

House Passes Budget

Events are fast-moving at the State Capitol today and tonight. The Governor's administration and Democratic leadership worked throughout the weekend to bring closure to the stalemate over the budget. The result is action today at the Capitol to pass a budget for the next two years. The House, as part of this, has also passed legislation to cover last fiscal year's \$950 million deficit with bonding. Taken together, the bills close an \$8.5 billion gap in spending for fiscal 2010 and 2011. This was accomplished by a combination of new borrowing, spending cuts and tax increases.

Below are links to the budget/tax analysis of HB 6802 by the Office of Legislative Research and the Office of Fiscal Analysis.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2009/BA/2009HB-06802-R00SS1-BA.htm>

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2009/FN/2009HB-06802-R00-FN.htm>

The bill raises various fees for all agencies. Please note that the fee for a physician assistant license will increase from \$150 to \$190. Renewals will go from \$75 to \$150.

The House passed the budget bill on a roll call vote of 103 yea to 45 nay with 3 absent/not voting around midnight. Action will come next in the Senate. We will keep you posted.