



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



EDUCATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 28, 2007

**TESTIMONY OF
GEORGE A. COLEMAN, INTERIM COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
ON**

RAISED BILL 1283

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CONNECTICUT'S
TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS**

In 1988 a statewide advisory committee was established to make recommendations to the State Board of Education concerning issues such as new trade programs, how the state's technical high schools may best meet the skill needs of employers, etc. This committee has not met for several years and some of the issues on which the committee is to make recommendations are no longer relevant or are duplicated by other statutorily established committees. Nevertheless, since it appears that there is a need for a statewide committee, Raised Bill 1283 proposes its reconstitution, with the State Board making the appointments and with the issues on which the committee is to make recommendations updated.

Additionally, many different extensive reports relating to enrollment, programs and budgets for the technical high school system are currently required to be submitted to the General Assembly at different times and at different intervals. These reports collectively provide a great deal of data and information, but have become so cumbersome that they are not as useful as they could be. Consequently, it is proposed that one of the tasks of the reconstituted advisory committee be to make recommendations concerning the consolidation of these reports.