



# State of Connecticut

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August 22, 2019

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

Dear Governor Lamont:

In recent weeks, you have made it clear that there are significant shortcomings in multiple state quasi-public agencies when it comes to transparency and oversight. I agree with your comments that these deficiencies have shaken public trust in all state quasi-publics to the point where we must take strong action to rebuild confidence in our state. Given your concerns, you have called legislative leaders together, along with the state Treasurer, to initiate an important and long overdue dialogue to develop a plan regarding future governance, structure, and oversight of the state's quasi-public agencies.

You clearly recognize that a problem exists and that we need action to fix the problems that have permeated state quasi-publics. But at the same time, you have also just recently signed off on the creation of two brand new quasi-public agencies, the Paid Family Medical Leave Authority and the Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority.

These two new quasi-publics were discussed by your Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Chief of Staff Paul Mounds at this week's informational hearing on the Connecticut Port Authority. He emphasized that in order to ensure these entities are successful, we need to address issues that have arisen in our other quasi-publics. I could not agree more. That is why I would like to request that the state delay the creation of any new quasi-public agencies, including the two approved by the legislature this year, until the state has developed and adopted a clear plan of action regarding future oversight and governance of all state quasi-publics.

It is not wise to create any brand new quasi-public agency before the state has developed a plan to resolve the issues rampant throughout our already existing quasi-publics. If we allow new quasi-publics to be formed before we resolve the current systemic issues, we will only be setting them up for failure. It's akin to finding out a house's structural design has a defect; but instead of halting construction on any more new homes while you fix the problem, you continue building brand new homes with the defective design still in place.

Governor Ned Lamont  
August 22, 2019  
Page 2

I look forward to discussing this idea in further detail with you, the Treasurer and other legislative leaders. As you are aware, the problems within the state's quasi-public agencies are not new. While the last administration was reluctant to adopt any proposed reforms regarding transparency or oversight, I am hopeful that your administration recognizes the need for change.

Sincerely,



Len Fasano  
Senate Republican Leader

cc: Ryan Drajewicz, Chief of Staff