



**DENISE W. MERRILL**  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CONNECTICUT

For Immediate Release:  
March 21, 2016

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- Press Release -

**Statement from the Secretary of the State on the GAE  
Committee's Approval of the Regulation of Unlicensed  
Commercial Tax Preparers**

**Hartford:** Secretary Merrill said, "My office has received a number of complaints from members of the public who suffered various degrees of harm at the hands of unlicensed commercial tax preparers. This bill will protect the public from unqualified tax preparers while also allowing charitable services and other entities that are already regulated to carry out their business. In addition, this proposal sets a pathway for people to get qualified. It is a win-win-win for the people of Connecticut."

House Bill 5610, An Act Requiring the Licensing of Tax Preparers and Facilitators, would create a Connecticut State Board of Tax Practitioners, which would reside in the Secretary of the State's office. The Board of Tax Practitioners would oversee: (1) registration; (2) licensure; (3) continuing education; (4) renewal; (5) disclosure; and (5) enforcement for non-credentialed commercial tax preparers.

The bill received bi-partisan support from the Government Administration and Elections Committee of the General Assembly.

To see the announcement of this initiative, click here: [http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/releases/2016/3.14.16\\_Commercial\\_Tax\\_Preparers.GA.E.Release.pdf](http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/releases/2016/3.14.16_Commercial_Tax_Preparers.GA.E.Release.pdf)