

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

PA15-64

HB6787

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Hearing(s) and/or Senate and House of Representatives
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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2015**

**VOL.58
PART 7
2093 - 2443**

/ak/dm
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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May 13, 2015

CLERK:

House Calendar 221, Favorable Report of the
Joint Standing Committee on Government
Administration and Elections, Substitute House Bill
6787, on Page 56, AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION
PROCESS FOR CERTAIN CLASSES OF POSITIONS IN THE
CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Representative Cuevas, you have the floor,
sir.

REP. CUEVAS (75th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move
for acceptance of the Joint Committee Favorable
Report and passage of the bill, sir.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

The question's on acceptance of the Joint
Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the
bill. Will you remark, sir?

REP. CUEVAS (75th):

Yes. Mr. Speaker, this bill basically what it
does, it takes certain conditions and candidates
from a state job who are currently in a position
for a promotion or exam that establish a list
subsequent to an examination of the same

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qualification of their current qualification under their current job. Under the bill, the DAS Commissioner allows the score to stay under five conditions. Job candidates submit a written request to the DAS Commissioner for - as the Commissioner prescribes - with a Commissioner's approved form. A subsequent examination of the same equivalent form of the previous one. A provision that applies a score to another list publicized by the appropriate examination notification.

The candidate satisfies all these requirements and [] examination, and it'd be seven years before it'd elapse before they have to retake the examination, sir. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, sir. Would you care to remark on the bill before us? Representative Rutigliano.

REP. RUTIGLIANO (123rd):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this bill's a reasonable accommodation for our state workers that are applying for a new position. It has been amended to address any concerns that the Department of Administrative Services have. And in

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order to use this benefit, an employee must request in writing that the Commissioner use their most recent test score. It also allows the test to remain in the system longer, which is sort of a conforming change to other service exams. So I would ask that our members support the bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER SHARKEY:

Thank you, sir. Would you care to remark further on the bill? Representative Ritter. I think you pushed your button by mistake. Is there anyone else on the bill that's before us? If not, staff and guests to the Well of the House. Members take your seats. The machine will be opened.

CLERK:

[bell ringing] The House of Representatives is voting by roll. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Will members please report to the Chamber immediately.

[pause]

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

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Have all members voted? Have all members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote is properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked, and the Clerk will take a tally.

The Clerk will please announce the tally.

CLERK:

House Bill 6787

Total Number Voting 143

Necessary for Passage 72

Those voting Yea 143

Those voting Nay 0

Absent and not voting 8

DEPUTY SPEAKER RYAN:

The bill passes. [gavel] Are there any announcements or points of personal privilege? Are there any announcements? Hearing none, will the Clerk please call Calendar No. 179.

CLERK:

On Page 8, Calendar 179, Favorable Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Human Services, Substitute House Bill 6770, AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS, MEDICAID BENEFITS CARDS, AND NOTICE OF REGULATIONS.

**S - 686
CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS
2015**

**VOL. 58
PART 8
2311 – 2667**

/pt
SENATE

213
May 28, 2015

The bill passes. [gavel] Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I'd like to mark a few items for our Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, sir.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you. On Calendar Page 12, Calendar 474, House Bill 6925, I'd like to place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you. On Page 18, Calendar 514, House Bill 6787, I'd like to place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. On Calendar Page 30, Calendar 581, House Bill 6695, I'd like to place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. On Calendar Page 6, Calendar 389, House Bill 6914, I'd like to place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

May 28, 2015

SENATE

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Mr. Clerk, will you please call the bills on the Consent Calendar?

CLERK:

On Page 3, Calendar 189, Senate Bill No. 23. Page 5, Calendar 330, Senate Bill 73. Page 8, Calendar 435, House Bill 6839. Page 10, Calendar 463, House Bill 6833. Also on Page 10, Calendar 461, House Bill 6403.

On Page 11, Calendar 470, House Bill 7007. On Page 12, Calendar 474, House Bill 6925. On Page 14, Calendar 490, House Bill 6952, and on Page 16, Calendar 507, House Bill 6946.

