

Agency Option Submission

Department of Public Health

Signed (Agency Head)

Title

Date

David M. ...

Commissioner

12/17/14

Fund	Agency Priority	Adjustment Title	FY 2016 Amount	FY 2017 Amount
11000-General Fund				
	1	An Act Concerning Drinking Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Fees	\$928,804.00	\$975,146.00
	2	An Act Concerning a Search Fee for Vital Records	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
	Total		\$998,804.00	\$1,045,146.00
Total			\$998,804.00	\$1,045,146.00

Adjustment Type:

Revenue

Agency Title:

An Act Concerning Drinking Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Fees

Agency Description:

REQUEST: The DPH Drinking Water Section (DWS) has submitted a 2016 legislative proposal for "An Act Concerning Drinking Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Fees" for the purpose of funding the public drinking water program under the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. This same proposal was submitted by DPH for consideration under the 2012-2014 legislative sessions and did not move forward. This proposed legislation will create a fee structure to support public water system sanitary surveys, project reviews, and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program services within the DWS. Currently, the DPH DWS does not charge fees for sanitary surveys, project reviews, or DWSRF water infrastructure projects, as other states do. The current and future level of federal funding annually received by the DPH DWS is not sufficient to sustain current level of activities of the states public drinking water program starting October 2015. Acquiring the ability to collect fees is imperative to offset the current and growing costs to operate the DPH DWS.

RESPONSIBILITY: The DWS is responsible to assure adequacy and purity of the state public drinking water on a statewide basis by administering a variety of federal and state laws. The Section is responsible to oversee, regulate, and assist in the sustainability of over 2,500 public water systems and their 4,400 high quality public water sources that serve over 2.8 million residents in CT. The oversight dictates for the DWS to inspect nearly 600 water companies annually, process over 500,000 drinking water quality tests per year to assure safe drinking water to consumers using public water, oversee certified operators, review and approve engineering plans, provide technical assistance to communities and systems, administer the states drinking water loan fund, enforce drinking water quality standards, review and approve water supply plans, oversee statewide water supply planning and protect sources of public drinking water.

TIMING: The timing of this fee request is imperative. The DWS is hopeful the aforementioned legislative proposal giving the DPH Commissioner authorization to collect such fees will be passed during the 2016 legislative session. This Budget Option is necessary to assure primacy under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as well as support the various responsibilities under state statute.

The proposal is an effort to continue to provide the level of service that is mandated to maintain and uphold primacy of the Safe Drinking Water Act and oversee various state laws that require purity and adequacy of the state's public drinking water systems and sources. Failure to secure fees may jeopardize the DPH DWS ability to provide the services necessary to sustain a high level of public health protection. This would include the ability to meet the performance standards mandated by the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, the ability to respond to public drinking water emergency response incidents, the ability to review and evaluate potential impacts of proposed projects in public water system watersheds and aquifer protection areas, and the integration of drinking water source protection with water supply management planning to name a few. The proposal requests the collection of fees to provide funding to support tasks such as sanitary survey, technical review, and water loan program services to water companies state-wide.

Agency Priority:

1

System ID:

3321

SID	Account	Program	Agency 2016	Agency 2017
Revenue			928,804	975,146
	Total-		928,804	975,146
Total Revenue			928,804	975,146

Department of Public Health

11000 - General Fund

Adjustment Type:

Revenue

Agency Title:

An Act concerning A Search Fee for Vital Records

Agency Description:

DPH is requesting to revise the existing fee structure for vital records. Current statute allows a fee to be collected for the purchase of a certified copy of a vital record. This means that only a fee can be collected when a record is found. Under this proposal, the fee would apply to the search rather than the certificate, allowing a fee to be collected whether or not the record is found.

The State and local vital records office receive thousands of requests for vital records every year. A significant number cannot be fulfilled because the record is not found. The number of unfilled requests is rising, due in part to the growing interest in genealogical research and the search for older records. The State Vital Records Office is permitted by statute to charge a fee for the issuance of a certified copy of a vital record -- \$30 for a birth certificate and \$20 for marriage or death certificate. The fees only apply when a record is found and a certified copy of the record can be issued. When a record cannot be found, the Department must return the fee, meaning that the State receives no compensation for the search of the record or the time spent to prepare correspondence informing the requester of the negative search result. Based upon the diligent searches that Vital Records staff perform to fill all vital records requests, there is much time and cost involved in searching for a record. Those records that are ultimately not found are those that staff expend the most time -- multiple databases and index books must be searched before it is determined that the record is not on file, and communication between the different state and local vital records offices takes place to confirm that the record is not recorded in another vital records office. Yet, the Department and local registrars receive no compensation for this considerable expenditure of time and resources. Given the substantial time and costs involved in processing unfilled requests, the Department is proposing a fee that will apply to the search of the vital record. Since the fee applies to the search, it is applicable whether or not the record is found. As in the 44 other states that have such a fee structure, the search fee will cover the cost of one certified copy of the vital record if the record is found, or a certified letter stating that no record is on file, for negative searches.

