



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

DANNEL P. MALLOY  
GOVERNOR

MIRIAM DELPHIN-RITTMON, PH.D.  
COMMISSIONER

**Testimony by Miriam Delphin-Rittmon**  
**Commissioner**  
**Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services**  
**Before the Public Health Committee**

Good Morning Senator Gerratana, Senator Somers, Representative Steinberg, and distinguished members of the Public Health Committee. I am Commissioner Miriam Delphin-Rittmon of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Raised House Bill 5162 AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

DMHAS is a health care agency that provides mental health and substance use disorder prevention, treatment and recovery support services for adults. Comprehensive information related to mental health services for adults is widely available in the DMHAS Annual Statistical Report, the recently completed DMHAS and Department of Children and Families Psychiatric Services Study, the Combined Center for Mental Health Services and Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Block Grant State Plan and Application and the Annual Priority Setting Report.

HB 5162 requires DMHAS to study and produce a report on mental health services with an apparent focus on children's mental health services. DMHAS' expertise lies in working with the adult population and is not resourced for a comprehensive study of children's mental health services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this testimony.