

## LEGISLATIVE STATUS REPORT

March 24, 2022

### APPROPRIATIONS

**SB-402 – AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING TO TEST FOR PFAS IN SHELLFISH** – *Status: Public hearing scheduled for March 25 before the Appropriations Committee. (CWWA monitoring)*

### BANKING

**SB-180 - AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE INTEREST RATE FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL TAX LIENS** – Provides that commencing on the date of the assignment, interest shall accrue on the delinquent portion of the principal of the assigned tax obligation at the rate of 12% per annum. *Status: Approved by the Banking Committee, sent to the Senate. (CWWA monitoring) Committee.*

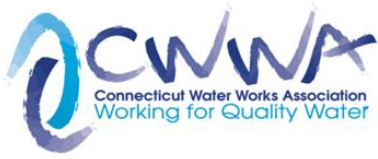
### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**HB-5038 - AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION** – Builds on provisions adopted last year requiring technical education and career schools to meet with members of the business community and state colleges/universities that offer courses in public utility management. The bill authorizes the schools to convene regional or statewide meetings to address the workforce needs of the state's utilities. *Status: Public hearing scheduled for March 21 before the Education Committee. (CWWA supports Sec. 24)*

### ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

**SB-276 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF WATER COMPANIES** – To: (1) Exempt loans that do not exceed five per cent of a water company's long-term debt from the formal Public Utilities Regulatory Authority review process, (2) increase the length of a rate case for water companies, (3) adjust cost-sharing mechanisms for water company overearnings, and (4) require rate cases every four years for large water companies. *Status: Died in the Energy Committee. (CWWA supported Sections 1 and 2 and sought revisions to the remaining sections.)*

**HB-5201 - AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS IN THE ACQUISITION OF WATER COMPANIES** - to require the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) to consider public health concerns identified by the Department of Public Health in ordering water company acquisitions public health concerns, including, but not limited to, any closed or active consent decrees or deficiencies identified by the Department of Public Health relating to the water company. *Status: Approved by the Energy Committee, sent to the House. (CWWA supports)*



**HB-5203 - AN ACT CONCERNING UTILITY COMPANY COST-SHARING MECHANISMS** - to give PURA greater discretion to design utility revenue decoupling mechanisms or formulas, to require the authority to adopt cost sharing mechanisms for excess earnings that direct most of these earnings to ratepayers, and to make other changes affecting electric utility companies. Note: Some provisions impact all public service companies, including private water companies. *Status: Amended and approved by the Energy Committee. (CWNA evaluating)*

#### **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**HB-5143 - AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES** - to establish an Office of Aquatic Invasive Species to be able to effectively coordinate and address the problems posed by such species in the waters of the state. *Status: Approved by the Environment Committee, sent to the House. (CWNA supports)*

**HB-5296 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPEN SPACE AND WATERSHED LAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM** – Increases funding for the program. *Status: Awaiting action by the Environment Committee. (CWNA supports)*

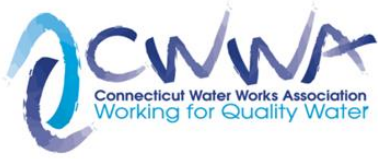
**SB-116 - AN ACT CONCERNING NOTIFICATION OF PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS NEAR LAKES AND PONDS** - Eliminates the requirement that pesticide application businesses publish notice of a pesticide application on a private lake or pond with more than one shoreline property owner in a general circulation newspaper. The bill instead requires businesses to personally notify the shoreline owners or leave a conspicuous notice on an entry door of the home on the waterfront property. *Status: Approved by the Environment Committee, sent to the Senate. (CWNA monitoring).*

**SB-240 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF SODIUM CHLORIDE TO MITIGATE SNOW AND ICE ACCUMULATIONS** - To provide training, certification, and protection from liability for roadside applicators of sodium chloride who use best practices when applying sodium chloride which, in turn, will reduce the environmental impact of such applications. *Status: Awaiting action by the Environment Committee. (CWNA supports)*

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**HB-5404 - AN ACT CONCERNING A SALES AND USE TAXES EXEMPTION FOR WATER COMPANIES** – Exempts goods and services purchased by water companies from the sales tax. *Status: Awaiting action by the Finance Committee. (CWNA supports)*

**Proposed SB-154 – AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE TO THE TOWN OF HEBRON FOR INSTALLATION OF A CONNECTION OF WATER LINES BETWEEN AMSTON LAKE AND THE VILLAGE CENTER** – *Status – Change of Reference to the Finance Committee.*



**Proposed SB-155 – AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE TO THE SOUTHEASTER CT WATER AUTHORITY TO UPGRADE A PUMP STATION, INCLUDING BY ADDING A STORAGE TANK, AND EXTEND AN EMERGENCY CONNECTION LINE INTO THE TOWN OF LEDYARD - Status – Change of Reference to the Finance Committee.**

**SB-50 - AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR A SEWER AND WATER LINE PROJECT ALONG ROUTE 32 IN THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN** - To provide funding for a sewer and water line project in the town of Franklin to expand industry and commerce along Route 32.

