M. Jodi Rell
Governor, State of Connecticut
February 4, 2009

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

FY2010 - FY2011 BIENNIUM

"We will overcome our economic distress and we will emerge the better for it.
For we are Connecticut. We will stand arm in arm,
sharing our burdens and turning our challenges into opportunities,
positioning ourselves so that we may soar
when those harsh winds of economic turmoil finally fade."

M. Jodi Rell, Governor

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For more information on the highlights of Governor Rell's biennium budget, please visit **www.ct.gov/governorrell** and click on **Budget Forum**.

Shrinking State Government.

Executive Summary

Confronted with very challenging economic times, Governor M. Jodi Rell has proposed a number of initiatives in her Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Biennial Budget to address the mounting budgetary shortfalls and position Connecticut to prosper in the years and decades to come.

The accumulation of excess laws, agencies, taxes and waste has driven the price of government beyond what those funding it can afford or should be expected to pay.

less government.

In developing the proposed budget, Governor Rell examined and evaluated every aspect of state government. As a result, Governor Rell has proposed a budget that accomplishes or speaks to six critical principles:

- Does not burden the pubic with additional taxes;
- Reshapes state government to make it more affordable and accountable;
- Strengthens relationships with and between municipalities;
- Helps residents and families struggling to meet basic needs;
- Eliminates waste in government; and
- Puts in place mechanisms to diversify and strengthen Connecticut's economy.

Among the many initiatives included in Governor Rell's budget are: efforts to reduce spending and not increase or impose additional taxes; steps to downsize state government through agency eliminations and mergers; measures to eliminate waste in state government through greater centralization and control of resources such as state vehicles and cell phones; programs to help those facing unprecedented hardships such as additional funding for food stamps and the establishment of an employment program; initiatives that further efforts to regionalize municipal services and cooperation while maintaining level funding for municipal programs; and new programs that will equip the state's current workforce and future workforce with the skills and knowledge to prosper for years to come.

Governor Rell's budget proposal focuses on the core missions of government and is in line with the state's, and for that matter the world's, financial condition. The initiatives captured in this document reflect the overall theme and mission of Governor Rell's budget proposal – maximizing and sharing existing resources, being responsive to taxpayers and helping those in need.

For more information on these proposals or to view the entire budget document, please visit Governor Rell's Budget Forum website at **www.ct.gov/governorrell.**

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There are 14,000 pages of state laws; 200 additional laws are added each year.

Repealing Obsolete and Duplicative Laws

purging the books.

The general statutes that prescribe the structure and duties of our state government are contained in a sixteen-volume set with more than 14,000 pages. Every year the General Assembly enacts an average of two hundred additional public acts; very few are ever repealed.

Some of these laws have become obsolete; others have been replaced by more updated provisions. Not only do these outdated laws take up space in our statute books, they cause confusion for citizens who are trying to understand how their government works.

To address these problems, Governor Rell directed that the general statutes be reviewed to identify those statutes that are no longer needed. As a result of this review, 130 obsolete statutes have been identified.

Governor Rell has proposed that each of these 130 obsolete statutes be repealed. There is clearly no need for statutes that are no longer used or relevant to be maintained on the state's books. Some of the laws that Governor Rell has proposed repealing are:

"Layers of laws have come at the expense of clarity and focus in government.The sheer volume and rate at which they are added reflects government's preference to add another layer instead of removing what is no longer needed.They are a visible symptom of the excess weighing government down."

M.Jodi Rell, Governor

- Appointment of police matrons in certain towns to take charge of women prisoners. (This law was enacted in 1893, prior to the establishment of modern, professional police departments.)
- A provision authorizing changes to political party rules resulting from the redistricting of 1992.
- A provision encouraging the development of the sheep industry throughout the state. (In 1919, these were considered "green collar" jobs!)
- Several provisions dealing with party-line telephones. (It's hard to explain the concept of party-line telephones to people who have grown up with cell phones and i-Pods!)
- Establishment of the Vietnam Herbicides Commission. (This Commission ceased to exist in 1990.)
- A series of statutes dealing with the Lower Fairfield County Convention Center Authority. (These provisions have never been utilized.)

These statutes are just a sampling of the obsolete statutes that Governor Rell has proposed repealing. As you can see, there is no need to clutter our statute books with these laws, or to cause confusion for our citizens.

Less confusion, less clutter, less government!

Municipal Mandate Relief

During her tenure as Lieutenant Governor, Governor Rell visited 157 of our 169 cities and towns and every chief elected official. The number one concern of nearly every municipality was state mandates and, more importantly, the lack of state funding to carry out those mandates.

In this difficult economy, the issue of municipal mandate relief has assumed a new urgency. Mayors, first selectmen, legislators and others are clamoring for relief as never before. They face the prospect of declining municipal revenues and increased needs for services. As one chief elected official said, he is now faced with the prospect of running his town "blindfolded, with my hands tied behind my back and an angry mob just outside my door!"

It is time – in fact, way past time – for us to let our mayors and first selectmen know that we have heard their cries and we are ready to provide the relief they desperately need. Governor Rell, therefore, is proposing the following to provide mandate relief to our hard-pressed cities and towns:

- Prohibit the enactment of any new, costly municipal mandate without a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the General Assembly;
- Suspend binding arbitration requirements for two years while we confront our economic difficulties;
- At the end of the two-year moratorium, limit those items which may be subject to binding arbitration to salary and benefits only – not scheduling, dry cleaning, vehicles use, etc.;
- Delay for two years the in-school suspension mandate, the requirement that meeting minutes be posted on the internet and the implementation of the "raise-the-age" criminal justice law; and
- Allow towns to electronically post -- rather than publish -- town reports, job ads, meeting notices and the like.

Governor Rell has said that she wants to return government to its core functions and get spiraling costs under control. We must do this for state government and we must help our cities and towns do the same for local governments. Municipal mandate relief is critical to achieving this goal and it is exactly what hard-working local taxpayers expect and deserve.

Agency Eliminations

Connecticut has a multitude of state agencies, panels, boards, commissions and offices, all created with the best of intentions and all designed to serve the best interests of state taxpayers. Over time, however, needs change. Governor Rell believes it serves the public interest, especially in a time of fiscal constraint, to look at the size – and the cost – of state government and see where savings can be achieved.

reducing the size of government.

Governor Rell's budget proposes eliminating 10 offices or commissions whose functions are no longer needed or are substantially duplicated elsewhere in state government. These agencies and the projected savings are:

AGENCY	FY2010	FY2011
Commission on Aging	$518,142	$554,642
Commission on Status of Women	1,103,351	1,155,070
Commission on Children	1,106,352	1,158,340
Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs Comm.	655,781	692,083
African-American Affairs Comm.	442,659	461,971
Asian-American Affairs Comm.	25,000	25,000
Property Rights Ombudsman	214,667	214,667
Office of Health Care Advocate	1,047,634	1,065,475
Office of Consumer Counsel	3,118,979	3,224,134
Correctional Ombudsman	334,000	334,000
TOTALS	***$8,566,565***	***$8,885,382***

The Commission on Children, for example, duplicates the work of the Department of Children and Families, while much of the work of the Office of Health Care Advocate is duplicated by the departments of Social Services and Public Health.

