

**Testimony of Chris Sullivan
Before the Energy & Technology Committee**

In Support of
**HOUSE BILL 5385, AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY RETROFITS
FOR CERTAIN BUILDINGS AND THE DISCLOSURE OF THE
ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF CERTAIN BUILDINGS**

Dear Chairman Fonfara, Chairwoman Nardello, and members of the Energy and Technology Committee,

I am pleased and excited to have the opportunity to speak in favor of **HB 5385**, AAC Energy Retrofits for Certain Buildings and the Disclosure of the Energy Efficiency of Certain Buildings.

This bill will establish a program that provides prospective homebuyers and apartment tenants information about the energy consumption of living spaces they are considering for purchase or rent. Providing this information will drive property owners to make efficiency upgrades to their property so they can sell the property on the positives of lower utility bills. Any work for property retrofits will be done using Connecticut workers and materials improving the construction market and industry in the State.

By also creating energy benchmarking for commercial buildings, potential businesses can select a rental space for their companies based on energy consumption and therefore a carbon footprint of the facility. Again facilities with lower utility costs will be more favorable for investors and business owners, creating growth in the energy retrofitting industry in Connecticut.

As a homeowner I have participated in the Home Energy Solutions program and installed air duct insulation, and new front door, and an ultra high efficiency gas furnace and air conditioner. I also upgraded to energy star rated dishwasher and laundry machines to decrease my utility costs. With this legislation in place, my unit will stand out amongst its comparables due to the significantly reduced utility costs for future owners. This will help move my unit faster in a backlogged housing market at the entry level.

These energy upgrades I have made have also benefited my financial situation since I made the installations. In the first year after the new furnace was installed I saved over \$1000 on my gas bill, allowing me to reinvest this money for additional purchases.

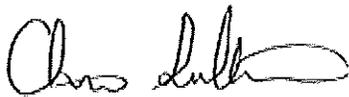
This type of legislation is not new, with many other States including California and Oregon, having similar programs effectively saving their homeowners energy dollars. In fact, the Connecticut legislature considered very similar legislation in 2008, when it received support from the Energy and Technology Committee. Now is a perfect time to again support this bill to benefit the citizens and the State of Connecticut.

Whether you believe in reducing greenhouse gases or improving the construction industry, you should support this bill. If you believe putting more money in citizen's wallets is a good thing for Connecticut, you should support this bill. Even if you just think prospective homebuyers and tenants should have the most complete information about their housing decisions, you should support this bill.

Please support HB 5385 to bring down utility costs to all Connecticut residents, improve our air quality and create more "Green Jobs" here in our State.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Sullivan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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