



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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March 7, 2012

Senate Bill – SB 188 - An Act Concerning Financial Assistance to Local Health Departments for Lead Poisoning Prevention.

The Department of Public Health supports Senate Bill No. 188. The Department would like to thank the Public Health Committee for raising the Department's bill.

The Department of Public Health (DPH) delivers approximately \$1,000,000 to municipal and district health departments annually for the purpose of preventing and controlling childhood lead poisoning. Under our current practice funds are typically delivered to the health departments/districts six months into the fiscal year. In an effort to improve the process our Department worked with the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health to develop language that would assist in our delivery of funds.

This bill will enable the Department to distribute these funds to our community partners in a more efficient and timely manner. The timely delivery of funds will enable health departments to continue services without interruption which is of benefit to CT's communities and children. Additionally, streamlining the delivery process will save both the state and municipal/district health departments' administrative time and effort.

The Department respectfully requests amending the language to delete the sentence in lines 45-47 "The Department of Public Health shall approve such educational materials before the local health department distributes such materials." Pursuant to section 19a-110 (d) of the Connecticut General statutes, the Department is responsible for developing and delivering educational messaging and materials to local health departments in an effort to ensure that a standardized approach is used by local health departments when responding to childhood lead poisoning cases.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's view on this bill.

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