Others are outdated or cannot be justified in these difficult financial times. While no one appreciates more than Governor Rell the importance of equality of the sexes in the workplace, the courts, the home and in government, in an era when four of the state's six Constitutional officers are women (including the Governor), the state's Chief Justice is a woman and women make up a sizable percentage of the Legislature, the expense of the Commission on the Status of Women can be eliminated.

The Governor understands that all of these agencies were created with worthy purposes and serve noble goals. She is not suggesting the work of these panels is unneeded or unimportant – only that their functions are or can be taken up by line agencies, thus saving taxpayers money and reducing the size of state government.

Agency Consolidations

In an enterprise like state government, special offices and agencies are often created to meet immediate needs … and then permitted to linger for years afterward. Others are established in statute to regulate certain activities but never updated over time. Many of these entities can be combined with agencies that have similar responsibilities to take advantage of the economies of scale.

Governor Rell's budget plan takes a "new broom" to state government. In addition to eliminating ten state offices whose work is duplicated or can be absorbed by line agencies, the Governor is proposing to consolidate one full-fledged state agency – the Department of Higher Education – and nine other state boards and commissions by merging their responsibilities into existing departments.

Savings are projected to exceed $10 million over the two-year budget.

The agencies to be consolidated and the projected savings are:

AGENCY – DESTINATION	FY2010	FY2011
• State Properties Review Board – *to DAS*	$49,812	$49,812
• Insurance & Risk Mgt Board – *to DAS*	71,355	71,355
• Office of Claims Commission – *to DAS*	31,656	31,656
• State Marshal Commission – *to DAS*	456,220	461,754
• Office of Child Advocate – *to Atty General*	815,788	816,286
• Children's Trust Fund – *to DCF*	1,461,491	1,508,378
• Board of Accountancy – *to DCP*	97,099	96,999
• Council on Environmental Quality – *to DEP*	177,049	177,944
• Department of Higher Ed – *to SDE*	1,115,529	1,115,529
• Board of Firearm Permit Exam – *to DPS*	100,346	101,492
TOTALS	**$4,376,345**	**$4,431,205**

Shifting the operations of these agencies will not slow the delivery of services, diminish the protections provided to the vulnerable populations of the state or disrupt the flow of everyday business. Indeed, it is Governor Rell's intention to streamline state government, eliminating duplication and clarifying which agencies have responsibility for key public services.

Families all over Connecticut are economizing and minimizing expenses. Like a husband and wife who once drove their own cars to work everyday but are commuting together to cut out a monthly car payment, Connecticut must learn to do more with less.

Hartford Hospital Corporation – Board of Governors - CT River Atlantic Salmon Commission • Employee Misclassification Advisory Board - Employment Security Division Advisory Board to the Labor Commission • Face of CT Steering Committee • Forest Practices Advisory Board • Governor's Committee on Physical Fitness • Greater Hartford Flood Commission • Housing Matters, Citizens Advisory Council • National and Community Service, CT Commission on • Property Tax Cap Commission • Blue Ribbon Commission for Higher Education • Broadband Internet Coordinating Council • Center for Real Estate and Urban Economic Studies Advisory Committee • Code Training and Education Board of Control • Food Policy Council • Operation Lifesaver Committee • Seafood Advisory Council • Technology Advisory Committee • Youth Futures Committee • Youth Policy Council • Architectural Licensing Board • Electrical Work Board • Elevator Installation, Repair and Maintenance Board • Fire Protection and Sprinkler Systems Board • Heating, Piping, Cooling and Sheet Metal Work Board • Home Inspection Licensing Board • Landscape Architects • Mobile Manufactured Home Advisory Council • Naturopathic Examiners • Plumbing and Piping Work Board • State Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors • State Board of Examiners of Shorthand Reporters • Tree Protection Examining Board • Blue Ribbon Commission on Housing and Economic Development • Boxing Commission • Buckland Area Transportation Study Advisory Committee • Commission on Business Opportunity, Defense Diversification and Industrial Policy • Commission on Nontraditional Loans and Home Equity Lines of Credit • Commission on Uniform Legislation • Community Economic Development Program Board of Directors • Community Mental Health Strategic Investment Fund • CT Economic Conference Board • CT Economic Information System Steering Committee • CT Economic Resource Center Board • CT International Trade Council • CT River Assembly • CT Israel Exchange Commission • Crane Operators Examining Board • Educational Technology, Commission for • Employees' Review Board • Five Mile River Commission • Glass Work Board – Automotive and Flat • Governor's Competitiveness Council • Homeopathic Medical Examining Board • Housing Sustainability Fund • Identity Theft Advisory Board • Institute for Technology and Business Development Advisory Board • Invasive Plants Council • Managed Care Ombudsmen Advisory Committee • Small Business Incubator Advisory Committee • Special Contaminated Property Remediation and Insurance Fund Advisory Board • Sports Advisory Board • State Economic Development Advisory Board • Child Day Care Council • Child Support Guidelines, Commission for • Families with Service Needs Advisory Board • Family Support Council • Head Start Funds Advisory Committee • Nurturing Families Network Advisory Commission • CT Main Street • CT China Council • CT Community Development Association • CT-Baden-Wurttemburg Council • German Companies in CT Roundtable • Governor's Council for Economic Competitiveness and Technology • Housing Advisory Committee • Institute for Material Science Board • New England Economic Project • Northeastern Economic Developers Association

streamlining state government and eliminating redundancy.

Downsizing Government – Eliminating Boards and Commissions

Governor Rell's 2010-2011 budget seeks to fundamentally change state government by reducing its size and requiring it to perform better and more efficiently. Every year, government adopts new laws, creates new commissions and forms new study groups – expanding both the size of government and its role in our citizens' lives.

Now more than ever, Governor Rell believes Connecticut needs a smaller and less intrusive government. By shrinking our government, Governor Rell is signaling to Connecticut families and businesses that the State will be their partner during the national recession by reducing both the cost and the requirements of state government.

cut spending.

By eliminating more than 70 state boards, commissions and committees, more than 900 appointments made by the Governor, General Assembly and others will no longer be required to staff these entities.

More than 300 boards, commissions and committees have been established over the years by the executive branch, legislative branch and judicial branch -- and they represent a host of issues, interests and topics including business assistance, education, human services, trades and crafts, recreation, health, environmental protection and housing.

Many of the entities serve as advocacy groups for these various interests or issues; others serve in a regulatory or licensing capacity. Most of the entities are affiliated with state agencies or offices that have primary jurisdiction over the subject matter the entity was created to address.

To streamline state government and eliminate redundancy, Governor Rell has proposed legislation to eliminate more than 70 boards and commissions and to merge 20 entities created for similar purposes or which advocate for similar issues.

Boards and Commissions Proposed for Elimination

By eliminating more than 70 state boards, commissions and committees, more than 900 appointments made by the Governor, General Assembly and others will no longer be required to staff these entities.

In addition to cost savings from mileage reimbursement and other expenses achieved through these reductions, individuals, businesses and organizations will now have single points of contact with the state agency of cognizance on matters considered by these boards and commissions.

In addition to the elimination of these boards and commissions, Governor Rell will be proposing to merge, consolidate or modify another 15 to 20 entities. To save costs, the modifications would include eliminating the expenses and reimbursement for

members, eliminating Connecticut's participation on a given board or reducing the overall membership on a particular board or commission.

Governor Rell believes that tough economic times are when new ideas and approaches matter most. While many of these organizations serve useful purposes, their functions can and should be merged in order to eliminate redundancy, streamline state services and improve customer service by creating single points of contact.

