



Legislative Highlights April 11, 2022

NOTES OF INTEREST

- Both chambers of the legislature will begin to meet to vote on legislation starting next week.
- As of 4/8, the Senate is scheduled to meet Tuesday 4/12 and Wednesday 4/13 at 12pm. The House is scheduled to meet on Wednesday 4/13 at 11:30am.
- The House and Senate sessions can both be streamed live on CT-N.com
- Access Health CT Board will meet next April 21, 2022



LEGISLATION

As of Friday, April 8th, all legislative committees have wrapped up their regular committee work. All committee work going forward will be votes on referrals. The Finance, Revenue, and Bonding committee referred the governor's revenue package, [SB 11](#), out of committee by a slim margin on Wednesday. While most of the language reflected the governor's earlier proposal, the legislation did contain a proposal to redirect revenue cap funds to create a child tax credit and fund early childhood education programs.

On Thursday, April 7th, the Joint Appropriations Committee amended and referred the Governor's 2022 budget adjustment legislation, [HB 5037](#). The full language as amended can be found [here](#). The OFA summary of the adjustments can be found [here](#). Within the budget, the committee also adopted adjusted ARPA allocations. A list of ARPA revisions can be found [here](#). Appropriation Committee amendments of interest to the budget were minimal. No amendments were made to the Department of Insurance or Office of the Comptroller budgets. 15.6 million dollars remains appropriated for the Covered Connecticut program.

The following bills were assigned File Numbers this week, which means that they are ready to be placed on their respective chambers' calendars for a vote. Bills with File Numbers have File Copies, which include full bill language as well as a legislative summary and fiscal analysis. Clicking the File Number will bring you directly to the File Copy language.

- [HB 5409 - An Act Concerning Financial Planners And The Connecticut Unfair Insurance Practices Act.](#)
Status: File Number [337](#)
- [SB 357 - An Act Concerning Copay Accumulator Programs And High Deductible Health Plans.](#)
Status: File Number [355](#)
- [SB 364 - An Act Concerning Health Insurance.](#)
Status: File Number [315](#)

No other legislative action was taken on CBB tracked bills this week. Reminder: bills that are currently considered "dead" can always come back in the form of amendments to other legislation. We will be



reviewing all amendments closely and will be sure to keep you up to date on all issues, bills, and amendments of interest.

ADMINISTRATION

All three of the governor's legislative proposals pertaining to health care costs were referred out of the Insurance and Real Estate committee at the beginning of March:

[S.B. No. 13](#) An Act Reducing Prescription Drug Prices (with [substitute language](#)), [S.B. No. 15](#) An Act Encouraging Primary And Preventive Care (with [substitute language](#)), and [H.B. No. 5042](#) An Act Concerning Health Care Cost Growth. No action has been taken on these bills since that time and the governor has not spoken publicly on them either.

This week, State Treasurer, Democrat Shawn Wooden, announced that he will not seek reelection this November. There are now three constitutional offices with open seats up for grabs this fall- former Comptroller Kevin Lembo resigned in Dec. 2021 and his replacement, Comptroller Natalie Braswell has announced she will not run for the seat. Secretary of State Denise Merrill has also announced her retirement.

KEY INFORMATION RESOURCES:

- **FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT ON COVID-19, INCLUDING GUIDANCE AND OTHER RESOURCES, ALL RESIDENTS IN THE STATE ARE ENCOURAGED TO VISIT [CT.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://ct.gov/coronavirus)**
- **CT Insurance Department Bulletins:** <https://portal.ct.gov/CID/Bulletins/Current-List-of-Bulletins>
- **Connecticut Paid Leave Authority website:** CTPaidLeave.org

RECENT ARTICLES AND OP-EDS OF NOTE:

Healthcare IT News: [Security Breaches in the Health Insurance Exchange](#)

CT News Junkie: [Increasing Primary Care Spending Doesn't Lower Healthcare Costs](#)

CT Mirror [Op-Ed on the Need to Address Mental Health Parity](#)

CT Insider: [State-run health insurance exchange failed to prevent breaches of CT residents' data, audit finds](#)

CT Mirror: [Committee passes \\$24.2 billion budget to push CT past pandemic](#)

CT Mirror: [Lamont urges lawmakers not to overreach on tax cuts](#)

CBIA: [Tax Package Provides Little Relief for Employers](#)

CT Mirror [Op-Ed on Increasing Healthcare Equity](#)

CT Post: [COVID-19: Mental health telemedicine was off to a slow start – then the pandemic happened](#)



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