

**General Assembly Government Administration and Elections Committee  
Proposed Bill No. 41  
AN ACT CONCERNING CLEAN CONTRACTING STANDARDS**

**February 21, 2007**

Senator Slossberg, Representative Caruso, and Members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee:

My name is John Vitale, and I work for the State of Connecticut as a Property Agent in the Department of Transportation.

I want to thank Senator Donald Defronzo for introducing Senate Bill 41, and the Committee for raising this important legislation. Our members in CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 working for the State of Connecticut are committed to preventing contracting-out from reducing the quality of our public service or wasting taxpayer dollars, and this legislation will go a long way to protect the public interest.

I believe the Clean Contracting Bill will help provide safeguards against fiascoes like the I-84 mess and the IT privatization attempted 8 years ago. Although these high profile stories make headlines, privatization is happening at various departments in the State of Connecticut such as the Office of Rights of Way, Appraisals Division and in one area of the Department of Transportation where there were at one time 15 IT State workers, now there are only 4.

I have 20 years of State experience in the DOT and am currently the President of CSEA/SEIU Local 2001's P-4 Council. This gives me a unique perspective on the use of State employees versus the use of private consultants. I strongly urge the investment in expanding the State workforce. However, when consultants have to be used, this bill should allow for increased oversight that the citizens of the State deserve. It is not only a fiscal issue, but also a safety one.

In closing, as a citizen and taxpayer of the State of Connecticut, I strongly urge the passage of the Clean Contracting Bill.

**John Vitale**

Property Agent 2, Connecticut Dept. of Transportation  
Council P-4 President, CSEA/SEIU Local 2001  
405 Pine Hill Rd., Moosup, CT 06354  
Home Phone: (860) 564-0146