



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MARCH 12, 2007

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

RAISED BILL 1417

**AN ACT CONCERNING CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGIONAL
VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL SYSTEM**

Public Act 07-1 allowed registered lobbyists and others to give gifts to the state. They had previously been banned from doing so. However, in making these changes no provision was made for these donors to provide professional development activities to teachers employed in the regional vocational-technical school system. There are Connecticut businesses that offer to provide valuable, specialized training to these teachers and this training thereafter benefits the students in these schools. Raised Bill 1417 would allow these businesses to provide this training. The Department of Education supports this proposal.