

Raised Bill 7022

An Act Concerning Authorization Of State Grant Commitments For School Grant Commitments For School Building Projects And Changes To The Statutes Concerning School Building Projects

Testimony of Commissioner Melody A. Currey

Education Committee

March 19, 2015

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) thanks the Committee for raising section 4 of **House Bill 7022, "An Act Concerning Authorization Of State Grant Commitments For School Grant Commitments For School Building Projects And Changes To The Statutes Concerning School Building Projects."**

Section 4 proposes to extend the deadline for securing local funding for districts that require a referendum for such local funding. The application due date would not change, but the review and approval of the application would be pending the successful passage of the referendum on or before November 15th of the application year.

This proposal was developed and is unanimously supported by the School Building Projects Advisory Council which was established by the Governor pursuant C.G.S. § 10-292q. This proposed change will allow municipalities that require a referendum and prefer to hold referendums during the November general election to put an estimate in front of the electorate closer to the date of application. Without this change, a district that prefers November referendums would need to schedule the referendum in the November preceding the application due date of June 30. This causes the estimate to be another year older, almost always resulting in project cost adjustments. DAS would note that there is no financial impact to allowing towns this extra time to secure their needed local funding referendums.

DAS thanks the Committee for raising section 4 and we look forward to working with the Committee on the Priority List for this legislative session.

