

Connecticut General Assembly



PCSW

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

The State's leading force for women's equality

# Official Statement

18-20 Trinity St., Hartford, CT 06106 • 860/240-8300 • [pcsw@cga.ct.gov](mailto:pcsw@cga.ct.gov) • [www.cga.ct.gov/pcsw/](http://www.cga.ct.gov/pcsw/)

CONTACT: Christine Palm, Communications Director at 860/240-8449; or 860/836-2145

**FROM:** Teresa C. Younger, executive director

**DATE:** March 1, 2013

**RE:** Incident at Appropriations Committee Hearing on Feb. 21

“As the agency mandated to study and work toward the elimination of gender discrimination, of which sexual harassment is a part, we look forward to working with the leadership from both sides of the aisles to make sure State government has a zero tolerance policy toward this kind of behavior – whether unintentional or not. After all, in addition to being the seat of government, the State Capitol is also a workplace, and this incident shows that inappropriate behavior happens in workplaces everywhere – a fact borne out by the frequent calls to our office from women in many employment situations. But in this case, it’s especially important for an engaged citizenry to know that their government will treat them with the respect they deserve whenever they come to testify.”

*About the PCSW: The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women was formed in 1973 under Sec. 46a-1 of the Connecticut General Statutes to study and improve Connecticut women’s economic security, health and safety; to promote consideration of qualified women to leadership positions and to work toward the elimination of gender discrimination. As a non-partisan arm of the General Assembly, the agency monitors, critiques and recommends changes to legislation in order to inform public policy, and assesses programs and practices in all State agencies for their effect on the state’s women. The PCSW serves as a liaison between government and its diverse constituents, and convenes stakeholders, including the business, non-profit and educational communities, local governments, and the media, in order to promote awareness of women’s issues.*