provided the information disclosed is limited to information relating to such manufacturer's sales to consumers within this state, whether directly or through a distributor, dealer or similar intermediary or intermediaries, of cigarettes, as defined in section 4-28h, and further provided there is reasonable cause to believe that such manufacturer is not in compliance with section 4-28i; (17) returns, which shall not include a copy of the return filed with the commissioner, or return information for purposes of section 12-217z; (18) returns or return information to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, upon

written request by said commission, when necessary to investigate suspected violations of state election laws; **[**and**]** (19) returns or return information for purposes of, and subject to the conditions of, subsection (e) of section 5-240; and (20) to the extent allowable under federal law, return information to another state agency or to support a data request submitted through CP20 WIN, established in section 10a-57g, in accordance with the policies and procedures of CP20 WIN for the purposes of evaluation or research, provided the recipient of such data enters into a data sharing agreement pursuant to section 271 of this act if such recipient is not a state agency.

Sec. 273. Section 10a-223 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

In this chapter, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings unless the context indicates another or different meaning or intent:

(1) "Authority" means the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority constituted as a subsidiary of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority as provided in section 10a-179a;

(2) "Authorized officer" means an employee of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority or of the authority who is authorized by the board of directors of the authority to execute and deliver documents and papers and to act in the name of and on behalf of the authority;

(3) "Authority loans" means education loans by the authority, or loans by the authority from the proceeds of bonds for the purpose of funding education loans;

(4) "Board" means the board of directors of the authority;

(5) "Bonds" or "revenue bonds" means revenue bonds or notes of the authority issued under the provisions of this chapter, including revenue refunding bonds or notes;

(6) "Bond resolution" means the resolution or resolutions of the authority and the trust agreement, if any, authorizing the issuance of and providing for the terms and conditions applicable to bonds;

(7) "Borrower" means (A) an individual who has an outstanding loan from the authority, (B) an individual who attends a Connecticut institution for higher education, enrolls in a Connecticut high-value certificate program or currently resides in the state, and has received or agreed to pay an education loan, or (C) any parent who has received or agreed to pay an education loan on behalf of an individual who attends a Connecticut institution for higher education or currently resides in the state;

(8) "Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority" means the quasi-public authority established pursuant to section 10a-179;

(9) "Connecticut institution for higher education" means an institution for higher education within the state;

(10) "Default insurance" means insurance insuring education loans, authority loans or bonds against default;

(11) "Default reserve fund" means a fund established pursuant to a bond resolution for the purpose of securing education loans, authority loans or bonds;

(12) "Education loan" means a loan which is made to a student in or from the state or a parent of such student to finance attendance at an institution for higher education or enrollment in a high-value certificate program, or to a borrower to refinance one or more eligible loans;

(13) "Loan funding deposit" means moneys or other property deposited by a Connecticut institution for higher education with the authority, a guarantor or a trustee for the purpose of (A) providing security for bonds, (B) funding a default reserve fund, (C) acquiring default insurance, or (D) defraying costs of the authority, such moneys or properties to be in such amounts as deemed necessary by the authority or guarantor as a condition for such institution's participation in the authority's programs;

(14) "Institution for higher education" means a degree-granting educational institution within the United States authorized by applicable law to provide a program of education beyond the high school level and (A) described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, and exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of said code with respect to a trade or business carried on by such institution which is not an unrelated trade or business, determined by applying Section 513(a) of said code to such organization or a foundation established for its benefit, or (B) exempt from taxation under said code as a governmental unit;

(15) "Participating institution for higher education" means a Connecticut institution for higher education which, pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, undertakes the financing directly or indirectly of education loans as provided in this chapter;

(16) "Parent" means any parent, legal guardian or sponsor of a student at an institution for higher education <u>or enrolled in a high-value certificate program</u>;

(17) "Education loan series portfolio" means all education loans made by the authority or by or on behalf of a specific participating institution for higher education which are funded from the proceeds of a related specific bond issue of the authority;

(18) "Education assistance program" means a program to assist in financing the costs of education through education loans or education grants, or both;

(19) "Education grant" means a grant, scholarship, fellowship or other nonrepayable assistance awarded by the authority to a student currently residing in the state to finance the attendance of the student at a Connecticut institution for higher education or enrollment in a Connecticut high-value certificate program, or a grant, scholarship, fellowship or other nonrepayable assistance awarded by or on behalf of a Connecticut institution for higher education from the proceeds of funds provided by the authority to a student from the state to finance the student's attendance at such institution; **[**and**]**

(20) "Eligible loan" means any loan that is in repayment that was (A) made by the authority, or (B) made to a borrower by any other private or governmental lender to finance attendance at an institution for higher education **[**.**]** or enrollment in a high-value certificate program;

(21) "High-value certificate program" means a noncredit sub-baccalaureate certificate program offered by an institution of higher education or a private occupational school that the Chief Workforce Officer determines to meet the needs of employers in the state; and

(22) "Connecticut high-value certificate program" means a high-value certificate program offered by an institution of higher education or a private occupational school in the state.

Sec. 274. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority shall establish an account to be known as the Certificate Loan Loss Reserve and Funding account, which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account, including, but not limited to, state appropriations or proceeds from the sale of bonds.

Moneys in the account shall be expended by the authority to (1) fund authority loans issued to a borrower to finance enrollment in a Connecticut high-value certificate program, as defined in section 10a-223 of the general statutes, (2) to cover any losses incurred by the authority from issuing such authority loans, (3) for reasonable and necessary expenses for the administration of such authority loans, and (4) any initial implementation expenses prior to the origination of such authority loans.

Sec. 275. Section 31-49p of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Any covered employee aggrieved by a denial of compensation under the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program or any person aggrieved by the imposition of a penalty imposed pursuant to section 31-49r may file **[**a complaint**]** an appeal with the Labor Commissioner not more than twenty-one calendar days after issuance of the denial or penalty decision, unless good cause exists for the late filing.

(b) Upon receipt of any such **[**complaint**]** appeal, the commissioner, **[**shall hold a hearing**]** or the commissioner's designee, shall decide the appeal based upon the file record, except that the commissioner or designee may do one or both of the following: (1) Supplement the file record, or (2) conduct a hearing. For purposes of this section, "file record" means any documents submitted to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority or to the private plan administrator, any documents relied upon by the authority or the private plan administrator in making its determination, and any other documents the commissioner or designee deems necessary to dispose of the appeal. The commissioner or designee may require the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents in connection with the appeal, and may issue subpoenas. The Labor Department shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning the rules of procedure for the disposition of appeals filed under the provisions of

this section.

(c) After **[**the hearing**]** determination of the appeal, the commissioner or designee shall send each party a written copy of the **[**commissioner's**]** decision. The commissioner or designee may award the covered employee or person all appropriate relief, including any compensation or benefits to which the employee otherwise would have been eligible if such denial had not occurred. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the commissioner or designee may appeal the decision to the **[**Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54**]** superior court for the judicial district of Hartford or for the judicial district in which the appellant resides, not later than thirty days after issuance of the decision.

Sec. 276. Subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 4-186 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Appeals from denial of compensation under the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program or imposition of a penalty pursuant to section 31-49r, appeals from the decisions of the administrator of the Unemployment Compensation Act, appeals from decisions of the employment security appeals referees to the board of review, and appeals from decisions of the Employment Security Board of Review to the courts, as is provided in chapter 567, and appeals from the Commissioner of Revenue Services to the courts, as provided in chapters 207 to 212a, inclusive, 214, 214a, 217, 218a, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 227, 228b, 228c, 228d, 228e and 229 and appeals from decisions of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management pursuant to sections 12-242hh, 12-242ii and 12-242kk, are excepted from the provisions of this chapter.

(b) (1) In the case of conflict between the provisions of this chapter and the provisions of chapter 567 and provisions of the general statutes

relating to limitations of periods of time, procedures for filing appeals, or jurisdiction or venue of any court or tribunal governing unemployment compensation, employment security, Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program or manpower appeals, the provisions of the law governing unemployment compensation, employment security, Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program and manpower appeals shall prevail.

(2) In the case of conflict between the provisions of this chapter and the provisions of sections 8-37gg, 8-345 and 8-346a relating to administrative hearings, the provisions of sections 8-37gg, 8-345 and 8-346a shall prevail.

(c) The Employment Security Division, **[**and**]** the Labor Commissioner or said commissioner's designee with respect to the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program, the Board of Mediation and Arbitration of the state Labor Department, the Office of the Claims Commissioner, and the Workers' Compensation Commissioner are exempt from the provisions of section 4-176e and sections 4-177 to 4-183, inclusive.

Sec. 277. Subdivision (4) of section 31-51kk of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(4) "Employer" means a person engaged in any activity, enterprise or business who employs seventy-five or more employees, and includes any person who acts, directly or indirectly, in the interest of an employer to any of the employees of such employer and any successor in interest of an employer, but shall not include **[**the state,**]** a municipality, a local or regional board of education, or a private or parochial elementary or secondary school. The number of employees of an employer shall be determined on October first annually;

Sec. 278. Subdivision (4) of section 31-51kk of the general statutes, as amended by section 17 of public act 19-25, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

(4) "Employer" means a person engaged in any activity, enterprise or business who employs one or more employees, and includes any person who acts, directly or indirectly, in the interest of an employer to any of the employees of such employer and any successor in interest of an employer. "Employer" does not include **[**the state, or**]** a municipality, a local or regional board of education, or a nonpublic elementary or secondary school;

Sec. 279. Section 31-51pp of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) It shall be a violation of sections 5-248a and 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, for any employer to interfere with, restrain or deny the exercise of, or the attempt to exercise, any right provided under said sections.

(2) It shall be a violation of sections 5-248a and 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, for any employer to discharge or cause to be discharged, or in any other manner discriminate, against any individual for opposing any practice made unlawful by said sections or because such employee has exercised the rights afforded to such employee under said sections.

(b) It shall be a violation of sections 5-248a and 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged, or in any other manner discriminate, against any individual because such individual:

(1) Has filed any charge, or has instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding, under or related to sections 5-248a and 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive;

(2) Has given, or is about to give, any information in connection with any inquiry or proceeding relating to any right provided under said sections; or

(3) Has testified, or is about to testify, in any inquiry or proceeding relating to any right provided under said sections.

(c) **[**(1)**]** It shall be a violation of sections 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, for any employer to deny an employee the right to use up to two weeks of accumulated sick leave or to discharge, threaten to discharge, demote, suspend or in any manner discriminate against an employee for using, or attempting to exercise the right to use, up to two weeks of accumulated sick leave to attend to a serious health condition of a son or daughter, spouse or parent of the employee, or for the birth or adoption of a son or daughter of the employee. For purposes of this subsection, "sick leave" means an absence from work for which compensation is provided through an employer's bona fide written policy providing compensation for loss of wages occasioned by illness, but does not include absences from work for which compensation is provided through an employer's plan, including, but not limited to, a short or long-term disability plan, whether or not such plan is self-insured.

[(2)**]** (d) (1) Any employee aggrieved by a violation of this **[**subsection**]** section may file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner alleging violation of the provisions of this **[**subsection**]** section within one hundred eighty calendar days of the employer action that prompted the complaint, unless good cause exists for the late filing. Upon receipt of any such complaint, the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall **[**hold a hearing. After the hearing, the commissioner shall send each party a written copy of the commissioner's decision.**]** conduct an investigation and make a finding regarding jurisdiction and whether a violation of this section has occurred.

(2) If the commissioner or designee finds the Labor Department has no jurisdiction or that no violation of this section has occurred, the commissioner or designee shall dismiss the complaint and issue a release of jurisdiction allowing the complainant to bring a civil action in the Superior Court. Any action brought by the complainant in accordance with this subdivision shall be brought not later than ninety calendar days after the date of the release of the decision from the commissioner or designee. The employee may be awarded all appropriate relief, including rehiring or reinstatement to the employee's previous job, payment of back wages and reestablishment of employee benefits to which the employee otherwise would have been eligible if a violation of this subsection had not occurred.

(3) If the commissioner or designee finds that the Labor Department has jurisdiction and that a violation of this section has occurred, the commissioner or designee may, in the commissioner's or designee's sole discretion, require the parties to participate in a mandatory settlement conference and, in the absence of a settlement, a hearing officer designated by the commissioner or designee shall hold a hearing and render a final decision.

(4) The **[**commissioner**]** designated hearing officer may award the employee all appropriate relief, including rehiring or reinstatement to the employee's previous job, payment of back wages and reestablishment of employee benefits to which the employee otherwise would have been eligible if a violation of this **[**subsection**]** section had not occurred. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the **[**commissioner**]** designated hearing officer may appeal the decision to the Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

(e) Any employee aggrieved by a violation of this section may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction against the employer within one hundred eighty calendar days of the employer action alleged to be in violation of this section. Such action may be brought by an

employee without first filing an administrative complaint.

[(3)**]** (f) The rights and remedies specified in this **[**subsection**]** section are cumulative and nonexclusive and are in addition to any other rights or remedies afforded by contract or under other provisions of law.

Sec. 280. Section 31-51pp of the general statutes, as amended by section 21 of public act 19-25, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

(a) (1) It shall be a violation of sections 5-248a and 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, for any employer to interfere with, restrain or deny the exercise of, or the attempt to exercise, any right provided under said sections.

(2) It shall be a violation of sections 5-248a and 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, for any employer to discharge or cause to be discharged, or in any other manner discriminate, against any individual for opposing any practice made unlawful by said sections or because such employee has exercised the rights afforded to such employee under said sections.

(b) It shall be a violation of sections 5-248a and 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged, or in any other manner discriminate, against any individual because such individual:

(1) Has filed any charge, or has instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding, under or related to sections 5-248a and 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive;

(2) Has given, or is about to give, any information in connection with any inquiry or proceeding relating to any right provided under said sections; or

(3) Has testified, or is about to testify, in any inquiry or proceeding

relating to any right provided under said sections.

(c) **[**(1)**]** It shall be a violation of sections 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, for any employer to deny an employee the right to use up to two weeks of accumulated sick leave or to discharge, threaten to discharge, demote, suspend or in any manner discriminate against an employee for using, or attempting to exercise the right to use, up to two weeks of accumulated sick leave to attend to a serious health condition of a family member of the employee, or for the birth or adoption of a son or daughter of the employee. For purposes of this subsection, "sick leave" means an absence from work for which compensation is provided through an employer's bona fide written policy providing compensation for loss of wages occasioned by illness, but does not include absences from work for which compensation is provided through an employer's plan, including, but not limited to, a short or long-term disability plan, whether or not such plan is self-insured.

[(2)**]** (d) (1) Any employee aggrieved by a violation of this **[**subsection**]** section may file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner alleging violation of the provisions of this **[**subsection**]** section within one hundred eighty calendar days of the employer action that prompted the complaint, unless good cause exists for the late filing. Upon receipt of any such complaint, the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall **[**hold a hearing. After the hearing, the commissioner shall send each party a written copy of the commissioner's decision**]** conduct an investigation and make a finding regarding jurisdiction and whether a violation of this section has occurred.

(2) If the commissioner or designee finds the Labor Department has no jurisdiction or that no violation of this section has occurred, the commissioner or designee shall dismiss the complaint and issue a release of jurisdiction allowing the complainant to bring a civil action in the Superior Court. Any action brought by the complainant in accordance with this subdivision shall be brought not later than ninety

calendar days after the date of the release of the decision from the commissioner or designee. The employee may be awarded all appropriate relief, including rehiring or reinstatement to the employee's previous job, payment of back wages and reestablishment of employee benefits to which the employee otherwise would have been eligible if a violation of this subsection had not occurred.

(3) If the commissioner or designee finds that the Labor Department has jurisdiction and that a violation of this section has occurred, the commissioner or designee may, in the commissioner's or designee's sole discretion, require the parties to participate in a mandatory settlement conference and, in the absence of a settlement, a hearing officer designated by the commissioner or designee shall hold a hearing and render a final decision.

(4) The **[**commissioner**]** designated hearing officer may award the employee all appropriate relief, including rehiring or reinstatement to the employee's previous job, payment of back wages and reestablishment of employee benefits to which the employee otherwise would have been eligible if a violation of this **[**subsection**]** section had not occurred. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the **[**commissioner**]** designated hearing officer may appeal the decision to the Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

(e) Any employee aggrieved by a violation of this section may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction against the employer within one hundred eighty calendar days of the employer action alleged to be in violation of this section. Such action may be brought by an employee without first filing an administrative complaint.

[(3)**]** (f) The rights and remedies specified in this **[**subsection**]** section are cumulative and nonexclusive and are in addition to any other rights or remedies afforded by contract or under other provisions of law.

Sec. 281. Section 31-51qq of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Not later than January 1, 2022, the Labor Commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish procedures and guidelines necessary to implement the provisions of sections 31-51kk to 31-51qq, inclusive, including, but not limited to: (1) Guidelines regarding factors to be considered when determining whether an individual's close association with an employee is the equivalent of a family member's, and (2) procedures for hearings and redress, including restoration and restitution. **[**, for an employee who believes that there is a violation by the employer of such employee of any provision of said sections.**]**

Sec. 282. Section 27-9 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

[Whenever the Connecticut National Guard is called into the federal service or whenever such a call, in the opinion of the Governor, is deemed to be imminent, the Governor shall forthwith**]** The Governor may raise, organize, maintain and govern **[**, from the unorganized militia,**]** a body of volunteer troops for state military duty. **[**Said**]** Such body of troops **[**, when so organized,**]** shall be known as "the Connecticut State Guard" and **[**for and during the time of its existence as herein provided it**]** shall be a part of the organized militia.

Sec. 283. Section 32-7g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established within the Department of Economic and Community Development the Small Business Express program. Said program shall provide small businesses with various forms of financial assistance. **[**, using a streamlined application process to expedite the delivery of such assistance. The Commissioner of Economic and

Community Development, at his or her discretion, may partner with the lenders in the Connecticut Credit Consortium, established pursuant to section 32-9yy, in order to fulfill the requirements of this section.**]** A small business eligible for assistance through said program shall (1) employ **[**, on at least fifty per cent of its working days during the preceding twelve months,**]** not more than one hundred employees, (2) have operations in Connecticut, **[**(3) have been registered to conduct business for not less than twelve months,**]** and **[**(4)**]** (3) be in good standing with the payment of all state and local taxes and with all state agencies. It shall be the goal of the Department of Economic and Community Development that, on or before July 1, 2026, the Small Business Express program be self-funded and that the default rate of small businesses that receive assistance under said program be not more than twenty per cent.

(b) The Small Business Express program shall consist of various components, including (1) a revolving loan fund, as described in subsection **[**(d)**]** (c) of this section, to support small business growth, (2) **[**a job creation incentive component, as described in subsection (e) of this section, to support hiring, (3) a matching grant component, as described in subsection (f) of this section, to provide capital to small businesses that can match the state grant amount, (4) not more than two**]** at least one minority business revolving loan **[**funds**]** fund, as described in subsection **[**(g)**]** (d) of this section, to support the growth of minority-owned businesses, **[**and (5)**]** (3) a component established in consultation with representatives from Connecticut-based banks and a banking industry association, as described in subsection **[**(h)**]** (e) of this section, and (4) a component established in consultation with Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, as described in subsection (f) of this section. **[**The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall work with eligible small business applicants to provide a package of assistance using the financial assistance provided by the Small Business Express program and may refer small business applicants to the

Subsidized Training and Employment program established pursuant to section 31-3pp and any other appropriate state program.**]** Notwithstanding the provisions of section 32-5a regarding relocation limits, the department may require, as a condition of receiving financial assistance pursuant to this section, that a small business receiving such assistance shall not relocate, as defined in section 32-5a, for five years after receiving such assistance or during the term of the loan, whichever is longer. All other conditions and penalties imposed pursuant to section 32-5a shall continue to apply to such small business.

[(c) The commissioner shall establish a streamlined application process for the Small Business Express program. The small business applicant may receive assistance pursuant to said program not later than thirty days after submitting a completed application to the department. Any small business meeting the eligibility criteria in subsection (a) of this section may apply to said program. The commissioner shall give priority for available funding to small businesses creating jobs and may give priority for available funding to (1) economic base industries, as defined in subsection (d) of section 32-222, including, but not limited to, those in the fields of precision manufacturing, business services, green and sustainable technology, bioscience and information technology, (2) businesses attempting to export their products or services to foreign markets, and (3) businesses located in designated innovation places, as defined in section 32-39j.**]**

[(d) (1)**]** (c) There is established as part of the Small Business Express program a revolving loan fund to provide loans, **[**to eligible small businesses. Such loans shall be used for acquisition or purchase of machinery and equipment, construction or leasehold improvements, relocation expenses, working capital, which may be used for payment of rent, or other business-related expenses, as authorized by the commissioner**]** loan guarantees, loan portfolio guarantees, portfolio insurance and grants.

[(2) Loans from the revolving loan fund may be in amounts from ten thousand dollars to a maximum of one hundred thousand dollars, shall carry a maximum repayment rate of four per cent and shall be for a term of not more than ten years. The department shall review and approve loan terms, conditions and collateral requirements in a manner that prioritizes job growth and retention.

(3) Any eligible small business meeting the eligibility criteria in subsection (a) of this section may apply for assistance from the revolving loan fund, but the commissioner shall give priority to applicants that, as part of their business plan, are creating new jobs that will be maintained for not less than twelve consecutive months.

(e) (1) There is established as part of the Small Business Express program a job creation incentive component to provide loans for job creation to small businesses meeting the eligibility criteria in subsection (a) of this section, with the option of loan forgiveness based on the maintenance of an increased number of jobs for not less than twelve consecutive months. Such loans may be used for training, marketing, working capital, which may be used for payment of rent, or other expenses, as approved by the commissioner, that support job creation.

(2) Loans under the job creation incentive component may be in amounts from ten thousand dollars to a maximum of three hundred thousand dollars, shall carry a maximum repayment rate of four per cent and shall be for a term of not more than ten years. Payments on such loans may be deferred, and all or part of such loan may be forgiven, based upon the commissioner's assessment of the small business's attainment of job creation goals. The department shall review and approve loan terms, conditions and collateral requirements in a manner that prioritizes job creation.

(f) (1) There is established as part of the Small Business Express program a matching grant component to provide grants for capital to

small businesses meeting the eligibility criteria in subsection (a) of this section. Such small businesses shall match any state funds awarded under this program. Grant funds may be used for ongoing or new training, working capital, which may be used for payment of rent, acquisition or purchase of machinery and equipment, construction or leasehold improvements, relocation within the state or other business-related expenses authorized by the commissioner.

(2) Matching grants provided under the matching grant component may be in amounts from ten thousand dollars to a maximum of one hundred thousand dollars. The commissioner shall prioritize applicants for matching grants based upon the likelihood that such grants will assist applicants in maintaining job growth.

(3) The commissioner may waive the matching requirement for grants under this subsection for working capital to small businesses located within distressed municipalities, as defined in section 32-9p.**]**

[(g)**]** (d) (1) There **[**are**]** is established as part of the Small Business Express program **[**not more than two**]** at least one revolving loan **[**funds**]** fund to provide loans to eligible small businesses that are owned by one or more members of a minority. As used in this subsection, (A) "minority business development entity" means a nonprofit organization (i) having a lending portfolio on or before June 9, 2016, from which at least seventy-five per cent of lending is provided to minority-owned businesses state-wide; and (ii) that provided technical assistance on or before June 9, 2016, provided at least seventy-five per cent of such assistance was provided to minority-owned businesses state-wide; and (B) "minority" means (i) Black Americans, including all persons having origins in any of the Black African racial groups not of Hispanic origin; (ii) Hispanic Americans, including all persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race; (iii) all persons having origins in the Iberian Peninsula, including Portugal, regardless of race; (iv) women; (v) Asian

Pacific Americans and Pacific islanders; or (vi) American Indians and persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America and maintaining identifiable tribal affiliations through membership and participation or community identification.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 32-7h, the commissioner shall allocate from the available funding under the Small Business Express program a total of five million dollars for grants-in-aid to not more than two minority business development entities in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2020, inclusive, for the purpose of establishing and administering minority business revolving loan funds. Moneys from such funds shall be used to (A) provide loans to eligible small businesses, and (B) fund the administrative costs associated with the provision of such loans by a minority business development entity, provided a minority business development entity may not use more than ten per cent of the amount received as a grant under this section to fund such costs. Such loans shall be used for acquisition or purchase of machinery and equipment, construction or leasehold improvements, relocation expenses, working capital, which may be used for payment of rent, or other business-related expenses, as authorized by the minority business development entity.

(3) Loans from a minority business revolving loan fund may be in amounts from ten thousand dollars to a maximum of **[**one hundred**]** five hundred thousand dollars, shall carry a maximum repayment rate of four per cent and shall be for a term of not more than ten years. The minority business development entity shall review and approve loan terms, conditions and collateral requirements in a manner that prioritizes job growth and retention.

(4) Any eligible small business owned by one or more members of a minority may apply for assistance from a minority business revolving loan fund, provided the minority business development entity shall give priority to applicants that, as part of their business plan, are

creating new jobs that will be maintained for not less than twelve consecutive months.

(5) Loans from a minority business revolving fund shall be provided in such a manner that, on or before five years after the date such loan fund is established, the annual funds or revenues derived from investment income, loan repayments or any other sources received by the minority business development entity in connection with such loan fund is sufficient to fund the administrative costs associated with such loan fund.

(6) A minority business development entity receiving a grant pursuant to this subsection shall annually submit to the commissioner a financial audit of grant expenditures until all grant moneys have been expended by such entity. Any such audit shall be prepared by an independent auditor and if the commissioner finds that any such grant is used for purposes that are not in conformity with uses set forth in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, the commissioner may require repayment of such grant.

[(h)**]** (e) The commissioner, in consultation with representatives from Connecticut-based banks and a banking industry association, may establish as part of the Small Business Express program a component operated in collaboration with Connecticut-based banks, which may include, but need not be limited to, loan guarantees, short-term loans used as a bridge to private sector financing and the transfer of loans issued under subsection **[**(d) or (e)**]** (c) of this section. Any loans issued under such component shall be used for acquisition or purchase of machinery and equipment, construction or leasehold improvements, relocation expenses, working capital, which may be used for payment of rent, or other business-related expenses, as authorized by the commissioner. The provisions of subsections **[**(d) to (g), inclusive,**]** (c) and (d) of this section shall not be construed to apply to such component. Such component shall be administered by Connecticut

Innovations, Incorporated, in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Community Development. **[**Notwithstanding the provisions of section 32-7h, the commissioner may allocate not more than ten per cent of available funding under the Small Business Express program to such component.**]** For purposes of this section, "Connecticut-based banks" means banks and out-of-state banks, each as defined in section 36a-2, having deposit-taking branches in the state.

(f) The commissioner, in consultation with Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, may establish as part of the Small Business Express program a component operated in collaboration with Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, which may include, but need not be limited to, financial assistance consistent with the provisions and purposes of sections 32-23e, 32-23ii and 32-265. Such component may be administered by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Community Development.

[(i)**]** (g) Not later than **[**June 30, 2012**]** February 1, 2022, and **[**every six months**]** annually thereafter, the commissioner shall provide a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding, appropriations, commerce and labor. Such report shall include available data on (1) **[**the number of small businesses that applied to the Small Business Express program, (2)**]** the number of small businesses that received assistance under **[**said program**]** the Small Business Express program and the general categories of such businesses, **[**(3)**]** (2) the amounts and types of assistance provided, **[**(4)**]** (3) the total number of jobs on the date of application and the number proposed to be created or retained, **[**and (5)**]** (4) the most recent employment figures of the small businesses receiving assistance, (5) the default rate of small businesses that received assistance under said program, and (6) the progress of the lenders

participating in said program in becoming self-sustainable. The contents of such report shall also be included in the department's annual report.

Sec. 284. Subsection (b) of section 32-265 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) In order to stimulate and encourage the growth and development of the state economy, the Connecticut Capital Access Fund is created to provide portfolio insurance to participating financial institutions to assist them in making loans that are somewhat riskier than conventional loans. The insurance shall be based on a portfolio insurance mechanism applicable to loans enrolled by a financial institution in the program, rather than loans by loan guarantees. The state, acting through Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, shall enter into a participation agreement with each financial institution approved to participate in the program. A participation agreement entered into by the corporation and a financial institution shall establish a separate loan loss reserve account within such financial institution or a third-party financial institution approved by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, owned and controlled by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, but earmarked to cover losses on loans enrolled by that financial institution in the program. A separate loan loss reserve account shall be established for each participating financial institution. Each time a financial institution enrolls a loan in the program, payments shall be made into the earmarked loan loss reserve account by the borrower, financial institution and the corporation, in amounts consistent with the provisions of the participation agreement. The financial institution shall be allowed to recover the cost of its payment from the borrower.

Sec. 285. Section 32-7h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established an account to be known as the "small business

express assistance account" which will be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Repayment of principal and interest on loans shall be credited to such fund and shall become part of the assets of the fund. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Department of Economic and Community Development for the purposes of the Small Business Express program established pursuant to section 32-7g. Except as provided in subsection **[**(g)**]** (d) of section 32-7g, all moneys received for the purposes of the Small Business Express program and payments of principal and interest on any loans given under said program shall be credited to the account.

(b) Except as provided in subsection **[**(g)**]** (d) of section 32-7g, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development may provide for the payment of any administrative expenses or other costs incurred by the department or its lender partners in carrying out the purposes of the Small Business Express program not to exceed five per cent of funding from this program from the account established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, provided one per cent shall be dedicated to develop capacity for capital construction projects for minority business enterprises.

Sec. 286. Section 32-1m of the general statutes, as amended by section 14 of public act 21-193, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Not later than February first, annually, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall submit a report to the Governor, the Auditors of Public Accounts and 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 commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. Not later than thirty days after submission of the report, said commissioner shall post the report on the Department of Economic

and Community Development's web site. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information with regard to the activities of the Department of Economic and Community Development and to business assistance programs administered by Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, during the preceding state fiscal year:

(1) A brief description and assessment of the state's economy during such year, utilizing the most recent and reasonably available data, and including:

(A) Connecticut employment by industry;

(B) Connecticut and national average unemployment; and

(C) Connecticut gross state product, by industry.

(2) An analysis of the economic development portfolio of the department, including, but not limited to, each business assistance or incentive program, including any business tax credit or abatement program, grant, loan, forgivable loan or other form of assistance, enacted for the purpose of improving economic development. The analysis shall include:

(A) The Internet web site address of the state's open data portal and an indication of where the name, address and location of each recipient of the department's assistance is published on the site along with the following information concerning each recipient: (i) Business activities, (ii) standard industrial classification codes or North American industrial classification codes, (iii) whether the recipient is a minority or woman-owned business, (iv) a summary of the terms and conditions for the assistance, including the type and amount of state financial assistance and job creation or retention requirements, (v) the amount of investments from private and other nonstate sources that have been leveraged by the assistance, and (vi) the amount of state investment;

(B) A portfolio analysis, including an analysis of the wages paid by recipients of financial assistance by industry;

(C) An investment analysis, including (i) total portfolio value, (ii) total investment by industry, (iii) portfolio dollar per job average, (iv) portfolio leverage ratio;

(D) An overview of the business assistance and incentive programs administered by the department and an analysis of their estimated economic impact on the state's economy. The analysis shall include, for each business assistance or incentive program for which such data is available, the number of new jobs created, the borrowing cost to the state and the estimated impact of such program on annual state revenues;

(E) An analysis of whether the statutory and programmatic goals of each business or incentive program are being met, with obstacles to such goals identified, if possible;

(F) (i) Recommendations as to whether any existing business assistance or incentive program should be continued, modified or repealed and the basis or bases for such recommendations, and (ii) any recommendations for additional data collection by the state to better inform future evaluations of such programs; and

(G) The methodologies and assumptions used in carrying out the analyses under this subdivision.

(3) An analysis of the community development portfolio of the department, including:

(A) The Internet web site address of the state's open data portal and an indication of where the name, address and location of each recipient of the department's assistance is published on the site along with the following information concerning each recipient: (i) Amount of state

investment, (ii) a summary of the terms and conditions for the department's assistance, including the type and amount of state financial assistance, and (iii) the amount of investments from private and other nonstate sources that have been leveraged by such assistance; and

(B) An investment analysis, including (i) total active portfolio value, (ii) total investments made in the preceding state fiscal year, and (iii) total portfolio leverage ratio.

(4) An analysis of each business assistance or incentive program, including any business tax credit or abatement program, grant, loan, forgivable loan or other form of assistance, enacted for the purpose of improving economic development, that (A) (i) had ten or more recipients of assistance in the preceding state fiscal year, or (ii) credited, abated or distributed more than one million dollars in the preceding state fiscal year, and (B) is administered by the department or Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated. The analysis shall include:

(i) An overview of the business assistance or incentive program and an analysis of its estimated economic effects on the state's economy, including, for each program where such data is available, the number of new jobs created and the estimated impact of such program on annual state revenues;

(ii) An analysis of whether the statutory and programmatic goals of each business assistance or incentive program are being met, with obstacles to such goals identified, if possible;

(iii) Recommendations as to whether any such existing business assistance or incentive program should be continued, modified or repealed and the basis or bases for such recommendations, and any recommendations for additional data collection by the state to better inform future evaluations of such programs; and

(iv) The methodologies and assumptions used in carrying out the analysis under this subdivision.

(5) A summary of the department's international trade efforts in the preceding state fiscal year, and, to the extent possible, a summary of foreign direct investment that occurred in the state in such year.

(6) A summary of the total social and economic impact of the department's efforts and activities in the areas of economic and community development, and an assessment of the department's performance in terms of meeting its stated goals and objectives.

(7) With regard to the Small Business Express program established pursuant to section 32-7g, data on (A) **[**the number of small businesses that applied to the Small Business Express program, (B)**]** the number of small businesses that received assistance under said program and the general categories of such businesses, **[**(C)**]** (B) the amounts and types of assistance provided, **[**(D)**]** (C) the total number of jobs on the date of application and the number proposed to be created or retained, **[**and (E)**]** (D) the most recent employment figures of the small businesses receiving assistance, (E) the default rate of small businesses that received assistance under said program, and (F) the progress of the lenders participating in said program in becoming self-sustainable.

(8) With regard to airport development zones established pursuant to section 32-75d, a summary of the economic and cost benefits of each zone and any recommended revisions to any such zones.

(9) An overview of the department's activities related to tourism, the arts and historic preservation.

(10) An overview of the department's activities concerning digital media, motion pictures and related production activity, and an analysis of the use of the film production tax credit established under section 12-217jj, the entertainment industry infrastructure tax credit established

under section 12-217kk and the digital animation production tax credit established under section 12-217*ll*, including the amount of any tax credit issued under said sections and the total amount of production expenses or costs incurred in the state by the taxpayer who was issued such a tax credit.

(11) A summary of the department's and the office of the permit ombudsman's brownfield-related efforts and activities in the preceding fiscal year.

(12) A summary of the department's dry cleaning establishment remediation account activities in the preceding fiscal year.

(b) Any annual report that is required from the department by any provision of the general statutes shall be incorporated into the annual report submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(c) **[**Not later than sixty days after the submission of a report by the Auditors of Public Accounts pursuant to section 2-90c, as amended by this act**]** On or before April 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, 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 commerce shall hold, individually or jointly, one or more public hearings on **[**such report and**]** the analyses included in the annual report under subdivisions (2)**,** **[**and**]** (4) and (7) of subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 287. Section 18-81gg of the general statutes, as amended by section 3 of public act 21-110, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

(a) (1) The Commissioner of Correction shall establish visitation policies for incarcerated persons. Such policies shall:

(A) Permit at least one sixty-minute contact social visit per week,

except prior to July 1, 2022, if such incarcerated person resides in a facility with infrastructure that cannot physically accommodate contact visits, and the commissioner has included such facility in a report to the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section;

(B) Permit visitation by members of an incarcerated person's immediate family, extended family, unmarried coparents, unmarried romantic partners and close personal friends. No person's past criminal conviction shall be the sole or primary basis for denying a person's application to visit;

(C) Provide that no incarcerated person may be restrained during a contact social visit; and

(D) Provide that no incarcerated person, except one who has a history of contraband violations, may be deprived of a contact social visit under this subsection without first having a hearing at which the Department of Correction shall bear the burden of showing by clear and convincing evidence that the denial of contact social visits is necessary (i) to protect against a substantiated threat of imminent physical harm to department employees, the visitor or another person; or (ii) to prevent the introduction of contraband. If the department fails to make such showing, the incarcerated person shall have such contact social visits reinstated. Any such incarcerated person who has a history of contraband violations may be deprived of contact social visits without first having a hearing, provided such person may request a hearing to have such contact social visits reinstated. Hearings conducted pursuant to this subparagraph shall be guided by written procedures developed under section **[**502 of this act**]** 5 of public act 21-110. Any incarcerated person who has a social contact visit denied pursuant to this section shall have an opportunity for a social visit not involving contact in the place of such social contact visit.

(2) The department may not deprive an incarcerated person of contact social visits provided for in this subsection for a period in excess of ninety days.

(3) Any policies developed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection for any incarcerated person who is a parent to a child under the age of eighteen shall include, but need not be limited to, rules regarding: (A) Physical contact, (B) convenience and frequency of visits, and (C) access to child-friendly visiting areas.

(4) For purposes of this subsection, "contact social visit" means an in-person meeting between an incarcerated person and an approved visitor who are not separated from each other by any physical divider, including, but not limited to, a screen or partition.

(5) The provisions of this subsection do not apply to any incarcerated person described in subsection (a) of section 18-10b.

(b) (1) The commissioner shall establish policies concerning mail to and from incarcerated persons. Such policies shall:

(A) Provide that each incarcerated person may write, send and receive letters, without limitation on the number of any such letters such incarcerated person receives, or writes and sends at his or her own personal expense, and

(B) Prohibit unnecessary delays in the processing of incoming and outgoing mail to or from an incarcerated person.

(2) Each correctional facility commissary shall sell: (A) Stationery, envelopes, postcards, greeting cards and postage; and (B) aerogramme folding letters for foreign air mail letters.

(3) The department may not deprive an incarcerated person the ability to write, send or receive letters provided for in this subsection as

a matter of discipline, retaliation or convenience.

(c) Not later than January 1, 2022, the commissioner shall report, pursuant to the provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the Department of Correction concerning (1) which facilities have infrastructure that cannot physically accommodate contact visits, and (2) what barriers prevent such facilities from physically accommodating contact visits.

(d) Not later than March 14, 2022, the commissioner shall report, pursuant to the provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor and to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the Department of Correction and to appropriations regarding a plan for implementing this section no later than July 1, 2022.

Sec. 288. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, within available resources, shall develop and implement a program to support solid waste reduction strategies that are consistent with the Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy, developed pursuant to section 22a-241a of the general statutes. Such waste reduction strategies may include, but shall not be limited to, solid waste diversion, unit-based pricing, organic materials diversion and reuse and recycling strategies.

Sec. 289. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section and section 31-290a of the general statutes:

(1) "Affected person" means an essential employee who died or was unable to work as a result of contracting COVID-19, or due to symptoms that were later diagnosed as COVID-19, at any time between March 10, 2020, and July 20, 2021, provided: (A) The contraction of COVID-19 by such employee is confirmed by a positive laboratory test or, if a

laboratory test was not available for the employee, as diagnosed and documented by the employee's licensed physician, licensed physician assistant or licensed advanced practice registered nurse, based on the employee's symptoms; (B) a copy of the positive laboratory test or the written documentation of the physician's, physician assistant's or advanced practice registered nurse's diagnosis is provided to the administrator; and (C) such employee, during the fourteen consecutive days immediately preceding the date the employee died or was unable to work due to contracting COVID-19, (i) was not employed in a capacity where the employee worked solely from home and did not have physical interaction with other employees, or (ii) was the recipient of a written offer or directive from such employee's employer to work solely from home but otherwise chose to work at a work site of the employer. "Affected person" does not include a federal employee who qualifies for benefits under the COVID-19 workers' compensation presumption included in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021;

(2) "Essential employee" means any person employed in a category recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices as of February 20, 2021, to receive a COVID-19 vaccination in phase 1a or 1b of the COVID-19 vaccination program;

(3) "Administrator" means an employee of the Office of the Comptroller, or a third-party administrator;

(4) "Assistance" means moneys payable by the Comptroller from the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund, established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, to assist affected persons pursuant to this section;

(5) "Uncompensated leave" means the wages or salary lost by an affected person unable to work as a result of contracting COVID-19, or due to symptoms that were later diagnosed as COVID-19, at any time

during the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020, or any extension of such declarations. "Uncompensated leave" does not include any leave from employment for which the affected person received paid leave provided through a paid leave plan provided by an employer or pursuant to any state or federal law;

(6) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related mutation thereof recognized by the World Health Organization as a communicable respiratory disease.

(b) There is established the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Program. The program shall offer assistance, within available funds and on a first-come, first-served basis, to affected persons eligible for assistance under this section, pending verification of eligibility, provided no assistance shall be paid to any affected person after June 30, 2024. The program shall be administered by the administrator. The administrator shall accept applications for assistance on or after the effective date of this section. For the purposes of this section, the administrator shall be authorized to (1) determine whether an affected person meets the requirements for eligibility for assistance under this section and the amount of assistance that should be provided; (2) summon and examine under oath such witnesses that may provide information relevant to the eligibility of an affected person, and direct the production of, and examine or cause to be produced or examined, such books, records, vouchers, memoranda, documents, letters, contracts or other papers in relation to any matter at issue as the administrator may find proper; and (3) take or cause to be taken affidavits or depositions within or without the state.

(c) There is established an account to be known as the "Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account

shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Comptroller at the discretion of the administrator for the purposes of (1) assistance offered under the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Program, and (2) costs and expenses of operating the program, including the hiring of necessary employees and the expense of public outreach and education regarding the program and fund, provided not more than five per cent of the total moneys received by the fund shall be used for any administrative costs, including hiring temporary or durational staff or contracting with a third-party administrator, or other costs and expenses incurred by the administrator or Comptroller in connection with carrying out the provisions of this section and subsection (a) of section 31-306 of the general statutes. The administrator shall make all reasonable efforts to limit the costs and expenses of operating the program without compromising affected persons' access to the program.

(d) To apply for assistance from the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund, an affected person with a pending workers' compensation claim under chapter 568 of the general statutes, related to COVID-19, or an affected person who does not have such pending workers' compensation claim, shall submit a claim to the administrator, in such form as required by the administrator, not later than July 20, 2022. An affected person who does not have a pending workers' compensation claim related to COVID-19 shall submit a claim to the administrator, in such form as required by the administrator, not later than one year after the date such person was initially unable to work as a result of contracting COVID-19 or due to symptoms that were later diagnosed as COVID-19 or July 20, 2022, whichever is later. Any such claim shall include: (1) A certificate issued by a licensed medical professional documenting the laboratory test or diagnosis that such affected person contracted COVID-19 (A) requiring such person to isolate and quarantine from others, (B) preventing such affected person

from performing such affected person's employment duties, or (C) requiring in-patient or outpatient medical treatment; (2) for the purposes of requesting assistance for uncompensated leave, evidence of (A) such affected person's weekly earnings during the eight calendar weeks immediately preceding the time of diagnosis, except in the case of an employee who has not yet worked for that employer for an eight-week period, for the time period such employee was employed, and (B) uncompensated leave due to the contraction of COVID-19 or symptoms that were later diagnosed as COVID-19; (3) for the purposes of requesting assistance for out-of-pocket costs for medical and surgical aid or hospital or nursing service, evidence of such affected person's costs; and (4) any additional information as requested or required by the administrator.

(e) The level of assistance offered to an affected person shall be calculated as follows, subject to available funds, and payable on a retroactive basis from the date such person was initially unable to work as a result of contracting COVID-19 or due to symptoms that were later diagnosed as COVID-19, but not earlier than March 10, 2020, and not later than July 20, 2021: (1) Weekly assistance for all uncompensated leave, calculated as seventy-five per cent of such affected person's average weekly earnings during the eight calendar weeks immediately preceding the date such person was initially unable to work as a result of contracting COVID-19, or due to symptoms that were later diagnosed as COVID-19, except in the case of an employee who has not yet worked for that employer for an eight-week period, seventy-five per cent of such affected person's average weekly earnings for the time period such employee was employed, and after such earnings have been reduced by any deduction for: (A) Federal or state taxes, or both; (B) the federal Insurance Contributions Act, provided such assistance shall not exceed the average weekly earnings of all workers in the state as calculated by the Labor Commissioner, pursuant to section 31-309 of the general statutes; and (C) any benefits received for total or partial unemployment

as provided in chapter 567 of the general statutes, and any amount of temporary total or temporary partial disability benefits under chapter 568 of the general statutes, for the same days of such claimed assistance, (2) all documented out-of-pocket COVID-19 related costs for medical and surgical aid or hospital and nursing service incurred directly as a result of such affected person contracting COVID-19, including, but not limited to, medical rehabilitation services, mental health therapy services and prescription drugs, and (3) burial expenses in the amount of three thousand dollars in any case in which an employee died due to contracting COVID-19 during (A) the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020, or any extension of such declarations, or (B) any new public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared by the Governor as a result of a COVID-19 outbreak in this state.

(f) The administrator shall promptly review all claims submitted pursuant to this section. The administrator shall evaluate each claim and determine, on the basis of information provided by the affected person, or additional information provided at the request of the administrator, whether or not such claim should be approved and, if approved, the amount of assistance offered. The administrator shall provide such determination, in writing, to such affected person not later than sixty business days after having received the notice of claim, or, if the administrator requested additional information, not later than ten business days after receiving such additional information, and shall direct the Comptroller to pay any such assistance offered to such affected person in the amount and for the duration determined by the administrator, if applicable.

(g) For purposes of this section, a pending workers' compensation claim submitted by an affected person shall not prevent the administrator from approving such person's claim for assistance under this section, provided any workers' compensation benefits such affected

person receives for the workers' compensation claim shall be offset by the amount of assistance such affected person receives for uncompensated leave under this section, as deemed appropriate by the presiding workers' compensation commissioner. Any assistance available under this section shall be offset by any workers' compensation benefits already paid to the affected person for the uncompensated leave or out-of-pocket medical costs, including payments made without prejudice. It shall be the responsibility of the administrator of the fund to notify the Workers' Compensation Commission of an available offset.

(h) An affected person may request that a determination made pursuant to subsection (f) of this section be reconsidered by the administrator's designee by filing a request with the administrator, on a form prescribed by the administrator, not later than twenty business days after the mailing of the notice of such determination. The administrator, not later than three business days after receipt of such request for reconsideration, shall designate an individual to conduct such reconsideration and shall submit to such designated individual all documents relating to such affected person's claim. The administrator's designee shall conduct any reconsideration requested by an affected person, which shall consist of a de novo review of all relevant evidence, not later than twenty business days after such individual's designation. Such administrator's designee shall issue such designee's decision affirming, modifying or reversing the decision of the administrator not later than twenty business days after the designee's reconsideration of the determination and shall submit such decision in writing to the administrator and the affected person. The decision shall include a short statement of findings that shall specify any assistance to be paid to the affected person in accordance with subsection (f) of this section.

(i) Any statement, document, information or matter may be considered by the administrator or, on reconsideration, by the

administrator's designee, if in the opinion of the administrator or designee, it contributes to a determination of the claim, whether or not the same would be admissible in a court of law.

(j) There shall be no right of appeal by any affected person claiming assistance under this section following the final decision of the administrator's designee issued pursuant to subsection (h) of this section.

(k) Any assistance provided to an affected person under this section shall not be considered income for the purpose of the state's personal income tax law, corporation tax or any other tax laws.

(l) If a claim is paid to an affected person erroneously or as a result of wilful misrepresentation by such affected person, the administrator may seek repayment of benefits from the affected person having received such compensation and may also, in the case of wilful misrepresentation, seek payment of a penalty in the amount of fifty per cent of the benefits paid as a result of such misrepresentation.

(m) On or before January 1, 2022, and monthly thereafter, and any other time at the request of the administrator, the Comptroller shall submit a report to the administrator indicating the value of the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund at the time of the report.

(n) On or before January 1, 2022, and at least quarterly thereafter, the administrator shall submit to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, a report on the financial condition of the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund. Such report shall include (1) an estimate of the fund's value as of the date of the report; (2) the effect of scheduled payments on the fund's value; (3) an estimate of the monthly administrative costs

necessary to operate the program and the fund; and (4) any recommendations for legislation to improve the operation or administration of the program and the fund.

Sec. 290. Section 31-290a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) No employer who is subject to the provisions of this chapter shall: **[**discharge,**]** (1) Discharge or cause to be discharged, or in any manner discipline or discriminate against any employee because the employee has filed a claim for workers' compensation benefits or otherwise exercised the rights afforded to him pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, or (2) deliberately misinform or deliberately dissuade an employee from filing a claim for workers' compensation benefits or, on or after October 1, 2021, a claim for payment of benefits from the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund.

(b) Any employee who is so discharged, disciplined or discriminated against or who has been deliberately misinformed or deliberately dissuaded from filing a claim for workers' compensation benefits or a claim for payment of benefits from the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund may either: (1) Bring a civil action in the superior court for the judicial district where the employer has its principal office for the reinstatement of his previous job, payment of back wages and reestablishment of employee benefits to which he would have otherwise been entitled if he had not been discriminated against or discharged and any other damages caused by such discrimination or discharge. The court may also award punitive damages. Any employee who prevails in such a civil action shall be awarded reasonable attorney's fees and costs to be taxed by the court; or (2) file a complaint with the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Commission alleging violation of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section. Upon receipt of any such complaint, the chairman shall select a commissioner to hear the complaint, provided any commissioner who

has previously rendered any decision concerning the claim shall be excluded. The hearing shall be held in the workers' compensation district where the employer has its principal office. After the hearing, the commissioner shall send each party a written copy of his decision. The commissioner may award the employee the reinstatement of his previous job, payment of back wages and reestablishment of employee benefits to which he otherwise would have been eligible if he had not been discriminated against or discharged. Any employee who prevails in such a complaint shall be awarded reasonable attorney's fees. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the commissioner may appeal the decision to the Appellate Court.

Sec. 291. Subsection (a) of section 31-306 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Compensation shall be paid to dependents on account of death resulting from an accident arising out of and in the course of employment or from an occupational disease as follows:

(1) Four thousand dollars shall be paid for burial expenses in any case in which the employee died on or after October 1, 1988, and before the effective date of this section, and twelve thousand dollars shall be paid for burial expenses in any case in which the employee died on or after the effective date of this section. On January 1, 2022, and not later than each January first thereafter, the compensation for burial benefits shall be adjusted by the percentage increase between the last complete calendar year and the previous calendar year in the consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers in the northeast, with no seasonal adjustment, as calculated by the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. If there is no one wholly or partially dependent upon the deceased employee, the burial expenses **[**of four thousand dollars**]** shall be paid to the person who assumes the responsibility of paying the funeral expenses.

(2) To those wholly dependent upon the deceased employee at the date of the deceased employee's injury, a weekly compensation equal to seventy-five per cent of the average weekly earnings of the deceased calculated pursuant to section 31-310, after such earnings have been reduced by any deduction for federal or state taxes, or both, and for the federal Insurance Contributions Act made from such employee's total wages received during the period of calculation of the employee's average weekly wage pursuant to said section 31-310, as of the date of the injury but not more than the maximum weekly compensation rate set forth in section 31-309 for the year in which the injury occurred or less than twenty dollars weekly. (A) The weekly compensation rate of each dependent entitled to receive compensation under this section as a result of death arising from a compensable injury occurring on or after October 1, 1977, shall be adjusted annually as provided in this subdivision as of the following October first, and each subsequent October first, to provide the dependent with a cost-of-living adjustment in the dependent's weekly compensation rate as determined as of the date of the injury under section 31-309. If the maximum weekly compensation rate, as determined under the provisions of said section 31-309, to be effective as of any October first following the date of the injury, is greater than the maximum weekly compensation rate prevailing at the date of the injury, the weekly compensation rate which the injured employee was entitled to receive at the date of the injury or October 1, 1990, whichever is later, shall be increased by the percentage of the increase in the maximum weekly compensation rate required by the provisions of said section 31-309 from the date of the injury or October 1, 1990, whichever is later, to such October first. The cost-of-living increases provided under this subdivision shall be paid by the employer without any order or award from the commissioner. The adjustments shall apply to each payment made in the next succeeding twelve-month period commencing with the October first next succeeding the date of the injury. With respect to any dependent receiving benefits on October 1, 1997, with respect to any injury

occurring on or after July 1, 1993, and before October 1, 1997, such benefit shall be recalculated to October 1, 1997, as if such benefits had been subject to recalculation annually under this subparagraph. The difference between the amount of any benefits that would have been paid to such dependent if such benefits had been subject to such recalculation and the actual amount of benefits paid during the period between such injury and such recalculation shall be paid to the dependent not later than December 1, 1997, in a lump-sum payment. The employer or its insurer shall be reimbursed by the Second Injury Fund, as provided in section 31-354, for adjustments, including lump-sum payments, payable under this subparagraph for deaths from compensable injuries occurring on or after July 1, 1993, and before October 1, 1997, upon presentation of any vouchers and information that the Treasurer shall require. No claim for payment of retroactive benefits may be made to the Second Injury Fund more than two years after the date on which the employer or its insurer paid such benefits in accordance with this subparagraph. (B) The weekly compensation rate of each dependent entitled to receive compensation under this section as a result of death arising from a compensable injury occurring on or before September 30, 1977, shall be adjusted as of October 1, 1977, and October 1, 1980, and thereafter, as provided in this subdivision to provide the dependent with partial cost-of-living adjustments in the dependent's weekly compensation rate. As of October 1, 1977, the weekly compensation rate paid prior to October 1, 1977, to the dependent shall be increased by twenty-five per cent. The partial cost-of-living adjustment provided under this subdivision shall be paid by the employer without any order or award from the commissioner. In addition, on each October first, the weekly compensation rate of each dependent as of October 1, 1990, shall be increased by the percentage of the increase in the maximum compensation rate over the maximum compensation rate of October 1, 1990, as determined under the provisions of section 31-309 existing on October 1, 1977. The cost of the adjustments shall be paid by the employer or its insurance carrier who

shall be reimbursed for such cost from the Second Injury Fund as provided in section 31-354 upon presentation of any vouchers and information that the Treasurer shall require. No claim for payment of retroactive benefits may be made to the Second Injury Fund more than two years after the date on which the employer or its insurance carrier paid such benefits in accordance with this subparagraph.

(3) If the surviving spouse is the sole presumptive dependent, compensation shall be paid until death or remarriage.

(4) If there is a presumptive dependent spouse surviving and also one or more presumptive dependent children, all of which children are either children of the surviving spouse or are living with the surviving spouse, the entire compensation shall be paid to the surviving spouse in the same manner and for the same period as if the surviving spouse were the sole dependent. If, however, any of the presumptive dependent children are neither children of the surviving spouse nor living with the surviving spouse, the compensation shall be divided into as many parts as there are presumptive dependents. The shares of any children having a presumptive dependent parent shall be added to the share of the parent and shall be paid to the parent. The share of any dependent child not having a surviving dependent parent shall be paid to the father or mother of the child with whom the child may be living, or to the legal guardian of the child, or to any other person, for the benefit of the child, as the commissioner may direct.

(5) If the compensation being paid to the surviving presumptive dependent spouse terminates for any reason, or if there is no surviving presumptive dependent spouse at the time of the death of the employee, but there is at either time one or more presumptive dependent children, the compensation shall be paid to the children as a class, each child sharing equally with the others. Each child shall receive compensation until the child reaches the age of eighteen or dies before reaching age eighteen, provided the child shall continue to receive compensation up

to the attainment of the age of twenty-two if unmarried and a full-time student, except any child who has attained the age of twenty-two while a full-time student but has not completed the requirements for, or received, a degree from a postsecondary educational institution shall be deemed not to have attained age twenty-two until the first day of the first month following the end of the quarter or semester in which the child is enrolled at the time, or if the child is not enrolled in a quarter or semester system, until the first day of the first month following the completion of the course in which the child is enrolled or until the first day of the third month beginning after such time, whichever occurs first. When a child's participation ceases, such child's share shall be divided among the remaining eligible dependent children, provided if any child, when the child reaches the age of eighteen years, is physically or mentally incapacitated from earning, the child's right to compensation shall not terminate but shall continue for the full period of incapacity.

