

CARES EMERGENCY ALERT – May 29, 2008

SO FAR, NO PROGRESS HAS appears to have BEEN MADE on the \$78m SAVINGS in Bonding School Construction in the HB 1646 COMMITTEE of CONFERENCE

The politics here are complicated and making passing this difficult, but THIS IS BAD NEWS for the FY 09 DHHS BUDGET - and time is running out with the votes on Committees of Conference scheduled for next Wednesday (June 4th).

The harsh reality is that because NO OTHER workable PLAN to SAVE \$78m for FY 09 HAS SURFACED YET, this means FAILURE to PASS this \$78M savings in HB 1646 could - BY ITSELF - RESULT IN FY 09 CUTS to DHHS of \$35-40M. This is a very serious situation and cuts of this magnitude would be a brutal blow to the people we serve and our state. We need your help to save the day and help the good people in the Legislature make the right decision.

PLEASE CALL the HB 1646 CONFEREES & OTHERS BELOW to SUPPORT the \$78M School Bond Savings in HB 1646

1. Call the Senate members and encourage them to hold firm on the \$78m bonding savings in the Senate version of HB 1646 - especially Sens. HASSAN and SGAMBATI who know how vulnerable DHHS is to cuts from a budget deficit and who are strong safety net supporters.
2. In addition to the Committee of Conference Chair David CAMPBELL, make sure to call Reps. Dan EATON and Randy FOOSE who are on House Finance and better understand the bonding issue. In addition, it would help to call Candace BOUCHARD who is Chair of the House Public Works and Highways Committee and can help in reaching an agreement.

*** HOUSE HB 1646 CONFEREES to CALL:

David Campbell, Chair – 531-0831 (H), 883-1100 (W)
Robert “Randy” Foose – 526-4256 (H), 802-831-1230 (W)
Gene Chandler – 374-6603

*** SENATE HB 1646 CONFEREES to CALL:

Maggie Hassan – 772-4187 (H), 373-2007 (W)
Kathleen Sgambati – 286-8931
Bob Odell – 863-9797
Peter Burling (alternate) – 675-2911

***NON-CONFEREES Important to CALL:

Candace BOUCHARD, Chair of Public Works and Highways – 226-2214 (H), 228-2400 (W)

HOUSE LEADERSHIP members such as Speaker Terrie NORELLI (271-3661) and Majority Leader Mary Jane WALLNER 224-1632 (W). Both are strong supporters of DHHS and know what the cuts to DHHS will be like if we fail to get this \$78m savings from school bonding in HB 1656.

**** ALSO TELL THEM you will SUPPORT other REVENUES and SAVINGS that will PREVENT DHHS CUTS and will not hurt the people we serve.**