



**TESTIMONY
JASON SOKOL
PRESIDENT
CONNECTICUT ALARM & SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE
GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE
MARCH 8, 2011**

The Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association (CASIA) *supports* **HB-6446, AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TECHNICIANS AND CERTIFIED COMPETITIVE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDERS**, which will protect consumers by ensuring that individuals that install electrical cable are qualified and registered with the state.

Under current law, individuals who are employed for or hired as a subcontractor must be properly licensed by the state Department of Consumer Protection. However, employees or contractors of competitive video service providers, which are out-of-state companies, have not been subject to these licensing requirements. This poses a safety risk for consumers who unwittingly allow these people into their home to install electrical cable, assuming that they are properly licensed.

Many of these companies have expressed interest in entering into the security and fire alarm business. Allowing unlicensed individuals to install security and fire alarms would clearly jeopardize the safety and welfare of Connecticut residents who are relying on security alarm companies to protect their loved ones and their valuables. These people would have access to security codes, the location of valuable as well as when people may be away on vacation or otherwise not at home.

This bill closes the gap in the law by ensuring that anyone installing electrical cable is properly licensed and registered with the state of Connecticut. This will allow the state to better protect residents from unscrupulous practices.

CASIA urges you to **support** **HB-6446** to help protect the people of the state of Connecticut from potentially harmful situations. We look forward to working together to serve the public for a safer environment.

CASIA, a statewide trade association established in 1974, is comprised of alarm companies working together to protect lives and property through the responsible use of electrical security and fire alarm systems. Our members are professional and technically skilled and experienced in integrated systems for intrusion and fire systems, closed circuit television, telephone, intercom, home theater, access control systems and computer wiring.