

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

Thank you for holding this hearing on Raised Bill No. 5248. My name is Michael Green. I am President of Tripolymer, Inc. Tripolymer, Inc. is the exclusive distributor in the United States for Tripolymer®, a phenolic based resin which, when combined with air and water, makes injection foam insulation. Tripolymer® has been used to insulate homes for over thirty (30) years throughout the United States through its network of trained and certified professional installers. It contributes to LEED points for construction projects, is environmentally safe, non-toxic, fire resistant, and non-corrosive. With an R-value of 5.1 per inch, it is the best product on the market for retrofitting homes. My network of dealers has insulated over 10,000 homes annually for over thirty (30) years. I have Tripolymer® installed in my own home.

I support the ban on urea-formaldehyde foam insulation ("UFFI"), but I'm here today to urge you to modify the definition of UFFI. I support the change in the definition that this bill proposes. The current definition is overbroad and prohibits other viable choices to consumers. California speaks to UFFI. California's regulations are so stringent that UFFI is effectively prohibited. **California's definition of UFFI is the definition you are proposing in Raised Bill 5248. Tripolymer® is permitted in California and we are licensed in that state because Tripolymer®, as a phenolic based resin, is not categorized as UFFI and, by definition, is not a UFFI.** Connecticut's law, however, is so broad that it makes a product such as mine unlawful in this state, unlike any other state in the Union.

The passage of this bill is important to at least three (3) businesses located in this state, but who currently have to install Tripolymer® outside of the state. When this bill is passed, these businesses, and several others who are waiting in the wings, will flourish in Connecticut and will be able to compete with the other insulators installing polystyrene, icynene, and cellulose. These dealers will be able to generate consumer and tax dollars, employ more people, and give the people of Connecticut additional choices in making their homes more energy efficient. I have submitted to you for your consideration the testimony of these dealers who would love to add their home state, Connecticut, to their service territory.

I believe the passage of this bill will serve to provide the same protection intended in 1981, but also will give homeowners more choices, create jobs, and generate business and consumer tax dollars for the State of Connecticut. And, finally, I would recommend that the effective date be upon passage.

Thank you for your time.