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To: Members of the Legislature's Labor and Public Employees
Committee

Subject: Reject HB-5460, An Act Concerning Captive Audience Meetings

I am writing to urge you to reject HB -5460, An Act Concerning Captive Audience Meetings.

As the CEO for an employer of over 200 people, we take great pride in communicating openly and honestly with our people. There are many issues that arise that can impact our business and subsequently their employment. They not only expect us to be forthright, they demand it. They want to know our views on the issues that could impact on our success. They want to know the reasons why an issue is being raised and what are the pro's and con's. This is critical if we are to remain dynamic and competitive. To eliminate this form of communication would be harmful. If you want to create a climate that supports business growth and furthers employment opportunities for people in Connecticut, then reject this ill advised HB.

We respect our people too much to wage pure political campaigns at our place of business. But we must have the ability to share information openly and honestly with them so that they are fully informed.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric W. Thornburg", with a large, stylized flourish above the name.

Eric W. Thornburg
President and CEO