

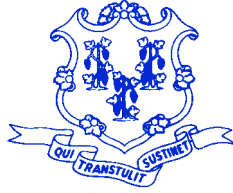
# The Connecticut General Assembly

## Joint Committee on Legislative Management

Martin M. Looney  
*Senate President Pro Tempore*

Bob Duff, *Senate Majority Leader*  
Kevin Kelly, *Senate Republican Leader*

Jim Tamburro  
*Executive Director*



Matthew Ritter  
*Speaker of the House*

Jason Rojas, *House Majority Leader*  
Vincent J. Candelora, *House Republican Leader*

February 17, 2023

Molly Cole  
Executive Director, Connecticut State Independent Living Council  
Coordinator, CT Cross Disability Lifespan Alliance  
151 New Park Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Ms. Cole,

I am in receipt of your letter dated February 14, 2023 and appreciate that you have taken the time to reach out to me. We are committed to being in compliance with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act and continually work on improving and upgrading our facilities.

Our goal here at the Connecticut General Assembly is to meet the needs of all who attend events in our buildings. Throughout the years the legislative leaders and the Office of Legislative Management (OLM) have worked diligently to accomplish that goal. In the past two weeks we have provided sign language interpreters in two meetings and arranged for a local college student who uses a wheelchair to attend the Governor's Budget Address in the House Chamber.

We know there is always room for improvement and based on your letter we will be making changes to the process outlined in *Americans with Disabilities Act* section of our Bulletin.

Currently, the following statements can be found in the Bulletin under the *Americans with Disabilities Act* section:

- The Capitol and Legislative Office Buildings are administered in compliance with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act. Requests for accommodation should be directed to Brian Pencz at (860) 240-0100.
- Hearing assistance devices are available for all hearing rooms and the House and Senate chambers. Sign language interpreters are available for access to the legislative process. Request should be directed to the Committee Clerk or the Office of Legislative Management at (860) 240-0100. All requests for accommodation should be made at least 10 days in advance.

Committee clerks are typically the first point of contact for people attending public hearings and committee meetings. I want to emphasize that OLM, as identified in the Bulletin, is prepared and ready to assist at any point in the process. We have communicated with all committee clerks to remind them to contact our facilities team should they require additional assistance with accommodations.

Moving forward we will be removing the 10 day advanced request requirement for sign language interpreters as we have seen a change in recent years in the availability of interpreters. We contract with multiple, local agencies and have great success with providing those services as needed. We will ask that those requests be directed to OLM's main office number.

Also, we have contracted with a local architect and engineering firm who are experts in ADA compliance and accessibility to conduct a study of the Capitol Complex. A site visit took place last week and we are awaiting their report.

Please note that any request brought to our office is taken seriously and we remain committed to doing whatever we can to provide accommodations as necessary.

Thank you,

*Jim*

Jim Tamburro  
Executive Director  
Joint Committee on Legislative Management