

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

January 7, 2011

Dear State Employee:

As a follow-up to Governor Malloy's January 5<sup>th</sup> message to you, I would like to inform you that we have established a process whereby you can share your cost-effective and cost saving solutions with him. The Governor would like to include as many of these ideas as possible in the development of his first budget. As the budget must be presented to the legislature on February 16<sup>th</sup>, the time is very short for this process. For this reason, we have established a second phase which will take place over a longer period of time so that ideas that may take more time to develop and refine can be explored and evaluated. With respect to represented employees, this process has been established as a result of meetings with Union leaders.

Phase One. Deadline for ideas: January 20<sup>th</sup>. All employees are encouraged to submit their cost savings ideas to the Governor. Ideas of non-represented employees should be emailed to <u>Alison.newman@ct.gov</u>. Unionized employees may present their ideas to their bargaining unit representative(s). The unions may have meetings where their members can share their ideas. You will be notified by your union if they are planning to utilize this approach.

Phase Two. This will be a process over the next six (6) months and perhaps continuing well beyond. In addition to the continuation of the sharing of ideas as outlined under Phase One, there will be a process established within agencies where employees can share their ideas with other employees, their agency heads and management through agency committees. This longer term process will allow for the exchange of more complex ideas and the development of better solutions in a collaborative manner. For represented employees, the process will involve appropriate labor/management structures and committees and will be worked out through their elected union representatives. There will also be an element of centralized assistance, coordination, and support. More details will be provided over the next few weeks.

Governor Malloy recognizes your contribution to the people of State of Connecticut and believes that many of you can offer ideas that will result in process improvements as well as cost savings that will aid in addressing the significant budgetary issues that are before us. We sincerely would appreciate your assistance in this joint endeavor and I look forward to hearing from you.

Benjamin Barnes Secretary, Office of Policy and Management