
CT BUDGET CHOICES

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BROKEN PROMISES

The Governor's Budget Promises &
The Governor's Proposed Budget Cuts: SFY 02
A Sampling

“A month ago I told you that our challenge is to harness the power of this economy, to expand the circle of opportunity. To seize this moment of promise to give hope to Connecticut families in their quest for the American dream. Today, I offer a vision to meet that challenge.”

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET ADDRESS 2001, February 7, 2001

On Education

“First – we must maintain the commitments we have made in the past. Nowhere is this more important than in the field of education. From elementary school to college, Connecticut is building one of the best education systems in the world...Schools provide the roots of a strong community. Show me a city with a struggling school system and I will show you a city in trouble. Show me a struggling school system and I will show you children who are one step behind the starting line, in the race for success in life....Since 1995 we have increased state spending on education by more than \$670 million. Over the next two years we will invest even more. More than \$1.2 billion will be made available to renovate existing schools and build new ones. Connecticut's children deserve to learn in safe, modern schools.”

“Children have one chance at a good education and we must do all we can to provide choice and opportunity.”

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET ADDRESS 2001, February 7, 2001

GOVERNOR'S FY 2002 APPROPRIATION REDUCTIONS (partial list)		
AGENCY	PROGRAM//SERVICE	TOTAL FUNDS CUT
Office for Workforce Competitiveness	School to Work	\$881,771
Department of Education	Poor Performing Schools	\$1,317,239
	School Accountability	\$940,885
	Reading Institutes	\$940,886
	Teachers' Standards Implementation	\$176,069
	Regional Educational Services	\$164,869
Department of Higher Education	Education & Health Initiatives	\$411,328
	Capitol Scholarship Program	\$270,759
	International Initiatives	\$200,000
	Minority Advancement Program	\$132,812
University of Connecticut	Operating Expenses	\$2,457,386
Regional Community-Technical Colleges	Operating Expenses	\$1,381,616
Connecticut State University	Operating Expenses	\$1,546,448
Judicial Department	Truancy Services	\$400,000

On Educational Technology

"The budget continues to implement Lt. Governor Jodi Rell's Education Technology Plan. Lt. Gov. Rell's task force on education technology found that while Connecticut performs well in most areas, it lags in the area of technological literacy and student-access to technology in the classroom." (p. 55)

CONNECTICUT GOVERNOR'S BUDGET SUMMARY, February 2001

GOVERNOR'S FY 2002 APPROPRIATION REDUCTIONS		
AGENCY	PROGRAM//SERVICE	TOTAL FUNDS CUT
Dept. of Information Technology	CT Education Technology Initiatives	\$1,000,000
Department of Education	School Wiring	\$2,408,853
Charter Oak State College	Distance Learning Consortium	\$26,826

On Child Care and Early Care

“One of the key elements of our original welfare reform effort was the expansion of our childcare budget. Mothers with small children - especially single mothers - are reluctant to enter the workforce if they don't have confidence that their children are being cared for. Today I propose we increase our childcare budget to promote high quality day care that lets parents work without worry.”

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET ADDRESS 2001, February 7, 2001

“Seen as a requisite for families moving into the work force, child care remains a cornerstone of Governor's welfare to work policy....[T]he hallmark of his original welfare plan was access to quality and affordable child care.” (p. 65)

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GOVERNOR'S FY 2002 APPROPRIATION REDUCTIONS		
AGENCY	PROGRAM/SERVICE	TOTAL FUNDS CUT
Department of Social Services	Day Care Projects	\$24,527
	Child Day Care	\$183,868
	School Readiness	\$242,500
Department of Education	Head Start Services	\$155,000
	Early Childhood Program	\$140,302
	Head Start Enhancement	\$100,000

On Mental Health

“There is a consensus this year, to apply the same command focus we placed on welfare reform to the issue of mental health. There is a new understanding that mental health is an issue that is woven into the mission of many of our state agencies. This year, we will address this complicated issue with new determination and new resources...Mental health care is most effective when intervention comes early and treatment is long term. We can really make a difference by intervening on behalf of children.”

“Over the next two years, the Department of Children and Families will enhance Connecticut's "Kidcare" program with the help of an additional \$32 million in funding....The goal behind this effort is to give families and care givers more options in treating children with behavioral health problems. Every child is different. Each one requires a unique approach....This new funding will allow us to keep more children with behavioral health problems out of hospitals, and in their own communities, where they have the best chance to get the help they need.”

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“The children’s mental health system is especially in flux, with children languishing in emergency rooms for lack of acute care beds and later waiting in acute care beds after treatment because of inadequate residential and community resources. As troubling is the fact that the number of children placed outside of Connecticut has risen dramatically. This budget seeks to address many of these issues quickly. We owe it to children with mental illness to reform the system. Like everyone else, they deserve a chance at a good life.” (p. 44)

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GOVERNOR’S FY 2002 APPROPRIATION REDUCTION		
AGENCY	SERVICE	TOTAL FUNDS CUT
Department of Public Health	Services for Children Affect by AIDS	\$14,306
	School-Based Health Clinics MH Services	\$200,000
Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services	Housing Supports and Services	\$229,632
	Supportive Housing	\$4,113,279
	Community MH Strategic Investment Fund	\$8,522,132
	Managed Care System	\$860,000
	Drug Treatment for Schizophrenia	\$100,000
	Regional Action Councils	\$37,506
	Grants for Substance Abuse Services	\$250,000
	Gov’s Partnership	\$23,534
	Grants for MH Services	\$500,000
Department of Children & Families	Personal Services	\$500,000
	Long Lane Transition	\$440,884
	Computerized Case Management	\$252,708
	Substance Abuse Screening	\$67,500
	JJ Outreach	\$91,268
	Community-Based Prevention	\$135,418
	No Nexus Special Ed	\$304,618
	Child Welfare Support Services	\$100,000
	CT Community KidCare	\$1,000,000

On the Jobs Funnel Program

“We all recognize education is a life long process, especially for those who are trying to climb the economic ladder and provide for their families....As part of our economic development efforts in Hartford we have created a Jobs Funnel program to train city residents in construction and service sector jobs. Jobs that will be in demand, as construction begins on the convention center and other development projects.... Since the start of the program more than 1,200 people have been recruited. Three hundred are

working, and many more have learned new skills. Now they are putting their new skills to work rebuilding their own community. The Jobs Funnel is an example of a program that works, and today I am proposing an increase in funding to expand the program to Bridgeport, New Haven and Waterbury.”

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“[The Jobs Funnel program] ensures that there is a high quality of labor in urban areas. The program has been fully operational for less than a year and already 180 individuals have apprenticeships and are earning in the range of \$15 per hours.” (p. 67)

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GOVERNOR’S FY 2002 APPROPRIATION REDUCTIONS		
AGENCY	PROGRAM/SERVICE	TOTAL FUNDS CUT
Office for Workforce Competitiveness	Job Funnel Projects	\$1,000,000

On Transportation

“Getting to and from work is often the greatest challenge facing new workers.” (p. 66)

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GOVERNOR’S FY 2002 APPROPRIATION REDUCTIONS		
AGENCY	PROGRAM/SERVICE	TOTAL FUNDS CUT
Dept. of Transportation	Transportation Strategy Board	\$12,044,264
	Dial-A-Ride/Jobs Transportation	\$1,881,771
Dept. of Social Services	Transportation for Employment Independence Program	\$147,022