

CCPA Legislative Summary - 2008 Session
edited 6/27/08

Public Act Number	LINK	Bill Number	Title	Summary (includes excerpts from Office of Legislative Research)	Status
PASSED BILLS					
PA 08-7	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/Pa/pdf/2008PA-00007-R00SB-00242-PA.pdf	242	AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE STATUTES AFFECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES	Changes the Council on Mental Retardation's name to the Council on Developmental Disabilities to reflect the Department's name change, renames DMR regions as "developmental services" regions and changes the name of one Camp Harkness Advisory Committee member group to reflect its name change to the Southeastern Connecticut Association for Developmental Disabilities	Signed by Governor 4/29/08
PA 08-8	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/Pa/pdf/2008PA-00008-R00SB-00282-PA.pdf	282	AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE METHADONE AUTHORITY	This act designates DMHAS as the lead state agency for substance abuse prevention and treatment and, consequently, as the state methadone authority for purposes of federal laws governing the use of opioids to treat opiate addictions. It authorizes DMHAS, as the state methadone authority, to (1) approve exceptions to the federal opioid treatment protocols, (2) approve federal certification of all opioid treatment programs in the state, and (3) monitor those programs. It requires DMHAS to adopt implementing regulations.	Signed by Governor 4/29/08
PA 08-42	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/Pa/pdf/2008PA-00042-R00HB-05630-PA.pdf	5630	AA Promoting Consistency Among Peer Review Proceedings	The act changes the names of (1) the council that advises DDS and (2) the department's regions, to reflect the department's 2007 name change from the Department of Mental Retardation effective 10/1/08.	Signed by Governor 5/7/08
PA 08-63	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/Pa/pdf/2008PA-00063-R00HB-05666-PA.pdf	5666	AN ACT CONCERNING EXPANSION OF THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS	Expands, from 50 to 75, the number of people who can participate in the DDS pilot program for adults with autism spectrum disorders but not mental retardation, provides coordinated services and support, including case management, for people not otherwise eligible for DDS services and their families, requires the DDS Commissioner to ensure that eligible adults living outside the pilot's current service area (New Haven and Middlesex counties) have access to the expanded slots. The bill extends the pilot's end date for nine months, from October 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. It requires DSS to report on the pilot's results by January 1, 2009.	Signed by Governor 5/12/08
PA 08-95	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/PA/2008PA-00095-R00HB-05447-PA.htm	5447	AN ACT CONCERNING APPOINTMENT TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP OVERSIGHT COUNCIL	This bill transfers authority to appoint the Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council's voting members from the Medicaid Managed Care Council's chairpersons to legislative leaders and the Governor. It adds four members to the council, raising its voting membership to 20. The appointments are as follows: House Speaker - 2 reps of general or psychiatric hospitals, 1 adult with psychiatric disabilities, 1 advocate for adults with psychiatric disabilities; Senate President - 2 parents of kids with BH disorders or who have received DCF child protection/juvenile services, 1 expert in health policy, 1 rep of school-based health centers; Senate Minority Leader - 1 provider of community-based kids BH services, 1 Medicaid Managed Care Council member; House Majority Leader - 1 primary care provider serving kids in HUSKY, 1 child psychiatrist serving HUSKY kids; House Minority Leader - 1 provider of community-based BH services for adults, 1 provider of residential treatment for kids; Governor - 2 reps of general or psychiatric hospitals, 2 parents of kids with BH disorders or who have received DCF child protection/juvenile services	Signed by Governor 6/2/08

