



## **Testimony on Senate Bill 268 and 270**

Submitted by Suzanne Bates, Policy Director

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Good afternoon Senator Bye, Representative Walker, Senator Kane and Representative Ziobron.

My name is Suzanne Bates. I am the policy director for the Yankee Institute for Public Policy, a Connecticut-based free market think tank.

### **I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 268 and Senate Bill 270.**

On Senate Bill 268, it is important to plan ahead, especially given Connecticut's current budget situation and the challenges that we face in the future. The legislature should be making choices that will help get the state on a more sure footing not just in the current fiscal year, or in the next biennium, but over the next several decades. That requires information, and forward thinking. This committee could help provide that.

On Senate Bill 270, taxpayers have a right to know how their money is spent. Students of public institutions also have a right to know how their tuition dollars are spent. This bill will improve transparency at our institutions of higher education, which in turn should improve their accountability to the public, their employees, and students.