(6) In all cases where there are no presumptive dependents, but where there are one or more persons wholly dependent in fact, the compensation in case of death shall be divided according to the relative degree of their dependence. Compensation payable under this subdivision shall be paid for not more than three hundred and twelve weeks from the date of the death of the employee. The compensation, if paid to those wholly dependent in fact, shall be paid at the full compensation rate. The compensation, if paid to those partially dependent in fact upon the deceased employee as of the date of the injury, shall not, in total, be more than the full compensation rate nor less than twenty dollars weekly, nor, if the average weekly sum contributed by the deceased at the date of the injury to those partially dependent in fact is more than twenty dollars weekly, not more than the sum so contributed.

(7) When the sole presumptive dependents are, at the time of the injury, nonresident aliens and the deceased has in this state some person

or persons who are dependent in fact, the commissioner may in the commissioner's discretion equitably apportion the sums payable as compensation to the dependents.

Sec. 292. Subsection (b) of section 7-450 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of the general statutes or of any special act, charter, special act charter, home-rule ordinance, local ordinance or other local law, any municipality or subdivision thereof may, by ordinance and amendment thereto, or with respect to a municipality not having the authority to make ordinances, by resolution adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members of its legislative body, (1) establish one or more trusts, or determine to participate in a multiemployer trust, to hold and invest the assets of such pension, retirement or other postemployment health and life benefit system; (2) provide for the management and investment of such system and any such trust, including the establishment of a board or commission or the designation of an existing board or commission for such purposes; or (3) provide for the organization of and the manner of election or appointment of the members of such board or commission. Notwithstanding any limitations on the investment of municipal funds set forth in section 7-400, funds held in any **[**such**]** trust described in subdivision (1) of this subsection may be invested (A) in accordance with the terms of the pension, retirement or other postemployment health and life benefit plan, as such terms may be amended from time to time; or (B) in any trust fund administered, held or invested by the Treasurer pursuant to chapter 32 and for which the Treasurer may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to allow for the investment of funds held in any trust described in said subdivision. The investment and management of the assets of any **[**such**]** trust described in said subdivision shall be in compliance with the prudent investor rule as set

forth in sections 45a-541 to 45a-541*l*, inclusive.

Sec. 293. Section 3-13c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Trust funds as used in sections 3-13 to 3-13e, inclusive, and 3-31b shall be construed to include Connecticut Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund A, Connecticut Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund B, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund, Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund, State's Attorneys' Retirement Fund, Teachers' Annuity Fund, Teachers' Pension Fund, Teachers' Survivorship and Dependency Fund, School Fund, State Employees Retirement Fund, the Hospital Insurance Fund, Policemen and Firemen Survivor's Benefit Fund, any trust fund described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 7-450 that is administered, held or invested by the State Treasurer and all other trust funds administered, held or invested by the State Treasurer.

Sec. 294. Section 38a-1083 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

(a) For purposes of sections 38a-1080 to 38a-1093, inclusive, "purposes of the exchange" means the purposes of and the pursuit of the goals of the exchange expressed in and pursuant to this section and the performance of the duties and responsibilities of the exchange set forth in sections 38a-1084 to 38a-1087, inclusive, which are hereby determined to be public purposes for which public funds may be expended. The powers enumerated in this section shall be interpreted broadly to effectuate the purposes of the exchange and shall not be construed as a limitation of powers.

(b) The goals of the exchange shall be to reduce the number of individuals without health insurance in this state and assist individuals and small employers in the procurement of health insurance by, among

other services, offering easily comparable and understandable information about health insurance options.

(c) The exchange is authorized and empowered to:

(1) Have perpetual succession as a body politic and corporate and to adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business;

(2) Adopt an official seal and alter the same at pleasure;

(3) Maintain an office in the state at such place or places as it may designate;

(4) Employ such assistants, agents, managers and other employees as may be necessary or desirable;

(5) Acquire, lease, purchase, own, manage, hold and dispose of real and personal property, and lease, convey or deal in or enter into agreements with respect to such property on any terms necessary or incidental to the carrying out of these purposes, provided all such acquisitions of real property for the exchange's own use with amounts appropriated by this state to the exchange or with the proceeds of bonds supported by the full faith and credit of this state shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the provisions of section 4b-23;

(6) Receive and accept, from any source, aid or contributions, including money, property, labor and other things of value;

(7) Charge assessments or user fees to health carriers that are capable of offering a qualified health plan through the exchange or otherwise generate funding necessary to support the operations of the exchange and the all-payer claims database program established under section 19a-755a and impose interest and penalties on such health carriers for

delinquent payments of such assessments or fees;

(8) Procure insurance against loss in connection with its property and other assets in such amounts and from such insurers as it deems desirable;

(9) Invest any funds not needed for immediate use or disbursement in obligations issued or guaranteed by the United States of America or the state and in obligations that are legal investments for savings banks in the state;

(10) Issue bonds, bond anticipation notes and other obligations of the exchange for any of its corporate purposes, and to fund or refund the same and provide for the rights of the holders thereof, and to secure the same by pledge of revenues, notes and mortgages of others;

(11) Borrow money for the purpose of obtaining working capital;

(12) Account for and audit funds of the exchange and any recipients of funds from the exchange;

(13) Make and enter into any contract or agreement necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and execution of its powers, including, but not limited to, an agreement with the Office of Health Strategy to use funds collected under this section for the operation of the all-payer claims database established under section 19a-755a and to receive data from such database. The contracts entered into by the exchange shall not be subject to the approval of any other state department, office or agency, provided copies of all contracts of the exchange shall be maintained by the exchange as public records, subject to the proprietary rights of any party to the contract, except any agreement with the Office of Health Strategy shall be subject to approval by said office and the Office of Policy and Management and no portion of such agreement shall be considered proprietary;

(14) To the extent permitted under its contract with other persons, consent to any termination, modification, forgiveness or other change of any term of any contractual right, payment, royalty, contract or agreement of any kind to which the exchange is a party;

(15) Award grants to trained and certified individuals and institutions that will assist individuals, families and small employers and their employees in enrolling in appropriate coverage through the exchange. Applications for grants from the exchange shall be made on a form prescribed by the board;

(16) Limit the number of plans offered, and use selective criteria in determining which plans to offer, through the exchange, provided individuals and employers have an adequate number and selection of choices;

(17) Evaluate jointly with the Health Care Cabinet established pursuant to section 19a-725 the feasibility of implementing a basic health program option as set forth in Section 1331 of the Affordable Care Act;

(18) Establish one or more subsidiaries, in accordance with section 38a-1093, to further the purposes of the exchange;

(19) Make loans to each subsidiary established pursuant to section 38a-1093 from the assets of the exchange and the proceeds of bonds, bond anticipation notes and other obligations issued by the exchange or assign or transfer to such subsidiary any of the rights, moneys or other assets of the exchange, provided such assignment or transfer is not in violation of state or federal law;

(20) Sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded;

(21) Adopt regular procedures that are not in conflict with other provisions of the general statutes, for exercising the power of the

exchange; and

(22) Do all acts and things necessary and convenient to carry out the purposes of the exchange, provided such acts or things shall not conflict with the provisions of the Affordable Care Act, regulations adopted thereunder or federal guidance issued pursuant to the Affordable Care Act.

(d) (1) The chief executive officer of the exchange shall provide to the commissioner the name of any health carrier that fails to pay any assessment or user fee under subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of this section to the exchange. The commissioner shall see that all laws respecting the authority of the exchange pursuant to said subdivision (7) are faithfully executed. The commissioner has all the powers specifically granted under this title and all further powers that are reasonable and necessary to enable the commissioner to enforce the provisions of said subdivision (7).

(2) Any health carrier aggrieved by an administrative action taken by the commissioner under subdivision (1) of this subsection may appeal therefrom in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183, except venue for such appeal shall be in the judicial district of New Britain.

Sec. 295. Section 38a-47 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

(a) All domestic insurance companies and other domestic entities subject to taxation under chapter 207 shall, in accordance with section 38a-48, annually pay to the Insurance Commissioner, for deposit in the Insurance Fund established under section 38a-52a, an amount equal to:

(1) The actual expenditures made by the Insurance Department during each fiscal year, and the actual expenditures made by the Office of the Healthcare Advocate, including the cost of fringe benefits for department and office personnel as estimated by the Comptroller;

(2) The amount appropriated to the Office of Health Strategy from the Insurance Fund for the fiscal year, including the cost of fringe benefits for office personnel as estimated by the Comptroller, which shall be reduced by the amount of federal reimbursement received for allowable Medicaid administrative expenses;

(3) The expenditures made on behalf of the department and said offices from the Capital Equipment Purchase Fund pursuant to section 4a-9 for such year, but excluding such estimated expenditures made on behalf of the Health Systems Planning Unit of the Office of Health Strategy; and

(4) The amount appropriated to the Department of Aging and Disability Services for the fall prevention program established in section 17a-303a from the Insurance Fund for the fiscal year.

(b) The expenditures and amounts specified in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section shall exclude expenditures paid for by fraternal benefit societies, foreign and alien insurance companies and other foreign and alien entities under sections 38a-49 and 38a-50.

(c) Payments shall be made by assessment of all such domestic insurance companies and other domestic entities calculated and collected in accordance with the provisions of section 38a-48. Any such domestic insurance company or other domestic entity aggrieved because of any assessment levied under this section may appeal therefrom in accordance with the provisions of section 38a-52.

Sec. 296. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) For the purposes of this section and sections 297 to 304, inclusive, of this act:

(1) "Department" means the Department of Transportation.

(2) "Limited access state highway" means any state highway so

designated under the provisions of section 13b-27 of the general statutes.

(3) "Owner" means a person in whose name a motor vehicle is registered under the provision of chapter 246 of the general statutes or law of another jurisdiction.

(4) "Personally identifiable information" means information created or maintained by the department or a vendor that identifies or describes an owner and includes, but need not be limited to, the owner's address, telephone number, number plate, photograph, bank account information, credit card number, debit card number or the date, time, location or direction of travel on a limited access highway.

(5) "Vendor" means a person selected by the department (A) to provide services to the department described in sections 297 to303, inclusive, of this act; (B) who operates, maintains, leases or licenses a work zone speed control system; or (C) is authorized to review and assemble the recorded images captured by the work zone speed control system.

(6) "Highway work zone" has the same meaning as provided in section 14-212d of the general statutes.

(7) "Work zone speed control system" means a device having one or more motor vehicle sensors connected to a camera system capable of producing recorded images that indicate the date, time and location of the image of each motor vehicle allegedly operating in violation of the provisions of section 298 of this act.

(8) "Work zone speed control system operator" means a person who is trained and certified to operate a work zone speed control system.

(9) "Driver" and "number plate" have the same meanings as provided in section 14-1 of the general statutes.

Sec. 297. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) The department may establish a pilot program to operate work zone speed control systems in a highway work zone. The pilot program shall provide for such systems at not more than three locations in the state at any one time. A work zone speed control system may be used to record the images of motor vehicles traveling on a limited access highway (1) within a highway work zone, and (2) on which the speed limit, established using generally accepted traffic engineering practices, is forty-five miles per hour or greater. The pilot program shall commence on or before January 1, 2022, and terminate on December 31, 2023.

(b) A work zone speed control system may be used provided (1) such system is operated by a work zone speed control system operator, (2) if, in accordance with the manual of uniform traffic control devices as approved and revised by the Office of State Traffic Administration, at least two conspicuous road signs are placed at a reasonable distance in advance of a highway work zone notifying drivers that a work zone speed control system may be in operation, (3) at least one of the signs described in subdivision (2) of this subsection indicates that the work zone speed control system is operational or is not operational, (4) an appropriate sign is conspicuously placed at the end of a highway work zone with a work zone speed control system that is operational, and (5) a notice identifying the location of a work zone speed control system is available on the Internet web site of the department.

(c) A work zone speed control system shall be used in a manner to only record images of motor vehicles that are exceeding the posted highway work zone speed limit by fifteen miles per hour or more in violation of the provisions of section 298 of this act. Any recorded images collected as part of a work zone speed control system shall not be used for any surveillance purpose. The department or work zone speed control system operator shall certify to the Division of State Police when a work zone speed control system is operational.

(d) The Commissioner of Transportation may (1) enter into agreements with vendors for the design, operation or maintenance, or any combination thereof, of work zone speed control systems, and (2) retain and employ consultants and assistants on a contract or other basis for rendering legal, financial, professional, technical or other assistance and advice necessary for the design, operation and maintenance of work zone speed control systems. If a vendor provides, deploys or operates a work zone control system, the vendor's fee may not be contingent on the number of violations issued or fines paid pursuant to the provisions of section 298 of this act.

Sec. 298. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) No person operating a motor vehicle shall exceed the posted speed limit by fifteen or more miles per hour, as detected by a work zone speed control system, within a highway work zone where a work zone speed control system is operational.

(b) The owner of a motor vehicle identified by a work zone speed camera control system as violating the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall, (1) for a first violation, receive a written warning, (2) for a second violation, be fined seventy-five dollars, (3) for a subsequent violation, be fined one hundred fifty dollars. The owner shall be liable for any such fine imposed unless the driver of the motor vehicle received a citation from a law enforcement officer at the time of the violation.

(c) All amounts received in respect to the violation of subsection (a) of this section shall be deposited into the Special Transportation Fund, established pursuant to section 13b-68 of the general statutes and maintained pursuant to article thirty-second of the amendments to the Constitution of the state.

Sec. 299. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) (1) Whenever a work zone speed control system detects and produces recorded images of a motor vehicle allegedly committing a violation of section 298 of this act,

a sworn member or authorized member of the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall review the recorded images provided by such system. If, after such review, such member determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that a violation has occurred, such member may issue a notice of violation for the alleged violation. Such notice of violation shall be sworn or affirmed by such member and shall be prima facia evidence of the facts contained in the notice. Such notice of violation shall include written verification that the work zone speed control system was operating correctly at the time of the alleged violation and specify the date of the most recent inspection that confirms the work zone speed control system to be operating properly.

(2) A work zone speed control system operator shall complete training offered by the manufacturer of such system, including training on any devices critical to the operation of such system or the manufacturer's representative in the procedures for setting up, testing and operating such system. Upon completion of the training, the manufacturer or manufacturer's representative shall issue a signed certificate to the work zone speed control system operator. Such signed certificate shall be admitted as evidence in any court proceeding for an alleged violation of section 298 of this act.

(3) A work zone speed control system operator shall complete and sign a daily log for a work zone control system. Such daily log shall (A) state the date, time and location of such system's set-up, (B) state that the work zone speed control system operator successfully performed, and the work zone speed system passed, the testing specified by the manufacturer of the work zone speed system, (C) be kept on file at the principle office of the operator, and (D) be admitted in any court proceeding for an alleged violation of section 298 of this act.

(b) A work zone speed control system shall undergo an annual calibration check performed at a calibration laboratory. The calibration

laboratory shall issue a signed certificate of calibration after the annual calibration check. Such signed certificate of calibration shall be kept on file and admitted as evidence in any court proceeding for an alleged violation of section 298 of this act.

(c) The notice of violation for the alleged violation of section 298 of this act shall include (1) a copy of the recorded image showing the vehicle with its number plate visible, (2) the registration number and state of issuance of the vehicle registration, (3) verification that the work zone speed control system was operating correctly at the time of the alleged violation and the date of the most recent calibration check, and (4) the date, time and location of the alleged violation.

(d) In the case of an alleged violation of section 298 of this act involving a motor vehicle registered in the state, the notice of violation shall be mailed not later than thirty days after the commission of the alleged violation or after the identity of the owner is ascertained, whichever is later, to the address of the owner that is in the records of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(e) In the case of an alleged violation of section 298 of this act involving a motor vehicle registered in another jurisdiction, the notice of the violation shall be mailed not later than thirty days after the identity of the owner is ascertained to the address of the owner that is in the records of the official in the other jurisdiction issuing such registration.

(f) A notice of violation shall be invalid unless mailed to an owner not later than ninety days after the alleged violation of section 298 of this act.

(g) The notice of violation shall be sent by first class mail. A manual or automatic record of mailing prepared by the work zone speed control system operator in the ordinary course of business shall be prima facie

evidence of mailing and shall be admissible in any court proceeding as to the facts contained in the notice.

(h) A violation of section 298 of this act shall not (1) be included in the operating record of the driver maintained pursuant to section 14-137a of the general statutes, (2) be the subject to merit rating for insurance purposes, or (3) authorize the imposition of surcharge points in the provision of motor vehicle insurance coverage.

(i) The following defenses shall be available to the owner of a motor vehicle identified by a work zone speed camera control system as allegedly violating section 298 of this act: (1) The violation took place during a period of time in which the motor vehicle had been reported as being stolen to a law enforcement unit, as defined in section 7-294a of the general statutes, and had not been recovered prior to the time of the violation, and (2) the work zone speed control system used to determine speed was not in compliance with the provisions of this section relating to tests for accuracy, certification or calibration.

(j) An owner who receives a notice of violation pursuant to the provisions of this section shall follow the procedures set forth in section 51-164n of the general statutes.

Sec. 300. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall provide the Department of Transportation and any vendor with information regarding the owner of a motor vehicle identified by a work zone speed camera control system as allegedly violating the provisions of section 298 of this act. Such information shall include, but need not be limited to, the make and number plate of such motor vehicle and the name and address of the owner of such motor vehicle.

Sec. 301. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) If an owner does not pay the fine imposed for a violation of section 298 of this act or after being

found guilty at a trial for the commission of such violation, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may refuse to register or suspend the registration of the motor vehicle operated at the time of such violation.

Sec. 302. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) No personally identifiable information shall be sold or disclosed by the department or a vendor to any person or entity except where the disclosure is made (1) in connection with the charging, collection and enforcement of the fines imposed pursuant to section 298 of this act, (2) pursuant to a judicial order, including a search warrant or subpoena, in a criminal proceeding, or (3) to comply with federal or state laws or regulations.

(b) No personally identifiable information shall be stored or retained by the department or a vendor unless such information is necessary for the collection and enforcement of the fines imposed pursuant to section 298 of this act.

(c) The department or a vendor may disclose aggregate information and other data gathered from work zone speed control systems that does not directly or indirectly identify an owner or a motor vehicle for research purposes authorized by the Commissioner of Transportation.

(d) Except as otherwise provided by law or in connection with an administrative summons or judicial order, including a search warrant or subpoena, in a criminal proceeding, the department or a vendor shall destroy personally identifiable information and other data that specifically identifies a motor vehicle and relates to a violation of section 298 of this act not later than one year after any fine is imposed or the resolution of a trial conducted for the alleged commission of such violation.

(e) Personally identifiable customer information shall not be deemed a public record, for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200 of the general statutes.

Sec. 303. (*Effective October 1, 2021*) The Commissioner of Transportation may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of section 297 to 302, inclusive, of this act, and establish standards and procedures for work zone speed control systems.

Sec. 304. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Transportation shall assess the efficacy of the pilot program established pursuant to section 297 of this act and submit a report on such assessment to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 305. Subsection (b) of section 51-164n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the provisions of section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35, 7-41, 7-83, 7-283, 7-325, 7-393, 8-12, 8-25, 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 10-230, 10-251, 10-254, 12-52, 12-170aa, 12-292, 12-314b or 12-326g, subdivision (4) of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of section 12-411, section 12-435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-487, 13a-71, 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-115, 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-124, 13a-139, 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-247 or 13a-253, subsection (f) of section 13b-42, section 13b-90, 13b-221, 13b-292, 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c, subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414, subsection (d) of section 14-12, section 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (f) of section 14-34a, subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-49, 14-50a or 14-58, subsection (b) of section 14-66, section 14-66a or 14-67a, subsection (g) of section 14-80, subsection (f) of section 14-80h, section 14-97a, 14-100b, 14-103a, 14-106a, 14-106c, 14-146, 14-152, 14-153 or 14-163b, a first

violation as specified in subsection (f) of section 14-164i, section 14-219 as specified in subsection (e) of said section, subdivision (1) of section 14-223a, section 14-240, 14-250 or 14-253a, subsection (a) of section 14-261a, section 14-262, 14-264, 14-267a, 14-269, 14-270, 14-275a, 14-278 or 14-279, subsection (e) or (h) of section 14-283, section 14-291, 14-293b, 14-296aa, 14-300, 14-300d, 14-319, 14-320, 14-321, 14-325a, 14-326, 14-330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of section 14-386a, section 15-25 or 15-33, subdivision (1) of section 15-97, subsection (a) of section 15-115, section 16-44, 16-256e, 16a-15 or 16a-22, subsection (a) or (b) of section 16a-22h, section 17a-24, 17a-145, 17a-149, 17a-152, 17a-465, 17b-124, 17b-131, 17b-137, 19a-30, 19a-33, 19a-39 or 19a-87, subsection (b) of section 19a-87a, section 19a-91, 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-113, 19a-215, 19a-219, 19a-222, 19a-224, 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-335, 19a-336, 19a-338, 19a-339, 19a-340, 19a-425, 19a-502, 20-7a, 20-14, 20-158, 20-231, 20-249, 20-257, 20-265, 20-324e, subsection (b) of section 20-334, 20-341*l*, 20-366, 20-597, 20-608, 20-610, 21-1, 21-38, 21-39, 21-43, 21-47, 21-48, 21-63 or 21-76a, subsection (c) of section 21a-2, subdivision (1) of section 21a-19, section 21a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 21a-25, section 21a-26 or 21a-30, subsection (a) of section 21a-37, section 21a-46, 21a-61, 21a-63 or 21a-77, subsection (b) of section 21a-79, section 21a-85 or 21a-154, subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-159, subsection (a) of section 21a-279a, section 22-12b, 22-13, 22-14, 22-15, 22-16, 22-26g, 22-29, 22-34, 22-35, 22-36, 22-38, 22-39, 22-39a, 22-39b, 22-39c, 22-39d, 22-39e, 22-49 or 22-54, subsection (d) of section 22-84, section 22-89, 22-90, 22-98, 22-99, 22-100, 22-111o, 22-167, 22-279, 22-280a, 22-318a, 22-320h, 22-324a, 22-326 or 22-342, subsection (b), (e) or (f) of section 22-344, section 22-359, 22-366, 22-391, 22-413, 22-414, 22-415, 22a-66a or 22a-246, subsection (a) of section 22a-250, subsection (e) of section 22a-256h, section 22a-363 or 22a-381d, subsections (c) and (d) of section 22a-381e, section 22a-449, 22a-461, 23-38, 23-46 or 23-61b, subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 23-65, section 25-37 or 25-40, subsection (a) of section 25-43, section 25-43d, 25-135, 26-18, 26-19, 26-21, 26-31, 26-40, 26-40a, 26-42, 26-49, 26-54, 26-55, 26-56, 26-58 or 26-59,

subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 26-61, section 26-64, subdivision (1) of section 26-76, section 26-79, 26-87, 26-89, 26-91, 26-94, 26-97, 26-98, 26-104, 26-105, 26-107, 26-117, 26-128, 26-131, 26-132, 26-138 or 26-141, subdivision (1) of section 26-186, section 26-207, 26-215, 26-217 or 26-224a, subdivision (1) of section 26-226, section 26-227, 26-230, 26-232, 26-244, 26-257a, 26-260, 26-276, 26-284, 26-285, 26-286, 26-288, 26-294, 28-13, 29-6a, 29-25, 29-143o, 29-143z or 29-156a, subsection (b), (d), (e) or (g) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y or 29-161z, subdivision (1) of section 29-198, section 29-210, 29-243 or 29-277, subsection (c) of section 29-291c, section 29-316, 29-318, 29-381, 30-48a, 30-86a, 31-3, 31-10, 31-11, 31-12, 31-13, 31-14, 31-15, 31-16, 31-18, 31-23, 31-24, 31-25, 31-32, 31-36, 31-38, 31-40, 31-44, 31-47, 31-48, 31-51, 31-52, 31-52a or 31-54, subsection (a) or (c) of section 31-69, section 31-70, 31-74, 31-75, 31-76, 31-76a, 31-89b or 31-134, subsection (i) of section 31-273, section 31-288, subdivision (1) of section 35-20, section 36a-787, 42-230, 45a-283, 45a-450, 45a-634 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 46a-54, section 46a-59, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 47-34a, 47-47, 49-8a, 49-16, 53-133, 53-199, 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-264, 53-280, 53-302a, 53-303e, 53-311a, 53-321, 53-322, 53-323, 53-331 or 53-344, subsection (c) of section 53-344b, **[**or**]** section 53-450 or section 298 of this act, or (2) a violation under the provisions of chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any regulation adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 13b-410, or (4) a violation of any ordinance, regulation or bylaw of any town, city or borough, except violations of building codes and the health code, for which the penalty exceeds ninety dollars but does not exceed two hundred fifty dollars, unless such town, city or borough has established a payment and hearing procedure for such violation pursuant to section 7-152c, shall follow the procedures set forth in this section.

Sec. 306. Section 41 of special act 21-15 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

The following sums are allocated, in accordance with the provisions

of special act 21-1, from the federal funds designated for the state pursuant to the provisions of section 602 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
BOARD OF REGENTS			
Enhance Student Retention at Community Colleges	6,500,000	6,500,000	6,500,000
CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES			
Higher Education - CSCU	10,000,000	5,000,000	
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			
Senior Food Vouchers	100,000	100,000	
Farmer's Market Nutrition	100,000	100,000	
Farm-to-School Grant	250,000	250,000	
Food Insecurity Grants to Food Pantries and Food Banks	1,000,000		
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES			
Respite Care for Family Caregivers	3,000,000	-	
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			
Beardsley Zoo	246,121	246,121	
Amistad	200,000	200,000	
Maritime Center Authority	196,295	196,295	
Mystic Aquarium	177,603	177,603	

Music Haven	100,000	100,000	
Norwalk Symphony	50,000	50,000	
Riverfront Recapture	250,000	250,000	
Connecticut Main Street Center	350,000	350,000	
Middletown Downtown Business District	100,000	100,000	
CRDA Economic Support for Venues	5,000,000	2,500,000	
Working Cities Challenge	1,000,000	1,000,000	
Charter Oak Temple Restoration Association	100,000	100,000	
[Veterans Memorial Park**]**	**[**7,000**]**	-	
West Haven Veterans Museum	25,000	25,000	
VFW Rocky Hill	15,000	15,000	
Playhouse on Park	15,000	15,000	
Family Justice Center	50,000	50,000	
East Hartford Little League	50,000		
Hartford YMCA	1,000,000		
ESF/Dream Camp of Hartford	100,000		
Beta Iota Boule Foundation - Youth Services	100,000		
Legacy Foundation for Health and Disparities	100,000		
Connecticut Center for Advanced Technologies	1,000,000		
Middlesex YMCA	50,000		
Shatterproof	100,000		
Summer Experience at Connecticut's Top Venues	15,000,000		
Statewide Marketing	7,107,000		
Governor's Workforce Initiatives	70,000,000		
CT Hospitality Industry Support	30,000,000		
Regulatory Modernization	1,000,000		
Historic Wooster Square Association	500,000		

Humane Commission/Animal Shelter of New Haven	500,000		
Ball and Sockets - Cheshire	200,000		
Junta for Progressive Action	750,000		
CT Airport Authority	2,000,000		
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			
Right to Read		12,860,000	12,860,000
Faith Acts Priority School Districts	5,000,000	5,000,000	
CT Writing Project	79,750	79,750	
Ascend Mentoring - Windsor	150,000	150,000	
Women in Manufacturing - Platt Tech Regional Vocational Technical School	65,000	65,000	
Elevate Bridgeport	400,000	400,000	
Grant to RHAM Manufacturing Program	22,000	-	
East Hartford Youth Services	200,000		
Student Achievement Through Opportunity	100,000		
Summer Camp Scholarships for Families	[3,000,000] 3,500,000		
New Haven Local Little League	500,000		
Hamden Before and After School Programming	400,000		
Hamden Pre-K Programming	100,000		
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION			
Air Quality Study	20,000	-	
Swimming Lessons to DEEP	500,000	500,000	500,000
[Batterson Park]	[10,000,000]	-	
Health and Safety Barriers to Housing Remediation	7,000,000	-	

Efficient Energy Retrofit for Housing	7,000,000	-	
Quinnipiac Avenue Canoe Launch	250,000		
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING			
[Legal Representation for Tenant Eviction]	[10,000,000]	[10,000,000]	
Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen	200,000		
Hands on Hartford	100,000		
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH			
DPH Loan Repayment	500,000	500,000	
Community Health Workers	3,000,000	3,000,000	
[Community Action Agencies]	[5,000,000]		
Obesity & COVID-19 Study	500,000	500,000	
Cornell Scott- Hill Health	250,000		
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION			
Groton Water Taxi	100,000	100,000	
LABOR DEPARTMENT			
Domestic Worker Grants	200,000	200,000	
Veterans Employment Opportunity PILOT	350,000	350,000	
Opportunities for Long Term Unemployed Returning Citizens	750,000	750,000	
TBICO Danbury Women's Employment Program	25,000	25,000	
Boys and Girls Club Workforce Development - Milford	50,000	50,000	
Women's Mentoring Network-Strategic Life Skills Workshop	5,000	5,000	

Senior Jobs Bank - West Hartford	10,000	10,000	
Greater Bridgeport OIC Job Development and Training Program	250,000	250,000	
Unemployment Trust Fund	155,000,000	-	
Unemployment Support	15,000,000		
LABOR DEPARTMENT - BANKING FUND			
Customized Services for Mortgage Crisis Jobs Training Program	550,000	550,000	
OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD			
Care4Kids Parent Fees	5,300,000	-	
Parents Fees for 3-4 Year Old's at State Funded Childcare Centers	3,500,000	-	
Universal Home Visiting	8,000,000		
OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION			
Roberta Willis Need-Based Scholarships	20,000,000	20,000,000	
Summer College Corps	1,500,000	-	
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT			
Private Providers	30,000,000	30,000,000	**[**30,000,000**]**
PPE & Supplies	10,000,000	10,000,000	
State Employee Essential Workers and National Guard Premium Pay	20,000,000		
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT			

Higher Education - UConn	[10,000,000] 20,000,000	5,000,000	
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH CENTER			
Revenue Impact	35,000,000		
University of Connecticut Health Center	38,000,000	-	
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES			
Fostering Community	10,000	10,000	
Casa Boricua-Meriden	50,000	50,000	
Children's Mental Health Initiatives	10,500,000		
Child First	5,100,000	5,100,000	
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT			
Mothers Against Violence	25,000	25,000	
Legal Representation for Tenant Eviction	10,000,000	10,000,000	
New Haven Police Activities League	100,000		
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION			
TRUE Unit - Cheshire CI	500,000	500,000	
WORTH Program York CI	250,000	250,000	
Vocational Village Dept Corrections	20,000,000	-	
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES			
Fair Haven Clinic	10,000,000	-	
Workforce Development, Education and Training	1,000,000		
Nursing Home Facility Support	10,000,000		

MyCT Resident One Stop	2,500,000		
New Reach Life Haven Shelter	500,000		
Mary Wade	750,000		
Community Action Agencies	5,000,000		
LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT			
CTN	1,000,000	-	
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES			
DMHAS Private Providers	25,000,000	25,000,000	
DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES			
Blind and Deaf Community Supports	2,000,000		
Revenue	**[**859,900,000**]** 559,900,000	**[**894,900,000**]** 1,194,900,000	

Sec. 307. (*Effective from passage*) The following sums are allocated, in accordance with the provisions of special act 21-1, from the federal funds designated for the state pursuant to the provisions of section 604 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, for the annual periods indicated for the purposes described.

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT			
Statewide GIS capacity for broadband mapping/data and other critical services	9,532,000		

supporting remote work, health, and education			
Connectivity for Health and Mental Health Centers/Organizations		25,000,000	
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION			
Low-Income/Multi-family Curb-to-home Broadband infrastructure buildout	10,000,000		
Underserved Area Broadband Infrastructure Grants	10,000,000		
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES			
Connecticut Education Network Wi-Fi connectivity and broadband for public spaces	10,000,000		

Sec. 308. Section 29 of special act 21-15 is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The unexpended balances of funds appropriated to the following accounts in section 1 of public act 19-117, as amended by section 7 of public act 19-1 of the December special session, shall not lapse on June 30, 2021, and such funds shall be transferred and made available as provided in subsection (b) of this section: (1) The Department of Social Services, for Medicaid, (2) the Department of Children and Families, for Personal Services, (3) the Department of Children and Families, for Board and Care for Children – Foster, (4) Legislative Management, for Personal Services, (5) the Department of Administrative Services, for Personal Services, (6) the Department of Revenue Services, for Personal Services, (7) the Department of Developmental Services, for Personal

Services, (8) the Department of Developmental Services, for Behavioral Services Program, (9) the Office of Early Childhood, for Early Care and Education, (10) the Department of Education, for Magnet Schools, (11) the Department of Social Services, for Connecticut Home Care Program, (12) the Department of Social Services, for Temporary Family Assistance – TANF, (13) the Department of Social Services, for Aid To The Disabled, (14) the Teachers' Retirement Board, for Retirees Health Service Cost, (15) the State Comptroller – Fringe Benefits, for Higher Education Alternative Retirement System, (16) the Department of Public Health, for Personal Services, (17) the Department of Social Services, for HUSKY B Program, (18) the Department of Social Services, for Old Age Assistance, (19) the Department of Social Services, for State Administered General Assistance, (20) the Department of Children and Families, for Board and Care for Children – Short-term and Residential, (21) the Judicial Department, for Personal Services, and (22) the State Comptroller – Fringe Benefits, for Retired State Employees Health Service Cost.

(b) (1) Up to $1,500,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Medicaid, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, to fund the state share of an increase in the personal needs allowance to seventy-five dollars;

(2) (A) Up to $2,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $21,700,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Office of Policy and Management, for Private Providers, for costs associated with a settlement between the state and Department of Developmental Services' contracted providers; and

(B) Up to $13,150,000 to the Office of Policy and Management, for Private Providers, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for private providers of human services to provide a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to employees who provide state administered human services in the Departments of Correction,

Housing, Public Health, Social Services, Children and Families, Aging and Disability Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Office of Early Childhood and the Judicial Department. The secretary shall transfer such funds to the affected contracting agencies. Not later than January 1, 2022, July 1, 2022, January 1, 2023, and July 1, 2023, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, on the amount of such funds paid to each contracted provider by contracting agency and account;

(3) Up to $40,000,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Medicaid, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for nursing home settlement (temporary rate increases);

(4) Up to $2,500,000 for deposit into the passport to the parks account established pursuant to section 23-15h of the general statutes, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023;

(5) (A) Up to $14,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $15,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, for Debt Free Community College;

(B) Up to $21,332,962 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $22,165,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, for Community Tech College System;

(C) Up to $22,568,668 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $25,150,479 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, for Connecticut State University;

(D) Up to $889,254 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $988,447 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Connecticut State

Colleges and Universities, for Charter Oak State College;

(E) Up to $140,000 to the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities, for Charter Oak State College, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for the costs associated with the waiver of graduation fees; and

(F) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any amount transferred pursuant to this subdivision shall not be eligible for fringe benefit recovery by The Connecticut State Colleges and Universities from the Comptroller's General Fund fringe benefit accounts.

(6) (A) Up to **[**$7,516,899 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $8,570,352**]** $6,087,251 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to The University of Connecticut, for Operating Expenses;

(B) Up to $4,900,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $30,200,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to The University of Connecticut Health Center, for Operating Expenses;

(C) Up to $250,000 for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, to The University of Connecticut, for Operating Expenses, for the purposes of the University of Connecticut Vets Program;

(D) Up to $2,500,000 for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, to The University of Connecticut, for Operating Expenses, for the purposes of the Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation; and

(E) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any amount transferred pursuant to this subdivision shall not be eligible for fringe benefit recovery from the Comptroller's General Fund fringe benefit accounts.

(7) Up to $600,000 to the Department of Education, for American School for the Deaf, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022;

(8) Up to $1,700,000 to the Department of Correction, for Community Support Services, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023;

(9) Up to **[**$15,000,000**]** $7,893,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Statewide Marketing, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and made available for such purposes;

(10) Up to $4,000,000 to the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and made available to conduct a disparity study and equity study;

(11) Up to $2,300,000 to the Department of Transportation, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to conduct a feasibility study and develop an operational plan concerning ground transportation services in eastern Connecticut;

(12) Up to $1,350,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for fire department support as follows: (A) $750,000 for Baltic Fire Engine #1 for construction and equipment, (B) $100,000 for Occum Fire Department for facility upgrades, and (C) $500,000 for Marlborough Fire Department for facility upgrades;

(13) Up to $20,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $10,700,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, to be made available for grants to Connecticut Humanities in said fiscal years;

(14) Up to $34,000,000 to **[**Workers' Compensation Claims – Administrative Services, for Workers' Compensation Claims,**]** the State Comptroller, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022;

(15) Up to $5,000,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Solid Waste Management, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to establish and administer a program to support solid waste reduction strategies, including a redemption center grant program;

(16) Up to $10,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to support initiatives related to sewage spills;

(17) Up to $20,000 to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for Other Expenses, for initiatives related to members of the Hmong Laotian Special Guerilla Units;

(18) Up to $30,000 to the Department of Revenue Services, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, for tax system modifications associated with beverage container redemptions;

(19) Up to $779,853 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $519,902 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, to be made available in said fiscal years for grants to flagship producing theatres;

(20) Up to $2,473,278 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, to be made available in each said fiscal year for grants to performing arts centers;

(21) Up to $1,145,259 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $763,506 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for each to be made available in said fiscal years for grants to performing arts theatres;

(22) Up to $3,000,000 to the Department of Economic and Community

Development, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, to be made available in each said fiscal year for grants to small theatres;

(23) Up to $2,500,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, to be made available in each said fiscal year for grants to children's museums;

(24) Up to $250,000 to the Department of Agriculture, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for the costs associated with the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory;

(25) Up to $360,000 to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to support the development of a model curriculum for grades kindergarten through eight;

(26) Up to $1,000,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for the Western Connecticut School Safety program;

(27) Up to $5,000,000 to the Department of Housing, for Housing/Homeless Services, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, to be made available in each said fiscal year for homeless shelters;

(28) Up to $1,650,000 to the Office of Early Childhood, for Birth to Three, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for parent fees and costs to expand coverage to children who turn age three on or after May first of each said year, until the start of the school year;

(29) Up to $200,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for the opioid CRISIS initiative pilot program;

(30) Up to $150,000 to the Secretary of the State, for Other Expenses, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for the costs of an election monitor for the city of Bridgeport;

(31) Up to $500,000 to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to reduce reliance on the Institutional General Welfare account;

(32) Up to $650,000 to the Office of the Attorney General, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to support one-time costs of information technology projects;

(33) Up to $5,000,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Solid Waste Management, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and made available to establish and administer a program to support solid waste reduction strategies;

(34) Up to $100,000 to the Department of Children and Families, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and made available for Careline upgrades;

(35) **[**Up to $500,000 to the Insurance Department, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for technology funding;**]** Up to $1,100,000 to the Department of Education, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to be made available for a grant for Wilbur Cross Fields;

(36) Up to $5,000,000 to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for costs associated with the legalization of cannabis. The secretary shall transfer funds to the affected agencies;

(37) Up to $3,000,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to provide the following grants: (A) $1,500,000 for the Eastern Pequot Tribe for design and construction of a well, septic system and access road, (B) $1,000,000 to the Schaghticoke Tribe for design and construction of a retaining wall related to a cemetery, and (C) $500,000 for the Golden Hill Paugussett Tribe for design and construction of a community building;

(38) Up to $149,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $101,900 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Department of Housing, for Other Expenses, for housing data;

(39) Up to $2,500,000 to the Department of Social Services, for Medicaid, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for social worker staffing at nursing homes;

(40) Up to $500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to the Judicial Department, for Personal Services, for information technology consultants to complete necessary system changes;

(41) Up to $650,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, for Personal Services, for information technology consultants to complete necessary technology changes;

(42) Up to $30,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to the Office of Policy and Management, for Reserve for Salary Adjustments, for collective bargaining costs;

(43) Up to $21,000,000 for deposit into the State Employees Retirement Fund established pursuant to chapter 66 of the general statutes to support an agreement to reduce unfunded pension liabilities; **[**and**]**

(44) Up to $6,150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and up to $5,050,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, to be made available for the following grants in said fiscal years:

Grantee	Grant 2021-2022	Grant 2022-2023
RYASAP Bridgeport	150,000	150,000
Cradle to Career Stamford	100,000	100,000
Color a Positive Thought Bridgeport	100,000	100,000
Project Longevity	350,000	350,000
EMERGE	100,000	100,000
Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective	100,000	100,000
True Colors, Inc., provided not less than ninety per cent of such grants shall be used for direct services to LGBTQ+ youth	100,000	100,000
New Haven Pride Center	100,000	100,000
Wilson Gray YMCA SDE	250,000	250,000
Jewish Federation DSS	100,000	100,000
Upper Albany	250,000	250,000
Youth Service Bureaus & Juvenile Review Boards	500,000	500,000
r Kids	100,000	100,000
CT Violence Intervention Program	100,000	100,000
Hartford Communities that Care	100,000	100,000
Street Safe Bridgeport	100,000	100,000
Covenant Center - Stamford	35,000	35,000
House of Bread - Hartford	50,000	50,000

Parent Trust Fund	100,000	100,000
Reach out and read	150,000	150,000
Walter Luckett Foundation	100,000	100,000
AHM Andover, Marlborough, Hebron Columbia	100,000	100,000
Prudence Crandall Center	100,000	100,000
Madonna Place	100,000	100,000
New London Boys and Girls Club	100,000	100,000
Youth Arts	250,000	250,000
Lebanon Library	1,000,000	-
Hartford Boys and Girls Club	100,000	100,000
Applied Behavioral Rehabilitation Institute, Inc.	100,000	100,000
SAMA	50,000	50,000
Blue Hills Civic Association	200,000	200,000
SAVE - Norwalk	100,000	100,000
Meriden Boys and Girls Club	100,000	100,000
Sound Waters Summer Camp	50,000	50,000
100 Girls Leading, Inc. Bridgeport	50,000	50,000
Stamford Public Education Foundation Summer Start Program	100,000	-
Justice Action Center	50,000	50,000
Stocke Jewish Center	15,000	15,000
Nature Center Trumbull	75,000	75,000
PRIDE Willimantic Police Department	50,000	50,000
Annex Little League Baseball	50,000	50,000
Dom Aitro League Baseball	50,000	50,000
Marine Cadets of America Company A First Battalion	50,000	50,000

MARC	50,000	50,000
TEAM Inc	50,000	50,000
Fixing Fathers - Hamden	75,000	75,000
Boys & Girls Club of Stamford	100,000	100,000

(45) Up to $11,000,000 to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to be made available for the following grants: (A) $10,000,000 to Batterson Park, (B) $500,000 to Peat Meadow Park, and (C) $500,000 to East Shore Park; and

(46) Up to $5,007,000 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, for Other Expenses, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to be made available for the following grants: (A) $3,000,000 to Keney Golf Course, (B) $2,000,000 to Elizabeth Park, and (C) $7,000 to Joseph St. Germain American Legion Post 85 for Veterans Memorial Park.

Sec. 309. Section 15-31b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The purposes of the Connecticut Port Authority shall be to coordinate the development of Connecticut's ports and harbors, with a focus on private and public investments, pursue federal and state funds for dredging and other infrastructure improvements to increase cargo movement through the ports and maintain navigability of all ports and harbors, market the economic development of such ports and harbors, work with the Department of Economic and Community Development and other state, local and private entities to maximize the economic potential of the ports and harbors, support and enhance the overall development of the state's maritime commerce and industries, coordinate the planning and funding of capital projects promoting the

development of the ports and harbors, develop strategic entrepreneurial initiatives that may be available to the state, coordinate the state's maritime policy activities, serve as the Governor's principal maritime policy advisor and undertake such other responsibilities as may be assigned to it. To accomplish the purposes of the authority, the authority shall have the duty and power to:

(1) Have perpetual succession as a body politic and corporate and to adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business;

(2) Adopt an official seal and alter the same at pleasure;

(3) Maintain an office at such place or places as it may designate;

(4) Sue and be sued in its own name, and plead and be impleaded;

(5) Develop an organizational and management structure that will best accomplish the goals of the authority concerning Connecticut ports and harbors;

(6) Create a code of conduct for the board of directors of the authority consistent with part I of chapter 10;

(7) Adopt rules for the conduct of its business, which shall not be considered regulations as defined in section 4-166;

(8) Adopt an annual budget and plan of operations, including a requirement of board approval before the budget or plan may take effect;

(9) Make and enter into all contracts and agreements that are necessary, desirable or incidental to the conduct of its business;

(10) Enter into joint ventures and invest in, and participate with, any person or entity, including, without limitation, governmental or private

business entities in the formation, ownership, management and operation of business entities, including stock and nonstock corporations, limited liability companies and general and limited partnerships, formed to advance the purposes of the authority. The officers, employees and members of the board of directors of the authority may serve, without compensation, as directors or officers of any such business entities formed and such service shall be deemed to be within the discharge of the duties of such officers, employees or directors to the authority;

(11) Receive and accept, from any source, aid or contributions, including money, property, labor and other things of value;

(12) Award grants and subsidies, make loans and provide other forms of financial assistance to any person or entity under a written policy, adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 1-121, setting forth the eligibility criteria, application process, and such other provisions as may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this section;

(13) Charge reasonable fees for the services it performs and waive, suspend, reduce or otherwise modify such fees in accordance with written criteria established by the authority, and provided, that no change may be made in fees without at least thirty days prior notice, published in accordance with the provisions of section 1-121;

(14) Employ such assistants, agents and other employees as may be necessary or desirable to carry out its purposes. (A) The executive director and such employees shall be exempt from the classified service and, except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, shall not be employees, as defined in subsection (b) of section 5-270. The authority shall fix appropriate compensation for such employees and establish all necessary or appropriate personnel practices and policies, including those relating to hiring, promotion, compensation, retirement

and collective bargaining, which need not be in accordance with chapter 68, and the authority shall not be an employer, as defined in subsection (a) of section 5-270, and may engage consultants, attorneys and appraisers as may be necessary or desirable to carry out its purposes in accordance with sections 15-31a to 15-31i, inclusive. (B) For purposes of group welfare benefits and retirement, including, but not limited to, those provided under chapter 66 and sections 5-257 and 5-259, the officers and all other employees of the authority shall be state employees. The authority shall reimburse the appropriate state agencies for all costs incurred by such designation;

(15) Invest in, acquire, lease, purchase, own, manage, hold and dispose of real property and lease, convey or deal in or enter into agreements with respect to such property on any terms necessary or incidental to carrying out the purposes of sections 15-31a to 15-31i, inclusive, provided such transactions shall not be subject to approval, review or regulation by any state agency pursuant to title 4b or any other provision of the general statutes, except (A) the authority shall not convey fee simple ownership in any property associated with the ports or harbors under its jurisdiction and control without the approval of the State Properties Review Board and the Attorney General, and (B) as provided in subsection (c) of this section; and

(16) Adopt any policies and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of this section in accordance with the provisions of section 1-121.

(b) The authority shall continue as long as it has bonds or other obligations outstanding and until its existence is terminated by law, provided no such termination shall affect any outstanding contractual obligation of the authority and the state shall succeed to the obligations of the authority under any contract. Upon the termination of the existence of the authority, all its rights and properties shall pass to and be vested in the state of Connecticut.

(c) On and after the effective date of this section, until July 1, 2026, the authority shall be a state contracting agency for the purposes of chapter 62, except for the provisions of section 4e-16, and shall be subject to the authority of the State Contracting Standards Board established under section 4e-2.

Sec. 310. Section 38a-495c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Each insurance company, fraternal benefit society, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity in this state that delivers, issues for delivery, continues or renews any Medicare supplement insurance policies or certificates shall base the premium rates charged on a community rate. Such rate shall not be based on age, gender, previous claims history or the medical condition of the person covered by such policy or certificate. Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, coverage shall not be denied on the basis of age, gender, previous claim history or the medical condition of the person covered by such policy or certificate.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit an insurance company, fraternal benefit society, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity in this state issuing Medicare supplement insurance policies or certificates from using its usual and customary underwriting procedures, provided no such company, society, corporation, center or other entity shall issue a Medicare supplement policy or certificate based on the age, gender, previous claims history or the medical condition of the applicant.

(c) Nothing in this section shall prohibit an insurance company, fraternal benefit society, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity in this state when granting coverage under a Medicare supplement policy or certificate from excluding benefits for losses incurred within six months from the

effective date of coverage based on a preexisting condition, in accordance with section 38a-495a and the regulations adopted pursuant to section 38a-495a.

(d) Each insurance company, fraternal benefit society, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity in the state issuing Medicare supplement policies or certificates for plan "A", "B", **[**or**]** "C" or "D", or any combination thereof, to persons eligible for Medicare by reason of age, shall offer for sale the same such policies or certificates to persons eligible for Medicare by reason of disability, except no such company, society, corporation, center or other entity issuing any Medicare supplement policy or certificate for plan "C" shall be required to offer for sale such policy or certificate to any person who is a newly eligible Medicare beneficiary, as defined in 42 USC 1395ss(z)(2).

(e) To the extent permissible by federal law, each insurance company, fraternal benefit society, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity in the state issuing Medicare supplement policies or certificates for plan "A", "B", **[**or**]** "C" or "D", or any combination thereof, may deliver or issue for delivery such policy to a qualified Medicare beneficiary, as defined in 42 USC 1396d(p).

(f) Each insurance company, fraternal benefit society, hospital service corporation, medical service corporation, health care center or other entity in the state issuing Medicare supplement policies or certificates shall make all necessary arrangements with the Medicare Part B carrier and all Medicare Part A intermediaries to allow for the forwarding, to the issuing entity, of all Medicare claims containing the name of the entity issuing a Medicare supplement policy or certificate and the identification number of an insured. The entity issuing the Medicare supplement policy or certificate shall process all benefits available to an insured from a Medicare claim so forwarded, without requiring any

additional action on the part of the insured.

(g) The Insurance Commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement this section.

Sec. 311. Subsection (a) of section 38a-688a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 30, 2021*):

(a) Notwithstanding the requirements of sections 38a-389 and 38a-688 with respect to personal risk insurance with the exception of residual market rates, and on and after July 1, 2006, and until July 1, **[**2021**]** 2025, an insurer may file a rate with the Insurance Commissioner pursuant to this section and such rate shall take effect the date it is filed provided the rate provides for an overall state-wide rate increase or decrease of not more than six per cent in the aggregate and not more than a fifteen per cent increase in any individual territory for all coverages that are subject to the filing. Such percentage limits shall not apply on an individual insured basis. Not more than one filing may be made by an insurer pursuant to this section within any twelve-month period unless the filing, when combined with one or more filings made by the insurer within the preceding twelve months, does not result in an overall state-wide increase or decrease of more than six per cent in the aggregate and not more than a fifteen per cent increase in any individual territory for all coverages that are subject to the filing.

Sec. 312. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) Not later than April 1, 2022, and biennially thereafter until April 1, 2032, the Insurance Commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance. The report shall disclose, for the preceding two calendar years, the Insurance Department's:

(1) Progress toward:

(A) Addressing climate-related risks, including, but not limited to, the department's progress toward integrating such risks into:

(i) Risk-based capital requirements;

(ii) Regular supervisory examinations; and

(iii) Own risk and solvency assessments; and

(B) Incorporating the reduced levels of emissions of greenhouse gas established in section 22a-200a of the general statutes into the department's regulatory and supervisory actions by, among other things, addressing the impacts of thermal coal, tar sands and Arctic oil and gas; and

(2) Regulatory and supervisory actions to bolster the resilience of insurers to the physical impacts of climate change.

(b) The commissioner may engage the services of third-party actuaries, professionals and specialists that the commissioner deems necessary to assist the commissioner in fulfilling the requirements of this section.

Sec. 313. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2022*) (a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Health carrier" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-1080 of the general statutes; and

(2) "Third-party administrator" has the same meaning as provided in section 38a-720 of the general statutes.

(b) Each health carrier or third-party administrator that issues a card to an individual in this state for the purpose of enabling such individual

to prove that such individual has health coverage shall include in such card a statement disclosing whether such coverage is fully insured or self-insured. Such statement shall be prominently displayed on such card in a readily understandable, standardized form prescribed by the Insurance Commissioner.

(c) The Insurance Commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section.

Sec. 314. Subsection (h) of section 10-183g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(h) (1) A benefit computed under subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, of this section and under subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of section 10-183aa shall continue until the death of the member.

(2) For any member who **[**retires**]** accumulates ten years of credited service in the public schools of Connecticut prior to July 1, 2019, **[**if twenty-five per cent of the aggregate benefits paid to a member prior to death are less than such member's accumulated regular contributions, including any one per cent contributions withheld prior to July 1, 1989, and any voluntary contributions plus credited interest,**]** the member's designated beneficiary shall be paid on the death of the member a lump sum amount equal to the **[**difference between such aggregate payments and such accumulated contributions**]** sum of such member's accumulated regular contributions, including any one per cent contributions withheld prior to July 1, 1989, and any voluntary contributions plus credited interest that had been accrued to the date benefits commenced, less an amount equal to twenty-five per cent of the aggregate benefits paid to such member prior to death.

(3) For any member who **[**retires**]** accumulates ten years of credited

service in the public schools of Connecticut on or after July 1, 2019, **[**notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of section 10-183c, if twenty-five per cent of the aggregate benefits paid to a member before July 1, 2019, and prior to death, plus fifty per cent of the aggregate benefits paid to a member on or after July 1, 2019, and prior to death, are less than such member's accumulated regular contributions, including any one per cent contributions withheld prior to July 1, 1989, and any voluntary contributions plus credited interest,**]** the member's designated beneficiary shall be paid on the death of the member a lump sum amount equal to **[**the difference between such aggregate payments and such accumulated contributions**]** the sum of such member's accumulated regular contributions, including any one per cent contributions withheld prior to July 1, 1989, and any voluntary contributions plus credited interest that had been accrued to the date benefits commenced, less an amount equal to fifty per cent of the aggregate benefits paid to such member prior to death.

Sec. 315. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, not later than July 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall, upon receipt of a complete application from the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, or an instrumentality or an affiliate wholly-owned by said tribe, the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, or an instrumentality or an affiliate wholly-owned by said tribe, or the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, issue a provisional license to operate fantasy contests to such tribe, instrumentality, affiliate or corporation, as applicable, and such provisional license shall permit such license holder to operate fantasy contests, as defined in section 1 of public act 21-23, off the reservation of the tribes and within the state, provided:

(1) Prior to the issuance of such provisional licenses, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut each enter into a memorandum of understanding with the

Governor concerning the operation of fantasy contests in Connecticut pursuant to a provisional license to operate fantasy contests. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3-6c of the general statutes, each memorandum of understanding entered into pursuant to this subdivision shall be considered approved by the General Assembly under section 3-6c of the general statutes upon the Governor entering into such memorandum of understanding, without any further action required by the General Assembly;

(2) Prior to the issuance of such provisional licenses, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, or an instrumentality or an affiliate wholly-owned by said tribe, the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, or an instrumentality or an affiliate wholly-owned by said tribe, and the Connecticut Lottery Corporation shall provide to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection a certification, by the president or the chief officer who is the top ranking official of such tribe, instrumentality, affiliate or corporation, that such tribe, instrumentality, affiliate or corporation will operate all fantasy contests in conformance with standards of operation and management that are substantially in compliance with the goals of public act 21-23 and remain in compliance with the provisions of this section during any period of time that the provisional license is valid; and

(3) All such provisional licenses issued pursuant to this section shall expire simultaneously on the earlier of September 30, 2021, or the date on which all the master wagering licenses described in sections 3 and 4 of public act 21-23 have been issued, provided prior to expiration, a holder of a provisional license to operate fantasy contests may obtain from the commissioner a one-time extension of not more than one hundred fifty days, as necessary for the continued operation of fantasy contests pursuant to this section, during which time the commissioner may require that such licensee bring such licensee's fantasy contest operations into compliance with the department's regulations or

proposed regulations published on the state's eRegulations System.

(b) Each holder of a provisional license under this section may contract with an individual or entity to operate fantasy contests under this section, provided such individual or entity maintains a valid license to operate fantasy contests or a valid license to offer fantasy contests pursuant to a regulatory framework in at least one other state, except no individual or entity which has operated fantasy contests in this state prior to July 1, 2021, shall be eligible to provide any services in connection with the operation of fantasy contests under this section unless such individual or entity makes, prior to entering into a contract with a provisional licensee under this section, a payment to the State Treasurer in an amount determined by the formula set forth in subsection (b) of section 12-578bb of the general statutes, as said section was in effect prior to July 1, 2021, for the period beginning July 1, 2019, and ending May 31, 2021.

