

DDS Legislative Update – April 30, 2013

DDS Bill Passes in the Senate

S.B. No. 874 - AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES' STATUTES, one of DDS's bills this legislative session, was passed unanimously by the Senate on Thursday, April 18, 2013. **The bill now goes on to the House for a vote.** The bill makes technical and conforming changes to the State Interagency Birth-to-Three Coordinating Council and other Birth-to-Three statutes, fixes one appointment to the Camp Harkness Advisory Committee, and creates a 23-member Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council.

Appropriations Committee Votes on Their Proposed Budget

Appropriations Committee Proposed FY14 – FY15 DDS Budget

The DDS portion of the Appropriations Committee's proposed budget can be found on pages 219 to 229 and in the link above. The full Appropriations Committee fiscal years 2014 and 2015 (FY14-FY15) proposed budget can be found at:

http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa/Documents/year/APPJF/2014APPJF-20130419_Appropriations%20Committee%20Budget%20FY%2014%20-%20FY%2015.pdf

Columns 1 and 2 in the budget document are the actual FY12 budget and the Governor's estimate for FY13 budget that ends on June 30, 2013. Columns 3 and 4 are the Governor's proposed budget funding for FY14 and FY15. Columns 5 and 6 are the Appropriations Committee's proposed funding levels for FY14 and FY15. In some of the account detail that follows the line item budget, there are columns labeled "Pos" that stands for employee positions, which don't come into play except when employee positions are expected to be added or transferred from DDS. Most of the "Pos" columns will have zeros in them. Also, the Appropriations Committee restored account line items that had been consolidated in the Governor's proposed budget.

The Appropriations Committee voted along party lines to pass their version of the budget out of committee. The House and Senate leadership must now work with the Governor to craft a FY14-FY15 budget that the General Assembly can pass and the Governor can sign. This will take negotiations and compromise on the part of all participants. The last day of the 2013 session is Wednesday, June 5th.

DDS Legislative List of Bills Being Tracked as of April 30, 2013

Below is a link to the list of bills DDS is tracking and assessing as of April 30, 2013 that may be of interest to or may have a potential impact on DDS consumers, families and guardians, DDS employees and DDS providers.

DDS Legislative List of Bills Being Tracked – April 30, 2013

Link to all DDS Testimony

DDS Testimony for the Connecticut General Assembly

Link to the DDS Legislative Affairs Webpage

<http://www.ct.gov/dds/cwp/view.asp?a=2039&q=394202>