



February 25, 2010

Dear Committee:

I am the President of Yarde Metals, Inc. We are a metals distributor employing approximately 380 associates in the State of Connecticut for the past 33 years.

I am writing to you for your opposition on the Connecticut Paid Sick Leave Bill which poses serious consequences and threat to our State's businesses and resident-employees. Approving this bill will result in an additional \$225,000.00 which our business cannot possibly endure. Our employees have gone through two temporary furloughs and three reductions in workforce since October of 2007. Our headcount in Connecticut has been reduced by more than 100 employees.

Our Company is not producing enough profit to cover operational expenses and we continue to lose money on a daily basis. Why would our State government impose additional expense on Connecticut businesses when employers are doing everything possible to survive these difficult economic times? Ultimately, this will result in hurting the associates we employ.

One of Yarde Metals fundamental values is to treat associates with respect and dignity. In doing so, we pride ourselves as an employer of choice and we offer our associates and their families with above-market wages & benefits, paid time off, career growth opportunities, and a stake in the business where their hard work is continually recognized and rewarded.

By integrating these values and principles into the daily operations of our business, Yarde Metals has achieved success. In order to continue operating and providing existing and hopefully, new associates and families these generous benefits and opportunities, we need you to oppose this bill. Please visit us at www.yarde.com to better understand our values and who we are.

This is an extremely important matter to me and I thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Connecticut Company's like Yarde Metals require your support on this issue.

Sincerely,

Matthew L. Smith, President & COO
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