



CONNECTICUT BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

**Testimony of Kia F. Murrell  
Assistant Counsel, CBIA  
Before the Committee on Labor and Public Employees  
Hartford, CT  
February 10, 2011**

**S.B. 23, An Act Concerning Employees Injured Between 1993 and  
2006 and Social Security Offsets Under the Workers' Compensation  
Act**

Good Afternoon Senator Prague, Representative Zalaski and other members of the Committee. My name is Kia Murrell and I am Assistant Counsel at the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA representing more than 10,000 companies throughout the state of Connecticut, but most of our members are small businesses of 50 or fewer employees.

CBIA generally does not support legislation that increases workers' compensation costs for Connecticut employers or limits employers' flexibility when handling workers' compensation claims.

We believe that S.B. 23 is an unnecessary proposal that will increase the costs of workers' compensation payments for individuals whose payments were offset as a result of receiving Social Security between 1993 and 2006.

Social Security offsets were established as a prudent safeguard to control the cost of insurance for everyone. Proposals such as S.B. 23 would undermine that purpose and cause insurance costs to skyrocket.

The intent of this bill may be to aid a particular constituent or group of people who were injured at work prior to the effective date of P.A. 06-84. However, if enacted this legislation will impact all employers by expanding the cost of coverage to this new group of people. This was not the intent of the law; to expand its application in today's tough economy it is fiscally and socially irresponsible.

For the reasons above, we cannot support S.B. 23 and we urge the Committee to reject this proposal.