

## DPW LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY 2008

Bill	Summary	History Last Action	Highlights
<a href="#"><u>Connecticut HB 5323</u></a>	An act concerning the department of information technology. Purpose: To enable the state to purchase requisite information technology services through federal contractors, facilitate the Chief Information Officer's performance of certain administrative duties, and amend the frequency of meetings by the Geospatial Information Systems Council.	04/29/08 signed by the governor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sec. 4 – Geospatial Information Systems Council will not meet quarterly and not monthly. DPW has a representative on the Council.</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Connecticut HB 5505</u></a>	An act concerning the citizens' election program. Purpose: To make certain requisite technical and substantive changes to the campaign finance statutes and the Citizens' Election Program.	04/16/08 transmitted to the secretary of state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sec. 11 – makes changes to the contractor contribution and solicitation ban.</li> <li>- Sec. 12 - transfers from the SEEC to the State Contracting Standards Board (SCSB), the responsibility for studying subcontracts for state contracts.</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Connecticut HB 5537</u></a>	An act concerning construction safety. Purpose: To require that all workers on public works projects take an OSHA safety course or program and not just those performing manual labor.	05/19/08 transmitted to the secretary of state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expands the construction safety training requirement to any public works project.</li> <li>- Applies the existing prevailing wage project thresholds to the training requirement (instead of applying the training requirement to all projects of \$100,000 or more).</li> <li>- Affects contracts entered into on or after July 1, 2009</li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Connecticut HB 5600</u></a>	An act concerning Connecticut global warming solutions. Purpose: To create a schedule for the state to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to create	05/19/08 transmitted to the secretary of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No direct mandate for DPW</li> <li>- DPW has a representative on the Governor's</li> </ul>

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	<p>a state-wide program for such reduction, to create the Climate Change Impacts Subcommittee, to require certain facilities to report their greenhouse gas emissions, to require low-carbon fuel standards for all motor vehicle and home heating fuels sold in the state, to prohibit load-serving entities from entering into agreements that would exceed a certain carbon dioxide limit, to require state agencies to include an analysis of greenhouse gas emissions when conducting an environmental review of a new program, to require that the State Building Code be revised to reflect more stringent energy standards, to create a new class of certified energy inspectors, to require all new construction and major renovation to be certified by such inspectors and to eliminate the requirement that Office of Policy and Management submit a report regarding state carbon dioxide emissions.</p>	<p>the state</p>	<p>Steering Committee on Climate Change, which is required to do various reports on ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Each state agency that is a member of the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change is required to submit a report to OPM and DEP on or before January 1, 2010 and biannually thereafter. The report shall identify existing and proposed activities and improvements to the facilities of the agency that are designed to meet state agency energy savings goals. The report shall also identify any policies or regulations that could be adopted by the agencies in the short term to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>- Requires the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change to create a subcommittee to assess the impact of climate change on the state and make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Connecticut</u></b> <b><u>HB 5891</u></b></p>	<p>An act concerning the conveyance of certain parcels of state land. Purpose: To convey certain parcels of state land and establish standards for the acquisition of abandoned cemeteries by municipalities.</p>	<p>05/07/08 in concurrence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conveyance of an easement to the City of Norwich over a certain parcel of land for the purpose of installing, maintaining, operating, repairing and replacing subsurface natural gas pipelines and related subsurface gas transmission equipment.</li> <li>- DPW to grant an easement over a portion of Naugatuck Valley Community College for the purpose of granting access to and from the public roadway known as Chase Parkway in Waterbury (State Project: BI-CTC-387)</li> </ul>

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<p><b><u>Connecticut SB 368</u></b></p>	<p>An act concerning thermal energy transportation. Purpose: To regulate, as public service companies, companies having an exclusive franchise to use public rights-of-way to distribute steam, chilled water or other media.</p>	<p>05/19/08 transmitted to the secretary of state</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This bill places thermal energy transportation companies under the regulation of the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) on or before May 7, 2008 or upon passage of the bill. The bill stipulates that DPUC shall not take regulatory action without the approval of the Energy and Technology Committee.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Connecticut SB 397</u></b></p>	<p>An act concerning the state building works of art account. Purpose: To clarify accounting procedures for the Connecticut Commission of Culture and Tourism's state building works of art account to comply with certain requirements of the Office of State Auditors.</p>	<p>05/19/08 transmitted to the secretary of state</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This act establishes a "maintenance account" subaccount in the General Fund's state building works of art account. By law, the State Bond Commission must allocate at least 1% of bond proceeds for the construction, reconstruction, and remodeling of state buildings for art works. The act requires the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism (CCCT) to determine the percentage of the 1% allocation, up to 10%, to credit to the maintenance account. The account's funds must be used solely to conserve, repair, and clean art works commissioned and purchased for state buildings using the proceeds of the 1% allocation.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Connecticut SB 402</u></b></p>	<p>An act concerning authorization of state grant commitments for school building projects and concerning changes to the statutes concerning school building projects. Purpose: To authorize state grant commitments for school building projects.</p>	<p>05/07/08 in concurrence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sec. 514(b)(2) – Explains the process municipalities shall use for awarding architectural or engineering contracts for school building projects. Allows the municipalities to select the most qualified bidder as opposed to the lowest bidder.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Connecticut SB 454</u></b></p>	<p>An act concerning workers' compensation disclosures on construction sites. Purpose: To require general contractors, principal employers and subcontractors to provide proof of workers' compensation insurance prior to receiving any</p>	<p>05/07/08 in concurrence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishes a permanent enforcement commission to address the problem of employers avoiding state and federal labor, employment, and tax law obligations by misclassifying their employees.</li> </ul>

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	building permits.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Also creates an advisory board to advise the commission on job misclassification in the construction industry.</li> </ul>
<b><u>Connecticut SB 679</u></b>	An act concerning the payment of certain costs from bond funds. Purpose: To clarify the role of the Department of Public Works in monitoring the state facility plan.	05/07/08 in concurrence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Changes the procedure for awarding state contracts when the lowest responsible qualified bidder is an out-of-state business that receives a preference in its home state.</li> <li>- Beginning January 1, 2009, it requires the State Contracting Standards Board (SCSB) to publish an annual list of states that give preference to in-state bidders, including the percentage amount. The bill requires that the list be made available to state contracting agencies and allows them to rely on it when determining the lowest responsible qualified bidder.</li> <li>- By law, the Department of Public Works (DPW) commissioner monitors agency requests for leased space and facility projects during the interim between state facility plans. She advises the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) secretary, State Properties Review Board (SPRB), State Bond Commission, and governor when the square footage requested or the cost of the project exceeds, by at least 10%, the square footage of, or the cost to implement, the state facility plan.</li> <li>- Under current law, the OPM secretary, SPRB, State Bond Commission, and governor must approve the agency requests for leased space and facility projects before the projects continue. This bill requires their approval only when project costs will be paid with bond funds.</li> </ul>