



**CT-PHCC**

PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING CONTRACTORS OF CONNECTICUT

**TESTIMONY OF  
JOSEPH PELLECCIA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
CT PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION  
BEFORE THE  
FINANCE, REVENUE & BONDING COMMITTEE  
MARCH 21, 2011**

CT-PHCC supports **SB-1157**, An Act Concerning the Restoration of the Energy Conservation and Load Management Funds,

This measure would provide additional incentives to encourage residents and businesses to be more energy efficient by using energy cost-effective products.

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

Due to the lack of adequate funding, programs such as the solar rebate program have been periodically suspended. Many consumers and contractors have invested a lot of time and resources to gain expertise and market with new energy efficiency products and appliances and this is a setback to them.

During this economic downturn that Connecticut has been facing, a positive thing has been the growth of "green jobs". Consumers and businesses have been replacing their appliances in their homes and businesses with energy efficient ones in an attempt to reduce their costs as well as be friendly to the environment.

By restoring funds to the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, SB-1157 will help make Connecticut more competitive than other states in investing in energy efficiency incentive programs.

Therefore, we urge members of the committee to support SB-1157.

*CT-PHCC is a not-for-profit trade association that represents the professional plumbing, heating and cooling contractors in the state of Connecticut. CT-PHCC and its members are committed to protecting the health and safety of the public. Contractors who belong to the association have demonstrated reliability and trustworthiness and are licensed by the state of Connecticut.*