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OF ADMINISTRATIVE FACULTY  
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Senator Bye, Representative Willis and members of the Higher Education Committee my name is Jim LoMonaco and thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding SB 1011, which speaks to the Governor's proposal for the reorganization of a portion of Connecticut Higher Education. While we are not opposed to any action that makes the provision of State Services more efficiently and more timely we have concerns about this bill.

- Connecticut through the actions of the General Assembly have invested generously in public higher education during the past 20 years and any reorganization should take into account the excellent system of comprehensive universities and community colleges that are the result of this investment.
- The development of the CSUS was only possible once the University had been given flexibility by the General assembly and had removed the control of the Executive Branch.
- The bill does not take into account the differences between the CSUS and the Community colleges in terms of mission, population served and the educational services provided.
- CSUS are all residential campuses and as such are required to operate on a 24/7 schedule for much of the year making the cost of such an undertaking quite different from that of the Community Colleges.

The recent Program Review and Investigation Committee report has also raised concerns as a consequence of the methodology and the failure to actually include in the study any information from the people who actually do the work of providing services to students at CSUS. As noted above a 24/7 operation requires staff to provide direct student supports (which my members do), maintenance and custodial services for the millions of square feet built over the past 20 years,

Police services to insure safety and the related dining and student activities for a community that lives in what is essentially a small city.

Unfortunate comments such as “an eye opening ratio of Faculty to support staff” and “60 percent in administration is too high” fail to take into account the actual mission of each of the Universities and that differences in staff per campus are skewed by the fact that on some campuses University functions are contracted out. A fact that was not acknowledged in the PRI Report.

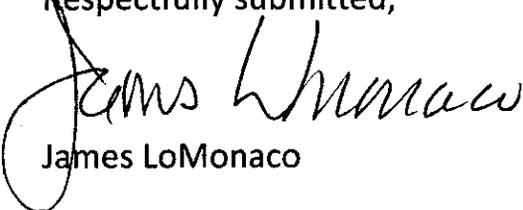
It is interesting to note that the ratio of Faculty to support staff for the Pennsylvania State University System and the University of Maryland System are almost identical to that of the Connecticut State University. They are within several points of the CSUS ratio.

Ultimately the decision should rest on what’s best for the 96,000 students that attend CSU and the CCC’s. In that vein I urge you to consider the legislation carefully and not implement any changes without careful planning and clear objectives.

The value of our past investments is too great and the future of our State too important not to do this right. In any event we look forward to the opportunity to work with all concerned for a better system of public higher education.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James LoMonaco". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

James LoMonaco

President, State University Organization of Administrative Faculty