

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - FEB. 9, 2024

LEGISLATIVE SESSION OPENING DAY: The 2024 legislative session opened Wednesday morning. The House of Representatives welcomed newly elected Rep. Bill Heffernan of West Haven as replacement for former Rep. Dorinda Borer, who now serves as the city's Mayor. The 2024 13-week session will contemplate adjustments to the current \$51.1B two-year budget adopted in June 2023 and other policy adjustments.

GOVERNOR LAMONT STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS: Governor Lamont presented his State of the State address before the General Assembly on Wednesday. In his speech, the Governor spoke to Connecticut's fiscal health noting the current budget and proposed adjustments for FY 2025 will keep the budget in the black while maintaining the fiscal guardrails implemented in 2017. The Governor outlined key items of focus which include: (1) doubling the investment into affordable housing; (2) continued investment into clean and affordable energy; (3) initiatives to further combat domestic violence and drug abuse, ease racial tensions and promote social equity; (4) making investments in early childhood education and childcare which allots additional pay for early childhood care centers/provides certification resources for home healthcare providers; (5) expands Education Cost Sharing funding and the universal free school breakfast program; (6) continues investment into higher education /student debt reduction and (7) looks to keep healthcare and prescription drug costs affordable. A copy of the State of the State address, can be found [here](#).

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET ADJUSTMENT PRESENTATION: The Office of Policy and Management began presenting the budget before the Appropriations Committee and will before the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee this morning. The OPM slide show can be found [here](#). The Appropriations Committee will hold state agency presentations and public hearings beginning February 13th through February 26th. A detailed schedule can be found [here](#).

SESSION: The House of Representatives is scheduled to convene into a full session Wednesday next week.

COMMITTEE DEADLINES: The General Assembly's committees of cognizance have released their deadlines schedule which can be found [here](#).

STATE OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY: In observance of Lincoln's birthday, the Capitol and Legislative Office Building will be closed Monday, February 12, 2024.