



**Testimony of
Sharon M. Palmer, Commissioner
Department of Labor
Labor and Public Employees Committee
March 3, 2015**

Good Day Senator Gomes, Representative Tercyak, Senator Hwang and Representative Rutigliano and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with testimony regarding **House Bill No. 1034 AAC Employee Wages**. My name is Sharon Palmer and I am the Commissioner of the Department of Labor.

This proposed bill calls for a study of employee wages in the state. Without additional language, it appears that this proposed study may be seeking information that is already available.

On DOL's website, there is a link to our Labor Market Information website from the Research Division. This site includes a tremendous amount of information on statewide employment and wage estimates. It provides accurate and meaningful wage information to employers, job seekers, counselors, students, planners of vocational education programs, economic developers, Regional Workforce Development Boards, and others. Employers may find the data useful as a guide in analyzing pay scales; job seekers and students could utilize the information in making employment and career decisions; program planners should be aware of employment and wage levels in determining training programs to be offered.

The Connecticut Occupational Employment and Wage data provides employment and wage data by occupation and is based on the results of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey. The OES program conducts a bi-annual mail survey designed to produce estimates of employment and wages for over 800 occupations. These estimates are generated at the national, state, and metropolitan area levels.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.