

**Statement
Of
The United Illuminating Company
Re:
Raised House Bill No. 5440
AAC AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE
Before the Commerce Committee
Legislative Office Building
March 9, 2010**

Senator LeBeau, Representative Berger and members of the Commerce Committee. My name is Roddy Diotalevi, and I am the Director of Client Services for The United Illuminating Company (UI). In that capacity I manage new business development activities and also represent UI on the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council. I submit these written comments on **Raised House Bill 5440 – AN ACT CONCERNING AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE.**

Raised House Bill No. 5440 (the Bill) outlines various provisions to promote and incentivize the use of electric and hybrid vehicles in Connecticut and to support such vehicles. UI supports many components of this Bill including revisions to the State Building Code that would facilitate the installation of electric vehicle infrastructure and allowing electric vehicles to be driven in HOV lanes regardless of the number of occupants.

However, UI opposes Section 3 of the Bill. Section 3 establishes an “electric vehicle infrastructure support account” within the General Fund and to be used by the Department of Economic and Community development to provide grants to businesses seeking to upgrade infrastructure to support the use of electric vehicles state-wide (Lines 24 – 31). We believe the timing for the establishment of this account is premature because the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (EVIC), formed by Governor Rell under Executive Order 34, is tasked with proposing appropriate incentives and grants for electric vehicle infrastructure. The fifteen-member Council, co-chaired by the Commissioner of the Department of Economic Development and made up of various representatives from the public and private sector including The United Illuminating Company, will make recommendations on how electric vehicles can have the most positive impact in Connecticut in a final report to the Governor on September 1, 2010.

For these reasons, UI does not fully support the Bill in its current form. However, as I state before, UI would support this Bill, absent Section 3 or any other language on funding electric vehicle infrastructure, until the findings of the EVIC are considered.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments regarding **Raised House Bill 5440 – AN ACT CONCERNING AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE**