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**OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS' STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF
RAISED BILL No. 773
AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CODES OF 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. 773, and respectfully requests that the following comments be considered.

The OSE supports section 1 of Raised Bill No. 773, which makes certain technical changes and clarifies the jurisdictional scope of the Code of Ethics for Public Officials in the definition of the term "quasi-public agency."

The OSE also supports sections 2, 3, 6 and 7 of Raised Bill No. 773, which make necessary technical changes to the Codes of Ethics. The OSE superseded the State Ethics Commission; therefore any references made to the predecessor commission should be replaced by references to the "Office of State Ethics,"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."

In section 2 of Raised Bill No. 773, the OSE submits the amendment to eliminate a duplication of reporting to the Governor by making February 15, in both the Code of Ethics for Public Officials and the Code of Ethics for Lobbyists, as the reporting date for the annual report. Currently, § 1-81(a) (6) of the general statutes mandates April 15 as the reporting date, while § 1-92(f) mandates February 15.

Finally, OSE supports the amendment to modify the definition of client lobbyist in § 1-91 (u) of the general statutes to make it consistent with the definition of the same in § 1-79 (p). The change would be made by replacing "a lobbyist..." with "a person..." in § 1-91 (u).

For further information please contact: Carol Carson, Executive Director, Office of State Ethics, or Barbara Housen, General Counsel, Office of State Ethics, at 860-263-2400; 860-263-2402 (fax).