



Joan McDonald  
Commissioner



State of Connecticut  
Department of Economic and  
Community Development

**TESTIMONY SUBMITTED TO THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE**  
**February 25, 2010**

*Joan McDonald, Commissioner*  
*Department of Economic and Community Development*

**SB 325- AN ACT REPEALING CERTAIN STATUTES RELATED TO THE DEPARTMENT  
OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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The Department of Economic and Community Development offers the following comments in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 325 *An Act Repealing Certain Statutes Related to the Department of Economic and Community Development*.

DECD is in support of this proposed amendment to eliminate redundant and duplicative mandates. This bill will allow for inactive boards, activities and systems that were never created, defunct or are similar to be removed from the statutes.

I would like to highlight some points confirming our position relating specifically within Sec. 7, Sections 32-1f, 32-1g, 32-4b, 32-4f, 32-6i, 32-290 and 32-291.

- 32-1f Duties of commissioner re Connecticut's future. – Activities required by the statute are similar to those required under CGS sections 32-1m (DECD's Annual Report) and 32-1o (DECD's Economic Strategic Plan for Connecticut).
- 32-1g Connecticut competitiveness index. – The "index" required by this section is redundant to 32-1o - which is the state's economic strategic plan. Additionally 32-1g requires that the Connecticut Economic Information System (CEIS) be used in the preparation of the "Index". The CEIS was never created and the Steering Committee has long been defunct. Further, it should be noted that section 32-6i of the general statutes it refers to CEIS. This too should be removed since CEIS does not exist and there was never any funding allocated to create such a system.
- 32-4b State Economic Development Advisory Board. The State Economic Development Advisory Board has been defunct for over 10 years and its function is currently covered by the Council of Economic Advisors, which was established in October 2007 by Governor Rell to help shape economic development policy. Further the State's Economic Strategic Plan, pursuant to section 32-1o of the general statutes, addresses the planning and marketing aspects of the Advisory Board's charge.