



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

***Raised Bill No. 5221***

LCO No. 1539



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT REESTABLISHING THE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW  
AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section and  
2 sections 2 and 3 of this act:

3 (1) "Program review" means an examination of programs  
4 administered by state departments and agencies to ascertain whether  
5 such programs are effective, continue to serve their intended purposes,  
6 are conducted in an efficient and effective manner or require  
7 modification or elimination; and

8 (2) "Investigation" means the investigation of any matter which is  
9 referred to the Legislative Program Review and Investigations  
10 Committee, as provided in section 2 of this act.

11 (b) There is hereby reestablished a Legislative Program Review and  
12 Investigations Committee, which shall be a permanent standing  
13 committee of the General Assembly, consisting of (1) six members of the

14 Senate, three appointed by the president pro tempore and three  
15 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, and (2) six members of  
16 the House of Representatives, three appointed by the speaker of the  
17 House of Representatives and three appointed by the minority leader of  
18 the House of Representatives. Members shall serve for a term of two  
19 years from the date of appointment.

20 (c) The initial appointments of the members shall be made not later  
21 than February 3, 2027, and thereafter appointments of the members shall  
22 be made at the beginning of each regular session of the General  
23 Assembly in the odd-numbered year. The terms of all members  
24 appointed to the committee shall end with the termination of each  
25 member's term or holding of office, whichever occurs first. Vacancies  
26 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments. The  
27 committee shall select cochairpersons and such other officers as it may  
28 deem necessary from among its membership.

29 (d) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum and all  
30 actions of the committee shall require the affirmative vote of a majority  
31 of the full committee membership. The cochairpersons and ranking  
32 minority members of the joint standing committee of the General  
33 Assembly requesting an investigation shall serve as nonvoting, ex-  
34 officio members of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations  
35 Committee during the course of such investigation.

36 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) The Legislative Program  
37 Review and Investigations Committee shall:

38 (1) Direct its staff and other legislative staff available to the committee  
39 to conduct program reviews and investigations to assist the General  
40 Assembly in the proper discharge of its duties;

41 (2) Establish policies and procedures regarding the printing,  
42 reproduction and distribution of its reports;

43 (3) Review staff reports submitted to the committee and, when

44 necessary, confer with representatives of the state departments and  
45 agencies reviewed in order to obtain full and complete information in  
46 regard to programs, other activities and operations of the state, and may  
47 request and shall be given access to and copies of, by all public officers,  
48 departments, agencies and authorities of the state and its political  
49 subdivisions, such public records, data and other information and given  
50 such assistance as the committee determines it needs to fulfill its duties;

51 (4) Act on staff reports and recommend in its report, or propose, in  
52 the form of a raised bill, such legislation as may be necessary to modify  
53 current operations and agency practices;

54 (5) Consider and act on requests by members of the General  
55 Assembly, legislative committees, elected officials of state government  
56 and state department and agency heads for program reviews. The  
57 request shall be submitted, in writing, to the Program Review and  
58 Investigations Committee and shall state reasons to support the request.  
59 The decision of the committee to grant or deny any such request shall  
60 be final;

61 (6) Conduct investigations requested by joint resolution of the  
62 General Assembly, or, when the General Assembly is not in session, (A)  
63 requested by a joint standing committee of the General Assembly or  
64 initiated by a majority vote of the Program Review and Investigations  
65 Committee and approved by the Joint Committee on Legislative  
66 Management, or (B) requested by the Joint Committee on Legislative  
67 Management. In the event two or more investigations are requested, the  
68 order of priority shall be determined by the Legislative Program Review  
69 and Investigations Committee;

70 (7) Retain, within available appropriations, the services of  
71 consultants, technical assistants, researchers and other personnel  
72 necessary to assist in the conduct of program reviews and  
73 investigations;

74 (8) Originate, and report to the General Assembly, any bill it deems

75 necessary concerning a program, department or other matter under  
76 review or investigation by the committee, in the same manner as is  
77 prescribed by rule for joint standing committees of the General  
78 Assembly;

79 (9) Review audit reports after issuance by the Auditors of Public  
80 Accounts, evaluate and sponsor new or revised legislation based on  
81 audit findings, provide means to determine compliance with audit  
82 recommendations and receive facts concerning any unauthorized,  
83 illegal, irregular or unsafe handling or expenditures of state funds under  
84 the provisions of section 2-90 of the general statutes, as amended by this  
85 act;

86 (10) Meet as often as may be necessary, during legislative sessions  
87 and during the periods between sessions, to perform its duties and  
88 functions; and

89 (11) Report annually to the General Assembly, in accordance with the  
90 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on or before February  
91 fifteenth.

