



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

MICHELLE H. SEAGULL | COMMISSIONER

Testimony of Michelle Seagull Commissioner of Consumer Protection

Appropriations Committee February 17, 2023

Senator Osten, Senator Berthel, Representative Walker, Representative Nuccio and Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee, good morning, I am Michelle Seagull, Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Governor Lamont's proposed budget for our agency for the upcoming biennium.

DCP issues over 286,000 licenses, registrations and permits annually. We regulate the occupational and professional trades including electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling, elevator and flat glass work; home improvement contractors and homemaker companion agencies; real estate brokers, sales agents, appraisers and inspectors; land surveyors, professional engineers, accountants; pharmacies, pharmacists, and drug manufacturers; medical, and now recreational adult use cannabis; and DCP's Gaming Division has oversight responsibility for the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, the casinos, and online gaming and sports wagering.

Thus, DCP brings significant revenue into the State's coffers. In the last fiscal year, agency revenues to the General Fund totaled \$62,173,962, to the Transportation Fund \$1,771,465, and the total revenue to the state from the gaming industry was \$667,199,272. By comparison, our General Fund operating expenses were \$15,954,180.

Governor Lamont's proposed budget for the next biennium provides DCP with the resources necessary to continue to provide essential, core services in the most efficient, cost-effective way for the industries we regulate, and to ensure a fair and safe marketplace for consumers and businesses alike.

We look forward to continuing our work with the Governor, our sister agencies and all of you here in the Legislative Branch to achieve these goals.

Thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you this morning. I am proud of the hard work of DCP's employees and happy to answer any questions you may have.