



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

CGA Government Administration and Elections Committee

March 12, 2012 Public Hearing

Comments Submitted by Pat Reilly, Connecticut League of Women Voters, Ethics Specialist

Comments On:

SB 256 AN ACT CONCERNING THE TIMING OF FACULTY CONSULTING AGREEMENT
AUDITS UNDER THE CODE OF ETHICS.

I am Pat Reilly, Ethics Specialist for the League of Women Voters of Connecticut. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 256 AN ACT CONCERNING THE TIMING OF FACULTY CONSULTING AGREEMENT AUDITS UNDER THE CODE OF ETHICS.

The League of Women Voters of Connecticut, a statewide organization with over 1800 members, believes that the public should have confidence in the integrity of its government. Government officials and employees should be held accountable for carrying out their duties in both an effective and ethically responsible manner. As The Codes of Ethics are the means to accomplish these ends, the League has a keen interest in any efforts to reform, strengthen or clarify The Codes.

Based on the testimony by the Office of State Ethics for 5279 (please see below), the League supports the changes contained in SB 256, adding that the change from semiannually to annually will free up all involved resources giving them more time for other government activities.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS' STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF
SECTION 2 OF RAISED BILL No. 5279
AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The Office of State Ethics ("OSE") supports section 2 of Raised Bill No. 5279 and respectfully requests that the following comments be considered. The proposed language in section 2 requires that the audit of faculty consulting agreements occur on an annual, rather than semiannual, basis. Compliance with policies that govern faculty consulting agreements is monitored by a nine-member committee established at each constituent unit of higher education, comprised of gubernatorial and legislative appointees, representatives of the constituent unit for which the committee has been established and a member of the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board ("CEAB"). A member of the CEAB who has been serving on the committee for the University of Connecticut has recommended, and the CEAB concurs, that an annual audit report as to compliance with applicable policies is sufficient to meet the needs of the statute. In particular, the University of Connecticut is to be commended for the process it has put in place to ensure compliance with the law.

For further information please contact: Carol Carson, Executive Director, Office of State Ethics, at 860-263-2400; 860-263-2402 (fax).

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