

**Written Testimony of
Glenn Marshall, Commissioner
Department of Labor
Commerce Committee
March 6, 2012**

Good Morning Senator LeBeau, Representative Berger, Senator Frantz, Representative Camillo and members of the Commerce Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with written testimony in support of **House Bill# 5340: AA Establishing an Energy-Related Jobs Task Force.**

As the Commissioner of the lead workforce development agency for the State of Connecticut, the energy-related jobs task force established within H.B.# 5340 is very much needed. I hear often from our local workforce boards that they are trying to train people for jobs that don't yet exist and they are working on technology that doesn't exist yet. A true analysis of Connecticut's current and potential green jobs industry and corresponding workforce will cultivate job growth in this field.

However, I respectfully request that the Committee consider adding the Commissioner of the Department of Labor, or his designee, to be a member of the energy-related jobs task force. The Department of Labor plays an integral role in the training of workers for green jobs through the Connecticut Green Jobs Partnership of our Connecticut Employment and Training Commission. Therefore, it is vital that the Labor Department be part of the discussion regarding workforce strategies.

The Connecticut Green Jobs Partnership, chaired by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Commissioner Dan Esty, runs green job training programs and helps workers find green job training and employment opportunities through the state's regional workforce investment boards. For example, the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board provides a "Weatherization Assistant Training Program" to become a certified weatherization technician and the Workplace of Southwestern CT provides "Green-Up Bridgeport" which is green job training to unemployed Bridgeport residents.

In addition, as part of a multi-million dollar federal State Energy Sector Partnership grant received last year, the Department of Labor's Office of Workforce Competitiveness has been working to ensure it has enough educated workers to meet the needs of those growing industries.

As you can see, the Department of Labor would be a valuable partner in your efforts. Thank you for your consideration.