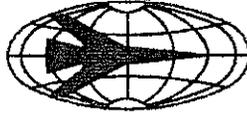


# WHITCRAFT LLC

SHEET METAL FABRICATION & MACHINING FOR THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY



2/25/2011

Re: SB 913, An Act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees

Dear Committee:

I am the Chief Executive Officer of Whitcraft LLC. We are an aerospace manufacturer headquartered in northeast Connecticut with wholly owned subsidiaries in Plainville and Bloomfield. We employ approximately 400 associates in the state of Connecticut.

Whitcraft prides itself in offering our associates competitive wages, a generous benefits package, paid time off, significant training and career growth opportunities. In doing so, we have positioned ourselves to be an employer of choice and continue to remain successful in this highly competitive market. Please visit our website at [www.whitcraft.com](http://www.whitcraft.com) to learn more about us.

Whitcraft and its subsidiaries operate in a worldwide market and we see an increasing emphasis on the part of our customers to move work to low cost countries. We have been criticized by some of our largest customers as being too "Connecticut centric" but we have invested a tremendous amount in our workforce and collectively we have been able to compete globally. To allow our company to continue to operate successfully and to ensure our continued growth in Connecticut in the future, we need you to oppose this bill. This proposal will substantially increase our costs and will force our company to reevaluate the many other benefits we offer our employees if we are to remain competitive.

At least once a month, I am contacted by a business development agency from another state offering generous packages to relocate our operations. I was born and raised in Connecticut and I have a vested interest in seeing Connecticut grow and prosper. Our company has avoided the fate of most of the manufacturing companies in my old home town of New Britain, and if the state legislature is serious about its desire to see an expansion of high skill/high wage jobs in the state, I am confident that they will oppose this bill.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin H Cooper".

Colin H Cooper, CEO  
Whitcraft LLC

76 County Road  
P.O. Box 128  
Eastford, CT 06242  
Phone (860) 974-0786 Fax (860) 974-3705