

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE**  
**March 1, 2011**

*Ron Angelo, Acting Commissioner*  
*Department of Economic and Community Development*

**SB 1002 AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE OFFICE OF WORKFORCE  
COMPETITIVENESS AND COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND TOURISM TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER  
CHANGES TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STATUTES.**

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Good morning Senator LeBeau, Representative Berger, Senator Frantz, Representative Camillo and members of the committee. My name is Ron Angelo and I am the Acting Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you to discuss DECD's support for Governor Malloy's proposed **SB 1002 AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE OFFICE OF WORKFORCE COMPETITIVENESS AND COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND TOURISM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER CHANGES TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STATUTES.**

As part of Governor Malloy's comprehensive approach to economic development, **SB 1002** merges the Office of Workforce Competitiveness and the Commission on Culture and Tourism (CCT) into DECD. As stated in the Governor's budget "cultural, tourism and historical programs are important elements in the state's economic development quiver. Workforce programs should be part of the state's economic development portfolio because human capital is one of the state's greatest economic development tools."

The addition of CCT and OWC to DECD will greatly strengthen and enhance DECD's ability to bring comprehensive solutions to the state's economic problems and provide a much more complete compliment of services and assistance to Connecticut's businesses and entrepreneurs. SB 1002, along with Governor Malloy's other economic development initiatives, are critical to the state's ability to stimulate the creation of new jobs in Connecticut.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments. We respectfully request your support for SB 1002.