



**TESTIMONY
JENN JENNINGS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CONNECTICUT HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS (CHCC)
BEFORE THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE
March 21, 2011**

Good afternoon. My name is Jenn Jennings, Executive Director of the Connecticut Heating & Cooling Contractors Association (CHCC), a trade association whose objectives are to strengthen and further trade relations, attract, educate and train necessary manpower, represent members at all levels of government and review and establish quality standards and procedures. The association represents over 125 Heating & Cooling Companies in Connecticut

CHCC supports SB-1157, An Act Concerning the Restoration of the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund.

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund provides grants, rebates and loans to customers who install energy efficient products, such as solar thermal systems and geothermal heat pumps. The program is funded through a surcharge on electric ratepayers' monthly bill. The program has been very successful in promoting the development and use of energy efficient products to help residents and businesses control energy costs.

Unfortunately, programs such as the solar rebate program have been periodically suspended due to lack of funding. This is discouraging for consumers as well as contractors who have invested a lot of time and resources to gain expertise and market with new energy efficiency products and appliances.

The growth of green jobs in Connecticut has been a bright spot in this difficult economy. More and more consumers are requesting energy efficient products and appliances in their homes and businesses to reduce costs and help the environment. The energy efficiency programs have helped create and retain jobs in our industry.

Please support SB-1157 to restore these funds.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Jennings at CHCC at jjennings@chcca.net, Tel., 860-533-1163.