



March 11, 2025

Testimony of the Department of Administrative Services

Public Safety and Security Committee

House Bill 7200: AN ACT CONCERNING BLEEDING CONTROL TRAINING AND KITS

House Bill 7203: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STATE WILDFIRE COMMISSION AND PERMITTING A CERTAIN COUNCIL TO SERVE AS A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Senate Bill 1491: AN ACT CONCERNING A FIRE SUPPRESSION INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

Senator Gaston, Representative Boyd, Senator Cicarella, Representative Howard, and distinguished Public Safety and Security Committee members. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on several bills that are on today's agenda.

Senate Bill 1491: An Act Concerning a Fire Suppression Infrastructure Grant Program would require the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to establish a grant program to reimburse certain municipalities for the cost of fire suppression infrastructure. While we appreciate the legislation's intent, the fire suppression infrastructure that the bill intends to cover is not within DAS's purview, and the bill would require DAS to hire additional staff to establish and administer this new grant program. Funding for the grant and for these new positions was not included in the governor's proposed FY26-FY27 budget. For these reasons, **DAS opposes Senate Bill 1491.**

House Bill 7203: An Act Establishing a State Wildfire Commission and Permitting a Certain Council to Serve as a Subcommittee of the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control establishes a State Wildfire Commission within DAS for administrative purposes only (APO). With the wildfires that have occurred in the state and across the nation in the past year, we understand the significance of this topic; however, DAS has no purview over wildfires and would therefore need to stand up the subject matter expertise and the administrative support for another APO'd commission, in addition to the five currently attached to DAS. This would be an administrative burden not included in the governor's proposed FY26-FY27 budget, and for these reasons, **DAS opposes House Bill 7203.**

Section 4(b) of House Bill 7200: An Act Concerning Bleeding Control Training Kits requires that the DAS Commissioner ensures that at least one bleeding control kit is installed on each floor level of each building owned by the state. The language of "each building owned by the state" would mean all buildings, including all 3 branches of government. DAS does not have involvement with or authority over most of these facilities, as the Department only manages approximately 10% of the state's portfolio of state property. We also are concerned that staff, security, and other individuals in the buildings are not trained to utilize these kits.

Section 5 of the bill requires amendments to the State Building Code regarding installing bleeding control kits. The building code handles only the construction of a building and its permanent systems, and medical devices and first aid measures should not be regulated through the code. **We request that the Committee strike sections 4 and 5 of the House Bill 7200.**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and share our thoughts with the Committee.