



**TESTIMONY
JOHN YUSZA, JR.
CONNECTICUT ALARM & SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MARCH 9, 2012**

The Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association (CASIA) supports **HB-5351 AN ACT CONCERNING THE VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.**

By creating an independent board comprised of business, education and agency officials to oversee the state's Technical High Schools, HB-5351 will go a long way toward strengthening the schools to successfully train students for meaningful careers in the skilled trades.

Skilled workers are vital to the state's economy. We need to encourage more young people to pursue careers in the skilled trades to meet the needs of employers as well as the needs of society. There are many challenges facing the Technical High Schools that have been put on the back burner far too long. It's time to take a good look at how the state can better maintain and equip the schools and enhance worksite training programs to attract and prepare hard-working, motivated students for today's skilled workforce.

CASIA, a statewide trade association established in 1974, is comprised of alarm companies working together to protect lives and property through the responsible use of electrical security and fire alarm systems. Our members are professional and technically skilled and experienced in integrated systems for intrusion and fire systems, closed circuit television, telephone, intercom, home theater, access control systems and computer wiring.