

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Connecticut

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
REGARDING RAISED BILL 7146
February 21, 2007

Good afternoon, my name is Paul Brady. I am the Executive Director of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Connecticut, representing some 100 consulting engineering firms in the state, many of whom provide engineering services for state agencies and municipalities. I would like to comment on Raised House Bill 7146, An Act Concerning Auditing of Large State Construction Projects.

The bill would require the Auditor of Public Accounts to appoint an inspector to audit all state construction projects over \$50 million. The inspector is to have a "background in engineering."

We don't object to the idea behind this bill but offer a couple of suggestions.

The bill calls for an "audit" of the construction project. If you mean an audit of the financial records of the project, then perhaps a Certified Public Accountant may be better qualified for this work. If you mean someone who will inspect the project as it is being constructed, perhaps "audit" is not the best description of what you want. A third-party inspector may be a better description. Also, "someone with a background in engineering" should be replaced by a "Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Connecticut." That would meet the legal requirements for the practice of engineering in Connecticut.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any of your questions.