



**Testimony
Robert McVeigh
President
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Supporting SB-400
An Act Eliminating the Business Entity Tax
Before the Commerce Committee
March 6, 2008**

The Connecticut Alarms and Systems Integrators Association (CASIA) supports SB-400, An Act Eliminating the Business Entity Tax.

CASIA / Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association, established, in 1974, is a statewide trade association formerly known as the Connecticut Burglar and Fire Alarm Association / CBFAA. Dedicated to protecting lives and property through the responsible use of electronic security, fire and supervisory alarm systems, digital technologies have enabled member companies to offer enhanced services through integrated network systems.

The business entity tax has been a burden on the alarm and security industry since its inception in 2002. Our membership is made up of many small businesses that are more sensitive to the \$250 amount than their larger competitor companies and corporations. The \$250 that is currently paid to the State used to pay for another month of electricity or heat for the administrative offices of our members. The alarm and security companies in Connecticut are often stretching to make ends meet from month to month, and the elimination of this tax would be a great relief to our members and encourage the growth of their businesses.

The repeal of this tax would be a big step forward in Connecticut's plan to improve the business climate in our State. It will help our members as well as other small businesses around the State to be more successful, and it will also eliminate one of the current deterrents of starting a new business in Connecticut. It is for these reasons that the Connecticut Alarms and Systems Integrators implores lawmakers to support SB-400.