Agency Priority:

2

System ID:

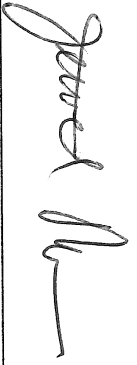
3319

SID	Account	Program	Agency 2016	Agency 2017
Revenue			70,000	70,000
	Total-		70,000	70,000
Total Revenue			70,000	70,000

Agency Option Submission

Department of Public Health

Signed (Agency Head)



Title

Commey

Date

10/17/14

Fund	Agency Priority	Adjustment Title	FY 2016 Amount	FY 2017 Amount
11000-General Fund				
	1	Maternal Mortality Review (MMR)	\$54,000.00	\$54,000.00
	2	X-Ray Screening and Tuberculosis Care	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
	3	Medicaid Administration	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
	4	AIDS Services	\$130,000.00	\$130,000.00
	Total		\$304,000.00	\$304,000.00
Total			\$304,000.00	\$304,000.00

Department of Public Health

11000 - General Fund

Adjustment Type:

Reduction

Agency Title:

Maternal Mortality Review

Agency Description:

Funding primarily supports chart review of mothers that die in childbirth. This \$54,000 cut will impact DPH's ability to provide critical training to healthcare providers and share results of the Maternal Mortality Review and recommendations.

Agency Priority:

1

System ID:

3446

SID	Account	Program	Agency 2016	Agency 2017
12577 - Maternal Mortality Review	00000 - Unknown Account	42003 - Public Health Initiatives	0	0
	01000 - Other Expenditures	42003 - Public Health Initiatives	54,000	54,000
	Total-12577 - Maternal Mortality Review		54,000	54,000
Total Financials			54,000	54,000

Department of Public Health

11000 - General Fund

Adjustment Type:

Reduction

Agency Title:

X-Ray Screening and Tuberculosis Care

Agency Description:

Most of the funding for this program is used to pay for clinical services for patients who either are uninsured and underinsured. DPH is the payer of last resort and must pay for these services per statute. The rest of the line item goes to contracts with four towns for TB care. These contracts currently do not cover all of the expenses related to TB services in these towns and if cut, would directly affect patient care in these higher TB burdened towns. The \$80,000 reduction could result in less patients being treated and TB being spread to others in the community.

Agency Priority:

2

System ID:

3445

SID	Account	Program	Agency 2016	Agency 2017
Financials				
16112 - X-Ray Screening and Tuberculosis Care	01000 - Other Expenditures	42003 - Public Health Initiatives	80,000	80,000
	Total-16112 - X-Ray Screening and Tuberculosis Care		80,000	80,000
Total Financials			80,000	80,000

Department of Public Health

11000 - General Fund

Adjustment Type:

Reduction

Agency Title:

Medicaid Administration

Agency Description:

Funding supports staff activities that regulate licensure/certification; monitor compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations; investigate complaints, incidents and adverse events and implement disciplinary or corrective action against licensees who do not conform to established standards of care. The requested funding cut may impact DPH's ability to fully support staff time funded under this program.

Agency Priority:

3

System ID:

3447

SID	Account	Program	Agency 2016	Agency 2017
Financials				
12268 - Medicaid Administration	00110 - Salary & Wages - Permanent Full Time	29120 - Healthcare Quality and Safety	40,000	40,000
	Total-12268 - Medicaid Administration		40,000	40,000
Total Financials			40,000	40,000

Department of Public Health

11000 - General Fund

Adjustment Type:

Reduction

Agency Title:

AIDS Services

Agency Description:

These reductions will impact approximately \$40,000 worth of emergency financial assistance that assists with, for example, preventing utility shut offs or evictions for low income people living with HIV/AIDS who are Ryan White Part B clients. The additional \$90,000 will reduce the number of HIV testing kits and other HIV prevention program supplies such as condoms.

Agency Priority:

4

System ID:

3444

SID	Account	Program	Agency 2016	Agency 2017
Financials				
12236 - AIDS Services	01000 - Other Expenditures	42003 - Public Health Initiatives	130,000	130,000
	Total-12236 - AIDS Services		130,000	130,000
Total Financials			130,000	130,000