

Department of Labor
Appropriations Committee Conservation & Development Subcommittee
Work Session
Follow-Up Questions
March 10, 2022

Question 1: *Please provide a list of reasons for UI appeals. (Senator Julie Kushner)*

- Voluntary quit of full-time and/or part-time employment
- Voluntary retirement
- Student Quit (quit work to attend school as a regularly enrolled full-time student)
- Discharge by employer
- Non-Charging separations (Generally a quit issue - includes Trailing Spouse; quit to return to work in an apprenticeable trade; to escape domestic abuse; quit to care for a seriously ill parent/child/relative – employer not liable for benefit charges if claimant prevails)
- Refusal of rehire (former employee)
- Refusal of Work (claimant never worked for the employer who offered work; or failed to apply when given a referral to a job by the DOL Employment Service – rarely used)
- Availability for full-time work
- Work search efforts
- Availability for Part Time Work (due to chronic disability or long-term/permanent medical condition – which medically precludes claimant from working full-time.
- Second Benefit Year Claim
- Potentially disqualifying income (severance, wages in lieu of notice, vacation, etc.)
- Late Filing of initial or continued claim
- Labor Dispute (Strike or Lockout)
- Overpayment of benefits (fraud or non-fraud)
- Monetary issues (Includes dependency allowance; benefit rate; Pension receipt; missing wages, etc.)
- Still employed, part-time to the same extent as in the base period
- Employer non-participation at Administrator level

Question 2: *Of the ~9,000 filers (24,050 total minus 15,120 waived or repaid) with outstanding non-fraud overpayments (OP), what is the total this group owes? (Senator Cathy Osten)*

- There are 7,239 people with outstanding nonfraud overpayment balances totaling \$22,061,461.18

For 4Q20-4Q21:

of people with nonfraud OP – 21,303

of people with nonfraud OP who made at least 1 repayment – 15,120

of people with nonfraud OP who have made NO repayments – 6,183

of people with nonfraud OP whose balances are now zero (waived or liquidated) – 14,064

of people with a balance remaining on a nonfraud OP - 21,303 - 14,064 = 7,239

Question 3: *How many CTDOL employees are eligible to retire based on their age and years of service – regardless if the CT DOL employee will take a hit on their pension? (Senator Cathy Osten)*

- 236 CTDOL employees eligible to retire. See attached *CTDOL Retirement Data* for further breakdown.

Question 4: *Please provide details/breakdown of what the \$30 million carry-forward appropriation will be used for. Please include the number of employees covered, broken down by durational vs. temporary. (Representative Toni Walker)*

- See attached Excel spreadsheet for a breakdown of the \$30 million included in the Governor's Recommended Budget.

Question 5: *Please provide details about what the \$2.19 million ARPA Funding will be used for (Representative Toni Walker)*

- The \$2.19 million represents the total of the ARPA funding already approved for SFY 2023. Identified below is the total and the breakout from the OFA Budget Book.

American Rescue Plan Act

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Funds

ARPA	-	-	172,190,000	2,190,000	172,190,000	2,190,000
Total - American Rescue Plan Act	-	-	172,190,000	2,190,000	172,190,000	2,190,000

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Labor Department

Conservation and Development

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 22	FY 23	FY 22	FY 23	FY 22	FY 23

Legislative

Allocate ARPA funding of \$172.2 million in FY 22 and \$2.2 million in FY 23 for the following:

Purpose	FY 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Domestic Worker Grants	200,000	200,000
Veterans Employment Opportunity PILOT	350,000	350,000
Opportunities for Long-Term Unemployed Returning Citizens	750,000	750,000
TBICO Danbury Women's Employment Program	25,000	25,000
Boys & Girls Club Workforce Development - Milford	50,000	50,000
Women's Mentoring Network - Strategic Life Skills Workshop	5,000	5,000
Senior Jobs Bank - West Hartford	10,000	10,000
Greater Bridgeport OIC Job Development & Training Program	250,000	250,000
Unemployment Trust Fund	155,000,000	-
Unemployment Support	15,000,000	-
Customized Services for Mortgage Crisis Jobs Training Program	550,000	550,000

Question 6: *What is the number of pending UI Appeals in backlog? (Senator Cathy Osten)*

- CTDOL Lower Authority Appeals Referee Division ended January 2022 (as reported to Appropriations C&D Sub-committee out at our February 28, 2022, meeting) with 18,142 appeals and concluded February 2022 with 17,846 appeals in the pending caseload.
- To put this in historical context, we point out that in February 2015 (around the time of the last recession), this division had a pending caseload 1,202 appeals.

Question 7: *What is the number of pending UI Board of Review Appeals in backlog? (Senator Cathy Osten)*

- CTDOL Upper Authority Appeals Board of Review Division ended January 2022 (as reported to Appropriations C&D Sub-committee out at our February 28, 2022, meeting) with 461 appeals and concluded February 2022 with 490 appeals in the pending backlog.