



**TESTIMONY
JOHN YUSZA, JR.
CONNECTICUT ALARM & SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS ASSOCIATION
(CASIA)
BEFORE THE
LABOR COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

The Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association (CASIA) *opposes* HB-5515, which would allow towns to set wage and benefit standards for contractors.

Towns should not have the power to establish wages and run other peoples businesses. This is why we have a complete bid process. This bill will only result in more business regulation with fewer companies bidding or higher bids due to increased overhead.

HB-5515 could significantly increase costs for Connecticut businesses, making it very difficult for us to rebound from this recession. When a town needs a new dugout for the ball field, park benches, lighting for the football field, etc. they often turn to contractors to donate their time and services to build these projects because they cannot afford to do it on their own. It's time that Connecticut recognizes that businesses are a partner in their communities not an adversary.

Please reject this bill, which is anti-business and anti-jobs.

CASIA, a statewide trade association established in 1974, is comprised of alarm companies working together to protect lives and property through the responsible use of electrical security and fire alarm systems. Our members are professional and technically skilled and experienced in integrated systems for intrusion and fire systems, closed circuit television, telephone, intercom, home theater, access control systems and computer wiring.