



**CONNECTICUT RETIREMENT SECURITY PROGRAM BOARD
OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026

DRAFT

Board Meeting Board Members in Attendance: Sherry Coelho; Grant Livingston; Thomas Sennett; Jon Wu; Jennifer Putetti; Cesar Garcia; Alex Knopp; Patrick Flaherty; Ryan Leichsenring; Manisha Srivastava; Edward Zelinsky

Others in Attendance: Jessica Muirhead, OSC; Lisa Kidder, OSC; Lily Smith, OSC; Andrew Armstrong, BNY Mellon Advisors (BNYMA); Andrea Feirstein, AKF Consulting; Vanessa Vargas, Segal Marco Advisors; Michael Smolinsky, BNY Mellon Advisors (BNYMA); Michael Terdeman, Vestwell State Savings; Addison Spencer, Davis Harman; Mary Ella, Georgetown University CRI; Julia Zuckerman, Segal Marco Advisors

1. CALL TO ORDER
 - a. A quorum was declared and the meeting called to order at 10:03 AM.
2. MEETING MINUTES
 - a. Alex Knopp made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2026 meeting, seconded by Patrick Flaherty. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - a. There was no public comment.
4. CHAIR'S REPORT
 - a. Thomas Sennett asked MyCT Savings Executive Director Jessica Muirhead to report on behalf of the Comptroller who was unable to attend. Ms. Muirhead explained most program updates would be discussed further in the agenda under program updates. Ms. Muirhead gave a brief update that Hawai'i executed the necessary contracts and had joined the Multistate Alliance for Retirement Security.

5. FIRST QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORTS

- a. Andrew Armstrong from BNY Mellon Advisors (BNYMA) gave an overview of the market performance from the end of quarter 1 2026. Mr. Armstrong noted that the equity markets fell on behalf of the events in Iran, but had since recovered in the second quarter. BNYMA advised it remained cautiously optimistic and believed that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth would continue to be relatively strong and showed positive outlook on growth, but that it was cautious on inflation and policy. Inflation remained above the target and continued to be monitored due to the events in Iran and global energy markets. Mr. Armstrong indicated that BNYMA was concerned that the Federal Reserve (Fed) may increase rates to combat the inflation trend resulting negatively for the markets. The duration of the situation in the Middle East would impact the markets. Mr. Armstrong shared information on the US Equity Performance post geopolitical events which compared the duration of the conflict and how the market performed, showing that the US equity markets have been resilient despite the headlines.
 - i. Jon Wu asked to confirm the Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) or Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rate. Mr. Armstrong explained the PCE is what the Fed used for its forecasting, BNYMA used the CPI inflation rate, and they were very similar to each other, but the PCE tends to be a little lower, due to the difference in the underlying basket of about 25 basis points. Mr. Armstrong confirmed that the PCE and CPI excluded food and energy by default since those prices tend to be more volatile.
- b. Mr. Armstrong confirmed that the approved glide paths would be completed at the end of June.
- c. Vanessa Vargas from Segal Marco Advisors provided an overview of the first quarter investment advisory report and the May monthly report. Ms. Vargas reviewed the volatility due to geopolitical tensions, rising energy prices, and the supply chain disruptions and the ongoing negotiations between the countries soon. Ms. Vargas noted that since June the markets had been volatile, returns were negative in equities and fixed income. Ms. Vargas reviewed the portfolios for the participants, the risk based and target date funds. The majority of assets were in the target date funds.

6. ANNUAL BENCHMARKS REVIEW

- a. Ms. Vargas also provided an overview of the annual benchmark report, including an overview of the portfolio benchmarks and performance and how the program's performance compares to other state programs. The

program assets continued to grow and Connecticut continued to have the lowest saver opt-out rate. Ms. Vargas reviewed the glidepath approved changes and how the change would effect the peer groups.

- i. Mr. Wu asked if the program had any information on why a participant may opt-out of the MyCTSAVINGS Program. Ms. Muirhead explained that the program does not collect that information on opt-outs, but other industry researchers had and that it largely comes down to financial hardship. Ms. Muirhead continued that the program does receive information on participants who withdraw from the program and again the main reason is financial hardship.
- ii. Manisha Srivastava asked about the average monthly contribution and if the program would see that growth in comparison to the other state programs. Ms. Vargas confirmed that the program had the 5% default rate for almost a year and the annual auto escalation numbers would increase.

7. PROGRAM UPDATES

a. Interstate Partnership

- i. Ms. Muirhead shared that Hawai'i had executed the appropriate contracts with Vestwell and the partnership. Hawai'i would be working with Vestwell on the potential launch later this year. No formal date had been set. Rhode Island would have its first deadline later this year. The multistate partnership saw the movement and growth and continued conversations with other potential partners.

b. CRSP Statute Implementation

- i. Ms. Muirhead reported that the updated default rate to 5% was almost over a year ago. The program expected the average contribution rate to increase from the increased default rate and auto escalation. The program would continue to monitor the low opt-out rate, which was expected to increase from the increased default rate and auto escalation, but did not increase.
- ii. Ms. Muirhead gave an update on the personal care attendants (PCAs) who are paid through the state would be included in the program on July 1st. Ms. Muirhead advised that unfortunately after reviewing with legal that the program would not include the PCAs who are eligible for difficulty of care (DOC) payments and who were a care provider living in the same house as the patient. The program had worked closely with Vestwell, the states' payroll company and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), who represents the members of the union. The program expected a substantial ingestion of new accounts.

c. Updates on Program Progress

- i. Michael Terdeman of Vestwell provided an operational update on program growth, outreach, and participant support. Mr. Terdeman gave an overview of the upcoming 2026 annual wave and continued expansion through employer engagement and system improvements. Mr. Terdeman explained that Vestwell had been working with the fiscal intermediary to add the PCAs and had helped create materials and webpages. Mr. Terdeman reported that for the Multistate Alliance for Retirement Security, Hawai'i completed the agreements and would be working directly with Vestwell towards full program rollout. Later this year Rhode Island would also have its first annual wave ingestion and follow up communications for the upcoming deadline. Mr. Terdeman continued with program enhancements and expansions with payroll integration partners, participant support resources, including expanded help center content, and financial wellness library.

d. Marketing & Outreach

- i. Mr. Terdeman provided a marketing update that Vestwell would focus on the 2026 annual wave and the PCA communications.
- ii. Lisa Kidder of the MyCTSAavings Program provided an internal outreach update, that the program had worked on the PCA campaign. Along with working with Vestwell on the webpage and online support, the program had worked directly with the SEIU union to provide printed materials, hosted 3 webinars, and provided the union with internal information for texts and monthly communications. Communications to PCAs would be a good sample of saver communications that the program had not focused on yet.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Sherry Coelho made a motion to enter into executive session for fiduciary training, inviting the MyCTSAavings staff and the representatives from Segal Marco. Mr. Wu seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote and the Board entered executive session at 10:56 AM. Julia Zuckerman of Segal Marco Advisors presented training on fiduciary duty to the Board. Mr. Flaherty made a motion to return from executive session, seconded by Grant Livingston. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote and the Committee returned from executive session at 11:34 AM.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Mr. Flaherty made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Coelho. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM.