

Connecticut Reprieve Power

“The governor shall have power to grant reprieves after conviction, in all cases except those of impeachment, until the end of the next session of the general assembly, and no longer.” Conn. Const. art. IV, § 13

The Supreme Court of Connecticut interpreted this as to allow the governor to continue to grant successive reprieves for as long as necessary. *Palka v. Walker*, 124 Conn. 121, 127 (Conn. 1938). This allows the governor to grant multiple reprieves to the same person.

In contrast, the Connecticut Constitution vests authority in the Connecticut Board of Pardons and Paroles to grant commutations and pardons. By excluding reprieves from the Board’s jurisdiction, the Connecticut Constitution ensures that the governor can act swiftly to grant reprieves in times of emergency. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-124a(f).