



Testimony on House Bill No. 6283 (an act concerning the utilization of buildings occupied by executive branch agencies)

Submitted by Scott Shepard, Policy Director

February 15, 2019

Good afternoon. My name is Scott Shepard. I am the Policy & Research Director for the Yankee Institute for Public Policy, Connecticut's free-market think tank. I submit this note in support of **House Bill 6283**.

Connecticut government needs to figure out how to do more with less. One way to do this would be to use government-owned office space more efficiently. Property freed up through a more efficient allocation process could be sold or turned over to the Commission on Pension Sustainability for dedication to pension-funding purposes. Achieving these savings first requires an inventory.

Not only is this bill a good idea in itself, but it can serve as a model and example for future legislation. In order for the state to make most efficient use of the resources dedicated to it, it must first take a complete inventory of everything it owns and how it is used; every program it has enacted, and how it performs; and every mandate it has applied to municipalities, businesses and individuals, at what absolute and economic cost and to what total benefit. Then it can start to determine how to get the same or better results at cheaper cost and with less drag on economic liberty and personal autonomy within the state. **House Bill 6283** would take an admirable first step in this process.