



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

January 28, 2013

*Statement of Michael J. Brandi, Executive Director & General Counsel,
State Elections Enforcement Commission*

The State Elections Enforcement Commission provides the following information concerning elections bills that are on the Committee's agenda today.

Senate Bill 433 (Raised) Act Concerning a Connecticut Democracy Index

The SEEC supports the creation of a Connecticut Democracy Index for the collection and evaluation of information concerning elections for federal, state and municipal offices in Connecticut. The SEEC stands ready to collaborate in furthering this important effort.

House Bill 5599 (Raised) An Act Concerning Provisional Ballots for State and Municipal Offices

The SEEC supports HB 5599, which expands access to provisional ballots to non-federal elections and primaries. As the administrator of the state's Election Day Hotline, the Commission finds itself in the unenviable position of informing many voters with registration problems on Election Day that provisional ballot rights are extremely limited in Connecticut.

House Bill 5600 (Raised) An Act Concerning the Registrars of Voters

The SEEC supports this clarification of its continuing authority with respect to registrars of voters and town clerks with the following comments:

- General Statutes § 9-3 has not been amended since the passage of chapter 157. Section 2 of this bill should therefore be amended to add the underlined language to line 21 as follows: "chapter 155 through 157, provided"
- The current law applies to the authority of the Secretary of the State with respect to written regulations, declaratory rulings, instructions and opinions. (See lines 16 – 17 of Raised Bill No. 5600.) The proposed language at lines 23 and 30 should similarly contain the word "regulations."

Thank you for your consideration of the Commission's views on this bill.