



2023 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT PROPOSALS

Governor Ned Lamont put forth several new proposals for Connecticut's Fiscal Year 2023 budget during the 2022 State of the State address given on Wednesday, February 9th. These proposals will make a difference in people's lives across Connecticut in five different ways:

1 CAPITALIZING ON GOOD-PAYING JOBS

More than \$75M for workforce development, connecting the jobs of tomorrow with the job trainings of today.

2 UPGRADING OUR AGING INFRASTRUCTURE

Transforming federal investment of nearly \$1B a year for the next five years into upgrades of Connecticut's roads, bridges, broadband internet, energy efficiency, storm resiliency, and clean energy.

3 IMPROVING AFFORDABILITY

Tax credits for homeowners. Tax cuts for car owners, retirees, and people with student loans. Cap the cost of domestic prescription drugs while allowing the safe importation of less expensive prescription drugs from Canada. Require transparency by home sellers and landlords in monthly energy costs.

4 CONTINUING OUR NATION-LEADING RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Ending the statewide school mask mandate, instead giving local school boards choice. Continue responding quickly and efficiently to changing circumstances by providing tools to keep people safe, including vaccines and boosters, quality masks, and self-tests.

5 TACKLING CRIME THROUGH PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Putting tens of millions of dollars into towns for more police officers with greater diversity, while also getting illegal guns used to commit violent crime off our streets.

THE CONNECTICUT DIFFERENCE

Since taking office in January 2019, Governor Lamont has brought Connecticut back from the edge of a fiscal cliff, facing a \$3.7B budget deficit, all while dealing with a once in a century pandemic. Today, instead of raising taxes, like previous governors did for decades, generating revenue from families and businesses to cover the deficit, the Governor is suggesting cutting taxes for working- and middle-class families thanks to a \$1.4B surplus and a maxed out rainy-day fund.

Governor Lamont's legislative agenda for the upcoming session is focused on making a meaningful, equitable difference for workers, families, minority and vulnerable residents, small businesses, our environment, and on a general belief in the direction Connecticut is headed.



THE CONNECTICUT DIFFERENCE FOR WORKERS

- Signed into law a \$15 minimum wage that grows with inflation
- Expanded the state's Earned Income Tax Credit for working families by historic margins
- Kicked off Covered CT, offering 40,000 more families healthcare at no cost
- Largest expansion of childcare and daycare in state history
- Invested hundreds of millions of dollars into workforce development opportunities and public universities

THE CONNECTICUT DIFFERENCE FOR FAMILIES

- Enacted one of the nation's first and most generous Paid Family and Medical Leave programs, which launched early and under budget
- Expanded the state's healthcare marketplace, Access Health CT, while also making the market more affordable, leading to record enrollment in 2021
- Ranked the 7th best state to raise a family and the 2nd best school system in the country by WalletHub
- Increased Education Cost Sharing Formula payments year after year to improve public education
- Signed law strengthening equal protection rights for LGBTQ parents
- Reduced wait times at the DMV to less than 20 minutes by moving easy transactions online

THE CONNECTICUT DIFFERENCE FOR MINORITY & VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

- Invested \$184M in affordable housing and proposing to invest a further \$120 million of rescue funding into affordable and healthy homes
- Launched Broker Academy, a first-of-its-kind program created to reduce health disparities in and the number of uninsured people in the state

- Signed landmark police reform legislation to increase accountability, ban chokeholds, and encourage additional recruitment of minority officers
- Formed the hate crimes advisory council and became the first state in the nation to require high schools to provide courses on Black and Latino studies
- Created commission on racial equity in public health and declared racism a public health crisis

THE CONNECTICUT DIFFERENCE FOR BUSINESSES

- Among the best pandemic responses and vaccination rates in the nation, providing certainty on how to manage and plan with certainty
- Made it easier to do business in Connecticut by creating a digital one-stop-shop for business management with the state at Business.CT.gov
- Record number of new businesses created in 2021 – 45,000+
- Provided \$85M in recovery grants to businesses during the pandemic
- Created Small Business Support, a \$150M program that provides low-interest loans, grants, job training, and technical support to minority owned businesses

THE CONNECTICUT DIFFERENCE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Contracted for clean energy from offshore wind and nuclear power
- Banned PFAS, otherwise known as "forever chemicals," which breakdown slowly, are bad for the environment, and can cause harmful health effects in people and animals
- Reduced carbon emissions through an all-of-government effort in buildings and in the state's zero emission vehicle program
- Successfully championed the Highway Use Fee, a tax on the heaviest trucks who are also major polluters
- Invested heavily in storm resiliency to protect towns along the water from flooding and rising sea levels