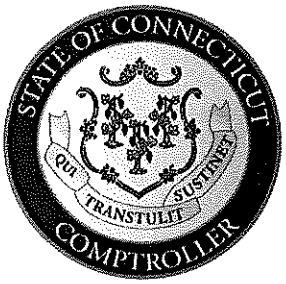
KEVIN LEMBO
STATE COMPTROLLER

MARTHA CARLSON
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE *of the* STATE COMPTROLLER
55 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Written Testimony of
Comptroller Kevin Lembo
March 18, 2016

Concerning
Governor's Bill 5043 An Act Making Deficiency Appropriations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016

Senator Bye, Representative Walker, Senator Kane, Representative Ziobron, and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

For the record, I am State Comptroller Kevin Lembo, and I am here to discuss Governor's Bill 5043 An Act Making Deficiency Appropriations for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016.

The Office of State Comptroller (OSC) has been included in this bill because of forecasted deficiencies in the Adjudicated Claims account in the General Fund.

The statewide Adjudicated Claims account is once again on track to exceed the levels set forth in the state budget. As I have testified on previous occasions, this account is within my office, but the annual appropriation is recommended by the Office of Policy and Management and codified by legislation. Admittedly, this account is not one for which expenditures can be easily predicted or controlled. This is an appropriation that fluctuates based on the date claims are settled by the Attorney General's Office and/or ordered paid by the Claims Commissioner.

The Adjudicated Claims Appropriation had an appropriation of $24,433,448 for Fiscal Year 2016. This year we had a number of large claims settled for greater than $1,000,000 each, totaling $31,715,194. We are also paying claims for the SEBAC vs. Rowland Settlement out of the Adjudicated Claims account, totaling $7,274,752 paid to date.

We have paid a total of $42,188,120 to date out of the Adjudicated Claims account for Fiscal Year 2016. The appropriation amount for Fiscal Year 2016 is $24,433,448. We are requesting an additional $19.2 million dollars for this appropriation to cover the Adjudicated Claims account through the writing of this testimony. Any additional claims ordered paid in the fiscal year will necessitate additional funding.

Thank you for your time. I am happy to answer your questions.