

## TREASURER SHAWN T. WOODEN

PRESS RELEASE
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## TREASURER WOODEN STATEMENT ON PRIORITIES FOR NEW LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HARTFORD, CT – Today, State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden released the following statement on the start of the 2020 Legislative Session:

"As we move forward in the 2020 legislative session, we must reaffirm our commitment to the people of Connecticut and continue the hard work to move our state forward.

Upon taking office last year, one of our most urgent tasks was to stabilize the Teachers' Retirement Fund. Years of back-loading and kicking the can down the road was finally catching up to us. Not only did our state face a disastrous spike in future payments, the mounting pension liabilities were poised to drain scarce resources from the budget affecting every taxpayer and every city and town in Connecticut.

Thanks to our leadership with the Governor and the General Assembly, we've stabilized the teachers' pension fund, bulked up our Rainy Day fund and scaled back borrowing—all actions which make a difference to investors and taxpayers. From the state's improved credit rating outlook to record investor interest in buying our bonds, all signals point to positive change in Connecticut. However, I know for far too many, the change isn't coming fast enough.

This session, we have more work to do. Things like teaching financial literacy in our schools, healthcare and access to affordable prescription drugs, workforce development and good-paying jobs from advanced manufacturing to technology, these are the building blocks for strong, vibrant communities and serve as the bedrock for growing the state's economy.

Let our work continue to foster innovation and entrepreneurship, which has been the cornerstone of Connecticut's economy for decades. Let our legacy of innovative leadership pave the way for modernization.

And let's tackle all the unfinished work to address social and economic justice in Connecticut.

Let's get serious about economic empowerment, from financial literacy to retirement security. We must empower this and future generations to change the economic trajectory of their lives and our state."

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