

**Testimony of Kia F. Murrell  
Associate Counsel, CBIA  
Before the Judiciary Committee  
Hartford, CT  
March 14, 2012**

**H.B. 5427 AAC Notice to the Attorney General of Data Security Breaches  
Involving the Disclosure of Personal Information**

Senator Coleman, Representative Fox and other members of the Committee, my name is Kia Murrell and I am Associate Counsel at the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents more than 10,000 companies throughout the state of Connecticut, but most of our members are small businesses of 50 or fewer employees.

CBIA opposes HB 5427 because we find it to be overly broad in its application.

HB 5427 Requires companies who own, license or maintain computerized data that includes personal information to immediately notify the Attorney General and any resident of the state whose personal information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, accessed in a breach of security relating to such data. One of the apparent goals of HB 5427 is to protect the public by quickly allowing the Attorney General to determine if and when a data security breach requires their involvement.

Identity theft is a very serious problem that affects individual citizens and business alike. Connecticut companies expend great time and resources on data security protection to ensure that when security breaches occur, they are anticipated, managed and contained as soon as possible. However, when a security breach is minor in nature, easily contained and potential impact on state residents is mitigated, it may be unnecessary to alert the public and the Attorney General. In fact, doing so may do more harm than good by causing public alarm; opening companies to possible litigation; and diminishing the credibility of a business needlessly.

Although the goal of HB 5427 is a laudable one, we find this bill in its current form to be overly broad and burdensome for businesses. For those reasons, we oppose this legislation and encourage the committee to continue a dialogue with the business community in order to craft a solution that is fair and balanced for all parties.

We urge you to reject HB 5427.