92 (b) The committee may, at any time, study any matter within the  
93 scope of a completed or partially completed staff report then being  
94 conducted or may, at its discretion, study and consider any matter  
95 relative to program activities of state departments and agencies.

96 (c) The identity of any public employee providing information to the  
97 committee shall not be disclosed. In the course of an investigation, all  
98 information, records of interviews, reports, statements, notes,  
99 memoranda or other data in the custody of the, or obtained or prepared  
100 by, the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee or its  
101 staff shall not be subject to the provisions of section 1-210 of the general  
102 statutes until the investigation is completed. Any statutory  
103 requirements of confidentiality regarding any records, data and other  
104 information submitted under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this  
105 section, including penalties for violating such requirements, shall apply

106 to the committee, its staff and its other authorized representatives in the  
107 same manner and to the same extent as such requirements and penalties  
108 apply to any public officer, department, agency or authority of the state  
109 or its political subdivisions.

110 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) In any instance in which a  
111 program review cites inadequate operating or administrative system  
112 controls or procedures, inaccuracies, waste, extravagance, unauthorized  
113 or unintended activities or programs, or other deficiencies, the  
114 department head, or agency head, or the appropriate program officer or  
115 official to which the report pertained, shall take the necessary corrective  
116 actions and, when the committee deems the action taken to be not  
117 suitable, the committee shall report the matter to the General Assembly  
118 together with its recommendations.

119 (b) The committee shall report the results of each investigation  
120 together with its recommendations for any further action to the General  
121 Assembly electronically, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-  
122 4a of the general statutes.

123 Sec. 4. Section 1-122 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
124 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

125 (a) In accordance with the provisions of section 2-90, as amended by  
126 this act, the Auditors of Public Accounts shall biennially conduct a  
127 compliance audit of each quasi-public agency's activities during the  
128 agency's two fiscal years preceding each such audit or contract with a  
129 person, firm or corporation for any such audit or audits. Each such audit  
130 shall determine whether the quasi-public agency has complied with its  
131 regulations concerning affirmative action, personnel practices, the  
132 purchase of goods and services, the use of surplus funds and the  
133 distribution of loans, grants and other financial assistance. Each audit  
134 shall include a review of all or a representative sample of the agency's  
135 activities in such areas during the relevant fiscal years. Each quasi-  
136 public agency shall pay the cost of conducting such biennial compliance

137 audit of the agency.

138 (b) The Auditors of Public Accounts shall submit each audit report to  
139 the Governor [. Each quasi-public agency shall pay the cost of  
140 conducting such biennial compliance audit of the agency] and the  
141 Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee. Not later  
142 than thirty days after receiving copies of an audit report from the  
143 Auditors of Public Accounts, the Legislative Program Review and  
144 Investigations Committee shall prepare an assessment of whether the  
145 audit report complies with the requirements of this section and shall  
146 submit the assessment and a copy of the audit report to the joint  
147 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
148 matters relating to the quasi-public agency.

