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To: Senator LeBeau
Representative Berger
Members of the Commerce Committee

Date: March 15, 2012

Re: Support for Raised House Bill No. 5466: **AN ACT CONCERNING SOCIAL ENTERPRISE BUSINESSES**"

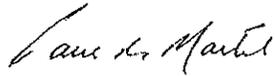
I am writing in support of Raised House Bill No. 5466. I support this bill because the concept of Social Enterprise, or doing well and doing good, has shaped my life in a profound way for many years. I am President of a successful investment advisory firm here in CT as well as the Founder of a free children's health clinic in Riobamba, Ecuador. I have often remarked that this combination represents the best that we can be as Americans, entrepreneurs and humanitarians. Social Enterprising marries the power and potential of our capitalist system with the compassion, generosity and social responsibility that we aspire to as human beings. It is a concept that would appeal to many entrepreneurs and that is becoming more popular around the country. For me it is a combination that resonates deeply, gives my life greater meaning and purpose and motivates me in a way that profit alone would not. This motivation naturally leads to more success, more employees and a growing business. The success of my business not only provides jobs but has provided medical care to over 10,000 needy children.

I see little downside to the State providing more pathways for its citizens and future entrepreneurs. Retaining young state talent and graduates who may be seeking a more meaningful approach to business seems wise and the State should strive to be competitive and current with new trends in business formation. As our society and economy evolve, our platforms must evolve as well. Marrying the enthusiasm of someone with a passion for solving community problems with a profit and job generating business model seems to offer both economic as well as societal benefit, or what is called the double bottom line. One might argue that there is nothing to prevent any business owner from pursuing social benefit as I have, but it seems to me a good idea to provide and promote pathways to make such pursuit more practical and achievable. Focusing activity through one single entity makes sense and the guidelines you are proposing would require a seriousness and

commitment that would encourage success. I commend you on your work and support this Raised House Bill #5466.

Thank you for your consideration and do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul R. Martel".

Paul R. Martel, President of YHB Investment Advisors and
Founder, Clinica Dulce Refugio, Riobamba, Ecuador

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