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Written Testimony

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SB-1040 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE EMPLOYEE CAMPAIGN

HB-5505 AN ACT CONCERNING THE UPDATING OF STATE FORMS AND APPLICATIONS TO INCLUDE A NONBINARY GENDER OPTION

Good afternoon Senator Flexer, Representative Fox, Senator Sampson, Representative France and members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB-1040 and HB-5505.

SB-1040 An Act Concerning the State Employee Campaign.

The State Employee Campaign for Charitable Giving (CSEC) was established to allow state employees and retirees to donate directly through payroll deduction to over 700 charities. SB-1040 would make the changes needed to have the campaign run more efficiently. These changes include narrowing the list of eligible charities to Connecticut-based charities or national charities that serve Connecticut residents and meet other qualifying criteria and placing a cap on the administrative fees a charity may charge.

If the State Employee Campaign is going to continue to operate, changes must be made to modernize the program so that charitable dollars more effectively fulfill their intended purpose and provide more meaningful support to Connecticut charities

I urge you to support House Bill 1040.

HB 5505- An Act Concerning the Updating of State Forms and Applications to Include a Nonbinary Gender Option

As a state, Connecticut values inclusion and acceptance. Adjusting state forms and applications to accommodate nonbinary individuals may seem like a small change for a hulking state bureaucracy, but would be a tremendous step towards equality in how Connecticut interacts with its residents.

The Comptroller's Office would be directly involved in this undertaking, as our forms and programming of the CORE-CT financial system would need to be adjusted to accommodate new nonbinary gender options. However, I believe that this is a small sacrifice to make Connecticut more welcoming and accepting and I urge passage of this legislation.