



DENISE MERRILL

SECRETARY OF THE STATE
CONNECTICUT

**GAE Committee
Public Hearing Testimony
March 21, 2011**

- Good Morning Chairman Morin, Chairman Slossberg and members of the committee. For the record my name is James Spallone and I am Deputy Secretary of the State.
- I am here today to testify on behalf of Secretary of the State Denise Merrill, who could not be here today.
- I would like to briefly address two bills before the committee this morning.
- **Raised Bill 6600, “AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE PAPERLESS TASK FORCE AND THE TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE REDUCTION OF STATE AGENCY PAPER AND DUPLICATIVE PROCEDURES.”** This bill impacts our office.

- Also, House Bill 944, **“AN ACT CONCERNING COST SAVING MEASURES WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE”**
- Specifically, this bill would repeal the requirements that the Secretary of the State certify the amount and purpose of each appropriation made by the General Assembly, distribute printed copies of certain public acts and distribute printed volumes of bills.
- State law now requires the Secretary of the State’s office to bind and distribute copies of every favorably-reported committee bill to the State Library, the Library of Congress, and five other law and general university libraries.
- We discussed this with the seven depository libraries, and believe an authentic and preserved print record of these important legislative documents should be maintained.
- We also believe the distribution can be reduced from seven libraries to two, in order to reduce paper waste.
- Specifically, we support continued distribution of the print file copies to the State Library and the UConn Law School library, as recommended by the legislative documents task force.
- Therefore, we support section five (5) of Raised Bill 6600, which reflects the recommended reduction, and would support amending section one of Raised Bill 944 to reduce rather than eliminate the depository library distribution.

- Our testimony on this matter is consistent with our previous testimony regarding raised bill 1059, section 256.
- I would be happy to answer any questions from the committee
- Thank you