



**TESTIMONY  
ROBERT MCVEIGH  
PRESIDENT  
CONNECTICUT ALARM & SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS ASSOCIATION  
(CASIA)  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 3, 2009**

The Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association (CASIA) **opposes HB-6286, as drafted.**

We are concerned that this bill appears to allow Fire Department personnel to wire and install carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors without the requisite license or training required by the state Department of Consumer Protection. The state of Connecticut has set forth, with deliberation, the training and experience needed by individuals to install low voltage electrical devices.

These requirements are intended to protect the public as well as employees from unsafe practices. We are therefore very concerned that this bill shields individuals from liability even if the detectors are installed in a faulty manner or the equipment is inferior. This is a terrible precedent and will undermine the safety and security of our citizens.

Clearly, any electrical installation should be done by a properly licensed individual to ensure the safety and welfare of the consumer. **We therefore oppose HB-6286, as drafted, but would certainly work with the firefighters to address these concerns.**

*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.*