

Budget CONNECTION\$

A Connecticut Voices for Children
Issue Brief

June 2003

A Last Ditch Proposal? PA 03-185 (HB 6721), AAC Expenditures and Revenues for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2005

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I. PA 03-185 (HB 6721), AAC Expenditures and Revenues for the Biennium Budget: In Short

On June 4, 2003, the General Assembly made a second attempt to pass a biennial budget for FY 03-05. With the Legislative Session required to end that same day, this bill was a last ditch attempt to pass a budget without going into special session. The bill, HB 6721 (LCO 7293), was adopted with two amendments.¹

The bill was approved in the House of Representatives in a 84 to 65 vote (with Rep. Rowe not voting). The vote was along party lines, excepting that the following Democratic Representatives voted *against* the budget – Reps. Cardin, Caruso, Conway, Green, Guerrero, Kirkley-Bey, Mantilla, McClusky, and Thompson. The vote to approve in the Senate was 20 to 15, with all Democratic Senators voting in favor and all Republican Senators against, and Sen. Hartley not voting.

On June 13, 2003 the Governor vetoed PA 03-185, just as he had vetoed the General Assembly's first attempt at passing a budget for FY 03-05 (PA 03-279, HB 6720).² This short report summarizes this second proposed budget bill, as amended.

Total proposed spending. The following table compares proposed changes in funding for Connecticut's three largest budget funds. While net General Fund spending in PA 03-185 (HB 6721) for FY 04 was just slightly above than the Governor's budget, spending was *far less than* FY 04 current services

¹ "House Amendment A" included revenue estimates to support the budget (as is required by state law), while "House Amendment B" cut \$0.7 million from the Leadership, Education, Athletics in Partnership Program (an OPM-funded youth development program), and added \$0.25 million to the personal services account in the State Comptroller's Office and \$0.7 million to the "safety net" account in the Department of Social Services for an additional \$0.25 million in General Fund spending. "House Amendment B" also reduced by \$2 million the transfer from the Biomedical Research Fund to the General Fund, increased by \$1 million the transfer to the General Fund from the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund, reduced by \$1 million the transfer of oil companies tax funds to the Transportation Fund (keeping them in the General Fund), and imposed a \$0.50 fee on towns for tax delinquency information, for a net revenue gain of \$0.5 million.

² For summaries of this prior budget bill, vetoed by the Governor, as well as of the Governor's original budget and the budget as revised by the Appropriations and Finance Committees, see CT Voices' budget summaries on www.ctkidslink.org.

budget – the budget necessary to maintain current levels of services given inflation, changes in population and the like. Indeed, this budget was *nearly \$1.2 billion below FY 04 current services*.

Comparison of FY 02, FY 03, and Proposed FY 04 (in thousands)					
	FY 02 (actual)	FY 03 (as revised)	FY 04 Current Services	Gov's Proposed FY 04	PA 03-185 (HB 6721), as amended (net)
General Fund	\$11,662,265	\$12,091,804	\$13,632,701	\$12,476,497	\$12,484,605
Transportation Fund	\$845,457	\$903,162	\$939,374	\$898,761	\$900,225
Mash. Pequot & Mohegan	\$135,000	\$134,220	\$135,000	\$85,000	\$100,000

The total *gross* budget for all Funds was \$13,927,482,340. Estimated lapses and other savings are \$360.3 million, for a *net* total for all Funds of \$13,567,226,409.

Spending cap. This budget was below the spending cap, in FY 04 by \$339.7 million and in FY 05 by \$22.4 million.

Grants to Towns. Grants to towns would have increased by \$49.5 million to \$2.258 billion in FY 04, up from estimated expenditures of \$2.208 billion in FY 03.

