



Waterbury Regional Chamber
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**TESTIMONY OF JOHN DICARLO, Public Policy and Economic Development
Director of the WATERBURY REGIONAL CHAMBER before the COMMERCE
COMMITTEE on H.B. 5470 (RAISED) AN ACT SUPPORTING ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT IN AN URBAN CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT.**

March 15, 2012

Senator LeBeau, Representative Berger and members of the Commerce Committee, I come before you today in support of House Bill 5470, An Act Supporting Economic Development In An Urban Central Business District. I am John DiCarlo, Public Policy and Economic Development Director for the Waterbury Regional Chamber, which serves 13 towns in the Greater Waterbury region and represents the collective interests of nearly 1,000 members in matters of public policy and economic development.

This legislation would allow legislative bodies in Connecticut's large cities, upon the direction of their CEOs, to direct the location of any state agency to their central business district. It would provide an option for local planning of where the state contracts for offices and direct them to where they may be most appropriate.

Positioning offices that provide government services in close proximity to one another could help make these services more convenient for residents, as well as promote much-needed economic development in central business districts. It would also help address one form of sprawl.

Thank you for your consideration and I welcome any questions you may have.

John DiCarlo
Public Policy and Economic Development Director
Waterbury Regional Chamber
83 Bank Street, P.O. Box 1469
Waterbury, CT 06721