



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES
A Healthcare Service Agency

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Miriam Delphin-Rittmon Ph.D.
Commissioner

Memorandum:

TO: Members of the Public Health Committee

FROM: Commissioner Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, DMHAS

DATE: March 2, 2016

SUBJECT: Written Testimony on Senate Bill 294

Good Morning Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter, and distinguished members of the Public Health Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on SB 294 AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY.

This bill requires the Commissioners of Social Services, Developmental Services, and Mental Health and Addiction Services to provide written notification to individuals with intellectual disability who are currently receiving state-assisted care when they are soon going to become ineligible for such care. While individuals with intellectual disability with co-occurring conditions may be served by DMHAS, the department's programs primarily serve individuals diagnosed with a psychiatric or substance use disorder. In addition, DMHAS cannot commit to identifying and securing private funding for individuals with intellectual disability who are not eligible for state-assisted care, as is required by section 3(b). In this context, I respectfully request references to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services be removed from this bill.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to weigh in on this important topic.