



Senate Bill 439
An Act Concerning the State Contracting Standards Board and Requirements for Privatization Contracts

Testimony of Melody A. Currey

Committee on Government Administration and Elections

March 18, 2016

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) opposes Senate Bill 439, An Act Concerning the State Contracting Standards Board and Requirements for Privatization Contracts.

DAS takes very seriously its responsibility to ensure that the contracts it procures serve the best interests of the State of Connecticut and its citizens. DAS uses competitive, transparent, and fair selection processes. DAS fully supports all efforts to ensure that its contracts are efficient, cost-effective and support our mission to provide service to state agencies, municipalities and the people of Connecticut.

In accordance with existing law, DAS already considers overall cost, feasibility, and availability of existing state resources before executing any contract for services. Senate Bill 439, however, seeks to impose additional layers of bureaucracy and excessive burdens to the contracting process, thus driving up costs for taxpayers and increasing delay and uncertainty for the general public.

Under these challenging fiscal times, it is important that the State be able to utilize its already scarce resources in the most efficient way possible. This is a time for removing bureaucratic hurdles and administrative obstacles, not adding more bureaucracy and delay to the already rigorous process to which all contracts for outside services are subjected.

While DAS understands the good intentions behind Senate Bill 439, we simply cannot support any legislation that would elongate the contracting process and increase cost to our taxpayers.