(c) No person may offer or operate fantasy contests pursuant to this section unless such person has a provisional license to operate fantasy contests or is operating pursuant to a contract with a provisional licensee pursuant to this section.

Sec. 316. (*Effective from passage*) Up to $500,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated to the Insurance Department, for Personal Services, in section 6 of Public Act 19-117, shall not lapse on June 30, 2021, and such funds shall be transferred to Other Expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and made available for technology upgrades.

Sec. 317. Subsection (b) of section 17b-106 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) **[**Effective July 1, 2011, the**]** The commissioner shall provide a state

supplement payment for recipients of Medicaid and the federal Supplemental Security Income Program who reside in long-term care facilities sufficient to increase their personal needs allowance to **[**sixty**]** seventy-five dollars per month. Such state supplement payment shall be made to the long-term care facility to be deposited into the personal fund account of each such recipient. For the purposes of this subsection, "long-term care facility" means a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home, a chronic disease hospital, a rest home with nursing supervision, an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities or a state humane institution.

Sec. 318. Section 17b-272 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

[Effective July 1, 2011, the**]** The Commissioner of Social Services shall permit patients residing in nursing homes, chronic disease hospitals and state humane institutions who are medical assistance recipients under sections 17b-260 to 17b-262, inclusive, 17b-264 to 17b-285, inclusive, and 17b-357 to 17b-361, inclusive, to have a monthly personal fund allowance of **[**sixty**]** seventy-five dollars.

Sec. 319. Section 17b-340d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The Commissioner of Social Services **[**may**]** shall implement an acuity-based methodology for Medicaid reimbursement of nursing home services **[**. In the course of developing such a system, the commissioner shall review the skilled nursing facility prospective payment system developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, as well as other methodologies used nationally, and shall consider recommendations from the nursing home industry.**]** effective July 1, 2022. Notwithstanding section 17b-340, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Social Services shall establish Medicaid rates paid to nursing home facilities

based on cost years ending on September thirtieth in accordance with the following:

(1) Case-mix adjustments to the direct care component, which will be based on Minimum Data Set resident assessment data as well as cost data reported for the cost year ending September 30, 2019, shall be made effective beginning July 1, 2022, and updated every quarter thereafter. After modeling such case-mix adjustments, the Commissioner of Social Services shall evaluate impact on a facility by facility basis and, not later than October 1, 2021, (A) make recommendations to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and (B) submit a report on the recommendations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and human services on any adjustments needed to facilitate the transition to the new methodology on July 1, 2022. This evaluation may include a review of inflationary allowances, case mix and budget adjustment factors and stop loss and stop gain corridors and the ability to make such adjustments within available appropriations.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2022, facilities will be required to comply with collection and reporting of quality metrics as specified by the Department of Social Services, after consultation with the nursing home industry, consumers, employees and the Department of Public Health. Rate adjustments based on performance on quality metrics will be phased in, beginning July 1, 2022, with a period of reporting only.

(3) Geographic peer groupings of facilities shall be established by the Department of Social Services pursuant to regulations adopted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

(4) Allowable costs shall be divided into the following five cost components: (A) Direct costs, which shall include salaries for nursing personnel, related fringe benefits and nursing pool costs; (B) indirect

costs, which shall include professional fees, dietary expenses, housekeeping expenses, laundry expenses, supplies related to patient care, salaries for indirect care personnel and related fringe benefits; (C) fair rent, which shall be defined in regulations adopted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section; (D) capital-related costs, which shall include property taxes, insurance expenses, equipment leases and equipment depreciation; and (E) administrative and general costs, which shall include maintenance and operation of plant expenses, salaries for administrative and maintenance personnel and related fringe benefits. For (i) direct costs, the maximum cost shall be equal to one hundred thirty-five per cent of the median allowable cost of that peer grouping; (ii) indirect costs, the maximum cost shall be equal to one hundred fifteen per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; (iii) fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved pursuant to section 17b-353; (iv) capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and (v) administrative and general costs, the maximum shall be equal to the state-wide median allowable cost.

(5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2020, that are not otherwise included in the rates issued.

(6) There shall be no increase to rates based on inflation or any inflationary factor for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, unless otherwise authorized under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(7) For purposes of computing minimum allowable patient days, utilization of a facility's certified beds shall be determined at a minimum of ninety per cent of capacity, except for facilities that have undergone a change in ownership, new facilities, and facilities which are certified for additional beds which may be permitted a lower occupancy rate for

the first three months of operation after the effective date of licensure.

(8) Rates determined under this section shall comply with federal laws and regulations.

(b) The Commissioner of Social Services may implement policies as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section while in the process of adopting the policies as regulations, provided that prior to implementation the policies are posted (1) on the eRegulations System established pursuant to section 4-173b, and (2) the Department of Social Services' Internet web site.

Sec. 320. Section 17b-340 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For purposes of this subsection, (1) a "related party" includes, but is not limited to, any company related to a chronic and convalescent nursing home through family association, common ownership, control or business association with any of the owners, operators or officials of such nursing home; (2) "company" means any person, partnership, association, holding company, limited liability company or corporation; (3) "family association" means a relationship by birth, marriage or domestic partnership; and (4) "profit and loss statement" means the most recent annual statement on profits and losses finalized by a related party before the annual report mandated under this subsection. The rates to be paid by or for persons aided or cared for by the state or any town in this state to licensed chronic and convalescent nursing homes, to chronic disease hospitals associated with chronic and convalescent nursing homes, to rest homes with nursing supervision, to licensed residential care homes, as defined by section 19a-490, and to residential facilities for persons with intellectual disability that are licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, for room, board and services specified in

licensing regulations issued by the licensing agency shall be determined annually, except as otherwise provided in this subsection **[**, after a public hearing,**]** by the Commissioner of Social Services, to be effective July first of each year except as otherwise provided in this subsection. Such rates shall be determined on a basis of a reasonable payment for such necessary services, which basis shall take into account as a factor the costs of such services. Cost of such services shall include reasonable costs mandated by collective bargaining agreements with certified collective bargaining agents or other agreements between the employer and employees, provided "employees" shall not include persons employed as managers or chief administrators or required to be licensed as nursing home administrators, and compensation for services rendered by proprietors at prevailing wage rates, as determined by application of principles of accounting as prescribed by said commissioner. Cost of such services shall not include amounts paid by the facilities to employees as salary, or to attorneys or consultants as fees, where the responsibility of the employees, attorneys, or consultants is to persuade or seek to persuade the other employees of the facility to support or oppose unionization. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit inclusion of amounts paid for legal counsel related to the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements, the settlement of grievances or normal administration of labor relations. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, allow the inclusion of extraordinary and unanticipated costs of providing services that were incurred to avoid an immediate negative impact on the health and safety of patients. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, based upon review of a facility's costs, direct care staff to patient ratio and any other related information, revise a facility's rate for any increases or decreases to total licensed capacity of more than ten beds or changes to its number of licensed rest home with nursing supervision beds and chronic and convalescent nursing home beds. The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, revise the rate of a facility that is closing. An interim rate issued for the period during

which a facility is closing shall be based on a review of facility costs, the expected duration of the close-down period, the anticipated impact on Medicaid costs, available appropriations and the relationship of the rate requested by the facility to the average Medicaid rate for a close-down period. The commissioner may so revise a facility's rate established for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, and thereafter for any bed increases, decreases or changes in licensure effective after October 1, 1989. Effective July 1, 1991, in facilities that have both a chronic and convalescent nursing home and a rest home with nursing supervision, the rate for the rest home with nursing supervision shall not exceed such facility's rate for its chronic and convalescent nursing home. All such facilities for which rates are determined under this subsection shall report on a fiscal year basis ending on September thirtieth. Such report shall be submitted to the commissioner by February fifteenth. Each for-profit chronic and convalescent nursing home that receives state funding pursuant to this section shall include in such annual report a profit and loss statement from each related party that receives from such chronic and convalescent nursing home fifty thousand dollars or more per year for goods, fees and services. No cause of action or liability shall arise against the state, the Department of Social Services, any state official or agent for failure to take action based on the information required to be reported under this subsection. The commissioner may reduce the rate in effect for a facility that fails to submit a complete and accurate report on or before February fifteenth by an amount not to exceed ten per cent of such rate. If a licensed residential care home fails to submit a complete and accurate report, the department shall notify such home of the failure and the home shall have thirty days from the date the notice was issued to submit a complete and accurate report. If a licensed residential care home fails to submit a complete and accurate report not later than thirty days after the date of notice, such home may not receive a retroactive rate increase, in the commissioner's discretion. The commissioner shall, annually, on or before April first, report the data contained in the reports of such facilities **[**to the joint standing

committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies**]** on the department's Internet web site. For the cost reporting year commencing October 1, 1985, and for subsequent cost reporting years, facilities shall report the cost of using the services of any nursing pool employee by separating said cost into two categories, the portion of the cost equal to the salary of the employee for whom the nursing pool employee is substituting shall be considered a nursing cost and any cost in excess of such salary shall be further divided so that seventy-five per cent of the excess cost shall be considered an administrative or general cost and twenty-five per cent of the excess cost shall be considered a nursing cost, provided if the total nursing pool costs of a facility for any cost year are equal to or exceed fifteen per cent of the total nursing expenditures of the facility for such cost year, no portion of nursing pool costs in excess of fifteen per cent shall be classified as administrative or general costs. The commissioner, in determining such rates, shall also take into account the classification of patients or boarders according to special care requirements or classification of the facility according to such factors as facilities and services and such other factors as the commissioner deems reasonable, including anticipated fluctuations in the cost of providing such services. The commissioner may establish a separate rate for a facility or a portion of a facility for traumatic brain injury patients who require extensive care but not acute general hospital care. Such separate rate shall reflect the special care requirements of such patients. If changes in federal or state laws, regulations or standards adopted subsequent to June 30, 1985, result in increased costs or expenditures in an amount exceeding one-half of one per cent of allowable costs for the most recent cost reporting year, the commissioner shall adjust rates and provide payment for any such increased reasonable costs or expenditures within a reasonable period of time retroactive to the date of enforcement. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the Department of Social Services to adjust rates and provide payment for any increases in costs resulting from an

inspection of a facility by the Department of Public Health. Such assistance as the commissioner requires from other state agencies or departments in determining rates shall be made available to the commissioner at the commissioner's request. Payment of the rates established pursuant to this section shall be conditioned on the establishment by such facilities of admissions procedures that conform with this section, section 19a-533 and all other applicable provisions of the law and the provision of equality of treatment to all persons in such facilities. The established rates shall be the maximum amount chargeable by such facilities for care of such beneficiaries, and the acceptance by or on behalf of any such facility of any additional compensation for care of any such beneficiary from any other person or source shall constitute the offense of aiding a beneficiary to obtain aid to which the beneficiary is not entitled and shall be punishable in the same manner as is provided in subsection (b) of section 17b-97. **[**For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, rates for licensed residential care homes and intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities may receive an increase not to exceed the most recent annual increase in the Regional Data Resources Incorporated McGraw-Hill Health Care Costs: Consumer Price Index (all urban)-All Items. Rates for newly certified intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities shall not exceed one hundred fifty per cent of the median rate of rates in effect on January 31, 1991, for intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities certified prior to February 1, 1991.**]** Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services may, within available appropriations, provide an interim rate increase for a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision for rate periods no earlier than April 1, 2004, only if the commissioner determines that the increase is necessary to avoid the filing of a petition for relief under Title 11 of the United States Code; imposition of receivership pursuant to sections 19a-542 and 19a-543; or substantial deterioration of the facility's financial condition that may be expected to adversely affect

resident care and the continued operation of the facility, and the commissioner determines that the continued operation of the facility is in the best interest of the state. The commissioner shall consider any requests for interim rate increases on file with the department from March 30, 2004, and those submitted subsequently for rate periods no earlier than April 1, 2004. When reviewing an interim rate increase request the commissioner shall, at a minimum, consider: (A) Existing chronic and convalescent nursing home or rest home with nursing supervision utilization in the area and projected bed need; (B) physical plant long-term viability and the ability of the owner or purchaser to implement any necessary property improvements; (C) licensure and certification compliance history; (D) reasonableness of actual and projected expenses; and (E) the ability of the facility to meet wage and benefit costs. No interim rate shall be increased pursuant to this subsection in excess of one hundred fifteen per cent of the median rate for the facility's peer grouping, established pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of this section, unless recommended by the commissioner and approved by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management after consultation with the commissioner. Such median rates shall be published by the Department of Social Services not later than April first of each year. In the event that a facility granted an interim rate increase pursuant to this section is sold or otherwise conveyed for value to an unrelated entity less than five years after the effective date of such rate increase, the rate increase shall be deemed rescinded and the department shall recover an amount equal to the difference between payments made for all affected rate periods and payments that would have been made if the interim rate increase was not granted. The commissioner may seek recovery of such payments from any facility with common ownership. With the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the commissioner may waive recovery and rescission of the interim rate for good cause shown that is not inconsistent with this section, including, but not limited to, transfers to family members that were made for no value. The

commissioner shall provide written quarterly reports to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, human services and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, that identify each facility requesting an interim rate increase, the amount of the requested rate increase for each facility, the action taken by the commissioner and the secretary pursuant to this subsection, and estimates of the additional cost to the state for each approved interim rate increase. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the commissioner from increasing the rate of a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision for allowable costs associated with facility capital improvements or increasing the rate in case of a sale of a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home or a rest home with nursing supervision **[**, pursuant to subdivision (15) of subsection (f) of this section,**]** if receivership has been imposed on such home.

(b) **[**The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to specify other allowable services. For purposes of this section, other allowable services means those services required by any medical assistance beneficiary residing in such home or hospital which are not already covered in the rate set by the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section.**]** The Commissioner of Social Services may implement policies and procedures as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section while in the process of adopting the policies and procedures as regulations, provided notice of intent to adopt the regulations is published in accordance with the provisions of section 17b-10 not later than twenty days after the date of implementation.

(c) No facility subject to the requirements of this section shall accept payment in excess of the rate set by the commissioner pursuant to subsection (a) of this section for any medical assistance patient from this or any other state. No facility shall accept payment in excess of the

reasonable and necessary costs of other allowable services as specified by the commissioner pursuant to the regulations adopted under subsection (b) of this section for any public assistance patient from this or any other state. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the commissioner may authorize a facility to accept payment in excess of the rate paid for a medical assistance patient in this state for a patient who receives medical assistance from another state.

(d) In any instance where the Commissioner of Social Services finds that a facility subject to the requirements of this section is accepting payment for a medical assistance beneficiary in violation of subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner shall proceed to recover through the rate set for the facility any sum in excess of the stipulated per diem and other allowable costs, as provided for in regulations adopted pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section. The commissioner shall make the recovery prospectively at the time of the next annual rate redetermination.

(e) Except as provided in this subsection, the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of this section shall not apply to any facility subject to the requirements of this section, which on October 1, 1981, (1) was accepting payments from the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, (2) was accepting medical assistance payments from another state for at least twenty per cent of its patients, and (3) had not notified the commissioner of any intent to terminate its provider agreement, in accordance with section 17b-271, provided no patient residing in any such facility on May 22, 1984, shall be removed from such facility for purposes of meeting the requirements of this subsection. If the commissioner finds that the number of beds available to medical assistance patients from this state in any such facility is less than fifteen per cent the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of this section shall apply to that number of beds which is less than said percentage.

(f) For the fiscal years ending on or before June 30, 2022, rates for nursing home facilities shall be set in accordance with this subsection. On and after July 1, 2022, such rates shall be set in accordance with section 17b-340d. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, the rates paid by or for persons aided or cared for by the state or any town in this state to facilities for room, board and services specified in licensing regulations issued by the licensing agency, except intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities and residential care homes, shall be based on the cost year ending September 30, 1989. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 1993, and June 30, 1994, such rates shall be based on the cost year ending September 30, 1990. Such rates shall be determined by the Commissioner of Social Services in accordance with this section and the regulations of Connecticut state agencies promulgated by the commissioner and in effect on April 1, 1991, except that:

(1) Allowable costs shall be divided into the following five cost components: (A) Direct costs, which shall include salaries for nursing personnel, related fringe benefits and nursing pool costs; (B) indirect costs, which shall include professional fees, dietary expenses, housekeeping expenses, laundry expenses, supplies related to patient care, salaries for indirect care personnel and related fringe benefits; (C) fair rent, which shall be defined in accordance with subsection (f) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies; (D) capital-related costs, which shall include property taxes, insurance expenses, equipment leases and equipment depreciation; and (E) administrative and general costs, which shall include (i) maintenance and operation of plant expenses, (ii) salaries for administrative and maintenance personnel, and (iii) related fringe benefits. The commissioner may provide a rate adjustment for nonemergency transportation services required by nursing facility residents. Such adjustment shall be a fixed amount determined annually by the commissioner based upon a review of costs and other associated

information. Allowable costs shall not include costs for ancillary services payable under Part B of the Medicare program.

(2) Two geographic peer groupings of facilities shall be established for each level of care, as defined by the Department of Social Services for the determination of rates, for the purpose of determining allowable direct costs. One peer grouping shall be comprised of those facilities located in Fairfield County. The other peer grouping shall be comprised of facilities located in all other counties.

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, per diem maximum allowable costs for each cost component shall be as follows: For direct costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred forty per cent of the median allowable cost of that peer grouping; for indirect costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred thirty per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; for fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved by the Office of Health Care Access pursuant to section 19a-638; for capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and for administrative and general costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred twenty-five per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, per diem maximum allowable costs for each cost component shall be as follows: For direct costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred forty per cent of the median allowable cost of that peer grouping; for indirect costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred twenty-five per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; for fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved by the Office of Health Care Access pursuant to section 19a-638; for capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and for administrative and general costs the maximum shall be equal to one hundred fifteen per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1994, per diem maximum allowable costs for each cost component shall be as follows: For direct costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred

thirty-five per cent of the median allowable cost of that peer grouping; for indirect costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred twenty per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; for fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved by the Office of Health Care Access pursuant to section 19a-638; for capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and for administrative and general costs the maximum shall be equal to one hundred ten per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, per diem maximum allowable costs for each cost component shall be as follows: For direct costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred thirty-five per cent of the median allowable cost of that peer grouping; for indirect costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred twenty per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; for fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved by the Office of Health Care Access pursuant to section 19a-638; for capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and for administrative and general costs the maximum shall be equal to one hundred five per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, except for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000, and June 30, 2001, for facilities with an interim rate in one or both periods, per diem maximum allowable costs for each cost component shall be as follows: For direct costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred thirty-five per cent of the median allowable cost of that peer grouping; for indirect costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred fifteen per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; for fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved pursuant to section 19a-638; for capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and for administrative and general costs the maximum shall be equal to the state-wide median allowable cost. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000, and June 30, 2001, for facilities with an interim rate in one or both periods, per diem maximum allowable costs for each cost component shall be as follows: For direct costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred forty-five per cent of the

median allowable cost of that peer grouping; for indirect costs, the maximum shall be equal to one hundred twenty-five per cent of the state-wide median allowable cost; for fair rent, the amount shall be calculated utilizing the amount approved pursuant to section 19a-638; for capital-related costs, there shall be no maximum; and for administrative and general costs, the maximum shall be equal to the state-wide median allowable cost and such medians shall be based upon the same cost year used to set rates for facilities with prospective rates. Costs in excess of the maximum amounts established under this subsection shall not be recognized as allowable costs, except that the Commissioner of Social Services (A) may allow costs in excess of maximum amounts for any facility with patient days covered by Medicare, including days requiring coinsurance, in excess of twelve per cent of annual patient days which also has patient days covered by Medicaid in excess of fifty per cent of annual patient days; (B) may establish a pilot program whereby costs in excess of maximum amounts shall be allowed for beds in a nursing home which has a managed care program and is affiliated with a hospital licensed under chapter 368v; and (C) may establish rates whereby allowable costs may exceed such maximum amounts for beds approved on or after July 1, 1991, which are restricted to use by patients with acquired immune deficiency syndrome or traumatic brain injury.

(4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, (A) no facility shall receive a rate that is less than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1991; (B) no facility whose rate, if determined pursuant to this subsection, would exceed one hundred twenty per cent of the state-wide median rate, as determined pursuant to this subsection, shall receive a rate which is five and one-half per cent more than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1991; and (C) no facility whose rate, if determined pursuant to this subsection, would be less than one hundred twenty per cent of the state-wide median rate, as determined pursuant to this subsection, shall receive a rate which is six and one-half per cent

more than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1991. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, no facility shall receive a rate that is less than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1992, or six per cent more than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1992. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1994, no facility shall receive a rate that is less than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1993, or six per cent more than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1993. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than five per cent less than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1994, or six per cent more than the rate it received for the rate year ending June 30, 1994. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, and June 30, 1997, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than three per cent more than the rate it received for the prior rate year. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1998, a facility shall receive a rate increase that is not more than two per cent more than the rate that the facility received in the prior year. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, a facility shall receive a rate increase that is not more than three per cent more than the rate that the facility received in the prior year and that is not less than one per cent more than the rate that the facility received in the prior year, exclusive of rate increases associated with a wage, benefit and staffing enhancement rate adjustment added for the period from April 1, 1999, to June 30, 1999, inclusive. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, each facility, except a facility with an interim rate or replaced interim rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, and a facility having a certificate of need or other agreement specifying rate adjustments for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, shall receive a rate increase equal to one per cent applied to the rate the facility received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, exclusive of the facility's wage, benefit and staffing enhancement rate adjustment. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, no facility with an interim rate, replaced interim rate or scheduled rate adjustment specified in a certificate of need or other agreement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, shall receive a rate increase that is more than one per cent more than the rate the facility

received in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, each facility, except a facility with an interim rate or replaced interim rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, and a facility having a certificate of need or other agreement specifying rate adjustments for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, shall receive a rate increase equal to two per cent applied to the rate the facility received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, subject to verification of wage enhancement adjustments pursuant to subdivision (14) of this subsection. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, no facility with an interim rate, replaced interim rate or scheduled rate adjustment specified in a certificate of need or other agreement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, shall receive a rate increase that is more than two per cent more than the rate the facility received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, each facility shall receive a rate that is two and one-half per cent more than the rate the facility received in the prior fiscal year. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, each facility shall receive a rate that is two per cent more than the rate the facility received in the prior fiscal year, except that such increase shall be effective January 1, 2003, and such facility rate in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, shall be paid for services provided until December 31, 2002, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2002, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2002, and have such rate increased two per cent effective June 1, 2003. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2003, shall remain in effect, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2003, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2003. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2004, shall remain in effect until December 31, 2004, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2004,

than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2004. Effective January 1, 2005, each facility shall receive a rate that is one per cent greater than the rate in effect December 31, 2004. Effective upon receipt of all the necessary federal approvals to secure federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase provided in this subdivision, but in no event earlier than July 1, 2005, and provided the user fee imposed under section 17b-320 is required to be collected, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, the department shall compute the rate for each facility based upon its 2003 cost report filing or a subsequent cost year filing for facilities having an interim rate for the period ending June 30, 2005, as provided under section 17-311-55 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies. For each facility not having an interim rate for the period ending June 30, 2005, the rate for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall be determined beginning with the higher of the computed rate based upon its 2003 cost report filing or the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2005. Such rate shall then be increased by eleven dollars and eighty cents per day except that in no event shall the rate for the period ending June 30, 2006, be thirty-two dollars more than the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2005, and for any facility with a rate below one hundred ninety-five dollars per day for the period ending June 30, 2005, such rate for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall not be greater than two hundred seventeen dollars and forty-three cents per day and for any facility with a rate equal to or greater than one hundred ninety-five dollars per day for the period ending June 30, 2005, such rate for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall not exceed the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2005, increased by eleven and one-half per cent. For each facility with an interim rate for the period ending June 30, 2005, the interim replacement rate for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall not exceed the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2005, increased by eleven dollars and eighty cents per day plus the per day cost of the user fee payments made pursuant to section 17b-320 divided by annual resident

service days, except for any facility with an interim rate below one hundred ninety-five dollars per day for the period ending June 30, 2005, the interim replacement rate for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall not be greater than two hundred seventeen dollars and forty-three cents per day and for any facility with an interim rate equal to or greater than one hundred ninety-five dollars per day for the period ending June 30, 2005, the interim replacement rate for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall not exceed the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2005, increased by eleven and one-half per cent. Such July 1, 2005, rate adjustments shall remain in effect unless (i) the federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase are no longer available; or (ii) the user fee created pursuant to section 17b-320 is not in effect. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, each facility shall receive a rate that is three per cent greater than the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2006, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2006, than for the rate period ending June 30, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2006. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, each facility shall receive a rate that is two and nine-tenths per cent greater than the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2007, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2007, than for the rate period ending June 30, 2007, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2007. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2008, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2009, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2009, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2011, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the

department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2011, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2013, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, the department shall determine facility rates based upon 2011 cost report filings subject to the provisions of this section and applicable regulations except: (I) A ninety per cent minimum occupancy standard shall be applied; (II) no facility shall receive a rate that is higher than the rate in effect on June 30, 2013; and (III) no facility shall receive a rate that is more than four per cent lower than the rate in effect on June 30, 2013, except that any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2013, than for the rate period ending June 30, 2013, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2013. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2014, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2015, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2014, than for the rate period ending June 30, 2014, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2014. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2015, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2015, if the commissioner provides, within available appropriations, pro rata fair rent increases, which may, at the discretion of the commissioner, include increases for facilities which have undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent additions or moveable equipment placed in service in cost report years ending September 30, 2014, and September 30, 2015, and not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, and each succeeding fiscal year, any facility that would have been issued a lower rate, due to

interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, facilities that received a rate decrease due to the expiration of a 2015 fair rent asset shall receive a rate increase of an equivalent amount effective July 1, 2017. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the department shall determine facility rates based upon 2016 cost report filings subject to the provisions of this section and applicable regulations, provided no facility shall receive a rate that is higher than the rate in effect on December 31, 2016, and no facility shall receive a rate that is more than two per cent lower than the rate in effect on December 31, 2016. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, no facility shall receive a rate that is higher than the rate in effect on June 30, 2018, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2018, if the commissioner provides, within available appropriations, pro rata fair rent increases, which may, at the discretion of the commissioner, include increases for facilities which have undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent additions or moveable equipment placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2017, and not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, the department shall determine facility rates based upon 2018 cost report filings subject to the provisions of this section, adjusted to reflect any rate increases provided after the cost report year ending September 30, 2018, and applicable regulations, provided no facility shall receive a rate that is higher than the rate in effect on June 30, 2019, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, if the commissioner provides, within available appropriations, pro rata fair rent increases, which may, at the discretion of the commissioner, include increases for facilities which have undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent additions in the cost report year ending September 30, 2018, and are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than two per cent lower than the rate in effect

on June 30, 2019, unless the facility has an occupancy level of less than seventy per cent, as reported in the 2018 cost report, or an overall rating on Medicare's Nursing Home Compare of one star for the three most recent reporting periods as of July 1, 2019, unless the facility is under an interim rate due to new ownership. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, no facility shall receive a rate that is higher than the rate in effect on June 30, 2020, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, if the commissioner provides, within available appropriations, pro rata fair rent increases, which may, at the discretion of the commissioner, include increases for facilities which have undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent additions in the cost report year ending September 30, 2019, and are not otherwise included in rates issued. The Commissioner of Social Services shall add fair rent increases to any other rate increases established pursuant to this subdivision for a facility which has undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent, except for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, June 30, 2011, and June 30, 2012, such fair rent increases shall only be provided to facilities with an approved certificate of need pursuant to section 17b-352, 17b-353, 17b-354 or 17b-355. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the commissioner may, within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases for facilities which have undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent additions placed in service in cost report years ending September 30, 2008, to September 30, 2011, inclusive, and not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, the commissioner may, within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases, which may include moveable equipment at the discretion of the commissioner, for facilities which have undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent additions or moveable equipment placed in service in cost report years ending September 30, 2012, and September 30, 2013, and not otherwise included in rates issued. The commissioner shall add fair rent increases associated with an approved certificate of need

pursuant to section 17b-352, 17b-353, 17b-354 or 17b-355. Interim rates may take into account reasonable costs incurred by a facility, including wages and benefits. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services may, subject to available appropriations, increase or decrease rates issued to licensed chronic and convalescent nursing homes and licensed rest homes with nursing supervision. Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services shall, effective July 1, 2015, within available appropriations, adjust facility rates in accordance with the application of standard accounting principles as prescribed by the commissioner, for each facility subject to subsection (a) of this section. Such adjustment shall provide a pro-rata increase based on direct and indirect care employee salaries reported in the 2014 annual cost report, and adjusted to reflect subsequent salary increases, to reflect reasonable costs mandated by collective bargaining agreements with certified collective bargaining agents, or otherwise provided by a facility to its employees. For purposes of this subsection, "employee" shall not include a person employed as a facility's manager, chief administrator, a person required to be licensed as a nursing home administrator or any individual who receives compensation for services pursuant to a contractual arrangement and who is not directly employed by the facility. The commissioner may establish an upper limit for reasonable costs associated with salary adjustments beyond which the adjustment shall not apply. Nothing in this section shall require the commissioner to distribute such adjustments in a way that jeopardizes anticipated federal reimbursement. Facilities that receive such adjustment but do not provide increases in employee salaries as described in this subsection on or before July 31, 2015, may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the adjustment by the commissioner. Of the amount appropriated for this purpose, no more than nine million dollars shall go to increases based on reasonable costs mandated by collective bargaining agreements. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, and section 17b-340d, effective July 1, 2019, October 1,

2020, **[**and**]** January 1, 2021, July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022, the commissioner shall, within available appropriations, increase rates for the purpose of wage and benefit enhancements for facility employees. The commissioner shall adjust the rate paid to the facility in the form of a rate adjustment to reflect any rate increases paid after the cost report year ending September 30, 2018. Facilities that receive a rate adjustment for the purpose of wage and benefit enhancements but do not provide increases in employee salaries as described in this subsection on or before September 30, 2019, October 31, 2020, **[**and**]** January 31, 2021, July 31, 2021, and July 31, 2022, respectively, may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the adjustment by the commissioner.

(5) For the purpose of determining allowable fair rent, a facility with allowable fair rent less than the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent shall be reimbursed as having allowable fair rent equal to the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent, provided for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, and June 30, 1997, the reimbursement may not exceed the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995. On and after July 1, 1998, the Commissioner of Social Services may allow minimum fair rent as the basis upon which reimbursement associated with improvements to real property is added. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, any facility with a rate of return on real property other than land in excess of eleven per cent shall have such allowance revised to eleven per cent. Any facility or its related realty affiliate which finances or refinances debt through bonds issued by the State of Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority shall report the terms and conditions of such financing or refinancing to the Commissioner of Social Services within thirty days of completing such financing or refinancing. The Commissioner of Social Services may revise the facility's fair rent component of its rate to reflect any financial benefit the facility or its related realty affiliate received as a result of such financing or refinancing, including but not limited to, reductions in the

amount of debt service payments or period of debt repayment. The commissioner shall allow actual debt service costs for bonds issued by the State of Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority if such costs do not exceed property costs allowed pursuant to subsection (f) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided the commissioner may allow higher debt service costs for such bonds for good cause. For facilities which first open on or after October 1, 1992, the commissioner shall determine allowable fair rent for real property other than land based on the rate of return for the cost year in which such bonds were issued. The financial benefit resulting from a facility financing or refinancing debt through such bonds shall be shared between the state and the facility to an extent determined by the commissioner on a case-by-case basis and shall be reflected in an adjustment to the facility's allowable fair rent.

(6) A facility shall receive cost efficiency adjustments for indirect costs and for administrative and general costs if such costs are below the state-wide median costs. The cost efficiency adjustments shall equal twenty-five per cent of the difference between allowable reported costs and the applicable median allowable cost established pursuant to this subdivision.

(7) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, allowable operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated using the Regional Data Resources Incorporated McGraw-Hill Health Care Costs: Consumer Price Index (all urban)-All Items minus one and one-half per cent. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, allowable operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated using the Regional Data Resources Incorporated McGraw-Hill Health Care Costs: Consumer Price Index (all urban)-All Items minus one and three-quarters per cent. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 1994, and June 30, 1995, allowable operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated using the Regional Data Resources Incorporated McGraw-Hill Health Care Costs: Consumer Price Index (all urban)-All

Items minus two per cent. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, allowable operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated using the Regional Data Resources Incorporated McGraw-Hill Health Care Costs: Consumer Price Index (all urban)-All Items minus two and one-half per cent. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, allowable operating costs, excluding fair rent, shall be inflated using the Regional Data Resources Incorporated McGraw-Hill Health Care Costs: Consumer Price Index (all urban)-All Items minus three and one-half per cent. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, and any succeeding fiscal year, allowable fair rent shall be those reported in the annual report of long-term care facilities for the cost year ending the immediately preceding September thirtieth. The inflation index to be used pursuant to this subsection shall be computed to reflect inflation between the midpoint of the cost year through the midpoint of the rate year. The Department of Social Services shall study methods of reimbursement for fair rent and shall report its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services on or before January 15, 1993.

(8) On and after July 1, 1994, costs shall be rebased no more frequently than every two years and no less frequently than every four years, as determined by the commissioner. The commissioner shall determine whether and to what extent a change in ownership of a facility shall occasion the rebasing of the facility's costs.

(9) The method of establishing rates for new facilities shall be determined by the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of this subsection <u>until June 30, 2022</u>.

(10) Rates determined under this section shall comply with federal laws and regulations.

(11) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, interim rates issued for facilities on and after July 1, 1991, shall be subject to applicable

fiscal year cost component limitations established pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection.

(12) A chronic and convalescent nursing home having an ownership affiliation with and operated at the same location as a chronic disease hospital may request that the commissioner approve an exception to applicable rate-setting provisions for chronic and convalescent nursing homes and establish a rate for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1992, and June 30, 1993, in accordance with regulations in effect June 30, 1991. Any such rate shall not exceed one hundred sixty-five per cent of the median rate established for chronic and convalescent nursing homes established under this section for the applicable fiscal year.

(13) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and any succeeding fiscal year, for purposes of computing minimum allowable patient days, utilization of a facility's certified beds shall be determined at a minimum of ninety per cent of capacity, except for new facilities and facilities which are certified for additional beds which may be permitted a lower occupancy rate for the first three months of operation after the effective date of licensure.

(14) The Commissioner of Social Services shall adjust facility rates from April 1, 1999, to June 30, 1999, inclusive, by a per diem amount representing each facility's allocation of funds appropriated for the purpose of wage, benefit and staffing enhancement. A facility's per diem allocation of such funding shall be computed as follows: (A) The facility's direct and indirect component salary, wage, nursing pool and allocated fringe benefit costs as filed for the 1998 cost report period deemed allowable in accordance with this section and applicable regulations without application of cost component maximums specified in subdivision (3) of this subsection shall be totalled; (B) such total shall be multiplied by the facility's Medicaid utilization based on the 1998 cost report; (C) the resulting amount for the facility shall be divided by the sum of the calculations specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this

subdivision for all facilities to determine the facility's percentage share of appropriated wage, benefit and staffing enhancement funding; (D) the facility's percentage share shall be multiplied by the amount of appropriated wage, benefit and staffing enhancement funding to determine the facility's allocated amount; and (E) such allocated amount shall be divided by the number of days of care paid for by Medicaid on an annual basis including days for reserved beds specified in the 1998 cost report to determine the per diem wage and benefit rate adjustment amount. The commissioner may adjust a facility's reported 1998 cost and utilization data for the purposes of determining a facility's share of wage, benefit and staffing enhancement funding when reported 1998 information is not substantially representative of estimated cost and utilization data for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, due to special circumstances during the 1998 cost report period including change of ownership with a part year cost filing or reductions in facility capacity due to facility renovation projects. Upon completion of the calculation of the allocation of wage, benefit and staffing enhancement funding, the commissioner shall not adjust the allocations due to revisions submitted to previously filed 1998 annual cost reports. In the event that a facility's rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, is an interim rate or the rate includes an increase adjustment due to a rate request to the commissioner or other reasons, the commissioner may reduce or withhold the per diem wage, benefit and staffing enhancement allocation computed for the facility. Any enhancement allocations not applied to facility rates shall not be reallocated to other facilities and such unallocated amounts shall be available for the costs associated with interim rates and other Medicaid expenditures. The wage, benefit and staffing enhancement per diem adjustment for the period from April 1, 1999, to June 30, 1999, inclusive, shall also be applied to rates for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000, and June 30, 2001, except that the commissioner may increase or decrease the adjustment to account for changes in facility capacity or operations. Any facility accepting a rate adjustment for wage, benefit and staffing enhancements shall apply

payments made as a result of such rate adjustment for increased allowable employee wage rates and benefits and additional direct and indirect component staffing. Adjustment funding shall not be applied to wage and salary increases provided to the administrator, assistant administrator, owners or related party employees. Enhancement payments may be applied to increases in costs associated with staffing purchased from staffing agencies provided such costs are deemed necessary and reasonable by the commissioner. The commissioner shall compare expenditures for wages, benefits and staffing for the 1998 cost report period to such expenditures in the 1999, 2000 and 2001 cost report periods to verify whether a facility has applied additional payments to specified enhancements. In the event that the commissioner determines that a facility did not apply additional payments to specified enhancements, the commissioner shall recover such amounts from the facility through rate adjustments or other means. The commissioner may require facilities to file cost reporting forms, in addition to the annual cost report, as may be necessary, to verify the appropriate application of wage, benefit and staffing enhancement rate adjustment payments. For the purposes of this subdivision, "Medicaid utilization" means the number of days of care paid for by Medicaid on an annual basis including days for reserved beds as a percentage of total resident days.

[(15) The interim rate established to become effective upon sale of any licensed chronic and convalescent home or rest home with nursing supervision for which a receivership has been imposed pursuant to sections 19a-541 to 19a-549, inclusive, shall not exceed the rate in effect for the facility at the time of the imposition of the receivership, subject to any annual increases permitted by this section; provided the Commissioner of Social Services may, in the commissioner's discretion, and after consultation with the receiver, establish an increased rate for the facility if the commissioner with approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management determines that such higher rate is

needed to keep the facility open and to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the residents at such facility.**]**

(g) The established interim rate to become effective upon sale of any licensed chronic and convalescent home or rest home with nursing supervision for which a receivership has been imposed pursuant to sections 19a-541 to 19a-549, inclusive, shall not exceed the rate in effect for the facility at the time of the imposition of the receivership, subject to any annual increases permitted by this section, provided the Commissioner of Social Services may, in the commissioner's discretion and after consultation with the receiver, establish an increased rate for the facility if the commissioner, with the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, determines that such higher rate is needed to keep the facility open and to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the residents at such facility.

[(g)**]** (h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with an operating cost component of its rate in excess of one hundred forty per cent of the median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall not receive an operating cost component increase. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with an operating cost component of its rate that is less than one hundred forty per cent of the median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall have an allowance for real wage growth equal to thirty per cent of the increase determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such operating cost component shall not exceed one hundred forty per cent of the median of operating cost components in effect January 1, 1992. Any facility with real property other than land placed in service prior to October 1, 1991, shall, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, receive a rate of return on real property equal to the average of the rates of return applied to real

property other than land placed in service for the five years preceding October 1, 1993. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the rate of return on real property for property items shall be revised every five years. The commissioner shall, upon submission of a request, allow actual debt service, comprised of principal and interest, in excess of property costs allowed pursuant to section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such debt service terms and amounts are reasonable in relation to the useful life and the base value of the property. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, and any succeeding fiscal year, the inflation adjustment made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall not be applied to real property costs. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the allowance for real wage growth, as determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, shall not be applied. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, no rate shall exceed three hundred seventy-five dollars per day unless the commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Developmental Services, determines after a review of program and management costs, that a rate in excess of this amount is necessary for care and treatment of facility residents. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, rate period, the Commissioner of Social Services shall increase the inflation adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies to update allowable fiscal year 2000 costs to include a three and one-half per cent inflation factor. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, rate period, the commissioner shall increase the inflation adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies to update allowable fiscal year 2001 costs to include a one and one-half per cent inflation factor, except that such increase shall be effective November 1, 2002, and such facility rate in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, shall be paid for

services provided until October 31, 2002, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2002, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2002, and have such rate updated effective November 1, 2002, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2003, shall remain in effect, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2003, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2003. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2004, shall remain in effect until September 30, 2004. Effective October 1, 2004, each facility shall receive a rate that is five per cent greater than the rate in effect September 30, 2004. Effective upon receipt of all the necessary federal approvals to secure federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (f) of this section, but in no event earlier than October 1, 2005, and provided the user fee imposed under section 17b-320 is required to be collected, each facility shall receive a rate that is four per cent more than the rate the facility received in the prior fiscal year, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1, 2005, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2005. Such rate increase shall remain in effect unless: (1) The federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase are no longer available; or (2) the user fee created pursuant to section 17b-320 is not in effect. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall remain in effect until September 30, 2006, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2006, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2006.

Effective October 1, 2006, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than three per cent greater than the rate in effect for the facility on September 30, 2006, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2006. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, each facility shall receive a rate that is two and nine-tenths per cent greater than the rate in effect for the period ending June 30, 2007, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2007, than for the rate period ending June 30, 2007, due to interim rate status, or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2007. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2008, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2009, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2009, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2011, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2011, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2012, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2013, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2013, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or June 30, 2015, to the extent such rate increases

are within available appropriations. Any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2015, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2015, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, or June 30, 2017, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, and each succeeding fiscal year, any facility that would have been issued a lower rate, due to interim rate status, a change in allowable fair rent or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2017, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2017, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, or June 30, 2019, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2021, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal year ending

June 30, 2022, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2020, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, a facility may receive a rate increase for a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. Any facility that has a significant decrease in land and building costs shall receive a reduced rate to reflect such decrease in land and building costs. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, June 30, 2013, June 30, 2014, June 30, 2015, June 30, 2016, June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, June 30, 2019, June 30, 2020, **[**and**]** June 30, 2021, June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the Commissioner of Social Services may provide fair rent increases to any facility that has undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent and has an approved certificate of need pursuant to section 17b-352, 17b-353, 17b-354 or 17b-355. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services may, within available appropriations, increase or decrease rates issued to intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities to reflect a reduction in available appropriations as provided in subsection (a) of this section. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, the commissioner shall not consider rebasing in determining rates.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, effective July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022, the commissioner shall, within available appropriations, increase rates for the purpose of wage and benefit enhancements for employees of intermediate care facilities. Facilities that receive a rate adjustment for the purpose of wage and benefit enhancements but do not provide increases in employee salaries as described in this subsection on or before July 31, 2021, and July 31, 2022, respectively, may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the adjustment by the commissioner.

[(h) (1)**]** (i) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any residential care home with an operating cost component of its rate in excess of one hundred thirty per cent of the median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall not receive an operating cost component increase. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, any residential care home with an operating cost component of its rate that is less than one hundred thirty per cent of the median of operating cost components of rates in effect January 1, 1992, shall have an allowance for real wage growth equal to sixty-five per cent of the increase determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such operating cost component shall not exceed one hundred thirty per cent of the median of operating cost components in effect January 1, 1992. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, for the purpose of determining allowable fair rent, a residential care home with allowable fair rent less than the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent shall be reimbursed as having allowable fair rent equal to the twenty-fifth percentile of the state-wide allowable fair rent. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, a residential care home with allowable fair rent less than three dollars and ten cents per day shall be reimbursed as having allowable fair rent equal to three dollars and ten cents per day. Property additions placed in service during the cost year ending September 30, 1996, or any succeeding cost year shall receive a fair rent

allowance for such additions as an addition to three dollars and ten cents per day if the fair rent for the facility for property placed in service prior to September 30, 1995, is less than or equal to three dollars and ten cents per day. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, a residential care home shall be reimbursed the greater of the allowable accumulated fair rent reimbursement associated with real property additions and land as calculated on a per day basis or three dollars and ten cents per day if the allowable reimbursement associated with real property additions and land is less than three dollars and ten cents per day. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the allowance for real wage growth, as determined in accordance with subsection (q) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, shall not be applied. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the inflation adjustment made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall not be applied to real property costs. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, minimum allowable patient days for rate computation purposes for a residential care home with twenty-five beds or less shall be eighty-five per cent of licensed capacity. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, for the purposes of determining the allowable salary of an administrator of a residential care home with sixty beds or less the department shall revise the allowable base salary to thirty-seven thousand dollars to be annually inflated thereafter in accordance with section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies. The rates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, shall be based upon the increased allowable salary of an administrator, regardless of whether such amount was expended in the 2000 cost report period upon which the rates are based. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, and until the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, inclusive, the inflation adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection (p) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall be increased by two per cent, and beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, the inflation

adjustment for rates made in accordance with subsection (c) of said section shall be increased by one per cent. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, for the purpose of determining the allowable salary of a related party, the department shall revise the maximum salary to twenty-seven thousand eight hundred fifty-six dollars to be annually inflated thereafter in accordance with section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies and beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, such allowable salary shall be computed on an hourly basis and the maximum number of hours allowed for a related party other than the proprietor shall be increased from forty hours to forty-eight hours per work week. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, each facility shall receive a rate that is two and one-quarter per cent more than the rate the facility received in the prior fiscal year, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2004, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2004. Effective upon receipt of all the necessary federal approvals to secure federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (f) of this section, but in no event earlier than October 1, 2005, and provided the user fee imposed under section 17b-320 is required to be collected, each facility shall receive a rate that is determined in accordance with applicable law and subject to appropriations, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1, 2005, than for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2005. Such rate increase shall remain in effect unless: **[**(A)**]** (1) The federal financial participation matching funds associated with the rate increase are no longer available; or **[**(B)**]** (2) the user fee created pursuant to section 17b-320 is not in effect. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2006, shall remain in effect until September 30, 2006, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2006, than for the

fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2006. Effective October 1, 2006, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than four per cent greater than the rate in effect for the facility on September 30, 2006, except for any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective October 1, 2006, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective October 1, 2006. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2009, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2011, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate, except **[**(i)**]** (A) any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the Commissioner of Social Services shall be issued such lower rate; and **[**(ii)**]** (B) the commissioner may increase a facility's rate for reasonable costs associated with such facility's compliance with the provisions of section 19a-495a concerning the administration of medication by unlicensed personnel. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2011, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2012, except that **[**(I)**]** (i) any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, due to interim rate status or agreement with the Commissioner of Social Services shall be issued such lower rate; and **[**(II)**]** (ii) the commissioner may increase a facility's rate for reasonable costs associated with such facility's compliance with the provisions of section 19a-495a concerning the administration of medication by unlicensed personnel. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the Commissioner of Social Services may, within available appropriations, provide a rate increase to a residential care home. Any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, due to interim rate status or agreement with the Commissioner of Social Services shall be issued such lower

rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, the Commissioner of Social Services may provide fair rent increases to any facility that has undergone a material change in circumstances related to fair rent and has an approved certificate of need pursuant to section 17b-352, 17b-353, 17b-354 or 17b-355. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, for those facilities that have a calculated rate greater than the rate in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, the commissioner may increase facility rates based upon available appropriations up to a stop gain as determined by the commissioner. No facility shall be issued a rate that is lower than the rate in effect on June 30, 2013, except that any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, due to interim rate status or agreement with the commissioner, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year thereafter, a residential care home shall receive a rate increase for any capital improvement made during the fiscal year for the health and safety of residents and approved by the Department of Social Services, provided such rate increase is within available appropriations. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each succeeding fiscal year thereafter, costs of less than ten thousand dollars that are incurred by a facility and are associated with any land, building or nonmovable equipment repair or improvement that are reported in the cost year used to establish the facility's rate shall not be capitalized for a period of more than five years for rate-setting purposes. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, subject to available appropriations, the commissioner may, at the commissioner's discretion: Increase the inflation cost limitation under subsection (c) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such inflation allowance factor does not exceed a maximum of five per cent; establish a minimum rate of return applied to real property of five per cent inclusive of assets placed in service during cost year 2013; waive the standard rate of return under subsection (f) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies for ownership

changes or health and safety improvements that exceed one hundred thousand dollars and that are required under a consent order from the Department of Public Health; and waive the rate of return adjustment under subsection (f) of section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies to avoid financial hardship. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2015, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in cost report years ending September 30, 2014, and September 30, 2015, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, and each succeeding fiscal year, any facility that would have been issued a lower rate, due to interim rate status, a change in allowable fair rent or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2017, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2016, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2018, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2017, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2018, that are not otherwise

included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2019, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities that have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2020, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report year ending September 30, 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, a facility may receive a rate increase for a capital improvement approved by the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023, only to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, rates shall be based upon rates in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, inflated by the gross domestic product deflator applicable to each rate year, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report years ending September 30, 2020, and September 30, 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued.

[(2) The commissioner shall, upon determining that a loan to be issued to a residential care home by the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority is reasonable in relation to the useful life and property cost

allowance pursuant to section 17-311-52 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, allow actual debt service, comprised of principal, interest and a repair and replacement reserve on the loan, in lieu of allowed property costs whether actual debt service is higher or lower than such allowed property costs.

(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services shall establish a fee schedule for payments to be made to chronic disease hospitals associated with chronic and convalescent nursing homes to be effective on and after July 1, 1995. The fee schedule may be adjusted annually beginning July 1, 1997, to reflect necessary increases in the cost of services.**]**

(j) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, state rates of payment for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, June 30, 2019, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, for residential care homes and community living arrangements that receive the flat rate for residential services under section 17-311-54 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall be set in accordance with section 298 of public act 19-117.

Sec. 321. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Commissioner of Social Services shall, within the ten million dollars in federal funds allocated to the Department of Social Services pursuant to section 1 of special act 21-1, in accordance with the provisions of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, provide temporary financial relief to nursing home facilities. Grant allocations shall be made based on the per cent difference between the issued and calculated reimbursement rate. The commissioner, within the available ten million dollars in federal funding allocated to the department for this purpose, shall issue one-time grants subject to a pro rata adjustment based on available funding.

Sec. 322. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall, within federal funds allocated to the

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services pursuant to section 1 of special act 21-1, in accordance with the provisions of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, establish grant programs to assist private providers of services authorized by the department. The commissioner shall use fifteen million dollars allocated to the department in the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for a grant program to enhance wages of employees and ten million dollars allocated to the department in the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, for a grant program for facility costs of private providers.

Sec. 323. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 17b-340 and 17b-340d of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available appropriations, increase nursing home facility rates by four and one-half per cent for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, provided such rate increases in each fiscal year are used for wage enhancements for facility employees. 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 by the commissioner.

Sec. 324. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of fifteen million four hundred thousand dollars appropriated in section 1 of special act 21-15, to the Department of Social Services, for Medicaid, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, shall be used for the purpose of adjusting rates of reimbursement to nursing home facilities that provide enhanced health care and pension benefits for facility employees. Facilities that receive a rate adjustment for the purpose of providing enhanced health care and pension benefits for employees but do not provide such enhanced benefits may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the adjustment by the Commissioner of Social Services.

Sec. 325. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of

section 17b-340 of the general statutes, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the Commissioner of Social Services shall increase the minimum per diem, per bed rate to five hundred one dollars for a residential facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-227 of the general statutes and certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disability.

Sec. 326. Subsections (i) and (j) of section 17b-342 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(i) (1) **[**On and after July 1, 2015, the**]** The Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available appropriations, administer a state-funded portion of the program for persons (A) who are sixty-five years of age and older; (B) who are inappropriately institutionalized or at risk of inappropriate institutionalization; (C) whose income is less than or equal to the amount allowed under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section; and (D) whose assets, if single, do not exceed one hundred fifty per cent of the federal minimum community spouse protected amount pursuant to 42 USC 1396r-5(f)(2) or, if married, the couple's assets do not exceed two hundred per cent of said community spouse protected amount. For program applications received by the Department of Social Services for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, only persons who require the level of care provided in a nursing home shall be eligible for the state-funded portion of the program, except for persons residing in affordable housing under the assisted living demonstration project established pursuant to section 17b-347e who are otherwise eligible in accordance with this section.

(2) Except for persons residing in affordable housing under the assisted living demonstration project established pursuant to section 17b-347e, as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, any person whose income is at or below two hundred per cent of the federal poverty

level and who is ineligible for Medicaid shall contribute **[**nine**]** four and one-half per cent of the cost of his or her care. Any person whose income exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level shall contribute **[**nine**]** four and one-half per cent of the cost of his or her care in addition to the amount of applied income determined in accordance with the methodology established by the Department of Social Services for recipients of medical assistance. Any person who does not contribute to the cost of care in accordance with this subdivision shall be ineligible to receive services under this subsection. Notwithstanding any provision of sections 17b-60 and 17b-61, the department shall not be required to provide an administrative hearing to a person found ineligible for services under this subsection because of a failure to contribute to the cost of care.

(3) Any person who resides in affordable housing under the assisted living demonstration project established pursuant to section 17b-347e and whose income is at or below two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level, shall not be required to contribute to the cost of care. Any person who resides in affordable housing under the assisted living demonstration project established pursuant to section 17b-347e and whose income exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level, shall contribute to the applied income amount determined in accordance with the methodology established by the Department of Social Services for recipients of medical assistance. Any person whose income exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level and who does not contribute to the cost of care in accordance with this subdivision shall be ineligible to receive services under this subsection. Notwithstanding any provision of sections 17b-60 and 17b-61, the department shall not be required to provide an administrative hearing to a person found ineligible for services under this subsection because of a failure to contribute to the cost of care.

(4) The annualized cost of services provided to an individual under

the state-funded portion of the program shall not exceed fifty per cent of the weighted average cost of care in nursing homes in the state, except an individual who received services costing in excess of such amount under the Department of Social Services in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, may continue to receive such services, provided the annualized cost of such services does not exceed eighty per cent of the weighted average cost of such nursing home care. The commissioner may allow the cost of services provided to an individual to exceed the maximum cost established pursuant to this subdivision in a case of extreme hardship, as determined by the commissioner, provided in no case shall such cost exceed that of the weighted cost of such nursing home care.

(j) The Commissioner of Social Services shall collect data on services provided under the program, including, but not limited to, the: (1) Number of participants before and after copayments are reduced pursuant to subsection (i) of this section, (2) average hours of care provided under the program per participant, and (3) estimated cost savings to the state by providing home care to participants who may otherwise receive care in a nursing home facility. The commissioner shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, report on the results of the data collection to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and human services not later than July 1, 2022. The commissioner may implement revised criteria for the operation of the program while in the process of adopting such criteria in regulation form, provided the commissioner **[**prints**]** publishes notice of intention to adopt the regulations in **[**the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of implementing the policy**]** accordance with section 17b-10. Such criteria shall be valid until the time final regulations are effective.

Sec. 327. Section 17b-112 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective November 1, 2021*):

(a) The Department of Social Services shall administer a temporary family assistance program under which cash assistance shall be provided to eligible families in accordance with the temporary assistance for needy families program, established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. The Commissioner of Social Services may operate portions of the temporary family assistance program as a solely state-funded program, separate from the federal temporary assistance for needy families program, if the commissioner determines that doing so will enable the state to avoid fiscal penalties under the temporary assistance for needy families program. Families receiving assistance under the solely state-funded portion of the temporary family assistance program shall be subject to the same conditions of eligibility as those receiving assistance under the federal temporary assistance for needy families program. Under the temporary family assistance program, benefits shall be provided to a family for not longer than twenty-one months, except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section. For the purpose of calculating said twenty-one-month time limit, months of assistance received on and after January 1, 1996, pursuant to time limits under the aid to families with dependent children program, shall be included. For purposes of this section, "family" means one or more individuals who apply for or receive assistance together under the temporary family assistance program. If the commissioner determines that federal law allows individuals not otherwise in an eligible covered group for the temporary family assistance program to become covered, such family may also, at the discretion of the commissioner, be composed of (1) a pregnant woman, or (2) a parent, both parents or other caretaker relative and at least one child who is under the age of eighteen, or who is under the age of nineteen and a full-time student in a secondary school or its equivalent. A caretaker relative shall be related to the child or children by blood, marriage or adoption or shall be the legal guardian of such a child or pursuing legal proceedings necessary to achieve guardianship. If the commissioner elects to allow state eligibility consistent with any

change in federal law, the commissioner may administratively transfer any qualifying family cases under the cash assistance portion of the state-administered general assistance program to the temporary family assistance program without regard to usual eligibility and enrollment procedures. If such families become an ineligible coverage group under the federal law, the commissioner shall administratively transfer such families back to the cash assistance portion of the state-administered general assistance program without regard to usual eligibility and enrollment procedures to the degree that such families are eligible for the state program.