#### **GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE**

**SB-6 – AN ACT CONCERNING PERSONAL DATA PRIVACY AND ONLINE MONITORING** - To: (1) Establish (A) a framework for controlling and processing personal data, and (B) responsibilities and privacy protection standards for data controllers and processors; and (2) grant consumers the right to (A) access, correct, delete and obtain a copy of personal data, and (B) opt out of the processing of personal data for the purposes of (i) targeted advertising, (ii) certain sales of personal data, or (iii) profiling in furtherance of decisions that produce legal or similarly significant effects concerning consumers. *Status: Approved by the General Law Committee, sent to the Senate. (CWNA seeking revisions)*

#### **GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

**SB-473 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD** - To make revisions to provisions concerning the State Contracting Standards Board, including by giving the board authority over quasi-public agency and municipal procurement, requiring the hiring of full-time staff for the board, prohibiting the Governor from reducing allotments to the board and limiting the selection of contractors from a list without a competitive process to emergency procurements. *Status: Awaiting action by the GAE Committee.*

**SB-467 - AN ACT EXTENDING PERMITTING REMOTE PUBLIC MEETINGS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022** - To extend permitting remote public meetings under the Freedom of Information Act through December 31, 2022. *Status: Awaiting action by the GAE Committee.*

**HB-5491 - ACT CONCERNING THE STATE PROPERTIES REVIEW BOARD** - To expand the purview of the State Properties Review Board to include licensing agreements and contracts entered into by additional state agencies, including DEEP programs such as the Open Space & Watershed Acquisition program. *Status: Public hearing scheduled for March 25 before the GAE Committee. (CWNA monitoring)*

**HB – 5492 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCESS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND CIVIL PREPAREDNESS EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS** - to modify the process of public health and civil



preparedness emergency declarations, including by requiring legislative approval for renewal declarations issued one hundred eighty days or more after the initial declaration, permitting the legislative disapproval of executive orders issued one hundred eighty days or more after the initial declaration and permitting the legislative disapproval of any declaration of civil preparedness emergency regardless of cause. *Status: Awaiting action by the GAE Committee.*

#### **HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**HB-5342 - AN ACT CONCERNING MEMBERSHIP OF THE LOW-INCOME ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD** – Adds two representatives of a water company to the board, which oversees energy assistance programs, including water assistance. *Status: Approved by the Human Services Committee, sent to the House. (CWNA supports)*

#### **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

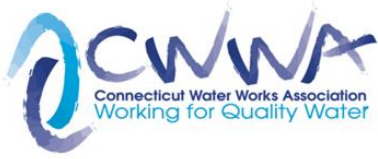
**SB-325 - AN ACT PROHIBITING CHARGES FOR WATER LINES LOCATED ON PRIVATE PROPERTY AND NON-SERVICEABLE FIRE HYDRANTS** – To prohibit water companies from assessing certain charges to municipalities and require them to obtain approval prior to the installation of water lines and hydrants. *Status: Awaiting action by the Planning & Development Committee. (CWNA opposes)*

**SB-322 - AN ACT CONCERNING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION** - *Status: Awaiting action by the Planning & Development Committee. (CWNA monitoring)*

**SB-128 – AN ACT CONCERNING FORECLOSURE, ASSIGNMENT AND OTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS FOR UNPAID SEWER ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER FEES AND CHARGES** – To prohibit foreclosure, assignment and other enforcement actions for unpaid sewer assessment and other fees and charges in the case of owner-occupied real property for which the principal of such unpaid assessments, fees and charges is less \$4,000. *Status: Approved by the Planning & Development Committee, sent to the Senate. (CWNA monitoring)*

**HB-5269 - AN ACT CONCERNING REMOTE MEETINGS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT** - To authorize municipal boards and commissions and other public agencies to hold remote or hybrid remote/in-person meetings beyond April 30, 2022. *Status: Awaiting a public hearing before the Planning & Development Committee. (CWNA monitoring)*

**HB-5165 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT** - to (1) amend the process timeline for the revision and adoption of the state plan of conservation and development, and (2) extend to 2025 the application of the plan intended to cover 2018 to 2023, inclusive. *Status: Approved by the House, sent to the Senate. (CWNA monitoring)*



## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**SB-248 - AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT DRINKING WATER SUPPLY** – to (1) provide that notification of proposed projects in an aquifer protection area may be provided to the water company electronically; and (2) require the Department of Public Health, in consultation with the water company, to determine that certain proposed solar installations will not have a significant adverse impact upon the purity and adequacy of the public drinking water supply. *Status: Scheduled for a public hearing on March 21 before the Public Health Committee. (CWNA supports)*

**HB-5482 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING LEGIONELLA MITIGATION** - to require (1) each water company that supplies drinking water to one thousand or more persons and a hospital or nursing home to sample its water system quality, and (2) each water company that adds chlorine or chloramine to its drinking water or purchases chlorinated drinking water to maintain the residual disinfectant concentration in such water at a minimum of 0.1 parts per million. *Status: Scheduled for a public hearing on March 21 before the Public Health Committee. (CWNA has concerns)*

**SB-456 - AN ACT CONCERNING CLEAN AND SAFE WELL WATER** – To amend DEEP's 471 program to include the replacement or repair of contaminated wells. *Status: Amended and approved by the Public Health Committee, sent to the Senate. (CWNA monitoring).*

**HB-5484 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PRIVATE AND SEMIPUBLIC WELL TESTING** - to (1) require water quality testing of private or semipublic wells prior to the sale, exchange, purchase or transfer of real property and reporting of such test results to the local health authority and Department of Public Health, (2) eliminate arsenic and uranium from the list of contaminants for which a local director of health may require a private well or semipublic well be tested, and (3) require water quality testing for newly constructed private and semipublic wells. *Status: Approved by the Public Health Committee sent to the House. (CWNA monitoring)*

**HB-5485 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES** - *Status: Awaiting action by the Public Health Committee. (CWNA monitoring)*

**HB-5500 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES** - to make various revisions to the public health statutes. *Status: Awaiting action by the Public Health Committee. (CWNA monitoring)*