

Testimony before the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee

March 8, 2016

Good morning Senator Duff, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck-Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. My name is Martin A. Gould. I'm honored to be nominated by Governor Dannel P. Malloy for reappointment to the Connecticut Education Arbitration Board. I thank this committee for the opportunity to appear before you seeking approval.

I reside in West Hartford, CT with my wife of over 50 years. We have two daughters, one of whom is a partner in my law firm, and five grandchildren. I'm a 1962 graduate of Boston University, with a Bachelor of Arts degree and I graduated from Boston University Law School, with honors, in 1965. I was an Editor of the Boston University Law Review. I then attended Harvard University School of Law and received an LLM Degree in 1966.

I was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1965, the U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court in 1970 and the U.S. Tax Court in 1978. I am member of the Hartford County, Connecticut and American Bar Associations, and the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association.

I began the practice of law with the firm of Gould, Killian & Krechevsky in 1966, and have been with the firm, now known as Gould Killian LLP, since that time. I have maintained a general practice, with an emphasis in public and private employment labor law, including representation of The Connecticut Education Association for over forty-

five years, and have extensive experience in general litigation in all trial courts, Connecticut Appellate and Supreme Court and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. In connection with my representation of the CEA, I have been involved in grievance procedures, and mediation and arbitration of various disputes involving public employees and the review and drafting of proposed legislation. In addition, I have been an advocate for the CEA and its members in many court cases involving the interpretation of education statutes.

I also have extensive experience in employment discrimination matters, negotiations and arbitration, and have published articles and lectured on various aspects of public employee labor law. I have been a member of Board of Arbitrators of the American Arbitration Association for over twenty five years, and have served as a neutral in many commercial arbitration cases for that organization. I have also been a member of the Board of Arbitrators of American Dispute Resolution Center since its inception, and have served as a neutral arbitrator for that body.

As a result of my involvement in litigation over bargaining and teacher strikes many years ago, I have always strongly believed in the binding arbitration statutes, and it is my opinion that this legislation has certainly improved the working relationship between boards of education and teachers.

I have been a member of the Arbitration Panel since 1991. I am honored to have been able to contribute to the arbitration process over the past twenty-five years and I look forward to continuing this process if my appointment is approved.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to appear before you.