149 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 1-123 of the general statutes is  
150 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
151 *2026*):

152 (a) The board of directors of each quasi-public agency shall annually  
153 submit a report to the Governor, [and] the Auditors of Public Accounts  
154 and the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee.  
155 Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, the following: (1)  
156 A list of all bond issues for the preceding fiscal year, including, for each  
157 such issue, the financial advisor and underwriters, whether the issue  
158 was competitive, negotiated or privately placed, and the issue's face  
159 value and net proceeds; (2) a list of all projects other than those  
160 pertaining to owner-occupied housing or student loans receiving  
161 financial assistance during the preceding fiscal year, including each  
162 project's purpose, location, and the amount of funds provided by the  
163 agency; (3) a list of all outside individuals and firms receiving in excess  
164 of five thousand dollars in the form of loans, grants or payments for  
165 services, except for individuals receiving loans for owner-occupied  
166 housing and education; (4) a complete set of financial statements; (5) the  
167 cumulative value of all bonds issued, the value of outstanding bonds,  
168 and the amount of the state's contingent liability; (6) the affirmative

169 action policy statement, a description of the composition of the agency's  
170 work force by race, sex, and occupation and a description of the agency's  
171 affirmative action efforts; and (7) a description of planned activities for  
172 the current fiscal year. Not later than thirty days after receiving such  
173 report from the board of a quasi-public agency, the Legislative Program  
174 Review and Investigations Committee shall prepare an assessment of  
175 whether the report complies with the requirements of this section and  
176 shall submit the assessment and a copy of the report to the joint standing  
177 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
178 relating to the quasi-public agency.

179 Sec. 6. Section 2-46 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
180 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

181 (a) The president of the Senate, the speaker of the House of  
182 Representatives, or a [chairman] chairperson of the whole, or of any  
183 committee of either house, of the General Assembly, or either of the  
184 chairpersons of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations  
185 Committee, shall have the power to compel the attendance and  
186 testimony of witnesses by subpoena and *capias* issued by any of them,  
187 require the production of any necessary books, papers or other  
188 documents and administer oaths to witnesses in any case under their  
189 examination, including any program review or investigation, as defined  
190 in section 1 of this act. Any person, summoned as a witness by the  
191 authority of either house of the General Assembly or the Legislative  
192 Program Review and Investigations Committee to give testimony or to  
193 produce books, papers or other documents upon any matter under  
194 inquiry before either house, [or] any committee of either house, of the  
195 General Assembly, [or] a joint committee of both houses, or by the  
196 Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee, who  
197 wilfully makes default or, having appeared, refuses to be sworn or to  
198 answer any question pertinent to the question under inquiry, shall be  
199 guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

200 (b) Any individual who is subpoenaed to appear and testify before a

201 committee of the General Assembly or by the Legislative Program  
202 Review and Investigations Committee shall have the right to review a  
203 copy of the transcript of his or her testimony and a reasonable amount  
204 of time to question its accuracy prior to the public release of such  
205 transcript or its permanent filing.

206 Sec. 7. Section 2-47 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
207 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

208 No witness shall be privileged to refuse to testify to any fact, or to  
209 produce any [paper] document, respecting which [he] such witness is  
210 examined by either house of the General Assembly, or by any committee  
211 of either house or any joint committee of both houses, or by the  
212 Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee in any  
213 program review or investigation, as defined in section 1 of this act, upon  
214 the ground that [his] such witness's testimony to such fact or [his]  
215 production of such [paper] document may tend to disgrace [him] such  
216 witness or otherwise render [him] such witness infamous.

217 Sec. 8. Subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of section 2-90 of the 2026  
218 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
219 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

220 (4) The auditors shall report their findings and recommendations to  
221 the Governor, the State Comptroller, [and] the joint standing  
222 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
223 relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and  
224 government oversight and the Legislative Program Review and  
225 Investigations Committee.

226 Sec. 9. Subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 2-90 of the 2026  
227 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
228 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

229 (f) (1) If the Auditors of Public Accounts discover, or if it should come  
230 to their knowledge, that any unauthorized, illegal, irregular or unsafe

231 handling or expenditure of state funds or quasi-public agency funds or  
232 any breakdown in the safekeeping of any resources of the state or a  
233 quasi-public agency has occurred or is contemplated, they shall  
234 forthwith report the facts to the Governor, the State Comptroller, the  
235 clerk of each house of the General Assembly, the joint standing  
236 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
237 relating to government oversight, the Legislative Program Review and  
238 Investigations Committee and the Attorney General, except that if a  
239 matter reported to the Auditors of Public Accounts pursuant to section  
240 4-33a is still under investigation by a state or quasi-public agency, the  
241 Auditors of Public Accounts may give the agency a reasonable amount  
242 of time to conduct such investigation prior to the auditors reporting the  
243 matter to said officials and committee.