(b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall exempt a family from such time-limited benefits for circumstances including, but not limited to: (1) A family with a needy caretaker relative who is incapacitated or of an advanced age, as defined by the commissioner, if there is no other nonexempt caretaker relative in the household; (2) a family with a needy caretaker relative who is needed in the home because of the incapacity of another member of the household, if there is no other nonexempt caretaker relative in the household; (3) a family with a caretaker relative who is not legally responsible for the dependent children in the household if such relative's needs are not considered in calculating the amount of the benefit and there is no other nonexempt caretaker relative in the household; (4) a family with a caretaker relative caring for a child who is under one year of age **[**and who was born not more than ten months after the family's enrollment**]** if there is no other nonexempt caretaker relative in the household; (5) a family with a pregnant or postpartum caretaker relative if a physician has indicated that such relative is unable to work and there is no other nonexempt caretaker relative in the household; (6) a family with a caretaker relative determined by the commissioner to be unemployable and there is no other nonexempt caretaker relative in the household; and (7) minor parents attending and satisfactorily completing high school or high school equivalency programs.

(c) A family who is subject to time-limited benefits may petition the Commissioner of Social Services for six-month extensions of such benefits. The commissioner shall grant not more than two extensions to such family who has made a good faith effort to comply with the requirements of the program and despite such effort has a total family income at a level below the payment standard, or has encountered circumstances preventing employment including, but not limited to: (1) Domestic violence or physical harm to such family's children; or (2) other circumstances beyond such family's control. The commissioner shall disregard ninety dollars of earned income in determining applicable family income. The commissioner may grant a subsequent six-month extension if each adult in the family meets one or more of the following criteria: (A) The adult is precluded from engaging in employment activities due to domestic violence or another reason beyond the adult's control; (B) the adult has two or more substantiated barriers to employment including, but not limited to, the lack of available child care, substance abuse or addiction, severe mental or physical health problems, one or more severe learning disabilities, domestic violence or a child who has a serious physical or behavioral health problem; (C) the adult is working thirty-five or more hours per week, is earning at least the minimum wage and continues to earn less than the family's temporary family assistance payment standard; or (D) the adult is employed and works less than thirty-five hours per week due to (i) a documented medical impairment that limits the adult's hours of employment, provided the adult works the maximum number of hours that the medical condition permits, or (ii) the need to care for a disabled member of the adult's household, provided the adult works the maximum number of hours the adult's caregiving responsibilities permit. Families receiving temporary family assistance shall be notified by the department of the right to petition for such extensions. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the commissioner shall not provide benefits under the state's temporary family assistance program to a family that is subject to the twenty-one month benefit limit

and has received benefits beginning on or after October 1, 1996, if such benefits result in that family's receiving more than sixty months of time-limited benefits unless that family experiences domestic violence, as defined in Section 402(a)(7)(B), P.L. 104-193. For the purpose of calculating said sixty-month limit: (I) A month shall count toward the limit if the family receives assistance for any day of the month, provided any months of temporary family assistance received during the public health emergency declared by Governor Ned Lamont related to the COVID-19 pandemic shall not be included, and (II) a month in which a family receives temporary assistance for needy families benefits that are issued from a jurisdiction other than Connecticut shall count toward the limit.

(d) Under said program, **[**(1)**]** no family shall be eligible that has total gross earnings exceeding the federal poverty level, however, in the calculation of the benefit amount for eligible families and previously eligible families that become ineligible temporarily because of receipt of workers' compensation benefits by a family member who subsequently returns to work immediately after the period of receipt of such benefits, earned income shall be disregarded up to the federal poverty level. **[**; and (2) the increase in benefits to a family in which an infant is born after the initial ten months of participation in the program shall be limited to an amount equal to fifty per cent of the average incremental difference between the amounts paid per each family size.**]** Except when determining eligibility for a six-month extension of benefits pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner shall disregard the first fifty dollars per month of income attributable to current child support that a family receives in determining eligibility and benefit levels for temporary family assistance. Any current child support in excess of fifty dollars per month collected by the department on behalf of an eligible child shall be considered in determining eligibility but shall not be considered when calculating benefits and shall be taken as reimbursement for assistance paid under this section, except that when

the current child support collected exceeds the family's monthly award of temporary family assistance benefits plus fifty dollars, the current child support shall be paid to the family and shall be considered when calculating benefits.

(e) A family receiving assistance under said program shall cooperate with child support enforcement, under title IV-D of the Social Security Act. A family shall be ineligible for benefits for failure to cooperate with child support enforcement.

(f) A family leaving assistance at the end of (1) said twenty-one-month time limit, including a family with income above the payment standard, or (2) the sixty-month limit shall have an interview for the purpose of being informed of services that may continue to be available to such family, including employment services available through the Labor Department. **[**Said**]** Such interview shall **[**contain**]** include (A) a determination of benefits available to **[**said**]** the family provided by the Department of Social Services; **[**. Said interview shall also include**]** and (B) a determination of whether such family is eligible for supplemental nutrition assistance or Medicaid. Information and referrals shall be made to such a family for services and benefits including, but not limited to, the earned income tax credit, rental subsidies emergency housing, employment services and energy assistance.

(g) Notwithstanding section 17b-104, commencing on July 1, 2023, the Commissioner of Social Services shall provide an annual cost-of-living adjustment in temporary family assistance benefits equal to the most recent percentage increase in the consumer price index for urban consumers whenever funds appropriated for temporary family assistance lapse at the close of any fiscal year and such adjustment has not otherwise been included in the budget for the assistance program, provided the increase would not create a budget deficiency in succeeding years. The commissioner shall provide a prorated benefit increase from such available lapsed funds in any fiscal year when such

funds are not sufficient to cover a cost-of-living adjustment in accordance with this subsection.

[(g)**]** (h) An applicant or recipient of temporary family assistance who is adversely affected by a decision of the Commissioner of Social Services may request and shall be provided a hearing in accordance with section 17b-60.

Sec. 328. Subsection (a) of section 17b-104 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall administer the program of state supplementation to the Supplemental Security Income Program provided for by the Social Security Act and state law. The commissioner may delegate any powers and authority to any deputy, assistant, investigator or supervisor, who shall have, within the scope of the power and authority so delegated, all of the power and authority of the Commissioner of Social Services. The commissioner shall establish a standard of need based on the cost of living in this state for the temporary family assistance program and the state-administered general assistance program. The commissioner shall make a reinvestigation, at least every twelve months, of all cases receiving aid from the state, except that such reinvestigation may be conducted every twenty-four months for recipients of assistance to the elderly or disabled with stable circumstances, and shall maintain all case records of the several programs administered by the Department of Social Services so that such records show, at all times, full information with respect to eligibility of the applicant or recipient. In the determination of need under any public assistance program, such income or earnings shall be disregarded as federal law requires, and such income or earnings may be disregarded as federal law permits. In determining eligibility, the commissioner shall disregard from income (1) Aid and Attendance pension benefits granted to a veteran, as defined under section 27-103,

or the surviving spouse of such veteran, and (2) any tax refund or advance payment with respect to a refundable credit to the same extent such refund or advance payment would be disregarded under 26 USC 6409 in any federal program or state or local program financed in whole or in part with federal funds. The commissioner shall encourage and promulgate such incentive earning programs as are permitted by federal law and regulations.

Sec. 329. Subsection (c) of section 17b-191 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(c) To be eligible for cash assistance under the program, a person shall (1) be (A) eighteen years of age or older; (B) a minor found by a court to be emancipated pursuant to section 46b-150; or (C) under eighteen years of age and the commissioner determines good cause for such person's eligibility, and (2) not have assets exceeding two hundred fifty dollars or, if such person is married, such person and his or her spouse shall not have assets exceeding five hundred dollars. In determining eligibility, the commissioner shall not consider as income (A) Aid and Attendance pension benefits granted to a veteran, as defined in section 27-103, or the surviving spouse of such veteran; and (B) any tax refund or advance payment with respect to a refundable credit to the same extent such refund or advance payment would be disregarded under 26 USC 6409 in any federal program or state or local program financed in whole or in part with federal funds. No person who is a substance abuser and refuses or fails to enter available, appropriate treatment shall be eligible for cash assistance under the program until such person enters treatment. No person whose benefits from the temporary family assistance program have terminated as a result of time-limited benefits or for failure to comply with a program requirement shall be eligible for cash assistance under the program.

Sec. 330. Subsection (l) of section 17b-342 of the general statutes is

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(l) In determining eligibility for the program described in this section, the commissioner shall not consider as income (1) Aid and Attendance pension benefits granted to a veteran, as defined in section 27-103, or the surviving spouse of such veteran, and (2) any tax refund or advance payment with respect to a refundable credit to the same extent such refund or advance payment would be disregarded under 26 USC 6409 in any federal program or state or local program financed in whole or in part with federal funds.

Sec. 331. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than October 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid state plan to include services provided by acupuncturists licensed pursuant to section 20-206bb of the general statutes and chiropractors licensed pursuant to section 20-27 of the general statutes as optional services under the Medicaid program.

Sec. 332. Section 17b-280c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For purposes of this section: (1) "Methadone maintenance" means a chemical maintenance program under which an addiction to one drug, including, but not limited to, heroin, is treated with the drug methadone in a weekly program that includes on and off-site methadone administration, drug testing and counseling; and (2) "chemical maintenance provider" means a provider certified and licensed by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the state Department of Public Health who meets all federal and state requirements, including, but not limited to, requirements specific to the provision of chemical maintenance services.

(b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid

state plan to provide a minimum weekly reimbursement rate of eighty-eight dollars and fifty-two cents to a chemical maintenance provider for methadone maintenance treatment of a Medicaid beneficiary, provided no such provider receiving a higher rate shall have such rate reduced to the minimum as a result of the implementation of a new minimum reimbursement rate.

[(c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, on or after July 1, 2020, any reimbursement to a chemical maintenance provider for methadone maintenance treatment shall be contingent upon meeting certain performance measures as determined by the commissioner. Such performance measures shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and chemical maintenance providers. Initial performance measures shall be developed by September 30, 2019, including the means by which such measures shall be evaluated. The initial evaluation period shall be based on the claims data for the quarter ending March 31, 2020. The performance measures and thresholds may be adjusted after the initial evaluation period. Failure to meet department-identified standards on performance measures shall result in a rate reduction of (1) up to five per cent for the quarters ending September 30, 2020, and December 31, 2020, and (2) up to ten per cent beginning January 1, 2021. No provider shall receive a rate decrease under this subsection that is more than a ten per cent decrease annually.**]**

[(d)**]** (c) The Commissioner of Social Services, pursuant to section 17b-10, may implement policies and procedures to administer the provisions of this section while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form, provided the commissioner **[**prints**]** posts notice of the intent to adopt the regulations on the department's Internet web site and the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of implementation. Such policies and procedures shall be valid until the time final regulations are adopted.

Sec. 333. (*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. 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. 334. Section 17b-265 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) In accordance with 42 USC 1396k, the Department of Social Services shall be subrogated to any right of recovery or indemnification that an applicant or recipient of medical assistance or any legally liable relative of such applicant or recipient has against an insurer or other legally liable third party including, but not limited to, a self-insured plan, group health plan, as defined in Section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, service benefit plan, managed care organization, health care center, pharmacy benefit manager, dental benefit manager, third-party administrator or other party that is, by statute, contract or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service, for the cost of all health care items or services furnished to the applicant or recipient, including, but not limited to, hospitalization, pharmaceutical services, physician services, nursing services, behavioral health services, long-term care services and other medical services, not to exceed the amount expended by the department for such care and treatment of the applicant or recipient. In the case of such a recipient who is an enrollee in a care management organization under a Medicaid care management contract with the state

or a legally liable relative of such an enrollee, the department shall be subrogated to any right of recovery or indemnification which the enrollee or legally liable relative has against such a private insurer or other third party for the medical costs incurred by the care management organization on behalf of an enrollee.

(b) An applicant or recipient or legally liable relative, by the act of the applicant's or recipient's receiving medical assistance, shall be deemed to have made a subrogation assignment and an assignment of claim for benefits to the department. The department shall inform an applicant of such assignments at the time of application. Any entitlements from a contractual agreement with an applicant or recipient, legally liable relative or a state or federal program for such medical services, not to exceed the amount expended by the department, shall be so assigned. Such entitlements shall be directly reimbursable to the department by third party payors. The Department of Social Services may assign its right to subrogation or its entitlement to benefits to a designee or a health care provider participating in the Medicaid program and providing services to an applicant or recipient, in order to assist the provider in obtaining payment for such services. In accordance with subsection (b) of section 38a-472, a provider that has received an assignment from the department shall notify the recipient's health insurer or other legally liable third party including, but not limited to, a self-insured plan, group health plan, as defined in Section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, service benefit plan, managed care organization, health care center, pharmacy benefit manager, dental benefit manager, third-party administrator or other party that is, by statute, contract or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service, of the assignment upon rendition of services to the applicant or recipient. Failure to so notify the health insurer or other legally liable third party shall render the provider ineligible for payment from the department. The provider shall notify the department of any request by the applicant or recipient

or legally liable relative or representative of such applicant or recipient for billing information. This subsection shall not be construed to affect the right of an applicant or recipient to maintain an independent cause of action against such third party tortfeasor.

(c) Claims for recovery or indemnification submitted by the department, or the department's designee, shall not be denied solely on the basis of the date of the submission of the claim, the type or format of the claim, the lack of prior authorization or the failure to present proper documentation at the point-of-service that is the basis of the claim, if (1) the claim is submitted by the state within the three-year period beginning on the date on which the item or service was furnished; and (2) any action by the state to enforce its rights with respect to such claim is commenced within six years of the state's submission of the claim.

(d) When a recipient of medical assistance has personal health insurance in force covering care or other benefits provided under such program, payment or part-payment of the premium for such insurance may be made when deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of Social Services. **[**Effective January 1, 1992, the**]** The commissioner shall limit reimbursement to medical assistance providers for coinsurance and deductible payments under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to assure that the combined Medicare and Medicaid payment to the provider shall not exceed the maximum allowable under the Medicaid program fee schedules.

(e) No self-insured plan, group health plan, as defined in Section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, service benefit plan, managed care plan, or any plan offered or administered by a health care center, pharmacy benefit manager, dental benefit manager, third-party administrator or other party that is, by statute, contract or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service, shall contain any provision that has the effect of denying or limiting enrollment benefits or excluding coverage because services

are rendered to an insured or beneficiary who is eligible for or who received medical assistance under this chapter. No insurer, as defined in section 38a-497a, shall impose requirements on the state Medicaid agency, which has been assigned the rights of an individual eligible for Medicaid and covered for health benefits from an insurer, that differ from requirements applicable to an agent or assignee of another individual so covered.

(f) The Commissioner of Social Services shall not pay for any services provided under this chapter if the individual eligible for medical assistance has coverage for the services under an accident or health insurance policy.

(g) An insurer or other legally liable third party, upon receipt of a claim submitted by the department or the department's designee, in accordance with the requirements of subsection (c) of this section, for payment of a health care item or service covered under a state medical assistance program administered by the department, shall, not later than ninety days after receipt of the claim or not later than ninety days after the effective date of this section, whichever is later, (1) make payment on the claim, (2) request information necessary to determine its legal obligation to pay the claim, or (3) issue a written reason for denial of the claim. Failure to pay, request information necessary to determine legal obligation to pay or issue a written reason for denial of a claim not later than one hundred twenty days after receipt of the claim, or not later than one hundred twenty days after the effective date of this section, whichever is later, creates an uncontestable obligation to pay the claim. The provisions of this subsection shall apply to all claims, including claims submitted by the department or the department's designee prior to July 1, 2021.

(h) On and after July 1, 2021, an insurer or other legally liable third party who has reimbursed the department for a health care item or service paid for and covered under a state medical assistance program

administered by the department shall, upon determining it is not liable and at risk for cost of the health care item or service, request any refund from the department not later than twelve months from the date of its reimbursement to the department.

Sec. 335. Section 17b-277 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (d) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

(NEW) (d) On or after April 1, 2022, the commissioner shall extend Medicaid coverage for postpartum care for twelve months after birth to a woman otherwise eligible for Medicaid, to the extent permissible under federal law. The commissioner shall amend the Medicaid state plan in accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to provide federal reimbursement to the state for extending postpartum care and shall implement the extension of Medicaid coverage for such care following federal approval. The commissioner shall take any other action necessary under federal law to maintain federal reimbursement for such postpartum coverage.

Sec. 336. Subsection (d) of section 17b-292 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(d) On or after April 1, 2022, the commissioner shall extend medical assistance for postpartum care for twelve months after birth to a HUSKY B beneficiary, to the extent permissible under federal law. The commissioner shall amend the state plan for the Children's Health Insurance Program in accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to provide federal reimbursement to the state for such postpartum care extension and shall extend such coverage following federal approval. The commissioner shall take any other action necessary under federal law to maintain federal reimbursement for such postpartum coverage. A newborn child who otherwise meets the eligibility criteria for HUSKY B shall be eligible for benefits retroactive to his or her date

of birth, provided an application is filed on behalf of the child not later than thirty days after such date. Any uninsured child born in a hospital in this state or in a border state hospital shall be enrolled on an expedited basis in HUSKY B, provided (1) the parent or caretaker relative of such child resides in this state, and (2) the parent or caretaker relative of such child authorizes enrollment in the program. The commissioner shall pay any premium cost such household would otherwise incur for the first four months of coverage.

Sec. 337. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, (1) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related mutation thereof recognized by said organization as a communicable respiratory disease, (2) "loan forgiveness" means forgiveness of any paycheck protection program loan, in whole or in part, provided under the CARES Act, P.L. 116-136, or the Paycheck Program Flexibility Act of 2020, P.L. 116-142, and (3) "paycheck protection program loan" means a loan offered to a business or nonprofit organization during the COVID-19 pandemic under the CARES Act.

(b) No state agency contracting with a nonprofit provider of human services may attempt to recover or otherwise offset funds obtained or retained by such nonprofit provider through loan forgiveness. For purposes of this subsection "attempt to recover or otherwise offset" means reductions in contracted amounts for the same or similar services from the contract period before such loan forgiveness to the next contract period or demands for reimbursement of state funds from such providers in the amount of any loan forgiveness.

Sec. 338. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The sum of four million six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars appropriated in section 1 of special act 21-15, to the Department of Social Services, for Medicaid, and the sum of three hundred seventy-five thousand dollars appropriated in section 1

of special act 21-15, to the Department of Social Services, for the Connecticut Home Care Program for the Elderly, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, shall be used for the purpose of funding an increase in (1) the Medicaid reimbursement rate for certain Medicaid-funded home and community-based waiver program services and home health care and (2) the reimbursement rate for the state-funded portion of the Connecticut Home Care Program for the Elderly. The following shall receive such rate increase: (A) Pediatric skilled nursing services in home health programs, (B) the Money Follows the Person Program, (C) autism home and community-based waiver services, (D) mental health home and community-based waiver services, (E) personal care assistant services in home and community-based waiver programs, (F) acquired brain injury waiver services, and (G) Connecticut home care program waiver services.

Sec. 339. Subsection (c) of section 4-216 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(c) The secretary shall establish **[**a pilot**]** an incentive program for nonprofit providers of human services that shall (1) allow providers who otherwise meet contractual requirements to retain **[**a percentage of**]** any savings realized by the providers from the contracted cost for services, and (2) provide that future contracted amounts from the state for the same types of services are not reduced solely to reflect savings achieved in previous contracts by such providers. **[**The pilot incentive program shall include eight nonprofit providers of human services with state contracts of the following amounts: (A) Two with contracts of at least fifty million dollars, (B) two with contracts of at least twenty million dollars but less than fifty million dollars, (C) two with contracts of at least five million dollars but less than twenty million dollars, and (D) two with contracts of less than five million dollars.**]** For purposes of this subsection, "nonprofit providers of human services" includes, but is

not limited to, nonprofit providers of services to persons with intellectual, physical or mental disabilities or autism spectrum disorder. Any nonprofit provider of human services allowed to retain savings under the incentive program shall submit a report to the secretary on how excess funds were reinvested to strengthen quality, invest in deferred maintenance and make asset improvements.

Sec. 340. (*Effective from passage*) Effective July 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Social Services shall increase the Medicaid (1) emergency and nonemergency ambulance service rates, excluding the mileage reimbursement rate, by ten per cent, and (2) ambulance mileage rate for all emergency and nonemergency transports by three dollars.

Sec. 341. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall allocate available funds for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, to increase rates to state-contracted providers for the purpose of wage enhancements and related Federal Insurance Contributions Act, workers compensation, and unemployment insurance expenses for employees who provide services to individuals with intellectual disability authorized to receive supports and services through the Department of Developmental Services. Providers that receive a rate adjustment for the purpose of wage enhancements but do not provide increases in employee salaries as described in this section on or before July 31, 2021, and July 31, 2022, respectively, may be subject to a rate decrease in the same amount as the adjustment by the Commissioner of Developmental Services. In addition, the commissioner shall, within available resources and at the commissioner's discretion, make funds available to support enhanced benefits. Nothing in this section shall require the commissioner to distribute funding in a way that jeopardizes anticipated federal reimbursement.

Sec. 342. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17b-239 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Social

Services, within available appropriations, shall increase the per diem rate for chronic disease hospitals by four per cent.

Sec. 343. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17b-239 of the general statutes, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Social Services shall provide an inpatient, per diem Medicaid payment rate of not less than nine hundred seventy-five dollars for Natchaug Hospital.

Sec. 344. Section 4 of public act 21-176 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

As used in this section, "unborn child option" means a state option available under the Children's Health Insurance Program pursuant to Title XXI of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, that allows states to consider an unborn child a low-income child eligible for coverage of prenatal care if other conditions of eligibility under the Children's Health Insurance Program are met. Not later than April 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Social Services shall provide medical assistance for prenatal care through the unborn child option under the medical assistance program established pursuant to section 17b-292 of the general statutes. The commissioner shall amend the state plan for the Children's Health Insurance Program to provide such medical assistance <u>to needy pregnant women whose families have an income not exceeding two hundred fifty-eight per cent of the federal poverty level</u>.

Sec. 345. Subsection (a) of section 19a-507 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 368z, New Horizons, Inc., a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization, or a subsidiary organization controlled by New Horizons, Inc., is authorized to construct and operate an independent living facility for severely

physically disabled adults, in the town of Farmington, provided such facility shall be constructed in accordance with applicable building codes. The Farmington Housing Authority, or any issuer acting on behalf of said authority, subject to the provisions of this section, may issue tax-exempt revenue bonds on a competitive or negotiated basis for the purpose of providing construction and permanent mortgage financing for the facility in accordance with Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code. Prior to the issuance of such bonds, plans for the construction of the facility shall be submitted to and approved by the Health Systems Planning Unit of the Office of Health Strategy. The unit shall approve or disapprove such plans within thirty days of receipt thereof. If the plans are disapproved they may be resubmitted. Failure of the unit to act on the plans within such thirty-day period shall be deemed approval thereof. The payments to residents of the facility who are eligible for assistance under the state supplement program for room and board and necessary services, shall be determined annually to be effective July first of each year. Such payments shall be determined on a basis of a reasonable payment for necessary services, which basis shall take into account as a factor the costs of providing those services and such other factors as the commissioner deems reasonable, including anticipated fluctuations in the cost of providing services. Such payments shall be calculated in accordance with the manner in which rates are calculated pursuant to subsection **[**(h)**]** (i) of section 17b-340 and the cost-related reimbursement system pursuant to said section except that efficiency incentives shall not be granted. The commissioner may adjust such rates to account for the availability of personal care services for residents under the Medicaid program. The commissioner shall, upon submission of a request, allow actual debt service, comprised of principal and interest, in excess of property costs allowed pursuant to section 17-313b-5 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, provided such debt service terms and amounts are reasonable in relation to the useful life and the base value of the property. The cost basis for such payment shall be subject to audit, and a recomputation of

the rate shall be made based upon such audit. The facility shall report on a fiscal year ending on the thirtieth day of September on forms provided by the commissioner. The required report shall be received by the commissioner no later than December thirty-first of each year. The Department of Social Services may use its existing utilization review procedures to monitor utilization of the facility. If the facility is aggrieved by any decision of the commissioner, the facility may, within ten days, after written notice thereof from the commissioner, obtain by written request to the commissioner, a hearing on all items of aggrievement. If the facility is aggrieved by the decision of the commissioner after such hearing, the facility may appeal to the Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183.

Sec. 346. Section 10-262j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Except as otherwise provided under the provisions of subsections **[**(c)**]** (b) to (h), inclusive, of this section, for **[**the**]** any fiscal year, **[**ending June 30, 2020,**]** the budgeted appropriation for education shall be not less than the budgeted appropriation for education for the prior fiscal year, **[**ending June 30, 2019,**]** plus any aid increase described in subsection (d) of section 10-262i, except that a town may reduce its budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year, **[**ending June 30, 2020,**]** by one or more of the following:

(1) If a town experiences an aid reduction, as described in subsection (d) of section 10-262i, such town may reduce its budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to the aid reduction;

(2) If a district experiences a net reduction in its resident student count during a period that may include any of the five fiscal years immediately prior to the fiscal year for which the budgeted appropriation for education is calculated, such district may reduce its budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to the

number of such net reduction multiplied by fifty per cent of the net current expenditures per resident student of such district, provided no district may use the resident student count for (A) any fiscal year that was previously used to reduce its budgeted appropriation for education, or (B) the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, in any calculation of a net reduction of resident students for purposes of reducing its budgeted appropriation for education pursuant to this subdivision for any subsequent fiscal year;

(3) Any district (A) that does not maintain a high school and pays tuition to another school district pursuant to section 10-33 for resident students to attend high school in another district, and (B) in which the number of resident students attending high school for such district for October **[**1, 2018**]** first of the prior school year, using the data of record as of January **[**31, 2019**]** thirty-first of the prior school year, is lower than such district's number of resident students attending high school for October **[**1, 2017**]** first of the school year before the prior school year, using the data of record as of January **[**31, 2019**]** thirty-first of the school year before the prior school year, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education by the difference in the number of resident students attending high school for such years multiplied by the amount of tuition paid per student pursuant to section 10-33, except for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, the number of resident students attending high school for such district for the prior school year shall be the number of resident students attending high school for such district for October 1, 2019, using the data of record as of January 31, 2020; or

(4) Any district that realizes new and documentable savings through (A) increased district efficiencies approved by the Commissioner of Education, including, but not limited to, (i) reductions in costs associated with transportation services, school district administration or contracts that are not the result of collective bargaining or other labor agreements, (ii) an agreement to provide medical or health care benefits

pursuant to section 7-464b, (iii) a cooperative agreement relating to the performance of administrative and central office functions, such as business manager functions, for the municipality and the school district pursuant to section 10-241b, (iv) reductions in costs associated with the purchasing or joint purchasing of property insurance, casualty insurance and workers' compensation insurance, following the consultation with the legislative body of the municipality of such district pursuant to section 10-241c, (v) reductions in costs associated with the purchasing of payroll processing or accounts payable software systems, following the consultation with the legislative body of the municipality of such district to determine whether such systems may be purchased or shared on a regional basis pursuant to section 10-241e, (vi) consolidation of information technology services, and (vii) reductions in costs associated with the care and maintenance of athletic fields, or (B) regional collaboration or cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to half of the amount of savings experienced as a result of such district efficiencies, regional collaboration or cooperative arrangement, provided such reduction shall not exceed one-half of one per cent of the district's budgeted appropriation for education for the prior fiscal year. **[**ending June 30, 2019.**]**

[(b) Except as otherwise provided under the provisions of subsections (c) to (h), inclusive, of this section, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, a town's budgeted appropriation for education shall be not less than the budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, plus any aid increase received pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-262i, except that a town may reduce its budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, by one or more of the following:

(1) If a town experiences an aid reduction, as described in subsection

(d) of section 10-262i, such town may reduce its budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to the aid reduction;

(2) If a district experiences a net reduction in its resident student count during a period that may include any of the five fiscal years immediately prior to the fiscal year for which the budgeted appropriation for education is calculated, such district may reduce its budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to the number of such net reduction multiplied by fifty per cent of the net current expenditures per resident student of such district, provided no district may use the resident student count for any fiscal year that was previously used to reduce its budgeted appropriation for education in any calculation of a net reduction of resident students for purposes of reducing its budgeted appropriation for education pursuant to this subdivision for any subsequent fiscal year;

(3) Any district (A) that does not maintain a high school and pays tuition to another school district pursuant to section 10-33 for resident students to attend high school in another district, and (B) in which the number of resident students attending high school for such district for October 1, 2019, using the data of record as of January 31, 2020, is lower than such district's number of resident students attending high school for October 1, 2018, using the data of record as of January 31, 2020, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education by the difference in the number of resident students attending high school for such years multiplied by the amount of tuition paid per student pursuant to section 10-33; or

(4) Any district that realizes new and documentable savings through (A) increased district efficiencies approved by the Commissioner of Education, including, but not limited to, (i) reductions in costs associated with transportation services, school district administration or contracts that are not the result of collective bargaining or other labor agreements, (ii) an agreement to provide medical or health care benefits

pursuant to section 7-464b, (iii) a cooperative agreement relating to the performance of administrative and central office functions, such as business manager functions, for the municipality and the school district pursuant to section 10-241b, (iv) reductions in costs associated with the purchasing or joint purchasing of property insurance, casualty insurance and workers' compensation insurance, following the consultation with the legislative body of the municipality of such district pursuant to section 10-241c, (v) reductions in costs associated with the purchasing of payroll processing or accounts payable software systems, following the consultation with the legislative body of the municipality of such district to determine whether such systems may be purchased or shared on a regional basis pursuant to section 10-241e, (vi) consolidation of information technology services, and (vii) reductions in costs associated with the care and maintenance of athletic fields, or (B) regional collaboration or cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to half of the amount of savings experienced as a result of such district efficiencies, regional collaboration or cooperative arrangement, provided such reduction shall not exceed one-half of one per cent of the district's budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.**]**

[(c) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021**]** (b) For any fiscal year, the Commissioner of Education may permit a town to reduce its budgeted appropriation for education in an amount determined by the commissioner if the school district in such town has permanently ceased operations and closed one or more schools in the school district due to declining enrollment at such closed school or schools in the **[**fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2020, inclusive**]** seven fiscal years immediately prior to the fiscal year for which the budgeted appropriation for education is calculated.

[(d)**]** (c) Except as otherwise provided under the provisions of

[subsection (h)**]** subsections (g) and (h) of this section, **[**for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021,**]** a town designated as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u, shall not reduce its budgeted appropriation for education pursuant to this section.

[(e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, the**]** (d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any district that is in the top ten per cent of school districts based on the accountability index, as defined in section 10-223e.

[(f) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, the**]** (e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the member towns of a regional school district during the first full fiscal year following the establishment of the regional school district, provided the budgeted appropriation for education for member towns of such regional school district for each subsequent fiscal year shall be determined in accordance with this section.

[(g) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, any**]** (f) Any district that has (1) elected to act as a self-insurer, pursuant to section 10-236, (2) experienced a loss incurred as a result of one or more catastrophic events, as declared by a nationally recognized catastrophe loss index provider, during the prior fiscal year, and (3) increased its budgeted appropriation for education during said prior fiscal year as a result of such loss, shall not be required to include the amount of such increase in the calculation of such district's budgeted appropriation for education for the subsequent fiscal year.

[(h)**]** (g) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, **[**and June 30, 2021**]** to June 30, 2024, inclusive, any district that has received (1) a supplemental appropriation from the board of finance for a town having a board of finance, the board of selectmen for a town having no board of finance or the authority making appropriations for the school district, for the purpose of covering costs associated with COVID-19

expenditures because the budgeted appropriation for education for the district was insufficient to cover such costs, or (2) federal funds received pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, as amended from time to time, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, P.L. 116-260, as amended from time to time, and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, shall not be required to include the amount of such supplemental appropriation or federal funds in the calculation of such district's budgeted appropriation for education for the subsequent fiscal year. As used in this subsection, "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related mutation thereof recognized by the World Health Organization as a communicable respiratory disease.

(h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, any district that has been awarded a grant under the school security infrastructure competitive grant program, established pursuant to section 84 of public act 13-3, during the prior fiscal year, shall not be required to include the amount of such grant in the calculation of such district's budgeted appropriation for education for the subsequent fiscal year.

(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of any special act, municipal charter, local ordinance, home rule ordinance or other ordinance that prohibits or otherwise limits a town from appropriating additional funds to its budgeted appropriation for education after the adoption of such appropriation, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, a town may appropriate additional funds to its budgeted appropriation for education to satisfy the requirements of this section if the amount of the equalization aid grant the town is entitled to receive under the provisions of section 10-262h is greater than the amount of such grant that was anticipated by such town when it originally adopted its

budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

Sec. 347. Subsection (d) of section 10-262i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

[(d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, (A) if the amount of the equalization aid grant a town is entitled to pursuant to section 10-262h is greater than such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year, the difference between the amount of such town's equalization aid grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year shall be the aid increase for such town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and (B) if the amount of the equalization aid grant a town is entitled to pursuant to section 10-262h is less than such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year, the difference between such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year and the amount of such town's equalization aid grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, shall be the aid reduction for such town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, (A) if the amount of the equalization aid grant a town is entitled to pursuant to section 10-262h is greater than such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year, the difference between the amount of such town's equalization aid grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year shall be the aid increase for such town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and (B) if the amount of the equalization aid grant a town is entitled to pursuant to section 10-262h is less than such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year, the difference between such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year and the amount of such town's equalization aid grant for the fiscal year ending

June 30, 2021, shall be the aid reduction for such town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.**]**

(d) For any fiscal year, (1) if the amount of the equalization aid grant a town is entitled to pursuant to section 10-262h is greater than such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year, the difference between the amount of such town's equalization aid grant for the fiscal year, and such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year shall be the aid increase for such town for the fiscal year, and (2) if the amount of the equalization aid grant a town is entitled to pursuant to section 10-262h is less than such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year, the difference between such town's equalization aid grant amount for the prior fiscal year and the amount of such town's equalization aid grant for the fiscal year shall be the aid reduction for such town for the fiscal year.

Sec. 348. Section 10-262h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town designated as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u, shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount; and (2) any town not designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to ninety-five per cent of its base grant amount.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount plus four and one-tenth per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is

less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount minus twenty-five per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

(c) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, **[**to June 30, 2027, inclusive**]** and June 30, 2021, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus eight and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

(d) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to the amount the town was entitled to for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

(e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, to June 30, 2027, inclusive, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded

grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus eight and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

(f) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2028, and June 30, 2029, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully funded grant; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus eight and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

[(d)**]** (g) For the fiscal year ending June 30, **[**2028**]** 2030, and each fiscal year thereafter, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully funded grant, except any town designated as an alliance district whose fully funded grant amount is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

Sec. 349. Subdivision (25) of section 10-262f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(25) "Total need students" means the sum of (A) the number of resident students of the town for the school year, **[**(B) (i) for any school year commencing prior to July 1, 1998, one-quarter the number of children under the temporary family assistance program for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) for the school years commencing July 1, 1998, to July 1, 2006, inclusive, one-quarter the number of children under the temporary family assistance program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, (C) for school years commencing July 1, 1995, to July 1, 2006, inclusive, one-quarter of the mastery count for the school year, (D) for school years commencing July 1, 1995, to July 1, 2006, inclusive, ten per cent of the number of eligible children, as defined in subdivision (1) of section 10-17e, for whom the board of education is not required to provide a program pursuant to section 10-17f, (E) for the school years commencing July 1, 2007, to July 1, 2012, inclusive, fifteen per cent of the number of eligible students, as defined in subdivision (1) of section 10-17e, for whom the board of education is not required to provide a program pursuant to section 10-17f, (F) for the school years commencing July 1, 2007, to July 1, 2012, inclusive, thirty-three per cent of the number of children below the level of poverty, (G) for the school years commencing July 1, 2013, to July 1, 2016, inclusive, thirty per cent of the number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk, and (H)**]** (B) for the school year commencing July 1, **[**2017**]** 2021, and each school year thereafter, (i) thirty per cent of the number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk, (ii) **[**five**]** fifteen per cent of the number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk that is equal to **[**seventy-five**]** sixty per cent of the total number of resident students of the town for the school year, and (iii) **[**fifteen**]** twenty-five per cent of the number of resident students who are English language learners, as defined in section 10-76kk.

Sec. 350. Subdivision (19) of section 10-262f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

2021):

(19) "Regional bonus" means, (A) for any town which is a member of a regional school district and has students who attend such regional school district, an amount equal to one hundred dollars for each such student enrolled in the regional school district on October first or the full school day immediately preceding such date for the school year prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid multiplied by **[**the ratio of**]** the number of grades, kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in the regional school district**, [**to thirteen**]** and (B) for any town which pays tuition for its students to attend an incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-34, an amount equal to one hundred dollars for each such student enrolled in an incorporated or endowed high school or academy on October first or the full school day immediately preceding such date for the school year prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid multiplied by the number of grades for which students attend an incorporated or endowed high school or academy.

Sec. 351. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of Education shall, to the extent permissible under federal law, distribute federal funding provided to the Department of Education from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund provided in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to (1) an incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-34 of the general statutes, or (2) any school ineligible for funding under the provisions of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq., any federal funds that would otherwise be unavailable to the incorporated or endowed high school or academy or said school to the same extent that such federal funds are available to local and regional boards of education. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the department to distribute any

state or federal funding in conflict with federal law, including any guidance, rulemaking, or regulation associated with the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund issued by the United States Department of Education.

Sec. 352. Subsection (d) of section 10-66ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

[(d) (1) The state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, ten thousand two hundred dollars, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, ten thousand five hundred dollars, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2018, inclusive, eleven thousand dollars, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, and each fiscal year thereafter, eleven thousand two hundred fifty dollars. Such payments shall be made as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not later than April first, each based on student enrollment on October first.**]**

(d) (1) As used in this subsection:

(A) "Total charter need students" means the sum of (i) the number of students enrolled in state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year, and (ii) for the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, (I) thirty per cent of the number of children enrolled in such state charter schools eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk, (II) fifteen per cent of the number of such children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of such children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk that is equal

to sixty per cent of the total number of children enrolled in such state charter schools, and (III) twenty-five per cent of the number of students enrolled in such state charter schools who are English language learners, as defined in section 10-76kk.

(B) "Foundation" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-262f.

(C) "Charter full weighted funding per student" means the quotient of (i) the product of the total charter need students and the foundation, and (ii) the number of students enrolled in state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year.

(D) "Charter grant adjustment" means the absolute value of the difference between the foundation and charter full weighted funding per student for state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year.

(2) For the fiscal year ending July 1, 2022, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus four and one-tenth per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus fourteen and seventy-six-one-hundredths per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

(4) Payments under subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection shall be paid as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not later than April

first, each based on student enrollment on October first.

[(2)**]** (5) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A) Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall invite representatives from the charter school to participate in such meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a quarterly basis, an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the state charter school for such student pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The charter school a student requiring special education attends shall be responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the student's individualized education program whether such services are provided by the charter school or by the school district in which the student resides.

Sec. 353. Section 10-66ss of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) If a governing council of a state or local charter school plans to make a material change in the school's operations, such governing council of such charter school shall submit, in writing, a request to amend the school's charter to the State Board of Education. For purposes of this section, "material change" means a change that fundamentally alters a charter school's mission, organizational structure or educational program, including, but not limited to, (1) altering the educational model in a fundamental way, (2) opening an additional school building, (3) contracting for or discontinuing a contract for whole school management services with a charter management organization, (4) renaming the charter school, (5) changing the grade configurations of the charter school, or (6) increasing or decreasing the total student

enrollment capacity of the charter school by twenty per cent or more.

(b) In determining whether to grant a request by a state or local charter school to amend its charter to make a material change in the school's operations, the **[**State Board**]** Department of Education shall **[**(1)**]** review the written request of the charter school, **[**(2)**]** and solicit and review comments on **[**the**]** such request from the local or regional board of education of the town in which **[**the**]** such charter school is located. **[**, and (3)**]** Upon a recommendation by the department to approve such request, the State Board of Education shall vote on **[**the**]** such request not later than sixty days after the date of receipt of such request or as part of the charter renewal process for such charter school. The state board may approve **[**the material change**]** such request by a majority vote of the members of the state board present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the state board called for such purpose, or for the purpose of considering whether to renew the charter of the charter school, pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-66bb.

(c) If the material change requested by a state or local charter school is to increase the total student enrollment capacity of the charter school by twenty per cent or more, such charter school shall submit the request for such material change to the department not later than April first of the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year in which such material change would take effect. In determining whether to recommend approval of such request, the department shall consider (1) the financial feasibility of such increased enrollment, (2) such charter school's performance, stewardship, governance and management, student population and legal compliance, and (3) any other factors the department deems relevant to such request.

Sec. 354. Subsection (a) of section 10-264*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, establish a grant program (1) to assist (A) local and regional boards of education, (B) regional educational service centers, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers Community College, and (D) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (2) in assisting the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, to assist (A) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (B) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (C) the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (E) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner with the operation of interdistrict magnet school programs. All interdistrict magnet schools shall be operated in conformance with the same laws and regulations applicable to public schools. For the purposes of this section "an interdistrict magnet school program" means a program which (i) supports racial, ethnic and economic diversity, (ii) offers a special and high quality curriculum, and (iii) requires students who are enrolled to attend at least half-time. An interdistrict magnet school program does not include a regional agricultural science and technology school, a technical education and career school or a regional special education center. For the school years commencing July 1, 2017, to July 1, **[**2020**]** 2023, inclusive, the governing authority for each interdistrict magnet school program shall (I) restrict the number of students that may enroll in the school from a participating district to seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment, and (II) maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the

reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r.

Sec. 355. Subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 10-264*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, the commissioner shall not award a grant to an interdistrict magnet school program that (A) has more than seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment from one school district, or (B) does not maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r, except the commissioner may award a grant to such school for an additional year or years if the commissioner finds it is appropriate to do so and approves a plan to bring such school into compliance with such residency or reduced-isolation setting standards.

Sec. 356. Subparagraph (D) of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 10-264*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(D) (i) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (D)(ii) of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by (I) a regional educational service center, (II) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (III) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (IV) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (V) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, except as

otherwise provided in subparagraph (E) of this subdivision, (VI) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, (VII) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner, and (VIII) the Hartford school district for the operation of Great Path Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College, that enrolls less than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of nine thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

(ii) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, any interdistrict magnet school described in subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less than fifty per cent of its incoming students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of seven thousand nine hundred dollars for one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school described in subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less than fifty per cent of its incoming students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment<u>, except the commissioner may, upon the written request of an operator of such school, waive such fifty per cent enrollment minimum for good cause</u>.

Sec. 357. Subdivision (12) of subsection (c) of section 10-264*l* of the

general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(12) **[**The amounts of the grants determined pursuant to this subsection shall be proportionately adjusted, if necessary, within available appropriations, and in**]** In no case shall the total grant paid to an interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to this section exceed the aggregate total of the reasonable operating budgets of the interdistrict magnet school programs of such operator, less revenues from other sources.

Sec. 358. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 10-264i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(4) In addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental transportation grants to regional educational service centers for the purposes of transportation to interdistrict magnet schools. Any such grant shall be provided within available appropriations and after the commissioner has reviewed and approved the total interdistrict magnet school transportation budget for a regional educational service center, including all revenue and expenditure estimates. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2018, inclusive, in addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental transportation to interdistrict magnet schools that assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner. Any such grant shall be provided within available appropriations and upon a comprehensive financial review, by an auditor selected by the Commissioner of Education, the costs of such review may be paid from funds that are part of the supplemental transportation grant. Any such grant shall be paid as follows: **[**For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013,

up to fifty per cent of the grant on or before June 30, 2013, and the balance on or before September 1, 2013, upon completion of the comprehensive financial review; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, up to fifty per cent of the grant on or before June 30, 2014, and the balance on or before September 1, 2014, upon completion of the comprehensive financial review; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, up to fifty per cent of the grant on or before June 30, 2015, and the balance on or before September 1, 2015, upon completion of the comprehensive financial review; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, up to fifty per cent of the grant on or before June 30, 2016, and the balance on or before September 1, 2016, upon completion of the comprehensive financial review; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, up to seventy per cent of the grant on or before June 30, 2017, and the balance on or before May 30, 2018, upon completion of the comprehensive financial review; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, up to seventy per cent of the grant on or before June 30, 2018, and the balance on or before September 1, 2018, upon completion of the comprehensive financial review; and for**]** For the fiscal year ending June 30, **[**2019**]** 2021, and each fiscal year thereafter, up to seventy per cent of the grant on or before June thirtieth of the fiscal year, and the balance on or before September first of the following fiscal year upon completion of the comprehensive financial review, provided any unpaid balance of eligible transportation costs incurred on or before December thirty-first of the fiscal year based on documentation, including, but not limited to, vendor bills dated on or before February first of the fiscal year, and any unpaid balance of eligible transportation costs incurred on or before March thirty-first of the fiscal year based on documentation, including, but not limited to, vendor bills on or before May first of the fiscal year, and the balance of the grant on or before September first of the following fiscal year upon completion of the comprehensive financial review.

Sec. 359. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The sum of five million dollars allocated in section 306 of this act to the Department of Education, for

Priority School Districts, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, shall be used in said fiscal year to provide grants to towns with school districts identified as priority school districts, pursuant to section 10-266p of the general statutes. Such grants shall be distributed proportionately according to each town's total need students, as defined in section 10-262f of the general statutes, as a share of the total need students among such towns, and expended pursuant to the provisions of section 10-266q of the general statutes.

(b) The sum of five million dollars allocated in section 306 of this act to the Department of Education, for Priority School Districts, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, shall be used in said fiscal year to provide grants to towns with school districts identified as priority school districts, pursuant to section 10-266p of the general statutes. Such grants shall be distributed proportionately according to each town's total need students, as defined in section 10-262f of the general statutes, as a share of the total need students among such towns, and expended pursuant to the provisions of section 10-266q of the general statutes.

Sec. 360. Subsection (a) of section 10-19o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall establish a program to provide grants to youth service bureaus in accordance with this section. Only youth service bureaus which (1) were eligible to receive grants pursuant to this section for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, (2) applied for a grant by June 30, 2012, with prior approval of the town's contribution pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, (3) applied for a grant during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, (4) applied for a grant during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, with prior approval of the town's contribution pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, **[**or**]** (5) applied for a grant during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, or (6) applied for a grant during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, shall be

eligible for a grant pursuant to this section. Each such youth service bureau shall receive, within available appropriations, a grant of fourteen thousand dollars. The Department of Children and Families may expend an amount not to exceed two per cent of the amount appropriated for purposes of this section for administrative expenses. If there are any remaining funds, each such youth service bureau that was awarded a grant in excess of fifteen thousand dollars in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, shall receive a percentage of such funds. The percentage shall be determined as follows: For each such grant in excess of fifteen thousand dollars, the difference between the amount of the grant awarded to the youth service bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, and fifteen thousand dollars shall be divided by the difference between the total amount of the grants awarded to all youth service bureaus that were awarded grants in excess of fifteen thousand dollars for said fiscal year and the product of fifteen thousand dollars and the number of such grants for said fiscal year.

Sec. 361. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (5) of subsection (c) of section 10-221a of the general statutes, the Technical Education and Career System board or the superintendent of the Technical Education and Career System, as the case may be, shall permit any student in the graduating classes of 2023 and 2024 to graduate from the system who has not satisfactorily completed one credit in world languages.

Sec. 362. Section 10a-26a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall waive tuition and fees for students enrolled at Ansonia High School who participate in (1) the College Connections program at Derby High School**,** **[**in an amount equal to the appropriation for such purpose**]** or (2) another manufacturing program offered in Ansonia or Derby, and

use funds appropriated for purposes of this section to cover the costs of students participating in such programs.

Sec. 363. Subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of section 10-51 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(2) On and after June 7, 2006, a regional board of education, by a majority vote of its members, may create a reserve fund for capital and nonrecurring expenditures. Such fund shall thereafter be termed "reserve fund for capital and nonrecurring expenditures". The aggregate amount of annual and supplemental appropriations by a district to such fund shall not exceed **[**one**]** two per cent of the annual district budget for such fiscal year. Annual appropriations to such fund shall be included in the share of net expenses to be paid by each member town. Supplemental appropriations to such fund may be made from estimated fiscal year end surplus in operating funds. Interest and investment earnings received with respect to amounts held in the fund shall be credited to such fund. The board shall annually submit a complete and detailed report of the condition of such fund to the member towns. Upon the recommendation and approval by the regional board of education, any part or the whole of such fund may be used for capital and nonrecurring expenditures, but such use shall be restricted to the funding of all or part of the planning, construction, reconstruction or acquisition of any specific capital improvement or the acquisition of any specific item of equipment. Upon the approval of any such expenditure an appropriation shall be set up, plainly designated for the project or acquisition for which it has been authorized, and such unexpended appropriation may be continued until such project or acquisition is completed. Any unexpended portion of such appropriation remaining after such completion shall revert to said fund. If any authorized appropriation is set up pursuant to the provisions of this subsection and through unforeseen circumstances the completion of the project or

acquisition for which such appropriation has been designated is impossible to attain the board, by a majority vote of its members, may terminate such appropriation which then shall no longer be in effect. Such fund may be discontinued, after the recommendation and approval by the regional board of education, and any amounts held in the fund shall be transferred to the general fund of the district.

Sec. 364. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the advisory committee described in subsection (c) of this section, shall administer the CT Grown for CT Kids Grant Program. Such program shall assist local and regional boards of education to develop farm-to-school programs that will increase the availability of local foods in child nutrition programs, allow educators to use hands-on educational techniques to teach students about nutrition and farm-to-school connections, sustain relationships with local farmers and producers, enrich the educational experience of students, improve the health of children in the state and enhance the state's economy.

(b) A local or regional board of education, regional educational service center, cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a of the general statutes, child care centers, group child care homes and family child care homes, as such terms are described in section 19a-77 of the general statutes, or any organization or entity administering or assisting in the development of a farm-to-school program, may apply, in a form and manner prescribed by the department, for a grant under this section. Such grant shall be used to develop or implement a farm-to-school program, which may include (1) the purchase of equipment, resources or materials, including, but not limited to, local food products, gardening supplies, field trips to farms, gleaning on farms and stipends to visiting farmers, (2) the provision of professional development and skills training for educators, school nutrition professionals, parents, caregivers, child care providers and employees and volunteers of

organizations administering or assisting in the development and implementation of farm-to-school programs, and (3) piloting new purchasing systems and programs.

(c) The department shall convene an advisory committee to assist in the administration of the CT Grown for CT Kids Grant Program. The advisory committee shall consist of the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, and individuals representing stakeholder groups that reflect the demographic and geographic diversity of the state, selected by the Commissioner of Agriculture. The advisory committee shall (1) assist the department in reviewing applications and awarding grants under this section, and (2) provide technical assistance to grant recipients in the development and implementation of farm-to-school programs.

(d) In awarding grants under this section, the department shall (1) give priority to applicants (A) located in alliance districts, as defined in section 10-262u of the general statutes, or who are providers of school readiness programs, as defined in section 10-16p of the general statutes, and (B) who demonstrate broad commitment from school administrators, school nutrition professionals, educators and community stakeholders, and (2) not award a grant that is in an amount greater than ten per cent of the total amount available for the fiscal year.

(e) The department may accept gifts, grants and donations, including in-kind donations, for the administration of the CT Grown for CT Kids Grant Program and to implement the provisions of this section.

(f) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the department shall submit a report on the CT Grown for CT Kids Grant Program to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, an accounting of the funds

appropriated and received by the department for the program, descriptions of each grant awarded under the program and how such grant was expended by the recipient, and an evaluation of the program and the success of local farm-to-school programs that have received grant awards under this section.

Sec. 365. Section 10-266aa of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Receiving district" means any school district that accepts students under the program established pursuant to this section;

(2) "Sending district" means any school district that sends students it would otherwise be legally responsible for educating to another school district under the program; and

(3) "Minority students" means students who are "pupils of racial minorities", as defined in section 10-226a.

(b) There is established, within available appropriations, an interdistrict public school attendance program. The purpose of the program shall be to: (1) Improve academic achievement; (2) reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation or preserve racial and ethnic balance; and (3) provide a choice of educational programs. The Department of Education shall provide oversight for the program, including the setting of reasonable limits for the transportation of students participating in the program, and may provide for the incremental expansion of the program for the school year commencing in 2000 for each town required to participate in the program pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection. (1) For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year

thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school in another school district in the region and students who reside in such other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not minority students to the total number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of students who were not minority students in the prior school year to the total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center operating the program shall make program participation decisions in accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the school year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter, the program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not minority students to the total number of students leaving New London to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of students who were not minority students in the prior year to the total number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school year. The regional educational service center operating the program shall make program participation decisions in accordance with this subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist school districts in planning for a voluntary program of student enrollment in every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-266p, which is interested in participating in accordance with this subdivision. For the school year commencing in 2003, and for each school year thereafter, the voluntary enrollment program may be in operation in every priority school district in the state. Students from other school districts in the

area of a priority school district, as determined by the regional educational service center pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, may attend school in the priority school district, provided such students bring racial, ethnic and economic diversity to the priority school district and do not increase the racial, ethnic and economic isolation in the priority school district. (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, there shall be a pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk. The pilot program shall serve (A) up to fifty students who reside in Danbury, and such students may attend school in the school districts for the towns of New Fairfield, Brookfield, Bethel, Ridgefield and Redding, and (B) up to fifty students who reside in Norwalk, and such students may attend school in the school districts for the towns of Darien, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston and Westport. School districts which receive students from Danbury and Norwalk under the pilot program during the school year commencing July 1, 2022, shall allow such students to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school.

(d) School districts which received students from New London under the program during the **[**2000-2001**]** school year commencing July 1, 2000, shall allow such students to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school. The attendance of such students in such program shall not be supported by grants pursuant to subsections (f) and (g) of this section but shall be supported, in the same amounts as provided for in said subsections, by interdistrict cooperative grants pursuant to section 10-74d to the regional educational service centers operating such programs.

(e) Once the program is in operation in the region served by a regional educational service center pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the Department of Education shall provide an annual grant to such regional educational service center to assist school districts in its area in administering the program and to provide staff to assist students participating in the program to make the transition to a new school and

to act as a liaison between the parents of such students and the new school district. Each regional educational service center shall determine which school districts in its area are located close enough to a priority school district to make participation in the program feasible in terms of student transportation pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, provided any student participating in the program prior to July 1, 1999, shall be allowed to continue to attend the same school such student attended prior to said date in the receiving district until the student completes the highest grade in such school. If there are more students who seek to attend school in a receiving district than there are spaces available, the regional educational service center shall assist the school district in determining attendance by the use of a lottery or lotteries designed to preserve or increase racial, ethnic and economic diversity, except that the regional educational service center shall give preference to siblings and to students who would otherwise attend a school that has lost its accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges or has been identified as in need of improvement pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110. The admission policies shall be consistent with section 10-15c and this section. No receiving district shall recruit students under the program for athletic or extracurricular purposes. Each receiving district shall allow out-of-district students it accepts to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school.

(f) The Department of Education shall provide grants to regional educational service centers or local or regional boards of education for the reasonable cost of transportation for students participating in the program. For the fiscal **[**years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2017, inclusive**]** year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall provide such grants within available appropriations, provided the state-wide average of such grants does not exceed an amount equal to three thousand two hundred fifty dollars for each student transported, except that the Commissioner of Education may

grant to regional educational service centers or local or regional boards of education additional sums from funds remaining in the appropriation for such transportation services if needed to offset transportation costs that exceed such maximum amount. The regional educational service centers shall provide reasonable transportation services to high school students who wish to participate in supervised extracurricular activities. For purposes of this section, the number of students transported shall be determined on October first of each fiscal year.

(g) (1) Except as provided in **[**subdivision**]** subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, the Department of Education shall provide, within available appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district in an amount not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall provide, within available appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district if one of the following conditions are met as follows: (A) Three thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is less than two per cent of the total student population of such receiving district, (B) four thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to two per cent but less than three per cent of the total student population of such receiving district, (C) six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to three per cent but less than four per cent of the total student population of such receiving

district, (D) six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the Commissioner of Education determines that the receiving district has an enrollment of greater than four thousand students and has increased the number of students in the program by at least fifty per cent from the previous fiscal year, or (E) eight thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to four per cent of the total student population of such receiving district.

