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Good Morning Senator Slossberg, Representative Morin, distinguished members of the Government Administrations and Elections Committee. For the record, I am State Representative Paul Davis of the 117th Assembly District (Milford, Orange, and West Haven).

The purpose of my testimony this morning is to provide support for HB 5980: An Act Concerning the Streamlining of Agency Permit and Licensing Processes.

The proposal for this bill came out of continued problems that have been brought to my attention as a member of the Regulations Review Committee. Over the years we have written into statute numerous changes to permitting and licensing practices for our various government agencies. Very often they are small changes from the previous practice or in some cases they are entirely new. Many of the agencies rather than updating associated regulations simply add another layer. As a result we may have several different permits required for a relatively simple project. This is both inefficient and counterproductive. In simple terms we need better quality control.

A requirement that each agency develop a plan for periodic reviews and updating of licensing and permitting practices that are designed to meet specific goals would be most useful in contributing to more efficient delivery of services. Since the scope of work conducted by government agencies is so diverse, it seems important that each agencies would have the flexibility to design it own plan. While I realize this is a challenging task and have some thoughts on how it may be accomplished, I believe the Committee on Government Administration and Elections has had significant experience in this area and would be happy to contribute in any way possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.