

March 30, 2010

Gale Mattison, Chairperson
State Contracting Standards Board
Room 173, State Office Building
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Mr. Mattison:

Congratulations on being appointed to serve as the Chairperson of the State Contracting Standards Board. Governor Rell said when she signed the law creating the Contracting Standards Board in 2007, "Our citizens should be confident that state contracts are being awarded through a process that is open, honest and fair. Government must conduct its operations with the highest standards of integrity."

Almost three years later, the Board has yet to meet never mind fulfill its mission of assisting state agencies to "achieve state goals of accountability, transparency and results based outcomes and to protect taxpayers' interest." Contracts are being awarded without a thorough cost-benefit analysis that could determine if indeed the state is getting the best value for the services performed.

In 2006, a CSEA study found that the state was wasting **\$6.9 million a year** on outside consultants who were doing work for the Department of Transportation that could have been done more efficiently in-house. Yet the state continues to use the less accountable outside consultants to perform core governmental functions such as bridge safety inspections. A recent report by the Tri-State Transportation Campaign found that 33 percent of the state's bridges are deficient. Will this and other vital work be done with taxpayers' interests in mind?

In 2007, we witnessed another failed outsourcing project when the state hired MAXIMUS to upgrade our criminal record tracking system. They cost the state **at least \$8 million dollars** and put our citizens' personal information at risk.

The State Contracting Standards Board has an important role to play in this economic

climate, that of ensuring that state dollars are being spent wisely. We look forward to working with the full board to discuss our ideas for performing state services in a more cost effective and efficient manner.

Very truly yours,



Robert Rinker

Executive Director, CSEA SEIU Local 2001

RD:ed

CC: : The SCSB:

Charles Cassella

Gary Dilk

Lawrence Fox

Thomas Harrison

Lewis Hurwitz

Al Ilg

Dennis Keenan

Sal Luciano

Stu Mahler

Claudia Powers

Jim Racz

Alfred Regina

Wendy Estela Scaringe

CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Executive Board

Ron McLellan, President, CEUI SEIU Local 511

Ryan Lynch, Senior Planner, Tri-State Transportation Board

Connecticut General Assembly Transportation Committee