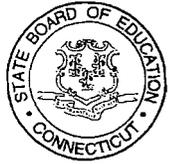




STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



EDUCATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 28, 2007

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

RAISED BILL 1285

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT CAREER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Connecticut Career Certificate program statutes were enacted over 10 years ago to implement a federal law that has now expired, the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994. Additionally, in the past there have been significantly more state funds for the school-to-work program administered under these state statutes. Consequently, Connecticut's obsolete provisions now need to be eliminated and the statutes need to be clear that the money that is available goes to support the development of educators participating in a career and technical education career pathways program and not as grants to boards of education to implement programs. Raised Bill 1285 makes these changes, and the Department of Education supports them.