



**TESTIMONY OF  
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS (NFIB)  
BY  
ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR  
SUPPORTING  
SB-1157, AAC THE RESTORATION OF THE ENERGY AND CONSERVATION LOAD  
MANAGEMENT FUND  
BEFORE THE  
FINANCE, REVENUE & BONDING COMMITTEE  
MARCH 21, 2011**

*A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB is Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business association. In Connecticut, NFIB represents thousands of members and their employees and membership is scattered across the state and ranges from sophisticated high technology enterprises to single-person "Mom & Pop" shops that operate in traditional ways. NFIB's mission is "To promote and protect the right of its members to own, operate, and grow their businesses." On behalf of those small- and independent-job-providers in Connecticut, I offer the following comments:*

NFIB/Connecticut *supports* **SB-1157**, as this legislation would help promote energy efficiency and create opportunities for "green jobs" in the small business sector. This bill would help provide additional incentives to encourage residents and businesses to be more energy efficient by using energy cost-effective products. The diversion of these rate-payer funds from their intended purpose only serves to harm small businesses in Connecticut. Many small businesses avail themselves of these funds and the programs offered to help retrofit their businesses in an effort to combat Connecticut's high energy costs. Additionally, many other small businesses participate as vendors, suppliers, or contractors providing services to other businesses and residents who participate in the various efficiency programs offered as a result of this fund.

We applaud the Committee's raising and hearing of this bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to comment, and NFIB/Connecticut urges you to support SB-1157.

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