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**TESTIMONY OF ENE (ENVIRONMENT NORTHEAST)  
TO THE ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE  
*S.B. 463 AAC Financing of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy***

March 18, 2010

Good afternoon Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello, Senator Witkos, Representative Williams and members of the Committee. My name is Jessie Stratton, Director of Government Relations for ENE. ENE is a non-profit research and advocacy organization that focuses on energy, air quality and climate change solutions for New England and Eastern Canada. ENE appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony to the Energy and Technology Committee on *S.B. 463 AAC Financing of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy*.

The structures, financing and specific program elements included in this bill would undermine – and replace – the functions, and significant resources from oversubscribed renewable energy programs and the nationally lauded energy efficiency programs administered by the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund Board (CCEF) and the Energy Conservation Management Board (ECMB). These separate entities were created by PA 98-28 to carry out very different, but complementary, functions as part of restructuring the electric industry and to the state achieve its energy and environmental goals.

The RPS first established in that restructuring legislation was amended in PA 07-242 to include increased percentages through 2020 that are consistent with most of our neighboring states. An RPS exists both as a statement of policy and as a mechanism to provide the market assurance essential to financing the development of renewables. ENE has consistently opposed changes to the RPS as they wreak havoc with that predictability, and as members of this committee know, we have seen wild variations in REC prices as a result. This bill would dramatically affect that market by reducing the 2020 RPS requirements by 505.

While we have many concerns about specific provisions in the bill, ENE's primary concern is that it seeks to do legislatively what is already being done well by established Boards and staffs with expertise in program design, implementation and evaluation. The ECMB