Surplus State Property

The State of Connecticut owns dozens of parcels of surplus property – long unused and often forgotten properties that remain on the state's books serving no constructive public purpose. Many of these properties were acquired as part of highway or other infrastructure projects and now, years later, they produce neither revenue for the State nor value for the towns in which they are located.

Many are adjacent to state roads and highways and they present opportunities for small business or commercial development. Under Governor Rell's plan, these properties will be inventoried, assessed and sold to generate new revenue to help state government achieve a balanced budget and to create new economic opportunities in our cities and towns as the properties are returned to productive use on local tax rolls.

putting idle assets to work.

The Governor's budget recognizes that even within the current fiscal climate, there are significant windows of opportunity. The sale of surplus properties will benefit our state and local governments by relieving the state of unneeded land that will no longer require maintenance and record-keeping. At a time when Governor Rell is recasting state government and paring it down to its core functions, returning these properties to productive use will help position Connecticut for a strong future.

Since 2007, the state has generated more than $10 million from the sale of surplus property. In addition, the state has entered into leases for its properties which are expected to generate more than $50 million over the life of various leases and other agreements.

Sale of Surplus Property – 2010 - 2011

In developing the 2010-2011 budget, the state has listed 46 properties across Connecticut that are surplus and are now available for sale with a total estimated value of more than $5 million.

To find, in one central location, all state-owned property available for sale or lease, please visit **www.ct-surplus-property.com** and click on "Assets Management."

Governor Rell has introduced legislation to streamline the review of surplus properties and to allow the Department of Transportation to make a greater number of smaller properties, which are generally located along transportation corridors, available for sale or lease.

The state is also reviewing conveyance bills enacted in the last 20 years to identify properties which have been approved for conveyance but where the acquiring party

has not yet taken title. Legislation will be introduced to cancel the conveyance of these properties, allowing the state to use or sell them. Future legislative conveyances will include language requiring that if the conveyance does not occur within 18 months the state will not be obligated to convey the property.

In addition to these approaches to managing state property, Governor Rell has proposed a host of changes and new measures to ensure the best long-term utilization and disposition of properties owned or leased by the state including:

- Developing a single, centralized inventory of all real estate owned by or leased to the state, including how properties are currently being utilized;

- Continually reviewing the real estate holdings of all state agencies (including the Legislature, Judicial Branch and state universities and colleges) to determine the level of efficiency of each and every state agency's use of its real estate;

- Identifying unused and underutilized real estate which could be used by another state agency or sold to generate revenue;

- Reducing state-leased space by requiring that agencies leasing space at any new locations shall lease 10 percent less space than called for under the DPW space standards: and

- Reviewing all lease renewal and expansion options proposed by state agencies before such options are exercised to ensure that the proposed renewal or expansion is necessary and consistent with the agency's ability to carry out its core functions.

excess surplus property

TOWN	NEAREST ST	ACRES	EST. VALUE
Bloomfield	Charter Ave	0.14	$2,500.00
Bloomfield	Charter/Central	0.76	$5,000.00
Bloomfield	Central/Gorham	1.14	$50,000.00
Bloomfield	Gorham/Hillcrest	1.39	$50,000.00
Bloomfield	Hillcrest/Asher	1.28	$50,000.00
Bloomfield	Albermarle	0.58	$2,900.00
Bloomfield	Charter/Central	0.44	$5,000.00
Bloomfield	Central/Asher	0.13	$2,600.00
Bloomfield	Gorham/Hillcrest	0.46	$2,500.00
Bloomfield	Hillcrest/Taft/Asher	0.48	$2,400.00
Bloomfield	Asher/Albermarle	0.6	$2,500.00
Bloomfield	Albermarle	0.48	$2,900.00
Bloomfield	Douglas St	0.25	$5,000.00
Bloomfield	Maplewood	0.15	$30,000.00
Bridgeport	Daisy Court	0.07	$22,000.00
Bridgeport	Cherry/Bostwick	0.72	$376,000.00
Durham	Rte 77/ Mica Hill	0.52	$12,000.00
East Hartford	Route 2	1.856	$117,000.00
Fairfield	Route 59	0.152	$60,000.00
Greenwich	Ferris Dr	0.54	$1,600,000.00
Griswold	Preston Rd	0.23	$43,000.00
Groton	Route 184	0.31	$62,500.00
Lisbon	Route 138	0.31	$13,000.00
Marlborough	52 S. Main	0.19	$110,000.00
Milford	1080 Bridgeport Ave	0.46	$370,750.00
Milford	16 Clark Street	0.45	$231,000.00
Milford	2 Pearl Hill Rd	0.15	$125,000.00
Montville	Route 32	0.12	$14,000.00
New Milford	Route 7	1.11	$120,000.00
New Milford	376 Danbury Rd	2.18	$850,000.00
Newington	Route 5 & 15	1.15	$234,000.00
Norwalk	Route 7	0.09	$70,500.00
Norwalk	Martin Luther King	0.13	$16,500.00
Old Saybrook	Essex Rd	0.65	$198,500.00
Preston	Route 2/Ross Road	1.92	$334,550.00
Putnam	Sayle Ave	1.8	$70,000.00
Roxbury	Route 67	0.52	$24,000.00
Seymour	Lakeview Ave	3.06	$121,000.00
Thompson	I-395	0.54	$4,200.00
Trumbull	Route 8	0.35	$136,000.00
Trumbull	Route 111/15	1.66	$190,000.00
Vernon	I-84	0.59	$106,000.00
Waterford	Vauxhall st Ext	0.14	$100,000.00
Waterford	Route 85	0.32	$33,600.00
Winchester	461 North Main St	0.33	$35,000.00
Windsor	Lee Lane	0.36	$35,000.00
Total Est Value			**$6,048,400.00**

Reducing the Size of the State Fleet

The State of Connecticut Fleet Services Division of the Department of Administrative Services currently owns more than 4300 passenger cars and light-duty trucks that are used by state officials and employees. Numerous other state agencies own additional vehicles. In some cases, these other agencies do not know how many vehicles they own or where the vehicles are. Governor Rell finds this unacceptable.

On January 9, 2009, as part of her effort to reduce state spending, Governor Rell issued Executive Order Number 22, which places responsibility for the state fleet in one executive branch agency, reduces the size of the state's fleet by twenty percent and ensures that state policies governing use of state vehicles are consistently applied throughout state government. Executive Order 22 achieves the following:

handing in the keys.

- Assigns responsibility for purchasing, leasing and maintaining the state fleet to the Commissioner of Administrative Services;
- Imposes standards for use of state vehicles to ensure that such vehicles are properly used for legitimate state purposes;
- Establishes criteria for determining which state employees may take their vehicles home with them;
- Establishes criteria for determining when a state employee will be assigned a vehicle and when use of a pool vehicle is more appropriate;
- Requires a study of the feasibility of equipping state vehicles with GPS tracking devices;
- Requires that all passenger cars and light-duty trucks purchased after January 1, 2009 have E.P.A. estimated highway gasoline mileage ratings that are best in their class;
- Reduces the size of the state fleet by twenty percent by July 1, 2009; and
- Takes state vehicles away from employees who misuse them or who are convicted of two or more moving violations involving the use of a state vehicle.

Governor Rell knows that families and businesses across the state are being forced to reduce their spending and to operate more efficiently. She is determined that the state will do so as well when it comes to state vehicles.

