



165 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106-1658

**SB 538**

**An Act Concerning the Concomitant Submission of a Prequalification Certification  
with Certain State Contract Bid Submissions**

**Government Administration & Elections Committee**

**February 21, 2007**

SB 538 proposes adding the following language to Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 4b-91(d):

In the event a bid is submitted without a copy of such prequalification certificate, the commissioner may provide for the submission of such prequalification certificate within a reasonable period of time, as determined by the commissioner.

The term "commissioner" is not defined in the bill; however, it appears from the context that it refers to the Commissioner of Administrative Services. If the Committee plans to move forward with this proposal, DAS respectfully recommends that **this language should be clarified to state explicitly that the commissioner referred to is the Commissioner of Public Works.**

Section 4b-91 falls under the purview of the Department of Public Works. Subsection (b) of this statute states that the Commissioner of Public Works has the responsibility and authority for determining "the manner of submission and the conditions and requirements of such bids, and the time within which the bids shall be submitted." Clearly, the proposed language deals directly with these issues.

The Commissioner of Administrative Service has no involvement in the bidding process for building or construction. Contracts are put out to bid, and the bids are received by DPW and other construction awarding authorities, not DAS. Indeed, DAS has no way of knowing whether a bid has been submitted to DPW or any other awarding authority without a copy of the prequalification certificate.