(3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the department shall provide a grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section in an amount of four thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the receiving district under the pilot program.

(B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall provide an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section for each out-of-district student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the receiving district under the pilot program in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.

(C) Not later than January 1, 2025, the department shall submit a report on the pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk, pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, the total number of students participating in the pilot program, the number of students from each town participating in the pilot program, the total amount of the grant paid under the pilot

program and the amount of the grant paid to each town participating in the pilot program.

[(3)**]** (4) Each town which receives funds pursuant to this subsection shall make such funds available to its local or regional board of education in supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or federal grant or other revenue to which the local or regional board of education is entitled.

(h) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, each sending district and each receiving district shall divide the number of children participating in the program who reside in such district or attend school in such district by two for purposes of the counts for subdivision (22) of section 10-262f and subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-261.

(i) In the case of an out-of-district student who requires special education and related services, the sending district shall pay the receiving district an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of providing such special education and related services to such student and the amount received by the receiving district pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and in the case of students participating pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, the per pupil amount received pursuant to section 10-74d. The sending district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g.

(j) Nothing in this section shall prohibit school districts from charging tuition to other school districts that do not have a high school pursuant to section 10-33.

(k) On or before March first of each year, the Commissioner of Education shall determine if the enrollment in the program pursuant to subsection (c) of this section for the fiscal year is below the number of students for which funds were appropriated. If the commissioner determines that the enrollment is below such number, the additional

funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner in accordance with this subsection.

(1) Any amount up to five hundred thousand dollars of such nonlapsing funds shall be used for supplemental grants to receiving districts on a pro rata basis for each out-of-district student in the program pursuant to subsection (c) of this section who attends the same school in the receiving district as at least nine other such out-of-district students, not to exceed one thousand dollars per student.

(2) Any amount of such nonlapsing funds equal to or greater than five hundred thousand dollars, but less than one million dollars, shall be used for supplemental grants, in an amount determined by the commissioner, on a pro rata basis to receiving districts that report to the commissioner on or before March first of the current school year that the number of out-of-district students enrolled in such receiving district is greater than the number of out-of-district students enrolled in such receiving district from the previous school year.

(3) Any remaining nonlapsing funds shall be used by the commissioner to increase enrollment in the interdistrict public school attendance program described in this section.

(l) For purposes of the state-wide mastery examinations under section 10-14n, students participating in the program established pursuant to this section shall be considered residents of the school district in which they attend school.

(m) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make grants to regional education service centers which provide summer school educational programs approved by the commissioner to students participating in the program.

(n) The Commissioner of Education may provide grants for children in the Hartford program described in this section to participate in

preschool and all day kindergarten programs. In addition to the subsidy provided to the receiving district for educational services, such grants may be used for the provision of before and after-school care and remedial services for the preschool and kindergarten students participating in the program.

(o) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make grants for academic student support for programs pursuant to this section that assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the commissioner**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

Sec. 366. Section 10-17g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, the board of education for each local and regional school district that is required to provide a program of bilingual education, pursuant to section 10-17f, may make application to the State Board of Education and shall annually receive, within available appropriations, a grant in an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying one million nine hundred sixteen thousand one hundred thirty by the ratio which the number of eligible children in the school district bears to the total number of such eligible children state-wide. The board of education for each local and regional school district receiving funds pursuant to this section shall annually, on or before September first, submit to the State Board of Education a progress report which shall include (1) measures of increased educational opportunities for eligible students, including language support services and language transition support services provided to such students, (2) program evaluation and

measures of the effectiveness of its bilingual education and English as a second language programs, including data on students in bilingual education programs and students educated exclusively in English as a second language programs, and (3) certification by the board of education submitting the report that any funds received pursuant to this section have been used for the purposes specified. The State Board of Education shall annually evaluate programs conducted pursuant to section 10-17f. For purposes of this section, measures of the effectiveness of bilingual education and English as a second language programs include, but need not be limited to, mastery examination results, under section 10-14n, and graduation and school dropout rates. Any amount appropriated under this section in excess of one million nine hundred sixteen thousand one hundred thirty dollars shall be spent in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-17k, 10-17n and 10-66t. Any unexpended funds, as of November first, appropriated to the Department of Education for purposes of providing a grant to a local or regional board of education for the provision of a program of bilingual education, pursuant to section 10-17f, shall be distributed on a pro rata basis to each local and regional board of education receiving a grant under this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, the amount of grants payable to local or regional boards of education for the provision of a program of bilingual education under this section shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants for such year.

Sec. 367. Subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, "public agency" includes the offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the general statutes, for the

fiscal year ending June 30, 1987, and each fiscal year thereafter, whenever a public agency, other than a local or regional board of education, the State Board of Education or the Superior Court acting pursuant to section 10-76h, places a child in a foster home, group home, hospital, state institution, receiving home, custodial institution or any other residential or day treatment facility, and such child requires special education, the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child would otherwise be attending school or, if no such board can be identified, the local or regional board of education of the town where the child is placed, shall provide the requisite special education and related services to such child in accordance with the provisions of this section. Within one business day of such a placement by the Department of Children and Families or offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe, said department or offices shall orally notify the local or regional board of education responsible for providing special education and related services to such child of such placement. The department or offices shall provide written notification to such board of such placement within two business days of the placement. Such local or regional board of education shall convene a planning and placement team meeting for such child within thirty days of the placement and shall invite a representative of the Department of Children and Families or offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe to participate in such meeting. (A) The local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction such child would otherwise be attending school shall be financially responsible for the reasonable costs of such special education and related services in an amount equal to the lesser of one hundred per cent of the costs of such education or the average per pupil educational costs of such board of education for the prior fiscal year, determined in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 10-76f. The State Board of Education shall pay on a current basis, except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, any costs in excess of such local or regional board's basic contributions paid by such board of education in

accordance with the provisions of this subdivision. (B) Whenever a child is placed pursuant to this subdivision, on or after July 1, 1995, by the Department of Children and Families and the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction such child would otherwise be attending school cannot be identified, the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child attended school or in whose district the child resided at the time of removal from the home by said department shall be responsible for the reasonable costs of special education and related services provided to such child, for one calendar year or until the child is committed to the state pursuant to section 46b-129 or 46b-140 or is returned to the child's parent or guardian, whichever is earlier. If the child remains in such placement beyond one calendar year the Department of Children and Families shall be responsible for such costs. During the period the local or regional board of education is responsible for the reasonable cost of special education and related services pursuant to this subparagraph, the board shall be responsible for such costs in an amount equal to the lesser of one hundred per cent of the costs of such education and related services or the average per pupil educational costs of such board of education for the prior fiscal year, determined in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 10-76f. The State Board of Education shall pay on a current basis, except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, any costs in excess of such local or regional board's basic contributions paid by such board of education in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision. The costs for services other than educational shall be paid by the state agency which placed the child. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to the school districts established within the Department of Children and Families, pursuant to section 17a-37 or the Department of Correction, pursuant to section 18-99a, provided in any case in which special education is being provided at a private residential institution, including the residential components of regional educational service centers, to a child for whom no local or regional board of education can be found responsible under

subsection (b) of this section, Unified School District #2 shall provide the special education and related services and be financially responsible for the reasonable costs of such special education instruction for such children. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this subdivision shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this subdivision for such year.

Sec. 368. Subsection (d) of section 10-76g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this section, except grants paid in accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2006, and June 30, 2007, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this section for such year.

Sec. 369. Subsection (b) of section 10-253 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) The board of education of the school district under whose jurisdiction a child would otherwise be attending school shall be financially responsible for the reasonable costs of education for a child placed out by the Commissioner of Children and Families or by other

agencies, including, but not limited to, offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe, in a private residential facility when such child requires educational services other than special education services. Such financial responsibility shall be the lesser of one hundred per cent of the costs of such education or the average per pupil educational costs of such board of education for the prior fiscal year, determined in accordance with subsection (a) of section 10-76f. Any costs in excess of the board's basic contribution shall be paid by the State Board of Education on a current basis. The costs for services other than educational shall be paid by the state agency which placed the child. Application for the grant to be paid by the state for costs in excess of the local or regional board of education's basic contribution shall be made in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (5) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this subsection shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this subsection for such year.

Sec. 370. Subsection (i) of section 10-217a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this section shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for purposes of this section.

Sec. 371. Subsection (e) of section 10-66j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

2021):

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the amount of grants payable to regional educational service centers shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants for such year.

Sec. 372. Subsection (d) of section 10-71 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, **[**2021**]** 2023, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to towns, regional boards of education or regional educational service centers in accordance with this section shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this section for such year.

Sec. 373. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Office of Fiscal Analysis shall conduct an independent modeling of the education funding proposal described in the version of senate bill 948 of the 2021 regular session that was favorably reported by the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education on March 22, 2021.

(b) Such modeling shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) an analysis of the estimated fiscal impact of such proposal on (A) local and regional boards of education and operators of interdistrict magnet school programs, state and local charter schools and agricultural science and technology education centers, including the (i) receipt of grants, (ii) receipt and payment of tuition, and (iii) estimated net impact to each local and regional board of education specific to each grant described in

subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, and (B) the equalization aid grant, described in section 10-262h of the general statutes, and grants for (i) interdistrict magnet school programs pursuant to section 10-264*l* of the general statutes, (ii) state and local charter schools pursuant to section 10-66ee of the general statutes, (iii) regional agricultural science and technology centers pursuant to section 10-65 of the general statutes, and (iv) the interdistrict public school attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa of the general statutes, and (2) funding for the Technical Education and Career System, including such funding at a system-wide level, a school level and a per pupil level, and the effects of racial equity within the system based on such funding.

(c) (1) Not later than December 15, 2021, the Office of Fiscal Analysis shall submit such modeling and a draft report to the Commissioner of Education for review and comment.

(2) Not later than January 3, 2022, the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall submit his or her comments and recommendations, if any, concerning such draft report to the Office of Fiscal Analysis.

(d) Not later than January 15, 2022, the Office of Fiscal Analysis shall submit a report of such modeling to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations. Such report shall include the modeling and any comments and recommendations submitted to the office by the Commissioner of Education.

Sec. 374. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2023, the Department of Education, in collaboration with the State Education Resource Center, shall develop a model curriculum for grades kindergarten to grade eight, inclusive, that may be used by local and regional boards of education.

(b) The content of the model curriculum shall (1) be rigorous, age-appropriate, aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education and in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the state board pursuant to section 10-4 of the general statutes, (2) be in accordance with the program of instruction and subject matter requirements prescribed in section 10-16b of the general statutes, and (3) include and integrate throughout such model curriculum at least the following: (A) The subject matter prescribed in section 10-16b of the general statutes, (B) Native American studies, (C) Asian American and Pacific Islander studies, (D) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and other sexual orientations and gender identities studies, (E) climate change, (F) personal financial management and financial literacy, (G) the military service and experience of American veterans, (H) civics and citizenship, including instruction in digital citizenship and media literacy that provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely, ethically, responsibly and effectively use digital technologies to create and consume digital content, communicate with others and participate in social and civic activities, (I) the principles of social-emotional learning, and (J) racism.

(c) In developing the model curriculum, the Department of Education and State Education Resource Center (1) shall consult with persons and organizations with subject matter expertise in developing the model curriculum, and (2) may utilize existing and appropriate public or private materials, personnel and other resources, and accept gifts, grants and donations, including in-kind donations, designated for the development of the model curriculum under this section.

(d) The Department of Education shall make the model curriculum available to local and regional boards of education and on the department's Internet web site.

Sec. 375. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Not later than January 15, 2023, the

department, in consultation with the State Education Resource Center, shall submit a description of the model curriculum developed pursuant to section 374 of this act, which includes the scope and sequence and course objective, and a report on the development and review of such course to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 376. Section 10-16b of the general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 19-12, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

(a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education; health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health, physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating to opioid use and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe use of social media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the dangers of gang membership, and accident prevention; language arts, including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling; mathematics; physical education; science, which may include the climate change curriculum described in subsection (d) of this section; social studies, including, but not limited to, citizenship, economics, geography, government, history and Holocaust and genocide education and awareness in accordance with the provisions of section 10-18f; African-American and black

studies in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16ss; Puerto Rican and Latino studies in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16ss; Native American studies, in accordance with the provisions of section 377 of this act; computer programming instruction; and in addition, on at least the secondary level, one or more world languages; vocational education; and the black and Latino studies course in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-16tt and 10-16uu. For purposes of this subsection, world languages shall include American Sign Language, provided such subject matter is taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision of a teacher who holds a certificate issued by the State Board of Education. For purposes of this subsection, the "arts" means any form of visual or performing arts, which may include, but not be limited to, dance, music, art and theatre.

(b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to take a course in a world language, the parent or guardian of a pupil identified as deaf or hard of hearing may request in writing that such pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

(c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1, 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

(d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to this section. The State Board of Education, within available appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1) Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical

events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American and black studies; (4) Puerto Rican and Latino studies; (5) Native American **[**history**]** studies; (6) personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (7) training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic external defibrillators; (8) labor history and law, including organized labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the development of the American and world economies; (9) climate change consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (10) topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part of the program of instruction offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; and (11) instruction relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall be available to each local and regional board of education for the development of curriculum on climate change as described in this subsection.

Sec. 377. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2023, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall include Native American studies as part of the social studies curriculum for the school district, pursuant to section 10-16b of the general statutes. Such Native American studies curriculum shall include, but need not be limited to, a focus on the Northeastern Woodland Native American Tribes of Connecticut. In developing and implementing the Native American studies curriculum, the board may utilize the curriculum materials made available by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-16b of the general statutes, or other existing and appropriate public or private materials, personnel and resources, provided such curriculum is in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards,

adopted by the state board pursuant to section 10-4 of the general statutes.

(b) A local or regional board of education may accept gifts, grants and donations, including in-kind donations, designated for the development and implementation of the Native American studies curriculum under this section.

Sec. 378. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Minority" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-156bb of the general statutes;

(2) "Minority candidate" means an individual who is a minority and employed by a local or regional board of education as a school paraprofessional or an associate instructor;

(3) "Residency program" means a certification program approved by the State Board of Education that requires participants to complete a residency in which such participants serve (A) in a position otherwise requiring professional certification, and (B) in a full-time position for ten school months at a local or regional board of education in the state under the supervision of (i) a certified administrator or teacher, and (ii) a supervisor from the regional educational service center or private, nonprofit teacher or administrator operating such certification program; and

(4) "Alliance district" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-262u of the general statutes.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of Education shall administer the minority candidate certification, retention or residency year program. Such program shall assist (1) minority candidates in enrolling in a residency program for purposes of becoming full-time, certified teachers upon

successful completion of such residency program, and (2) local and regional boards of education in hiring and retaining such minority candidates.

(c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, each local and regional board of education for an alliance district shall partner with the operator of a residency program for purposes of enrolling minority candidates and placing them in such school district as part of such residency program. Following the successful completion of the residency program by a minority candidate, such board may hire such minority candidate. Such board may apply to the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, to receive a payment, as described in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for any of the costs described in subsection (e) of this section.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Commissioner of Education shall withhold from an alliance district, from the funds transferred by the Comptroller pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-262u of the general statutes, ten per cent of any increase in such funds that such alliance district receives for the fiscal year over the amount of such funds that it received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. The department shall use such funds to make a payment to such alliance district and such alliance district shall expend such payment for any of the costs described in subsection (e) of this section.

(d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year thereafter, any local or regional board of education, other than a local or regional board of education for an alliance district, may partner with the operator of a residency program for purposes of enrolling minority candidates and placing them in such school district as part of such residency program. Following the successful completion of the residency program by a minority candidate, such board may hire such

minority candidate. Such board may apply to the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, to receive a grant for any of the costs described in subsection (e) of this section.

(2) The commissioner may, within available appropriations, award a grant to a local or regional board of education described in subdivision (1) of this subsection for any of the costs described in subsection (e) of this section.

(e) Any payments made or grants awarded under this section may be used for costs associated with the (1) enrollment of such minority candidates in a residency program, (2) certification process for such minority candidates, (3) hiring of such minority candidates following the successful completion of a residency program, or (4) retention of such minority candidates as certified employees of the school district.

(f) Any unexpended funds paid or awarded to a local or regional board of education under this section shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall be available for expenditure during the next fiscal year for purposes of implementing the provisions of this section.

(g) The department shall develop guidelines and criteria for the implementation of the minority candidate certification, retention or residency year program and administration of funds under this section.

Sec. 379. Subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of section 10-262u of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(2) Upon receipt of an application pursuant to subsection (d) of this section or section 378 of this act, the Commissioner of Education may pay such funds to the town designated as an alliance district and such town shall pay all such funds to the local or regional board of education for such town on the condition that such funds shall be expended in

accordance with (A) the plan described in subsection (d) of this section, (B) the minority candidate certification, retention or residency year program pursuant to section 378 of this act, (C) the provisions of subsection (c) of section 10-262i, and (D) any guidelines developed by the State Board of Education for such funds. Such funds shall be used to improve student achievement and recruit and retain minority teachers in such alliance district and to offset any other local education costs approved by the commissioner.

Sec. 380. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The Commissioner of Education, the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and the dean of the Neag School of Education at The University of Connecticut shall jointly develop a plan to assist local and regional boards of education in promoting the teaching profession as a career option to students in high school. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited to, a means for local and regional boards of education to develop partnerships with educator preparation programs in the state, and the creation of counseling programs directed to high school students in order to inform them about and recruit them to the teaching profession.

(b) Not later than September 1, 2021, the Department of Education shall distribute to local and regional boards of education information that promotes the teaching profession, including materials relating to educator preparation programs and alternative route to certification programs offered in the state, for school counselors and students. The department shall also make such information available on its Internet web site.

Sec. 381. Section 10-156ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Not later than January 1, 2019, the Department of Education, in consultation with the Minority Teacher Recruitment Policy Oversight

Council, shall (1) identify relevant research and successful practices to enhance minority teacher recruitment throughout the state, (2) identify and establish public, private and philanthropic partnerships to increase minority teacher recruitment, (3) utilize, monitor and evaluate innovative methods to attract minority candidates to the teaching profession, particularly in subject areas in which a teacher shortage exists, as determined by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-8b, (4) modernize the process for educators to obtain educator certification under this chapter by eliminating obstacles to certification to increase competitiveness with other states, (5) identify and utilize high-quality, affordable and bias-free educator assessments, (6) adopt cut scores for educator assessments, that do not exceed the multistate cut scores, to increase competitiveness with surrounding states, (7) support new and existing educator preparation programs that commit to enrolling greater numbers of minority teacher candidates in a manner that supports interstate reciprocity, (8) monitor, advise and support, and intervene in when necessary, local and regional boards of education's efforts to prioritize minority teacher recruitment and develop innovative strategies to attract and retain minority teachers within their districts, **[**and**]** (9) (A) on and after July 1, 2019, include a question regarding the demographic data of applicants for positions requiring educator certification in the department's annual hiring survey distributed to local and regional boards of education, and (B) not later than July 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, on the applicant demographic data collected pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision to the minority teacher recruitment task force, established pursuant to section 10-156aa, and to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, and (10) not later than July 1, 2022, develop and make available, in consultation with the State Education Resource Center, a video training module for school district personnel involved in or responsible for hiring educators relating to implicit bias and anti-bias in the hiring process. For purposes

of this section, "minority" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-156bb.

Sec. 382. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) For the school year commencing July 1, 2023, and each school year thereafter, any employee of a local or regional board of education who is involved in or responsible for hiring educators for the school district shall successfully complete the video training module relating to implicit bias and anti-bias in the hiring process, developed pursuant to section 10-156ee of the general statutes, prior to such employee's participation in the educator hiring process for the school district.

Sec. 383. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1) the nature and the relationship of alcohol and drugs, as defined in subdivision (17) of section 21a-240, to health and personality development, and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental health risk reduction education that includes, but need not be limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in section 19a-581, violence, teen dating violence, domestic violence and child abuse, (3) school violence prevention, conflict resolution, the prevention of and response to youth suicide and the identification and prevention of and response to bullying, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-222d, except that those boards of education that implement any evidence-based model approach that is approved by the

Department of Education and is consistent with subsection (c) of section 10-145a, sections 10-222d, 10-222g and 10-222h, subsection (g) of section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public act 08-160, shall not be required to provide in-service training on the identification and prevention of and response to bullying, (4) cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency life saving procedures, (5) the requirements and obligations of a mandated reporter, (6) the detection and recognition of, and evidence-based structured literacy interventions for, students with dyslexia, as defined in section 10-3d, and (7) culturally responsive pedagogy and practice, including, but not limited to, the video training module relating to implicit bias and anti-bias in the hiring process in accordance with the provisions of section 382 of this act. Each local or regional board of education may allow any paraprofessional or noncertified employee to participate, on a voluntary basis, in any in-service training program provided pursuant to this section.

Sec. 384. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Department of Education shall conduct a study of a multiple measures approach to demonstrating content-area mastery for the purposes of section 10-145f of the general statutes. Such study shall include, but not be limited to, a review of current assessment requirements for educator certification, candidate first-time pass rates, best attempt pass rates, candidate access to and use of free-retake policy, and alternative multiple measure pathways to demonstrate content-area mastery for certification. Not later than January 1, 2023, the department shall submit a report on its findings and any recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 385. Section 10-16uu of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2021, a local or regional board of education may offer the black and Latino studies course,

approved pursuant to section 10-16tt, in grades nine to twelve, inclusive.

(b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, a local or regional board of education shall offer the black and Latino studies course, approved pursuant to section 10-16tt, in grades nine to twelve, inclusive.

Sec. 386. Section 4 of public act 21-95 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, the Department of Education **[**shall, upon request,**]** may provide to and assist local and regional boards of education in administering a social-emotional learning assessment to students pursuant to **[**subsections**]** subsection (b) **[**and (c)**]** of this section.

(b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2021, **[**each**]** and each school year thereafter, a local **[**and**]** or regional board of education **[**shall**]** may administer a social-emotional learning assessment to students. A board may use (1) the social-emotional learning assessment provided by the Department of Education pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or (2) another social-emotional learning assessment or mental health and resiliency screening.

[(c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education may administer a social-emotional learning assessment to students. A board may use (1) the social-emotional learning assessment provided by the Department of Education pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or (2) another social-emotional learning assessment or mental health and resiliency screening.**]**

[(d)**]** (c) The parent or guardian of a student shall receive prior written notice of any social-emotional learning assessment or mental health and resiliency screening described in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this

section that is to be administered pursuant to **[**subsections**]** subsection (b) **[**and (c)**]** of this section. No student shall complete such assessment or screening unless such parent or guardian provides permission that such student may complete such assessment or screening.

Sec. 387. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section, "remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model.

(b) The Department of Education shall establish the Connecticut Remote Learning Commission to analyze and provide recommendations concerning the provision of remote learning to public school students enrolled in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive. The commission shall create a report that includes an analysis and recommendations concerning:

(1) The impact of remote learning on (A) the educational attainment of students in elementary, middle and high school, (B) students' physical and emotional development, access to special services including mental health, and access to food security and nutrition, and (C) the quality of instructional delivery. Such analysis shall be conducted and collect data that is disaggregated based on subgroups of students, such as race, ethnicity, age, gender, eligibility for free or reduced priced lunches, students whose primary language is not English and students with disabilities;

(2) The feasibility of creating a state-wide remote learning school that will serve students in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, that is (A) maintained by and under the direction and control of the State Board of Education, (B) provides in each school year not less than one hundred eighty days of actual school sessions and nine hundred hours of actual school work for grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, provided not more than seven hours of actual school work in any school day shall count toward the total required for the school year, (C) offers

coursework and a curriculum that is rigorous, aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, and in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the state board pursuant to section 10-4 of the general statutes, (D) grants a diploma, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-5 of the general statutes, to any student enrolled in such state-wide remote learning school who has satisfactorily completed the high school graduation requirements described in section 10-221a of the general statutes, and (E) is created with consideration given to best practices in remote learning, technological capabilities of students throughout the state and equity;

(3) The costs associated with establishing one or more public state-wide or regional remote learning schools, including an examination of how other states have utilized such state-wide remote learning schools;

(4) The fiscal impact that various remote learning models could have on local and regional school districts; and

(5) Options to ensure that students who are receiving or participating in remote learning have adequate parental or adult supervision, educational support, technical assistance, continuity of attendance and engagement.

(c) The commission shall consist of the following members:

(1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education and one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Education Association;

(2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom is a representative of the RESC Alliance and one of whom is a representative of the Neag School of Education at The University of Connecticut;

(3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents and one of whom is a representative of the American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut;

(4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Commissioner for Educational Technology and one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special Education;

(5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, one of whom is a representative of Connecticut Association of Schools and one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents;

(6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom is a representative of the Social and Emotional and School Climate Advisory Collaborative, established pursuant to section 10-222q of the general statutes, and one of whom is a representative of the State Education Resource Center, established pursuant to section 10-357a of the general statutes;

(7) One appointed by the Commissioner of Education;

(8) The president of Charter Oak State College, or the president's designee;

(9) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

(10) The Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's designee; and

(11) The executive director of the Office of Higher Education, or the executive director's designee.

(d) All initial appointments to the commission shall be made not later

than sixty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

(e) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as the chairpersons of the commission.

(f) Not later than July 1, 2022, the commission shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Board of Education and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and children, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 388. (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) As used in this section, "remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model.

(b) The Department of Education shall develop a plan for the creation and implementation of a state-wide remote learning school that offers grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, and provides remote learning to students. In the course of developing such plan, the department shall (1) consider the findings and recommendations of the report created by the Connecticut Remote Learning Commission pursuant to section 387 of this act, (2) review remote learning schools and models being implemented in other states, and (3) estimate the number of students who reside in Connecticut that may be eligible to enroll in such state-wide remote learning school. The department shall use, to the extent permissible under federal guidelines, funds received from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, P.L. 116-260, as amended from time to time, to develop such plan.

(c) Any state-wide remote learning school that may be created under such plan shall (1) be maintained by and under the direction and control of the State Board of Education, (2) provide in each school year not less than one hundred eighty days of actual school sessions and nine

hundred hours of actual school work for grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, provided not more than seven hours of actual school work in any school day shall count toward the total required for the school year, (3) offer coursework and a curriculum that is rigorous, aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, and in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the state board pursuant to section 10-4 of the general statutes, (4) grant a diploma, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-5 of the general statutes, to any student enrolled in such state-wide remote learning school who has satisfactorily completed the high school graduation requirements described in section 10-221a of the general statutes, and (5) be created with consideration given to best practices in remote learning, technological capabilities of students throughout the state and equity.

(d) The department shall draft a request for proposals for any items required to create and implement a state-wide remote learning school.

(e) Not later than July 1, 2023, the department shall submit the plan, the draft request for proposals and any recommendations for legislation related to the implementation of such plan to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 389. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model; and

(2) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related mutation thereof recognized by the World Health

Organization as a communicable respiratory disease.

(b) The Department of Education shall conduct a comprehensive audit of the remote learning provided by local and regional boards of education as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic during the school years commencing July 1, 2019, and July 1, 2020. The department shall use, to the extent permissible under federal guidelines, funds received from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, P.L. 116-260, as amended from time to time, to conduct such comprehensive audit.

(c) Such comprehensive audit shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of (1) whether and how local and regional boards of education initially provided remote learning during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on the technological capabilities or limitations at such time, (2) the curriculum used as part of remote learning and whether students were able to complete the grade level curriculums, (3) the level of preparation or training in remote learning that educators received prior to and during the provision of remote learning during such school years, including the nature of such training and whether it was offered as part of a program of professional development, pursuant to section 10-148a of the general statutes, or as part of an in-service training program, pursuant to section 10-220a of the general statutes, (4) the level of improvement, if any, of the provision of remote learning from the school year commencing July 1, 2019, to the school year commencing July 1, 2020, (5) rates of student absenteeism during the COVID-19 pandemic relative to rates of student absenteeism prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and (6) student academic performance during the COVID-19 pandemic relative to student academic performance prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

(d) Following the completion of such comprehensive audit, the department shall develop a report that uses the results of such comprehensive audit to (1) evaluate the efficacy of remote learning, and

hybrid learning models, and the potential to leverage technology for teaching in other scenarios and rethinking the delivery of instruction, (2) identify a system of metrics to hold local and regional boards of education accountable for remote learning access and equity, and (3) review and make recommendations regarding ongoing public education requirements, including what defines a "school day", by aligning technology and how remote learning may be optimally integrated into the program of study and the provision of public education.

(e) Not later than January 1, 2025, the department shall submit such comprehensive audit and report, and any recommendations for legislation, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 390. Section 10-221 of the general statutes, as amended by section 14 of public act 21-46, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section, **[**"virtual learning"**]** "remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of **[**an in-person or**]** a remote learning model.

(b) Boards of education shall prescribe rules for the management, studies, classification and discipline of the public schools and, subject to the control of the State Board of Education, the textbooks to be used; shall make rules for the control, within their respective jurisdictions, of school library media centers, including Internet access and content, and approve the selection of books and other educational media therefor, and shall approve plans for public school buildings and superintend any high or graded school in the manner specified in this title.

(c) Each local and regional board of education shall develop, adopt

and implement written policies concerning homework, attendance, promotion and retention. The Department of Education shall make available model policies and guidelines to assist local and regional boards of education in meeting the responsibilities enumerated in this subsection.

(d) Boards of education may prescribe rules to impose sanctions against pupils who damage or fail to return textbooks, library materials or other educational materials. Said boards may charge pupils for such damaged or lost textbooks, library materials or other educational materials and may withhold grades, transcripts or report cards until the pupil pays for or returns the textbook, library book or other educational material.

(e) Each local and regional board of education shall develop, adopt and implement policies and procedures in conformity with section 10-154a for (1) dealing with the use, sale or possession of alcohol or controlled drugs, as defined in subdivision (8) of section 21a-240, by public school students on school property, including a process for coordination with, and referral of such students to, appropriate agencies, and (2) cooperating with law enforcement officials.

(f) Each local and regional board of education shall adopt a written policy and procedures for dealing with youth suicide prevention and youth suicide attempts. Each such board of education may establish a student assistance program to identify risk factors for youth suicide, procedures to intervene with such youths, referral services and training for teachers and other school professionals and students who provide assistance in the program.

(g) (1) Each local and regional board of education shall develop, adopt and implement written policies and procedures to encourage parent-teacher communication. These policies and procedures may include monthly newsletters, required regular contact with all parents,

flexible parent-teacher conferences, drop-in hours for parents, home visits and the use of technology such as homework hot lines to allow parents to check on their children's assignments and students to receive assistance if needed. Such policies and procedures shall require the district to conduct two flexible parent-teacher conferences for each school year.

(2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, the policies and procedures described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall require the district to (A) offer parents the option of attending any parent-teacher conference by telephonic, video or other conferencing platform, (B) conduct one parent-teacher conference, in addition to those required pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, during periods when such district provides **[**virtual**]** remote learning for more than three consecutive weeks, and one additional parent-teacher conference every six months thereafter for the duration of such period of **[**virtual**]** remote learning, and (C) request from each student's parent the name and contact information of an emergency contact person who may be contacted if the student's parent cannot be reached to schedule a parent-teacher conference required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision.

(3) On and after January 1, 2022, such policies and procedures shall require (A) a teacher conducting a parent-teacher conference required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of this subsection to provide a copy of the document developed pursuant to section 15 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-46 to the parent prior to the parent-teacher conference, and (B) if a teacher is unable to make contact with a student's parent in order to schedule a parent-teacher conference required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of this subsection after making three attempts, such teacher shall report such inability to the school principal, school counselor or other school administrator designated by the local or regional board of education. Such principal,

counselor or administrator shall contact any emergency contact person designated by the student's parent pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (2) of this subsection to ascertain such student and family's health and safety.

Sec. 391. Section 16 of public act 21-46 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section, **[**"virtual learning"**]** "remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of **[**an in-person or**]** a remote learning model.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Education shall develop, and update as necessary, standards for **[**virtual**]** remote learning. The standards shall not be deemed to be regulations, as defined in section 4-166 of the general statutes.

(c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, a local or regional board of education may authorize **[**virtual**]** remote learning to students in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, provided such board (1) provides such instruction in compliance with the standards developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and (2) adopts a policy regarding the requirements for student attendance during **[**virtual**]** remote learning, which shall (A) be in compliance with the Department of Education's guidance on student attendance during **[**virtual**]** remote learning, and (B) count the attendance of any student who spends not less than one-half of the school day during such instruction engaged in (i) virtual classes, (ii) virtual meetings, (iii) activities on time-logged electronic systems, and (iv) the completion and submission of assignments.

Sec. 392. Section 10-16 of the general statutes, as amended by section 17 of public act 21-46, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Each school district shall provide in each school year no less than one hundred and eighty days of actual school sessions for grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, nine hundred hours of actual school work for full-day kindergarten and grades one to twelve, inclusive, and four hundred and fifty hours of half-day kindergarten, provided school districts shall not count more than seven hours of actual school work in any school day towards the total required for the school year. **[**Virtual**]** Remote learning shall be considered an actual school session for purposes of this section, provided such **[**virtual**]** remote learning is conducted in compliance with the standards developed pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-46. If weather conditions result in an early dismissal or a delayed opening of school, a school district which maintains separate morning and afternoon half-day kindergarten sessions may provide either a morning or afternoon half-day kindergarten session on such day. As used in this section, **[**"virtual learning"**]** "remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of **[**an in-person or**]** a remote learning model.

Sec. 393. Section 10-198b of the general statutes, as amended by section 18 of public act 21-46, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The State Board of Education shall define "excused absence", "unexcused absence" and "disciplinary absence" for use by local and regional boards of education for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of section 10-198a, reporting truancy, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-220, and calculating the district chronic absenteeism rate and the school chronic absenteeism rate pursuant to section 10-198c. On or before July 1, 2021, the State Board of Education shall amend the definitions of "excused absence" and "unexcused absence" to exclude a student's engagement in (1) virtual classes, (2) virtual meetings, (3) activities on time-logged electronic systems, and (4) the completion and

submission of assignments, if such engagement accounts for not less than one-half of the school day during **[**virtual**]** remote learning authorized pursuant to section 16 of **[**this act**]** public act 21-46. As used in this section, **[**"virtual learning"**]** "remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of **[**an in-person or**]** a remote learning model.

Sec. 394. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2023, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall implement a reading curriculum model or program for grades prekindergarten to grade three, inclusive, that has been reviewed and recommended pursuant to section 395 of this act.

(b) On or before July 1, 2023, and biennially thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall notify the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, established pursuant to section 402 of this act, of which reading curriculum model or program that the board is implementing pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(c) If a local or regional board of education demonstrates to the Commissioner of Education that such board has insufficient resources or funding to implement any of the reading curriculum model or programs reviewed and recommended pursuant to section 395 of this act, the commissioner shall grant such board an extension of time, if the commissioner determines that such board demonstrates continued efforts to commence implementation of a reviewed and recommended reading curriculum model or program in accordance with this section.

(d) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the director of the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, shall, upon request of a local or regional board of education, grant a waiver from the provisions of subsection (a) of this section to such board to implement a reading curriculum model or program other than a model

or program reviewed and recommended pursuant to section 395 of this act, if the commissioner determines that such other reading curriculum or model is (1) evidenced-based and scientifically-based, and (2) focused on competency in the following areas of reading: Oral language, phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name or letter name fluency and reading comprehension. A request for a waiver under this subsection shall include (A) data collected from the reading assessments described in section 10-14t of the general statutes that has been disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, eligibility for free or reduced priced lunches, students whose primary language is not English and students with disabilities, and (B) a strategy to address remaining reading achievement gaps, as defined in section 10-14u of the general statutes.

Sec. 395. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Not later than July 1, 2022, the director of the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, in consultation with the Reading Leadership Implementation Council established pursuant to section 402 of this act, shall review and approve at least five reading curriculum models or programs to be implemented by local and regional boards of education according to the unique needs of each school district in accordance with the provisions of section 394 of this act. Such reading curriculum models or programs shall be (1) evidenced-based and scientifically-based, and (2) focused on competency in the following areas of reading: Oral language, phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name or letter name fluency and reading comprehension.

Sec. 396. Section 10-16oo of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

Not later than July 1, 2012, the Department of Education shall approve and make available model curricula and frameworks in **[**reading and**]** mathematics for grades prekindergarten to grade four, inclusive, for use by local and regional boards of education for school

districts or individual schools identified by the department as having **[**academic**]** achievement gaps, as defined in section 10-14u. Such curricula and frameworks shall be culturally relevant, research-based and aligned with student achievement standards adopted by the State Board of Education. **[**For purposes of this section, "achievement gaps" means the existence of a significant disparity in the academic performance of students among and between (1) racial groups, (2) ethnic groups, (3) socioeconomic groups, (4) genders, and (5) English language learners and students whose primary language is English.**]**

Sec. 397. Subsection (a) of section 10-16b of the general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 19-12, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(a) In the public schools the program of instruction offered shall include at least the following subject matter, as taught by legally qualified teachers, the arts; career education; consumer education; health and safety, including, but not limited to, human growth and development, nutrition, first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation training in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16qq, disease prevention and cancer awareness, including, but not limited to, age and developmentally appropriate instruction in performing self-examinations for the purposes of screening for breast cancer and testicular cancer, community and consumer health, physical, mental and emotional health, including youth suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, including instruction relating to opioid use and related disorders, safety, which shall include the safe use of social media, as defined in section 9-601, and may include the dangers of gang membership, and accident prevention; language arts, including reading, writing, grammar, speaking and spelling; mathematics; physical education; science, which may include the climate change curriculum described in subsection (d) of this section; social studies, including, but not limited to, citizenship, economics, geography, government, history

and Holocaust and genocide education and awareness in accordance with the provisions of section 10-18f; African-American and black studies in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16ss; Puerto Rican and Latino studies in accordance with the provisions of section 10-16ss; computer programming instruction; and in addition, on at least the secondary level, one or more world languages; vocational education; and the black and Latino studies course in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-16tt and 10-16uu. For purposes of this subsection, world languages shall include American Sign Language, provided such subject matter is taught by a qualified instructor under the supervision of a teacher who holds a certificate issued by the State Board of Education. For purposes of this subsection, the "arts" means any form of visual or performing arts, which may include, but not be limited to, dance, music, art and theatre; "reading" means evidenced-based instruction that focuses on competency in the following areas of reading: Oral language, phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name or letter name fluency and reading comprehension.

(b) If a local or regional board of education requires its pupils to take a course in a world language, the parent or guardian of a pupil identified as deaf or hard of hearing may request in writing that such pupil be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is made, such pupil shall be exempt from such requirement.

(c) Each local and regional board of education shall on September 1, 1982, and annually thereafter at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Education shall request, attest to the State Board of Education that such local or regional board of education offers at least the program of instruction required pursuant to this section, and that such program of instruction is planned, ongoing and systematic.

(d) The State Board of Education shall make available curriculum materials and such other materials as may assist local and regional

boards of education in developing instructional programs pursuant to this section. The State Board of Education, within available appropriations and utilizing available resource materials, shall assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (1) Holocaust and genocide education and awareness; (2) the historical events surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (3) African-American and black studies; (4) Puerto Rican and Latino studies; (5) Native American history; (6) personal financial management, including, but not limited to, financial literacy as developed in the plan provided under section 10-16pp; (7) training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automatic external defibrillators; (8) labor history and law, including organized labor, the collective bargaining process, existing legal protections in the workplace, the history and economics of free market capitalism and entrepreneurialism, and the role of labor and capitalism in the development of the American and world economies; (9) climate change consistent with the Next Generation Science Standards; (10) topics approved by the state board upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part of the program of instruction offered pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; and (11) instruction relating to the Safe Haven Act, sections 17a-57 to 17a-61, inclusive. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall be available to each local and regional board of education for the development of curriculum on climate change as described in this subsection.

Sec. 398. Section 10-14t of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

[On or before January 1, 2016, the Department of Education shall develop or approve**]** The Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, established pursuant to section 402 of this act, shall compile a list of reading assessments, with consideration given to the recommendations set forth in appendix g of the final report of the task

force established pursuant to special act 19-8, for use by local and regional boards of education, in accordance with the guidance provided pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, for the school year commencing July 1, **[**2016**]** 2023, and each school year thereafter, to identify students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, who are below proficiency in reading, provided any such reading assessments **[**developed or approved by the department**]** include frequent screening and progress monitoring of students. Such reading assessments shall (1) be brief, (2) be evidence-based, as defined in 20 USC 7801(21), with proven psychometrics for validity, (3) measure **[**phonics**]** oral language, phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name or letter name fluency and reading comprehension, **[**(2)**]** (4) provide opportunities for **[**periodic**]** formative **[**assessment**]** assessments at least three times, in the fall, winter and spring, during **[**the**]** each school year, **[**(3)**]** (5) produce data that is useful for informing individual and classroom instruction, including the grouping of students based on such data and the selection of instructional activities based on data of individual student response patterns during such progress monitoring, **[**(4)**]** (6) be compatible with best practices in reading instruction and research, and **[**(5)**]** (7) assist in identifying, in whole or in part, students at risk for dyslexia, as defined in section 10-3d, or other reading-related learning disabilities.

(b) On or before January 1, 2023, the department shall provide guidance to local and regional boards of education for administering the approved reading assessments, including, but not limited to, (1) specifying the appropriate grade levels for each reading assessment; (2) allowing approved reading assessments to be combined to ensure each ability specified in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section is measured during each school year using one or more reading assessments appropriate for a student's grade level; (3) advising how each board's goals, student body characteristics and resources should inform the choice of reading assessments used by such board; (4)

advising how aggregate data derived from reading assessments should guide each board's prevention and early intervention initiatives; and (5) requiring the administration of approved reading assessments in both English and a student's native language, if available, for any student being instructed in literacy in his or her native language.

[(b)**]** (c) Not later than February 1, **[**2016**]** 2023, the Commissioner of Education shall submit the reading assessments and guidance developed or approved under this section to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

(d) The Department of Education may, in partnership with a public institution of higher education, establish a data center to guide the department and local and regional boards of education in the use and effectiveness of reading assessments. Such data center may include, but need not be limited to, tracking (1) which reading assessments are used by each regional or local board of education, and (2) student information, disaggregated by categories including, but not limited to, a student's demographic background, school district, reading assessment dates and scores on reading assessments, provided such disaggregation keeps such student information personally nonidentifiable.

Sec. 399. Section 10-14u of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(a) As used in this section and section 10-3c:

(1) "Achievement **[**gap**]** gaps" means the existence of a significant disparity in the academic performance of students among and between (A) racial groups, (B) ethnic groups, (C) socioeconomic groups, (D) genders, and (E) English language learners and students whose primary language is English.

(2) "Opportunity gaps" means the ways in which race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, English proficiency, community wealth, familial situations or other factors intersect with the unequal or inequitable distribution of resources and opportunities to contribute to or perpetuate lower educational expectations, achievement or attainment.

[(2)**]** (3) "Scientifically-based reading research and instruction" means (A) a comprehensive program or a collection of instructional practices that is based on reliable, valid evidence showing that when such programs or practices are used, students can be expected to achieve satisfactory reading progress, and (B) the integration of instructional strategies for continuously assessing, evaluating and communicating the student's reading progress and needs in order to design and implement ongoing interventions so that students of all ages and proficiency levels can read and comprehend text and apply higher level thinking skills. Such comprehensive program or collection of practices **[**shall include**]** includes, but is not **[**be**]** limited to, instruction in **[**five**]** the following areas of reading: **[**Phonemic**]** Oral language, phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name or letter name fluency and **[**text**]** reading comprehension.

(b) For the school year commencing July 1, **[**2014**]** 2022, and each school year thereafter, the **[**Commissioner of Education**]** Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, established pursuant to section 402 of this act, shall **[**create**]** oversee an intensive reading instruction program to improve student literacy in grades kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, and close the achievement **[**gap**]** gaps that result from opportunity gaps. Such intensive reading instruction program shall include routine reading assessments for students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, scientifically-based reading research and instruction, an intensive reading intervention strategy, as described in subsection (c) of this section, supplemental reading instruction and reading remediation plans, as described in subsection (d) of this section,

and an intensive summer school reading program, as described in subsection (e) of this section. **[**For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, the commissioner shall select five elementary schools that are (1) located in an educational reform district, as defined in section 10-262u, (2) participating in the commissioner's network of schools, pursuant to section 10-223h, or (3) among the lowest five per cent of elementary schools in school subject performance indices for reading and mathematics, as defined in section 10-223e, to participate in the intensive reading instruction program and for the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, the commissioner may select up to five additional such elementary schools to participate in the intensive reading instruction program.**]** For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success shall provide, upon request of a local or regional board of education for a town designated as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u, the intensive reading instruction program to such board, or may include the intensive reading instruction program in the tiered supports in early literacy provided under the reading readiness program pursuant to section 10-14y.

(c) **[**On or before July 1, 2014, the Department of Education**]** For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, shall develop an intensive reading intervention strategy **[**for use by schools selected by the Commissioner of Education to participate in the intensive reading instruction program to address the achievement gap at such schools and**]** which shall be available to local and regional boards of education for a town designated as an alliance district that have any elementary schools that enroll students who are not reading at or above grade level to ensure that **[**all**]** such students are reading proficiently by grade three in such schools. Such intensive reading intervention strategy **[**for schools**]** shall (1) include, but not be limited to, (A) rigorous assessments

in reading skills, (B) scientifically-based reading research and instruction, (C) **[**one external literacy coach for each school to be funded by the department**]** external literacy coaches who have experience and expertise in the science of teaching reading, who will work with the reading data collected, support the principal of the school as needed, observe, and coach classes and supervise the reading interventions, (D) **[**four**]** reading interventionists **[**for each school, to be funded by the department,**]** who will develop a reading remediation plan for any student who is reading below proficiency, be responsible for all supplemental reading instruction, and conduct reading assessments as needed, and (E) training for teachers and administrators in scientifically-based reading research and instruction, including, training for school administrators on how to assess a classroom to ensure that all children are proficient in reading by grade three, and (2) outline, at a minimum, how (A) reading data will be collected, analyzed and used for purposes of instructional development, (B) professional and leadership development will be related to reading data analysis and used to support individual teacher and classroom needs, (C) **[**the selected**]** schools will communicate with parents and guardians of students on reading instruction strategies and student reading performance goals, and on opportunities for parents and guardians to partner with teachers and school administrators to improve reading at home and at school, (D) teachers and school leaders will be trained in the science of teaching reading, (E) periodic student progress reports will be issued, and (F) such **[**selected school**]** intensive reading intervention strategy will be monitored at the classroom level. The commissioner shall review and evaluate the **[**school**]** intensive reading intervention strategy for model components that may be used and replicated in other **[**schools and school**]** alliance districts to ensure that all children are proficient in reading by grade three.

(d) (1) For the school year commencing July 1, **[**2014**]** 2022, and each school year thereafter, each **[**school selected by the Commissioner of

Education to participate in the intensive reading instruction program under this section shall**]** local and regional board of education for a town designated as an alliance district shall, in consultation with the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, provide supplemental reading instruction to students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, who are reading below proficiency, as identified by the reading assessment described in section 10-14t. Such supplemental reading instruction shall be provided by a reading interventionist during regular school hours.

(2) A reading remediation plan shall be developed by a reading interventionist for each student enrolled in an elementary school in an alliance district in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, who has been identified as reading below proficiency to address and correct the reading deficiency of such student. Such remediation plan shall include instructional strategies that utilize **[**research based**]** research-based reading instruction materials and teachers trained in reading instruction, parental involvement in the implementation of the remediation plan and regular progress reports on such student.

(3) The principal of **[**a school selected by the Commissioner of Education to participate in the intensive reading instruction program under this section**]** each elementary school in an alliance district shall notify the parent or guardian of any student in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, who has been identified as being below proficiency in reading. Such notice shall be in writing and (A) include an explanation of why such student is below proficiency in reading, and (B) inform such parent or guardian that a remediation plan, as described in subdivision (2) of this subsection, will be developed for such student to provide supplemental reading instruction, including strategies for the parent or guardian to use at home with such student.

(e) (1) **[**Any student enrolled in a school selected by the Commissioner of Education that is located in a priority school district,

pursuant to section 10-266p, to participate in the intensive reading instruction program under this section and who is reading below proficiency at the end of the school year shall be enrolled in**]** Each local and regional board of education for a town designated as an alliance district shall, in consultation with the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, provide any student in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, who is reading below proficiency at the end of the school year with an intensive summer school reading instruction program. Such intensive summer school reading instruction program shall include, (A) a comprehensive reading intervention program, (B) scientifically-based reading research and instruction strategies and interventions, (C) diagnostic assessments administered to a student prior to or during an intensive summer school reading instruction program to determine such student's particularized need for instruction, (D) teachers who are trained in the teaching of reading and reading assessment and intervention, and (E) weekly progress monitoring to assess the reading progress of such student and tailor instruction for such student.

(2) **[**The principal of a school selected by the Commissioner of Education to participate in**]** Each local and regional board of education for a town designated as an alliance district providing supplemental reading instruction as part of the intensive reading instruction program under this section shall submit reports to the **[**Department of Education**]** Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, at such time and in such manner as prescribed by the **[**department**]** Department of Education, on (A) student reading progress for each student reading below proficiency based on the data collected from the screening and progress monitoring of such student using the reading assessments described in section 10-14t, and (B) the specific reading interventions and supports implemented.

(f) Not later than October 1, **[**2015**]** 2022, and annually thereafter, the **[**department**]** Commissioner of Education shall report to the joint

standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, on student reading levels **[**in schools participating**]** in the intensive reading instruction program. Such report shall include recommendations on model components of the school intensive reading intervention strategy that may be used and replicated in other **[**schools and school**]** alliance districts.

Sec. 400. Section 10-14v of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

On or before January 1, **[**2014**]** 2023, the **[**Department of Education**]** Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, established pursuant to section 402 of this act, shall develop a coordinated state-wide reading plan for students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, that contains strategies and frameworks that are research-driven to produce effective reading instruction and improvement in student performance. Such plan shall include: (1) The alignment of reading standards, instruction and assessments for students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive; (2) teachers' use of data on the progress of all students to adjust and differentiate instructional practices to improve student reading success; (3) the collection of information concerning each student's reading background, level and progress so that teachers can use such information to assist in the transition of a student's promotion to the next grade level; (4) an intervention for each student who is not making adequate progress in reading to help such student read at the appropriate grade level; (5) enhanced reading instruction for students who are reading at or above their grade level; (6) the coordination of reading instruction activities between parents, students, teachers and administrators of the school district at home and in school; (7) school district reading plans; (8) parental involvement by providing parents and guardians of students with opportunities for partnering with teachers and school administrators to (A) create an optimal learning

environment, and (B) receive updates on the reading progress of their student; (9) teacher training and reading performance tests aligned with teacher preparation courses and professional development activities; (10) incentives for schools that have demonstrated significant improvement in student reading; (11) research-based literacy training for early childhood care and education providers and instructors working with children birth to five years of age, inclusive, and transition plans relating to oral language and preliteracy proficiency for children between prekindergarten and kindergarten; (12) the alignment of reading instruction with the common core state standards adopted by the State Board of Education; and (13) the alignment of reading instruction with the two-generational initiative established pursuant to section 17b-112*l*.

Sec. 401. Section 10-14y of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(a) The **[**Department of Education**]** Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, established pursuant to section 402 of this act, shall, within available appropriations, establish a reading readiness program that provides tiered supports in early literacy to each school district designated as an alliance district, pursuant to section 10-262u. **[**, and each school participating in the commissioner's network of schools, pursuant to section 10-223h. The department**]** The center shall conduct an assessment of the reading readiness of students enrolled in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, for each **[**such school and school**]** alliance district. Such reading readiness assessment shall consider any combination of the following: (1) Whether such **[**school or school**]** alliance district has developed and is implementing a multiyear plan and allocated resources specifically for early literacy in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, (2) whether teachers and administrators have received training regarding the science of teaching reading, and the extent to which teachers and administrators have completed the

program of professional development in scientifically based reading research and instruction, pursuant to section 10-148b, (3) the level of access to external literacy coaches **[**in literacy**]** who have experience and expertise in the science of teaching reading, and (4) whether there is reading intervention staff embedded **[**at such school or**]** in the **[**school**]** alliance district.

(b) The **[**department**]** center shall identify the early literacy needs of each **[**school and school district described in subsection (a) of this section**]** alliance district based on the results of the reading readiness assessment conducted pursuant to **[**said**]** subsection (a) of this section, and provide tiered supports in early literacy as follows:

(1) Tier one universal supports shall be provided to each **[**such school district that is an educational reform district**]** alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u, and include online professional development modules aligned with the reading instruction survey, as described in section 10-145r, and other literacy modules and programs available in the state;

(2) Tier two targeted supports shall include (A) a two-year program of literacy leadership training for certain teachers and administrators, (B) targeted professional development, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-148b, using the results of the reading instruction survey, as described in section 10-145r, and (C) external coaching support, **[**using**]** which may utilize funding received pursuant to section 10-223h or 10-262u; and

(3) Tier three intensive supports shall include multiyear support from the **[**department**]** center and a commitment from **[**such school or school**]** the alliance district, that includes, but need not be limited to, (A) the use of funding received pursuant to section 10-262u to support an early literacy program for students enrolled in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, (B) technical support in the drafting and submission of

alliance district reading plans, as described in section 10-262u, (C) identifying and **[**embedding**]** engaging dedicated literacy coaches and reading interventionists, (D) targeted and intensive professional development, and (E) funds for assessment and instructional materials.

(c) Any tiered supports in early literacy provided under this section shall be aligned with any turnaround plan, developed pursuant to section 10-223h, or alliance district plan, developed pursuant to section 10-262u, as applicable.

Sec. 402. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The Department of Education shall establish a Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success within the department. The center shall be responsible for (1) the implementation of the coordinated state-wide reading plan for students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, established pursuant to section 10-14v of the general statutes; (2) researching and developing, in collaboration with the Office of Early Childhood, a birth to grade twelve reading success strategy to be included in the alignment of reading instruction with the two-generational initiative, established pursuant to section 17b-112*l* of the general statutes; (3) (A) providing direct support to schools and boards of education to improve reading outcomes for students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, and other reading initiatives, and (B) supporting teachers, schools and boards of education engaged in improving through coaching, leadership training, professional development, parental engagement and technical assistance that is consistent with the intensive reading instruction program, as described in section 10-14u of the general statutes and aligned with evidence-based practices; (4) providing independent, random reviews of how a local or regional board of education is implementing (A) a reading curriculum model or program for grades prekindergarten to grade three, inclusive, pursuant to section 394 of this act, and (B) an approved reading assessment, pursuant to section 10-14t of the general statutes; (5) receiving and publicly

reporting, not later than September 1, 2023, and biennially thereafter, the reading curriculum model or program being implemented by each local and regional board of education pursuant to section 394 of this act; (6) developing and maintaining an Internet web site for the purpose of disseminating tools and information associated with the intensive reading instruction program for student reading; (7) serving as a collaborative center for institutions of higher education and making available to the faculty of teacher preparation programs (A) the science of teaching reading, (B) the intensive reading instruction program, and (C) samples of available reading curriculum models or programs reviewed and recommended pursuant to section 395 of this act; and (8) reviewing and publicly reporting on progress made by teacher preparation programs to include reading curriculum models or programs reviewed and recommended pursuant to section 395 of this act.

(b) The Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success shall be under the direction of a director who shall, in consultation with the Reading Leadership Implementation Council described in subsection (c) of this section, be responsible for (1) overseeing all activities of the center, (2) facilitating communication between the center, local and regional boards of education and other affiliates of the center, and (3) coordinating the dissemination of information, tools and services made available by the center.

(c) The activities of the center shall be informed by the Reading Leadership Implementation Council which shall consist of the following members: (1) The director of the center, or the director's designee; (2) the executive director of the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the executive director's designee; (3) an individual designated by the Governor, who has experience in literacy or education and is engaged in the development and implementation of the intensive reading instruction program; (4) an individual designated

by the speaker of the House of Representatives, who has experience in literacy or education; (5) an individual designated by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who has experience in literacy or education; (6) an individual designated by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who has experience in literacy or education; (7) an individual designated by the minority leader of the Senate, who has experience in literacy or education; (8) two individuals, designated by the chairperson of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the General Assembly, one of whom has experience with literacy or education and is engaged in the development and implementation of the intensive reading instruction program, provided such individual is not a member of the General Assembly; (9) the dean of the Neag School of Education at The University of Connecticut, or the dean's designee; and (10) three individuals designated by the Commissioner of Education. The Reading Leadership Implementation Council shall develop and publish annual goals for the center and meet at least once every two months. The Reading Leadership Implementation Council may consult with representatives from public, private and philanthropic organizations.

