



WYMANews

State of Connecticut
Office of the State Comptroller
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WYMANews

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COMPTROLLER LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

Nancy Wyman
State Comptroller

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
QUI TRANSLAT SUSTINET
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

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Connecticut State Capitol

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My first priority is advocating for Connecticut's citizens in state financial and health care issues. I am committed to fiscal restraint, long-range planning and improving health care access and affordability for all. My office is dedicated to quality public service, and I urge you to contact us if we can assist you in anyway.



Pink HealsTour in East Hartford supporting October as Breast Cancer Awareness



what's new

- [Wyman says Revenue Trends indicate Deficit likely for 2010](#)
- [Wyman, Lembo Announce SUSTINET Board of Directors](#)

I am proud to announce the launching of the Office of the State Comptroller's redesigned website, which went on-line recently at www.osc.state.ct.us.

The new site maintains the functionality of the former one while updating its look and content to reflect the wide range of work done by my office both within state government and in the community.

For example, the site not only provides access to the many fiscal reports produced by my office, but has been expanded to include news and photographs of the community events that I attend in my official capacity.

We also have developed a new on-line form that makes it easier for members of the public to invite me to attend an event. You'll find the form under the "Contact Us" section at the top of the homepage.

The new site also includes a link to a new Wall of Honor page, which provides information and photographs about the tribute my office created to the Connecticut men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces who lost their lives in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan that began after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

You will also find a link to my Facebook page, which is continually updated with photographs, news stories and other items of interest.

The redesign was done in-house by members of my agency and executive staffs. I trust you will find the site useful and informative, and I encourage you to contact my office with any suggestions as to how it can be improved.



E-NOTIFICATION

WYMANews and
Press Releases

Receive the quarterly
newsletter,
WYMANews, and
monthly press
releases via email.

Sign up at
[www.osc.state.ct.us/
public/newsletter](http://www.osc.state.ct.us/public/newsletter)



WYMAN, LEMBO ANNOUNCE SUSTINET BOARD



State Comptroller Nancy Wyman and State Health Care Advocate Kevin Lembo announced the members of the SustiNet Health Partnership Board of Directors.

Wyman and Lembo are co-chairs of the board, which is charged with designing and implementing a self-insured plan to control costs and increase access to health care for individuals, small businesses, non-profits, those receiving state-assisted care and other groups. The board must submit a proposal by Jan. 1, 2011.

The structure of the board was created by the General Assembly and represents a broad spectrum of expertise in the health care and health insurance fields.

"SustiNet provides Connecticut with a historic opportunity to both improve our health care system and make it more affordable," Wyman said. "I am committed to creating an efficient, cost-effective plan that will not only benefit patients, but will strengthen our economy."

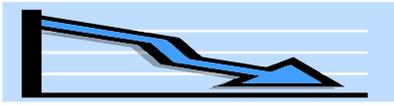
"We are beginning an exciting and important chapter in Connecticut's story of reform," Lembo said. "The expertise of these board members all but ensures our success. I look forward to the work ahead."

The SustiNet Health Partnership Board of Directors

- **Norma Gyle - Dept. of Public Health**
Appointed by: Governor M. Jodi Rell
Specialty: Representative of nursing/allied health
- **Jeffrey Kramer - University of Connecticut School of Business**
Appointed by: House Majority Leader Denise Merrill
Specialty: Health care economics and policy
- **Paul Grady - Mercer Consulting**
Appointed by: House Minority Leader Lawrence Cafero
Specialty: Actuarial Sciences/Insurance Underwriting
- **Sal Luciano - Council 4 AFSCME**
Appointed by: House Speaker Christopher Donovan
Specialty: Organized Labor
- **Jamie Mooney - Norwalk Hospital**
Appointed by: Senate Minority Leader John McKinney
Specialty: Health Information Technology
- **Joseph McDonagh - Independent Broker**
Appointed by: Senate Majority Leader Martin Looney
Specialty: Employee Health Plans for Small Business
- **Bruce Gould, Connecticut AHEC**
Appointed by: Senate President Pro Tem Donald Williams
Specialty: Primary Care Physician

Wyman and Lembo have also invited the Commissioners of the Departments of Public Health, Social Services, Insurance and Health Care Access to participate as ex-officio members of the board.

Latest State Financial Projection



State Comptroller Nancy Wyman stated that a preliminary analysis of the recently-enacted 2010 state budget indicates that the state will face a deficit of at least \$500 million if current trends continue.

