



# State of Connecticut

SENATOR LEONARD A. FASANO  
SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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June 4, 2019

Governor Ned Lamont  
Office of the Governor  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Lamont:

As you are aware, last night the House of Representatives voted to approve the state budget proposed by you and Democrat legislative leaders. In preparation for the Senate's debate and vote on the bill today, it has come to my attention that this budget includes significant savings related to state employee labor unions without any guarantees that these savings will be agreed to and approved by state employee unions. This includes pension and health care savings of \$163.2 million in FY 2020 and \$256.6 million in FY 2021 in the General Fund, and savings of \$18.3 million in FY 2020 and \$19.7 million in FY 2021 in the Special Transportation Fund. Therefore, I would ask that you immediately provide to legislators the following:

- 1) Any and all agreements with state employee labor unions with respect to "Smart Shopper"/ health care savings reflected in the Pension and Health Care Savings line item within the state budget in which unions have agreed to the executive branch concepts so that we know for a fact that these savings can be realized.
- 2) A response to the following question: Do the pension and health care savings include retirees and, since retirees are not part of the union, did the retirees sign off on these savings? If so please submit evidence of such approval.
- 3) Any and all documentation that at very least demonstrates that state employee unions have agreed to the reamortization of the Connecticut State Employee Retirement System (SERS), and confirmation that the rank and file union members have appropriately signed off on this plan. We recognize that this legislative body has not yet voted to approve the reamortization of SERS. The last reamortization of SERS in 2017 was only advanced after an affirmative vote by the legislature. Therefore, documentation that at the very least confirms union approval of this proposal is essential.

I thank you in advance for your timely response to this request as the budget debate in the Senate is expected to begin today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'L Fasano', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Senator Len Fasano  
Senate Republican Leader

cc: Ryan Drajewicz, Chief of Staff