



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Public Hearing Testimony

Committee on Children

February 17, 2015



**S.B. No. 842 AN ACT CONCERNING FOSTER CHILDREN AND THE DESIGNATION OF SURROGATE
PARENTS**

The Department of Children and Families **offers the following comments regarding** S.B. No. 842, An Act Concerning Foster Children and the Designation of Surrogate Parents.

This bill requires the appointment of an educational surrogate for children under the supervision of DCF's Unified School District #2 or any other facility run or contracted by DCF or the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch. It also requires appointment of educational surrogates for children in DCF foster care. Current law regarding the appointment of educational surrogates for children in DCF care is permissive and less broad in scope.

DCF defers to the State Department of Education regarding the policy and fiscal implications of this legislation, as the Surrogate Parent program resides under the jurisdiction of SDE.