



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Raeanne V. Curtis  
Commissioner

TESTIMONY OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BEFORE  
THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS  
COMMITTEE

MARCH 23, 2009

S.B. No. 1145 (Raised) An Act Concerning Repairs, Additions, and Alterations to  
State Buildings.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is in support of S.B. No. 1145, to provide agencies having the requisite skill and experience, the authority to supervise projects involving repairs, alterations or additions to state-owned assets, provided such projects have a value of two million dollars or less.

DPW's proposal will give agencies possessing the requisite skill, experience and training, charge and supervision of projects involving the repairs, alterations and additions of state-owned real assets, when projects have a value of two-million dollars or less. Compliance with DPW-established guidelines and procedures for agency-administered projects will still be mandatory. DPW staff will provide building code oversight and code field inspection.

The appropriateness of a particular project for agency-administration will continue to be determined by the Commissioner of DPW, who will decide each request on a case-by-case basis using objective criteria such as agency experience, qualifications particular to the project, and scope and complexity of the specific project. Many agencies possess staff, including the DPW Facilities Division, that have the requisite skill, experience, and training to take charge and supervise projects under two million dollars. Ten to twenty projects annually could potentially fall under the proposed legislation for the following agencies: Department of Correction, Department of Environmental Protection, Judicial Branch and the Military Department.

The following are typical projects in the five-hundred thousand to two-million dollar cost range which agencies, could self-administer if the limit were raised:

- Electrical System Upgrades
- Installation of Fire Sprinklers and /or Sprinkler System Upgrades
- Roof Replacement Projects
- Window Replacement Projects
- Boiler Replacements Projects
- Demolition Projects
- Interior Renovations

- New Parking lots and Repaving Existing Parking Lots

The proposed revision would bring the statute in line with escalating construction costs since the current threshold dollar amount was established in 1999. DPW Design and Construction Division staff will be able to focus their time, resources, and attention on larger, more complex, agency projects that are a priority for the State.

The Department of Public Works, if requested, is available to meet to discuss the information contained in this testimony. Please contact Doug Moore, DPW Chief of Staff, at (860) 713-5800 with any further questions.