



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

DDS

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Morna A. Murray, J.D.
Commissioner

Jordan Scheff
Deputy Commissioner

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES TESTIMONY
BEFORE THE FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE
GENERAL BONDING SUBCOMMITTEE**

MARCH 19, 2015

Good afternoon Senator Leone, Representative Boukus and distinguished members of the General Bonding Subcommittee. I am Morna A. Murray, J.D., Commissioner of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Mary Fuller, Chief of Fiscal and Administrative Services, and Warren Schilling, Plant Facility Engineer 2, are here to assist me in answering any questions you may have. Thank you for allowing me to testify on **S.B. No. 947** **AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.**

We come before the subcommittee today to present DDS's plan for utilizing unallocated bond fund balances as well as the Governor's recommended bond authorizations of \$7.5 million in FY16 and \$7.5 million in FY17 for the department as proposed in **S.B. No. 947**. DDS is a large human service organization with a commitment to quality and cost-effective care for some of our state's most vulnerable citizens. DDS-operated, state-owned facilities represent an inventory of approximately 1.7 million square feet of campus-setting, group home, and administrative office space across Connecticut.

It has been a long-standing state policy to have the Department of Developmental Services maintain federal Medicaid waiver assurances that require a level of quality care for individuals who receive funding and services from our department. Maintaining Medicaid waiver assurances allows the state to collect Federal Financial Participation (FFP) reimbursement in excess of a projected \$480 million for FY16 for the services DDS provides. Access to capital funding and bonding resources is a critical component in DDS compliance with federal Medicaid waiver assurances and Department of Public Health (DPH) Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) certification standards so that necessary repairs and improvements can be made to our facilities as required.

Additionally, the department has a Grant-in-Aid program and a Revolving Loan Fund for private non-profit agencies that provide services for individuals who receive DDS funding. The Grant-in-Aid funds are utilized for repairs and improvements to **non-residential** facilities that are owned or under long-term lease agreements. These funds will be used to comply with code requirements or to expand programs and services consistent with legislative intent.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.

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