



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services



## Legislative Update # 21

June 3, 2015

As of this update, the budget and tax package was passed in the House early this morning on a 73 to 70 vote. The Senate will take up the bill shortly and it is expected to pass.

The bill number is HB 7027 and the link to the bill is:

[http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&which\\_year=2015&bill\\_number=7027](http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&which_year=2015&bill_number=7027)

Though we do not have all the details at this time, we are sending you a very short summary of what we believe to be included.

- 17 million dollars added back to Grant Accounts
- Funding restored to Connecticut Legal Rights Project
- Funding restored to Connecticut Mental Health Center
- Majority of Funding restored to Regional Action Councils
- Majority of Funding restored to Regional Mental Health Boards
- Majority of funding restored to Gatekeeper Program
- Supports the Governor's "Second Chance" Initiative
- Keeps increases in YAS, ABI/ TBI and Hospital Discharge Accounts

There are less than 10 hours to go and we are waiting for the Senate to take action as well as bill to implement the budget. We will send out additional information in the morning.

Congratulations to all for your advocacy on behalf of the behavioral health community!

### **Accessing Information via the Connecticut General Assembly Web Page:**

If you wish to get the details/status on a bill, read the text of a bill, or check on committee agendas or upcoming events in the Bulletin, log onto the Connecticut General Assembly web page at: <http://www.cga.ct.gov>

The CGA schedule of events can be accessed on that same page by scrolling down and clicking on the appropriate item.