(d) The Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success shall engage external literacy coaches who have experience and expertise in the science of teaching reading. Such external literacy coaches shall (1) provide training and professional development on the intensive reading instruction program, described in section 10-14u of the general statutes, literacy leadership and effective instruction to teachers, (2) work directly with teachers to support the implementation of the intensive reading instruction program, (3) provide coaching to teachers, and (4) participate in family engagement activities.

Sec. 403. Section 10-3c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

There shall be a director of reading initiatives within the Department of Education. The director shall be responsible for (1) administering the

intensive reading instruction program to improve student literacy in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, and close the achievement **[**gap**]** gaps that result from opportunity gaps, pursuant to section 10-14u, (2) assisting in the development and administration of the program of professional development for teachers and principals in scientifically based reading research and instruction, pursuant to section 10-148b, (3) administering the coordinated state-wide reading plan for students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, pursuant to section 10-14v, (4) administering, within available appropriations, the incentive program described in section 10-14w, (5) providing assistance to local and regional boards of education in the administration of the reading assessments described in section 10-14t, and the implementation of school district reading plans, (6) providing information and assistance to parents and guardians of students relating to reading and literacy instruction, (7) addressing reading and literacy issues related to students who are English language learners, and (8) developing and administering any other state-wide reading and literacy initiatives for students in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive.

Sec. 404. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) The Commissioner of Education shall conduct an evaluation of the activities of the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, established pursuant to section 402 of this act. Such evaluation shall include, but need not be limited to, an analysis of whether student literacy has improved in alliance districts and how resources and funding have been allocated and spent pursuant to sections394, 395and 402 of this act and sections 10-14t to 10-14v, inclusive, of the general statutes and section 10-14y of the general statutes. Not later than February 1, 2024, the commissioner shall submit such evaluation and any recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 405. Section 10-15c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The public schools shall be open to all children five years of age and over who reach age five on or before the first day of January of any school year, and each such child shall have, and shall be so advised by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to participate in the activities, programs and courses of study offered in such public schools, at such time as the child becomes eligible to participate in such activities, programs and courses of study, without discrimination on account of race, as defined in section 46a-51, color, sex, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, **[**or**]** sexual orientation or disability; provided boards of education may, by vote at a meeting duly called, admit to any school children under five years of age.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed to amend other provisions of the general statutes with respect to curricula, facilities or extracurricular activities.

Sec. 406. Section 10-16ss of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall include African-American and black studies and Puerto Rican and Latino studies as part of the curriculum for the school district, pursuant to section 10-16b. In developing and implementing the African-American and black studies and Puerto Rican and Latino studies curriculum, the board may utilize the curriculum materials made available by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-16b or other existing and appropriate public or private materials, personnel and resources, provided such curriculum is in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the state board pursuant to section 10-4.

(b) A local or regional board of education may accept gifts, grants and donations, including in-kind donations, designated for the development and implementation of the African-American and black studies and Puerto Rican and Latino studies curriculum under this section, including professional development and in-service training.

Sec. 407. Section 10-16tt of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) (1) Not later than January 1, 2021, the State Board of Education shall review and approve the black and Latino studies course developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section by the State Education Resource Center, established pursuant to section 10-357a. The state board shall approve such course if, following a review of such course, the state board determines that the content of such course is rigorous, aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the state board, and in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the state board pursuant to section 10-4.

(2) Not later than January 15, 2021, the state board, in consultation with the State Education Resource Center, shall submit a description of the black and Latino studies course, which includes the scope and sequence and course objective, and a report on the development and review of such course to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

(b) The State Education Resource Center shall develop a black and Latino studies course. Such course shall be one credit and offered at the high school level. In developing such course, the State Education Resource Center may utilize existing and appropriate public or private materials, personnel and other resources, including, but not limited to, persons and organizations with subject matter expertise in African-American, black, Puerto Rican or Latino studies, and the curriculum

materials made available pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-16b.

(c) For the school years commencing July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2024, inclusive, the Department of Education shall conduct an annual audit to ensure that the black and Latino studies course approved pursuant to this section is being offered by each local and regional board of education. The department shall annually submit a report on such audit to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

(d) For the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, the State Education and Resource Center shall provide technical assistance to local and regional boards of education in the provision of professional development, pursuant to section 10-148a, and in-service training, pursuant to section 10-220a, related to the teaching of the black and Latino studies course approved pursuant to this section.

Sec. 408. Subsection (l) of section 10-66ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(l) Within available appropriations, the state may provide a grant in an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars to any newly approved state charter school that assists the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for start-up costs associated with the new charter school program.

Sec. 409. Section 10-262s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The Commissioner of Education may, to assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, transfer funds appropriated for the Sheff settlement to the following: (1) Grants for interdistrict cooperative programs pursuant to section 10-74d, (2) grants for state charter schools pursuant to section 10-66ee, (3) grants for the interdistrict public school attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa, (4) grants for interdistrict magnet schools pursuant to section 10-264*l*, and (5) to the Technical Education and Career System for programming.

Sec. 410. Subsection (a) of section 10-264h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year thereafter, a local or regional board of education, a regional educational service center, a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, or any of the following entities that operate an interdistrict magnet school that assists the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education: (1) The Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (2) the Board of Trustees of the

Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (3) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (4) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (5) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the Commissioner of Education, may be eligible for reimbursement, except as otherwise provided for, up to eighty per cent of the eligible cost of any capital expenditure for the purchase, construction, extension, replacement, leasing or major alteration of interdistrict magnet school facilities, including any expenditure for the purchase of equipment, in accordance with this section. To be eligible for reimbursement under this section a magnet school construction project shall meet the requirements for a school building project established in chapter 173, except that the Commissioner of Administrative Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, may waive any requirement in said chapter for good cause. On and after July 1, 2011, the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall approve only applications for reimbursement under this section that the Commissioner of Education finds will reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation. Applications for reimbursement under this section for the construction of new interdistrict magnet schools shall not be accepted until the Commissioner of Education develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-264*l*, unless the Commissioner of Education determines that such construction will assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

Sec. 411. Subdivision (2) of subsection (m) of section 10-264*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a local or regional board of education and did not charge tuition to a local or regional board of education for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, may not charge tuition to such board unless (A) such operator receives authorization from the Commissioner of Education to charge the proposed tuition, and (B) if such authorization is granted, such operator provides written notification on or before September first of the school year prior to the school year in which such tuition is to be charged to such board of the tuition to be charged to such board for each student that such board is otherwise responsible for educating and is enrolled at the interdistrict magnet school under such operator's control. In deciding whether to authorize an interdistrict magnet school operator to charge tuition under this subdivision, the commissioner shall consider (i) the average per pupil expenditure of such operator for each interdistrict magnet school under the control of such operator, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy and any revenue from other sources received by such operator. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of the magnet school of such operator to verify that the tuition is appropriate. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a regional educational service center or assisting the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

Sec. 412. Section 10-264o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, interdistrict magnet schools that begin operations on or after July 1, 2008, pursuant to the **[**2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, may operate without district participation agreements and enroll students from any district through a lottery designated by the commissioner.

(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount equal to the difference between (1) the average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (2) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264*l*, plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner may withhold from such board's town or towns a sum payable under section 10-262i in an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the

magnet school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict magnet school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed the difference between (A) the total expenditures of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the total per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264*l*, plus any revenue from other sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive review of the operating budget of a magnet school to verify such tuition rate.

(c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and offering a preschool program shall not charge tuition for a child enrolled in such preschool program.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and offering a preschool program may charge tuition to the Department of Education for a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount not to exceed an amount equal to the difference between (A) the average per pupil expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal year,

and (B) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264*l*, plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive review of the operating budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and offering a preschool program may charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount that is in accordance with the sliding tuition scale adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-264p. The Department of Education shall be financially responsible for any unpaid portion of the tuition not charged to such parent or guardian under such sliding tuition scale. Such tuition shall not exceed an amount equal to the difference between (A) the average per pupil expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of section 10-264*l*, plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive review of the operating budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

(4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the state in meeting **[**the goals of

the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and offering a preschool program shall charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount up to four thousand fifty-three dollars, except such regional educational service center shall not charge tuition to such parent or guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income. The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be financially responsible for any unpaid tuition charged to such parent or guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

Sec. 413. Section 10-264q of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Notwithstanding subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 10-264*l*, an interdistrict magnet school program that (1) does not assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and (2) is not in compliance with the enrollment requirements for students of racial minorities, pursuant to section 10-264*l*, following the submission of student information data of such interdistrict magnet school program to the state-wide public school

information system, pursuant to section 10-10a, on or before October 1, 2019, shall remain eligible for an interdistrict magnet school operating grant pursuant to section 10-264*l* for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, if such interdistrict magnet school program submits a compliance plan to the Commissioner of Education and the commissioner approves such plan.

Sec. 414. Subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 10-266m of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide grants, within available appropriations, in an amount not to exceed two thousand dollars per pupil, to local and regional boards of education and regional educational service centers that transport (A) out-of-district students to a technical education and career school located in Hartford, or (B) Hartford students attending a technical education and career school or a regional agricultural science and technology education center outside of the district, to assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the commissioner**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for the costs associated with such transportation.

Sec. 415. Subsection (a) of section 10-266ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, the Department of Education shall award, within available appropriations, a grant in an

amount not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars to the Hartford school district for program development and expansion of the Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy to assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2013 stipulation for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education. Application for such grant funds awarded pursuant to this section shall be submitted to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes.

Sec. 416. Subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-283 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) Each town or regional school district shall be eligible to apply for and accept grants for a school building project as provided in this chapter. Any town desiring a grant for a public school building project may, by vote of its legislative body, authorize the board of education of such town to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject such grant for the town. Any regional school board may vote to authorize the supervising agent of the regional school district to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services for and to accept or reject such grant for the district. Applications for such grants under this chapter shall be made by the superintendent of schools of such town or regional school district on the form provided and in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Administrative Services. The application form shall require the superintendent of schools to affirm that the school district considered the maximization of natural light, the use and feasibility of wireless connectivity technology and, on and after July 1, 2014, the school safety infrastructure criteria, developed by the School Safety Infrastructure Council, pursuant to section 10-292r, in projects for new construction and alteration or renovation of a school

building. The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall review each grant application for a school building project for compliance with educational requirements and on the basis of categories for building projects established by the Commissioner of Administrative Services in accordance with this section. The Commissioner of Education shall evaluate, if appropriate, whether the project will assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall consult with the Commissioner of Education in reviewing grant applications submitted for purposes of subsection (a) of section 10-65 or section 10-76e on the basis of the educational needs of the applicant. The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall review each grant application for a school building project for compliance with standards for school building projects pursuant to regulations, adopted in accordance with section 10-287c, and, on and after July 1, 2014, the school safety infrastructure criteria, developed by the School Safety Infrastructure Council pursuant to section 10-292r. Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers Community College and the following entities that will operate an interdistrict magnet school that will assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the Commissioner of Education**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, may apply for and shall be eligible to receive grants for school building projects

pursuant to section 10-264h for such a school: (A) The Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (B) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (C) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, (E) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (F) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the Commissioner of Education.

(2) The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall assign each school building project to a category on the basis of whether such project is primarily required to: (A) Create new facilities or alter existing facilities to provide for mandatory instructional programs pursuant to this chapter, for physical education facilities in compliance with Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1972 where such programs or such compliance cannot be provided within existing facilities or for the correction of code violations which cannot be reasonably addressed within existing program space; (B) create new facilities or alter existing facilities to enhance mandatory instructional programs pursuant to this chapter or provide comparable facilities among schools to all students at the same grade level or levels within the school district unless such project is otherwise explicitly included in another category pursuant to this section; and (C) create new facilities or alter existing facilities to provide supportive services, provided in no event shall such supportive services include swimming pools, auditoriums, outdoor athletic facilities, tennis courts, elementary school playgrounds, site improvement or garages or storage, parking or general recreation areas. All applications submitted prior to July first shall be reviewed promptly by the Commissioner of Administrative Services. The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall estimate

the amount of the grant for which such project is eligible, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-285a, provided an application for a school building project determined by the Commissioner of Education to be a project that will assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, shall have until September first to submit an application for such a project and may have until December first of the same year to secure and report all local and state approvals required to complete the grant application. The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall annually prepare a listing of all such eligible school building projects listed by category together with the amount of the estimated grants for such projects and shall submit the same to the Governor, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the General Assembly on or before the fifteenth day of December, except as provided in section 10-283a, with a request for authorization to enter into grant commitments. On or before December thirty-first annually, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may submit comments and recommendations regarding each eligible project on such listing of eligible school building projects to the school construction committee, established pursuant to section 10-283a. Each such listing shall include a report on the following factors for each eligible project: (i) An enrollment projection and the capacity of the school, (ii) a substantiation of the estimated total project costs, (iii) the readiness of such eligible project to begin construction, (iv) efforts made by the local or regional board of education to redistrict, reconfigure, merge or close schools under the jurisdiction of such board prior to submitting an application under this section, (v) enrollment and capacity information for all of the schools under the jurisdiction of such board for the five years prior to application for a school building project grant, (vi)

enrollment projections and capacity information for all of the schools under the jurisdiction of such board for the eight years following the date such application is submitted, and (vii) the state's education priorities relating to reducing racial and economic isolation for the school district. For the period beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2012, no project, other than a project for a technical education and career school, may appear on the separate schedule of authorized projects which have changed in cost more than twice. On and after July 1, 2012, no project, other than a project for a technical education and career school, may appear on the separate schedule of authorized projects which have changed in cost more than once, except the Commissioner of Administrative Services may allow a project to appear on such separate schedule of authorized projects a second time if the town or regional school district for such project can demonstrate that exigent circumstances require such project to appear a second time on such separate schedule of authorized projects. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, no projects which have changed in scope or cost to the degree determined by the Commissioner of Administrative Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, shall be eligible for reimbursement under this chapter unless it appears on such list. The percentage determined pursuant to section 10-285a at the time a school building project on such schedule was originally authorized shall be used for purposes of the grant for such project. On and after July 1, 2006, a project that was not previously authorized as an interdistrict magnet school shall not receive a higher percentage for reimbursement than that determined pursuant to section 10-285a at the time a school building project on such schedule was originally authorized. The General Assembly shall annually authorize the Commissioner of Administrative Services to enter into grant commitments on behalf of the state in accordance with the commissioner's categorized listing for such projects as the General Assembly shall determine. The Commissioner of Administrative Services may not enter into any such grant commitments except pursuant to such legislative authorization.

Any regional school district which assumes the responsibility for completion of a public school building project shall be eligible for a grant pursuant to subdivision (5) or (6), as the case may be, of subsection (a) of section 10-286 when such project is completed and accepted by such regional school district.

Sec. 417. Subsection (c) of section 10-283 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(c) No school building project shall be added to the list prepared by the Commissioner of Administrative Services pursuant to subsection (a) of this section after such list is submitted to the committee of the General Assembly appointed pursuant to section 10-283a unless (1) the project is for a school placed on probation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the project is necessary to preserve accreditation, (2) the project is necessary to replace a school building for which a state agency issued a written notice of its intent to take the school property for public purpose, (3) it is a school building project determined by the Commissioner of Education to be a project that will assist the state in meeting **[**the goals of the 2008 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended**]** its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to projects previously authorized by the General Assembly that require special legislation to correct procedural deficiencies.

Sec. 418. Subsection (a) of section 10-65 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Each local or regional school district operating an agricultural science and technology education center approved by the State Board of Education for program, educational need, location and area to be served shall be eligible for the following grants: (1) In accordance with the provisions of chapter 173, through progress payments in accordance with the provisions of section 10-287i, (A) for projects for which an application was filed prior to July 1, 2011, ninety-five per cent, and (B) for projects for which an application was filed on or after July 1, 2011, eighty per cent of the net eligible costs of constructing, acquiring, renovating and equipping approved facilities to be used exclusively for such agricultural science and technology education center, for the expansion or improvement of existing facilities or for the replacement or improvement of equipment therein, and (2) subject to the provisions of section 10-65b and within available appropriations, in an amount equal to **[**four**]** five thousand two hundred dollars per student for every secondary school student who was enrolled in such center on October first of the previous year.

Sec. 419. Subdivision (4) of section 17a-248 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(4) "Eligible children" means children (A) (i) from birth to thirty-six months of age, who are not eligible for special education and related services pursuant to sections 10-76a to 10-76h, inclusive, and (ii) thirty-six months of age or older, who are receiving early intervention services and are eligible or being evaluated for participation in preschool services pursuant to Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1411 et seq., until such children are enrolled in such preschool services, and (B) who need early intervention services because such children are:

[(A)**]** (I) Experiencing a significant developmental delay as measured by standardized diagnostic instruments and procedures, including

informed clinical opinion, in one or more of the following areas: **[**(i)**]** Cognitive development; **[**(ii)**]** physical development, including vision or hearing; **[**(iii)**]** communication development; **[**(iv)**]** social or emotional development; or **[**(v)**]** adaptive skills; or

[(B)**]** (II) Diagnosed as having a physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay.

Sec. 420. Subsection (a) of section 38a-490a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Each individual health insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state shall provide coverage for medically necessary early intervention services provided as part of an individualized family service plan pursuant to section 17a-248e. Such policy shall provide coverage for such services provided by qualified personnel, as defined in section 17a-248, for **[**a child from birth until the child's third birthday**]** eligible children, as defined in section 17a-248.

Sec. 421. Subsection (a) of section 38a-516a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Each group health insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state shall provide coverage for medically necessary early intervention services provided as part of an individualized family service plan pursuant to section 17a-248e. Such policy shall provide coverage for such services provided by qualified personnel, as defined in section 17a-248, for **[**a child from birth until the child's third birthday**]** eligible

children, as defined in section 17a-248.

Sec. 422. Subdivision (8) of subsection (b) of section 12-214 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(8) (A) With respect to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, and prior to January 1, **[**2021**]** 2023, any company subject to the tax imposed in accordance with subsection (a) of this section shall pay, for such income year, except when the tax so calculated is equal to two hundred fifty dollars, an additional tax in an amount equal to ten per cent of the tax calculated under said subsection (a) for such income year, without reduction of the tax so calculated by the amount of any credit against such tax. The additional amount of tax determined under this subsection for any income year shall constitute a part of the tax imposed by the provisions of said subsection (a) and shall become due and be paid, collected and enforced as provided in this chapter.

(B) Any company whose gross income for the income year was less than one hundred million dollars shall not be subject to the additional tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. This exception shall not apply to taxable members of a combined group that files a combined unitary tax return.

Sec. 423. Subdivision (8) of subsection (b) of section 12-219 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(8) (A) With respect to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, and prior to January 1, **[**2021**]** 2023, the additional tax imposed on any company and calculated in accordance with subsection (a) of this section shall, for such income year, except when the tax so calculated is equal to two hundred fifty dollars, be increased by adding thereto an amount equal to ten per cent of the additional tax so calculated for such

income year, without reduction of the tax so calculated by the amount of any credit against such tax. The increased amount of tax payable by any company under this section, as determined in accordance with this subsection, shall become due and be paid, collected and enforced as provided in this chapter.

(B) Any company whose gross income for the income year was less than one hundred million dollars shall not be subject to the additional tax imposed under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. This exception shall not apply to taxable members of a combined group that files a combined unitary tax return.

Sec. 424. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-219 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) (1) Each company subject to the provisions of this part shall pay for the privilege of carrying on or doing business within the state, the larger of the tax, if any, imposed by section 12-214 and the tax calculated under this subsection. The tax calculated under this section shall be a tax of (A) three and one-tenth mills per dollar for income years commencing prior to January 1, **[**2021**]** 2024, (B) two and six-tenths mills per dollar for the income year commencing on or after January 1, **[**2021**]** 2024, and prior to January 1, **[**2022**]** 2025, (C) two and one-tenth mills per dollar for the income year commencing on or after January 1, **[**2022**]** 2025, and prior to January 1, **[**2023**]** 2026, (D) one and six-tenths mills per dollar for the income year commencing on or after January 1, 2026, and prior to January 1, 2027, (E) one and one-tenth mills per dollar for the income year commencing on or after January 1, **[**2023**]** 2027, and prior to January 1, **[**2024**]** 2028, and **[**(E)**]** (F) zero mills per dollar for income years commencing on or after January 1, **[**2024**]** 2028, of the amount derived (i) by adding (I) the average value of the issued and outstanding capital stock, including treasury stock at par or face value, fractional shares, scrip certificates convertible into shares of stock and amounts received

on subscriptions to capital stock, computed on the balances at the beginning and end of the taxable year or period, the average value of surplus and undivided profit computed on the balances at the beginning and end of the taxable year or period, and (II) the average value of all surplus reserves computed on the balances at the beginning and end of the taxable year or period, (ii) by subtracting from the sum so calculated (I) the average value of any deficit carried on the balance sheet computed on the balances at the beginning and end of the taxable year or period, and (II) the average value of any holdings of stock of private corporations including treasury stock shown on the balance sheet computed on the balances at the beginning and end of the taxable year or period, and (iii) by apportioning the remainder so derived between this and other states under the provisions of section 12-219a, provided in no event shall the tax so calculated exceed one million dollars or be less than two hundred fifty dollars.

Sec. 425. (*Effective from passage*) The provisions of section 12-242d of the general statutes shall not apply to any additional tax due as a result of the changes made to subdivision (8) of subsection (b) of section 12-214 of the general statutes pursuant to section 422 of this act or to section 12-219 of the general statutes pursuant to sections 423 and 424 of this act, for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2021, but prior to the effective date of sections 422 to 424, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 426. Subsection (a) of section 12-217zz of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) **[**Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except**]** Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section and sections 12-217aaa and 12-217bbb, the amount of tax credit or credits otherwise allowable against the tax imposed under this chapter shall be as follows:

(1) For any income year commencing on or after January 1, 2002, and

prior to January 1, 2015, the amount of tax credit or credits otherwise allowable shall not exceed seventy per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits;

(2) For any income year commencing on or after January 1, 2015, the amount of tax credit or credits otherwise allowable shall not exceed fifty and one one-hundredths per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits;

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, any taxpayer that possesses excess credits may utilize the excess credits as follows:

(A) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2016, and prior to January 1, 2017, the aggregate amount of tax credits and excess credits allowable shall not exceed fifty-five per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits;

(B) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2017, and prior to January 1, 2018, the aggregate amount of tax credits and excess credits allowable shall not exceed sixty per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits; **[**and**]**

(C) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, and prior to January 1, 2019, the aggregate amount of tax credits and excess credits allowable shall not exceed sixty-five per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or

credits;

[(4)**]** (D) For purposes of this **[**subsection**]** subdivision, "excess credits" means any remaining credits available under section 12-217j, 12-217n or 32-9t after tax credits are utilized in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection;

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, the aggregate amount allowable of tax credits and any remaining credits available under section 12-217j or 12-217n after tax credits are utilized in accordance with said subdivision shall not exceed (A) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2022, and prior to January 1, 2023, sixty per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits, and (B) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2023, seventy per cent of the amount of tax due from such taxpayer under this chapter with respect to any such income year of the taxpayer prior to the application of such credit or credits.

Sec. 427. Subsection (d) of section 12-217n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2021*):

(d) (1) The credit provided for by this section shall be allowed for any income year commencing on or after January 1, 1993, provided any credits allowed for income years commencing on or after January 1, 1993, and prior to January 1, 1995, may not be taken until income years commencing on or after January 1, 1995, and, for the purposes of subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall be treated as if the credit for each such income year first became allowable in the first income year commencing on or after January 1, 1995.

(2) No more than one-third of the amount of the credit allowable for any income year may be included in the calculation of the amount of the credit that may be taken in that income year.

(3) The total amount of the credit under subdivision (1) of this subsection that may be taken for any income year may not exceed the greater of (A) fifty per cent of the taxpayer's tax liability or in the case of a combined return, fifty per cent of the combined tax liability, for such income year, determined without regard to any credits allowed under this section, and (B) the lesser of (i) two hundred per cent of the credit otherwise allowed under subsection (c) of this section for such income year, and (ii) ninety per cent of the taxpayer's tax liability or in the case of a combined return, ninety per cent of the combined liability for such income year, determined without regard to any credits allowed under this section.

(4) (A) Credits that are allowed under this section **[**but**]** for income years commencing prior to January 1, 2021, that exceed the amount permitted to be taken in an income year **[**by reason**]** pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection **[**,**]** shall be carried forward to each of the successive income years until such credits, or applicable portion thereof, are fully taken.

(B) Credits that are allowed under this section for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2021, that exceed the amount permitted to be taken in an income year pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection shall be carried forward to each of the successive income years until such credits, or applicable portion thereof, are fully taken. No credit or portion thereof allowed under this section for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2021, shall be carried forward for a period of more than fifteen years.

(C) No credit **[**permitted**]** allowed under this section shall be taken in any income year until the full amount of all allowable credits carried

forward to such year from any prior income year, commencing with the earliest such prior year, that otherwise may be taken under subdivision (2) of this subsection in that income year, have been fully taken.

Sec. 428. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 38a-88a of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(d) (1) The tax **[**credit**]** credits allowed by this section shall only be available for investments **[**(1)**]** (A) in funds that are not open to additional investments or investors beyond the amount subscribed at the formation of the fund, or **[**(2)**]** (B) under subsection (c) of this section, in invest CT funds that are not open to additional investments or investors after submission of the invest CT fund's application to the commissioner pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(2) On and after June 30, 2010, no eligibility certificate shall be provided under subdivision (6) of subsection (b) of this section for investments made in an insurance business.

(3) On **[**or**]** and after July 1, 2011, no credit shall be allowed under subdivision (2) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section for an investment of less than one million dollars for which the commissioner has issued an eligibility certificate. A fund manager who has received an eligibility certificate but is not yet eligible to receive a certificate of continued eligibility shall provide documentation satisfactory to the commissioner not later than June 30, 2011, of its investment of one million dollars or more. Such documentation shall include, but is not limited to, cancelled checks, wire transfers, investment agreements or other documentation as the commissioner may request. On and after July 1, 2011, the commissioner shall revoke the certificate of eligibility for any insurance business for which its fund manager failed to provide sufficient documentation of said investment of not less than one million dollars.

(4) Any credit allowed under subsection (b) or subsection (g) of this section that has not been claimed prior to January 1, 2010, may be carried forward pursuant to subsection (i) of this section.

(e) The maximum amount of credit allowed under subsection (c) of this section shall be **[**three**]** five hundred fifty million dollars in the aggregate and forty million dollars per year.

Sec. 429. Section 12-217jj of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

(a) As used in this section:

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

(2) "Department" means the Department of Economic and Community Development.

(3) (A) "Qualified production" means entertainment content created in whole or in part within the state, including motion pictures, except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph; documentaries; long-form, specials, mini-series, series, sound recordings, videos and music videos and interstitials television programming; interactive television; relocated television production; interactive games; videogames; commercials; any format of digital media, including an interactive web site, created for distribution or exhibition to the general public; and any trailer, pilot, video teaser or demo created primarily to stimulate the sale, marketing, promotion or exploitation of future investment in either a product or a qualified production via any means and media in any digital media format, film or videotape, provided such program meets all the underlying criteria of a qualified production. For state fiscal years ending on or after June 30, 2014, "qualified production" shall not include a motion picture that has not been designated as a state-certified qualified production prior to July 1, 2013, and no tax credit voucher for such motion picture may be issued for such motion picture, except, for

state fiscal years ending on or after June 30, 2015, "qualified production" shall include a motion picture for which twenty-five per cent or more of the principal photography shooting days are in this state at a facility that receives not less than twenty-five million dollars in private investment and opens for business on or after July 1, 2013, and a tax credit voucher may be issued for such motion picture.

(B) "Qualified production" shall not include any ongoing television program created primarily as news, weather or financial market reports; a production featuring current events, other than a relocated television production, sporting events, an awards show or other gala event; a production whose sole purpose is fundraising; a long-form production that primarily markets a product or service; a production used for corporate training or in-house corporate advertising or other similar productions; or any production for which records are required to be maintained under 18 USC 2257, as amended from time to time, with respect to sexually explicit content.

(4) "Eligible production company" means a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other business entity engaged in the business of producing qualified productions on a one-time or ongoing basis, and qualified by the Secretary of the State to engage in business in the state.

(5) "Production expenses or costs" means all expenditures clearly and demonstrably incurred in the state in the preproduction, production or postproduction costs of a qualified production, including:

(A) Expenditures incurred in the state in the form of either compensation or purchases including production work, production equipment not eligible for the infrastructure tax credit provided in section 12-217kk, production software, postproduction work, postproduction equipment, postproduction software, set design, set construction, props, lighting, wardrobe, makeup, makeup accessories,

special effects, visual effects, audio effects, film processing, music, sound mixing, editing, location fees, soundstages and any and all other costs or services directly incurred in connection with a state-certified qualified production;

(B) Expenditures for distribution, including preproduction, production or postproduction costs relating to the creation of trailers, marketing videos, commercials, point-of-purchase videos and any and all content created on film or digital media, including the duplication of films, videos, CDs, DVDs and any and all digital files now in existence and those yet to be created for mass consumer consumption; the purchase, by a company in the state, of any and all equipment relating to the duplication or mass market distribution of any content created or produced in the state by any digital media format which is now in use and those formats yet to be created for mass consumer consumption; and

(C) "Production expenses or costs" does not include the following: (i) On and after January 1, 2008, compensation in excess of fifteen million dollars paid to any individual or entity representing an individual, for services provided in the production of a qualified production and on or after January 1, 2010, compensation subject to Connecticut personal income tax in excess of twenty million dollars paid in the aggregate to any individuals or entities representing individuals, for star talent provided in the production of a qualified production; (ii) media buys, promotional events or gifts or public relations associated with the promotion or marketing of any qualified production; (iii) deferred, leveraged or profit participation costs relating to any and all personnel associated with any and all aspects of the production, including, but not limited to, producer fees, director fees, talent fees and writer fees; (iv) costs relating to the transfer of the production tax credits; (v) any amounts paid to persons or businesses as a result of their participation in profits from the exploitation of the qualified production; and (vi) any

expenses or costs relating to an independent certification, as required by subsection **[**(g)**]** (h) of this section, or as the department may otherwise require, pertaining to the amount of production expenses or costs set forth by an eligible production company in its application for a production tax credit.

(6) "Sound recording" means a recording of music, poetry or spoken-word performance, but does not include the audio portions of dialogue or words spoken and recorded as part of a motion picture, video, theatrical production, television news coverage or athletic event.

(7) "State-certified qualified production" means a qualified production produced by an eligible production company that (A) is in compliance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection **[**(k)**]** (l) of this section, (B) is authorized to conduct business in this state, and (C) has been approved by the department as qualifying for a production tax credit under this section.

(8) "Interactive web site" means a web site, the production costs of which (A) exceed five hundred thousand dollars per income year, and (B) is primarily (i) interactive games or end user applications, or (ii) animation, simulation, sound, graphics, story lines or video created or repurposed for distribution over the Internet. An interactive web site does not include a web site primarily used for institutional, private, industrial, retail or wholesale marketing or promotional purposes, or which contains obscene content.

(9) "Post-certification remedy" means the recapture, disallowance, recovery, reduction, repayment, forfeiture, decertification or any other remedy that would have the effect of reducing or otherwise limiting the use of a tax credit provided by this section.

(10) "Compensation" means base salary or wages and does not include bonus pay, stock options, restricted stock units or similar

arrangements.

(11) "Relocated television production" means:

(A) An ongoing television program all of the prior seasons of which were filmed outside this state, and may include current events shows, except those referenced in subparagraph (B)(i) of this subdivision.

(B) An eligible production company's television programming in this state that (i) is not a general news program, sporting event or game broadcast, and (ii) is created at a qualified production facility that has had a minimum investment of twenty-five million dollars made by such eligible production company on or after January 1, 2012, at which facility the eligible production company creates ongoing television programming as defined in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and creates at least two hundred new jobs in Connecticut on or after January 1, 2012. For purposes of this subdivision, "new job" means a full-time job, as defined in section 12-217ii, that did not exist in this state prior to January 1, 2012, and is filled by a new employee, and "new employee" includes a person who was employed outside this state by the eligible production company prior to January 1, 2012, but does not include a person who was employed in this state by the eligible production company or a related person, as defined in section 12-217ii, with respect to the eligible production company during the prior twelve months.

(C) A relocated television production may be a state-certified qualified production for not more than ten successive income years, after which period the eligible production company shall be ineligible to resubmit an application for certification.

(b) (1) The Department of Economic and Community Development shall administer a system of tax credit vouchers within the resources, requirements and purposes of this section for eligible production companies producing a state-certified qualified production in the state.

(2) Any eligible production company incurring production expenses or costs shall be eligible for a credit (A) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2010, but prior to January 1, 2018, against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or this chapter, **[**and**]** (B) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018, but prior to January 1, 2022, against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or 211 or this chapter, and (C) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2022, against the tax imposed under chapter 207, 211, 219 or this chapter, as follows: (i) 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 ten per cent of such expenses or costs, (ii) 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 fifteen per cent of such expenses or costs, and (iii) for any such company incurring such expenses or costs of more than one million dollars, a credit equal to thirty per cent of such expenses or costs.

(c) No eligible production company incurring an amount of production expenses or costs that qualifies for such credit shall be eligible for such credit unless on or after January 1, 2010, such company conducts (1) not less than fifty per cent of principal photography days within the state, or (2) expends not less than fifty per cent of postproduction costs within the state, or (3) expends not less than one million dollars of postproduction costs within the state.

(d) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2010, no expenses or costs incurred outside the state and used within the state shall be eligible for a credit, and one hundred per cent of such expenses or costs shall be counted toward such credit when incurred within the state and used within the state.

(e) (1) On and after July 1, 2006, and for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2006, any credit allowed pursuant to this section may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, to

one or more taxpayers, provided (A) no credit, after issuance, may be sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, more than three times, (B) in the case of a credit allowed for the income year commencing on or after January 1, 2011, and prior to January 1, 2012, any entity that is not subject to tax under chapter 207 or this chapter may transfer not more than fifty per cent of such credit in any one income year, and (C) in the case of a credit allowed for an income year commencing on or after January 1, 2012, any entity that is not subject to tax under chapter 207 or this chapter may transfer not more than twenty-five per cent of such credit in any one income year.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, any entity that is not subject to tax under this chapter or chapter 207 shall not be subject to the limitations on the transfer of credits provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of said subdivision (1), provided such entity owns not less than fifty per cent, directly or indirectly, of a business entity, as defined in section 12-284b.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, any qualified production that is created in whole or in significant part, as determined by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, at a qualified production facility shall not be subject to the limitations of subparagraph (B) or (C) of said subdivision (1). For purposes of this subdivision, "qualified production facility" means a facility (A) located in this state, (B) intended for film, television or digital media production, and (C) that has had a minimum investment of three million dollars, or less if the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development determines such facility otherwise qualifies.

(4) (A) For the income year commencing January 1, 2018, any credit that is sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, to one or more taxpayers pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 211 only if there is

common ownership of at least fifty per cent between such taxpayer and the eligible production company that sold, assigned or otherwise transferred such credit. Such taxpayer may only claim ninety-two per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher.

(B) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2019, any credit that is sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, to one or more taxpayers pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, which credit is claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 211, shall be subject to the following limits:

(i) The taxpayer may only claim ninety-five per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher; and

(ii) If there is common ownership of at least fifty per cent between such taxpayer and the eligible production company that sold, assigned or otherwise transferred such credit, such taxpayer may only claim ninety-two per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher.

(5) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 2022, any credit that is claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 219 shall be subject to the following limits:

(A) Any credit that is sold, assigned or otherwise transferred, in whole or in part, to one or more taxpayers pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 219 only if there is common ownership of at least fifty per cent between such taxpayer and the eligible production company that sold, assigned or otherwise transferred such credit; and

(B) The eligible production company or taxpayer claiming the credit against the tax imposed under chapter 219 may only claim seventy-eight

per cent of the amount of such credit entered by the department on the production tax credit voucher.

(f) (1) On and after July 1, 2006, and for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2006, but prior to January 1, 2015, all or part of any such credit allowed under this section may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or this chapter for the income year in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the three immediately succeeding income years.

(2) For production tax credit vouchers issued on or after July 1, 2015, but prior to January 1, 2018, all or part of any such credit may be claimed against **[**(A)**]** the tax imposed under chapter 207 or this chapter, **[**or (B) for income years commencing on or after January 1, 2018,**]** for the income year in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the five immediately succeeding income years.

(3) For production tax credit vouchers issued on or after July 1, 2018, but prior to January 1, 2022, all or part of any such credit may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 207 or 211 or this chapter, for the income year in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the five immediately succeeding income years.

(4) For production tax credit vouchers issued on or after January 1, 2022, all or part of any such credit may be claimed against the tax imposed under chapter 207, 211, 219 or this chapter, for the income year in which the production expenses or costs were incurred, or in the five immediately succeeding income years.

[(3)**]** (g) Any production tax credit allowed under this **[**subsection**]** section shall be nonrefundable.

[(g)**]** (h) (1) An eligible production company shall apply to the department for a tax credit voucher on an annual basis, but not later than ninety days after the first production expenses or costs are incurred

in the production of a qualified production, and shall provide with such application such information as the department may require to determine such company's eligibility to claim a credit under this section. No production expenses or costs may be listed more than once for purposes of the tax credit voucher pursuant to this section, or pursuant to section 12-217kk or 12-217*ll*, and if a production expense or cost has been included in a claim for a credit, such production expense or cost may not be included in any subsequent claim for a credit.

(2) Not later than ninety days after the end of the annual period, or after the last production expenses or costs are incurred in the production of a qualified production, an eligible production company shall apply to the department for a production tax credit voucher, and shall provide with such application such information and independent certification as the department may require pertaining to the amount of such company's production expenses or costs. Such independent certification shall be provided by an audit professional chosen from a list compiled by the department. If the department determines that such company is eligible to be issued a production tax credit voucher, the department shall enter on the voucher the amount of production expenses or costs that has been established to the satisfaction of the department and the amount of such company's credit under this section. The department shall provide a copy of such voucher to the commissioner, upon request.

(3) The department shall charge a reasonable administrative fee sufficient to cover the department's costs to analyze applications submitted under this section.

[(h)**]** (i) If an eligible production company sells, assigns or otherwise transfers a credit under this section to another taxpayer, the transferor and transferee shall jointly submit written notification of such transfer to the department not later than thirty days after such transfer. If such transferee sells, assigns or otherwise transfers a credit under this section to a subsequent transferee, such transferee and such subsequent

transferee shall jointly submit written notification of such transfer to the department not later than thirty days after such transfer. The notification after each transfer shall include the credit voucher number, the date of transfer, the amount of such credit transferred, the tax credit balance before and after the transfer, the tax identification numbers for both the transferor and the transferee, and any other information required by the department. Failure to comply with this subsection will result in a disallowance of the tax credit until there is full compliance on the part of the transferor and the transferee, and for a second or third transfer, on the part of all subsequent transferors and transferees. The department shall provide a copy of the notification of assignment to the commissioner upon request.

[(i)**]** (j) Any eligible production company that submits information to the department that it knows to be fraudulent or false shall, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, be liable for a penalty equal to the amount of such company's credit entered on the production tax credit voucher issued under this section.

[(j)**]** (k) No tax credits transferred pursuant to this section shall be subject to a post-certification remedy, and the department and the commissioner shall have no right, except in the case of possible material misrepresentation or fraud, to conduct any further or additional review, examination or audit of the expenditures or costs for which such tax credits were issued. The sole and exclusive remedy of the department and the commissioner shall be to seek collection of the amount of such tax credits from the entity that committed the fraud or misrepresentation.

[(k)**]** (l) The department, in consultation with the commissioner, shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, as may be necessary for the administration of this section.

Sec. 430. Section 12-704e of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2021*):

(a) Any resident of this state, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 12-701, who is subject to the tax imposed under this chapter for any taxable year shall be allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due under this chapter in an amount equal to the applicable percentage **[**, as defined in subsection (e) of this section,**]** of the earned income credit claimed and allowed for the same taxable year under Section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code, as defined in subsection (a) of section 12-701. As used in this section, "applicable percentage" means (1) twenty-three per cent for taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2021, and (2) thirty and one-half per cent for taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2021.

(b) If the amount of the credit allowed pursuant to this section exceeds the taxpayer's liability for the tax imposed under this chapter, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall treat such excess as an overpayment and, except as provided under section 12-739 or 12-742, shall refund the amount of such excess, without interest, to the taxpayer.

(c) If a married individual who is otherwise eligible for the credit allowed hereunder has filed a joint federal income tax return for the taxable year, but is required to file a separate return under this chapter for such taxable year, the credit for which such individual is eligible under this section shall be an amount equal to the applicable percentage **[**, as defined in subsection (e) of this section,**]** of the earned income credit claimed and allowed for such taxable year under **[**said**]** Section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is such individual's federal adjusted gross income, as reported on such individual's separate return under this chapter, and the denominator of which is the federal adjusted gross income, as reported on the joint federal income tax return.

(d) To the extent permitted under federal law, any state or federal earned income tax credit shall not be counted as income when received by an individual who is an applicant for, or recipient of, benefits or services under any state or federal program that provides such benefits or services based on need, nor shall any such earned income tax credit be counted as resources, for the purpose of determining the individual's or any other individual's eligibility for such benefits or services, or the amount of such benefits or services.

[(e) For purposes of this section, "applicable percentage" means twenty-three per cent.**]**

Sec. 431. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Upon any (1) decrease in the amount of the federal child tax credit in effect pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, on the effective date of this section, or (2) change in eligibility criteria for said credit, which change is less favorable to a taxpayer than such criteria in effect pursuant to said act on the effective date of this section, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall, within six months after the first day of the period to which such decrease or change is applicable, whichever is earlier, create a plan to establish a state child tax credit and present such plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding.

Sec. 432. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 12-704c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2021*):

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, for the taxable years commencing January 1, 2017, to January 1, **[**2020**]** 2022, inclusive, the credit under this section shall be allowed only for a resident of this state (A) who has attained age sixty-five before the close

of the applicable taxable year, or (B) who files a return under the federal income tax for the applicable taxable year validly claiming one or more dependents.

Sec. 433. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 12-701 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(B) There shall be subtracted therefrom:

(i) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any income with respect to which taxation by any state is prohibited by federal law;

(ii) To the extent allowable under section 12-718, exempt dividends paid by a regulated investment company;

(iii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any refund or credit for overpayment of income taxes imposed by this state, or any other state of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia;

(iv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes and not otherwise subtracted from federal adjusted gross income pursuant to clause (x) of this subparagraph in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, any tier 1 railroad retirement benefits;

(v) To the extent any additional allowance for depreciation under Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for property placed in service after September 27, 2017, was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ix) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such additional allowance for depreciation in each of the four

succeeding taxable years;

(vi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any interest income from obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut;

(vii) To the extent properly includable in determining the net gain or loss from the sale or other disposition of capital assets for federal income tax purposes, any gain from the sale or exchange of obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut, in the income year such gain was recognized;

(viii) Any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry obligations or securities the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such interest on indebtedness is not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and is attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(ix) Ordinary and necessary expenses paid or incurred during the taxable year for the production or collection of income which is subject to taxation under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, or the management, conservation or maintenance of property held for the production of such income, and the amortizable bond premium for the taxable year on any bond the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such expenses and premiums are not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and are attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(x) (I) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes;

(II) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(III) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal

income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes; and

(IV) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(xi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any amount rebated to a taxpayer pursuant to section 12-746;

(xii) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, any distribution to such beneficiary from any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the state;

(xiii) To the extent allowable under section 12-701a, contributions to accounts established pursuant to any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the state;

(xiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any Holocaust victims' settlement payment received in the taxable year by a Holocaust victim;

(xv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes of an account holder, as defined in section 31-51ww, interest earned on funds deposited in the individual development account, as defined in section 31-51ww, of such account holder;

(xvi) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, as defined in section 3-123aa, interest, dividends or capital gains earned on contributions to accounts established for the designated beneficiary pursuant to the Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly established by sections 3-123aa to 3-123ff, inclusive;

(xvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any income received from the United States government as retirement pay for a retired member of (I) the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the

United States Code, or (II) the National Guard, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the United States Code;

(xviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, any income from the discharge of indebtedness in connection with any reacquisition, after December 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or instruments, as those terms are defined in Section 108 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to the extent any such income was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xi) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income for a preceding taxable year;

(xix) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income, the amount of any contribution to a manufacturing reinvestment account established pursuant to section 32-9zz in the taxable year that such contribution is made;

(xx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2015, ten per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, (II) for the taxable years commencing January 1, 2016, to January 1, 2020, inclusive, twenty-five per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, and each taxable year thereafter, fifty per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system or**,** **[**the percentage, if applicable, pursuant to**]** for a taxpayer whose federal adjusted gross income does not exceed the applicable threshold under clause (xxi) of this subparagraph, the percentage pursuant to said clause of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, whichever deduction is greater;

(xxi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal

income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvii) of this subparagraph, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, fourteen per cent of any pension or annuity income, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2020, twenty-eight per cent of any pension or annuity income, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, forty-two per cent of any pension or annuity income, (IV) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022, fifty-six per cent of any pension or annuity income, (V) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, seventy per cent of any pension or annuity income, (VI) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, eighty-four per cent of any pension or annuity income, and (VII) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, and each taxable year thereafter, any pension or annuity income;

(xxii) The amount of lost wages and medical, travel and housing expenses, not to exceed ten thousand dollars in the aggregate, incurred by a taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the donation to another person of an organ for organ transplantation occurring on or after January 1, 2017;

(xxiii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any financial assistance received from the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund or paid to or on

behalf of the owner of a residential building pursuant to sections 8-442 and 8-443;

(xxiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount calculated pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-704g for income received by a general partner of a venture capital fund, as defined in 17 CFR 275.203(l)-1, as amended from time to time; **[**and**]**

(xxv) To the extent any portion of a deduction under Section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xiv) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such disallowed portion of the deduction in each of the four succeeding taxable years; and

(xxvi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, twenty-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a

Roth individual retirement account, and (IV) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account.

Sec. 434. Section 12-541 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective June 30, 2021*):

(a) The provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall apply to sales occurring prior to July 1, 2021.

[(a)**]** (b) Except as provided in subsection **[**(b)**]** (c) of this section, there is hereby imposed a tax of ten per cent of the admission charge to any place of amusement, entertainment or recreation. No tax shall be imposed with respect to any admission charge:

(1) When the admission charge is less than one dollar or, in the case of any motion picture show, when the admission charge is not more than five dollars;

(2) When a daily admission charge is imposed that entitles the patron to participate in an athletic or sporting activity;

(3) To any event, other than events held at the stadium facility, as defined in section 32-651, if all of the proceeds from the event inure exclusively to an entity that is exempt from federal income tax under the Internal Revenue Code, provided such entity actively engages in and assumes the financial risk associated with the presentation of such event;

(4) To any event, other than events held at the stadium facility, as defined in section 32-651, that, in the opinion of the commissioner, is conducted primarily to raise funds for an entity that is exempt from federal income tax under the Internal Revenue Code, provided the commissioner is satisfied that the net profit that inures to such entity

from such event will exceed the amount of the admissions tax that, but for this subdivision, would be imposed upon the person making such charge to such event;

(5) Other than for events held at the stadium facility, as defined in section 32-651, paid by centers of service for elderly persons, as described in section 17a-310;

(6) To any production featuring live performances by actors or musicians presented at Gateway's Candlewood Playhouse, Ocean Beach Park or any nonprofit theater or playhouse in the state, provided such theater or playhouse possesses evidence confirming exemption from federal tax under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(7) To any carnival or amusement ride;

(8) To any interscholastic athletic event held at the stadium facility, as defined in section 32-651;

(9) If the admission charge would have been subject to tax under the provisions of section 12-542 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1999; or

(10) On and after July 1, 2020, to any event at the Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford.

[(b)**]** (c) (1) For the following venues and events, for sales occurring on or after July 1, 2019, but prior to July 1, 2020, the tax imposed under this section shall be seven and one-half per cent of the admission charge to:

(A) Any event at the XL Center in Hartford;

(B) Any event at Dillon Stadium in Hartford;

(C) Any athletic event presented by a member team of the Atlantic

League of Professional Baseball at the New Britain Stadium;

(D) Any event at the Webster Bank Arena in Bridgeport;

(E) Any event at the Harbor Yard Amphitheater in Bridgeport;

(F) Any event at Dodd Stadium in Norwich;

(G) Any event at the Oakdale Theatre in Wallingford; and

(H) Any event other than an interscholastic athletic event at the stadium facility, as defined in section 32-651.

(2) For sales occurring on or after July 1, 2019, but prior to July 1, 2020, for any event at the Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford, the tax imposed under this section shall be five per cent of the admission charge.

(3) For the venues and events specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection, for sales occurring on or after July 1, 2020, the tax imposed under this section shall be five per cent of the admission charge.

[(4)**]** (d) On and after July 1, 2001, the tax imposed under this section on any motion picture show with an admission charge of more than five dollars shall be six per cent of the admission charge. **[**(c)**]** The tax shall be imposed upon the person making such charge and reimbursement for the tax shall be collected by such person from the purchase. Such reimbursement, termed "tax", shall be paid by the purchaser to the person making the admission charge. Such tax, when added to the admission charge, shall be a debt from the purchaser to the person making the admission charge and shall be recoverable at law. The amount of tax reimbursement, when so collected, shall be deemed to be a special fund in trust for the state of Connecticut.

Sec. 435. Section 12-412 of the general statutes is amended by adding subdivision (125) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2021, and applicable to sales occurring on or after July 1, 2021*):

(NEW) (125) (A) Sales of and the storage, use or other consumption of breast pumps and breast pump collection and storage supplies, when sold to an individual for home use, and repair or replacement parts for and repair services rendered to such breast pumps.

(B) (i) Sales of and the storage, use or other consumption of breast pump kits prepackaged by the breast pump manufacturer, when sold to an individual for home use, provided the breast pump kit is composed entirely of (I) a breast pump and breast pump collection and storage supplies, that are exempt under this subdivision, or (II) breast pump collection and storage supplies that are exempt under this subdivision.

(ii) If a breast pump kit includes other taxable items of tangible personal property, the sale of and the storage, use or other consumption of such breast pump kit is subject to the tax imposed under this chapter unless the sales price of the other taxable items of tangible personal property packaged and sold with the breast pump kit at the time of sale is ten per cent or less of the total sale price of the breast pump kit.

(C) As used in this subdivision:

(i) "Breast pump" means an electrically or manually controlled pump device used to express milk from a human breast during lactation, including any external power supply unit packaged and sold with the pump device at the time of sale to power the pump device;

(ii) (I) "Breast pump collection and storage supplies" means items of tangible personal property such as breast shields and breast shield connectors, breast pump tubes and tubing adapters; breast pump valves and membranes; backflow protectors and backflow protector adapters; bottles and bottle caps specific to the operation of the breast pump, breast milk storage bags; and related items sold as part of a breast pump kit prepackaged by the breast pump manufacturer; that are used in conjunction with a breast pump to collect milk expressed from a human

breast and to store collected milk until it is ready for consumption;

(II) "Breast pump collection and storage supplies" does not include bottles and bottle caps not specific to the operation of the breast pump; breast pump travel bags or other similar carrying accessories, including ice packs, labels and other similar products, unless sold as part of a breast pump kit prepackaged by the breast pump manufacturer; breast pump cleaning supplies, unless sold as part of a breast pump kit prepackaged by the breast pump manufacturer; nursing bras, bra pads, breast shells or other similar products; or creams, ointments and other similar products that relieve breastfeeding-related symptoms or conditions of the breasts or nipples; and

(III) "Breast pump kit" means a prepackaged set that contains one or more of the following items: A breast pump; breast pump collection and storage supplies; and other items of tangible personal property that may be useful to initiate, support or sustain breastfeeding using a breast pump during lactation.

Sec. 436. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Any establishment that (1) sells meals, as defined in subdivision (13) of section 12-412 of the general statutes, subject to the tax under subparagraph (I) of subdivision (1) of section 12-408 of the general statutes, and (2) is included in Sector 72 of the North American Industrial Classification System, United States Manual, United States Office of Management and Budget, 2017 edition, may retain one hundred per cent of the tax that is attributable to the sales of meals by such establishment during one of the following weeks, as selected by the establishment: From August 1, 2021, to August 7, 2021, inclusive; from December 12, 2021, to December 18, 2021, inclusive; or from May 15, 2022, to May 21, 2022, inclusive. Each such establishment shall provide to the Commissioner of Revenue Services such information as the commissioner requires to administer the provisions of this section, in such form and manner as prescribed by the commissioner.

Sec. 437. Section 12-435 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Each distributor of alcoholic beverages shall pay a tax to the state on all sales within the state of alcoholic beverages, except sales to licensed distributors, sales of alcoholic beverages that, in the course of such sales, are actually transported to some point without the state and except the first fifteen barrels of beer that is produced annually and consumed on the premises covered by a manufacturer's permit, at the rates for the respective categories of alcoholic beverages listed below:

(1) **[**Beer**]** (A) For sales occurring prior to July 1, 2023, beer, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this section, seven dollars and twenty cents for each barrel, three dollars and sixty cents for each half barrel, one dollar and eighty cents for each quarter barrel and twenty-four cents per wine gallon or fraction thereof on quantities less than a quarter barrel; and

(B) For sales occurring on or after July 1, 2023, beer, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this section, six dollars for each barrel, three dollars for each half barrel, one dollar and fifty cents for each quarter barrel and twenty cents per wine gallon or fraction thereof on quantities less than a quarter barrel;

(2) Beer sold on the premises covered by a manufacturer's permit for off-premises consumption, three dollars and sixty cents for each barrel, one dollar and eighty cents for each half barrel, ninety cents for each quarter barrel and twelve cents per wine gallon or fraction thereof on quantities less than a quarter barrel;

(3) Liquor, five dollars and ninety-four cents per wine gallon;

(4) Still wines containing not more than twenty-one per cent of absolute alcohol, except as provided in subdivisions (8) and (9) of this section, seventy-nine cents per wine gallon;

(5) Still wines containing more than twenty-one per cent of absolute alcohol and sparkling wines, one dollar and ninety-eight cents per wine gallon;

(6) Alcohol in excess of 100 proof, five dollars and ninety-four cents per proof gallon;

(7) Liquor coolers containing not more than seven per cent of alcohol by volume, two dollars and seventy-one cents per wine gallon;

(8) Still wine containing not more than twenty-one per cent of absolute alcohol, produced by a person who produces not more than fifty-five thousand wine gallons of wine during the calendar year, twenty cents per wine gallon, provided such person presents to each distributor of alcoholic beverages described in this section a certificate, issued by the commissioner, stating that such person produces not more than fifty-five thousand wine gallons of wine during the calendar year. The commissioner is authorized to issue such certificates, prescribe the procedures for obtaining such certificates and prescribe their form; and

(9) Cider containing not more than seven per cent of absolute alcohol, seven dollars and ninety-two cents for each barrel, three dollars and ninety-six cents for each half barrel, one dollar and ninety-eight cents for each quarter barrel and twenty-six cents per wine gallon or fraction thereof on quantities less than a quarter barrel.

Sec. 438. Section 1-1j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(a) Each state agency, as defined in section 4-166, shall accept payment in cash or by check, draft or money order for any license issued by such agency pursuant to the provisions of the general statutes.

(b) Except as **[**otherwise**]** provided by <u>any other provision of</u> the general statutes, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management

may authorize any state agency **[**(1)**]** to accept payment of any fee, cost or fine payable to such agency by means of a credit card, charge card or debit card **[**,**]** or an electronic payment service, **[**and (2) to charge a service fee for any such payment made by credit card, charge card or debit card or an electronic payment service. Such**]** provided each state agency that accepts payment by means of a credit card, charge card or debit card shall charge the payor using such card a service fee, except that such service fee may be waived by such state agency for a category of fee, cost or fine, if such waiver has been approved by said secretary.

(c) (1) Any service fee imposed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall **[**be (A) related to**]** (A) be for the purpose of defraying the cost of service, (B) **[**uniform for all credit cards, charge cards and debit cards accepted**]** not exceed any charge by the credit card, charge card or debit card issuer or processor, including any discount rate, and (C) be applied only when allowed by the operating rules and regulations of the credit card, charge card or debit card issuer or processor involved or when authorized in writing by such issuer or processor.

