

Senator Daily, Representative Widlitz and distinguished members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, my name is Brian Durdle and I am the Vice President for State and Government Relations for Goodrich Corporation. Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments in opposition to the “throw back provisions” embodied in SB 1007.

Goodrich, one of the world’s largest suppliers of aircraft components and systems, operates three facilities in Connecticut in Cheshire, Danbury and West Hartford. We employ nearly 1,600 workers in high-paying aerospace jobs. Goodrich is concerned that “throw-back” legislation now being considered could triple or quadruple our cost of doing business in Connecticut if passed by the legislature and signed into law.

Combined our facilities are planning to invest several millions of dollars in new capital equipment and machinery and even more in research and development projects. Goodrich also plans to create dozens of new, high-quality jobs.

Now we’re learning we may have to pay more for the privilege of keeping people gainfully employed in Connecticut. As troubling as the estimated increase amount is, the timing is even more bewildering. Goodrich, like many other employers across the state are working hard to get the economy back on track and to keep it there. Although we understand the budgetary constraints Connecticut is facing, we don’t understand why we should pay more to create new jobs and invest in our state’s future.

Goodrich, and our business leaders in Connecticut, respectfully asks for your consideration as you contemplate measures such as “throw-back” that will result in tax increases on job creators.