

March 17, 2010

Good morning

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony to support H.B. No. 5034: An Act Concerning the Purchase of Additional Credited Service in The Teachers' Retirement System for Service in Another State amended to include H. B. No. 5679: An Act Concerning Additional Credit in The Teachers Retirement System for Service Under the Manpower and Training Development and Training Act (MDTA).

In 2001 I initiated correspondence with Mr. William Sudol, director of The Teacher's Retirement Board, to have MDTA added to "Additional Service Credit" for purchase. The TRB would not support my request. I did not know the proper channels through which I should have pursued my request.

In 2007, through CEA, I was fortunate to meet Senator McDonald and Congressman Tong. They supported my request to have MDTA eligible for purchase and explained the process to me. In fact it was Senator McDonald's mother, Anne, who succeeded in having the Peace Corp added to additional service credit list.

The honorable William Tong asked Judith Loham to research the MDTA to see if it met the criteria for TRS purchase requirements. The OLR research report concluded that MDTA, initiated by President Kennedy in 1962 was not unlike other services: Peace Corp, Job Corp, Vista and most closely aligned with CETA.

Finally, the MDTA programs were consolidated into the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) of 1973. Thus, acceptance of this bill will have minimal impact for CT.

Thus, I come before you to request that you amend H.B # 5034 to include H.B. # 5679.

Most respectfully submitted,
Caryl Komornik