

**OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS' STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF  
RAISED BILL No. 334  
AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE  
ETHICS**

The primary purpose of this bill is to provide needed technical revisions to the existing Codes of Ethics and clarify certain jurisdictional matters. The Office of State Ethics ("OSE") supports passage of Raised Bill No. 334, and respectfully requests that the following comments be considered with respect to the nine (9) sections contained in the bill.

The OSE supports section 1 of Raised Bill No. 334, which makes certain technical changes and clarifies the jurisdictional scope of the Codes of Ethics in the definition of the term "quasi-public agency." In addition to the amendments presently provided for in Section 1 of Raised Bill No. 334, the OSE wishes to note that the definition of the term "quasi-public agency" should also include the Bradley Board of Directors, which is identified in subsection (h) of section 15-101mm of the General Statutes as a quasi-public agency.

The OSE also supports sections 2, 3, 6 and 8 of Raised Bill No. 334, which make necessary technical changes to the Codes of Ethics. The OSE is a successor agency to the State Ethics Commission; therefore, any references made to the predecessor commission should be replaced by references to the "Office of State Ethics," "Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board," or "board."

The OSE further supports section 4 of Raised Bill No. 334, which would simply include the members and employees of the State Contracting Board, agency procurement officers, members and employees of the State Properties Review Board, and nonclerical employees of the Department of Public Works responsible for acquiring, leasing and selling real property on behalf of the state in Section 1-83 (a) (1) of the General Statutes among those who must file Statements of Financial Interest ("SFI") with the OSE. These individuals are already required to file financial statements in other statutes but not directly in the Code of Ethics. Subsection (a) of section 4b-4 of the General Statutes requires members and employees of the State Properties Review Board and said nonclerical employees of the Department of Public Works to file SFI's and subsection (j) of section 4e-2 of the 2008 Supplement to the General Statutes requires the same of members and employees of the State Contracting Board. In addition, the OSE supports section 9 of Raised Bill No. 334, which would require agency procurement officers to file SFI's as such officers have significant responsibility regarding the awarding of contracts, evaluating contractor performance, and other duties in state government. The filing of SFI's will give transparency to agency procurement officers' assets and sources of income and provide the OSE with the ability to more effectively monitor any potential conflicts of interests.

Section 5 of Raised Bill No. 334 is also supported by OSE as it provides for an important remedy of restitution in the case of large state contracts. This proposed amendment would permit the OSE to recover the amount of any financial advantage knowingly received by a state contractor through a violation of section 1-101nn of the General Statutes. Finally, the OSE is in support of Section 7 of Raised Bill No. 334, which provides greater clarity regarding subsection (c) of section 1-101nn of the General Statutes.

For further information please contact: Carol Carson, Executive Director, Office of State Ethics, or Barbara Housen, General Counsel, Office of State Ethics, at 860-566-4472; 860-566-3806 (fax).