

COMMISSION OFFICERS

Adrienne Farrar Houël, *Chair*
Cecilia J. Woods, *Vice Chair*
Denise Rodosevich, *Secretary*
Elizabeth Donohue, *Treasurer*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Teresa C. Younger

Connecticut General Assembly



PCSW

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

The State's leading force for women's equality

COMMISSIONERS

Lucia A. Aschettino
Mayor April Capone Almon
Yvonne R. Davis
Barbara DeBaptiste
Carrie Gallagher
Mary Lee A. Kiernan
Kristin LaFleur
Tanya Meck
Toni Moran
Melanie O'Brien
Jean L. Rexford
Helene Shay
Susan O. Storey
Patricia E.M. Whitcombe

HONORARY MEMBERS

Connie Dice
Patricia T. Hendel
Patricia Russo

**Written Testimony of
The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
Before the
Aging Committee
February 10, 2011**

**RE: S.B. 775, AA Increasing Eligibility for the Connecticut Home-Care Program for the Elderly
H.B. 6155, AA Reducing the Individual Contribution Under the State-Funded Home-Care Program for the Elderly**

Senators Prague and Kelly, Representatives Serra and Frey, and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) in response to the introduction of S.B. 775, **AA Increasing Eligibility for the Connecticut Home-Care Program for the Elderly** and H.B. 6155, **AA Reducing the Individual Contribution Under the State-Funded Home-Care Program for the Elderly**.

S.B. 775 would increase asset limits for the program, and H.B. 6155 would reduce the individual contribution level to 4% from 6%. These bills could benefit Connecticut seniors who represent 14% of the state population.

CT Specific Data¹

- 14% of Connecticut's population are aged 65 and over – 285,405 women and 202,650 men.
- Within the senior population, 59% are female and 41% are male.
- 66% of Connecticut residents over the age of 85 are female.

Access to the Home-Care Program insures that elders and people with disabilities remain in their homes, rather than long-term care institutions. Passage of this bill would allow these individuals to remain independent through self-directed care in a community setting.

We appreciate continued attention to this matter, and look forward to working with you on this important issue.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder, 2009 Population Estimates.