



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

**Testimony of the  
Department of Consumer Protection  
Presented to the Judiciary Committee  
Regarding Senate Bill 673**

**Friday March 24, 2006**

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Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor, and members of the Committee, I am Richard Maloney, the Director of the Trade Practices Division of the Department of Consumer Protection. I am here on behalf of Edwin R. Rodriguez, the Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection. It is my pleasure to submit the following testimony in support of Raised Senate Bill 673.

**Senate Bill No. 673**

**An Act Concerning Criminal Penalties for Unlicensed Persons Engaging in Certain Work for Which an Occupational License is Required.**

The Department supports this bill, which would greatly increase our enforcement authority by allowing a court to impose a criminal penalty on those individuals who perform work without a license. In past experiences, Department investigators have caught the same individuals working without a proper license on multiple occasions. However, these persons, or businesses who hire them, merely pay the statutory fine each time, and consider this the cost of doing business in Connecticut. This bill would cause a stop-gap effect on this phenomenon, thereby protecting consumers from substandard and dangerous work. We therefore strongly urge the Committee's support for this important consumer bill.

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in support of this bill on behalf of the Department. I am available to answer any questions you may have.

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