



House Bill 5505

**“An Act Concerning the Updating of State Forms and Applications
To Include a Nonbinary Gender Option”**

Testimony of Commissioner Josh Geballe

Committee on Government Administration and Elections

March 13, 2019

The Department of Administrative Services (“DAS”) supports **House Bill 5505, “An Act Concerning the Updating of State Forms and Applications to Include a Nonbinary Gender Option.”** Several years ago, the State of Connecticut enacted laws to prevent discrimination against individuals on the basis of their gender identity or expression. House Bill 5505 takes the next step by demonstrating in a concrete way that the State is aware of and supportive of non-binary identities.

As House Bill 5505 moves forward in the legislative process, it would be helpful if the legislature could specify the language it wants agencies to use on the forms and applications. Not only would such direction assist agencies to comply with the statute but greater consistency in the language will improve the State’s ability to collect and analyze such data.