With Governor Rell's Executive Order Number 22 in place, we will reduce our spending on state vehicles, reduce the size of our fleet, purchase the most energy-efficient vehicles available and ensure that state vehicles are properly used for essential state functions.

Cell Phone Policy

In 1994, there were less than 500 cellular phones in use in state government. Today, there are more than 10,000 cellular devices, including phones, aircards and Blackberry© devices.

The state spent more than $4.5 million on cellular service in FY 2008 alone. And, during the first six months of FY 2009, $2.28 million was spent, even as the state's budget outlook worsened.

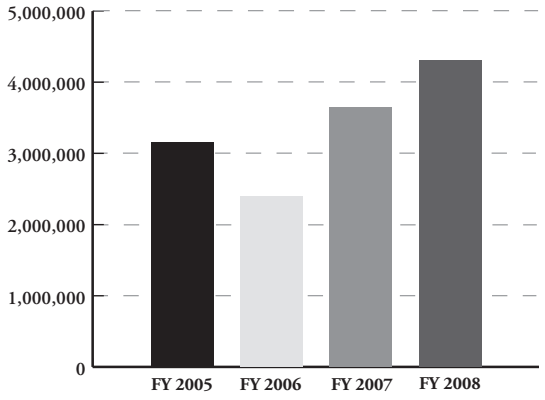
Governor Rell has ordered a freeze on all but emergency or urgent new cellular service and device orders by executive branch agencies.

She has also directed agencies to conduct expedited reviews of existing cellular phones, air cards and Blackberry© assignments and to identify those not truly essential for the employee to carry out his or her work responsibilities.

hanging up the phones.

Agencies will be required to submit cancellation orders for each of the non-essential phones and devices through the Department of Information Technology (DOIT) using the existing online telecommunication service request process.

DOIT has been instructed to expedite the cancellations and report to the Governor, each week, on the number of cancellation orders submitted by each agency.



Participation by the Judicial and Legislative branches, institutions of higher education and state constitutional offices in this initiative is voluntary but strongly encouraged.

DOIT has also requested rate reduction proposals from wireless service vendors, as allowed by existing contract, and is working on longer term savings initiatives, including rebidding the contracts, reducing the number of plans and options offered to state agencies and other measures to rein in costs.

This reduction in the use of cellular phones and devices is a critical part of Governor Rell's efforts to align state spending with the state's financial condition.

Upgrades to the electrical system, Newington 17071PA 07-7 2(d) $ 220,000 $ 60,000 $ 160,000 Study of the cost and feasibility of future uses for the existing health care facility at the Rocky Hill Veterans' Home17071PA 07-7 2(f)(1) $250,000 Development and implementation of a plan to reduce the number of state-owned and leased surface parking lots in Hartford17071PA 07-7 2(g)(4)$200,0000 Infrastructure repairs and improvements, including fire, safety and compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act and the Occupational Safety and Health act, including3011SA 01-2 2(b)(1) $12,000,000 Grants-in-aid to American Red Cross chapters state-wide, for purchase of vehicles, trailers and telecommunications and computer equipment12052(06)SA 05-1 13(b)(1)$300,0000Grant-in-aid to the Allingtown Fire District in West Haven, for improvements12052(06)SA 05-1 13(b)(4)75,000075,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Branford, for construction of a training tower for the Branford Fire Department12052(07)SA 05-1 32(b)(1)$130,000 Grant-in-aid to South Fire District, for renovations to fire stations in the city of Middletown 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(b)(2) $475,000 Grant-in-aid to the city of Stamford, for radio systems to improve police and fire department communications 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(b)(3) $500,000 Grant-in-aid to the city of Bridgeport, for purchase and installation of a public safety video surveillance system 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(b)(4) $300,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Clinton, for renovations to the police station 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(b)(5) $250,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Litchfield for firehouse construction in Northfield 12052(08)PA 07-7 13(b)(1) $878,050 Grant-in-aid to the Quinebaug Valley Emergency Communications Center for land acquisition and construction 12052(08)PA 07-7 13(b)(2) $2,950,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Somers for two fire substations 12052(08)PA 07-7 13(b)(3) $439,025 Grant-in-aid to the city of Hartford for a public safety complex and regional emergency management center 12052(08)PA 07-7 13(b)(4) $1,000,000Grant-in-aid to the Allingtown Fire District in the city of West Haven for land acquisition and construction of a new fire and police substation 12052(08)PA 07-7 13(b)(5)$ 2,000,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Montville to convert the old town hall to a police station 12052(08)PA 07-7 13(b)(6) $800,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of North Stonington for firehouse improvements 12052(08)PA 07-7 13(b)(7) $250,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Somers for two fire substations 12052(09)PA 07-7 32(b)(1) $439,025 Grant-in-aid to the Allingtown Fire District in the city of West Haven for land acquisition and construction of a new fire and police substation 12052(09)PA 07-7 32(b)(2) $2,000,000 Alterations, renovations and improvements including equipment for urban search and rescue 17041SA 04-2 2(e)(1) $2,400,000 Addition to the forensic laboratory, Meriden 17041SA 04-2 2(e)(2)$ 7,850,000 Addition to the forensic laboratory in Meriden 17071PA 07-7 2(h)(4) $1,680,000 Planning, design, land and/or building acquisition, construction or improvements to motor vehicle facilities, including the headquarters building. 3891SA 89-52 2(d) $3,200,000Grant-in-aid to Farmers Cow, L. L. C. , for business development 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(c)(4) $300,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Wolcott, for improvements to the Wolcott youth football and soccer fields 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(11) $250,000 Grant-in-aid to the Norwalk River Rowing Association, Incorporated, for construction of a boathouse 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(14)$ 250,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Putnam, for improvements to Murphy Park 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(16) $250,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Windham, for a feasibility study of a whitewater park in Willimantic 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(17)$ 450,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Thompson, for a hydroelectric feasibility study 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(18) $250,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of East Lyme, for the purchase of Oswegatchie Hills for open space 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(19) $2,000,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Ledyard, for a water main extension 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(20) $1,000,000 Grant-in-aid to the city of Hartford, for installation of a sprinkler playscape at DeLucca Park 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(22)$ 90,000 Grant-in-aid to the city of Hartford, for cost of making the playground at SAND Apartments handicapped accessible 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(23) $50,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Middletown, for watershed management at Crystal Lake 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(25) $50,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Rocky Hill, for improvements to Elm Ridge Park skate park 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(27) $100,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Cromwell, for improvements to parks and fields at Watrous Park, Cromwell middle and high schools and Pierson Park 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(29)$ 350,000 Grants-in-aid to Boundless Playgrounds, Inc. , for fully-accessible playgrounds and physical challenge courses 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(3) $1,000,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of East Hartford, for capping the East Hartford Landfill 12052(06)SA 05-1 13(d)(5) 900,000 0 900,000 Grant-in-aid to the city of Stamford, for park restoration and infrastructure improvements 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(11) $500,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Scotland, for improvements to recreational facilities 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(12) $250,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Canterbury, for improvements to recreational facilities 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(13) $250,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Thompson, for improvements to recreational facilities 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)([illegible] 250,000 0 250,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of [illegible] planning and development of [illegible] 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)([illegible] Grant-in-aid to the town of Old Lyme, for improvements to the Lyme-Old Lyme recreational fields 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)([illegible] $250,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Lyme, for improvements to the Lyme-Old Lyme recreational fields 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(18) $150,000Grant-in-aid to the city of Stamford, for the Holly Pond Tidal Restoration project 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)([illegible] $750,000Grant-in-aid to the city of Hartford, for the revitalization of Pope Park 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)([illegible] $1,000,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Bethlehem, for improvements to the football field at Nonnewaug High School 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(24) $150,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Watertown, for renovations to the baseball field at Watertown High School 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(25) $525,000 Grant-in-aid to the city of Waterbury, for improvements to the Waterville Recreation Center 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(27) $250,000 Grant-in-aid to the city of Waterbury, for improvements to Lakewood Park 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(28) $250,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of East Hartford, for improvements to Yanner Park 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(29) $100,000 Grant-in-aid to the city of Meriden, for a flood control project 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(31) $1,000,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Farmington, for reconstruction of the outdoor track at Farmington High School 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(34) $200,000Grant-in-aid to the town of North Branford, for development and improvements to Swajchuk and Highland Parks 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(35) $500,000 Grant-in-aid to the town of Chaplin, for replacement of a playscape at Garrison Park 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(37) $50,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Enfield for lead abatement and painting at Old Town Hall 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(38) $102,000Grant-in-aid to the town of Bristol for rehabilitation and renovation of Rockwell Park 12052(07)SA 05-1 32(d)(39) $4,000,000

