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Connecticut Authority Announces New Board Chair and New Board Appointee

October 12, 2016 (Hartford, CT) – Governor Dannel P. Malloy has appointed Peter W. Lisi, Ph.D. as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority (CHEFA) and has appointed Mark Varholak as a member of the CHEFA Board. CHEFA provides access to the tax-exempt bond market for not-for-profit health care and educational institutions in the state. Through CHEFA, these organizations can finance infrastructure projects using funds from private investors.

Dr. Lisi has served as a member of the CHEFA Board of Directors for the last five years and was elected Vice Chair in 2013. He will replace Barbara Rubin, who retired as Chair on June 30, 2016, after 17 years of Board leadership. As Chair of the Board of Directors for CHEFA, Dr. Lisi will also serve as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (CHESLA) and the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation (CSLF). He has served on these Boards since 2013.

Dr. Lisi has extensive experience in sponsored research, strategic planning and policy analysis, financial modeling, budgeting, and external relations. He is currently employed at the University of Hartford as the Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs.

Dr. Lisi received his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership (Finance and Administration) in 1982 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and received an M.S. in Education (Curriculum and Instruction) in 1980 from the State University of New York-Geneseo, in addition to receiving a B.S. in Education, Magna Cum Laude, in 1978 from the State University of New York-Plattsburgh.

Mr. Varholak, MBA/CPA, currently serves as the Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer for Quinnipiac University. Mr. Varholak has worked at the University since 2003 and has an extensive financial background in both the not-for-profit and for-profit sectors. He received his MBA from New York University's Stern School of Business and his B.S. in Accounting and International Business from Pennsylvania State University.

“Dr. Lisi’s background makes him well suited to his role as Board Chair of the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority. The experience and expertise of both Dr. Lisi and Mr. Varholak will be invaluable to the Authority and their willingness to serve is appreciated,” said Governor Malloy.

CHEFA is a quasi-public agency created by the State Legislature to help Connecticut healthcare and educational institutions, and other eligible not-for-profit entities obtain tax-exempt financing. CHEFA is self-sustaining and receives no taxpayer funds. For more information about CHEFA, visit www.chefa.com.