II. PA 03-185's Proposed Changes to the Governor's FY 04 Budget's Spending

PA 03-185 (HB 6721, as amended) would have made the following *changes* in spending to the first budget bill that was vetoed by the Governor (HB 6720). Items that were *increased* from the vetoed budget are bolded. All other accounts shown were *reductions* from the vetoed budget:

Account	HB 6720 (Vetoed Budget Bill)	HB 6721
LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT		
-Personal Services	\$33,413,413	\$33,463,431
-CT Television Network	\$1,545,000	\$0
PCSW		
-Other Expenses	\$137,712	\$121,712
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN		
-Other Expenses	\$94,347	\$78,347
LATINO & PUERTO RICAN AFFAIRS COMM'N		
-Other Expenses	\$103,360	\$93,360
AFRICAN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMM'N		
-Other Expenses	\$80,250	\$72,250
ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION		
-Personal Services	\$693,968	\$747,968

STATE TREASURER		
-Personal Services	\$3,804,801	\$3,604,801
STATE COMPTROLLER		
-Personal Services	\$15,140,659	\$15,390,659
OFFICE OF POLICY & MANAGEMENT		
-Leadership, Education, Athletics in Partnership	\$0	\$500,000
-Festival for Arts & Ideas	\$1,125,000	\$0
OFFICE FOR WORKFORCE COMPETITIVENESS		
-CETC Workforce	\$2,487,590	\$2,237,590
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES		
-Personal Services	\$18,294,337	\$18,337,337
-Other Expenses	\$2,523,463	\$2,123,463
-Placement and Training Fund	\$0	\$5,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY		
-Personal Services	\$109,002,968	\$107,202,968
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR		
-WIA Investment Act Business System	\$1,000,000	\$0
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH		
-Other Expenses	\$6,375,410	\$6,425,410
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION		
-Pilot Program for Client Services	\$2,278,307	\$2,272,659
-Cooperative Placements Program	\$14,495,955	\$14,468,188
-Early Intervention (Birth to 3)	\$23,253,800	\$22,993,677
-Employment Opportunities & Day Services	\$116,244,608	\$115,952,730
-Family Placements	\$1,867,207	\$1,862,578
-Emergency Placements	\$3,689,695	\$3,680,548
-Community Residential Services	\$248,653,822	\$248,042,108
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION SERVICES		
-Housing Supports and Services	\$5,474,842	\$5,461,257
-Managed Service System	\$23,835,009	\$23,775,865
-Legal Services	\$399,978	\$398,985
-Special Populations	\$20,964,672	\$20,912,650
-TBI Community Services	\$4,844,111	\$4,832,091
-Transitional Youth	\$3,433,135	\$3,424,616
-Jail Diversion	\$3,435,011	\$3,426,487
-Grants for Substance Abuse Services	\$20,318,875	\$20,183,034
-Grants for Mental Health Services	\$74,549,518	\$74,346,363
-Employment Opportunities	\$9,712,436	\$9,688,336
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES		
-Medicaid	\$2,768,435,174	\$2,760,335,174
-Human Resource-Hispanic Programs	\$37,629	\$137,629
-Child Care -TANF/CCDBG	\$96,966,479	\$94,366,479
-Human Resource Development	\$1,354,206	\$2,754,206
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
-Charter Schools	\$15,971,00	\$16,971,000

-Youth Service Bureaus	\$2,781,231	\$2,796,231
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION		
-Minority Advancement Program (for Saturday Academy)	\$2,237,021	\$2,337,021
-Education & Health Initiatives	\$1,000,000	\$500,000
TEACHERS RETIREMENT BOARD		
-Retirement Contributions	\$202,908,365	\$201,908,365
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION		
-Community Support Services	\$17,292,255	\$17,251,123
BOARD OF PAROLE		
-Community Support Services	\$3,511,814	\$3,502,735
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES (see below)		
COUNCIL TO ADMINISTER THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND	\$5,869,052	\$5,858,976
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT		
-Other Expenses	\$64,020,191	\$64,016,616
-Alternative Incarceration Program	\$31,798,291	\$31,719,853
-Justice Education Center	\$200,156	\$199,660
-Juvenile Alternative Incarceration	\$20,223,871	\$20,170,696
-Juvenile Justice Centers	\$2,615,040	\$2,608,557
Truancy Services	\$331,565	\$330,743
DEBT SERVICE	\$1,125,269,838	\$1,088,370,232
U CONN 2000 DEBT SERVICE	\$73,413,596	\$73,348,160
STATE EMPLOYEE HEALTH SERVICE COST	\$354,196,500	\$337,096,500
RETIRED STATE EMPLOYEE HEALTH SERVICE COST	\$294,011,000	\$282,311,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$12,897,263	\$12,817,647
LESS:		
-Estimated Unallocated Lapses	\$79,080,831	\$79,080,831
-General Personal Services Reductions	\$13,000,000	\$13,000,000
-General Other Expenses Reductions	\$11,000,000	\$11,000,000
-Governor's Early Retirement Plan	\$153,311,400	\$153,311,400
-Fleet Reduction	\$0	\$5,000,000
-Workers' Compensation Reduction	\$0	\$5,000,000
-Managers' Lower ERIP Refill	\$0	\$5,000,000
-Dept of Information Technology – Technical Services Revolving Fund Lapse	\$0	\$1,300,000
-Union Concessions	\$0	\$60,600,000
-Anticipated Health Benefit Savings	\$35,000,000	\$0
NET GENERAL FUND	\$12,605,870,937	\$12,484,354,526

