

**TESTIMONY OF
THE UNITED ILLUMINATING COMPANY**

Before the Banking Committee

On

RAISED BILL 6414– An Act Concerning Identity Theft

Legislative Office Building

February 24, 2008.

Senator Duff, Representative Barry, and members of Banks Committee. My name is George Balsamo and I am the Meter Security Manager for The United Illuminating Company (“UI”). I am here today to express UI’s support to **Raised Bill 6414– An Act Concerning Identity Theft**.

UI agrees that the identity theft of children is an egregious act that preys upon those individuals who can least protect themselves. Our experiences show that the identities of children are used to establish utility service to either avoid payment of services previously provided to an adult or to establish a new account with the intent to avoid payment for future services. It is our belief that this type of exploitation within our State is proving costly to those minor children whose identities are fraudulently being used. Furthermore, the financial loss, shown within UI’s uncollectible figures is ultimately born by the ratepayers.

UI wishes to assist in any manner it can to help protect minors and ratepayers alike from this type of activity and proposes enhanced changes to 53a-129a(a) which includes language to that affect. We further wish to participate either directly or indirectly in supporting this task force to assist them in understanding the scope of the problem and the costs associated with it.

For these reasons, UI strongly supports **Raised Bill 6414– An Act Concerning Identity Theft** and urges the Committee to give it a Joint Favorable Report.