



Testimony
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Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce
Before the Commerce Committee
March 16, 2010

The Quinnipiac Chamber urges support for the following bills that are aimed at easing the regulatory burden on businesses:

- **SB-453 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE'S REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT** – Directs the Program Review Committee to review the state's regulatory environment.
- **HB-5499 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROMOTION OF BUSINESS** – To require state agencies to more fully consider the impact of proposed regulations on businesses.

To improve Connecticut's business climate, state agencies must be a partner in supporting job growth, not an adversary. Too often, our members complain that they cannot move forward with critical projects or that they are mired in a complex web of government regulation that makes it difficult for them to do business in this state.

The Quinnipiac Chamber therefore *supports SB-453*, which will require the legislature's Program Review & Investigations Committee to review the state's regulatory environment to pinpoint overly burdensome regulations and processes and make recommendations to ease the regulatory burden on businesses. .

The Quinnipiac Chamber also *supports HB-5499, with revisions*, which will require state agencies to more fully consider the impact of proposed regulations on businesses. Costly and burdensome state regulations should not be imposed *without a thorough analysis of the short and long-term impacts on business and job growth*.

Often times, the fiscal notes prepared by state agencies in promulgating regulations do not accurately reflect the impact on businesses. In some cases, determining the cost requires expertise outside of the agency's purview. In other cases, the fiscal note provides a cursory report that downplays the cost to business or indicates that there is no anticipated significant impact to small businesses. Information provided to state agencies by businesses affected by the proposed regulation regarding compliance costs has largely been ignored.

We believe HB-5499 should be strengthened to require state agencies to obtain an independent analysis of the impact of a proposed regulation on business, upon the request or petition of the business community.

The Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce serves more than 750 member companies from the North Haven and Wallingford area. We are the largest non-metropolitan chamber in the state.