Department of Children and Families. HB 6721 made multiple changes to the budget of the Department of Children & Families compared to the vetoed bill. The *only* budget accounts that remained the same were Personal Services, Equipment, Workers' Compensation Claims and the new Neighborhood Center. This proposed budget was \$0.6 million *less than* the *first* vetoed budget -- \$593.233 million in the proposed bill compared to \$593.894 million in the first vetoed bill. The proposed budget was more than \$30 million less than the FY 04 Current Services Budget.

Changes are shown on the following table, with comparisons to the FY 04 Current Services Budget, the Governor's Proposed FY 04 Budget, and the vetoed budget:

Department of Children and Families	FY 04 Current Services	Governor's FY 04 Proposed	HB 6721 – Vetoed Bill	HB 6721 FY Proposed
	[\$M]	[\$M]	[\$M]	[\$M]
Personal Services	\$228.027	\$209.853	\$209.853	\$209.853
Other expenses	\$39.582	\$37.559	\$37.559	\$37.584
Other Current Expenses				
Short-term residential	\$0.672	\$.658	\$0.661	\$0.660
Substance abuse screening	\$1.762	\$1.681	\$1.690	\$1.686
Workmen's comp claims	\$6.842	\$5.842	\$5.842	\$5.842
Local systems of care	\$1.780	\$1.766	\$1.772	\$1.771
Payments to Other than Local Gov'ts				
Health assessment & consultation	\$0.273	\$0.264	\$0.265	\$0.264
Psychiatric clinics for children	\$14.142	\$12.692	\$12.758	\$12.732
Day treatment programs	\$5.891	\$5.346	\$5.373	\$5.362
Juvenile justice outreach	\$2.704	\$3.046	\$3.059	\$3.052
Treatment/prevention child abuse	\$5.510	\$5.326	\$5.352	\$5.341
Community emergency services	\$0.183	\$0.177	\$0.178	\$0.177
Community preventive services	\$2.846	\$2.755	\$2.768	\$2.763
Family violence services	\$0.516	\$0.499	\$0.501	\$0.500
Support for recovering families	\$1.818	\$2.559	\$2.568	\$2.563
No nexus special education	\$7.628	\$7.467	\$7.504	\$7.489
Family preservation services	\$6.726	\$6.501	\$6.534	\$6.520
Substance abuse treatment	\$3.336	\$3.581	\$3.597	\$3.590
Child welfare support services	\$0.362	\$0.351	\$0.352	\$0.352
Board & care –adoption	\$52.887	\$51.005	\$51.226	\$51.122
Board & care –foster care	\$81.936	\$77.841	\$78.210	\$78.051
Board & care –residential	\$137.818	\$134.385	\$135.012	\$134.744
Individualized family supports	\$7.782	\$7.507	\$7.544	\$7.529

CT Community KidCare	\$14.709	\$14.398	\$14.464	\$13.435
Covenant to Care	\$0	\$0.151	\$0.151	\$0.151
Neighborhood Center	\$0	\$0	\$0.1	\$0.1

Section 63 of PA 03-185 (HB 6721, as amended) provided a plan for a variety of state employee concessions, as well as for the recall of certain laid-off workers for a new General Fund and Transportation Fund reduction of \$66.4 million in FY 04 and \$74.7 million in FY 05. Included in the FY 04 reductions were the following:

- \$11.4 million in savings from health care reductions (including a 3-tier pharmacy plan for active employees, a self-insuring pharmacy benefit manager; increasing doctor's visit co-pays for new employees by \$5 and closing the most expensive health plan to new employees)
- \$125 million in savings from pension funding
- \$6.4 million in savings from a voluntary schedule reduction
- \$66.8 million in savings from wage concessions of various sorts.

