



## House Bill 5282

### AN ACT IMPLMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONTINUING LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONCERNING THE STATE PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

#### Testimony of The Department of Administrative Services

#### Planning and Development Committee

February 27, 2026

Senator Rahman, Representative Kavros DeGraw, Senator Gordon, Representative Haines, and distinguished members of the Planning and Development Committee. I am Michelle Gilman, Commissioner for the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), and I thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **House Bill 5282: An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Continuing Legislative Committee on Planning and Development Concerning the State Plan of Conservation and Development**. This bill codifies language from the adopted 2025 State Plan of Conservation and Development (C&D Plan or Plan) and eliminates outdated provisions of the existing statute.

As background, the 2025 State Plan of Conservation and Development was adopted by the Connecticut General Assembly by joint resolution on March 5, 2025. The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) conducted extensive agency outreach and input, including from DAS, in developing the Plan and its recommendations.

**House Bill 5282** changes the threshold for certain state agency projects to be consistent with the C&D Plan, raising it from \$200,000 to \$1 million. Additionally, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) is authorized to adjust this threshold for inflation every five years. This change aims to reduce the number of small projects that agencies need to review and document, thereby alleviating some administrative burdens. This adjustment is already included in the adopted C&D Plan for 2025.

We also support the removal of statutory references to the Priority Funding Areas (PFAs) in the bill. The 2025 adopted Plan shifts away from PFAs, introducing a new methodology that focuses on Activity Zones and utilizes modern data mapping.

Thank you for allowing us to share our thoughts with the committee, and we urge passage of **House Bill 5282**.