

**Testimony of EnergyPRZ, LLC**  
**A member of the Home Performance Alliance of Connecticut (HPACT)**

**Before the Energy & Technology Committee**

***S.B. No. 415 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPERATIONS OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY  
PROGRAM, WATER CONSERVATION AND THE OPERATIONS OF THE CLEAN  
ENERGY FINANCE AND INVESTMENT AUTHORITY***

*Submitted by*  
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Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello, and members of the Committee,

The Energy and Technology Committee has had a tremendous opportunity to demonstrate leadership and advance a vision of a brighter energy future for our State. We are encouraged that leadership will provide the needed catalyst to move forward, to build a stronger energy efficiency infrastructure and to help facilitate our ability to create new jobs and contribute to a growing Connecticut economy.

EnergyPRZ is a four-year-old Energy Management and Home Performance Company and an approved vendor for the Home Energy Solutions Program under the CT Energy Efficiency Fund. I began the company after ten years as a senior partner in one of the most accredited and known executive search firms in the wealth management and financial services markets. We spent our resources finding successful people, better paying jobs. EnergyPRZ as a company prided itself on being a CT company serving the community and providing displaced workers with opportunity in a service to the community atmosphere. Our company now boasts the fact that we have provided individuals with careers, not just jobs.

All of the people we now employ were either unemployed or underemployed due to the current market environment. In conjunction with state and federal workforce development programs, there has been an investment in training, benefits and development of a tax base where there was a tax cost. We operate with a sense of pride for what we do for our fellow citizens in CT. Our challenge is simple, every year our work force has to expand and contract. Not due to competitive market forces or a lack of need for our products and services, but due to uncertainty in the CEEF funding scenario, as well as limited funding for oil heated homes under the HES program. As a small business owner, it is difficult to plan ahead when policies are not in place. In order to provide services as a home performance contractor to my fellow citizens of CT, a home performance business involves specially trained manpower in the field, support staff in the office as well as very specialized equipment and infrastructure. These positions require a stable environment so that we can better the lives of your constituents in CT, provide skilled labor, and continue the states pride and future of livability in CT through increased overall energy savings in our homes. By working together as partners and through communication, we can build a successful program which will benefit all us through job stabilization and growth; and energy efficiency within the state, and frankly making CT a better place to live.

Overall S.B. No. 415 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM, WATER CONSERVATION AND THE OPERATIONS OF THE CLEAN ENERGY FINANCE AND INVESTMENT AUTHORITY has significant merits including Section 11 of SB 415 deals with all Energy Savings by capturing the program benefits for any energy savings and compare it to program costs and we enthusiastically support it.

Section 51 however contains language that continues to impose a CAP on oil heated homes, which make up almost half of all homes in Connecticut. It is widely known that various interests are fervently looking at opportunities for oil heated homes to participate in contributing to the fund or to identify a formula that truly works. The cap will have a very negative impact on heating oil customers, HES vendors, HVAC, and home performance contractors. It undermines our ability to move forward and grow with this industry. Right now funding for oil heated homes in the NU service area is slated to run out in about 8 weeks and UI service area much sooner.

In 2012 and beyond, companies like ours will either consider expanding our capacity or reducing the size of our workforce partially as result of decisions you make. Your decisions will either help our fellow citizens who have oil heated homes, lower our states reliance on fossil fuels, bring a new and growing skilled workforce to the state, and reinforce CT as a place known for its commitment to energy efficiency and a more affordable place to live. Or we can leave 50% of its citizens out in the cold, struggling with higher and higher bills each year. Your decisions will either be seen as the cornerstone new and progressive energy policy or another political stalemate and lack of action that simply cost the people of CT. We look to our leaders for action, decisions that are in our cumulative best interest as a state. This is one of those decisions; we look to you as our leaders that recognize and will act in our collective best interest, as a state.

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