



Legislative Update

February 12, 2010

Governor Rell's Proposed Budget Adjustments

The 2010 General Assembly Session convened on Wednesday, February 3. Governor M. Jodi Rell provided her state of the state address and submitted her proposed midterm budget adjustments for the second year of the biennial budget. The governor announced she is working on a new deficit mitigation plan.

The governor's \$18.9 billion budget suggests no new taxes, no fee increases and a continued reliance on Federal Stimulus dollars. The following reforms were also proposed:

- \$100 million bond authorization to put in place a low-interest loan program designed to help small and medium sized businesses unable to get credit.
- Automatically repealing all bond authorizations that have not been allocated within five years.
- Government for the 21st Century Commission which would study and make recommendations on streamlining the structure and delivery systems of state government.
- A loan forgiveness program for student who earn degrees in "green technology" life sciences of health related information technology as long as they remain in the state after graduation and work in one of those three fields.

Importantly, the governor's budget adjustments do not contain any across the board Medicaid provider cuts as were included in her December deficit mitigation plan.

The governor's budget adjustments are available for viewing through the [Office of Policy Management](#).

Upcoming Hearings & Events

The Appropriations Committee will hold state agency budget presentations and public hearings from Thursday February 11 through Friday, February 19, 2010 in room 2C of the LOB. Public speaker order for the public hearings will be determined by a lottery system.

Click [here](#) to read testimony given by CAHCH on Thursday, February 11, 2010.

Health & Hospitals

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**Aging
March 11**

**Human Services
March 23**

**Public Health
March 26**

**Appropriations
April 1**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Department of Mental Health & Addiction

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3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Commission on Aging

Select Committee on Aging

The Select Committee on Aging will hold public hearings on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1E of the LOB.

Bills of particular interest to CAHCH include:

[H.B. No 5110](#) (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR EMPLOYEES OF HOMEMAKER-COMPANION AGENCIES AND HOME HEALTH AGENCIES.

[H.B. No.5111](#) (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE ALZHEIMER'S RESPITE CARE PROGRAM.

[H.B. No. 5112](#) (RAISED) AN ACT REDUCING THE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION UNDER THE STATE-FUNDED HOME CARE PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY.

CAHCH will offer testimony in support of **H.B. No. 5110 H.B. & No. 5112.**

2010 Legislative Deadlines

Proposed Bill Deadline: This deadline has passed.

Raised Bill Deadline: February 19, 2010

Deadline for Favorable Reports: 5 p.m. on the following dates below

Aging- March 11

Human Services - March 23

Public Health - March 26

Appropriations - April 1

House & Senate Bills of Interest

The following bills are of special interest to CAHCH members:

[Proposed H.B. No. 5003](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM.

To restore funding for the licensed practical nurse adult education program.

Referred to Joint Committee on Education on 2.3.10

[Proposed S.B. No. 9](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAMS.

To transfer finds from the Citizens Election Fund to the Department of Education for the administration of licensed practical nursing programs at the regional vocational-technical schools.

Referred to Joint Committee on Government Administration and Elections on 2.3.10.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRIVATIZATION OF A PORTION OF THE STATE'S SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS.
To privatize twenty percent of social services programs currently provided by the Department of Social Services, the Department of Developmental Services and any other state agency.

Referred to Joint Committee on Human Services on 2.9.10

[Proposed H.B. No. 5068](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING AMENDMENTS TO THE MEDICAID STATE PLAN.
To require the Commissioner of Social Services to submit all proposed amendments to the Medicaid state plan to the human services and appropriations committees.

Referred to Joint Committee on Human Services on 2.8.10

[Governor's S.B. No. 25](#)

AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.
To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

Referred to the Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding on 2.4.10.

[Governor's S.B. No. 32](#)

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING SOCIAL SERVICES.
To implement the governor's budget recommendations.

Referred to Joint Committee on Human Services on 2.4.10.

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