

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Testimony of Commissioner Michelle Gilman Commissioner of Administrative Services

Appropriations Committee February 16, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator Osten, Representative Walker, and distinguished members of the Committee. My name is Michelle Gilman, and I am the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services ("DAS"). I would like to start by giving you a brief overview of DAS and some of the major elements of the proposed budget adjustments. I welcome any questions you may have.

DAS is organized into six functional areas that report to the Commissioner: Human Resources, Real Estate and Construction, Bureau of Information Technology Solutions ("BITS"), Procurement Services, Business Office, and Legal & Legislative. Within these functional areas, DAS houses a number of distinct programs that comprise the business functions of state government, including information technology, human resources procurement, facilities, and real estate, construction services, fleet, workers compensation and more. Our divisions are united in a common mission:

- **Support Connecticut's Growth** To serve our residents, businesses, state agencies and other branches of government by providing the highest quality services at the lowest possible cost.
- **Drive Continuous Innovation** To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of state government using best practices from the public and private sectors.
- **Provide Rewarding Careers** To attract and retain a workforce of talented, dedicated public servants committed to leading our great state forward.

DAS's authorized "all funds" appropriation for FY2023 was \$202,118,965. The Governor's proposed budget adjustment increases the FY2023 amount by approximately \$22.6 million to \$224,740,059 for FY2024 and then increases the FY2025 amount by approximately \$27.1 million to \$229,159,060.

The biennial budget authorized DAS for 985 "all appropriated funds" positions in FY2023. The Governor's proposed budget adjustment increases DAS's position count by 288 for a total of 1,273 in FY2024 and by 290 for a total of 1,275 positions in FY2025.

The adjusted appropriations and position count reflect some of the major initiatives DAS has been engaged in, including IT optimization through BITS. In FY2024, \$11,662,050 and in FY2025, \$13,561,478 is appropriated to the Bureau of Information Technology Solutions (BITS) team for adjustments to multiple programs. Of this appropriation, \$2.6M is allocated towards the completion of growth of our Digital Governments team. The Governor's technology vision is innovative, and Connecticut has received national recognition for Digital Government Excellence. Our modernization of services includes technical adjustments to investment funds, licensing, and IT management, all which will be benefitted by the appropriated funds the Governor has granted.

Also included in the budget is additional funding in Federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds. An additional \$2 million appropriated in FY2024 allocated to Fund Capital Area System (CAS) Modernization Upgrade Study which will support needs for planning for alternative energy, modernization, and required upgrades to the state-owned CAS, which provides heating and cooling to fifteen buildings in the Hartford Capitol District, including the Legislative Office Building, the State Office Building, the Supreme Court, and the Bushnell Theater.

Through the allocation of Federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds, an additional \$1 million in FY 2024 is granted to Expand Healthcare Workforce Recruitment Campaign Funding which supports an expansion of our successful healthcare workforce campaign. The Governor's proposed budget adjustment increases the State Insurance Risk Management Board FY2023 amount by approximately \$4 million for FY2024 and then increases the FY2025 amount by \$6.6 million due to projected increased insurance premiums and claim payments across the General Fund and Special Transportation Fund.

Separate from the DAS budget, I wanted to bring to your attention a total of \$102.2 million was appropriated to Workers' Compensation Claims program authorized "all funds" for FY2023. The Governor's proposed budget adjustments increases the FY2023 amount by \$4.2 million in FY2024 and \$4.2 million in FY2025 due to an workers' compensation claim expenditure increases in the DHMAS and DOC. All Worker's Compensation claims accounts in the General Fund under the DAS23100 agency are consolidated into a single appropriation to enable the efficient and timely balancing of fluctuations in these risk-based accounts. Reporting is still available to identify agency-specific costs.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have and look forward to working with you all throughout this legislative session