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TARA DOWNES DEPUTY COMPTROLLER



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE of the STATE COMPTROLLER 165 Capitol Ave. Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Cabrera, Representative Wood, Senator Hwang, Representative Pavalock-D'Amato, and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

Today, I'm proud to testify in support of HB 5375: An Act Requiring the Comptroller to Conduct a Study of Health Insurance Coverage for Retired Police Officers.

I am the son, brother and brother-in-law of police officers. I have seen up close how difficult of a job that this can be.

For a number of reasons, recruitment and retention within law enforcement has become a challenge. One way to meet that challenge is to offer strong post-retirement benefits, something some cities and towns moved away from in the last decade and a half.

Our office welcomes this bill and is prepared to conduct a study of coverage gaps for retired Connecticut police officers.

Fighting to make our healthcare system fairer is why I got into politics in the first place. I sincerely hope that the study that this bill requires will compel the legislature and the state to act and ensure that we are serving our retired police officers as well as they have served us.

All the best,

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Sean Scanlon State Comptroller