These \$209.6 million in gross FY 04 savings were offset by a cost of \$77.4 million to recall certain laid off workers and the restoration of \$65.8 million of funding for unsettled contracts in FY 04 that had been eliminated in the Governor's proposed budget. With these add-backs, the net reduction from state employee concessions would have been \$66.4 million in FY 04.

III. PA 03-185's Proposed Changes to the Governor's FY 04 Budget's Revenues

PA 03-185 (HB 6721, as amended) included \$66.4 million in net savings from state employee union concessions in FY 04 (discussed above). In addition, this new effort to pass a balanced budget for FY 04 was made easier by an additional net \$236.4 million in federal funds from the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003.

This Act was recently passed by Congress and signed by President Bush. It provides \$132.6 in increased Medicaid reimbursement (by increasing the Medicaid reimbursement rate) and \$115.8 in federal grants over the last quarter of FY 03 and FY 04. These new, but one-time, federal revenues are offset by an estimated annual revenue loss of \$12 million from the change in business expensing in this Act.

In addition to the savings from union concessions and these new federal funds that were *not* available when the *first* vetoed bill was passed, HB 6721 made a number of changes to FY 04 revenues.

The table below compares this bill, as amended, to the Governor's *original* proposal for FY 04 revenues, and first budget bill that he vetoed on May 16, 2003 (HB 6720).

Note: On May 23, 2003 the Governor revised his original budget proposal for FY 03-05 to address the fact that it was \$300 million in deficit. The revision he proposed retained all his original revenue

proposals, but changed the reduction in the property tax credit from \$500 to \$300, rather than \$400 as he had originally proposed. He also included in his revision the following changes, some of which were incorporated in HB 6721:

- A change in property escheat law (included in HB 6721)
- New “Wall Street Settlement” funds (included in HB 6721)
- An increase in the transfers to the General Fund from CT Innovations and CT Development Authority from \$5.0 million/year each (as the Governor originally proposed) to \$7.5 million/year each
- The use of the one-time federal revenues as noted above.

The Governor also proposed in his revision to reduce the transfer to the General Fund from CT Housing Finance Authority from the \$40 million he originally proposed to \$20 million/year. HB 6721 would have made *no* transfer of these funds to the General Fund, protecting these funds for their intended purpose – addressing Connecticut’s affordable housing crisis.

Comparison of HB 6721’s Proposed General Fund Revenue Changes to Governor’s Proposed Changes & Changes in the Vetoed Bills (HB 6720 and HB 6721) (in millions)			
	Governor	PA 03-278 (vetoed)	PA 03-185 (HB 6721) vetoed
TAX & FEE INCREASES	FY 04	FY 04	FY 04
Personal Income Tax – Total	\$81.8	\$296.8	\$226.9
-Reduce max. property tax credit from \$500 to \$400 & phase out \$100 residual credit at higher incomes	\$80.0		
-Defer increase in singles exemption	\$ 1.8		
-Create 5.5%, 5.75%, & 5.9% rates on taxable income of jt filers >\$500K, >\$1M, and over \$2M, respectively (w/ comparable increases for other filers) for tax years 2003-2006		\$256.4 (18 mo.)	
-Create 5.5% rate on taxable income of jt filers > \$500K (and single > \$265,000, HH >\$396,000; married filing separately >\$250,000) for tax years 2003-2006			\$163.4 (18 mo.)
-Reduce max. property tax credit from \$500 to \$460 & eliminate residual credit		\$40.4	
-Reduce max. property tax credit from \$500 to \$425 & eliminate \$100 residual credit			\$63.5
Sales & Use Tax – Total	(\$94.5)	\$125.6	(\$22.5)
-Keep 1% tax on computer/data processing services (gain in FY 05 only)	\$0	\$0	\$0
-Eliminate sales tax free week	\$3.1	\$3.1	
-Increase cable TV tax to 6% of gross receipts	\$0.4		
-Eliminate 5.75% tax on hospital patient care services	(\$115.0)	(\$115.0)	(\$115.0)
-Eliminate revenue intercept for tourism districts	\$15.2		
-Eliminate transfers from hotel occupancy tax	\$1.8		
-Increase sales tax rate from 6% to 6.5% eff. 7/1/03		\$250.0	
-Increase sales tax rate from 6% to 6.25% from 7/1/03-6/30/07			\$125.0

