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COMPTROLLER SEAN SCANLON ANNOUNCES PUBLICATION OF 3RD STATE EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATION AND PAY EQUITY REPORT

(HARTFORD, CT) – Comptroller Sean Scanlon today announced the findings unveiled in *Post-Retirement Tsunami: Trends in Representation and Pay Equity in CT State Government.* The report is the third installment in a collaboration between the Office of the State Comptroller and Professor Mohamad Alkadry, Director of the University of Connecticut's School of Public Policy.

Following the 2022 retirement "tsunami," thousands of employees left state service. In the last three years, though, approximately 5,423 people have entered state service. This report examines the representation and pay equity of this new cohort to see if existing policies and recruitment strategies are working to build a more diverse and equitably compensated workforce.

The report's findings suggest that further work is needed to achieve pay equity in state government. Currently in Connecticut state government, Asian men and women are the highest earners when compared to their colleagues, followed next by White men. Connecticut's greatest diversity gap — for representation and, consequently, pay equity — is recruitment of Hispanic men and women. This is true for both longer-term employees and new hires, which means that current policies and practices are not overcoming the pitfalls of past policies and practices.

"My office is committed to transparency, even when the data may not showcase the progress we aspire to make. These findings reinforce the fact that, as a state, we must continue to prioritize equity and diversity in our workforce," **said Comptroller Scanlon.** "It is critical that the people creating and enacting policies reflect the population they serve. It has been a clear mission of Governor Lamont to ensure our state agency leaders reflect Connecticut's diversity, and this report signals that agencies, including my own, must look at their own data and policies to see how they can close pay gaps and increase diversity in hiring. My office remains

committed to this work and supporting my partners in the state, and we are appreciative of UConn's School of Public Policy for their expertise in conducting this analysis."

"The UConn School of Public Policy is pleased to partner with the Office of the State Comptroller to contribute to Connecticut's equity and diversity efforts by studying the state workforce," said Professor Mohamad Alkadry, Director of the University of Connecticut's School of Public Policy. "We hope that this report will advance equity efforts in the state. A more equitable workforce has real implications for the ability of the public sector to design and implement policies that effectively address community needs. Better equity in the workforce results in better policies and improved outcomes."

The report notes that each agency has its own individualized challenges, meaning that there is no all-encompassing solution to the disparities noted. Instead, achieving representation and pay equity requires individualized strategies to address challenges pertinent to each body.

The report also encourages the Department of Administrative Services to conduct an analysis of the diversity of statewide candidate pools to investigate if state employee representation reflective of the candidate pools at their starting point, or if diverse candidates are being disqualified along the way. This analysis of this data could help inform whether diverse candidates are even entering the application process at all.

This series of reports, initiated by the Office of the State Comptroller, is conducted to inform discussions and policies by the Governor's Council on Women and Girls. The full report can be found on the Office of the State Comptroller website.

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