

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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JOHN DESTEFANO, JR.
Mayor



*The vision of New Haven's children
is our city's greatest resource**

Testimony of the City of New Haven To the Labor and Public Employees Committee

March 15, 2006

HB 5741, "An Act Concerning the Prevailing Wage Thresholds"

The City of New Haven *opposes any measures that would undermine the prevailing wage laws* established by the State of Connecticut as currently codified. Prevailing wage laws are established to protect the livelihood of citizen-workers who sustain the vitality of our communities and our economy.

The City of New Haven strongly is encouraged that prevailing wage is part of our project labor agreements for City sponsored construction projects, guaranteeing fair wages.

Some may argue that the prevailing wage may increase the cost of construction projects, although a 1996 Public Review and Investigations Committee report recommended continuing the law; we see the prevailing wage as a necessity in helping working families meet the needs of paying for such things as healthcare, home heating and continuing education for their families—as those costs are increasing.

The prevailing wage guarantees good work on construction projects by offering a wage that offers workers the ability to support their families. *We strongly urge this committee to take no action on this legislation.*



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**This creative impression is the work of Rayshon Gray, a student at Katherine Brennan School.*