



*Environmental Professionals' Organization of Connecticut*

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Public Hearing – March 6, 2012

Sen. Gary LeBeau, Rep. Jeff Berger and Members of the Commerce Committee

Testimony submitted by Seth Molofsky representing the Environmental Professionals' Organization of Connecticut (EPOC)

**Raised House Bill No. 5343 - AN ACT CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH STREAMLINED AND IMPROVED BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION PROGRAMS**

The Environmental Professionals' Organization of Connecticut (also known as "EPOC") was formed in 1996 to represent the interests of Connecticut's Licensed Environmental Professionals (LEPs). The organization has approximately 500 members representing numerous technical disciplines all working in the area of investigation and cleanup of environmentally-impacted sites in Connecticut. LEPs are the people who are authorized by the CT DEEP to perform investigation and remediation of property in Connecticut and certify, through a Verification, that the property meets the Connecticut Remediation Standard Regulations. The LEPs are therefore directly affected by the policies and procedures established under the General Statutes and their associated regulations for investigation and remediation of contaminated sites in Connecticut, including brownfields.

EPOC and its members have been actively engaged in the CT DEEP's clean-up program transformation process by participating in meetings and the many workgroups during the summer and fall of 2011. We have been supportive of the Department's efforts thus far, and will continue to be an active participant as the stakeholder review process moves forward and we learn more of the specific proposed changes to the remediation programs. We believe this significant undertaking by the CT DEEP requires thoughtful and meaningful input by the many stakeholder groups involved and that the Department should carefully consider the comments these groups will provide in the coming months. EPOC will provide specific comments to your committee and the legislature on any future bills that are introduced in the coming sessions.

Thank you for the opportunity to present EPOC's views on Raised Bill H.B. No. 5343. If you have any questions, please contact me at (860) 537-0337.