



State of Connecticut  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN E. PISCOPO  
SEVENTY-SIXTH DISTRICT

50 JUDSON STREET  
THOMASTON, CONNECTICUT 06787  
TELEPHONE  
HOME: (860) 283-2155  
CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700  
TOLL FREE: 1-800-842-1423  
E-mail: John.Piscopo@housegop.ct.gov

MINORITY WHIP

FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE NOMINATIONS  
COMMITTEE

Government Administration and Elections Committee  
Public Hearing Testimony  
Friday, February 17, 2012

Good Morning Senator Gayle Slossberg, Senator Edward Meyer, Senator Michael McLachlan, Representative Morin Russell, Representative Matthew Lesser, Representative Tony Hwang and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Election Committee.

I want to thank you for raising S.B. 36, *An Act Concerning Revision To The State Codes Of Ethics*.

The purpose of this bill is to change how the state defines gifts under our state ethics law. Specifically, this bill would exclude from the definition of gifts, goods and services that are provided by, or reimbursed by, the state to public officials that attend events that facilitate state functions.

Many legislators attend yearly events and are part of state and national organizations that have meetings, forums and conventions across this country. I, for example, am a member of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) and attend events regularly. This bill would help these organizations raise funds and make things easier for legislators that attend these events.

Thank you for your consideration.