(2) Each state agency that charges a service fee pursuant to this section or any other provision of the general statutes shall disclose such service fee to a payor prior to the imposition of such service fee. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with any requirements for disclosure set forth by the card issuer or processor.

(d) Payments by credit card, charge card, debit card or an electronic payment service shall be made at such times and under such conditions as the secretary may prescribe in regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

(e) Payment of a fee, cost or fine, and any applicable service fee, by credit card, charge card, debit card or an electronic payment service shall constitute full payment of such fee, cost, fine or service fee, regardless of any discount applied by a credit card company.

Sec. 439. Subsection (g) of section 3-99a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(g) The Secretary of the State may allow remittances to be in the form of a credit card account number and an authorization to draw upon a specified credit card account, at such time and under such conditions as the Secretary may prescribe. Remittances in the form of an authorization to draw upon a specified credit card account shall include an amount for purposes of paying the discount rate associated with drawing upon the credit card account, unless the remittances are drawn on an account with a financial institution that agrees to add the number to the credit card holder's billing, in which event the remittances drawn shall not include an amount for purposes of paying the discount rate associated with the drawing upon the credit card account.

Sec. 440. Section 14-11i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may allow the payment of any fee specified in this chapter or chapter 247 by means of a credit card and **[**may**]** shall charge each payor a service fee for any payment made by means of a credit card. The fee shall not exceed any charge by the credit card issuer or by its authorized agent, including any discount rate. Payments by credit card shall be made under such conditions as the commissioner may prescribe, except that the commissioner shall determine the rate or amount of the service fee for any such credit card in accordance with subsection (c) of section 1-1j. Such service fee may be waived by the commissioner for a category of fee if such waiver has been approved by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-1j. If any charge with respect to payment of a fee by means of a credit card is not authorized by such issuer or its authorized agent, the commissioner shall assess the payor the fee specified in subsection (f) of section 14-50.

Sec. 441. Subsection (g) of section 19a-88 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(g) (1) The Department of Public Health shall administer a secure on-line license renewal system for persons holding a license to practice medicine or surgery under chapter 370, dentistry under chapter 379, nursing under chapter 378 or nurse-midwifery under chapter 377. The department shall require such persons to renew their licenses using the on-line renewal system and to pay professional services fees on-line by means of a credit card or electronic transfer of funds from a bank or credit union account, except in extenuating circumstances, including, but not limited to, circumstances in which a licensee does not have access to a credit card and submits a notarized affidavit affirming that fact, the department may allow the licensee to renew his or her license using a paper form prescribed by the department and pay professional service fees by check or money order.

(2) The department shall charge a service fee for each payment made by means of a credit card. The Commissioner of Public Health shall determine the rate or amount of the service fee for any such credit card in accordance with subsection (c) of section 1-1j. Such service fee may be waived by the commissioner for a category of fee if such waiver has been approved by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-1j.

Sec. 442. Section 45a-113b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

Each **[**court of probate**]** Probate Court may allow the payment of any fees charged by such court by means of a credit card, charge card or debit card. **[**and may**]** Such court shall charge the person making such payment a service fee for any such payment made by means of any such card. The fee shall not exceed any charge by the card issuer, including

any discount rate. The Probate Court Administrator shall determine the rate or amount of the service fee for any such card in accordance with subsection (c) of section 1-1j.

Sec. 443. Section 51-193b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

Payment of any fees, costs, fines or other charges to the Judicial Branch may be made by means of a credit card **[**,**]** and the payor **[**may**]** shall be charged a service fee for any such payment made by means of a credit card. The service fee shall not exceed any charge by the credit card issuer, including any discount rate. Payments by credit card shall be made at such time and under such conditions as the Office of the Chief Court Administrator may prescribe, except that the Chief Court Administrator shall determine the rate or amount of the service fee for any such card in accordance with subsection (c) of section 1-1j.

Sec. 444. Section 4-66*l* of the general statutes, as amended by section 6 of public act 21-3, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "FY 15 mill rate" means the mill rate a municipality used during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015;

(2) "Mill rate" means, unless otherwise specified, the mill rate a municipality uses to calculate tax bills for motor vehicles;

(3) "Municipality" means any town, city, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough; **[**. "Municipality" includes a district for the purposes of subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section;**]**

(4) "Municipal spending" means:

$$\frac{\text{Municipal spending for the fiscal year prior to the current fiscal year} - \text{Municipal spending for the fiscal year two years prior to the current year}}{\text{Municipal spending for the fiscal year two years prior to the current year}} \times 100 = \text{Municipal spending;}$$

(5) "Per capita distribution" means:

$$\frac{\text{Municipal population}}{\text{Total state population}} \times \text{Sales tax revenue} = \text{Per capita distribution;}$$

(6) "Pro rata distribution" means:

$$\frac{\text{Municipal weighted mill rate calculation}}{\text{Sum of all municipal weighted mill rate calculations combined}} \times \text{Sales tax revenue} = \text{Pro rata distribution;}$$

(7) "Regional council of governments" means any such council organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive;

(8) "Municipal population" means the number of persons in a municipality according to the most recent estimate of the Department of Public Health;

(9) "Total state population" means the number of persons in this state according to the most recent estimate published by the Department of Public Health;

(10) "Weighted mill rate" means a municipality's FY 15 mill rate divided by the average of all municipalities' FY 15 mill rate;

(11) "Weighted mill rate calculation" means per capita distribution multiplied by a municipality's weighted mill rate;

(12) "Sales tax revenue" means the moneys in the account remaining for distribution pursuant to subdivision **[**(7)**]** (4) of subsection (b) of this section;

(13) "District" means any district, as defined in section 7-324; and

(14) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

(b) There is established an account to be known as the "municipal revenue sharing account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. The secretary shall set aside and ensure availability of moneys in the account in the following order of priority and shall transfer or disburse such moneys as follows:

[(1) Ten million dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, shall be transferred not later than April fifteenth for the purposes of grants under section 10-262h;**]**

[(2)**]** (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, **[**2018**]** 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make motor vehicle property tax grants payable to municipalities pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be expended not later than August first annually by the secretary;

[(3)**]** (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make the grants payable pursuant to subsection (d) of section 12-18b, as amended by **[**this act,**]** public act 21-3, subdivisions (1) and (3) of subsection (e) of section 12-18b, subsection (b) of section 12-19b and subsections (b) and (c) of section 12-20b shall be expended by the secretary;

[(4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, moneys sufficient to make the municipal revenue sharing grants payable to municipalities pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section shall be expended not later than October thirty-first annually by the secretary;**]**

[(5)**]** (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, **[**2018**]** 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, seven million dollars shall be expended for the purposes of the regional services grants pursuant to subsection **[**(e)**]** (d) of this section to the regional councils of governments; and

[(6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys may be expended for the purpose of supplemental motor vehicle property tax grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and**]**

[(7)**]** (4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, **[**2020**]** 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys in the account remaining shall be expended annually by the secretary for the purposes of the municipal revenue sharing grants established pursuant to subsection **[**(f)**]** (e) of this section. Any such moneys deposited in the account for municipal revenue sharing grants between October first and June thirtieth shall be distributed to municipalities on the following October first and any such moneys deposited in the account between July first and September thirtieth shall be distributed to municipalities on the following January thirty-first. Any municipality may apply to the Office of Policy and Management on or after July first for early disbursement of a portion of

such grant. The Office of Policy and Management may approve such an application if it finds that early disbursement is required in order for a municipality to meet its cash flow needs. No early disbursement approved by said office may be issued later than September thirtieth.

[(c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, motor vehicle property tax grants to municipalities that impose mill rates on real property and personal property other than motor vehicles greater than 39 mills or that, when combined with the mill rate of any district located within the municipality, impose mill rates greater than 39 mills, shall be made in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of property taxes levied by the municipality and any district located within the municipality on motor vehicles for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2013, and the amount such levy would have been if the mill rate on motor vehicles for said assessment year was 39 mills.**]**

[(2)**]** (c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, **[**2020**]** 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, motor vehicle property tax grants to municipalities that impose mill rates on real property and personal property other than motor vehicles greater than 45 mills or that, when combined with the mill rate of any district located within the municipality, impose mill rates greater than 45 mills, shall be made in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of property taxes levied by the municipality and any district located within the municipality on motor vehicles for the assessment year commencing October 1, **[**2016**]** 2017, and the amount such levy would have been if the mill rate on motor vehicles for said assessment year was **[**45 mills**]** equal to the mill rate imposed by such municipality and any district located within the municipality on real property and personal property other than motor vehicles.

[(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, any municipality that imposed a mill rate for real and personal property of more than 39 mills during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and effected a revaluation of

real property for the 2014 or 2015 assessment year that resulted in an increase of 4 or more mills over the prior mill rate, may apply to the Office of Policy and Management for a supplemental motor vehicle property tax grant. The Office of Policy and Management may approve such an application, within available funds, provided such supplemental grant does not reduce any amount payable to any other municipality.**]**

[(4)**]** (2) Not later than fifteen calendar days after receiving a property tax grant pursuant to this section, the municipality shall disburse to any district located within the municipality the amount of any such property tax grant that is attributable to the district.

[(d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, each municipality shall receive a municipal revenue sharing grant, which shall be payable August 1, 2016, from the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund established in section 4-66p. The total amount of the grant payable is as follows:

Municipality	Grant Amount
Andover	66,705
Ansonia	605,442
Ashford	87,248
Avon	374,711
Barkhamsted	76,324
Beacon Falls	123,341
Berlin	843,048
Bethany	114,329
Bethel	392,605
Bethlehem	42,762
Bloomfield	438,458
Bolton	106,449
Bozrah	53,783
Branford	570,402
Bridgeport	14,476,283
Bridgewater	15,670
Bristol	1,276,119
Brookfield	343,611

Brooklyn	103,910
Burlington	193,490
Canaan	14,793
Canterbury	58,684
Canton	211,078
Chaplin	48,563
Cheshire	594,084
Chester	57,736
Clinton	268,611
Colchester	330,363
Colebrook	29,694
Columbia	111,276
Cornwall	11,269
Coventry	252,939
Cromwell	288,951
Danbury	2,079,675
Darien	171,485
Deep River	93,525
Derby	462,718
Durham	150,019
East Granby	106,222
East Haddam	186,418
East Hampton	263,149
East Hartford	3,877,281
East Haven	593,493
East Lyme	243,736
East Windsor	232,457
Eastford	23,060
Easton	155,216
Ellington	321,722
Enfield	911,974
Essex	74,572
Fairfield	795,318
Farmington	335,287
Franklin	26,309
Glastonbury	754,546
Goshen	30,286
Granby	244,839
Greenwich	366,588

Griswold	243,727
Groton	433,177
Guilford	456,863
Haddam	170,440
Hamden	4,491,337
Hampton	38,070
Hartford	13,908,437
Hartland	27,964
Harwinton	113,987
Hebron	208,666
Kent	26,808
Killingly	351,213
Killingworth	85,270
Lebanon	149,163
Ledyard	307,619
Lisbon	45,413
Litchfield	169,828
Lyme	21,862
Madison	372,897
Manchester	1,972,491
Mansfield	525,280
Marlborough	131,065
Meriden	1,315,347
Middlebury	154,299
Middlefield	91,372
Middletown	964,657
Milford	1,880,830
Monroe	404,221
Montville	401,756
Morris	28,110
Naugatuck	2,405,660
New Britain	5,781,991
New Canaan	168,106
New Fairfield	288,278
New Hartford	140,338
New Haven	2,118,290
New London	750,249
New Milford	565,898
Newington	651,000

Newtown	572,949
Norfolk	20,141
North Branford	292,517
North Canaan	66,052
North Haven	487,882
North Stonington	107,832
Norwalk	3,401,590
Norwich	1,309,943
Old Lyme	79,946
Old Saybrook	101,527
Orange	284,365
Oxford	171,492
Plainfield	310,350
Plainville	363,176
Plymouth	255,581
Pomfret	54,257
Portland	192,715
Preston	58,934
Prospect	197,097
Putnam	76,399
Redding	189,781
Ridgefield	512,848
Rocky Hill	405,872
Roxbury	15,998
Salem	85,617
Salisbury	20,769
Scotland	36,200
Seymour	343,388
Sharon	19,467
Shelton	706,038
Sherman	39,000
Simsbury	567,460
Somers	141,697
South Windsor	558,715
Southbury	404,731
Southington	889,821
Sprague	89,456
Stafford	243,095
Stamford	2,372,358

Sterling	77,037
Stonington	202,888
Stratford	1,130,316
Suffield	321,763
Thomaston	158,888
Thompson	114,582
Tolland	303,971
Torrington	2,435,109
Trumbull	745,325
Union	17,283
Vernon	641,027
Voluntown	33,914
Wallingford	919,984
Warren	11,006
Washington	25,496
Waterbury	13,438,542
Waterford	259,091
Watertown	453,012
West Hartford	1,614,320
West Haven	1,121,850
Westbrook	80,601
Weston	211,384
Westport	262,402
Wethersfield	940,267
Willington	121,568
Wilton	380,234
Winchester	224,447
Windham	513,847
Windsor	593,921
Windsor Locks	256,241
Wolcott	340,859
Woodbridge	247,758
Woodbury	200,175
Woodstock	97,708
Borough of Danielson	-
Borough of Litchfield	-
Bloomfield, Blue Hills FD	92,961
Enfield Thompsonville FD #2	354,311
Manchester - Eighth Utility District	436,718

Middletown - City Fire	910,442
Middletown So Fire	413,961
Norwich CCD	552,565
Norwich TCD	62,849
Simsbury FD	221,536
Plainfield Fire District	-
Windham, Special Service District #2	640,000
Windham 1st Taxing District	-
Windham First	
West Haven First Center (D1)	1,039,843
West Haven: Allingtown FD (D3)	483,505
West Haven: West Shore FD (D2)	654,640

(2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, each municipality shall receive a municipal sharing grant payable not later than October thirty-first of each year. The total amount of the grant payable is as follows:

Municipality	Grant Amount
Andover	96,020
Ansonia	643,519
Ashford	125,591
Avon	539,387
Barkhamsted	109,867
Beacon Falls	177,547
Berlin	1,213,548
Bethany	164,574
Bethel	565,146
Bethlehem	61,554
Bloomfield	631,150
Bolton	153,231
Bozrah	77,420
Branford	821,080
Bridgeport	9,758,441
Bridgewater	22,557
Bristol	1,836,944
Brookfield	494,620

Brooklyn	149,576
Burlington	278,524
Canaan	21,294
Canterbury	84,475
Canton	303,842
Chaplin	69,906
Cheshire	855,170
Chester	83,109
Clinton	386,660
Colchester	475,551
Colebrook	42,744
Columbia	160,179
Cornwall	16,221
Coventry	364,100
Cromwell	415,938
Danbury	2,993,644
Darien	246,849
Deep River	134,627
Derby	400,912
Durham	215,949
East Granby	152,904
East Haddam	268,344
East Hampton	378,798
East Hartford	2,036,894
East Haven	854,319
East Lyme	350,852
East Windsor	334,616
Eastford	33,194
Easton	223,430
Ellington	463,112
Enfield	1,312,766
Essex	107,345
Fairfield	1,144,842
Farmington	482,637
Franklin	37,871
Glastonbury	1,086,151
Goshen	43,596
Granby	352,440
Greenwich	527,695

Griswold	350,840
Groton	623,548
Guilford	657,644
Haddam	245,344
Hamden	2,155,661
Hampton	54,801
Hartford	1,498,643
Hartland	40,254
Harwinton	164,081
Hebron	300,369
Kent	38,590
Killingly	505,562
Killingworth	122,744
Lebanon	214,717
Ledyard	442,811
Lisbon	65,371
Litchfield	244,464
Lyme	31,470
Madison	536,777
Manchester	1,971,540
Mansfield	756,128
Marlborough	188,665
Meriden	1,893,412
Middlebury	222,109
Middlefield	131,529
Middletown	1,388,602
Milford	2,707,412
Monroe	581,867
Montville	578,318
Morris	40,463
Naugatuck	1,251,980
New Britain	3,131,893
New Canaan	241,985
New Fairfield	414,970
New Hartford	202,014
New Haven	114,863
New London	917,228
New Milford	814,597
Newington	937,100

Newtown	824,747
Norfolk	28,993
North Branford	421,072
North Canaan	95,081
North Haven	702,295
North Stonington	155,222
Norwalk	4,896,511
Norwich	1,362,971
Old Lyme	115,080
Old Saybrook	146,146
Orange	409,337
Oxford	246,859
Plainfield	446,742
Plainville	522,783
Plymouth	367,902
Pomfret	78,101
Portland	277,409
Preston	84,835
Prospect	283,717
Putnam	109,975
Redding	273,185
Ridgefield	738,233
Rocky Hill	584,244
Roxbury	23,029
Salem	123,244
Salisbury	29,897
Scotland	52,109
Seymour	494,298
Sharon	28,022
Shelton	1,016,326
Sherman	56,139
Simsbury	775,368
Somers	203,969
South Windsor	804,258
Southbury	582,601
Southington	1,280,877
Sprague	128,769
Stafford	349,930
Stamford	3,414,955

Sterling	110,893
Stonington	292,053
Stratford	1,627,064
Suffield	463,170
Thomaston	228,716
Thompson	164,939
Tolland	437,559
Torrington	1,133,394
Trumbull	1,072,878
Union	24,878
Vernon	922,743
Voluntown	48,818
Wallingford	1,324,296
Warren	15,842
Washington	36,701
Waterbury	5,595,448
Waterford	372,956
Watertown	652,100
West Hartford	2,075,223
West Haven	1,614,877
Westbrook	116,023
Weston	304,282
Westport	377,722
Wethersfield	1,353,493
Willington	174,995
Wilton	547,338
Winchester	323,087
Windham	739,671
Windsor	854,935
Windsor Locks	368,853
Wolcott	490,659
Woodbridge	274,418
Woodbury	288,147
Woodstock	140,648**]**

[(e)**]** (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and each fiscal year thereafter, each regional council of governments shall receive a regional services grant, the amount of which will be based on a formula to be

determined by the secretary, except that, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, thirty-five per cent of such grant moneys shall be awarded to regional councils of governments for the purpose of assisting regional education service centers in merging their human resource, finance or technology services with such services provided by municipalities within the region. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, three million dollars shall be expended by the secretary from the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund established in section 4-66p for the purpose of the regional services grant. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, or any fiscal year thereafter, unless the secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before July 1, 2017, and annually thereafter. The regional councils of governments shall use such grants for planning purposes and to achieve efficiencies in the delivery of municipal services by regionalizing such services, including, but not limited to, region-wide consolidation of such services. Such efficiencies shall not diminish the quality of such services. A unanimous vote of the representatives of such council shall be required for approval of any expenditure from such grant. On or before October 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter, each such council shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development and finance, revenue and bonding. Such report shall summarize the expenditure of such grants and provide recommendations concerning the expansion, reduction or modification of such grants.

[(f)**]** (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, each municipality shall receive a municipal revenue sharing grant as follows:

(1) (A) A municipality having a mill rate at or above twenty-five shall receive the per capita distribution or pro rata distribution, whichever is

higher for such municipality.

(B) Such grants shall be increased by a percentage calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Sum of per capita distribution amount for all municipalities having a mill rate below twenty-five – pro rata distribution amount for all municipalities having a mill rate below twenty-five}}{\text{Sum of all grants to municipalities calculated pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection.}}$$

(C) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this subdivision, Hartford shall receive not more than 5.2 per cent of the municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this subsection; Bridgeport shall receive not more than 4.5 per cent of the municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this subsection; New Haven shall receive not more than 2.0 per cent of the municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this subsection and Stamford shall receive not more than 2.8 per cent of the equalization grants distributed pursuant to this subsection. Any excess funds remaining after such reductions in payments to Hartford, Bridgeport, New Haven and Stamford shall be distributed to all other municipalities having a mill rate at or above twenty-five on a pro rata basis according to the payment they receive pursuant to this subdivision; and

(2) A municipality having a mill rate below twenty-five shall receive the per capita distribution or pro rata distribution, whichever is less for

such municipality.

(3) For the purposes of this subsection, "mill rate" means the mill rate for real property and personal property other than motor vehicles.

[(g)**]** (f) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a municipality may disburse any municipal revenue sharing grant funds to a district within such municipality.

[(h)**]** (g) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection **[**(d) or (f)**]** (e) of this section shall be reduced if such municipality increases its adopted budget expenditures for such fiscal year above a cap equal to the amount of adopted budget expenditures authorized for the previous fiscal year by 2.5 per cent or more or the rate of inflation, whichever is greater. Such reduction shall be in an amount equal to fifty cents for every dollar expended over the cap set forth in this subsection. For the purposes of this section, (A) "municipal spending" does not include expenditures for debt service, special education, implementation of court orders or arbitration awards, expenditures associated with a major disaster or emergency declaration by the President of the United States, a disaster emergency declaration issued by the Governor pursuant to chapter 517 or any disbursement made to a district pursuant to subsection (c) or **[**(g)**]** (f) of this section, budgeting for an audited deficit, nonrecurring grants, capital expenditures or payments on unfunded pension liabilities, (B) "adopted budget expenditures" includes expenditures from a municipality's general fund and expenditures from any nonbudgeted funds, and (C) "capital expenditure" means a nonrecurring capital expenditure of one hundred thousand dollars or more. Each municipality shall annually certify to the secretary, on a form prescribed by said secretary, whether such municipality has exceeded the cap set forth in this subsection and if so the amount by which the cap was exceeded.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection **[**(d) or (f)**]** (e) of this section shall not be reduced in the case of a municipality whose adopted budget expenditures exceed the cap set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection by an amount proportionate to any increase to its municipal population from the previous fiscal year, as determined by the secretary.

[(i)**]** (h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection **[**(f)**]** (e) of this section shall be reduced proportionately in the event that the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount available for such grants in the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

Sec. 445. Section 12-18b of the general statutes, as amended by section 5 of public act 21-3, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "College and hospital property" means all real property described in subsection (a) of section 12-20a;

(2) "District" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-324;

(3) "Equalized net grand list per capita" means the grand list of a municipality upon which taxes were levied for the general expenses of such municipality three years prior to the fiscal year in which a grant under this section is to be paid, equalized in accordance with the provisions of section 10-261a and divided by the total population of such municipality;

(4) "Municipality" means any town, city, borough, consolidated town and city and consolidated town and borough;

(5) "State, municipal or tribal property" means all real property described in subsection (a) of section 12-19a;

(6) "Tier one municipality" means a municipality with an equalized net grand list per capita of less than one hundred thousand dollars;

(7) "Tier two municipality" means a municipality with an equalized net grand list per capita of one hundred thousand dollars to two hundred thousand dollars; and

(8) "Tier three municipality" means a municipality with an equalized net grand list per capita of greater than two hundred thousand dollars.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 12-19a and 12-20a, all funds appropriated for state grants in lieu of taxes shall be payable to municipalities and districts pursuant to the provisions of this section. On or before January first, annually, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall determine the amount due, as a state grant in lieu of taxes, to each municipality and district in this state wherein college and hospital property is located and to each municipality and district in this state wherein state, municipal or tribal property, except that which was acquired and used for highways and bridges, but not excepting property acquired and used for highway administration or maintenance purposes, is located.

(1) The grant payable to any municipality or district for state, municipal or tribal property under the provisions of this section in the fiscal year ending June 30, **[**2017**]** 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, shall be equal to the total of:

(A) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to any facility designated by the Commissioner of Correction, on or before August first of each year, to be a correctional facility administered under the auspices of the Department of Correction or a juvenile detention center under direction of the

Department of Children and Families that was used for incarcerative purposes during the preceding fiscal year. If a list containing the name and location of such designated facilities and information concerning their use for purposes of incarceration during the preceding fiscal year is not available from the Secretary of the State on August first of any year, the Commissioner of Correction shall, on said date, certify to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management a list containing such information;

(B) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to that portion of the John Dempsey Hospital located at The University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington that is used as a permanent medical ward for prisoners under the custody of the Department of Correction. Nothing in this section shall be construed as designating any portion of The University of Connecticut Health Center John Dempsey Hospital as a correctional facility;

(C) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid on any land designated within the 1983 Settlement boundary and taken into trust by the federal government for the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation on or after June 8, 1999;

(D) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to the property and facilities owned by the Connecticut Port Authority;

[(D)**]** (E) Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 12-19a, sixty-five per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to the buildings and grounds comprising Connecticut Valley Hospital and Whiting Forensic Hospital in Middletown;

[(E)**]** (F) With respect to any municipality in which more than fifty per cent of the property is state-owned real property, one hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to such

state-owned property;

[(F)**]** (G) Forty-five per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to all municipally owned airports; except for the exemption applicable to such property, on the assessment list in such municipality for the assessment date two years prior to the commencement of the state fiscal year in which such grant is payable. The grant provided pursuant to this section for any municipally owned airport shall be paid to any municipality in which the airport is located, except that the grant applicable to Sikorsky Airport shall be paid one-half to the town of Stratford and one-half to the city of Bridgeport;

[(G) Forty-five**]** (H) One hundred per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to any land designated within the 1983 Settlement boundary and taken into trust by the federal government for the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation prior to June 8, 1999, or taken into trust by the federal government for the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, provided the real property subject to this subparagraph shall be the land only, and shall not include the assessed value of any structures, buildings or other improvements on such land; and

[(H)**]** (I) Forty-five per cent of the property taxes that would have been paid with respect to all other state-owned real property.

(2) The grant payable to any municipality or district for college and hospital property under the provisions of this section in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and each fiscal year thereafter, shall be equal to the total of seventy-seven per cent of the property taxes that, except for any exemption applicable to any college and hospital property under the provisions of section 12-81, would have been paid with respect to college and hospital property on the assessment list in such municipality or district for the assessment date two years prior to the commencement of the state fiscal year in which such grant is payable.

(c) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall list municipalities, boroughs and districts based on the equalized net grand list per capita. Boroughs and districts shall have the same equalized net grand list per capita as the town, city, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough in which such borough or district is located.

(d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter:

(1) The total amount of the **[**grant**]** grants paid to a municipality or district pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall not be lower than the total amount of the payment in lieu of taxes **[**grant**]** grants received by such municipality or district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

(2) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and district in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subsection for a fiscal year:

(A) Each tier one municipality shall receive fifty per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section;

(B) Each tier two municipality shall receive forty per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section; and

(C) Each tier three municipality shall receive thirty per cent of the grant amount payable to such municipality as calculated under subsection (b) of this section.

(3) Each municipality designated as an alliance district pursuant to section 10-262u or in which more than fifty per cent of the property is

state-owned real property shall be classified as a tier one municipality.

(4) Each district shall receive the same percentage of the grant amount payable to the municipality in which it is located.

(5) (A) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and district in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subsection, but such appropriated amount exceeds the amount required for grants payable to each municipality and district in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection, the amount of the grant payable to each municipality and district shall be increased proportionately.

(B) If the total of grants payable to each municipality and district in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this subsection exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of said subdivisions, the amount of the grant payable to each municipality and district shall be reduced proportionately, except that no grant shall be reduced below the amount set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, of this section:

(1) The grant payable to any municipality or district with respect to a campus of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Connecticut Healthcare Systems shall be one hundred per cent;

(2) For any municipality receiving payments under section 15-120ss, property located in such municipality at Bradley International Airport shall not be included in the calculation of any state grant in lieu of taxes pursuant to this section; and

(3) The city of Bridgeport shall be due five million dollars, on or

before the thirtieth day of September, annually, which amount shall be **[**(A) paid from the annual appropriation, from the General Fund, for reimbursement to towns for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property, and (B)**]** in addition to the amount due such city pursuant to the provisions of subsections (b) or (d) of this section.

(f) For purposes of this section, any real property that is owned by the John Dempsey Hospital Finance Corporation established pursuant to the provisions of sections 10a-250 to 10a-263, inclusive, or by one or more subsidiary corporations established pursuant to subdivision (13) of section 10a-254 and that is free from taxation pursuant to the provisions of section 10a-259 shall be deemed to be state-owned real property.

Sec. 446. Section 12-19b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Not later than April first in any assessment year, any town, **[**or**]** borough or district, as defined in section 7-324, to which a grant is payable under the provisions of section 12-18b or 12-19a shall provide the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management with the assessed valuation of the real property eligible therefor as of the first day of October immediately preceding, adjusted in accordance with any gradual increase in or deferment of assessed values of real property implemented in accordance with section 12-62c, which is required for computation of such grant. Any town, **[**which**]** borough or district that neglects to transmit to the secretary the assessed valuation as required by this section shall forfeit two hundred fifty dollars to the state, provided the secretary may waive such forfeiture in accordance with procedures and standards adopted by regulation in accordance with chapter 54. Said secretary may, on or before the first day of August of the state fiscal year in which such grant is payable, reevaluate any such property when, in the secretary's judgment, the valuation is inaccurate and shall notify such town, borough or district of such reevaluation by

certified or registered mail. Any town, **[**or**]** borough or district aggrieved by the action of the secretary under the provisions of this section may, not later than ten business days following receipt of such notice, appeal to the secretary for a hearing concerning such reevaluation. Such appeal shall be in writing and shall include a statement as to the reasons for such appeal. The secretary shall, not later than ten business days following receipt of such appeal, grant or deny such hearing by notification in writing, including in the event of a denial, a statement as to the reasons for such denial. Such notification shall be sent by certified or registered mail. If any town, **[**or**]** borough or district is aggrieved by the action of the secretary following such hearing or in denying any such hearing, the town, **[**or**]** borough or district may not later than ten business days after receiving such notice, appeal to the superior court for the judicial district wherein such town is located. Any such appeal shall be privileged.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-18b or subsection (a) of this section, there shall be an amount due the municipality of Voluntown, on or before the thirtieth day of September, annually, with respect to any state-owned forest, of an additional sixty thousand dollars, which amount shall be paid from the **[**annual appropriation, from the General Fund**]** municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66*l*, for reimbursement to towns for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property.

Sec. 447. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 12-20b of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-18b or subsection (a) of this section, the amount due the municipality of Branford, on or before the thirtieth day of September, annually, with respect to the Connecticut Hospice, in Branford, shall be one hundred thousand dollars, which amount shall be paid from the **[**annual appropriation,

from the General Fund**]** municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66*l*, for reimbursement to towns for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-18b or subsection (a) of this section, the amount due the city of New London, on or before the thirtieth day of September, annually, with respect to the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, shall be one million dollars, which amount shall be paid from the **[**annual appropriation, from the General Fund**]** municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to section 4-66*l*, for reimbursement to towns for loss of taxes on private tax-exempt property.

Sec. 448. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of 4-66*l* of the general statutes, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023:

(1) Payments for the motor vehicle property tax grants shall be made in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-66*l* of the general statutes and from the funds appropriated for said fiscal years for such purpose; and

(2) Payments for the grants payable under said section pursuant to subsection (d) of section 12-18b, subdivisions (1) and (3) of subsection (e) of section 12-18b, subsection (b) of section 12-19b and subsections (b) and (c) of section 12-20b of the general statutes shall be made from the funds appropriated for said fiscal years for such purpose and the remaining balance due for such grants shall be made from the municipal revenue sharing account established under section 4-66*l* of the general statutes.

(b) (1) After the payment of the remaining balance, as set forth in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, has been made from the municipal revenue sharing account for each said fiscal year, the

following amounts shall be transferred from the resources of said account to the General Fund: (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, two hundred sixty-two million seven hundred thousand dollars; and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, two hundred seventy-six million three hundred thousand dollars.

(2) Moneys remaining in the municipal revenue sharing account for said fiscal years after all payments are made under this section shall be expended for the municipal revenue sharing grants under section 4-66*l* of the general statutes.

Sec. 449. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of special act 21-15, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management may transfer funds appropriated under said section, for the Reimbursements to Towns for Loss of Taxes on State Property account and the Reimbursements to Towns for Private Tax-Exempt Property account, to the Tiered PILOT account, to make payments pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 448 of this act.

Sec. 450. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Person" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-1 of the general statutes;

(2) "Affected taxable period" means any taxable period ending on or before December 30, 2020;

(3) "Affected person" means a person owing any tax for an affected taxable period;

(4) "Tax" means any tax imposed by any law of this state and required to be collected by the department, other than the tax imposed under chapter 222 of the general statutes on any licensee, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 12-486 of the general statutes;

(5) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue Services; and

(6) "Department" means the Department of Revenue Services.

(b) (1) The commissioner shall establish a tax amnesty program for persons owing any tax for any affected taxable period. The tax amnesty program shall be conducted during the period from November 1, 2021, to January 31, 2022, inclusive.

(2) An amnesty application shall be prepared by the commissioner that shall provide for specification by the affected person of the tax and the affected taxable period for which amnesty is being sought under the tax amnesty program. The commissioner may require that such amnesty applications be filed electronically and that the amounts associated with such applications be paid electronically.

(3) Any affected person who files an amnesty application shall, subject to review of such application by the commissioner, be eligible for a reduction of interest due on the amount of tax owed by such person for an affected taxable period. Upon compliance with all requirements of the tax amnesty program under this section, an affected person whose application is granted by the commissioner shall be entitled to a seventy-five per cent reduction in interest that would otherwise be owed on the tax such person owes for the affected taxable period.

(4) The tax amnesty program shall provide that, upon the filing of an amnesty application by an affected person and payment by such person of the tax and interest determined to be due by the commissioner from such person for an affected taxable period, the commissioner shall not seek to collect any civil penalties that may be applicable and shall not seek criminal prosecution for any affected person for an affected taxable period for which amnesty has been granted.

(5) An amnesty application, if filed by an affected person and if

granted by the commissioner, shall constitute an express and absolute relinquishment by the affected person of all of the affected person's administrative and judicial rights of appeal that have not run or otherwise expired as of the date payment is made for an affected taxable period, and no payment made by an affected person pursuant to this section for an affected taxable period shall be refunded or credited to such person. The commissioner shall not consider any request to exercise the authority granted to the commissioner under section 12-39s of the general statutes in connection with any amnesty application granted by the commissioner under this section.

(6) Each affected person who files an amnesty application during the period the tax amnesty program under this section is conducted shall pay all amounts due to the state under such program with such application. Any person who fails to pay all such amounts due shall be ineligible for amnesty under such program.

(7) No amnesty application shall be accepted for an affected taxable period in which the liability for such period has already been paid, unless such application is filed to report an additional amount of tax for such period. In no event shall an amnesty application result in a refund or credit of any amount of tax, penalty or interest previously paid.

(c) Amnesty shall not be granted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section to any affected person who (1) is a party to any criminal investigation or to any criminal litigation that is pending on July 1, 2021, in any court of the United States or this state, (2) is a party to a closing agreement with the commissioner, (3) has made an offer of compromise that has been accepted by the commissioner, or (4) is a party to a managed audit agreement.

(d) The provisions of subsection (d) of section 12-35i of the general statutes shall not apply to an affected taxable period that ends on or before November 30, 2012, for which no return has been previously

filed, if such period is the subject of or included in any amnesty application granted by the commissioner under this section, provided the affected person pays all amounts due to the state in connection with such application in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (6) of subsection (b) of this section.

(e) Any person who wilfully delivers or discloses to the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent any application, list return, account, statement or other document, known by such person to be fraudulent or false in any material matter, shall be ineligible for the tax amnesty program under this section and may, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, be fined not more than five thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years nor less than one year, or both.

(f) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the commissioner may do all things necessary to provide for the timely implementation of this section.

Sec. 451. (*Effective from passage*) The Comptroller shall transfer from the General Fund to the Tourism Fund established under section 10-395b of the general statutes: (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, nine million eight hundred thousand dollars; and (2) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, three million one hundred thousand dollars.

Sec. 452. (*Effective from passage*) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the amount deemed appropriated pursuant to sections 3-20i and 3-115b of the general statutes in each of said fiscal years shall be one dollar.

Sec. 453. (*Effective from passage*) The Comptroller shall transfer to the General Fund from funds allocated, in accordance with the provisions of special act 21-1, from the federal funds designated for the state pursuant to the provisions of Section 604 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to

time: (1) Five hundred fifty-nine million nine hundred thousand dollars, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022; and (2) one billion one hundred ninety-four million nine hundred thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Sec. 454. Section 4a-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

When any person supported or cared for by the state (1) under a program of **[**public**]** cash assistance or medical assistance, **[**or**]** (2) in an institution maintained by the Department of Developmental Services or Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, **[**or**]** (3) when an inmate of the Department of Correction, or **[**when any**]** (4) as a child committed to the Commissioner of Social Services or Commissioner of Children and Families dies, leaving only personal estate, including personal assets owing and due the estate after death, not exceeding the aggregate value, as described in section 45a-273, the Commissioner of Administrative Services or the commissioner's authorized representative shall, upon **[**filing**]** completing a financial accounting of the estate's assets and debt, make a reasonable effort to inform the next of kin of the decedent in writing that the commissioner or the commissioner's designee intends to become the legal representative of the estate for the purpose of securing partial or full reimbursement of the claim of the state for care or assistance rendered to the decedent required to be recovered under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93 or 18-85c. The commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, not later than thirty days after making a reasonable effort to contact the next of kin of the decedent, shall file with the **[**probate court**]** Probate Court having jurisdiction of such estate a certificate that the total estate is under the aggregate value, as described in section 45a-273, and the claim of the state, together with the expense of last illness not exceeding three hundred seventy-five dollars and funeral and burial expenses in accordance with **[**section**]** sections 17b-84 and 17b-131, equals or exceeds

the amount of such estate. **[**,**]** The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall be issued a certificate by said court that the commissioner is the legal representative of such estate only for the following purpose. The commissioner shall have authority to claim such estate, the commissioner's receipt for the same to be a valid discharge of the liability of any person turning over the same, and to settle the same by payment of the expense of last illness not exceeding three hundred seventy-five dollars, expense of funeral and burial in accordance with **[**section**]** sections 17b-84 and 17b-131 and the remainder as partial or full reimbursement of the claim of the state **[**for care or assistance rendered to the decedent**]** only for amounts due under the provisions of federal law or section 17b-93 or 18-85c. The commissioner shall file with **[**said probate court**]** the Probate Court a statement of the settlement of such estate as herein provided. As used in this section, "cash assistance" means payments made to a beneficiary of the aid to families with dependent children program, the state-administered general assistance program, the state supplement program or the temporary family assistance program.

Sec. 455. Section 17b-79 of the general statutes, as amended by section 3 of public act 21-3, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section, "cash assistance" means payments made to a beneficiary of the state supplement program, temporary family assistance program or the state-administered general assistance program. No person shall be deemed ineligible to receive an award under the state supplement program, medical assistance program, temporary family assistance program, state-administered general assistance program or supplemental nutrition assistance program for himself or herself or for any person for whose support he or she is liable by reason of having an interest in real property, maintained as his or her home, provided the equity in such property does not exceed the limits

established by the commissioner. The commissioner may place a lien against any property to secure the claim of the state for all amounts which it has paid or may thereafter pay to such person or in such person's behalf (1) for cash assistance or medical assistance, provided no such lien shall be placed on real property unless **[**required by**]** for amounts required to be recovered under federal law, or (2) to or on behalf of any person for whose support he or she is liable, except for property maintained as a home in aid to families of dependent children cases, in which case such lien shall secure the state only for that portion of the assistance grant awarded for amortization of a mortgage or other encumbrance beginning with the fifth month after the original grant for principal payment on any such encumbrance is made, and each succeeding month of such grant thereafter. The claim of the state shall be secured by filing a certificate in the land records of the town or towns in which any such real estate is situated, describing such real estate. Any such lien may, at any time during which the amount secured by such lien remains unpaid, be foreclosed in an action brought in a court of competent jurisdiction by the commissioner on behalf of the state. Any real estate to which title has been taken by foreclosure under this section, or which has been conveyed to the state in lieu of foreclosure, may be sold, transferred or conveyed for the state by the commissioner with the approval of the Attorney General, and the commissioner may, in the name of the state, execute deeds for such purpose. Such lien shall be released by the commissioner upon payment of the amount secured by such lien, or an amount equal to the value of the beneficiary's interest in such property if the value of such interest is less than the amount secured by such lien, at the commissioner's discretion, and with the advice and consent of the Attorney General, upon a compromise of the amount due to the state. At the discretion of the commissioner, the beneficiary, or, in the case of a husband and wife living together, the survivor of them, as long as he or she lives, or a dependent child or children, may be permitted to occupy such real property.

(b) On and after July 1, 2021, the state shall not recover cash assistance or medical assistance from a lien filed on any real property, unless the state is required to recover such assistance under federal law. Any certificate or lien filed under this section by or on behalf of the state on such real property prior to July 1, 2021, shall be deemed released by the state if the recovery of such assistance is not required under federal law.

Sec. 456. Section 17b-93 of the general statutes, as amended by section 4 of public act 21-3, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) If a beneficiary of aid under the state supplement program, medical assistance program, aid to families with dependent children program, temporary family assistance program or state-administered general assistance program has or acquires property of any kind or interest in any property, estate or claim of any kind, except moneys received for the replacement of real or personal property, the state of Connecticut shall have a claim subject to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, which shall have priority over all other unsecured claims and unrecorded encumbrances, against such beneficiary for the **[**full**]** amount paid, subject to the provisions of section 17b-94, to the beneficiary or on the beneficiary's behalf under said programs **[**; provided no lien on real property shall be applied to enforce the claim of the state which exceeds the amount the state is required to recover under federal law,**]** that the state is required to recover under federal law; and, in addition thereto, the parents of an aid to dependent children beneficiary, a state-administered general assistance beneficiary or a temporary family assistance beneficiary shall be liable to repay, subject to the provisions of section 17b-94, to the state the full amount of any such aid paid to or on behalf of either parent, his or her spouse, and his or her dependent child or children, as defined in section 17b-75. The state of Connecticut shall have a lien against property of any kind or interest in any property, estate or claim of any kind of the parents of an

aid to dependent children, temporary family assistance or state administered general assistance beneficiary, in addition and not in substitution of any other state claim, for amounts owing under any order for support of any court or any family support magistrate, including any arrearage under such order, provided household goods and other personal property identified in section 52-352b, real property pursuant to section 17b-79, as amended by **[**this act**]** public act 21-3 and this act, as long as such property is used as a home for the beneficiary and money received for the replacement of real or personal property, shall be exempt from such lien.

(b) Any person who received cash benefits under the aid to families with dependent children program, the temporary family assistance program or the state-administered general assistance program, when such person was under eighteen years of age, shall not be liable to repay the state for such assistance.

(c) No claim, except a claim required to be made under federal law, shall be made, or lien applied, against any payment made pursuant to chapter 135, any payment made pursuant to section 47-88d or 47-287, any moneys received as a settlement or award in a housing or employment or public accommodation discrimination case or in any action brought by a tenant or occupant or former tenant or occupant against an owner or lessor of a residential premises or manufactured mobile home park, any court-ordered retroactive rent abatement, including any made pursuant to subsection (e) of section 47a-14h or section 47a-4a, 47a-5 or 47a-57, or any security deposit refund pursuant to subsection (d) of section 47a-21 paid to a beneficiary of assistance under the state supplement program, medical assistance program, aid to families with dependent children program, temporary family assistance program or state-administered general assistance program or paid to any person who has been supported wholly, or in part, by the state, in accordance with section 17b-223, in a humane institution.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, whenever funds are collected pursuant to this section or section 17b-94, and the person who otherwise would have been entitled to such funds is subject to a court-ordered current or arrearage child support payment obligation in a IV-D support case, such funds shall first be paid to the state for reimbursement of Medicaid funds granted to such person for medical expenses incurred for injuries related to a legal claim by such person which was the subject of the state's lien and such funds shall then be paid to the Office of Child Support Services for distribution pursuant to the federally mandated child support distribution system implemented pursuant to subsection (j) of section 17b-179. The remainder, if any, shall be paid to the state for payment of previously provided assistance through the state supplement program, medical assistance program, aid to families with dependent children program, temporary family assistance program or state-administered general assistance program.

(e) The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, establishing criteria and procedures for adjustment of the claim of the state of Connecticut under subsection (a) of this section. The purpose of any such adjustment shall be to encourage the positive involvement of noncustodial parents in the lives of their children and to encourage noncustodial parents to begin making regular support payments.

(f) On and after July 1, 2021, the state shall not recover cash assistance or medical assistance from a lien filed on any real property, or a claim filed against property, a property interest or estate or claim of any kind, unless the state is required to recover such assistance under federal law or the provisions of this section. Any lien on real property or state claim against property, a property interest or estate or claim of any kind filed under this section by or on behalf of the state **[**on such property, estate or claim of any kind**]** prior to July 1, 2021, shall be deemed released by

the state if the recovery of such assistance is not required under federal law or the provisions of this section. As used in this subsection, "cash assistance" means payments made to a beneficiary of the aid to families with dependent children program, the state-administered general assistance program, the state supplement program or the temporary family assistance program.

Sec. 457. Section 17b-94 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) In the case of causes of action of beneficiaries of aid under the state supplement program, medical assistance program, aid to families with dependent children program, temporary family assistance program or state-administered general assistance program, subject to subsections (b) and (c) of section 17b-93, or of a parent liable to repay the state under the provisions of section 17b-93, the claim of the state shall be a lien against the proceeds therefrom in the amount of the assistance paid **[**or fifty per cent of the proceeds received by such beneficiary or such parent**]** that the state is required to recover under federal law, or, in the case of a parent liable to repay the state under the provisions of section 17b-93, whose proceeds from the cause of action are not subject to recovery under federal law, fifty per cent of the proceeds received by such parent or the amount owed by such parent after payment of all expenses connected with the cause of action, whichever is less, for repayment under section 17b-93, and shall have priority over all other claims except attorney's fees for said causes, expenses of suit, costs of hospitalization connected with the cause of action by whomever paid over and above hospital insurance or other such benefits, and, for such period of hospitalization as was not paid for by the state, physicians' fees for services during any such period as are connected with the cause of action over and above medical insurance or other such benefits. **[**; and such claim shall consist of the total assistance repayment for which claim may be made under said programs.**]** The proceeds of such causes

of action shall be assignable to the state for payment of the amount due under this section and section 17b-93, irrespective of any other provision of law. Upon presentation to the attorney for the beneficiary of an assignment of such proceeds executed by the beneficiary or his conservator or guardian, such assignment shall constitute an irrevocable direction to the attorney to pay the Commissioner of Administrative Services in accordance with its terms, except if, after settlement of the cause of action or judgment thereon, the Commissioner of Administrative Services does not inform the attorney for the beneficiary of the amount of lien which is to be paid to the Commissioner of Administrative Services within forty-five days of receipt of the written request of such attorney for such information, such attorney may distribute such proceeds to such beneficiary and shall not be liable for any loss the state may sustain thereby.

(b) In the case of an inheritance of an estate by a beneficiary of aid under the state supplement program, medical assistance program, aid to families with dependent children program, temporary family assistance program or state-administered general assistance program, subject to subsections (b) and (c) of section 17b-93, or by a parent liable to repay the state under the provisions of section 17b-93, **[**fifty per cent of the assets of the estate payable to the beneficiary or such parent or**]** the amount of such assets equal to the amount of assistance paid that the state is required to recover under federal law, or in the case of a parent liable to repay the state under the provisions of section 17b-93, whose inheritance is not subject to recovery under federal law, fifty per cent of the assets of the estate payable to such parent, or the amount owed by such parent, whichever is less, shall be assignable to the state for payment of the amount due under section 17b-93. The state shall have a lien against such assets in the applicable amount specified in this subsection. The Court of Probate shall accept any such assignment executed by the beneficiary or parent or any such lien notice if such assignment or lien notice is filed by the Commissioner of Administrative

Services with the court prior to the distribution of such inheritance, and to the extent of such inheritance not already distributed, the court shall order distribution in accordance with such assignment or lien notice. If the Commissioner of Administrative Services receives any assets of an estate pursuant to any such assignment, the commissioner shall be subject to the same duties and liabilities concerning such assigned assets as the beneficiary or parent.

(c) On and after July 1, 2021, the state shall not recover cash assistance or medical assistance from a claim filed on any property, property interest, proceeds from a cause of action or estate, unless the state is required to recover such assistance under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93. Any claim filed under this section by or on behalf of the state on such property, property interest, proceeds from a cause of action or estate prior to July 1, 2021, shall be released by the state if the recovery of such assistance is not required under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93. As used in this subsection, "cash assistance" means payments made to a beneficiary of the aid to families with dependent children program, the state-administered general assistance program, the state supplement program or the temporary family assistance program.

Sec. 458. Section 17b-95 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, upon the death of a parent of a child who has, at any time, been a beneficiary under the program of aid to families with dependent children, the temporary family assistance program or the state-administered general assistance program, or upon the death of any person who has at any time been a beneficiary of aid under the state supplement program, medical assistance program, aid to families with dependent children program, temporary family assistance program or state-administered general assistance program, except as provided in subsection (b) of

section 17b-93, the state shall have a claim against such parent's or person's estate for all amounts paid on behalf of each such child that the state is required to recover under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93, or for the support of either parent or such child or such person under the state supplement program, medical assistance program, aid to families with dependent children program, temporary family assistance program or state-administered general assistance program for which the state has not been reimbursed and that the state is required to recover under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93, to the extent that the amount which the surviving spouse, parent or dependent children of the decedent would otherwise take from such estate is not needed for their support. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, effective for services provided on or after January 1, 2014, no state claim pursuant to this section shall be made against the estate of a recipient of medical assistance under the Medicaid Coverage for the Lowest Income Populations program, established pursuant to Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the Social Security Act, as amended from time to time, except to the extent required by federal law.

(b) In the case of any person dying after October 1, 1959, the claim for medical payments, even though such payments were made prior thereto, shall be restricted to medical disbursements actually made for care of such deceased beneficiary.

(c) Claims pursuant to this section shall have priority over all unsecured claims against such estate, except (1) expenses of last sickness not to exceed three hundred seventy-five dollars, (2) funeral and burial expenses in accordance with **[**section**]** sections 17b-84 and 17b-131, and (3) administrative expenses, including probate fees and taxes, and including fiduciary fees not exceeding the following commissions on the value of the whole estates accounted for by such fiduciaries: On the first two thousand dollars or portion thereof, five per cent; on the next eight thousand dollars or portion thereof, four per cent; on the excess over ten

thousand dollars, three per cent. Upon petition by any fiduciary, the Probate Court, after a hearing thereon, may authorize compensation in excess of the above schedule for extraordinary services. Notice of any such petition and hearing shall be given to the Commissioner of Administrative Services in Hartford at least ten days in advance of such hearing. The allowable funeral and burial payment herein shall be reduced by the amount of any prepaid funeral arrangement. Any amount paid from the estate under this section to any person which exceeds the limits provided herein shall be repaid to the estate by such person, and such amount may be recovered in a civil action with interest at six per cent from the date of demand.

(d) For purposes of this section, all sums due on or after July 1, 2003, to any individual after the death of a public assistance beneficiary pursuant to the terms of an annuity contract purchased at any time with assets of a public assistance beneficiary, shall be deemed to be part of the estate of the deceased beneficiary and shall be payable to the state by the recipient of such annuity payments to the extent necessary to achieve full reimbursement of any public assistance benefits paid to, or on behalf of, the deceased beneficiary <u>that the state is required to recover under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93,</u> irrespective of any provision of law. The recipient of beneficiary payments from any such annuity contract shall be solely liable to the state of Connecticut for reimbursement of public assistance benefits paid to, or on behalf of, the deceased beneficiary <u>that the state is required to recover under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93</u> to the extent of any payments received by such recipient pursuant to the annuity contract.

<u>(e) On and after July 1, 2021, the state shall not recover cash assistance or medical assistance from a claim filed on any property, property interest, proceeds from a cause of action or estate, unless the state is required to recover such assistance under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93. Any claim filed under this section by or on behalf of</u>

the state on such property, property interest, proceeds from a cause of action or estate prior to July 1, 2021, shall be released by the state if the recovery of such assistance is not required under federal law or the provisions of section 17b-93. As used in this subsection, "cash assistance" means payments made to a beneficiary of the aid to families with dependent children program, the state-administered general assistance program, the state supplement program or the temporary family assistance program.

Sec. 459. (NEW) (*Effective from passage and applicable to sales occurring on or after July 1, 2023*) (a) For purposes of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of section 12-412 of the general statutes, subdivision (18) of section 12-412 of the general statutes and section 12-412i of the general statutes, on and after July 1, 2023, a sale to a purchaser that manufactures or will manufacture beer under a manufacturer permit for beer issued pursuant to section 30-16 of the general statutes, which sale would otherwise qualify for the sales and use tax exemption pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of section 12-412 of the general statutes, subdivision (18) of section 12-412 of the general statutes or section 12-412i of the general statutes, except for the fact that such beer is manufactured or will be manufactured at a facility that also makes substantial retail sales, shall qualify for such exemption in the same manner as if such sale was to an industrial plant.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (34) of section 12-412 of the general statutes, on and after July 1, 2023, a sale of machinery to a purchaser, which sale would otherwise qualify for the sales and use tax exemption pursuant to said subdivision except for the fact that such machinery will be used to manufacture beer at a facility that also makes substantial retail sales, shall qualify for such exemption in the same manner as if such sale was to an industrial plant.

Sec. 460. Subdivision (8) of section 8-265tt of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

2021):

(8) "Eligible financial institution" means a bank or credit union; **[**that has a physical presence in this state;**]**

Sec. 461. Subdivision (3) of section 8-265vv of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(3) The eligible financial institution may recover up to eight hundred dollars from the eligible borrower, or up to one-half of one per cent of the amount of the loan in the case of a loan to an eligible borrower that is an association, for expenses paid by the eligible financial institution to third parties for services related to processing the application and closing the loan, including obtaining a credit report, flood certification, title search, appraisal or other valuation, and any recording fees. Such expenses may be financed as part of the loan subject to the seventy-five-thousand-dollar limit described in subparagraph (C) of subdivision (2) of this subsection or paid separately by the eligible borrower.

Sec. 462. Section 12-263i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Ambulatory surgical center" means an entity included within the definition of said term that is set forth in 42 CFR 416.2 and that is licensed by the Department of Public Health as an outpatient surgical facility, and any other ambulatory surgical center that is Medicare certified;

(2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue Services; **[**and**]**

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

(4) "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

(5) "Medicare" means the programs 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, including, but not limited to, those programs established pursuant to Parts A, B and C of Title XVIII of said act, as amended from time to time.

(b) (1) For each calendar quarter commencing on or after October 1, 2015, but prior to July 1, 2023, there is hereby imposed a tax on each ambulatory surgical center in this state to be paid each calendar quarter. The tax imposed by this section shall be at the rate of six per cent of the gross receipts of each ambulatory surgical center, except that:

(A) Prior to July 1, 2019, such tax shall not be imposed on any amount of such gross receipts that constitutes either (i) the first million dollars of gross receipts of the ambulatory surgical center in the applicable fiscal year, or (ii) net revenue of a hospital that is subject to the tax imposed under section 12-263q; and

(B) On and after July 1, 2019, but prior to July 1, 2023, such tax shall not be imposed on any amount of such gross receipts that constitutes any of the following: (i) The first million dollars of gross receipts of the ambulatory surgical center in the applicable fiscal year, excluding Medicaid and Medicare payments, (ii) net revenue of a hospital that is subject to the tax imposed under section 12-263q, (iii) Medicaid payments received by the ambulatory surgical center, and (iv) Medicare payments received by the ambulatory surgical center.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit an ambulatory surgical center from seeking remuneration for the tax imposed by this section.

(3) Each ambulatory surgical center shall, on or before January 31,

2016, and thereafter on or before the last day of January, April, July and October of each year until and including July 31, 2023, render to the commissioner a return, on forms prescribed or furnished by the commissioner, reporting the name and location of such ambulatory surgical center, the entire amount of gross receipts generated by such ambulatory surgical center during the calendar quarter ending on the last day of the preceding month and such other information as the commissioner deems necessary for the proper administration of this section. The tax imposed under this section shall be due and payable on the due date of such return. Each ambulatory surgical center shall be required to file such return electronically with the department and to make payment of such tax by electronic funds transfer in the manner provided by chapter 228g, regardless of whether such ambulatory surgical center would have otherwise been required to file such return electronically or to make such tax payment by electronic funds transfer under the provisions of chapter 228g.

(c) Whenever the tax imposed under this section is not paid when due, a penalty of ten per cent of the amount due and unpaid or fifty dollars, whichever is greater, shall be imposed and interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof shall accrue on such tax from the due date of such tax until the date of payment.

(d) The provisions of sections 12-548, 12-550 to 12-554, inclusive, and 12-555a shall apply to the provisions of this section in the same manner and with the same force and effect as if the language of said sections had been incorporated in full into this section and had expressly referred to the tax imposed under this section, except to the extent that any provision is inconsistent with a provision in this section.

