



To Members of the Labor Committee:

My name is Judd Mellott, CEO of Westport Precision, LLC a precision sheet metal fabricator located in Fairfield County.

I am writing to you to let you know of my opposition to HB-6187, which would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave. This proposal will substantially increase our business costs and could force us to reevaluate the other benefits we provide our employees. In addition it may require us to consider downsizing.

Now is not the time to be increasing the cost of doing business in the state. Manufacturers like us are already heavily burdened by both the existing state mandates and the loss of available business due to both the economic downturn and the movement of jobs overseas.

Despite these constraints we have been able to increase in size from 17 employees when my business partner and I bought the company in 2002 to our current level of 63. However, this year we will face enormous challenges just to protect those 63 jobs. Please don't make it any harder on us than it already is. Small to medium size companies are the back bone of the State's economy.

I urge you to reject this proposal and work with the business community to control labor and workplace costs in Connecticut. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judd Mellott", written over a horizontal line.

Judd Mellott
CEO Westport Precision, LLC