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**Testimony before the Labor and Public Employees Committee- SB 913**

March 1, 2011

Good afternoon, my name is Anthony D'Elia. I am co-owner of two family owned and operated restaurants in Waterbury- San Marino Ristorante Italiano and Nino's Trattoria. One restaurant has been operating for over 20 years, the other over 40.

As you well know there are many challenges in trying to run a successful restaurant. Not the least of which is trying to maintain a consistent staff. Consistency is important in all industries, especially in the restaurant & hospitality industry. Customers need on the spot attention. If our establishments are not properly staffed, this cannot happen. The burden of trying to replace staff due to last minute call-ins, along with the extra expense could be very detrimental to our industry.

Small business is supposed to be the back bone of our State. I find it difficult to see how we can continue to be without your support. SB 913 is one of many bills we can do without.

Thank you for your consideration.