



**Public Hearing Testimony of
Glenn Marshall, Commissioner
Department of Labor
Labor and Public Employees Committee
March 8, 2012**

Good Afternoon Senator Prague, Representative Zalaski, Senator Guglielmo, Representative Rigby and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with testimony regarding ***Senate Bill #330 AAC Concerning the Employers of Individuals Providing Homemaker Services, Companion Services and Homemaker-Health Aide Services***. My name is Glenn Marshall and I am the Labor Commissioner

I am here to speak in support of this bill that concerns a major issue for individuals who receive in-home care from homemaker and companions services. Senator Prague has heard from many constituents that individuals who receive in-home care from homemakers and companions were deemed to be the employer of the in-home workers by state agencies. My Deputy Commissioner, Dennis Murphy, met with representatives from state agencies to see what if anything could be done about this situation. Without this bill, the individual to whom the services of a homemaker/companion are provided would most likely be deemed the employer of the homemaker and companion under the Unemployment Compensation Act and the Workers' Compensation Act.

In other words, Senate Bill# 330 will ensure that homemaker-companion agencies, homemaker-home health aide agencies and registries providing homemaker and companion services, not the person receiving services, shall be deemed to be the employer and shall be responsible for the payment of wages, unemployment and workers' compensation insurance payments which will protect the consumer from liability for such payments. In addition, Senate Bill# 330 will also remove liability from the consumer for the individual's personal injuries that may arise out of and in the course of employment from the consumer.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony here today. I am available to answer any questions you may have.