

East of the River Chambers of Commerce Association

ERCCA

"Working Together Works Wonders"

East Hartford Chamber of Commerce
Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
North Central CT Chamber of Commerce
South Windsor Chamber of Commerce
Tolland County Chamber of Commerce

**TESTIMONY OF
EAST OF THE RIVER CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE
COMMERCE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 3, 2011**

**RE: SB-842, AN ACT REQUIRING JOBS IMPACT STATEMENTS
ON LEGISLATION AFFECTING EMPLOYMENT**

The East of the River Chambers of Commerce Association (ERCCA) includes over 3500 businesses from the Glastonbury, East Hartford, Manchester, North Central Connecticut, South Windsor and Tolland County Chambers of Commerce.

ERCCA supports this legislation which would provide for future legislation to contain employment impact statements for the private sector.

The legislature already prepares fiscal impact statements for bills that have the potential to increase or spend state revenue, however no such requirement exists for private sector economic impacts, yet it is often the issue lawmakers most debate when speaking for or against a bill. In relation to jobs and the ability of companies to employ our citizens, legislative actions have consequences. SB-842 would allow for a comprehensive jobs impact analysis of specific legislation being considered.

Enactment of SB-842 seems to be an inexpensive way to make sure legislators and administration officials understand how specific proposals would have a positive or negative impact on job creation and growth in our state. By allowing for such economic analyses of proposed legislation, the state Legislature will improve the climate for business in Connecticut and, in the process, gain a better understanding of how subsequent proposals will have an impact on Connecticut's business climate. ERCCA feels that this proposal should be enacted this year.

Thank you.

Established more than 20 years ago, ERCCA represents six independent Chambers of Commerce serving over 28 towns in Eastern Connecticut and more than 3,500 business members.