Tri Town Precision Plastics Inc.
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To: State of Connecticut Finance Committee

RE: New tax measures under consideration, HB-6350 and HB-6349

Date: February 9, 2009

My name is Bob Brinkerhoff and I am Plant Manager at Tri Town Precision Plastics in Deep River, Connecticut. Tri Town currently has 160 employees and produces plastic injection molded parts for numerous industries.

The purpose of this letter is to request that HB-6350 and HB-6349 be voted down.

I understand the need for Connecticut to balance the budget and eliminate debt. I just don't think that enacting legislation that puts more pressure on manufacturers is the way to do it. Last week I met with every employee here to discuss how the recession is affecting us and the actions we're taking to protect the company and our people. Phase I includes:

- Hiring freeze and allowing attrition without backfill
- Wage freeze
- Overtime elimination
- Bringing in previously outsourced work
- No personal car use…it will not be reimbursed
- Reduced equipment purchases
- Employee productivity and quality initiatives

We are running a very tight ship right now trying not to lay anyone off. Every dollar saved matters to us. If business continues to erode and we need to enact Phase II of our budget cuts, then people will certainly lose their jobs. How is that going to help the employees, the company, or the state? Please do not put any more burdens on Connecticut manufacturers. We are fighting for our lives right now and need help, not taxes. If you've been in the business world then you know how it works…the company must stay strong in order to survive and keep its employees working. One way or the other, additional expenses will be felt by our employees in the form of reduced wages, benefits, layoffs, etc. Unfortunately, I cannot pass these expenses on to my customers because they are already actively seeking price reductions from Tri Town. In addition I am fighting to save business from desperate competitors. For example, a $400,000/year job is in serious jeopardy because an out-of-state competitor is underbidding me by 25%.

This is the wrong time for Tri Town to shoulder a tax increase. Thank you for considering my input and please do not enact these tax increases.

Sincerely,

Bob Brinkerhoff
Plant Manager
Tri Town Precision Plastics