On Page 18, Calendar 514, House Bill 6787 and Page 24, Calendar 548, House Bill 6942. On Page 27, Calendar 568, House Bill 6973 and Page 30, Calendar 581, House Bill 6695. On Page 34, Calendar 138, Senate Bill 957 and also on Page 34, Calendar 92, Senate Bill 6, I'm sorry, Senate Bill 853.

Page 37, Calendar 249, Senate Bill 99, Page 38, Calendar 324, Senate Bill 451, and on Page 40, Calendar 401, Senate Bill 949.

THE CHAIR:

All the bills are called. At this time, Mr. Clerk, I'd call for a roll call vote and the machine will be open on the Consent Calendar.

CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate on today's Consent Calendar. Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.

[pause]

THE CHAIR:

If all members have voted, all members have voted, the machine will be closed. Mr. Clerk, will you please call the tally.

/pt
SENATE

227
May 28, 2015

CLERK:

On today's Consent Calendar

Total Number Voting	36
Necessary for Adoption	19
Those voting Yea	36
Those voting Nay	0
Absent/not voting	0

THE CHAIR:

The Consent Calendar is passed. [gavel] Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF:

Thank you, Madam President. Before we announce the time for tomorrow, I'll yield to any points of personal privilege or announcements.

THE CHAIR:

Are there any points of personal privilege or announcements? Senator Bye, are you standing for a reason? Senator Bye.

SENATOR BYE:

Thank you, Madam President, yes. I'm calling for purposes of an announcement.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, ma'am.

SENATOR BYE:

Tomorrow morning at 10 a.m., the Appropriations Committee will meet in Room 2C to consider bills. Thank you, Madam President. I should have said this morning.

THE CHAIR:

Yes, you're right. It is this morning, ma'am. Thank you very much.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**LABOR AND
PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES
PART 3
983 – 1273**

2015

think there should be one method of looking at managers in the State of Connecticut. I think it makes a whole lot of sense and for what it may be worth, it takes a lot of courage to come up and speak for this because there can be retaliatory behavior that happens as a result of this and I applaud your courage.

SENATOR WINFIELD: Thank you. Are there others? If not, thank you very much.

ELLEN BLASCHINSKI: Thank you.

SENATOR WINFIELD: Thank you very much. Now it will be Lori Pelletier followed by Raphael Podolsky and then Eric Gjede unless Eric goes later.

HB6705 HB6707 LORI PELLETIER: Good afternoon to the Labor Committee and thank you for holding this public hearing. I'm Lori Pelletier. I'm the Chief Officer of the Connecticut AFLCIO. There are a number of bills on your agenda. We've submitted testimony on a number of them but I just want to touch on some of them.

HB6785 HB6787
HB6783

On Senate Bill 908, our concern is always with the pay being done with payroll cards is issues of fees and that collective bargaining agreements would be -- it would be up to the collective bargaining agreement whether or not to do that. Senate Bill 909, I don't think I can say anything better than the previous speaker who's testifying from the ground floor on this regarding managers of state service, we support that bill. Senate Bill 910, AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF THE HISTORY OF THE WORKER IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM, Senator Looney as always, does an amazing job with that.

My favorite example is that during the

revolution there were a number of skirmishes that were because the British crown was not paying the soldiers and so the soldiers would come and push whether it was rope makers or barrel makers out of their jobs and take over their jobs and when the workers would rise, they'd be shot. And that is the beginning of sort of labor history here in the United States.

On Senate Bill 6705 regarding prevailing wage, again the whole issue of prevailing wage and I know you had quite a hearing the other night in Middletown, is about using state tax dollars to help people here in the state and the idea that this money is being put out to quasi-public agencies, doesn't take it away from being tax dollars, it just is a way of getting around prevailing wages so we need to fix that as well.