Weak collection of the payroll income tax driven by accelerating job losses is on track to offset an expected bump in revenue from the hike in the income tax rate for upper-income residents, Wyman said. Receipts of the income tax through the third week of September were down nearly 15 percent when compared to last year, and collection of the sales tax was off by 10 percent.

The income and sales taxes contribute about three

quarters of non-federal General Fund revenues that make up the \$18.6 billion budget for 2010.

"If first quarter trends continue, even after fully incorporating the projected revenue gains enacted as part of the budget, the revenue shortfall in the General Fund would exceed half a billion dollars," Wyman wrote in her monthly report to the Governor. "Because it is early in the fiscal year, there is sufficient time for a reversal in the trend to mitigate the shortfall."

About 70,000 payroll jobs were lost between August 2008 and August 2009, the state's unemployment rate is at 8.1 percent, and most economists are not projecting a quick recovery in employment.

Wyman said she is also concerned that \$473 million in expected state agency savings built into the 2010 budget might be overly ambitious because the budget does not specify how those savings are to be achieved.

"The policy changes required to produce that level of savings are, for the most part, not addressed," in the budget, Wyman said.

Where has Wyman been lately ... Visit www.osc.state.ct.us/public/events/ for more photos



Connecticut AFL-CIO Annual Convention in New Haven



CSEA SEIU Local 2001 P-4 Bargaining Unit Annual Picnic in Farmington



Marching in the East Hampton Old Homes Day Parade



Marine Corps League, Silver City Detachment #45 at the John R. Shoneck Scholarship fundraiser in Meriden



118th Medical Battalion and the 1/169th Aviation Regiment at the Send Off Ceremony in the William O'Neill Armory



CT Association of Non-Profits Member's Healthcare Forum in Hartford

THE HERALD

July 25, 2009

OUR VIEW: Needed: More fiscal sense, fewer gimmicks

It's beginning to look like Nancy Wyman is the only one in state government who understands the principles of sound accounting.

Comptroller Wyman wrote this week to legislative leaders and Gov. M. Jodi Rell, reminding them she's required by law to use the state's reserve, commonly known as the Rainy Day Fund, to close the deficit if one exists two months after the fiscal year has ended. (The state closed the 2008-09 fiscal year on June 30 with a deficit forecast of \$942 million.)

Thus, unless Rell and lawmakers approve borrowing to cover last fiscal year's deficit — soon — their plans to use the budget reserve to lessen what already is expected to be a significant tax hike this year will be thwarted, the Journal Inquirer reported Friday.

Currently, the state has \$1.4 billion socked away for a Rainy Day and both sides have proposed using at least some of the money to supplement slumping revenues for the next two years

Wyman also warned against relying too heavily on gimmicks and one-time sources of revenue.

On the table are plans to sell various undefined state assets, raid miscellaneous state funds and "securitize," or sell, a decade's worth of gambling and energy revenue to obtain a lump-

sum payment now worth about 70 percent of what would be sold. (Just the word "securitize" brings memories of the high-flying financial tricks that created the housing bubble.)

"While I acknowledge that the severity of this downturn has forced the state to seek extraordinary means to raise revenue, the magnitude of one-time revenue contained in current biennium budget proposals is both dramatic and highly questionable," Wyman wrote to negotiators.

"Every dollar of one-time revenue that is relied upon to force the budget into balance decreases the likelihood that economic growth alone will be sufficient to resolve this enormous structural imbalance," Wyman added. "I believe that a more balanced approach is required in order to both resolve the current budget crisis and lay a foundation for long-term fiscal stability. In previous budget crises, a more balanced combination of spending cuts, borrowing, and structural revenue increases were used to balance the state's budget."

Since budget negotiations are being conducted behind closed doors, we can't know if lawmakers and the governor will heed her advice but, as we see it, her voice best reflects the steady fiscal habits of Connecticut's people.



The First Ride For Our Troops in Afghanistan at Soldier's Monument in Seaside Park, Bridgeport



Ribbon cutting ceremony at KMC Music, Inc. in Bloomfield



Mothers Against Drunk Driving 1st Annual "MADD About Dancing" fundraiser at Mohegan Sun Casino



Chris Ulbrich of Ulbrich Steel in Wallingford receiving the CT 2009 Health Workplace Innovator Award

NEW WEBSITE LINKS

www.osc.state.ct.us



Connecticut's Wall of Honor

WYMANews