we cannot spend what we do not have.

Canceling Bond Authorizations

Governor Rell's two-year budget proposal cancels nearly $400 million in unallocated bond authorizations – most of them pork-barrel spending or earmark projects that the state simply cannot afford in this time of austerity.

cutting the credit card.

Bond authorizations provide funding for capital projects that the Legislature has approved. However, no money is spent until the state Bond Commission approves the project and not every project authorized by the Legislature is immediately approved by the Bond Commission.

State debt, especially on a per-capita basis, is already dangerously high. Governor Rell believes strongly that in the next two fiscal years Connecticut must focus on what bonding it can afford on the projects that are most essential – among them school construction, clean water, infrastructure and job creation – and that non-essential projects cannot be allowed to divert our resources.

The Governor's budget identifies more than 330 bond authorizations totaling $389,019,405 that are to be canceled. The vast majority are items that were included in previous bonding bills but never progressed to the state Bond Commission agenda. (In some cases, a portion of the authorized bonding has been allocated.) Most of the items are from bonding bills dating back to 2005 or earlier. Many are from as far back as 1999 and 1993 – and at least one dates back to 1987!

Authorizations to be canceled range from new football and soccer fields to a sprinkler playscape to funding for local streetscape improvements – projects that, in better financial times, the state might help support. However, in the current financial climate, Governor Rell believes they are luxuries that Connecticut families are willing to forego.

Probate Court Reforms

The probate courts have existed in some form for over 300 years in Connecticut. They are statutory courts and, as such, have only the jurisdiction and authority granted by the state legislature. Currently, probate courts have jurisdiction over a wide variety of matters including the disposition of trusts and estates, appointing guardians and conservators and granting name changes. Probate court decisions may be appealed to the Superior Court.

The state's probate court system is funded by revenue collected in cases involving probation of estates and an annual state appropriation of $2.5 million. The system, by way of its administration fund, is facing a potential $5 million shortfall in Fiscal Year 2011 and is projecting deficiencies in all future years. Consolidation of the large number of courts (117) is needed to achieve significant cost savings.

self-sustaining probate courts.

Governor Rell's probate court proposal is designed to eliminate the shortfall and allow the probate court system to become self-sustaining, while still ensuring that the probate courts are locally based. It eliminates the need for any additional state funds and the current annual appropriation of $2.5 million. This proposal would be effective January 1, 2011 at the expiration of the existing elected judges' terms. It would restructure the system as follows:

- Merge the existing courts from 117 to 36. Jurisdiction would be determined by state senatorial district. The elimination of 81 judges and a modest 20% reduction in non-judicial staff expenses will result in significant savings. Total Anticipated Savings is not less than $9 million annually;
- Compensate all probate court judges on a weighted workload basis with a range of compensation between $80,000 and $110,000. According to 2005 data from the Probate Court Administrator, in 2005, 32 judges earned over $75,000, with the top 14 judges earning approximately $100,000. Many, if not most, of these judges serve on a part-time basis;
- Require that all courts be open not less than 40 hours per week;
- Require that all probate court judges be attorneys, members in good standing of the Connecticut bar for not less than 10 years, and residents of their district. Judges would continue to be elected;
- Eliminate the provision of additional retirement credit for any judge who is displaced. This incentive to consolidate courts has been available for several years and few courts have consolidated;
- Centralize certain of the accounting and payroll functions of each court in the Office of the Probate Court Administrator. It is estimated that this change will result in a savings of not less than $300,000 annually;

- Allocate each court's budget for staff and miscellaneous expenses based upon weighted workload of the court. Require that all staff, including judges, work a minimum of 20 hours per week to qualify for health benefits and any applicable pension plan;
- The Probate Court Administrator would be responsible for balancing the budget for the probate court system, including all employee health care benefits and pension contributions, based upon revenue generated by the probate courts.

It has been obvious for some time that the probate court system was in need of reform, but all previous attempts at reform have failed. We can no longer afford to maintain this archaic and inefficient system in its current form. Common sense and fiscal exigency require that Governor Rell's probate court reforms be enacted as soon as possible.

Making State Government Better.

Office of Accountability

When Governor Rell was presented with the prospect of declining state revenues and increasing home foreclosures and job losses, she knew that state government would have to return to its core mission and make do with less. As she attempted to remake state government to meet these challenges, she sought input from state residents. The message that she repeatedly heard was two-fold: there is too much waste in state government and there needs to be a watchdog agency that will identify and eliminate wasteful practices.

more accountability.

Governor Rell recognizes that state government is ultimately accountable to the taxpayers. She has proposed, therefore, the creation of a state Office of Accountability, which will be responsible for detecting and preventing fraud, waste and abuse in the management of state personnel, the use and disposition of state property and the collection, disbursement and expenditure of state and federal funds.

The new office, within the Office of Policy and Management, will be overseen by the Chief Accountability Officer who will have the authority to audit state agencies. This individual will be assisted by Agency Accountability Officers appointed by the department head of each state agency. Together, they will work to achieve the following goals:

- Eliminate waste and inefficiency in state agencies;
- Ensure that state resources, including vehicles, phones and computers, are used for legitimate state purposes;
- Ensure that state and federal funds are properly accounted for;
- Achieve economic efficiencies wherever possible; and
- Verify that each state agency is fulfilling its statutory mission.

In addition, the Chief Accountability Officer will implement a quality assurance program to ensure that state services:

- Are provided in a timely, efficient and professional manner;
- Meet the needs of agency clients and the public;
- Are cost-effective;
- Produce the anticipated outcomes; and
- Utilize state resources prudently.

Governor Rell knows that difficult economic times require us to work smarter and harder and make do with fewer resources. And yet, she understands that at precisely those times our residents have greater need for state services.

The new Office of Accountability will help state government fulfill its core missions in a manner that will meet the needs of our residents and restore the confidence of our taxpayers.