CCPA Legislative Summary - 2008 Session
edited 6/27/08

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PA 08-123	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/Pa/pdf/2008PA-00123-R00SB-00002-PA.pdf	2	AAC the Next Steps Initiative	<p>The act increases the number of units authorized under the Next Steps supportive housing program. The program serves: 1. people or families affected by psychiatric disabilities, chemical dependencies, or both and who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; 2. families who qualify for federal temporary assistance; 3. 18- to 23-year olds who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless because they are transitioning out of foster care or other residential programs; and 4. community-supervised offenders with serious mental health needs who are under Judicial Branch or Correction Department jurisdiction.</p> <p>The law initially required the DMHAS commissioner to provide up to 650 units in a pilot program. 150 units have been authorized for funding through the Next Steps Initiative via this legislation.</p>	Signed by Governor 6/2/08
PA 08-125	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/PA/2008PA-00125-R00SB-00167-PA.htm	167	AN ACT CONCERNING BENEFITS FOR INPATIENT TREATMENT OF SERIOUS MENTAL OR NERVOUS DISORDERS	<p>This bill expands the benefits payable under a group health insurance policy for treatment received in a residential treatment facility by eliminating a three-day hospital stay prerequisite for children and adolescents and extending the benefit to adults. It replaces "serious mental illness" with "serious mental or nervous condition" and removes from the term's definition that the person demonstrated it through recent disturbed behavior. It requires benefits be paid when a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or clinical social worker assesses the person and determines that he or she cannot appropriately, safely, or effectively be treated in other specified settings. (Due to federal law, state benefit mandates do not apply to self-insured plans.) *Senate Amendment "A" (1) strikes the underlying bill, which required the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee to study the feasibility of establishing a state catastrophic fund, (2) expands the mental health benefit under group health insurance policies by changing the coverage criteria, and (3) changes the effective date from upon passage to January 1, 2009.</p>	Signed by Governor 5/27/08
PA 08-132	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/PA/2008PA-00132-R00HB-05696-PA.htm	5696	AN ACT REQUIRING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER THERAPY	<p>This bill requires health insurance policies delivered, issued, renewed, amended, or continued in Connecticut on or after January 1, 2009 to cover physical, speech, and occupational therapy services provided to treat autism spectrum disorders if the policies cover these services for other diseases and conditions. EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2009</p>	Signed by Governor 6/5/08
PA 08-155	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/PA/2008PA-00155-R00HB-05734-PA.htm	5734	AN ACT CONCERNING NEW AND EXPANDED BUS TRANSPORTATION SERVICES THROUGHOUT CONNECTICUT	<p>This bill establishes a program to be administered by the Department of Transportation (DOT) within available budgetary resources, called the "Buses for 21st Century Mobility program. " The purpose of the program is to provide new and expanded bus transportation services. DOT must begin accepting applications from publicly funded transportation providers and nonprofit community transportation service providers on July 1, 2008. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008, except for the change in the bonding authorization, which is effective upon passage</p>	Signed by Governor 6/12/08

CCPA Legislative Summary - 2008 Session
edited 6/27/08

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PA 08-180	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/Pa/pdf/2008PA-00180-R00SB-00561-PA.pdf	561	AN ACT CONCERNING THE MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON PROJECT AND OTHER LONG-TERM CARE INITIATIVES	The bill increases from 700 to 5,000 the number of individuals who can be served under the state's plan for participating in the federal Money Follows the Person (MFP) programs. ... The bill requires, instead of "allows", the DSS Commissioner to submit an application to the federal government. The bill also requires the DSS Commissioner to develop a plan to establish and administer a similar home-and-community-based services project for adults who may not meet the MFP institutionalization requirement. Finally, the bill establishes a separate, non-lapsing General Fund account to hold the enhanced federal matching funds the state receives from MFP. It specifies the uses of the funds in the account and requires a report on expenditures from it. Effective 7/1/2008. (see detailed write-up: http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/BA/2008SB-00561-R01-BA.htm)	Signed by Governor 6/12/08
PA 08-184	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/Pa/pdf/2008PA-00184-R00HB-05701-PA.pdf	5701	AAC Revisions to Statutes Pertaining to the Department of Public Health	Section 19 adds CCPA to State-wide Primary Care Access Authority	Signed by Governor 6/12/08
SA 08-5	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/sa/pdf/2008SA-00005-R00HB-05590-SA.pdf	5590	AAC the Teaching of Children with Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities	The Commissioners of Education, Higher Education and Developmental Services and the President of Southern Connecticut State University, or their designees, jointly and in consultation with such state, local and other entities...including, but not limited to, the constituent units of the state system of higher education...independent colleges or universities...the State Education Resource Center... and the regional educational service centers ... shall define autism and developmental disabilities for purposes of this section, and develop recommendations for a comprehensive state-wide plan to incorporate methods of teaching children with autism and other developmental disabilities NOTE: PA 08-169 Sec. 31 updates the list of responsible parties	Signed by Governor 6/5/08

BILLS VETOED BY GOVERNOR

PA 08-165	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/PA/2008PA-00165-R00SB-00678-PA.htm	678	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES STRATEGY BOARD	This bill grew out the the CCPA Community Provider Rescue Fund campaign. The bill establishes a four-year, 25-member Health and Human Services Cabinet under OPM for administrative purposes. The cabinet is responsible for assessing health and human services provision in CT, including funding for nonprofit community providers under POS agreements. By 12/31/2012, the cabinet must recommend to the Governor and the Appropriations and Human Services committees a governance plan, identifying an appropriate coordinating entity to implement a statewide Health and Human Services Plan. The cabinet terminates after it submits its recommendations. The bill requires the co-chairpersons to convene the first meeting by 9/1/2008. Effective upon passage.	Vetoed by Governor 6/13/08
PA 08-183	http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/ACT/Pa/pdf/2008PA-00183-R00HB-05536-PA.pdf	5536	AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIP	This bill allows municipalities, certain municipal service contractors, nonprofit organizations, and small businesses to join the state employee health insurance plan for their employees and retirees. EFFECTIVE DATE: September 1, 2008	Vetoed by Governor 6/13/08

BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS

CCPA Legislative Summary - 2008 Session
edited 6/27/08

Public Act Number	LINK	Bill Number	Title	Summary (includes excerpts from Office of Legislative Research)
		27	AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER PURPOSES	
		34	GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS	
		40	AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	
		142	AN ACT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS IN THE NEXT STEPS INITIATIVE	
		166	AN ACT REQUIRING A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS MANDATED IN THIS STATE	
		174	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	
		177	AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	
		176	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE STUDY OF STATE PLANNING	See PA 08-182 AA Implementing the Recommendations of the Program Review and Investigations Committee Study of Regional Planning Organizations/ not germane to human services
		205	AN ACT CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE CONTRACTING REFORM	Would have moved up implementation timeline
		241	AN ACT EXAMINING THE LICENSURE SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	

CCPA Legislative Summary - 2008 Session
edited 6/27/08

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		278	AN ACT CONCERNING INSURER PAYMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH RESIDENTIAL CARE	See PA 08-125 AN ACT CONCERNING BENEFITS FOR INPATIENT TREATMENT OF SERIOUS MENTAL OR NERVOUS CONDITIONS
		303	AN ACT CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FROM BIRTH TO AGE FIVE	
		309	AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN HEALTH INSURANCE MANDATES	
		337	AN ACT CONCERNING JUVENILE JUSTICE	
		340	AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EARLY CHILDHOOD INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF CARE	
		413	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY PROVIDER RESCUE FUND ACCOUNT AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES COMMISSION	One of two Community Provider Rescue Fund bills introduced in 2008 session. See SB 678 PA 08-165.
		422	AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS	
		489	AN ACT CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES	
		562	AN ACT CONCERNING INCREASED ACCESS TO THE MEDICAID PROGRAM FOR THE MEDICALLY NEEDY ELDERLY AND DISABLED	
		564	AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS	
		575	AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO STUDY DAY PROGRAM SERVICES OFFERED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES	
		620	EXPENDITURES OF STATE AGENCIES PROVIDING PUBLIC HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES	

CCPA Legislative Summary - 2008 Session
edited 6/27/08

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		662	AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY AND REIMBURSEMENT	
		663	AN ACT PROVIDING STATE-FUNDED MEDICAL COVERAGE TO CHILDREN IN THE CARE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES	
		5002	AN ACT CONCERNING COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR PRIVATE PROVIDERS CONTRACTING WITH THE STATE	
		5011	AN ACT CONCERNING AN APPROPRIATION FOR COMMUNITY-BASED EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATIONAL PILOT PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM	
		5019	AN ACT MAKING DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2009	
		5021	AN ACT MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2009	
		5038	AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HOSPITAL TASK FORCE	
		5131	AN ACT AMENDING THE STATUTES CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	
		5302	AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A RATE INCREASE TO PRIVATE NOT-FOR-PROFIT PROVIDERS WHO CONTRACT WITH THE STATE TO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SUPPORT SERVICES	
		5539	AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH QUALITY PARTNERSHIP	
		5542	AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF TELEMEDICINE TO PROMOTE EFFICIENCY IN THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES	

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edited 6/27/08

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		5617	AN ACT MAKING REVISIONS TO THE CHARTER OAK HEALTH PLAN	
		5637	AC ACT CONCERNING LOCAL REVIEW OF COMMUNITY RESIDENCES AND HALFWAY HOUSES IN MULTIFAMILY BUILDINGS	
		5709	AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE	
		5735	AN ACT CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS WHO TRANSPORT PATIENTS OR CLIENTS UNDER THE CARE, CONTROL OR CUSTODY OF A STATE AGENCY, AND THE VEHICLES USED BY SUCH INDIVIDUALS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	
		5810	AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES IN EMERGENCY ROOMS	
		5846	AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPENDITURES OF STATE AGENCIES PROVIDING SOCIAL SERVICES	
		5887	AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF PERSONAL SERVICE CONTRACTS	
		5905	AN ACT MODIFYING THE DEFINITION OF PREFERRED PROVIDER NETWORK AND CLARIFYING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER OAK HEALTH PLAN	
		5908	AN ACT CONCERNING PROCEEDINGS AND OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	first section would have required notification to municipalities in residential siting
		5910	AN ACT CONCERNING LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	