

Distinguished Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons, Ranking Members, and Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee:

Thank you for holding this hearing on the Raised Bill No. 5248. We are Mark Harris and Gina Crist, owners and operators of Good Life Energy Savers LLC, a commercial insulation contractor located in Danbury, CT. We employ 13 Connecticut residents and are also Connecticut residents ourselves.

We support the ban on urea-formaldehyde insulation, but urge you to modify the broad language of UFFI in Sec. 29-277 in support of the Raised Bill No. 5248, to adopt the California definition. This will allow for the installation of effective retrofit insulation products, such as Tripolymer, a phenolic based foam, to help meet the energy conservation objectives of the State of Connecticut because of its high R Value and air inhibiting characteristics. The State of Connecticut ranks second, behind Hawaii, in energy costs. Please note that these products are allowed and currently used in the other 49 states to reduce energy consumption. When this bill is passed, it will allow for this superior retrofit insulation product to be installed in our programs such as The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's "Lead-By-Example" program (LBE) to reduce energy use in our state and local government buildings and to give people of Connecticut additional, safe choices in making their homes energy efficient.

In sum, we believe the passage of this bill will serve to provide the same protection intended to provide to residents in 1981, but also will give homeowners more choices, generate employment in the State of Connecticut, and generate business, tax, and consumer dollars in this state. We urge you to pass the bill and ask that it be instituted upon passage.

Thank you for your time.