(e) For the fiscal **[**year**]** years ending June 30, 2016, **[**and each fiscal year thereafter**]** to June 30, 2023, inclusive, the Comptroller is authorized to record as revenue for each fiscal year the amount of tax imposed under the provisions of this section prior to the end of each fiscal year

and which tax is received by the Commissioner of Revenue Services not later than five business days after the last day of July immediately following the end of each fiscal year.

Sec. 463. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section and sections 464 to 468, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Ambulatory surgical center" means any distinct entity that (A) operates exclusively for the purpose of providing surgical services to patients not requiring hospitalization and in which the expected duration of services would not exceed twenty-four hours following an admission, (B) has an agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to participate in Medicare as an ambulatory surgical center, and (C) meets the general and specific conditions for participation in Medicare set forth in 42 CFR Part 416, Subparts B and C, as amended from time to time;

(2) "Ambulatory surgical center services" means only those procedures or services included in a facility fee payment to an ambulatory surgical center facility associated with each surgical procedure and that are not reimbursable ancillary or professional procedures or services. "Ambulatory surgical services" includes facility services only and does not include surgical procedures, physicians' services, anesthetists' services, radiology services, diagnostic services or ambulance services, if such procedures or services would be reimbursed as a separate line item from facility services under 42 CFR 416.164(a), as amended from time to time;

(3) "Gross receipts" means the amount received, whether in cash or in kind, from patients, third-party payers and others for taxable ambulatory surgical center services provided by the ambulatory surgical center in the state, including retroactive adjustments under reimbursement agreements with third-party payers, without any

deduction for any expense of any kind;

(4) "Net revenue" means gross receipts less payer discounts, charity care and bad debts, to the extent the ambulatory surgical center previously paid tax under this section on the amount of such bad debts;

(5) "Payer discounts" means the difference between an ambulatory surgical center's published charges and the payments received by the ambulatory surgical center 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;

(6) "Charity care" means free or discounted health care services rendered by an ambulatory surgical center 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 an ambulatory surgical center's bill based on income guidelines and other financial criteria set forth in the general statutes or in an ambulatory surgical center's charity care policies on file at the office of such center. "Charity care" does not include bad debts or payer discounts;

(7) "Received" means received or accrued, construed according to the method of accounting customarily employed by the ambulatory surgical center;

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

(9) "Medicare" means the programs 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, including, but not

limited to, those programs established pursuant to Parts A, B and C of Title XVIII of said act, as amended from time to time;

(10) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Revenue Services; and

(11) "Department" means the Department of Revenue Services.

(b) For each calendar quarter commencing on or after July 1, 2023, there is hereby imposed a tax on each ambulatory surgical center in this state to be paid each calendar quarter.

(1) The tax imposed by this section for each calendar quarter shall be at the rate of three per cent of each ambulatory surgical center's net revenue received during the calendar quarter, except that such tax shall not be imposed on any amount of such net revenue that constitutes any of the following: (A) Net revenue of a hospital that is subject to the tax imposed under section 12-263q of the general statutes; (B) Medicaid payments received by the ambulatory surgical center for the provision of ambulatory surgical center services; and (C) Medicare payments received by the ambulatory surgical center for the provision of ambulatory surgical center services.

(2) Each ambulatory surgical center doing business in the state shall, on or before the last day of January, April, July and October of each year, render to the commissioner a return, on forms prescribed or furnished by the commissioner, reporting the name and location of such ambulatory surgical center, the entire amount of net revenue received by such ambulatory surgical center during the calendar quarter ending on the last day of the preceding month and such other information as the commissioner deems necessary for the proper administration of this section. Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, the tax imposed under this section shall be due and payable on the due date of such return. Each ambulatory surgical center shall be required to file

such return electronically with the department and to make payment of such tax by electronic funds transfer in the manner provided by chapter 228g of the general statutes, regardless of whether such ambulatory surgical center would have otherwise been required to file such return electronically or to make such tax payment by electronic funds transfer under the provisions of chapter 228g of the general statutes.

(3) (A) Any ambulatory surgical center may file, on or before the due date of a payment of tax imposed under this section, a request for a reasonable extension of time for such payment for reasons of undue hardship. Undue hardship shall be demonstrated by a showing that the ambulatory surgical center is at substantial risk of defaulting on a bond or loan covenant or similar obligation if such ambulatory surgical center were to make payment on the due date of the amount for which the extension is requested. Such request shall be filed on forms prescribed by the commissioner and shall include complete information of such ambulatory surgical center's inability, due to undue hardship, to make payment of the tax on or before the due date of such payment. The commissioner shall not grant any extension for a general statement of hardship by an ambulatory surgical center or for the convenience of an ambulatory surgical center.

(B) The commissioner may grant an extension if the commissioner determines an undue hardship exists. Such extension shall not exceed three months from the original due date of the payment, except that the commissioner may grant an additional extension not exceeding three months from the initial extended due date of the payment (i) upon the filing of a subsequent request by the ambulatory surgical center on or before the extended due date of the payment, on forms prescribed by the commissioner, and (ii) upon a showing of extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the commissioner.

(4) If the commissioner grants an extension pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection, no penalty shall be imposed and no interest shall

accrue during the period of time for which an extension is granted if the ambulatory surgical center pays the tax due on or before the extended due date of the payment. If the ambulatory surgical center does not pay such tax by the extended due date, a penalty shall be imposed in accordance with subsection (c) of this section and interest shall begin to accrue at a rate of one per cent per month for each month or fraction thereof from the extended due date of such tax until the date of payment.

(5) Nothing in this section shall prohibit an ambulatory surgical center from seeking remuneration for the tax imposed by this section.

(c) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section, if any ambulatory surgical center fails to pay the amount of tax reported to be due on such ambulatory surgical center's return within the time specified under the provisions of this section, there shall be imposed a penalty equal to ten per cent of such amount due and unpaid or fifty dollars, whichever is greater. The tax shall bear interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such tax until the date of payment.

(2) If any ambulatory surgical center has not filed its return within one month of the due date of such return, the commissioner may file such return at any time thereafter, according to the best information obtainable and according to the forms prescribed. There shall be added to the tax imposed upon the basis of such return an amount equal to ten per cent of such tax or fifty dollars, whichever is greater. The tax shall bear interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such tax until the date of payment.

(3) Subject to the provisions of section 12-3a of the general statutes, the commissioner may waive all or part of the penalties provided under this subsection when it is proven to the commissioner's satisfaction that the failure to pay any tax on time was due to reasonable cause and was

not intentional or due to neglect.

(4) The commissioner shall notify the Commissioner of Social Services of any amount delinquent under this section and, upon receipt of such notice, the Commissioner of Social Services shall deduct and withhold such amount from amounts otherwise payable by the Department of Social Services to the delinquent ambulatory surgical center.

(d) (1) Any person required under this section to pay any tax, file a return, keep any records or supply any information and who wilfully fails, at the time required by law, to pay such tax, file such return, keep such records or supply such information shall, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year, or both. As used in this subsection, "person" includes any officer or employee of an ambulatory surgical center under a duty to pay such tax, file such return, keep such records or supply such information. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 54-193 of the general statutes, no person shall be prosecuted for a violation of the provisions of this subsection committed on or after July 1, 1997, except within three years after such violation has been committed.

(2) Any person who wilfully delivers or discloses to the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent any list, return, account, statement or other document, known by such person to be fraudulent or false in any material matter, shall, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, be guilty of a class D felony. No person shall be charged with an offense under both this subdivision and subdivision (1) of this subsection in relation to the same tax period but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

(e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year

thereafter, the Comptroller is authorized to record as revenue for each fiscal year the amount of tax imposed under the provisions of this section prior to the end of each fiscal year and which tax is received by the Commissioner of Revenue Services not later than five business days after the last day of July immediately following the end of each fiscal year.

Sec. 464. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2023*) (a) (1) The commissioner may examine, as the commissioner deems necessary, the records of any ambulatory surgical center subject to the tax imposed under section 463 of this act. If the commissioner determines from such examination that there is a deficiency with respect to the payment of any such tax due, the commissioner shall assess the deficiency in tax, give notice of such deficiency assessment to the ambulatory surgical center and make demand for payment. Such amount shall bear interest at the rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof from the date when the original tax was due and payable.

(A) When it appears that any part of the deficiency for which a deficiency assessment is made is due to negligence or intentional disregard of the provisions of this section or regulations adopted thereunder, there shall be imposed a penalty equal to ten per cent of the amount of such deficiency assessment or fifty dollars, whichever is greater.

(B) When it appears that any part of the deficiency for which a deficiency assessment is made is due to fraud or intent to evade the provisions of this section or regulations adopted thereunder, there shall be imposed a penalty equal to twenty-five per cent of the amount of such deficiency assessment.

(C) No ambulatory surgical center shall be subject to more than one penalty under this subdivision in relation to the same tax period. Not

later than thirty days after the mailing of such notice, the ambulatory surgical center shall pay to the commissioner, in cash or by check, draft or money order drawn to the order of the Commissioner of Revenue Services, any additional amount of tax, penalty and interest shown to be due.

(2) Except in the case of a wilfully false or fraudulent return with intent to evade the tax, no assessment of additional tax or fee shall be made after the expiration of more than three years from the date of the filing of a return or from the original due date of a return, whichever is later. Where, before the expiration of the period prescribed under this subsection for the assessment of an additional tax, an ambulatory surgical center has consented, in writing, that such period may be extended, the amount of such additional tax due may be determined at any time within such extended period. The period so extended may be further extended by subsequent consent, in writing, before the expiration of the extended period.

(b) (1) The commissioner may enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Services, delegating to the Commissioner of Social Services the authority to examine the records and returns of any ambulatory surgical center for any period during which such ambulatory surgical center received payments pursuant to the state's Medicaid program and was subject to the tax imposed under section 463 of this act, to determine whether such tax has been underpaid or overpaid. If such authority is so delegated, examinations of such records and returns by the Commissioner of Social Services and determinations by the Commissioner of Social Services that such tax has been underpaid or overpaid shall have the same effect as similar examinations or determinations made by the commissioner.

(2) The commissioner may enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Services to facilitate the exchange of returns or return information necessary for the Commissioner of Social Services to

perform his or her responsibilities under this section and to ensure compliance with the state's Medicaid program.

(3) The Commissioner of Social Services may engage an independent auditor to assist in the performance of said commissioner's duties and responsibilities under this subsection. Any reports generated by such independent auditor shall be provided simultaneously to the department and the Department of Social Services.

(c) (1) The commissioner may require all persons subject to the tax imposed under section 463 of this act to keep such records as the commissioner may prescribe and may require the production of books, papers, documents and other data, to provide or secure information pertinent to the determination of the taxes imposed under section 463 of this act and the enforcement and collection thereof.

(2) The commissioner or any person authorized by the commissioner may examine the books, papers, records and equipment of any person liable under the provisions of this section and may investigate the character of the business of such liable person to verify the accuracy of any return filed or, if no return is filed by such person, to ascertain and determine the amount required to be paid.

(3) All records, books, papers, documents, data, secure information, audit reports and audit work papers maintained or generated pursuant to sections 463 to 468, inclusive, of this act shall be deemed to be return and return information, as such terms are defined in section 12-15 of the general statutes, and shall be subject to the provisions of said section.

Sec. 465. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2021*) (a) Any ambulatory surgical center subject to the tax under section 463 of this act, believing that it has overpaid any tax due under said sections, may file a claim for refund, in writing, with the commissioner not later than three years after the due

date for which such overpayment was made, stating the specific grounds upon which the claim is founded. Failure to file a claim within the time prescribed in this subsection shall constitute a waiver of any demand against the state on account of overpayment. Within a reasonable time, as determined by the commissioner, following receipt of such claim for refund, the commissioner shall determine whether such claim is valid and, if so determined, the commissioner shall notify the Comptroller of the amount of such refund. The Comptroller shall draw an order on the Treasurer in the amount thereof for payment to the ambulatory surgical center. If the commissioner determines that such claim is not valid, either in whole or in part, the commissioner shall mail notice of the proposed disallowance in whole or in part of the claim to the ambulatory surgical center, which notice shall set forth briefly the commissioner's findings of fact and the basis of disallowance in each case decided in whole or in part adversely to the ambulatory surgical center. Sixty days after the date on which it is mailed, a notice of proposed disallowance shall constitute a final disallowance except only for such amounts as to which the ambulatory surgical center has filed a written protest with the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

(b) On or before the sixtieth day after the mailing of the proposed disallowance, the ambulatory surgical center may file with the commissioner a written protest against the proposed disallowance. The ambulatory surgical center shall set forth in such protest the grounds on which the protest is based. If a protest is filed, the commissioner shall reconsider the proposed disallowance and, if the ambulatory surgical center has so requested, may grant or deny the ambulatory surgical center or its authorized representative a hearing.

(c) The commissioner shall mail notice of the commissioner's determination to the ambulatory surgical center, which notice shall set forth briefly the commissioner's findings of fact and the basis of decision

in each case decided in whole or in part adversely to the ambulatory surgical center.

(d) The action of the commissioner on the ambulatory surgical center's protest shall be final upon the expiration of one month from the date on which the commissioner mails notice of the commissioner's determination to the ambulatory surgical center, unless within such period the ambulatory surgical center seeks judicial review of the commissioner's determination.

Sec. 466. (NEW) *(Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2023*) (a) Any ambulatory surgical center subject to any tax under section 463 of this act that is aggrieved by the action of the commissioner, the Commissioner of Social Services or an authorized agent of said commissioners in fixing the amount of any tax, penalty or interest under section 463 of this act may apply to the commissioner, in writing, not later than sixty days after the notice of such action is delivered or mailed to such ambulatory surgical center, for a hearing and a correction of the amount of such tax, penalty or interest, setting forth the reasons why such hearing should be granted and the amount by which such tax, penalty or interest should be reduced. The commissioner shall promptly consider each such application and may grant or deny the hearing requested. If the hearing request is denied, the ambulatory surgical center shall be notified immediately. If the hearing request is granted, the commissioner shall notify the ambulatory surgical center of the date, time and place for such hearing. After such hearing, the commissioner may make such order as appears just and lawful to the commissioner and shall furnish a copy of such order to the ambulatory surgical center. The commissioner may, by notice in writing, order a hearing on the commissioner's own initiative and require an ambulatory surgical center or any other individual who the commissioner believes to be in possession of relevant information concerning such ambulatory surgical center to appear before the commissioner or the commissioner's

authorized agent with any specified books of account, papers or other documents, for examination under oath.

(b) Any ambulatory surgical center subject to the tax under section 463 of this act that is aggrieved because of any order, decision, determination or disallowance of the commissioner under section 463 of this act or subsection (a) of this section may, not later than one month after service of notice of such order, decision, determination or disallowance, take an appeal therefrom to the superior court for the judicial district of New Britain, which appeal shall be accompanied by a citation to the commissioner to appear before said court. Such citation shall be signed by the same authority and such appeal shall be returnable at the same time and served and returned in the same manner as is required in case of a summons in a civil action. The authority issuing the citation shall take from the appellant a bond or recognizance to the state of Connecticut, with surety, to prosecute the appeal to effect and to comply with the orders and decrees of the court in the premises. Such appeals shall be preferred cases, to be heard, unless cause appears to the contrary, at the first session, by the court or by a committee appointed by the court. Said court may grant such relief as may be equitable and, if such tax or charge has been paid prior to the granting of such relief, may order the Treasurer to pay the amount of such relief, with interest at the rate of two-thirds of one per cent per month or fraction thereof, to such ambulatory surgical center. If the appeal has been taken without probable cause, the court may tax double or triple costs, as the case demands and, upon all such appeals that are denied, costs may be taxed against such ambulatory surgical center at the discretion of the court but no costs shall be taxed against the state.

Sec. 467. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2023*) The commissioner and any agent of the commissioner duly authorized to conduct any inquiry, investigation or hearing pursuant to section 463 of this act shall have power to

administer oaths and take testimony under oath relative to the matter of inquiry or investigation. At any hearing ordered by the commissioner, the commissioner or the commissioner's agent authorized to conduct such hearing and having authority by law to issue such process may subpoena witnesses and require the production of books, papers and documents pertinent to such inquiry or investigation. No witness under subpoena authorized to be issued under the provisions of this section shall be excused from testifying or from producing books, papers or documentary evidence on the ground that such testimony or the production of such books, papers or documentary evidence would tend to incriminate such witness, but such books, papers or documentary evidence so produced shall not be used in any criminal proceeding against such witness. If any person disobeys such process or, having appeared in obedience thereto, refuses to answer any pertinent question put to such person by the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent, or to produce any books, papers or other documentary evidence pursuant thereto, the commissioner or such agent may apply to the superior court of the judicial district wherein the ambulatory surgical center resides or wherein the business has been conducted, or to any judge of such court if the same is not in session, setting forth such disobedience to process or refusal to answer, and such court or such judge shall cite such person to appear before such court or such judge to answer such question or to produce such books, papers or other documentary evidence and, upon such person's refusal so to do, shall commit such person to a community correctional center until such person testifies, but not for a period longer than sixty days. Notwithstanding the serving of the term of such commitment by any person, the commissioner may proceed in all respects with such inquiry and examination as if the witness had not previously been called upon to testify. Officers who serve subpoenas issued by the commissioner or under the commissioner's authority and witnesses attending hearings conducted by the commissioner pursuant to this section shall receive fees and compensation at the same rates as officers and witnesses in the

courts of this state, to be paid on vouchers of the commissioner on order of the Comptroller from the proper appropriation for the administration of this section.

Sec. 468. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023, and applicable to calendar quarters commencing on or after July 1, 2023*) The amount of any tax, penalty or interest, due and unpaid under the provisions of section 463 of this act may be collected under the provisions of section 12-35 of the general statutes. The warrant provided under section 12-35 of the general statutes shall be signed by the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent. The amount of any such tax, penalty or interest shall be a lien on the real estate of the ambulatory surgical center from the last day of the month next preceding the due date of such tax until such tax is paid. The commissioner may record such lien in the records of any town in which the real estate of such ambulatory surgical center is situated but no such lien shall be enforceable against a bona fide purchaser or qualified encumbrancer of such real estate. When any tax with respect to which a lien has been recorded under the provisions of this subsection has been satisfied, the commissioner shall, upon request of any interested party, issue a certificate discharging such lien, which certificate shall be recorded in the same office in which the lien was recorded. Any action for the foreclosure of such lien shall be brought by the Attorney General in the name of the state in the superior court for the judicial district in which the property subject to such lien is situated, or, if such property is located in two or more judicial districts, in the superior court for any one such judicial district, and the court may limit the time for redemption or order the sale of such property or make such other or further decree as it judges equitable. For purposes of section 12-39g of the general statutes, a fee under this section shall be treated as a tax.

Sec. 469. Section 12 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The State Bond Commission shall have power, in accordance with the provisions of this section and sections 13 to 19, inclusive, of **[**this act**]** public act 21-111, from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts in the aggregate, not exceeding **[**$304,150,000**]** $309,150,000.

Sec. 470. Subsection (d) of section 13 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(d) For the Connecticut Port Authority: Grants-in-aid for improvements to deep water ports, including dredging, not exceeding **[**$50,000,000**]** $70,000,000, provided not less than $20,000,000 shall be used for deep water ports outside of New London.

Sec. 471. Subsection (h) of section 13 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(h) For the Department of Public Health: For the Health Disparities and Prevention Grant Program, not exceeding **[**$40,000,000**]** $25,000,000, provided (1) not more than **[**$25,000,000**]** $15,000,000 shall be used for federally qualified health centers, and not more than $300,000 of such amount may be used to conduct a health disparities study, and (2) not more than **[**$15,000,000**]** $10,000,000 shall be used for mental health and substance abuse treatment providers.

Sec. 472. Section 20 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

The State Bond Commission shall have power, in accordance with the provisions of this section and sections 21 to 26, inclusive, of **[**this act**]** public act 21-111, from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts in the aggregate not exceeding **[**$216,565,000**]** $241,565,000.

Sec. 473. Subsection (a) of section 21 of public act 21-111 is repealed

and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

(a) For the Office of Policy and Management: For an information technology capital investment program, not exceeding **[**$15,000,000**]** $40,000,000.

Sec. 474. Section 31 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

The State Bond Commission shall have power, in accordance with the provisions of this section and sections 32 to 38, inclusive, of **[**this act**]** public act 21-111, from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts in the aggregate, not exceeding **[**$263,550,000**]** $198,550,000.

Sec. 475. Section 112 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Administrative costs" means the costs paid or incurred by the administrator of the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board established under subsection (b) of this section, including, but not limited to, allocated staff costs and other out-of-pocket costs attributable to the administration and operation of the board;

(2) "Administrator" means the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the commissioner's designee;

(3) "Eligible project" means:

(A) (i) A project proposed by a municipality, community development corporation or nonprofit organization, for the purpose of promoting economic or community development in the municipality or a municipality served by such corporation or organization, such as brownfield remediation, affordable housing, establishment of or

improvements to water and sewer infrastructure to support smaller scale economic development, pedestrian safety and traffic calming improvements, establishment of or improvements to energy resiliency or clean energy projects and land acquisition and capital projects to construct, rehabilitate or renovate buildings and structures to facilitate or improve home rehabilitation programs and facilities such as libraries and senior centers; or

(ii) A grant-in-aid proposed by a municipality, community development corporation or nonprofit organization for the purpose of providing (I) a revolving loan program, microloans or gap financing, to small businesses located within such municipality or a municipality served by such corporation or organization, or (II) start-up funds to establish a small business in any such municipality; and

(B) Such project or grant-in-aid furthers consistent and systematic fair, just and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved and marginalized communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino and indigenous and Native American persons; Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons and other persons comprising the LGBTQ+ community; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality; and

(4) "Municipality" means a municipality designated as a public investment community pursuant to section 7-545 of the general statutes or as an alliance district pursuant to section 10-262u of the general statutes.

(b) (1) There is established a Community Investment Fund 2030 Board, which shall be within the Department of Economic and Community Development. The board shall consist of the following

members:

(A) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(B) The majority leader of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the Senate;

(C) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives and one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, each of whom shall be a member of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the General Assembly;

(D) The two chairpersons of the general bonding subcommittee of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding;

(E) Two appointed by the Governor; and

(F) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the Attorney General, the Treasurer, the Comptroller, the Secretary of the State and the Commissioners of Economic and Community Development, Administrative Services, Social Services and Housing, or their designees.

(2) All initial appointments shall be made not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. The terms of the members appointed by the Governor shall be coterminous with the term of the Governor or until their successors are appointed, whichever is later. Any vacancy in appointments shall be filled by the appointing authority. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term.

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, it shall not

constitute a conflict of interest for a trustee, director, partner, officer, stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee of any person to serve as a member of the board, provided such trustee, director, partner, officer, stockholder, proprietor, counsel or employee abstains and absents himself or herself from any deliberation, action and vote by the board in specific respect to such person. The members appointed by the Governor shall be deemed public officials and shall adhere to the code of ethics for public officials set forth in chapter 10 of the general statutes.

(4) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall serve as the chairpersons of the board and shall schedule the first meeting of the board, which shall be held not later than January 1, 2022. The board shall meet at least quarterly.

(5) Eleven members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

(6) The members of the board shall serve without compensation, but shall, within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

(7) The board shall have the following powers and duties: (A) Review eligible projects to be recommended to the Governor under subsection (c) of this section for approval; (B) establish bylaws to govern its procedures; (C) review and provide comments to the Department of Economic and Community Development on projects funded through the state's Economic Action Plan as provided under **[**subsection (d) of this section**]** section 488 of this act; and (D) perform such other acts as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out its duties described in this section.

(8) The administrator shall hire such employee or employees as may be necessary to assist the board to carry out its duties described in this section.

(c) (1) The Community Investment Fund 2030 Board shall establish an application and review process with guidelines and terms for funds provided from the bond proceeds under subsection **[**(e)**]** (d) of this section for eligible projects. Such funds shall be used for costs related to an eligible project recommended by the board and approved by the Governor pursuant to this subsection and to pay or to reimburse the administrator for administrative costs under this section.

(2) The chairpersons of the board shall notify the chief elected official of each municipality when the application and review process has been established and shall publicize the availability of any funds available under this section. Each such official or any community development corporation or nonprofit organization may submit an application to the board requesting funds for an eligible project. The board shall meet to consider applications submitted and determine which, if any, the board will recommend to the Governor for approval.

(3) (A) The board shall give priority to eligible projects (i) that are proposed by a municipality that (I) has implemented local hiring preferences pursuant to section 7-112 of the general statutes, or (II) has or will leverage municipal, private, philanthropic or federal funds for such project, and (ii) that have a project labor agreement or employ or will employ ex-offenders or individuals with physical, intellectual or developmental disabilities. The board shall give additional priority to an application submitted by a municipality that includes a letter of support for the proposed eligible project from a member or members of the General Assembly in whose district the eligible project is or will be located.

(B) In evaluating applications for an eligible project described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, the board shall (i) evaluate the risk of default on the repayment of a proposed loan or financing, (ii) consider the impact of the eligible project on job creation or retention in the municipality, (iii) consider the

impact of the eligible project on blighted properties in the municipality, and (iv) consider the overall impact of the eligible project on the community. The board shall not recommend any proposed loan or financing under subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section for which the interest rate varies from the prevailing market rate.

(4) (A) Whenever the board deems it necessary or desirable, the chairpersons of the board shall submit to the Governor a list of the board's recommendations of eligible projects to be funded from bond proceeds under subsection **[**(e)**]** (d) of this section. The board may recommend state funding for eligible projects, provided the total cost of such recommendations shall not exceed one hundred seventy-five million dollars in any fiscal year. Such list shall include, at a minimum:

(i) For each eligible project described in subparagraph (A)(i) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, a description of such project, the municipality in which such project is located, the amount of funds sought for such project, any cost estimates for such project, any schematics or plans for such project, the total estimated project costs and the applicable fiscal year to which such disbursement will be attributed; and

(ii) For each eligible project described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, a description of and specific terms for any proposed loans, financing or start-up funds to be provided from such grant-in-aid, the types of small businesses located or to be located in the municipality that may be eligible for such loan, financing or start-up funds, the amount of the grant-in-aid sought and the applicable fiscal year to which such disbursement will be attributed.

(B) The Governor shall review the eligible projects on the list and may recommend changes to any eligible project on the list. The Governor shall determine the most appropriate method of funding for each

eligible project and shall provide to the members of the board, in writing, such determination for each eligible project on the list and the reasons therefor. The board may reconsider at a future meeting any eligible project for which the Governor recommends a change. Each eligible project for which the Governor recommends the allocation of bond funds shall be considered at a State Bond Commission meeting not later than two months after the date such eligible project was submitted to the Governor pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

(5) Funds for an eligible project approved under this section may be administered on behalf of the board by a state agency, as determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, provided a memorandum of understanding between the administrator of the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board and the state, acting by and through the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, has been entered into with respect to such funds and project.

(6) Not later than August 31, 2023, the board shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the General Assembly, the Black and Puerto Rican caucus of the General Assembly, the Auditors of Public Accounts and the Governor, for the preceding fiscal year, that includes (A) a list of the eligible projects recommended by the board and approved by the Governor pursuant to this section, (B) the total amount of funds provided for such eligible projects, (C) for each such eligible project, a description of the project and the amounts and terms of the funds provided, (D) the status of the project and any balance remaining of the allocated funds, and (E) any other information the board deems relevant or necessary. The board shall submit such report annually for each fiscal year in which the funds specified in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection are disbursed for eligible projects.

(7) The Auditors of Public Accounts shall audit, on a biennial basis, all eligible projects funded under this section and shall report their

findings to the Governor, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the General Assembly.

[(d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, one hundred twenty-five million dollars of the funds available for the purposes of the state's Economic Action Plan shall be reserved for (A) projects that provide (i) a revolving loan program, microloans or gap financing, to women or minority-owned small businesses, (ii) start-up funds to establish women or minority-owned small businesses, (iii) brownfield remediation or broadband expansion, (iv) human services, workforce development, mental health services, educational programming, preapprenticeship and apprenticeship training, youth services programming or physical, intellectual and developmental disability services; (B) projects that provide the potential to directly impact community enrichment programs for, or related to, financial literacy, home ownership opportunity, free or reduced tuition for vocational training schools, academic scholarships, seniors' and veterans' services and arts and culture; or (C) projects that provide the potential to directly impact youth and adult enrichment programs for, or related to, "earn while you learn" programs, paid internships or summer youth programming.

(2) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall receive and consider comments from the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board on funding for such projects. The commissioner shall provide quarterly expenditure reports to the board for such projects and hold public hearings for such projects before the board.**]**

[(e)**]** (d) (1) The State Bond Commission may authorize the issuance of bonds of the state, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate eight hundred seventy-five million dollars. The amount authorized for the issuance and sale of such bonds in each of the following fiscal years shall not exceed the following corresponding

amount for each such fiscal year, except that, to the extent the State Bond Commission does not provide for the use of all or a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year, such amount not provided for shall be carried forward and added to the authorized amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided further, the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year indicated as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Amount
2023	$175,000,000
2024	175,000,000
2025	175,000,000
2026	175,000,000
2027	175,000,000
Total	$875,000,000

(2) The proceeds of the sale of bonds set forth in this subsection shall be used for the purpose of funding eligible projects for which the Governor has determined under subsection (c) of this section that bond funding is appropriate and that no other bond authorization is available.

[(f)**]** (e) (1) Upon the agreement of the Governor and the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board, and subsequent to the adoption of a resolution by the General Assembly affirming the reauthorization of the board and the program provided for under this section, the State Bond Commission may authorize the issuance of bonds of the state, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate one billion two hundred fifty million dollars. The amount authorized for the issuance and sale of such bonds in each of the following fiscal years shall not exceed the following corresponding amount for each such fiscal year, except that, to the extent the State Bond Commission does not provide for the use of all or a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year, such amount not provided for shall be carried forward and added to the

authorized amount for the next succeeding fiscal year, and provided further, the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year indicated as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Amount
2028	$250,000,000
2029	250,000,000
2030	250,000,000
2031	250,000,000
2032	250,000,000
Total	$1,250,000,000

(2) The proceeds of the sale of bonds set forth in this subsection shall be used for the purpose of funding eligible projects for which the Governor has determined under subsection (c) of this section that bond funding is appropriate and that no other bond authorization is available.

[(g)**]** (f) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in accordance with said section, and from time to time renewed. All bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become due.

Sec. 476. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-183v of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(2) Commencing July 1, 2016, to June 30, **[**2020**]** 2024, inclusive, the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection establishing a limitation on the compensation of a reemployed teacher and requiring the reimbursement of any amount received in excess of that limitation shall not apply to a teacher who (A) is receiving retirement benefits from the system based on thirty-four or more years of credited service, (B) is reemployed as a teacher in a district designated as an alliance district pursuant to section 10-262u, and (C) was serving as a teacher in that district on July 1, 2015.

Sec. 477. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 17b-244 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The room and board component of the rates to be paid by the state to private facilities and facilities operated by regional education service centers which are licensed to provide residential care pursuant to section 17a-227, but not certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid program as intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, shall be determined annually by the Commissioner of Social Services, except that rates effective April 30, 1989, shall remain in effect through October 31, 1989. Any facility with real property other than land placed in service prior to July 1, 1991, shall, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, receive a rate of return on real property equal to the average of the rates of return applied to real property other than land placed in service for the five years preceding July 1, 1993. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996, and any succeeding fiscal year, the rate of return on real property for property items shall be revised every five years. The commissioner shall, upon submission of a request by such facility, allow actual debt service, comprised of principal and interest,

on the loan or loans in lieu of property costs allowed pursuant to section 17-313b-5 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, whether actual debt service is higher or lower than such allowed property costs, provided such debt service terms and amounts are reasonable in relation to the useful life and the base value of the property. In the case of facilities financed through the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, the commissioner shall allow actual debt service, comprised of principal, interest and a reasonable repair and replacement reserve on the loan or loans in lieu of property costs allowed pursuant to section 17-313b-5 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, whether actual debt service is higher or lower than such allowed property costs, provided such debt service terms and amounts are determined by the commissioner at the time the loan is entered into to be reasonable in relation to the useful life and base value of the property. The commissioner may allow fees associated with mortgage refinancing provided such refinancing will result in state reimbursement savings, after comparing costs over the terms of the existing proposed loans. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, the inflation factor used to determine rates shall be one-half of the gross national product percentage increase for the period between the midpoint of the cost year through the midpoint of the rate year. For fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, the inflation factor used to determine rates shall be two-thirds of the gross national product percentage increase from the midpoint of the cost year to the midpoint of the rate year. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, and June 30, 1997, no inflation factor shall be applied in determining rates. The Commissioner of Social Services shall prescribe uniform forms on which such facilities shall report their costs. Such rates shall be determined on the basis of a reasonable payment for necessary services. Any increase in grants, gifts, fund-raising or endowment income used for the payment of operating costs by a private facility in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, shall be excluded by the commissioner from the income of the facility in determining the rates to be paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993, provided

any operating costs funded by such increase shall not obligate the state to increase expenditures in subsequent fiscal years. Nothing contained in this section shall authorize a payment by the state to any such facility in excess of the charges made by the facility for comparable services to the general public. The service component of the rates to be paid by the state to private facilities and facilities operated by regional education service centers which are licensed to provide residential care pursuant to section 17a-227, but not certified to participate in the Title XIX Medicaid programs as intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, shall be determined annually by the Commissioner of Developmental Services in accordance with section 17b-244a. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than two per cent greater than the rate in effect for the facility on June 30, 2007, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2007, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2007. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, no facility shall receive a rate that is more than two per cent greater than the rate in effect for the facility on June 30, 2008, except any facility that would have been issued a lower rate effective July 1, 2008, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate effective July 1, 2008. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2009, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2011, except that (1) the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2009, if a capital improvement required by the Commissioner of Developmental Services for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, or June 30, 2011, and (2) any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, or June 30, 2011, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, rates in effect for the period ending June 30, 2011, shall remain in effect until June 30, 2012, except that (A) the

rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2011, if a capital improvement required by the Commissioner of Developmental Services for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and (B) any facility that would have been issued a lower rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, due to interim rate status or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. Any facility that has a significant decrease in land and building costs shall receive a reduced rate to reflect such decrease in land and building costs. The rate paid to a facility may be increased if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or June 30, 2015, only to the extent such increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2015, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2015, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, or June 30, 2017, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2017, and each succeeding fiscal year, any facility that would have been issued a lower rate, due to interim rate status, a change in allowable fair rent or agreement with the department, shall be issued such lower rate. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the period ending June 30, 2017, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the period ending June 30, 2017, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year

ending June 30, 2018, or June 30, 2019, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, rates shall not exceed those in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, except the rate paid to a facility may be higher than the rate paid to the facility for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, if a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2021, to the extent such rate increases are within available appropriations. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, rates shall be based upon rates in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, inflated by the gross domestic product deflator applicable to each rate year, except the commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion and within available appropriations, provide pro rata fair rent increases to facilities which have documented fair rent additions placed in service in the cost report years ending September 30, 2020, and September 30, 2021, that are not otherwise included in rates issued, or if a rate adjustment for a capital improvement approved by the Department of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, for the health or safety of the residents was made to the facility during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, state rates of payment for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, June 30, 2019, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, for residential care homes and community living arrangements that receive the flat rate for residential services under section 17-311-54 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies shall be set in accordance with section 298 of public act 19-117. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, rates shall be based upon rates in effect for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, inflated by the gross domestic product deflator applicable to each rate year.

Sec. 478. Section 508 of public act 21-175 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

Bridge No. 00908 carrying U.S. Route 202 over the Bantam River in the town of Litchfield shall be designated as the "Corporal **[**Rodger**]** Roger "Dodge" Doyle Memorial Bridge".

Sec. 479. Subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of section 10a-109d of the general statutes, as amended by section 96 of public act 21-111, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(10) To borrow money and issue securities to finance the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement or equipping of any one project, or more than one, or any combination of projects, or to refund securities issued after June 7, 1995, or to refund any such refunding securities or for any one, or more than one, or all of those purposes, or any combination of those purposes, and to provide for the security and payment of those securities and for the rights of the holders of them, except that the amount of any such borrowing, the special debt service requirements for which are secured by the state debt service commitment, exclusive of the amount of borrowing to refund securities, or to fund issuance costs or necessary reserves, may not exceed the aggregate principal amount of (A) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, to June 30, 2005, inclusive, one billion thirty million dollars, (B) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2006, to June 30, 2027, inclusive, **[**three billion three hundred fifty-one million dollars**]** three billion two hundred ninety-five million nine hundred thousand dollars, and (C) such additional amount or amounts: (i) Required from time to time to fund any special capital reserve fund or other debt service reserve fund in accordance with the financing transaction proceedings, and (ii) to pay or provide for the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any; the aggregate amounts of subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) of this subdivision are established as the authorized funding amount, and no borrowing

within the authorized funding amount for a project or projects may be effected unless the project or projects are included in accordance with subsection (a) of section 10a-109e;

Sec. 480. Subsection (a) of section 10a-109e of the general statutes, as amended by section 97 of public act 21-111, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) The university may administer, manage, schedule, finance, further design and construct UConn 2000, to operate and maintain the components thereof in a prudent and economical manner and to reserve for and make renewals and replacements thereof when appropriate, it being hereby determined and found to be in the best interest of the state and the university to provide this independent authority to the university along with providing assured revenues therefor as the efficient and cost effective course to achieve the objective of avoiding further decline in the physical infrastructure of the university and to renew, modernize, enhance and maintain such infrastructure, the particular project or projects, each being hereby approved as a project of UConn 2000, and the presently estimated cost thereof being as follows:

UConn 2000 Project	Phase I Fiscal Years 1996-1999	Phase II Fiscal Years 2000-2005	Phase III Fiscal Years 2005-2027
Academic and Research Facilities			450,000,000
Agricultural Biotechnology Facility	9,400,000		
Agricultural Biotechnology			

Facility Completion		10,000,000	
Alumni Quadrant Renovations		14,338,000	
Arjona and Monteith (new classroom buildings)			66,100,000
Avery Point Campus Undergraduate and Library Building			35,000,000
Avery Point Marine Science Research Center – Phase I	34,000,000		
Avery Point Marine Science Research Center – Phase II		16,682,000	
Avery Point Renovation		5,600,000	15,000,000
Babbidge Library	0		
Balancing Contingency		5,506,834	
Beach Hall Renovations			10,000,000
Benton State Art Museum Addition		1,400,000	3,000,000
Biobehavioral Complex			

Replacement			4,000,000
Bishop Renovation			8,000,000
Budds Building Renovation		2,805,000	
Business School Renovation		4,803,000	
Chemistry Building	53,700,000		
Commissary Warehouse			1,000,000
Deferred Maintenance/ Code Compliance/ ADA Compliance/ Infrastructure Improvements & Renovation Lump Sum and Utility, Administrative and Support Facilities	39,332,000		805,000,000
Deferred Maintenance & Renovation Lump Sum Balance		104,668,000	
East Campus North Renovations		11,820,000	
Engineering Building (with Environmental			

Research Institute)			36,700,000
Equine Center		1,000,000	
Equipment, Library Collections & Telecommunications	60,500,000		470,000,000
Equipment, Library Collections & Telecommunications Completion		182,118,146	
Family Studies (DRM) Renovation			6,500,000
Farm Buildings Repairs/ Replacement			6,000,000
Fine Arts Phase II			20,000,000
Floriculture Greenhouse			3,000,000
Gant Building Renovations			34,000,000
Gant Plaza Deck		0	
Gentry Completion			10,000,000
Gentry Renovation		9,299,000	
Grad Dorm Renovations		7,548,000	

Gulley Hall Renovation		1,416,000	
Hartford Relocation Acquisition/Renovation		56,762,020	70,000,000
Hartford Relocation Design	1,500,000		
Hartford Relocation Feasibility Study	500,000		
Heating Plant Upgrade	10,000,000		
Hilltop Dormitory New		30,000,000	
Hilltop Dormitory Renovations		3,141,000	
Ice Rink Enclosure	2,616,000		
Incubator Facilities			10,000,000
International House Conversion		800,000	
Intramural, Recreational and Intercollegiate Facilities			31,000,000
Jorgensen Renovation			7,200,000
Koons Hall Renovation/			

Addition			7,000,000
Lakeside Renovation			3,800,000
Law School Renovations/ Improvements			15,000,000
Library Storage Facility			5,000,000
Litchfield Agricultural Center – Phase I	1,000,000		
Litchfield Agricultural Center – Phase II		700,000	
Manchester Hall Renovation			6,000,000
Mansfield Apartments Renovation	2,612,000		
Mansfield Training School Improvements		27,614,000	29,000,000
Natural History Museum Completion			4,900,000
North Campus Renovation	2,654,000		
North Campus Renovation Completion		21,049,000	

North Hillside Road Completion			11,500,000
North Superblock Site and Utilities	8,000,000		
Northwest Quadrant Renovation	2,001,000		
Northwest Quadrant Renovation		15,874,000	
Observatory			1,000,000
Old Central Warehouse			18,000,000
Parking Garage #3			78,000,000
Parking Garage – North	10,000,000		
Parking Garage – South		15,000,000	
Pedestrian Spinepath		2,556,000	
Pedestrian Walkways		3,233,000	
Psychology Building Renovation/Addition			20,000,000
Residential Life Facilities			162,000,000
Roadways		10,000,000	

School of Business	20,000,000		
School of Pharmacy/ Biology	3,856,000		
School of Pharmacy/ Biology Completion		61,058,000	
Shippee/Buckley Renovations		6,156,000	
Social Science K Building		20,964,000	
South Campus Complex	13,127,000		
Stamford Campus Improvements/Housing			13,000,000
Stamford Downtown Relocation – Phase I	45,659,000		
Stamford Downtown Relocation – Phase II		17,392,000	
Storrs Hall Addition			4,300,000
Student Health Services			12,000,000
Student Union Addition		23,000,000	
Support Facility			

(Architectural and Engineering Services)			2,000,000
Technology Quadrant – Phase IA	38,000,000		
Technology Quadrant – Phase IB		16,611,000	
Technology Quadrant – Phase II		72,000,000	
Technology Quadrant – Phase III		15,000,000	
Torrey Life Science Renovation		17,000,000	
Torrey Renovation Completion and Biology Expansion			42,000,000
Torrington Campus Improvements			1,000,000
Towers Renovation		17,794,000	
UConn Products Store			1,000,000
Undergraduate Education Center	650,000		

Undergraduate Education Center		7,450,000	
Underground Steam & Water Upgrade	3,500,000		
Underground Steam & Water Upgrade Completion		9,000,000	
University Programs Building – Phase I	8,750,000		
University Programs Building – Phase II Visitors Center		300,000	
Waring Building Conversion	7,888,000		
Waterbury Downtown Campus			3,000,000
Waterbury Property Purchase	325,000		
West Campus Renovations		14,897,000	
West Hartford Campus Renovations/ Improvements			25,000,000

White Building Renovation	2,430,000		
Wilbur Cross Building Renovation		3,645,000	
Young Building Renovation/Addition			17,000,000
HEALTH CENTER			
CLAC Renovation Biosafety Level 3 Lab			14,000,000
Deferred Maintenance/ Code Compliance/ADA Compliance/Infrastructure & Improvements Renovation Lump Sum and Utility, Administrative and Support Facilities – Health Center			**[**110,100,000**]** <u>86,000,000</u>
Dental School Renovation			5,000,000
Equipment, Library Collections and Telecommunications – Health Center			**[**106,000,000**]** <u>75,000,000</u>
Library/Student Computer			

Center Renovation			5,000,000
Main Building Renovation			125,000,000
Medical School Academic Building Renovation			9,000,000
Parking Garage – Health Center			8,400,000
Research Tower			60,000,000
Support Building Addition/Renovation			4,000,000
The University of Connecticut Health Center New Construction and Renovation			394,900,000
Planning and Design Costs			25,000,000
Total – Storrs and Regional Campus Project List			2,583,000,000
Total – Health Center Project List			786,300,000
TOTAL	382,000,000	868,000,000	**[**3,449,400,000**]** <u>3,394,300,000</u>

Sec. 481. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10a-109g of the general statutes, as amended by section 98 of public act 21-111, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) (1) The university is authorized to provide by resolution, at one time or from time to time, for the issuance and sale of securities, in its own name on behalf of the state, pursuant to section 10a-109f. The board of trustees of the university is hereby authorized by such resolution to delegate to its finance committee such matters as it may determine appropriate other than the authorization and maximum amount of the securities to be issued, the nature of the obligation of the securities as established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and the projects for which the proceeds are to be used. The finance committee may act on such matters unless and until the board of trustees elects to reassume the same. The amount of securities the special debt service requirements of which are secured by the state debt service commitment that the board of trustees is authorized to provide for the issuance and sale in accordance with this subsection shall be capped in each fiscal year in the following amounts, provided, to the extent the board of trustees does not provide for the issuance of all or a portion of such amount in a fiscal year, all or such portion, as the case may be, may be carried forward to any succeeding fiscal year and provided further, the actual amount for funding, paying or providing for the items described in subparagraph (C) of subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of section 10a-109d may be added to the capped amount in each fiscal year:

Fiscal Year	Amount
1996	$112,542,000
1997	112,001,000

1998	93,146,000
1999	64,311,000
2000	130,000,000
2001	100,000,000
2002	100,000,000
2003	100,000,000
2004	100,000,000
2005	100,000,000
2006	79,000,000
2007	89,000,000
2008	115,000,000
2009	140,000,000
2010	0
2011	138,800,000
2012	157,200,000
2013	143,000,000
2014	204,400,000
2015	315,500,000
2016	312,100,000
2017	240,400,000
2018	200,000,000
2019	200,000,000
2020	197,200,000
2021	260,000,000
2022	**[**247,600,000**]** 215,500,000
2023	**[**148,100,000**]** 125,100,000
2024	84,700,000
2025	56,000,000
2026	14,000,000
2027	9,000,000

Sec. 482. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 32 of public act

21-111 is repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2022*)

Sec. 483. Subsection (f) of section 32 of public act 21-111 is repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2022*)

Sec. 484. Section 10-287d of the general statutes, as amended by section 57 of public act 21-111, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

For the purposes of funding (1) grants to projects that have received approval of the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to sections 10-287 and 10-287a, subsection (a) of section 10-65 and section 10-76e, (2) grants to assist school building projects to remedy safety and health violations and damage from fire and catastrophe, and (3) technical education and career school projects pursuant to section 10-283b, the State Treasurer is authorized and directed, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20, to issue bonds of the state from time to time in one or more series in an aggregate amount not exceeding thirteen billion **[**six**]** seven hundred twelve million one hundred sixty thousand dollars, provided **[**four**]** five hundred fifty million dollars of said authorization shall be effective July 1, 2022. Bonds of each series shall bear such date or dates and mature at such time or times not exceeding thirty years from their respective dates and be subject to such redemption privileges, with or without premium, as may be fixed by the State Bond Commission. They shall be sold at not less than par and accrued interest and the full faith and credit of the state is pledged for the payment of the interest thereon and the principal thereof as the same shall become due, and accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become due. The State Treasurer is authorized to invest temporarily in direct obligations of the United States, United States agency obligations, certificates of deposit, commercial paper or

bank acceptances such portion of the proceeds of such bonds or of any notes issued in anticipation thereof as may be deemed available for such purpose.

Sec. 485. Section 110 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

Upon the birth of a designated beneficiary, the Treasurer **[**shall**]** may transfer up to three thousand two hundred dollars from the **[**General Fund**]** bond proceeds issued pursuant to section 111 of public act 21-111 to the trust to be credited toward the accounting of such designated beneficiary as described in section 109 **[**of this act**]** of public act 21-111. For any year in which the funds made available pursuant to section 111 of public act 21-111 is insufficient to provide such amount per beneficiary the amount so transferred shall be reduced pro rata.

Sec. 486. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 111 of public act 21-111 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) **[**The Treasurer is authorized to issue bonds, notes or other obligations of the state from time to time in one or more series in an aggregate principal amount of not more than six hundred million dollars, and to apply the net proceeds of such issuance to deposit to the trust as provided in subsection (b) of this section. The Treasurer is authorized to issue bonds, notes or other obligations in an amount sufficient to refund such bonds, notes or other obligations previously issued pursuant to this section. In addition to the bonds, notes or other obligations authorized by this section to for deposit to the trust, the Treasurer is authorized to issue bonds, notes or other obligations in such additional amounts as the Treasurer shall determine to pay the costs of issuance of such bonds, notes or other obligations issued pursuant to this section. The amount authorized for the issuance and sale of bonds in accordance with this section shall be capped in each fiscal year in the

following amounts, provided, if the amount required for deposit to the trust as provided for in subsection (b) of this section is less than such capped amount or, to the extent the Governor disapproves the request for issuance of all or a portion of the amount of the bonds as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the amount so disapproved, shall be carried forward and added to the capped amount fora subsequent fiscal year, but not later than the fiscal year ending June 30, 2033, and provided further, the costs of issuance may be added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year indicated as follows:**]** The State Bond Commission may authorize the issuance of bonds of the state, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate six hundred million dollars. The proceeds of the sale of bonds described in this section shall be used for the purpose of funding the transfers provided for under section 110 of public act 21-111. The amount authorized for the issuance and sale of such bonds in each of the following fiscal years shall not exceed the following corresponding amount for each such fiscal year, except that, to the extent the State Bond Commission does not provide for the use of all or a portion of such amount in any such fiscal year, such amount not provided for shall be carried forward and added to the authorized amount for the next two succeeding fiscal years, and provided further, the costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any, may be added to the capped amount in each fiscal year, and each of the authorized amounts shall be effective on July first of the fiscal year indicated as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June Thirtieth	Amount
2023	$50,000,000
2024	$50,000,000

2025	$50,000,000
2026	$50,000,000
2027	$50,000,000
2028	$50,000,000
2029	$50,000,000
2030	$50,000,000
2031	$50,000,000
2032	$50,000,000
2033	$50,000,000
2034	$50,000,000

(b) **[**(1)**]** On or before the first day of September in each year, commencing September 1, 2022, the Department of Social Services shall inform the Treasurer of the number of designated beneficiaries born in the prior fiscal year. Promptly thereafter, the Treasurer shall submit to the Governor and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, by certified mail, a report of and a calculation of the total amount required to deposit to the trust for crediting three thousand two hundred dollars for the account of each such designated beneficiary born in the prior fiscal year as described in section 109 of **[**this act**]**public act 21-111. **[**The Governor may, not later than thirty days after such submission, approve or disapprove all or a portion of such amount by notifying the Treasurer, in writing, of such decision and the reasons for it. If the Governor does not act within such thirty-day period, the issuance of bonds for the deposit into the trust for the fiscal year beginning on July first of that year is deemed approved. The Treasurer after submitting such report may issue bonds in such amount, subject to the capped amount for such fiscal year, plus such additional amount as may be required for costs of issuance and capitalized interest, if any.**]**

[(2) In the event that the Governor shall approve only a portion of the total amount set forth in the report of the Treasurer described in

subdivision (1) of this subsection, or the total amount set forth in the report of the Treasurer described in subdivision (1) of this subsection exceeds the capped amount set forth in such fiscal year, the amount to be credited for the account of each designated beneficiary born in the prior fiscal year shall be reduced ratably.

(3) Subject to the amount of limitations of such capping provisions in subsection (a) of this section and following the approval or deemed approval of the request to issue bonds as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the principal amount of the bonds authorized under this section shall be deemed to be an appropriation and allocation of such amount, and such approval of such request shall be deemed the allotment by the Governor of such deposits within the meaning of section 4-85 of the general statutes. The Treasurer is authorized to deposit such amount from available funds to the trust whether or not the bonds so authorized have then been issued, and shall maintain a separate nonlapsing account to record the proceeds of bonds so authorized and deposits made to the trust.**]**

Sec. 487. Section 124 of public act 21-111 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

[(a)**]** Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-286 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 calculation of grants using the state standard space specifications, the town of West Haven shall be exempt from the state standard space specifications for the purpose of the calculation of the grant for the new construction project (Project Number 21DASY156142N0621) at Washington Elementary School.

[(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-287i 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 percentage of a school building project grant that the Department of Administrative Services shall withhold from an applicant pending completion of an audit pursuant to section 10-287 of the general statutes, the department shall withhold five per cent of such grant from the town of West Haven for the new construction project (Project Number 21DASY156142N0621) at Washington Elementary School pending completion of an audit pursuant to said section.**]**

Sec. 488. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2024, inclusive, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, in coordination with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, may, for the purposes of implementing the state's Economic Action Plan, use bond funds, funding received as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, and available resources, to provide (1) not more than one hundred million dollars for major projects selected pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and (2) matching grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(b) On and after July 1, 2021, and until July 1, 2024, the Department of Economic and Community Development may develop and issue requests for proposals for major projects in the state. The department shall develop criteria consistent with the purposes of the state's Economic Action Plan to (1) evaluate proposals submitted pursuant to this subsection, and (2) select proposals for funding pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) On and after July 1, 2021, and until July 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development may establish a competitive grant program to provide matching grants of not more than ten million dollars for major projects selected pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. Each major project selected pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be eligible for a matching grant under this subsection not more than two times a year. The commissioner shall establish eligibility

criteria, an application process, evaluation criteria and reporting requirements for the competitive grant program.

Sec. 489. Subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 10-287 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(3) (A) All orders and contracts for construction management services shall be awarded from a pool of not more than the four most responsible qualified proposers after a public selection process. Such process shall, at a minimum, involve requests for qualifications, followed by requests for proposals, including fees, from the proposers meeting the qualifications criteria of the request for qualifications process. Public advertisements shall be required in a newspaper having circulation in the town in which construction is to take place, except for school building projects for which the town or regional school district is using a state contract pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-292. Following the qualification process, the awarding authority shall evaluate the proposals to determine the four most responsible qualified proposers using those criteria previously listed in the requests for qualifications and requests for proposals for selecting construction management services specific to the project or school district. Such evaluation criteria shall include due consideration of the proposer's pricing for the project, experience with work of similar size and scope as required for the order or contract, organizational and team structure for the order or contract, past performance data, including, but not limited to, adherence to project schedules and project budgets and the number of change orders for projects, the approach to the work required for the order or contract, including on and after July 1, **[**2021**]** 2022, whether the proposer intends to self-perform any project element and the benefit to the awarding authority that will result from such self-performance, and documented contract oversight capabilities, and may include criteria specific to the project. Final selection by the awarding authority is limited to the pool

of the four most responsible qualified proposers and shall include consideration of all criteria included within the request for proposals. As used in this subdivision, "most responsible qualified proposer" means the proposer who is qualified by the awarding authority when considering price and the factors necessary for faithful performance of the work based on the criteria and scope of work included in the request for proposals.

(B) On and after July 1, **[**2021**]** 2022, upon the written approval of the Commissioner of Administrative Services, an awarding authority may permit a construction manager to self-perform a portion of the construction work if the awarding authority and the commissioner determine that the construction manager can self-perform the work more cost-effectively than a subcontractor. All work not performed by the construction manager shall be performed by trade subcontractors selected by a process approved by the awarding authority and the commissioner. The construction manager's contract shall include a guaranteed maximum price for the cost of construction. Such guaranteed maximum price shall be determined not later than ninety days after the selection of the trade subcontractors. Construction shall not begin prior to the determination of the guaranteed maximum price, except work relating to site preparation and demolition may commence prior to such determination.

Sec. 490. Sections 119, 125 and 126 of public act 21-111 are repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2021*)

Sec. 491. (*Effective from passage*) Section 3 public act 21-110 shall take effect January 1, 2022.

Sec. 492. Section 15 of public act 21-95 is repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2021*)

Sec. 493. Sections 10a-6a, 10a-6b and 17b-112k of the general statutes

are repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 494. Sections 4-124tt, 4-124vv, 10a-57a, 10a-57b, 10a-57c, 10a-57e, 31-2d, 31-3a, 31-3c, 31-3g, 31-3p, 31-3q, 31-3u, 31-3dd, 31-3ff, 31-3ii, 31-3oo, 31-3yy, 31-11q, 31-11r, 31-11t, 31-11ff, 31-11gg, 31-11hh, 31-11ii and 31-11jj of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2021*)

Sec. 495. Section 9-164a of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective January 1, 2022*)

Sec. 496. Section 1 of public act 21-65 is repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

Sec. 497. Section 3 of public act 16-44 is repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2021*)

Approved June 23, 2021