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TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Government Administration and Elections Committee
Proposed House Bill 6165
March 7, 2011 11:00 a.m. Room 2B

RE: In Support – AA Favoring Connecticut Companies For State Contracts

Good morning Chairmen Slossberg and Morin, Ranking Members McLachlan and Hwang, members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee. For the record, I am Representative Pam Sawyer, representing the 55th District. I am here today to speak in favor of Proposed House **Bill 6165** AA Favoring Connecticut Companies for State Contracts.

Creating jobs should be as simple as helping Connecticut businesses obtain state contracts, keeping the dollars and the work here. One such way would be to give points to the competing contracts which are in-state companies.

Adding some type of preference points to Connecticut contractors would give them an edge over out-of-state contractors when bids are similar.

Massachusetts currently has a bidding system in place where in-state companies receive points in the bidding process to help foster the growth and strength when it gives local preference for their companies.

Connecticut companies have struggled in this tough economy, and the exceedingly high unemployment has not dropped in this state. As a legislature we have the ability to come to the aid of those who want to do work for the state keeping the jobs and money here.

Many unions and contractors alike have expressed positive feedback on this type of support.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on **HB 6165** and I ask the Committee to act favorably on this bill.