

Testimony of
John E. Taylor Jr

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Before The Labor and Public Employees Committee

OPPOSING

SB 987 An Act Requiring Community Workforce Agreements for Construction
Projects at the Connecticut State University System

March 1, 2011

Good afternoon Senator Prague and Representative Zalaski, Senator Guglielmo and Representative Rigby and Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. I am John E. Taylor Jr. of Farmington, CT and I'm the President of Electrical Energy Systems Corp of Southington, CT and the current volunteer President for the Independent Electrical Contractors of New England. IEC-NE represents over 700 electrical professionals in Connecticut. Electrical Energy Systems Corp is a CT electrical contracting company and has been in business since 1989. There are 40 employees many of which have in the past and are currently working on construction projects at the State University's.

As mentioned we have worked for years at the State University's and pride ourselves on providing the state with very competitive pricing and excellent quality work which allows us to continue to go through the tough prequalification process.

The prequalification process currently requires information to be submitted before you are even allowed to submit a proposal for the work. It is required you show past experience, current work load, financial strength, work capacity and your ability to complete the work within the constraints of the University environment.

If SB 987 is passed it will take the 23 years of service we performed to the State and make it so we will not be able to compete and our employees whom depend on a portion of this work for their livelihood will lose this opportunity. Our success in the industry and our successes on these projects are due to the highly trained workforce we have developed over these years. If SB 987 is passed we will be required to use workers who are not familiar with the requirements of these projects and our company.

I would also like to point out that construction in the state has been very difficult over the past few years and this would limit our ability to continue to contribute to the economy at the time our employees and Connecticut needs it the most.

So I ask you not to move forward with SB 987 and allow the open and fair competition for the states dollars which we **all** contribute to.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony and on behalf of the 40 employees of Electrical Energy Systems and the 700 electrical professionals of The Independent Electrical Contractor of New England we urge that the Committee rejects SB 987.