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Testimony in Support of SB 414
Transportation Committee
March 10, 2010

Chairmen DeFronzo and Guerrera, Ranking Members Boucher and Scribner, and members of the Transportation Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of two initiatives contained in SB 414: *An Act Making Revisions to Statutes Concerning the Department of Motor Vehicles*.

The House Republican Caucus has made it a priority to promote simplicity, efficiency, and cost savings in our government. I believe sections 24 and 26 will streamline our government while at the same time enhancing the convenience of the public we serve.

Section 24 of the bill allows the commissioner of DMV to permit automobile clubs to conduct registration renewals and renewals of identity cards. Currently, these clubs are only allowed to renew drivers' licenses. This change would be a welcome to the many automobile club members who get services from such clubs to avoid long wait times and frustrations at DMV.

Section 26 makes the issuance of registration stickers permissive rather than mandatory. Registration information is available and updated regularly on the Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing (COLLECT). It is more reliable for police to verify information using COLLECT than the redundant windshield stickers. Eliminating stickers could yield \$820,700 in savings in just postage and supplies alone. It will provide motorists a better unobstructed view of the road and eliminate the messy and cumbersome clean up of the adhesive left behind by old stickers.

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Another concept deserving of discussion is issuing one plate per motor vehicle. As the Committee may be aware, there are 19 states currently that require only a single plate on vehicles. If CT was to issue one plate the state would save almost \$406,000. Currently Illinois is looking at a similar proposal expected to reduce state costs by more than \$1 million annually.

By no means will this solve our budget problems. But, these are common-sense measures that save money, even in this current year from what I understand. These two sections are small parts of a very large bill. My concern is that they may become casualties of other sections where we don't have agreement. Therefore, I hope the Committee might consider creating a separate bill with just these two cost-saving sections.

I strongly believe these concepts will save the state money, enhance customer service, and offer motorists convenience. Passing these initiatives makes common sense.

Thank you.