



Senate Bill 1393

**AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR
SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND REVISIONS TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING
PROJECTS STATUTES**

Testimony of the Department of Administrative Services

Education Committee

March 3, 2025

Senator McCrory, Representative Leeper, Senator Berthel, Representative Zupkus, and distinguished members of the Education Committee. We thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on **Senate Bill 1393: An Act Concerning Authorization of State Grant Commitments for School Building Projects and Revisions to the School Building Projects Statutes**, including the 2025 Priority List Grant Commitments, and School Building Project grant incentives regarding early childhood and special education space.

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) has no concerns with **Section 1** of this bill, which authorizes grant commitments for the school building projects on the 2025 Priority List.

DAS opposes **Sections 2 and 3** of this bill that expand a reimbursement rate incentive enacted last year for certain school building projects involving early childhood space and create a new rate incentive for projects involving special education space, respectively. We urge the Committee to consider alternative approaches to supporting early childhood and special education programs that do not overburden the current school building project grant program financially and administratively. For instance, **House Bill 6867: An Act Creating the Universal Preschool Endowment** would establish a competitive grant process based on local needs assessments to create sufficient capacity for universal preschool.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. We look forward to working with the Committee leadership on these topics throughout the legislative session.