-Require sellers to state agencies to collect use tax (remote sellers)		\$2.5	\$2.5
-Restore exemption for advertising services for developing media and cooperative direct mail, eff. 7/1/03			(\$20.0)
-Exempt sales of newspapers eff. 7/1/03 (exemption had been repealed in PA 03-2)		(\$15.0)	(\$15.0)
Corporation Business Tax	\$26.0	\$27.8	\$27.8
-Eliminate Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit	\$2.0		
-Eliminate Housing Tax Credit	\$2.0		
-Eliminate Employer-Assisted Housing Tax Credit	\$0.5		
-Eliminate Historic Housing Tax Credit	\$0.5		
-Impose 10% surcharge in tax year 2004	\$21.0		
-Impose 20% surcharge in income year 2004 & 2005		\$42.8	
-Impose 20% surcharge in tax year 2004 and 15% in 2005			\$42.8
-Extend R&D Credit Exchange to Capital Base-Reporting Corporations for 2003 income year		(\$15.0)	(\$15.0)
Succession & Estate Tax	\$06.5	\$61.5	\$61.5
-Continue to defer phase-out of inheritance tax for 2 yrs	\$6.5	\$6.5	\$6.5
-De-couple from federal estate tax changes		\$56.0	\$56.0
Gift Tax	\$0	\$0	\$0
-Defer gift tax phase-out for an additional year (\$1M revenue gain in FY 05)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Insurance Companies Tax	\$2.5	\$2.5	\$2.5
-Limit credits to no more than 70% of premiums tax	\$2.5	\$2.5	\$2.5
Public Service Tax -Total	\$6.3	\$3.0	\$1.0
-Increase cable TV gross receipts tax from 5% to 6%	\$6.3		
-Impose 5% tax on gross earnings from satellite TV businesses providing one-way transmission to CT subscribers		\$3.0	\$3.0

-Earmark \$2M/year from tax on cable TV services to pay for CT Television Network's coverage of state government operations			(\$2.0)
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	\$25.0		\$0
-Increase temporarily <i>state</i> conveyance tax rates on higher value and commercial property (revenue gain of \$12.5 in FY 05 under HB 6721 since eff. 7/1/04). Rate would increase from 0.5% to 0.75% on residential property between \$300,000 and \$800,000 and from 1% to 1.5% on residential property over \$800,000 and all commercial property	\$25.0		\$0
Oil Companies Tax	(\$10.5)	(\$10.5)	(\$9.5)
-Transfer revenues to emergency spill response account	(\$10.5)	(\$10.5)	(\$10.5)
-Reduce transfer to Transportation Fund of oil companies tax revenues & maintain in General Fund			\$1.0
Misc. Taxes	\$4.6		\$2.0
-Retain Tourism account surcharge in General Fund	\$4.6		
-Extend hours for sales of alcoholic beverages until 9 pm weekdays & Saturday			\$2.0
NET FEES	\$4.7		\$9.6
-Increase various judicial fees	\$4.7		
-Repeal section of PA 03-2 that credits revenues from specified fees and taxes up to maximum of \$4.9M in FY 04 to Judicial Department's Other Expenses Account and credit to General Fund			\$4.9 (NB: not new funds)
-Increase various occupational and professional license fees by 10%			\$3.6
-Increase attorney's occupational tax from \$450 to \$495/yr			\$0.6
-Impose \$0.50 fee on municipalities for tax delinquency information			\$0.5
ESCHEATS	\$18.0	\$21.3	\$21.3
Unclaimed bottle deposits	\$18.0		
Unclaimed bottle deposits eff. 7/1/04 (\$20M in FY 05)		\$0	
Unclaimed property (change law re escheats to reduce time for property to be considered abandoned)		\$21.3	\$21.3
TRANSFERS TO THE GENERAL FUND FROM OTHER FUNDS - TOTAL	\$147.0	\$107.0	\$77.5
From Energy Conservation & Load Mgmt Fund	\$72.0	\$72.0	\$38.5
From Clean Energy Fund	\$25.0	\$25.0	\$25.0
From CT Housing Finance Authority	\$40.0		
From CT Innovations	\$5.0		\$7.5
From CT Development Authority	\$5.0	\$5.0	\$7.5
TOBACCO SETTLEMENT	\$16.0	\$16.0	\$14.0

