

DDS Budget Update – September 8, 2009

The General Assembly has passed a state budget for Fiscal Years (FY) 2010-2011. Just before midnight on August 31, 2009, the House passed [H.B. 6802](#) **An Act Concerning Expenditures And Revenue For The Biennium Ending June 30, 2011** as amended by [House Amendment A](#) and [House Amendment C](#). The Senate passed the budget bill in the early hours of September 1, 2009. The vote in the House on the amended bill was 103 to 45. The vote in the Senate was 22 to 13.

The budget bill is an emergency certified bill that was sent immediately to the Governor for her signature. The Governor has five days to sign the bill, veto the bill or let the budget bill go into effect without her signature. On September 1st, the Governor made the decision to allow this budget to go into effect as of September 8, 2009 and issued a series of line item vetoes for certain items in the budget that she felt Connecticut could not afford. After the Attorney General's office gave an opinion that the Governor cannot use line item vetoes on a bill that she had not signed into law, the Governor allowed the budget bill to pass in its entirety without her signature. The link to the Governor's message on the budget and the list of line items the Governor had *proposed* to veto can be found by using the following link: [Governor Rell Allows Budget Bill 6802 To Go Into Effect](#)

In this 702-page budget bill, the Department of Developmental Services' (DDS) budget lines for FY10 can be found starting at the bottom of page 15 and continuing on page 16. The DDS budget lines for FY11 can be found beginning on page 51 and continuing on page 52. Also [H.B. 6802](#), in Section 21 on page 71, transfers \$1,000,000 in federal funding from the State Department of Education to the Birth to Three Program to support the Part B responsibilities of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) handled by Birth to Three.

The legislature's Office of Fiscal Analysis (OFA) has prepared a [Fiscal Note for H.B. 6802](#) detailing the fiscal impact of each of the bill's provisions. The Office of Legislative Research (OLR) has prepared a [Bill Analysis for H.B. 6802 as amended](#). All of these documents including vote tallies can be accessed on the [H.B. 6802 Bill History Webpage](#).

Implementer bills, which provide the legislature's guidelines for how money in the budget is to be spent, still need to be drafted and voted upon by the General Assembly. These implementer bills will then be sent to the Governor for her signature.

Also in this special session, [H.B. 6801](#) **An Act Authorizing Economic Recovery Notes** was approved by both the House and Senate and sent to the Governor. The bill, which allows the state to sell bonds to close the FY09 budget deficit, overrides the requirement that the state use Budget Reserve "Rainy Day" funds for this purpose. Details of this bill, including an OFA Fiscal Note and an OLR Bill Analysis, can be found on the [H.B. 6801 Bill History Webpage](#).

Additional details of the impact of this budget on DDS will be made available in a future update.