



**HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT, INC.**

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*Your Home  
Is Our  
Business*

February 18, 2011

To: Senator Steve Cassano, Co-Chairman  
Representative Linda M. Gentile, Co-Chairman  
Members of the Planning and Development Committee

From: Bill Ethier, Chief Executive Officer

Re: House Bill 5473, An Act Requiring the Inspection of Septic Systems

**The HBA of Connecticut is a professional trade association with 1,100 member firms statewide, employing tens of thousands of Connecticut citizens. Our members, all small businesses, are residential and commercial builders, land developers, home improvement contractors, trade contractors, suppliers and those businesses and professionals that provide services to our diverse industry. Our members build 70% to 80% of all new homes and apartments in the state each year.**

**If HB 5473 applies to the sale of a newly constructed home served by a septic system, it would be another unnecessary requirement imposed on home builders. New septic systems that are installed with new homes must be built to specific standards contained in the state's Public Health Code. The sites where the installation is to take place are tested (i.e., perc tested) and inspected by local or regional health department officials. The Public Health Code also requires a redundant reserves area for future system replacement, separation distances from wells and the footprint of buildings, and system construction standards. The septic system installation itself is also inspected by local or regional health department officials. Therefore, to ensure that HB 5473 would not result in another unnecessary inspection or more paperwork burden on home builders, we would respectfully request that new home construction be exempt from this requirement, or make it clear that the installation of a new septic system associated with a newly built home complies with this requirement.**

Thank you for considering our comments on this legislation.

*"Leading Our Members to Professional Excellence."*

**Serving the Residential Development & Construction Industry Through Advocacy, Education & Networking**