244 Sec. 10. Subdivision (11) of subsection (g) of section 17a-28 of the 2026  
245 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
246 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

247 (11) The Governor, when requested in writing in the course of the  
248 Governor's official functions, the Legislative Program Review and  
249 Investigations Committee, the joint standing committee of the General  
250 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services, the  
251 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
252 matters relating to the judiciary or the joint standing committee of the  
253 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children,  
254 when requested in writing by any of such committees in the course of  
255 such committee's official functions, and upon a majority vote of such  
256 committee, provided no name or other identifying information is  
257 disclosed unless such information is essential to the gubernatorial or  
258 legislative purpose;

259 Sec. 11. Section 51-51l of the general statutes is repealed and the  
260 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

261 (a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the Judicial

262 Review Council shall investigate every written complaint brought  
263 before it alleging conduct under section 51-51i, and may initiate an  
264 investigation of any judge, administrative law judge or family support  
265 magistrate if (1) the council has reason to believe conduct under section  
266 51-51i has occurred, or (2) previous complaints indicate a pattern of  
267 behavior which would lead to a reasonable belief that conduct under  
268 section 51-51i has occurred. The council shall, not later than five days  
269 after such initiation of an investigation or receipt of such complaint,  
270 notify by registered or certified mail any judge, administrative law  
271 judge or family support magistrate under investigation or against  
272 whom such complaint is filed. A copy of any such complaint shall  
273 accompany such notice. The council shall also notify the complainant of  
274 its receipt of such complaint not later than five days thereafter. Any  
275 investigation to determine whether or not there is probable cause that  
276 conduct under section 51-51i has occurred shall be confidential and any  
277 individual called by the council for the purpose of providing  
278 information shall not disclose his knowledge of such investigation to a  
279 third party prior to the decision of the council on whether probable  
280 cause exists, unless the respondent requests that such investigation and  
281 disclosure be open, provided information known or obtained  
282 independently of any such investigation shall not be confidential. The  
283 judge, administrative law judge or family support magistrate shall have  
284 the right to appear and be heard and to offer any information which may  
285 tend to clear him of probable cause to believe he is guilty of conduct  
286 under section 51-51i. The judge, administrative law judge or family  
287 support magistrate shall also have the right to be represented by legal  
288 counsel and examine and cross-examine witnesses. In conducting its  
289 investigation under this subsection, the council may request that a court  
290 furnish to the council a record or transcript of court proceedings,  
291 including records and transcripts of juvenile matters pursuant to section  
292 46b-124 and records and transcripts of cases involving youthful  
293 offenders pursuant to section 54-76l, made or prepared by a court  
294 reporter, assistant court reporter or monitor and the court shall, upon  
295 such request, furnish such record or transcript.

296 (b) The Judicial Review Council shall, not later than three business  
297 days after the termination of such investigation, notify the complainant,  
298 if any, and the judge, administrative law judge or family support  
299 magistrate that the investigation has been terminated and the results  
300 thereof. If the council finds that conduct under section 51-51i has not  
301 occurred, but the judge, administrative law judge or family support  
302 magistrate has acted in a manner which gives the appearance of  
303 impropriety or constitutes an unfavorable judicial or magisterial  
304 practice, the council may issue an admonishment to the judge,  
305 administrative law judge or family support magistrate recommending  
306 a change in judicial or magisterial conduct or practice. If an  
307 admonishment is issued, the council shall (1) notify the joint standing  
308 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
309 relating to the judiciary that an admonishment was issued and provide  
310 said committee with the substance of the admonishment, including  
311 copies of the complaint file, (2) notify the Chief Court Administrator that  
312 an admonishment was issued and provide the Chief Court  
313 Administrator with the substance of the admonishment, including  
314 copies of the complaint file, and (3) inform the complainant, if any, that  
315 an admonishment was issued if the admonishment is the result of  
316 misconduct alleged in the complaint. Except as provided in this  
317 subsection, the substance of the admonishment shall not be disclosed to  
318 any person or organization.

