FTR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER
55 ELM STREET
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
06106-1775

Kevin Lembo
State Comptroller

Martha Carlson
Deputy Comptroller

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
Kevin Lembo
State Comptroller

Concerning
HB 5013 AAC the Board Members of the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange

February 14, 2012

Senator Crisco, Representative Megna, Senator Kelly, Representative Sampson and Members of the Committee:

I would like to thank you for raising HB 5013 An Act Concerning the Board Members of the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange and for the opportunity to express my support.

The health insurance exchange will be a strong tool in providing greater access to health insurance coverage to the uninsured in our state. A 2011 study by the RAND Corporation estimates that one in ten Connecticut residents will be purchasing their health care coverage through the insurance exchange by the year 2016.

With so many lives affected, it is critical that we make every effort to ensure the product is the best it can be. By including consumer and small business voices as voting members on the exchange, this bill will allow for greater diversity and better collaboration. Further, the bill changes the Healthcare Advocate from a non-voting to a voting member, which also provides stronger credibility to the exchange design process.

I strongly support this legislation. Thank you for your consideration.