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Commissioner

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January 13, 2012

David W. Gay, Chairman  
Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board  
18-20 Trinity Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-1660

RE: Draft Advisory Opinion 2011-6

Dear Mr. Gay:

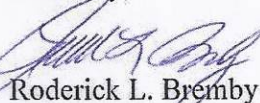
I am writing to request a further postponement of the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board's review of the above-captioned draft advisory opinion until your meeting scheduled to take place on February 23, 2012.

It is taking time to research our options to meet our information technology needs in light of the conclusion reached in the draft opinion. As I indicated in my last letter, critical operations that serve DSS clients will be at risk if the Board adopts this draft opinion without exception or modification. The retirees whose expertise we desperately need include the database manager for our obsolete eligibility management system (EMS) on which we must rely until we can complete procurement of a new system. Without these retirees, we have no backup staff able to troubleshoot and maintain this system. There are over 100 databases in EMS that serve 650,000 clients who receive benefits in 90 different programs administered by the Department of Social Services. If EMS databases are corrupted or broken, we are unable to issue notices and benefits to clients. Without the staff to maintain EMS we will truly face a threat to public health, safety and welfare.

We are now, in consultation with the Department of Labor, preparing a response to the Board to address the circumstance in which we find ourselves. We need sufficient time to prepare our request and discuss our position with your Office staff. We have conferred with our colleagues in the Department of Labor and they are in agreement with this request for postponement.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or concerns about this matter, please contact Brenda Parrella, Agency Legal Director and Ethics Liaison at (860) 424-5104.

Sincerely,



Roderick L. Bremby  
Commissioner

cc: Brenda Parrella, Agency Legal Director & Ethics Liaison  
Jennifer Devine, Staff Attorney, DOL  
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