



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING



**TESTIMONY OF SEILA MOSQUERA-BRUNO
COMMISSIONER OF HOUSING**

**HOUSING COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 18, 2021**

Good morning Senator Lopes, Representative McGee, Senator Ciccarella, Representative Polletta and members of the Housing Committee. The Department of Housing appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony on two bills today.

H.B. No. 6430 - AN ACT CONCERNING HOUSING AUTHORITY JURISDICTION

The Department is in support of HB 6430 as drafted. Our mission is to ensure everyone has access to quality housing opportunities and options throughout the state of Connecticut. Housing authorities are a crucial piece of our affordable housing landscape. For too long, affordable housing developed by housing authorities has been isolated inside the arbitrary town boundaries in which those housing authorities were established. This committee has the opportunity to make a common-sense change to partially level the playing field between housing authorities and private developers by allowing housing authorities to build housing in a reasonable area outside their home jurisdictions.

H.B. No. 6433 - AN ACT CONCERNING INSPECTIONS OF RENTAL PROPERTY PRIOR TO OCCUPANCY OR TERMINATION, LATE RENTAL PAYMENTS AND DESIGNATION OF A RENTAL HOUSING OMBUDSMAN

The Department is opposed to Section 4 of this bill, as complaints of this kind are currently and correctly within the jurisdiction of the local public health and housing code enforcement departments. Further, the information required to be collected, analyzed and disseminated are not within the current capabilities of the Department. Execution of this section would require a significant increase in both staff and financial resources.