



**Higher Education and Employment Advancement Public Hearing**

**February 17, 2011**

**Testimony**

**By**

**Lee H. Melvin  
Vice-President for Enrollment Management  
University of Connecticut**

Co-Chairs, Ranking Members and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony today on House Bill 6054, An Act Concerning the Tracking of Unique Identifiers by Institutions of Higher Education.

The University of Connecticut is currently working collaboratively with the Department of Higher Education (DHE), the State Department of Education (SDE), the State Department of Labor (DOL) and the other constituent units to create and collect longitudinal data on Connecticut students. We believe the development of a longitudinal data system will help address key state policy questions about the success of students in the education continuum and on into the workforce. To that end, the University is working with SDE to develop a seamless process on collecting unique student identifier numbers on Connecticut high school transcripts from enrolled freshman.

As you are well aware, the development of this type of data system requires careful planning, interagency cooperation, strong student privacy protection and the appropriate data quality policies and protocols. The University places a high priority on keeping personally identifiable information about our students confidential and we look forward to working with DHE, SDE and DOL to ensure that student data resides in a secure environment in accordance with our information and privacy policies, the Gramm-Leach Bliley Act, and the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony and for your continued support of the University of Connecticut.