



CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

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Testimony of Lori Pelletier, Secretary-Treasurer of the Connecticut AFL-CIO

Before the Commerce Committee

February 10, 2009

Good morning Senator LeBeau and Representative Berger and the members of the Commerce Committee, my name is Lori Pelletier and I serve as Secretary-Treasurer of the Connecticut AFL-CIO, and on behalf of 900 local union affiliates representing 220,000 union men and women from every city and town in Connecticut, thank you for holding this public hearing.

As this economic situation has yet to turn around, it is appreciated that you raised the following bills, which I am here to testify in favor of.

Proposed H.B. No. 5922 AN ACT CONCERNING COMMITMENTS OF RESPONSIBLE CORPORATIONS.

Proposed H.B. No. 6100 AN ACT REQUIRING REPORTS ON PROJECTS RECEIVING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.

For many years the Connecticut AFL-CIO has been at the forefront in trying to bring some sanity into the process of awarding state tax dollars to corporate America. The notion that a company comes looking for a handout, and in many cases simultaneously rewards the top leadership with multi-million dollar salaries and bonuses is absurd. Where is their commitment that our money will be spent wisely? HB 5922 will do just that.

HB 6100 will provide needed answers on what we are getting for our money. Any corporation looking for a handout will understand the commitment they must make, and this is particularly important as we wait for this economy to turn around.

We applaud the Commerce committee for their proposed legislation and if you have any questions I would be glad to answer them at this time.

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