

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE**  
**March 8, 2011**

*Benjamin Barnes*  
*Secretary*  
*Office of Policy and Management*

Testimony Supporting House Bill No. 6389

AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIVISION OF SPECIAL  
REVENUE, CONSUMER COUNSEL, HEALTHCARE ADVOCATE AND BOARD OF  
ACCOUNTANCY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

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Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak and distinguished members of the General Law Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill No. 6389, AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIVISION OF SPECIAL REVENUE, CONSUMER COUNSEL, HEALTHCARE ADVOCATE AND BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.

This bill consolidates the Division of Special Revenue, the Board of Accountancy and Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire, Emergency and Building Services staff which conduct amusement park ride inspection and process carnivals and circus licensing and permits into the Department of Consumer Protection. This will merge the regulatory and licensing functions that these agencies perform into one agency. The bill also removes the state oversight of charitable games. It is the intent that the organizations will continue to be allowed to have these charitable games without oversight of the state. The current legislation removes the right for non-profits to purchase and use sealed tickets. It is the administration's plan to provide revised language to allow the Department of Consumer Protection to sell the current inventory of sealed tickets to organizations.

The Offices of Healthcare Advocate and Consumer Counsel are recommended to be merged into the Department of Consumer Protection. The staff will continue to assist health insurance consumers in selecting plans, understanding their rights and responsibilities and appealing denials along with advocacy for consumers in all matters involving utility related services. These mergers will provide consumer advocacy in one agency.

I would like to again thank the committee for the opportunity to present this testimony.