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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**TREASURER SHAWN T. WOODEN**

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**TREASURER WOODEN ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL  
\$1 BILLION GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SALE  
FOLLOWING POSITIVE RATING OUTLOOK FROM S&P**

***Bond Sale Attracts Record Level of Retail Orders  
Bond Refunding Saves \$59 Million***

**HARTFORD, CT** – Today, Connecticut State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden announced the results of the successful \$1.07 billion State of Connecticut General Obligation (GO) bond offering.

The sale included a total of \$500 million of new money tax-exempt and taxable bonds to fund a variety of capital improvements and grant programs across Connecticut and \$569 million of tax-exempt refunding bonds to refinance existing bonds for savings.

**S&P Positive Outlook**

In advance of the sale, S&P Global Ratings (S&P) affirmed the current “A+” credit rating for the GO bonds, but improved its Outlook for the State’s GO bonds, Special Tax Obligation (STO), Transportation Purposes bonds, and UConn Debt Service commitment bonds from “Stable” to “Positive”. This improved credit rating outlook is a signal to investors that S&P sees positive trends within the State and will be reviewing the State’s credit ratings for a possible credit rating upgrade within in the next 24 months.

“This latest improvement in the State’s credit rating outlook from S&P is their confirmation that the State’s financial policies and management practices continue to keep the State’s fiscal house secure,” said

Treasurer Shawn Wooden. “I encourage our leadership to stay the course in maintaining this fiscal discipline in the years ahead.”

The improved S&P outlook impacts approximately \$17.1 billion of GO bonds, \$7.1 billion of STO bonds, \$1.7 billion of UConn bonds, as well as other State-backed bonds issued by quasi-public agencies. The S&P “Positive” Outlook follows presentations to the four major credit rating agencies by Treasurer Wooden and his staff and applies to almost all of the debt managed by the State Treasurer’s Office.

### **Record Orders from Retail Investors**

Treasurer Wooden gave retail investors priority during a dedicated retail-only order period on Tuesday, May 24th. Retail orders received during this one-day priority period totaled \$1.7 billion, the highest ever in recorded history for a State bond sale. Strong retail demand was helped in part by the Positive Outlook from S&P as well as the generally higher overall level of interest rates, which are more attractive particularly to individual investors. In addition, the \$1 billion State bond sale was the largest sale in the national market this week, which also helped to garner investor focus and attention.

### **Refunding Saves Taxpayers \$59 Million**

The \$569 million of refunding bonds will refinance existing higher-interest bonds for debt service savings of approximately \$59 million over the next ten years. Since Treasurer Wooden took office in January 2019, he has lowered previously issued debt service by \$249.2 million, including this sale.

“By refunding existing debt for savings, we are able to help reduce the State’s fixed costs for years to come, bottom line, saving taxpayer dollars,” said Treasurer Wooden.

### **Orders and Interest Cost**

Orders from both retail and institutional investors on the \$150 million of tax-exempt bonds totaled nearly \$1 billion, exceeding the bonds offered and contributing to the 3.55% borrowing cost on the 20-year bond sale. Orders from institutional investors on the \$350 million of taxable bonds exceeded \$1.7 billion, exceeding the bonds offered and contributing to the 3.92% borrowing cost on the ten-year bond sale.

“The ability for the State to continue to achieve a competitive cost of funds is a direct result of Connecticut’s four credit rating upgrades last year – a first in over two decades - as well as the recent “Positive” Outlook from S&P,” said Treasurer Wooden.

The \$500 Million of New Money Tax-Exempt and Taxable Bonds Will Fund:

- \$110.0 million for Grants to Municipalities
- \$105.8 million for Housing Developments
- \$65.2 million for Economic Development Programs
- \$65.0 million for Brownfield Remediation and Revitalization Program
- \$52.0 million for Information Technology Investments

- \$43.0 million for State Equipment and State Building Improvements
- \$36.4 million for CT Bioscience Innovation Fund and Jackson Labs
- \$11.8 million for Grants to Not-for-Profits and Others
- \$10.8 million for State University and Technical Education School Improvements

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### **Summary of GO Credit Ratings**

Prior to the sale, all four credit rating agencies affirmed the State's GO bond credit ratings. Moody's Investors Service affirmed its "Aa3" rating with a Stable Outlook, S&P affirmed is "A+" rating but with a Positive Outlook, Fitch Ratings affirmed its "AA-" rating with a Stable Outlook, and Kroll Bond Ratings affirmed its "AA" credit rating with a Stable Outlook.

Ramirez & Co., Inc. led the bond underwriting syndicate that sold the bonds. The bonds are scheduled to close on June 22, 2022.

More information on the State's bonding programs is available at [www.BuyCTBonds.com](http://www.BuyCTBonds.com).

### **About the Office of the State Treasurer**

Under the leadership of Connecticut's State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden, the Office of the Treasurer is dedicated to safeguarding taxpayers' money and the state's financial resources while maximizing returns, minimizing risks, and operating at the highest professional and ethical standards. Through receiving, investing, and disbursing, the Office continues to enhance the State's fiscal stability, financial literacy, college and disability savings, and its approach to leveraging business partnerships to combat social issues such as gun violence, climate change, and equal opportunities in economic growth. Treasurer Wooden currently serves as President of the National Association of State Treasurers and is the only Black elected State Treasurer in the country and the only Black elected official serving statewide in New England. Learn more about the Office of the Treasurer [here](#) and follow along on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

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