

# Memorandum

**To:** Scott Cochran  
Michelle Piccerillo  
Kristin Mabrouk

Justin Carbonella  
Erica Bromley  
Kristina Baldwin

Barbara Lockhart  
Mary Seidner  
Kathryn Dube

**From:** Jay Aronson

**Date:** March 24, 2023

**Re:** Legislative Update

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This Week at The Capitol:

YSB business was front loaded this week.

The Human Services subcommittee once again met to have the DCF Commissioner answer their questions about her Department including CYSA's request for \$6 million for one FTE covering mental health, programming or case management. Commissioner Durantes noted her Department does not have any statutory oversight of YSBs and therefore could not place any accountability upon YSBs and how the funding would be spent. There was general agreement that before any funding of that size could be approved, some sort of accountability would have to be in place. The Commissioner stated she was not sure DCF was the proper Department for that accountability to take place. Rep. Walker, Chair of the Appropriations Committee, pushed back on that notion. This is an issue we will have to watch closely as the budget process continues.

HB 6902, AAC Youth Service Bureaus and the Establishment of a Juvenile Diversionary Program was posted. (<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2023/TOB/H/PDF/2023HB-06902-R00-HB.PDF> ) The bill was authored by Rep. Walker and unfortunately raised several concerns. Scott Cochran, Justin Carbonella, Kathryn Dube, Erica Bromley and I met with Reps. Walker and Nolan to discuss the bill and let them know of those concerns. We had a productive conversation and are now preparing for the bill's public hearing on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:30, including sending a line by line analysis with our suggested language changes to Reps Walker and Nolan for their consideration. Please stay tuned for further information.

The budget work sessions are wrapping up and the subcommittees will be reporting their pieces of the budget pie to the Chairs. They will then take those pieces, review them, make changes as they see fit and create a budget for the full Committee to review and vote on in late April.

As always, please contact me at your convenience should you have any questions or concerns about these or any other Legislative matters. Also, please share this information with your members as you see fit.