

Budget and Finance Related Legislation

Public Act	Title/Description
PA 12-1 DSS (HB 7001)	<p>AN ACT CONCERNING DEFICIT MITIGATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013.</p> <p>This act made General Fund expenditure modifications of \$221.5 million and net revenue adjustments of \$4.2 million to the FY 13 Revised Budget totaling \$225.7 million. This includes: (1) allowing the Office of Policy and Management to make allotment reductions in FY 13 to the specific accounts listed in the act totaling \$210.5 million in the General Fund, (2) \$11 million in General Fund expenditure reductions, (3) revenue loss of \$54.6 million due to expenditure reductions included in the act, (4) transferring \$4.5 million of industry funded agency funds to the General Fund, (5) transferring \$25.8 million in non-appropriated funds to the General Fund and (6) \$28.5 million in other various General Fund revenue increases.</p>
PA 13-3 (SB 1160)	<p>AN ACT CONCERNING GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND CHILDREN'S SAFETY.</p> <p>This act: (1) establishes new regulations and restrictions on firearms and ammunition, (2) expands mental health services and coordination, 3) enhances school safety standards and funding, and 4) imposes stricter penalties involving crimes committed with a firearm or the transfer of a firearm illegally.</p> <p>This act includes \$15 million in General Obligation Bonds for school security infrastructure competitive grants and \$1 million appropriations to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) for the statewide firearms trafficking task force. In addition, PA 13-184, the FY 14 and FY 15 Budget, includes funding of over \$11.2 million in FY 14 and \$7.7 million in FY 15 to support the various provisions included in this act, such as: (1) support of the Deadly Weapons Offender Registry and additional staffing for DESPP, (2) expansion of mental health services and the development of a database of voluntary admission for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and (3) development of a regional behavioral health consultant and care coordination system supported by the Department of Children and Families.</p>
PA 13-89 (sHB 6495)	<p>AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS' LICENSES.</p> <p>This act allows individuals who cannot provide the Department of Motor Vehicles with proof of legal residence in the U. S. or a Social Security Number to obtain a driver's license which is estimated to yield additional Special Transportation Fund revenue of \$1.8 million in FY 15. PA 13-184, as adjusted by PA 13-247, provides carry forward funding of \$850,000 in FY 14 for information technology costs and funding of \$565,653 in FY 15 for partial year support for eighteen positions. This funding supports implementation of the act.</p>
PA 13-184 (HB 6704)	<p>AN ACT CONCERNING EXPENDITURES AND REVENUE FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2015.</p> <p>This act includes: (1) appropriations in ten funds totaling \$18.6 billion in FY 14 and \$19 billion in FY 15, (2) provisions to implement the budget, (3) \$142 million in FY 13 General Fund deficiency appropriations, (4) various policy changes that yield net revenue increases of \$410.2 million in FY 14 and \$330.1 million in FY 15 and (5) revenue estimates as adopted by the Finance Committee June 1, 2013.</p>

Public Act	Title/Description
<p>PA 13-232 (sSB 1052)</p>	<p>AN ACT CONCERNING THE INTEREST PAID BY THE STATE ON OVERPAYMENTS OF TAXES, VARIOUS CHANGES TO TAX CREDIT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE UNDER THE INSURANCE PREMIUMS TAX AND THE CORPORATION BUSINESS TAX, EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PETROLEUM PRODUCTS GROSS RECEIPTS TAX, AND A STUDY OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX.</p> <p>This act makes various changes to laws concerning state tax administration. Among other things, it: (1) reduces the period during which the state must pay interest on overpayments of gift, estate, and gross earnings taxes, (2) extends a credit against the petroleum products gross earnings tax to the first sale of petroleum products sold to a purchaser who then incorporates them into paint, coating, or adhesive material use or sale outside Connecticut, (3) requires captive insurance companies to pay premium taxes on assumed reinsurance premiums by March 1 annually, rather than in March, and (4) permits insurance companies and HMOs to transfer to their affiliates an insurance premium tax credit that, under current law, may not be transferred or assigned.</p> <p>This act also makes various changes to business tax credit programs, including: (1) extending, from 15 to 25 years, the maximum period for carrying forward the credit for donating land for educational purposes, (2) allowing taxpayers to whom film infrastructure tax credits were assigned to carry them forward for up to three years, (3) allowing the economic and community development commissioner to limit the period for claiming the three-year job expansion tax credits and imposing an aggregate credit cap for the years they may be claimed and (4) repealing certain obsolete or rarely used tax credit programs.</p> <p>Lastly, this act requires the Department of Revenue Services commissioner to study the state's income tax structure and how its rates and credits affect different taxpayers.</p>
<p>PA 13-233 (sSB 840)</p>	<p>AN ACT CONCERNING NEXT GENERATION CONNECTICUT.</p> <p>This act authorizes \$1,551 million in new bonds for "Next Generation Connecticut," a capital improvement program under the UConn 2000 infrastructure program.</p> <p>This act specifies the purpose of the Next Generation program and requires UConn to develop a comprehensive plan to guide the program's investments. It requires UConn to: (1) develop the plan in consultation with various groups, including leaders in the science, technology, engineering, and math-related industries and (2) annually report to the legislature, beginning January 1, 2016, on its progress towards achieving the plan's goals. It also requires UConn to assess its progress in meeting the Next Generation program's purposes by December 31, 2019 and five years thereafter.</p> <p>Lastly, this act requires UConn to develop a strategic master plan that: (1) encompasses all of its academic programs and (2) establishes strategic goals and objectives for the university and such programs. UConn must submit the plan, by July 1, 2015, to the Higher Education and Finance committees. The committees must hold a joint hearing on the plan within 30 days of receiving it.</p>

