

For Immediate Release

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**CANDIDATE RESPONDS TO CONNECTICUT SECRETARY OF THE STATE
DENISE W. MERRILL'S DECISION TO SEEK ANOTHER TERM**

**KAREN TALAMELLI CUSICK, BUSINESS FINANCE EXECUTIVE AND CANDIDATE FOR
CONNECTICUT SECRETARY OF THE STATE
BELIEVES MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE**

The statement announcing Secretary Merrill's candidacy for a third term confirmed my reason for joining the race.

Of course, issues of the integrity of our voting system and access to voting are of paramount importance. That is where the office and responsibilities of the Secretary of the State start - it is just the beginning of the effort. The same is true for the other duties and functions of the SOTS.

I'm running FOR Connecticut. I'm a proud lifelong resident of CT and I'm also a proud democrat. But, am concerned for our State – we all should be. The State is in dire need of a new vision at every level of Statewide elected office, including the Secretary of the State.

We can no longer afford to be spectators in the effort to rebuild our State. Plausible deniability is not an excuse. And, the status quo is not an option. Has the opportunity, inherent in the Office of the Secretary of the State, to facilitate, encourage and foster business enterprise in the State been squandered by years of lost opportunity?

I intend to transform the office of the Secretary of the State to help restore Connecticut's promise - for all residents. The Secretary of the State must be able to work with and support State executive and legislative leaders, municipal officers, town clerks, registrars of voters, businesses, nonprofits, unions, entrepreneurs, educational, health care and other institutions. The Secretary of State has a crucial role: they must be a uniter, a leader and a mobilizer, with business know-how, political savvy and an appreciation of the urgency of what needs to be done. It is only when you recognize a problem that you can be part of the solution.

We need to come together to better our fortunes, increase opportunity, build stability and certainty, and create an environment for businesses and individuals to prosper.

As Secretary of the State, I will do exactly that - to ensure that all of the 3.6 million residents of Connecticut are represented and benefitted.

We can do better, we must do better, and we will do better.

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Paid for by KarenforSOSCT, Helen Riviere, Treasurer

Approved by Karen Talamelli Cusick