House Bill 6707, we've tried to -- we have been working with those in the trucking industry. We understand the sensitivity of this. We also understand that alcoholism and drug addiction is an illness and so we've over the last couple of years worked together to try to move this bill forward.

The study of unionization of college athletes again, if they're producing an income for a university, they should be allowed the right to unionize.

House Bill 6785, again the issue of municipalities being able to save some money by pooling. We buy salt and sand and staplers, we should be able to buy colonoscopies for them.

And then House Bill 6787 regarding examinations, again, this is a bill has come up

from state employees about the testing system and how to make it better and so it's another way of making state government more efficient.

On the other bills that I didn't -- although I hit a lot of them, again, we're always appreciative of this Committee and if you have any questions, I'd be delighted to try to answer them.

REP. TERCYAK: Thank you very much. Representative Vail.

REP. VAIL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding House Bill 6783, the unionization of college athletes, you spoke in support of that. How many athletes from UCONN have approached you to ask you to speak on their behalf?

LORI PELLETIER: Well, you know it's an interesting question at any time we try to expand collective bargaining for any group that that's the first question is how many people have come out. Whether it's our agricultural worker bill or before state managers or even people in this building. And the reality is that if they do come forward because they are at will and even in the sense of college athletes they are subject to coach's punishment, they don't. But it's the idea that they are and we saw it -- we've seen it across this nation where universities are getting big dollars for athletes work and the athletes may get hurt, they may end up losing their livelihood. So all we're saying is that we're going to treat them like employees which we are because we're making money off of them, then they should have the right to collectively bargain.

REP. VAIL: So the short answer would be zero?

JOE PIECHTA: I'll start again. My name is Joseph Piechta. I'm the President of the Administrative and Residual Employees Union. I'm coming to speak in support of House Bill 6787, AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION PROCESS FOR CERTAIN CLASSES OF POSITIONS AND CLASSIFIED SERVICES. Senator Winfield, Representative Tercyak and distinguished members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, I'm here to speak on this bill because I was a state employee for 38 years. And during that time process, I must have taken the same examination for jobs 15 to 18 times.

During that time period when I was taking the examinations, I was taken away from my job, I had to go in to take the examination, wait for the process to go through. After the examination results, which pretty much were the same examination results that I had received prior in taking the test. This bill would allow our people a seven year hiatus. If they pass an examination, they would be seven years exempt before they had to take the examination again. And it would help, in talking to the Commissioners of most of the agencies the fact is that when we draw for a person -- or we draw for anyone to be eligible for a person in this state, it comes from an employee list.

And a lot of times the employee list we're running out before the examinations could be announced and it made it very difficult for them with the pool of people that they had. So I think this would give them a much more stable pool; I think it would eliminate a lot of people going out to take examinations which costs the state a great deal of money and we talked to the Commissions of DAS and they're in compliance or they're of the same feelings that

we are and we would hope that you would support this bill. Thank you very much.

REP. TERCYAK: Thank you very much. Any questions? Yes, Representative Vail.

REP. VAIL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So you're asking for a specific time period seven years. So if you took a test for a promotion or for some type of lateral movement or to do a different job classification, what you're asking for is that that be good for seven years. Is that what I understand?

JOE PIECHTA: Yes.

REP. VAIL: Okay. Because is there any such -- what determines that period of time or how long that a test would be good for now?

JOE PIECHTA: Well, right now the testing was usually a two year period that they had them. And what we're trying to do with this particular bill is have a continuous recruitment also with the testing. So in other words, as long as the test (inaudible) to change in an accounting it (inaudible) for the State of Connecticut for A and R. I think 1,800 of our employees doing the physical series out of 3,000. Accounting doesn't change a lot.

The same basic rules apply for basically a long period of time. So the tests have not changed very much or have substantially changed. So if the test hasn't substantially changed, we feel that that would be a good period of time for someone to be able to be on the list. It wouldn't disrupt the workforce because right now when we have a state test and I would give you an example. I have 250 people which are in

one position. If that test comes out and the people that are on that list expire, they all leave that day to go take the test.

