

Although I am unable to testify at today's hearing for H.B. No. 6050 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CREATIVE ECONOMY, I wish to voice my strong support for Rep. Willis' initiative to pass this extremely important bill.

Our state's creative economy is both large and capable of significant growth. Simple put it is jobs, jobs, jobs for people who make Connecticut the special place it is. More jobs is more income which is more support for state funding. Moreover these types of jobs do not require investments in new infrastructure nor do they tax our current infrastructure. They just put people to work in small business situations. They do not add to our environmental challenges and they do not outsource jobs to other countries.

In short, support for the creative economy is an extraordinarily cost effective way to build growth into our state's economy, quickly and without major spending.

I have dedicate my professional life to working within the nonprofit sector of Connecticut's create economy and I have seen first hand just how powerful such small businesses can be in developing the local economies of our towns and cities.

Thank you for your attention in this regard.

Sincerely,

John I. Russell, President
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