Public Act	Title/Description
<p>PA 13-234 (HB 6705)</p>	<p>AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOUSING, HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH.</p> <p>This act makes changes to laws governing state housing, human services, and public health programs. Concerning housing, PA 12-1, June Special Session, established the Department of Housing (DOH) and made it the lead state agency responsible for all housing matters, including housing and neighborhood policy, development, redevelopment, preservation, maintenance, and improvement. This act completes DOH's establishment by transferring to it various housing-related responsibilities from the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), and the Department of Social Services (DSS).</p> <p>This act also makes changes in programs that the Departments of Social Services (DSS), Children and Families (DCF) and Public Health administer. The major revisions include: (1) requiring DSS to reimburse acute care hospitals for providing inpatient, outpatient, and emergency room care based on the severity of the patient's diagnosis, (2) eliminates the ConnPACE program, which currently provides pharmacy assistance to elders and individuals with disabilities who do not qualify for Medicare, (3) repeals the Medicaid for Low-Income Adults program, (4) expands the state's False Claims Act to all state programs, not just DSS medical assistance programs, (5) requires a pilot program to improve the educational outcomes of children in state custody, (6) requires DSS to administer a medication step therapy program for Medicaid recipients, (7) makes it easier for nursing homes to recover debt and requires these facilities to report certain information to DSS and (8) makes changes affecting various health care facilities and professions regulated by the Department of Public Health (DPH).</p>
<p>PA 13-239 (sSB 842)</p>	<p>AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION, ELIMINATION OF THE ACCUMULATED GAAP DEFICIT AND OTHER PURPOSES.</p> <p>This act authorizes up to \$1,454 million in state general obligation (GO) bonds for FY 14 and up to \$1,507 million for FY 15 for state capital projects and grant programs, including school construction, water quality, and economic development projects; farmland and open space acquisition and preservation; improvements to state buildings and property; and grants to municipalities and nonprofit entities.</p> <p>This act additionally authorizes up to: (1) \$712.4 million in revenue bonds over the two years for Clean Water Fund loans and (2) \$706.9 million in special tax obligation (STO) bonds in FY 14 for transportation projects, including \$60 million for the town-aid road grant program. It also cancels \$9.9 million in GO bond authorizations for past years.</p> <p>This act authorizes the treasurer to issue: (1) up to \$750 million in bonds, notes, or other obligations to reduce the state's accumulated General Fund deficit, determined according to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and (2) additional bonds or other debt to fund up to two years of interest payable or accrued on the bonds and issuance costs. It also commits the state to paying off the remaining GAAP deficit in annual increments over 13 years and authorizes actions to assure bondholders that the state will do so.</p>

Public Act	Title/Description
PA 13-243 (sSB 876)	AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS. This act approves \$780.3 million in state grant commitments for school construction projects which will result in a General Fund debt service cost of \$1,189.9 million. This includes: (1) \$510.1 million in state general obligation bonds for grant commitments to 27 local school construction projects, (2) \$19.5 million for seven previously authorized local projects that have changed substantially (more than 10%) in cost or scope and (3) \$250.7 million in state grant commitments for school construction projects through various notwithstanding provisions.
PA 13-247 (HB 6706)	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2015 CONCERNING GENERAL GOVERNMENT. This act makes net changes to General Fund appropriations of \$2.8 million in FY 14 and (\$7.2) million in FY 15 and eliminates the FY 15 appropriation of \$3.1 million to the Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines' Fund as a result of transferring operations to the American Legion; makes General Fund revenue changes of \$2.3 million in FY 14 and (\$7.7) million in FY 15; and includes various changes to implement the budget and other changes.
PA 13-271 (HB 6033)	AN ACT CONCERNING DISTRACTED DRIVING AND REVISIONS TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES. This act: (1) increases the fines for driving while distracted, which is estimated to yield additional General Fund revenue of \$450,000 in FY 14 and \$600,000 in FY 15 and (2) increases the renewal fees for motor vehicle licenses and creates fines for certain motor vehicle violations which is estimated to yield additional Special Transportation Fund revenue of \$1.5 million in FY 14 and \$2.9 million in FY 15.
SA 13-23 (sHB 6672)	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PARCELS OF STATE LAND, THE BOUNDARIES OF FENWICK, THE VALIDATIONS OF CERTAIN TOWN ACTIONS, THE CITY POINT YATCH CLUB AND WHEELER LIBRARY. This act: (1) authorizes conveyances of state property to the towns of Canton, New Britain, Southbury, and Stamford, (2) amends prior conveyances in Tolland, Wethersfield, and Barkhamsted and New Hartford, (3) authorizes a land exchange in New Britain and Newington, (4) grants a conservation easement in Middletown and (5) repeals a land exchange authorization in Haddam.