-Eliminate transfers to Tobacco & Health Trust Fund & Biomedical Research Trust Fund & retain funds in General Fund	\$16.0	\$16.0	\$14.0
OTHER			
-Direct funds received by CT from "Wall Street Settlement" to General Fund			\$4.0

In addition to these changes to *General Fund* revenues, this bill reduced by \$1 million the transfer of \$1 million in funds from the Special Transportation Fund to the Conservation Fund. This offsets the \$1 million loss of revenues in the Special Transportation Fund caused by the \$1 million reduction in oil companies tax revenues transferred from the General Fund to the Transportation Fund (noted above), so there is no *net* change in Transportation Fund revenues. The Conservation Fund, however, is cut by \$1 million.

IV. Conclusion

The most recent edition of *The Connecticut Economy* reported that if Connecticut were a country, its per capita income (as determined by the Census Bureau) would rank it the *wealthiest nation in the world*. Yet, this budget *accepted* many of the Governor's proposed cuts, including the elimination of health care coverage for tens of thousands of low-wage parents under HUSKY and cuts to funding for child care subsidies and youth development programs. Even with this compromise to the Governor's position, the Governor chose to veto it.

Surely, with the wealth that exists in Connecticut, there are ways to balance this budget that do not require that we ask those among us with the least to make additional sacrifice.

The public understands this.

A poll released June 2, 2003 by the University of Connecticut Center for Survey Research and Analysis found strong opposition to eliminating the General Assistance program (66% oppose), cutting state aid to municipalities (72% oppose), reducing benefits provided by Medicaid (78% oppose), and laying off additional state workers (67% oppose). Residents understand that the state has *better* options for balancing the budget than making even deeper cuts than those made to deal with the FY 02 and FY 03 deficits (a cumulative total of nearly \$1 billion in cuts).

While 77% of the residents polled supported raising the tax rate on income above \$500,000 from 5% to 5.5% (as HB 6721 would do),³ there is stronger support for an even *more* progressive state income tax. Specifically, 79% favor raising the rate from 5% to 5.75% on income over \$750,000 and 82% favor a 5.95% rate on income over \$2 million. A majority also favored maintaining the corporate tax surcharge for another two years (by a 51% to 44% margin).

³ For an analysis that shows that *middle income* taxpayers bore the greatest burden of the rate increase from 4.5% to 5% in PA 03-2 (as a percentage of personal income), see D. Hall & S. Geballe, *Who Pays More? A Distributional Analysis of Recently Enacted & Proposed Increases in CT's Income and Sales Taxes* (CT Voices for Children, May 2003).

Importantly, a family's net cost from any increase in the personal income tax is -- particularly for our highest income taxpayers -- far less than a dollar for each dollar of additional tax, since the state income tax can be deducted on the federal income tax return. In addition, the federal tax cuts just enacted by Congress and signed by President Bush, combined with the 2001 tax cuts being phased in, will provide families with income over \$1 million with a federal income tax cut of \$113,000 this year alone.

As policy-leaders continue to weigh our budget choices, it is imperative that they remember Connecticut's extraordinary wealth, and that our continued prosperity and high quality of life depend on our continuing to make public investments in health, education, public safety, infrastructure, and the environment. We have been a frugal state over the 1990s. Deep cuts now threaten all that makes Connecticut so special.