Connecticut's Conservation Corps

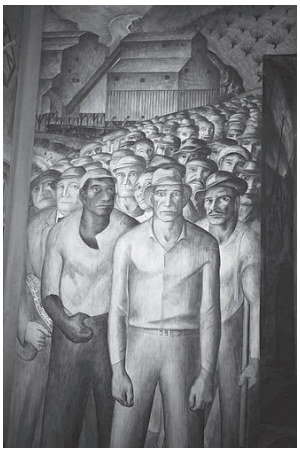
In 1933, U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt established the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to provide employment and vocational training for the unemployed during the Great Depression. Over the next decade, thousands of young men found gainful employment through the CCC on conservation and natural resources development work and defense work on military installations.

money in the pocket.

In anticipation of the second federal economic stimulus package, Governor Rell has proposed the establishment of a Connecticut Conservation Corps.

The mission of the Corps would be to provide gainful employment opportunities to individuals (men and women) throughout the state. Connecticut's employment rate currently stands at 7.1%.

This will be an opportunity for individuals to earn wages while helping on various projects beneficial to the public, municipalities and the state. Projects might include park and beach clean ups, trail building and the clean up of brownfield sites. In addition, a number of project opportunities might be created as a result of the second federal stimulus package.



Governor Rell has included $7.5 million in her proposed budget over the next two years to provide employment opportunities to Connecticut residents through the Corps. Connecticut General Statutes section 22a-21b – Connecticut Conservation Corps – allows the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to establish a Corps within given resources.

To facilitate the establishment of the Corps, Governor Rell wants to work with the General Assembly to develop a comprehensive plan for providing gainful employment to Connecticut residents.

Elements and topics to be addressed in establishing the Corps include:

- Eligibility requirements;
- Wages;
- Types of projects;
- Training requirements; and
- Funding mechanism – short- and long-term.

The plan for establishing the Corps is to be completed by July 1, 2009.

Green Collar Initiative

A natural fit for Connecticut's future

Connecticut has a long tradition of innovation and ingenuity, often leading the nation in developing new approaches to confront emerging challenges. This is especially true in environmental protection and conservation because we recognize that our natural resources are fragile and finite. We also recognize that this stewardship provides opportunities for economic growth and a vibrant workforce of the future – "green collar jobs."

growing green.

Green collar jobs are white and blue collar jobs in green businesses – primarily jobs in businesses whose products and services directly improve environmental quality including the following professions and trades: plumbers, HVAC technicians, engineers, architects, electricians, auto mechanics, energy-efficient appliance installers, manufacturers, chemists, landscapers and builders.

These professions are a natural fit with the array of environmental and conservation programs already underway through Governor Rell's leadership. Connecticut was one of the first states to develop a climate change action plan, create and participate in a regional auction to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and push for cleaner tailpipe exhaust from automobiles.

Governor Rell also unveiled a comprehensive energy vision in September 2006 that:

"…reaffirms Connecticut's position as a leader in renewable energy and solidifies the direction of state energy policy. It is focused on lowering prices for consumers, the state becoming less reliant on foreign energy, fostering the use of environmentally sound technology and making this state a center for economic development and technological innovation in the energy sector."

Putting these initiatives into action, Governor Rell recently announced a comprehensive list of regulations for the construction and renovation of state-owned buildings and public schools designed to reduce energy consumption and costs.

These regulations, coupled with Governor Rell's Executive Order of February 2, 2009, advance the state's commitment to growing our green collar workforce

The Executive Order will:

- Create a Green Collar Council of representatives from various state agencies to develop job opportunities, cultivate public-private partnerships and strengthen job training programs;

- Create a Green Collar Job Corps primarily composed of high school students, who will learn and apply the skills needed to perform energy audits for residential and commercial establishments, conduct outreach and promote energy efficiency and conservation;
- Establish a Green Science and Engineering Advisory group to develop strategies for introducing green principles into education, manufacturing, engineering and other aspects of business and industry;
- Explore opportunities for federal funding for programs and initiatives designed to spur the growth of green collar jobs;
- Develop a public-private partnership to identify challenges and develop solutions to meet future workforce needs of traditional and alternative energy and energy-related companies in Connecticut;
- Provide funding for job training efforts through a newly created 21st Century Green Jobs Training Initiative, including the recently created brownfield remediation training program;
- Create certificate credit programs through the Community College System on green industries and energy conservation; and
- Develop a green transportation corridor along interstate routes 91 and 95.

These new initiatives, combined with the array of environmental and conservation programs already underway in the state, will help strengthen and grow Connecticut's economy while creating a workforce poised to meet the new challenges presented by this diverse and increasingly green economy.

Putting Food on the Table

Providing for the faces and families behind the statistics

To economists, the national recession has been the incessant march of harsh numbers – foreclosures, oil prices, Wall Street losses, consumer confidence and growing unemployment. Over the past year, those statistics explain how we got here. That same data eventually will give us the earliest hint of our recovery.

However, what the numbers can never show is the true human toll in all of this. Nearly 30,000 people lost their jobs in Connecticut in 2008. Economists tell us it will get worse before it gets better and now the specter of losing a job has become a reality for so many. Their "what if" becomes "what now?" With each loss of a paycheck, families and individuals are making steep sacrifices to keep from spiraling deeper into an economic crisis. For those already living on a slim margin, the recession is nothing short of catastrophic.

food on the table.

The thousands of newly unemployed are no longer worrying about buying a second vehicle, taking a family vacation, having the latest in electronics or other frills; they are faced with meeting their basic needs – food and shelter.

The thousands of newly unemployed are no longer worrying about buying a second vehicle, taking a family vacation, having the latest in electronics or other frills, they are faced with meeting their basic needs – food and shelter. They are part of a growing group of Connecticut citizens – cash poor families - who, for the first time in their lives, are reaching out for help. We do not need numbers to tell us this. Food pantries and soup kitchens around the state are serving more people than ever.

This summer at the height of record gasoline and grocery prices, Governor Rell spearheaded a statewide campaign to raise $100,000 for food pantries. Through the generosity of individuals and the business community, which included a donation of more than $50,000 from Connecticut credit unions, we raised more than $160,000. Food Bank estimates that $5 can feed five adults for a day and $10 can serve two senior citizens for five days. The Governor is proposing a new infusion of cash which will allow Food Bank to meet the needs of thousands.

We have not forgotten, not for one moment, that behind the numbers are our citizens – people thrust into economic instability because of the recession and who now need assistance with the basic staples. The heart of what we do, not just as a state government, but as friends and neighbors, is the basic part and the best part of our humanity.

That is why this budget will include an *addition* of just over $1.5 million to expand food service programs and outreach. The Governor's budget will:

- Contribute $600,000 to the Connecticut Food Bank and Foodshare for bulk purchases for use in pantries around the state;
- Contribute $900,000 to expand elderly nutrition program, including home delivery

and congregate meals;

- Contribute $243,700 to reach, inform and enroll the newly eligible in food assistance programs;
- Expand eligibility for federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly the federal Food Stamp program, by increasing income limits from 130 percent to 185 percent of federal poverty level and eliminating the asset test.

When our citizens reach out for help, we must reassure them it will be there.

Creating the 'Middle College' System

Keep Connecticut's Work Force Strong

Connecticut's highly educated, highly motivated work force has long been the envy of other locales and one of the key selling points when encouraging businesses to start, locate or grow in our state. Governor Rell knows that our continued economic success depends on ensuring the availability of a dependable and well-trained work force.

