



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Peter Mason
Deputy Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES TESTIMONY
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

March 6, 2018

Senators Moore and Suzio, Representatives Urban and Zupkus and members of the Committee on Children. I am Jordan A. Scheff, Commissioner of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **H.B. No. 5332 AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

Section 8 of the bill would eliminate a requirement that the Department of Children and Families (DCF) license a Department of Developmental Services (DDS) continuous residential supports (CRS) home that already has been reviewed and approved by DDS for the provision of services to children with intellectual disability. By eliminating this duplicative process of DCF licensing these homes, it saves, both DCF and private providers' staff resources and money, while continuing to protect children with DDS's quality standards for these homes.

This proposal is based on recommendations of the Lean Licensure and Certification Workgroup (LCW) established pursuant to **Special Act No. 17-21** which required a workgroup consisting of representatives from state agencies (DDS, DMHAS, DCF and DPH) and nonprofit providers to conduct a review of state agency certification and licensure processes of certain nonprofit community providers and to identify potential efficiencies. A weeklong cross-agency Lean event took place in November 2017 which resulted in a number of legislative proposals aimed at lessening the administrative impact on nonprofits and reducing time away from the individuals who they support.

This proposal, along with other Lean related proposals before the Public Health Committee this session, are a step in the right direction for both the state agencies involved and our private provider partners as we continue to improve and evolve the service system by lessening administrative burdens and focusing more on the needs of individuals with intellectual disability who we support.

Thank you again for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of **H.B. No. 5332 AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.** If you have any questions, please contact Christine Pollio Cooney, DDS Director of Legislative and Executive Affairs at (860) 418-6066.