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-PRESS RELEASE-

SECRETARY MERRILL TO CHAIR 2013 CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES CHARITABLE GIVING CAMPAIGN

SECRETARY OF THE STATE SETS GOAL OF \$1.4 MILLION IN TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS
TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS; SEEKS TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION OF STATE
EMPLOYEES TO 15%

HARTFORD: Secretary of the State Denise Merrill announced today that she will be chairing the 2013 Connecticut State Employees' Campaign to raise funds for charitable causes. The campaign starts on July 22, 2013 and runs through November 30, 2013 and seeks to raise more than \$1.4 Million in charitable contributions from Connecticut State Employees. The 2012 Connecticut State Employees Campaign was chaired by Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman and raised a total of \$1,403,753 in contributions from 11% of Connecticut's more than 50,000 state employees participating in the campaign. The 2013 campaign seeks to increase participation among state employees to at least 15% and raise more than \$1.4 Million from state employees. Campaigns from previous years saw participation rates of nearly 20% of Connecticut's state employees.

"I am very honored to be chairing the 2013 Connecticut State Employees Campaign," said Secretary Merrill. "Over the last seventeen years of this campaign, Connecticut's state employees have generously given nearly \$27 Million to charitable organizations at the workplace. Though we have had tough times over the last few years, our state employees have continued to be generous and I am encouraged that improvements in our economy may result in higher participation in our annual campaign in 2013. I can't wait to get started and I encourage every state agency to hold events in your office to raise funds. Be creative and have fun with it, and let's break some fundraising records!"

The Connecticut State Employees' Campaign for Charitable Giving (CSEC) is an annual fall event allowed by Public Act 93-182. It is the once a year opportunity for Connecticut State Employees to contribute to non-profit charities at the workplace. Through the campaign, which

runs from July 22nd through November 29th, state employees can make a single gift to help people locally, throughout the nation, and around the world. The contributions made by state employees make possible a wide range of vital services—food for the hungry; protection of the environment; research for cures of diseases; care for both children and seniors; to name just a fraction of the services the more than 700 charities provide to thousands of people each year.

Connecticut State Employees own the campaign. State Employees set the policy for the campaign, review the charities that apply and oversee the distribution of funds. The campaign committee selects a participating organization to act as the Principal Combined Nine Federations, representing over 700 charities, will benefit from the campaign in 2013. They are:

- America's Charities
- Community Health Charities of New England
- Connecticut United Ways
- Greater Hartford Arts Council
- Earth Share New England
- Global Impact
- Independent Charities of America
- Neighbor To Nation
- Partners for a Better World

Find more information about the 2013 Connecticut State Employees Campaign online at:
www.csec.ct.gov