



**Public Hearing Testimony of
Sharon Palmer, Commissioner
Department of Labor
Labor and Public Employees Committee
March 11, 2014**

Good Afternoon Senator Holder-Winfield, Representative Tercyak, Senator Markley and Representative Smith and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with testimony regarding **House Bill No. 5453, AAC Employers and Home Care Workers**. My name is Sharon Palmer and I am the Commissioner of the Department of Labor.

The proposed bill seeks to allow employers and individuals who care for individuals in their home to exclude an eight hour sleeping period from wage calculations. I believe the bill's intent is to amend our statute in accordance with recent amendments to federal law. The language of the proposed bill, however, does not achieve that goal. The Department of Labor is willing to work with the proponents of the bill to craft appropriate language.

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