This is especially true in the knowledge-based economy, where certain job skills – among them nursing and allied medical fields, information technology, education and "green collar" jobs – will be at a premium.

opportunity.

Right now, too many young people in Connecticut are caught between the need for higher education and affordability. Even with the state's systems of vocational-technical high schools and community colleges, too few students are completing their degrees and going on to professional and social success.

Governor Rell's budget proposes to merge the vo-tech high school and community college systems with the state's Office of Workforce Competitiveness to create the Middle College System – a system of coordinated academic programs that bridge the gap between high school and higher education, allowing students to earn 60 college credits within five years of starting high school.

Middle College students would have access to state-of-the-art facilities and gain college-level experience tuition-free. Bridging this gap would also sharply reduce the need for remedial programs at community colleges and improve retention and graduation rates, especially among minority and disadvantaged students.

Beginning in 10th grade, a student could take up to two courses per semester that would count toward both high school graduation requirements and a college degree. By the end of a student's senior year, he or she could graduate from high school and have as many as 48 college credits toward the 60 to 65 credits needed for most Associate of Liberal Arts degree programs. The Office of Workforce Competitiveness would provide guidance and counseling to help students identify courses of study likely to provide them with the skills most in demand.

Governor Rell believes the Middle College proposal lights a clear path to success for the more than 10,000 students now in Connecticut's vocational-technical high school system and will sharply improve the graduation rates and career prospects for the state's community college students – all while ensuring that the remarkable work force that has been a hallmark of the state's economic success remains intact.

A Budget with ***No New Taxes***

Governor Rell has produced a two-year spending plan that does not rely on any increased taxes. Connecticut today is a place of great promise amid a time of great challenge. The Governor is keenly aware that the last thing our economy needs now is more money flowing from taxpayers' wallets into the government's hands.

These are some of the toughest times in recent memory. Layoffs, furloughs, severance packages and pay cuts are part of the daily landscape. In her proposed budget for FY 2010 and 2011, the Governor has focused on cutting spending, reducing the size of government and raising revenues without increasing taxes. The way to encourage job creation and small business development is to position companies for growth rather than adding to the economic burdens of cash-strapped families and employers.

no new taxes.

Every economic downturn ends with a recovery. The decisions of today must be made with that fact in mind – simply hunkering down and planning only for immediate survival does nothing to prepare our state to make the most of the uptick that will inevitably come. That is why Governor Rell believes it is vital that our business climate – the network of taxes and regulation that government imposes on the private sector – not strangle growth during these already-precarious fiscal times.

Governor Rell's budget proposal calls for using money that is currently sitting in certain "off-budget" accounts to support essential state programs and services. In this difficult economic climate, our taxpayers cannot afford to have substantial amounts of public revenue diverted to off-budget purposes. The Governor's plan would reduce the balances in these accounts to no more than what is required to keep them operating and in some cases would reduce their operating expenses.

The Governor's two-year budget also calls for reasonable increases in certain fees, many of which have not been adjusted in years. Often, when a new program is created by the Legislature, a fee is established that is intended to cover its cost. But if the fee is never updated it fails to keep pace with the ever-increasing expense.

For example: The CPA's license fee has not been updated in 20 years. License fees for pet care facilities have not been reviewed in 17 years. The license fees of architects and engineers have not been updated in 17 years. Licenses for some bakeries have not been changed in over 30 years. Many liquor license fees have not been altered in over 15 years.

Unless these fees are properly updated, the bulk of these regulatory and program costs will continue to fall on taxpayers at large. By adjusting the fees for the first time in many years, this initiative increases state revenues approximately $100 million a year.

Governor Rell's budget also calls for securitizing a portion of the revenue currently flowing into the Renewable Energy Investment Fund and the Energy Conservation and Load Management funds. This will provide an additional $350 million dollars in FY2011. This is made possible by a reduction in spending in these funds.

This same step was undertaken during the economic downturn of 2003. It is important to note that when the economy recovered these bonds were retired well ahead of schedule.

Collection of Debts Owed to the State

All successful businesses vigorously pursue their delinquent accounts and other unpaid debts. In the past, the State of Connecticut has not always done so.

Now, however, with our economy in turmoil and our revenues declining, we must actively pursue all available sources of revenue. This includes making sure that debts owed to the state are promptly paid.

debt intercept.

Governor Rell, therefore, has proposed a new procedure to help state agencies recover money they are owed. The proposed legislation directs the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services to establish a centralized database to track unpaid debts owed to state agencies.

It directs state agencies to enter information into the database for any debt that remains unpaid sixty days after a demand letter has been issued. All such debts shall be subject to interest charges at the rate of one percent per month.

Once a debt has been entered into the database, the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall utilize existing procedures that authorize the Commissioner of Revenue Services to withhold an amount equal to the debt owed from any income tax refund due the debtor.

In addition, each state agency that issues permits, licenses, certificates or other types of registration shall consult the centralized database prior to issuance. No such license, permit or other state authorization shall be issued to a person whose name is listed in the centralized database until such debt has been paid.

Governor Rell recognizes that we are living in difficult economic times. The State, however, must continue to fulfill its obligations to provide services, maintain roads and bridges, make payments to pensioners and unemployed persons and fund many other critical programs. Similarly, she expects those who owe money to the state to pay their debts.

This new debt collection program will allow the State to realize revenue that it is owed, which will in turn allow us to meet our obligations to our residents.

Helping Cities and Towns and Keeping Our Education Promise

Governor Rell knows in this time of unprecedented economic turmoil that raising taxes at any level – local, state, or federal – would pose an undue burden on families and businesses when they can least afford it. Raising taxes during a recession is also the worst action we could possibly take for the economy.

Accordingly, the Governor is committed to providing municipal aid at the same appropriated level as last year to ensure that cities and towns can deliver needed, high quality services. Even though that means cutting state agency spending across the board, the Governor is determined not to balance the budget on the backs of local property taxpayers.

helping cities and towns.

In her proposed 2010-2011 budget, Governor Rell keeps her promise to make education a top priority. During these lean times, Governor Rell has recommended the continuation of current year appropriated levels for education formula grants.

For the major source of state education aid, the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Program, communities can expect to receive the amount of education funding they receive in 2009.

Governor Rell deeply believes that investments in education are investments in the future of our state. Since taking office, Governor Rell has made long-term investments in education at every level to ensure that our state's future is built upon truly solid footings – our children.

Schools are second homes for our state's children. When parents send them off to school in the morning, they want to know their children are going to spend each day in places of learning that are clean, safe and sources of pride. Our schools prepare Connecticut's young people for the future and the Governor has taken the necessary actions to make Connecticut's schools the best learning environments in the nation.

From 2006 to 2009, Governor Rell increased ECS funding by $270 million, a landmark increase that will be sustained in the Governor's proposed biennial budget. By maintaining current funding levels in these extraordinary times, Governor Rell is keeping her commitment to the state's students and their families.

In addition, Governor Rell's proposed budget continues funding for the

Town Aid Road program at the level appropriated for Fiscal Year 2009 in order to ensure that municipalities can maintain their roadways and bridges in top condition. Funding for P.I.L.O.T for New Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment is also continued at the level of the FY09 expenditures.

By maintaining municipal aid at FY2009 appropriated levels, the Governor is protecting the quality of life and the quality of education in communities across Connecticut, as well as protecting local taxpayers from precipitous increases in their property tax payments.