319 (c) If a preliminary investigation indicates that probable cause exists  
320 that the judge, administrative law judge or family support magistrate is  
321 guilty of conduct under section 51-51i, the council shall hold a hearing  
322 concerning the conduct or complaint. All hearings held pursuant to this  
323 subsection shall be open. A judge, an administrative law judge or a  
324 family support magistrate appearing before such a hearing shall be  
325 entitled to counsel, to present evidence and to cross-examine witnesses.  
326 The council shall make a record of all proceedings pursuant to this  
327 subsection. The council shall not later than thirty days after the close of  
328 such hearing publish its findings together with a memorandum of its

329 reasons therefor.

330 (d) No complaint against a judge, an administrative law judge or a  
331 family support magistrate alleging conduct under section 51-51i shall be  
332 brought under this section but within one year from the date the alleged  
333 conduct occurred or was discovered or in the exercise of reasonable care  
334 should have been discovered, except that no such complaint may be  
335 brought more than three years from the date the alleged conduct  
336 occurred.

337 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this  
338 section, the council shall disclose any information concerning  
339 complaints received by the council on and after January 1, 1978, and  
340 investigations and disposition of such complaints to the Legislative  
341 Program Review and Investigations Committee when requested by the  
342 committee in the course of its functions, in writing, and upon a majority  
343 vote of the committee, provided no names or other identifying  
344 information shall be disclosed.

345 [(e)] (f) On and after December 19, 1991, any judge, administrative  
346 law judge or family support magistrate who has been the subject of an  
347 investigation by the Judicial Review Council as a result of a complaint  
348 brought before such council may request that such complaint,  
349 investigation and the disposition of such complaint be open to public  
350 inspection.

351 [(f)] (g) Whenever a complaint against a judge, an administrative law  
352 judge or a family support magistrate is pending before the Judicial  
353 Review Council within the final year of the term of office of such judge,  
354 administrative law judge or family support magistrate, the Judicial  
355 Review Council shall designate such complaint as privileged and shall  
356 conduct an expedited investigation and hearing so that its duties with  
357 respect to such complaint are completed in sufficient time to enable the  
358 Judicial Review Council to make its recommendation concerning any  
359 such judge to the Judicial Selection Commission and the Governor

360 under section 51-51q in a timely manner.

361 Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 2-53m of the general statutes is  
362 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
363 *2026*):

364 (a) The joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
365 cognizance of matters relating to children, in consultation with the  
366 Office of Fiscal Analysis, the Office of Legislative Research and the  
367 Commission on Women, Children and Seniors, shall maintain an annual  
368 report card that evaluates the progress of state policies and programs in  
369 promoting the result that all Connecticut children grow up in a stable  
370 living environment, safe, healthy and ready to lead successful lives.  
371 Progress shall be measured by primary indicators of progress,  
372 including, but not limited to, indicators established in the [final] report  
373 of the [former] Legislative Program Review and Investigations  
374 Committee prepared pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of public  
375 act 09-166, of state-wide rates of child abuse, child poverty, low birth  
376 weight, third grade reading proficiency, and the annual social health  
377 index developed pursuant to section 46a-131a. For each indicator, the  
378 data shall also be presented according to ethnicity or race, gender,  
379 geography, disability and, where appropriate, age and other relevant  
380 characteristics. The joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
381 having cognizance of matters relating to children shall prepare the  
382 report card on or before January 15, 2018, and annually thereafter. On  
383 or before January 15, 2018, and annually thereafter, said committee shall  
384 make the report card available to the public on the Internet and on the  
385 web site of the General Assembly and shall transmit the report card  
386 electronically to (1) members of the joint standing committees of the  
387 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
388 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and human services,  
389 (2) the Commissioners of Children and Families, Education and Public  
390 Health, (3) the Child Advocate, (4) the Secretary of the Office of Policy  
391 and Management, and (5) the Chief Court Administrator.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	1-122
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	1-123(a)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	2-46
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	2-47
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	2-90(c)(4)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	2-90(f)(1)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	17a-28(g)(11)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	51-51l
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	2-53m(a)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To reestablish the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*