BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL
BUSINESS COUNCIL

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March 19, 2012

BRBC TESTIMONY

At the Bridgeport Regional Business Council, we are all too aware of the economic troubles we are experiencing in Connecticut. The BRBC is a membership organization that encourages the economic growth and tourism of our area. Unfortunately, according to our state's Labor Department, there has barely been any employment growth in our state for the past two decades.

This must change. Connecticut has one of the strictest regulatory structures in all of the United States. The cost of doing business in our state is so high that businesses are shipping their operations and jobs elsewhere, as they can hardly compete by maintaining a presence here.

In these uncertain times, we must do all we can to ensure Connecticut has an environment that encourages economic growth. The best way to accomplish this is to have fewer regulations and taxes. President Obama made the same case and pledged to do what he can on the federal level to make this a reality.

Our lawmakers have the ability to make Connecticut more sustainable, as well as bring jobs to those struggling to make ends meet while unemployed or underemployed. A state economy that organically produces jobs will mean that future residents won't have to move to different states to find work.

The telecom modernization bill before you is a big step forward in this effort. Telecom companies are poised and ready to invest millions of dollars to into this state to create the best networks they can. This investment will be translated into the jobs necessary to build and maintain these networks.

We at the Bridgeport Regional Business Council recognize the need for a state regulatory system more conducive to business activity in our state. On behalf of the BRBC, the residents in our area and Connecticut as a whole, I urge our lawmakers to support SB 447 to bring more investment and jobs to our state.

Sincerely,

Paul S. Timpanelli
President and CEO

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