



**Testimony of Gary Minor, Director of College Relations
Goodwin College
On
Appropriations Committee
Support of Funding Increase for the Governor's Scholarship Program (GSP)
February 24, 2014**

Goodwin College, a private non-profit higher education institution, was founded in East Hartford, CT in 1999. Our diverse student population of over 3,500 students comes from 132 of 169 towns and cities throughout Connecticut, with in-state residents making up for ninety-eight percent (98%) of the total student body. The average age of Goodwin students is 29 years old. Females represent eighty-three percent (83%) of the enrollment, with forty-eight percent (48%) being students of color. The College offers Certificate, Associate of Science and Bachelor of Science degrees. Goodwin graduates currently experience a +70% job placement rate in the field of the degree they attained. The college also recently graduated its 1,000th registered nurse.

For the 2013-2014 school year, Goodwin received approximately \$1.8M from the Governor's Scholarship Program to be awarded to qualifying students. This funding has provided over 1,600 Goodwin students with financial aid. Grants awarded range from \$250 to \$3,500, with the average being approximately \$1,000. In a typical year, the average annual household income of eligible Goodwin students is \$32,301.

Given these figures, it is clear that the success of the College's students rely largely on their ability to secure adequate financial aid, and subsequently, find employment in Connecticut.

Goodwin College and its students applaud Governor Malloy's proposal to raise the funding level of the Governor's Scholarship Program.

Thank you for your time on the very important subject.