

Testimony
House Bill No. 1401
House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Representative Todd Porter, Chairman
January 26, 2023

Chairman Porter, and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I am Jonathan Alm, an attorney with the Department of Health and Human Services (Department). I appear before you in opposition of House Bill 1401 as written.

The Department, along with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR), is concerned that the passage of House Bill 1401 will limit both agencies ability to safely manage its premises and prohibit the possession of firearms. For example, if this Bill passes as introduced, the Department and DOCR would not be able to prohibit visitors to the State Hospital or the State Penitentiary from possessing firearms, thus creating a security risk to the individual, staff, patients, and inmates.

The Department and DOCR are requesting the attached amendment be adopted by this Committee to House Bill 1401 that would exempt both agencies.

This concludes my testimony. Thank you.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1401

Page 1, after line 13, insert:

3. This section does not apply to the department of corrections and rehabilitation or the department of health and human services.

Renumber accordingly