



**SCHOLARS**  
STRATEGY NETWORK

## **Connecticut HB 6863: An Act Making Deficiency Appropriations For The Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025**

**Nicholas D. Kapoor**, Fairfield University

I am writing on behalf of all the Commissioners of the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) to express deep concern regarding the proposed budget cuts to the Commission. The recent withholding of \$900,000 from our budget, coupled with the additional \$500,000 reduction to Other Expenses outlined in House Bill No. 6863, significantly hampers our ability to fulfill our mission of protecting civil rights in Connecticut.

For several months now, even before the hiring freeze implemented in March, we've been unable to fill crucial staff positions. Currently, we have 92 filled positions, but funding only covers 90. Six more positions are vacant and left unfunded, for a total of 98 positions. This shortage has led to a backlog of intake appointments, as we've seen a sharp increase in inquiries and complaints. Appointments in one of our regional offices are currently being scheduled for October 2025.