

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE FINANCE, REVENUE, AND BONDING  
COMMITTEE  
March 11, 2013**

*Benjamin Barnes  
Secretary  
Office of Policy and Management*

Testimony on House Bill No. 6566

AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPARENCY IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

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Senator Fonfara, Representative Widlitz and distinguished members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill No. 6566, AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPARENCY IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

Although many of the ideas expressed in this bill are laudable, there would be significant financial costs and staff time commitments in meeting several of the bill's initiatives, specifically the searchable database for economic assistance programs and the tax incidence analysis report. Resources for these initiatives were not included in the Governor's proposed budget.

Section 4 of the bill would require OPM to make the Governor's budget proposal available in an online searchable database. Please note that, as part of the Governor's February 6, 2013 budget submission, OPM posted this information on its website: <http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=2958&Q=518400&>. Budget data by fund, agency, and appropriation is therefore already available in a downloadable and searchable format. OPM intends to continue this in future budget cycles, obviating the need for this new statutory mandate.

I would like to again thank the committee for the opportunity to present this testimony.