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**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES TESTIMONY  
BEFORE THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**March 14, 2018**

Good morning Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Formica, Representative Ziobron and members of the Appropriations Committee. I am Jordan A. Scheff, Commissioner of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Thank you for the opportunity to come before you today to testify on **H.B. No. 5034 AN ACT MAKING DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.**

DDS is currently anticipating a deficiency in the Personal Services account in the amount of \$3.0 million. The projected shortfall in this account results mainly from delays in the conversion of ten community living arrangements (CLAs) from the public sector to operation by private providers. However, a small portion of this shortfall is due to an increase in overtime costs due to delays in filling direct care vacancies. Initially, DDS anticipated the conversions to occur September 1, 2017. However, conversions did not begin until January 2018 and the last home is expected to be converted in April 2018. The deficiency in Personal Services will be offset by a \$3.0 million lapse in the Community Residential Services account, which is appropriated to the Department of Social Services but is managed by DDS.

Thank you again for the opportunity to offer testimony on **H.B. No. 5034 AN ACT MAKING DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.** I would be happy to answer any questions that you have for me at this time.