



*Written Testimony of the Department of Social Services
Submitted to the Public Health Committee
March 7, 2016*

H.B. No. 5536 - AN ACT CONCERNING A DIABETES ACTION PLAN

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to collaborate with the Department of Public Health and State Comptroller to develop and implement a diabetes action plan to reduce the impact of diabetes on the state. This diabetes action plan would require the identification and analysis of the effectiveness of existing state programs that prevent, control and treat diabetes. A full assessment of the financial impact that diabetes has on the state would be required as well. Lastly, the action plan would require future steps and measures to be outlined for how the state will prevent, control and treat diabetes with annual reports to the committees of cognizance on the implementation outcomes.

The Department recognizes the importance of disease prevention and remains committed to working with HUSKY Health members to prevent, treat and control diabetes. However, given today's new economic reality, the Department needs to focus on providing core services and cannot allocate resources elsewhere. As a result, the Department is not in support of this bill.