

## **DDS Legislative Update – March 6, 2012**

**H.B. No. 5437 - An Act Concerning the Definitions of Mental Retardation and Intellectual Disability**

**H.B. No. 5433 - An Act Creating a Procedure for Personal Care Attendants to Collectively Bargain with the State**

**PCA Quality Home Care Workforce Council Question and Answer Session**

**DDS Testimony before the Judiciary Committee**

Two bills related to the Department of Developmental Services were released today. The Public Health Committee raised H.B. No. 5437 which would update the current definition of “intellectual disability” used in Connecticut state statute. The Labor and Public Employees Committee raised H.B. No. 5433 which outlines a process for personal care attendants to collectively bargain with the State of Connecticut. Public hearings on both bills will be scheduled soon. Below are the links to both bills.

**[H.B. No. 5437](#) - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITIONS OF MENTAL RETARDATION AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY**, to redefine "mental retardation" and "intellectual disability".

**[H.B. No. 5433](#) - AN ACT CREATING A PROCEDURE FOR PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS TO COLLECTIVELY BARGAIN WITH THE STATE**, to provide a process for personal care attendants to collectively bargain with the state via the Personal Care Attendant Quality Home Care Workforce Council.

**PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT (PCA) QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

**The PCA Quality Home Care Workforce Council invites Individuals and Families to participate in a Question and Answer session regarding Executive Order #10**

This will provide an opportunity for individuals and families who directly hire their own staff to learn more about the Order and to ask questions of the Council. If you receive supports from DSS or DDS to hire staff directly, you may find this opportunity helpful.

**Where:** Board of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB) 184 Windsor Avenue Windsor, CT 06095

**When:** Wednesday, March 7th at 3:00 pm (immediately following the Workforce Council meeting)

**DDS TESTIMONY**

DDS testified before the Judiciary Committee on Monday, March 5, 2012 on **H.B. No. 5367 - AN ACT CONCERNING COMPETENCY TO STAND TRIAL**. Below is the link to the DDS testimony.

[March 5, 2012 – DDS Testimony Before the Judiciary Committee](#)