So we have 250 people making a mass exodus to go over and take a test. We have to hire -- like testing at Rentschler field because we need big enough facilities. I think this would be a great cost savings. I think -- we've done studies and we see that where people taking the test that the results don't vary maybe within three to four points on the grade average that they receive because they have the basic knowledge in taking the test the first time if they passed it. DAS -- and we look at it as a cost savings, it would eliminate a lot of paperwork with DAS, so I think it's a win-win situation for the state and for everyone involved.

REP. VAIL: I have a few more if that's okay. So would that be a blanket rule across all state agencies?

JOE PIECHTA: I believe it is at the present time. We've got all the other agencies pretty much to take a look at it and decide if they thought that was something that would be feasible. We have all the other unions. The testing is for all the unions. I think A and R takes more tests than most unions because of the jobs (inaudible) that we have. We have 267 job titles. We have a lot in the physical series. Accounting is something that's testable because there are outside tests that are given all the time such as the CPA exam and other exams. So this is why I believe they do it in a series.

REP. VAIL: What about a case where let's say -- I'm actually a former state employee for tests for

promotions and such. And there didn't seem to be a set guideline for when we have to take the -- like the lieutenant's exam for me in the Department of Corrections. What if I got a fail grade the first time and I wanted to take a retest the next time, would I be available to do that?

JOE PIECHTA: Yes, you would be able to take a re-test and if you failed the re-test your first grade wouldn't count either. So you have the option. If you want to go back and take the test over again you have the option to do that but then you're starting from a clean slate.

REP. VAIL: Okay. Thank you. No further questions.

REP. TERCYAK: Thank you very much. Any other questions? I have one I just want to make clear. You mentioned continuous recruitment. My understanding of this bill is separate from freeing present employees of the burden of having to repeat a test that is exactly the same, where the main difference is now they have a year more or two years more of experience than they did the last time they took the test. But that is for many people the entire goal.

That as you said it would allow for continuous recruitment and people from the outside would be able to become -- get into the system of testing and applications so that when they saw a job advertised somewhere and then went to respond to it, they wouldn't be told, sorry you're not on the list, it should have been expiring next month but because of other problems, we're extending it for another two years. All of which would be happening not to the benefit or request of present employees but just these tests don't happen automatically.

JOE PIECHTA: No well that's why I wanted the continuous recruitment part of it and they've done that so far. In fact, DAS has pretty much complied with this bill already without the bill going through because we've had forward thinking commissioners there. And the reason is with continuous recruitment it allows the new people that didn't have an opportunity to get onto the system for promotion, to get onto the system for promotion. And I would think that as we -- and what I've been told in the beginning is like the list would be tremendous if we did this. And what I said to them was, I don't think they'd be that tremendous because if you take a look, right now you have the same people applying and retaking these examinations over and over again. I said I think you would eliminate those people and your list would grow very small. We'd be able to probably most of the testing in small facilities which cost a lot less money.

REP. TERCYAK: Thank you. Yes, Representative Vail.

REP. VAIL: Just one follow up, you actually made me think of it. What if the job description changed a certain amount, would that change the situation?

JOE PIECHTA: Yeah, in this particular case. If the job description changed and they felt they would contact the union since they would do now, there's a different scope for the job, we have different criteria that we're using for you to be accepted for the examination, the knowledge base that you need is different and we revamped the whole -- we put out a new series of tests in this area, then the people would have to retest.

REP. VAIL: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REP. TERCYAK: Thank you very much.

JOE PIECHTA: Thank you very much, gentlemen.

REP. TERCYAK: Okay. Dick Edmonds, followed by Jeremy Zeedyk, followed by Cindy Dubuque and Cathy Beyda. Thank you very much. We're ready whenever you are.

DICK EDMONDS: Good afternoon members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. My name is Dick Edmonds and I'm here in support of Senate Bill 909, AN ACT CONCERNING MANAGERS IN STATE SERVICE.

