



HARTFORD WHALERS BOOSTER CLUB, INC.
P.O. BOX 273
HARTFORD, CT 06141



March 15, 2010

Senator Gary LeBeau
Representative Jeff Berger
Co-Chairs, Commerce Committee
Room 110, Capitol Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

SUBJECT: Raised Bill No. 455, LCO No. 2259 February Session
An Act Concerning The Connecticut Sports and Marketing Corporation

Dear Senator LeBeau and Representative Berger:

I am Alan Victor, President of the Hartford Whalers Booster Club, and on behalf of our Club and its membership we are in support of Raised Bill No. 455 (An Act Concerning the Connecticut Sports and Marketing Corporation) which would establish a sports authority board for Connecticut.

We believe that now is the time to create such an entity to help coordinate Connecticut sports events and activities and head a joint effort to bring new and major activities/events to Connecticut.

Upon researching sports authorities from other states/cities, we have come to realize that this may be exactly the vehicle by which the State of Connecticut can find the funding for building a new arena in the City of Hartford that could help bring an NHL team back to our State. It is through such a board that Houston, Texas, was able to realize the building of not one but three sports venues and a parking garage for the City of Houston, i.e., MinuteMaid Park for the Astros, Reliance Stadium for their NFL franchise, and a downtown arena and parking garage. A similar board in Oklahoma City was able to not only get an arena, but able to attract a major sports franchise (NBA basketball) to their city.

We think similar achievements can be realized in Connecticut, but only with a concentrated effort that a sports authority working with the State legislature can accomplish.

Sincerely yours,

HARTFORD WHALERS BOOSTER CLUB

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan M. Victor".
Alan M. Victor
President

AMV/sv