Regionalization

Providing Incentives, Removing Roadblocks

There are many reasons why we choose to live in Connecticut. From border to border, our tiny Constitution State has unrivaled diversity of character – the rolling hills of Litchfield County, a spectacular shoreline, rich green river valleys and cities of promise and proud heritage. It is a patchwork we must promote and preserve by working together, sharing both the economic benefits and burdens.

Inter-municipal agreements have existed for years in Connecticut, allowing communities to share schools, emergency dispatch centers, animal control, recycling and other services. Now, Governor Rell is proposing broad incentives that will encourage municipalities to provide essential services in a cost-effective way and ultimately relieve the burden on local property taxpayers.

sharing resources.

In this economic downturn, towns and cities need relief more than ever and the Governor's current proposal will give them the ability to:

- Regionalize and streamline services;
- Cut costs through joint purchases of machinery and materials; and
- Remove bureaucratic road blocks to regional agreements.

The Governor's regionalization plan would provide $40 million in Regional Incentive Grants for infrastructure projects. The grants will be awarded in increments of:

- $3 million for three or more towns serving a combined population of at least 50,000; and
- $1 million for four or more towns serving a combined population of 50,000 or less.

In addition, the Governor is establishing a $10 million Municipal Capital Expenditure Purchase Grant for municipalities to jointly buy heavy equipment such as bucket trucks, sanders, plows and similar machinery.

Also, towns and cities joining in regional initiatives would be eligible for a bonus of 10 percent more in state aid to improve local roads and make capital improvements.

Other highlights of the Governor's bill include:

- Allowing towns to delay revaluation for up to two years in order to share revaluation services with other municipalities;

- Fast track permitting for economic development projects by using a special consortium of state agency officials; and
- Deleting duplication of multiple local review processes by allowing cooperating towns to select one attorney to review and approve contracts and a lead town to administer purchase or service agreements.

The longstanding tradition of "home rule," from our largest city – Bridgeport – to our tiniest town – Union – has created the many faces of Connecticut. It is as much a part of our character as the tale of the Charter Oak Tree. Moving forward into the 21st Century, we can work together and still preserve our unique patchwork heritage. We must do it smartly and responsibly through cooperation and trust. If we do so, the benefits will be there for all to share.

Remaking DECD

Making Job Creation Job No. 1

The national economic tempest that ravaged so much of the nation in the first nine months of 2008 made landfall in Connecticut in the last quarter of the year – and its fury was unabated.

basic help where needed most.

Yet Connecticut is a resilient state – a place synonymous with innovation, a small state with the greatest work ethic and best-trained work force in the nation. And Governor Rell knows that the only way to truly recover from this economic storm is to literally work our way out – to keep and grow the stable, well-paid jobs that enable Connecticut residents to raise their families in safe, secure neighborhoods, send their children to high-caliber schools and enjoy the quality of life that makes our state such an attractive place to live.

To that end, Governor Rell's two-year budget proposes a sweeping overhaul of the state's job-creation infrastructure – bringing all of its economic development efforts, from start-up financing to arts, tourism and film programs under unified executive leadership through the Department of Economic and Community Development.

These consolidations will eliminate duplication of services, ease confusion among business leaders about where to go for help and erase the sometimes confusing variety of agencies, acronyms and applications that slow the process of job creation.

The Governor's budget would combine the two primary financing agencies, the Connecticut Development Authority (which offers investment capital, debt financing and special programs) with Connecticut Innovations Incorporated (which offers venture capital for high-tech start-ups) to create the **Connecticut Economic Innovations Authority** under the leadership of DECD.

Under the Governor's plan, DECD would also take over responsibility for two key state efforts – the **Small Business Innovation Research** program, which helps high-tech companies and entrepreneurs apply for federal grants intended to spur new technology; and the variety of state programs intended to encourage development of "**brownfields**" – former industrial sites that can be cleaned up and returned to fruitful use as areas for economic development, housing or recreation.

Governor Rell's proposal also merges the **Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism** into DECD. The Commission has responsibility for arts, tourism and film programs, which together account for over 170,000 jobs and $14 billion in revenue annually.

Connecticut's 21st Century Bottle Bill

For three decades, Connecticut residents have paid a nickel deposit with each purchase of soda and beer cans and bottles. The main goal of the "bottle bill" when it was enacted in 1978 was to increase the recycling of these containers and discourage littering.

This objective has been achieved as more and more citizens participate in some form of recycling program, bins for containers are now so commonplace that they blend into the background and the sides of our thoroughfares are no longer strewn with aluminum and glass.

Much has changed, however, in the 31 years since deposits were placed on soda and beer containers.

it pays to recycle.

More and more types of beverages can be purchased in smaller, individual-sized containers, and the methods by which we recycle have become much more sophisticated. The biggest change over this time has been the growth in the bottled water industry – bottled water choices now occupy one entire side of a grocery store aisle – across from the soda selection.

To meet this changing dynamic and further recycling activities without impacting the distribution industry, Governor Rell has crafted a proposal to modernize the bottle bill. This proposal provides a central fund with a dedicated funding stream that preserves the current return-to-retail option, and funds curbside recycling – providing more flexibility and convenience for the public while lessening the burden for retailers, bottlers and distributors.

Highlights of Governor Rell's 21st Century Bottle Bill include:

- A nickel deposit will now be placed on water bottles;
- A Trust Fund will be created under the administration of participating bottlers, wholesalers and other beverage manufacturers. The Trust Fund will be responsible for paying refunds and handling fees to curbside recycles, retailers and redemption centers by the Trust Fund; and
- Curbside recycling will be enhanced – 3.5 cents per container (calculated by weight) – will be returned to the municipality where they were recycled, creating a funding stream to help build recycling infrastructure in Connecticut's cities and towns.

This new approach to recycling will:

- Generate an estimated $38 million annually for the state's General Fund;
- Create a nickel deposit for water bottle containers;
- Expand and enhance recycling initiatives; and
- Ensure distributors, wholesalers, bottlers, etc. receive funds through a Trust Fund to cover operating costs.

Speed Enforcement Cameras

One of the core missions of government is to protect the well-being of its citizens. Protecting the public takes on many forms and one of the most basic, but essential forms is utilizing speed enforcement strategies to keep roadways safe for all travelers.

Throughout the state, at any given moment, there are dozens of State Police Troopers patrolling the state's highways enforcing traffic laws. The most common traffic offense observed is speeding. Driving at high rates of speed is not only against the law, it creates dangerous conditions on our roads.

smile, you're on camera.

In 2008, more than 75,000 speeding tickets were issued – a 16% increase over 2007. In an effort to make Connecticut's roads safer and reduce the frequency of speeding occurrences, Governor Rell has proposed a pilot program to assist with detecting and enforcing speeding infractions.

Specifically, Governor Rell's proposal includes:

- Utilizing four automated speed enforcement cameras throughout the state. The cameras will either be in fixed locations or mobile or a combination of both.

Governor Rell has included $500,000 in her budget proposal to launch this pilot public safety program.

In 2008, Governor Rell proposed a similar measure – a pilot program utilizing speed enforcement cameras in the Lyme-Old Lyme area on Interstate 95. That proposal came in the wake of a multi-vehicle crash that left three people dead.

As a result of Governor Rell's 2009 public safety initiative, the state expects to significantly curtail dangerous driving and the additional enforcement presence could result in an additional $30 million in revenue over the next two years.