SB984

I'm a retired state employee after having served more than 20 years in state managerial service. There are many current state employees such as tax accountants, some attorney's and others who are classified as state managers, yet have no staff reporting to them and provide no management services. This bill is about common sense and fairness. It provides for one definition of state managers instead of two. This one definition does in fact include management responsibility for state managers.

In the written testimony that was submitted by Ellen Blaschinski, she submitted a copy of a Department of Administrators of Service Report of May 2012. I would encourage you -- entitled current issues with managerial compensation of state government. As Legislative leaders who are most interested in effective and efficient government, I would really hope that you would all take the time to read this document by the Department of Administrative Services.

**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**LABOR AND
PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES
PART 4
1274 – 1713**

2015



Testimony of
Melodie Peters, President
AFT Connecticut, AFL-CIO

Labor and Public Employees Committee
 February 26, 2015

SB 910 AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF THE HISTORY OF THE WORKER IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM

HB 6783 AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE UNIONIZATION OF COLLEGE ATHLETES

HB 6787 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION PROCESS FOR CERTAIN CLASSES OF POSITIONS IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE

HB 6785 AN ACT CONCERNING COOPERATIVE HEALTH CARE ARRANGEMENTS

Good afternoon Senator Winfield, Representative Tercyak and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. My name is Melodie Peters and I am the President of AFT Connecticut, a diverse state federation of union of nearly 29,000 public and private sector employees including state employees, nurses, healthcare workers, teachers and other school personnel.

I am submitting testimony in support of SB 910 An Act Concerning the Inclusion of the History of the Worker in the Public School Curriculum.

The history of the worker has shaped the American history and the American dream. It is through the living wages that the American worker fought for, that brought about the possibility of a white picket fence. It is the 8-hour day and the 40-hour work week that has given life the American ideal of a pursuit of happiness. It is only through the child labor laws and workplace safety protections that American workers demanded, that has led to the nuclear family that is idolized. It is only through studying these fights that we are able to fully appreciate what America has become and how our students can lead America to a brighter future.

HB 6783 AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE UNIONIZATION OF COLLEGE ATHLETES

The right to collectively bargain benefits all workers. Open discussions between workers and management help to progress their industry forward and can restore our middle class. The college athletes in our state provide a clear service to our colleges and universities. The services that the college athletes provide is an economic driver for these colleges and

universities. As a driver for economic benefit within these colleges and universities the individuals should have a voice in their working conditions, and not be held to a standard set upon them without an open dialogue and without another avenue to higher employment in their field. All employees should have this ability to unionize including the legislative employees for the very same reason. Choosing to be represented by a union should be an employees' right and not a privilege. By supporting HB 6783 we are ensuring that our college athletes have the same workplace protections that we would expect for one of the Nation's most decorated workforce, our student athletes.

HB 6787 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION PROCESS FOR CERTAIN CLASSES OF POSITIONS IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE

HB 6787 would add a waiver process allowing our state employees to extend their promotional examinations to a seven year period. Currently our state employees are taking these examinations multiple times within that period. This is an inefficient process, when we take into consideration that these examinations are not changing at this dramatic pace. The president of AFT Connecticut's A&R Local has had to deal with the frustrations that come up from our state employees taking an examination multiple times when the employee has stayed proficient at their job and there has been no change to the examination. This bill makes sense both fiscally for our employees with the loss of time due to the preparation and examination, and for our state in administering these tests. We are grateful for the opportunity to work with the Commissioner and the department of Administrative Services to resolve this issue. I urge you to support HB 6787.

HB 6785 AN ACT CONCERNING COOPERATIVE HEALTH CARE ARRANGEMENTS

We support HB 6785 with the additional language that is provided in AFSCME President, Sal Luciano's testimony. Expanding the healthcare for our municipal employees makes smart fiscal sense for our State and can lead to a healthier workforce and that can provide a cost savings for our municipalites.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today on this very important bill. I urge you to support these bills.



CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

56 Town Line Road, Rocky Hill, CT 06067
Tel: 860-571-6191 Fax: 860-571-6190

2/26

March 2, 2015

Testimony of the Connecticut AFL-CIO
H.B. 6787 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION PROCESS FOR CERTAIN
CLASSES OF POSITIONS IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

Representative Tercyak, Senator Winfield and distinguished members of the Labor and Public Employees committee, I thank you for allowing me to submit this written testimony on H.B. 6787

There is no quantifiable reason that I can think of to continue with the inefficient process of requiring State Employees to retake promotional exams multiple times when there has been no change to the exam and the employee has been proficient in their present position.

Connecticut will save money without diluting the promotional process that it uses to fill those vacancies.

The committee should be commended on bringing forward this bill, not only does it take the burden off of our state employees of having to test multiple times when there is no change to either the test or the employees competency, it has huge hidden cost savings to the state at a time when it is needed.

The Connecticut AFL-CIO supports H.B. 6787

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Pelletier
Executive Secretary Treasurer, Connecticut AFL-CIO

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106-1658House Bill 6787**An Act Concerning the Examination Process for Certain Classes of Positions in the Classified Service****Testimony of Commissioner Melody A. Currey****Labor and Public Employees Committee****February 26, 2015**

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS), as the agency responsible for administering the State's civil service examinations, offers the following testimony regarding House Bill 6787, An Act Concerning the Examination Process for Certain Classes of Positions in the Classified Service.

DAS supports the proposed language in subsections (d) through (f), which allows state employees who have taken an exam before to notify DAS that they choose to retain their previous scores, rather than re-take the exam. This language eliminates the need for state employees to re-take the same exam again and again, which is a benefit to employees. It also benefits DAS by reducing the number of applications that DAS will have to review and exams that DAS will have to grade.

Unfortunately, DAS cannot support this bill in its entirety. The proposed changes to (a) present significant problems to DAS. First, the change in line 6 from "may" to "shall" would require that DAS offer all of its exams on a continuous basis. Although DAS does offer a significant number of its exams on a continuous basis, it is simply not feasible to do so for all exams. There are many exams that are held on an as-needed basis only because the vacancy rate for the positions is low; running such exams on a continuous basis when there are no vacant positions is an unnecessary use of both the agency's and the applicants' time and resources. On the other end of the spectrum, running our largest exams and multi-step exams on a continuous basis is not feasible because of the extremely high volume of applications received and the resources needed to administer these exams.

DAS also cannot support the added language at lines 14 through 16 in subsection (a). DAS already evaluates applicants' experience and training when determining eligibility to take exams. To the extent that applicants challenge DAS's assessment of their experience and training, an appeal process already exists. As such, this language is unnecessary. Because it is superfluous, DAS is concerned that if this language is added, it may be misconstrued to require us to credit applicants for claimed experience without any safeguards for verification. DAS has met with the proponents and understand the concerns that motivated this proposal. We are working collaboratively with them to address this matter.

DAS thanks the Committee for this opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

**Testimony Of
Joseph Piechta, President
Administrative And Residual Employees Union
Before The Labor and Public Employees Committee
In Support of House Bill 6787
An Act Concerning The Examination Process for Certain Classes of Positions
In the Classified Service**

Senator Winfield, Representative Tercyak and distinguished members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. My name is Joseph Piechta and I am the president of the Administrative and Residual Employees Union, also known as A&R. A&R is comprised of approximately 3000 state employees with over 267 individual job titles, from Elevator Inspectors, Accountants, Tax Collectors and Fiscal Employees.

I appear before you today to testify in support of House Bill 6787, An Act Concerning The Examination Process for Certain Classes of Positions in the Classified Service. Just briefly, this bill makes sense. This bill gives the Commissioner of DAS the ability to retain promotional exam results that should be kept on file when there have not been significant changes to the job and members have already received a passing grade.

Thank you for the ability to speak before you today and I urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely, Joseph Piechta A&R President