



912 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Tel: 860.529.6855

Fax: 860.563.0616

ccia-info@ctconstruction.org

www.ctconstruction.org

Senate Bill 450, An Act Concerning Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy **Energy and Technology Committee** **March 20, 2012**

Connecticut Construction Industries Association, Inc. (CCIA) represents various sectors of the commercial construction industry in Connecticut and is comprised of members who have a long history of providing quality work for the public benefit. CCIA seeks to advance and promote a better quality of life for all citizens in the state. Formed over 40 years ago, CCIA is an organization of associations, where all sectors of the commercial construction industry work together to advance and promote their shared interests. CCIA is comprised of more than 300 members, including contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and affiliated organizations representing many sectors of the construction industry.

Associated General Contractors of Connecticut is the building division of CCIA, representing 150 commercial, industrial, and institutional construction contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers and professionals serving the Connecticut construction industry. AGC of Connecticut is a chapter of AGC of America, a national contractors trade association.

Senate Bill 450, An Act Concerning Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy, makes a number of changes to laws concerning energy efficiency, conservation and infrastructure to address some of the issues that arose out of recent storm events in the state. Section 7 of the bill would require builders contracting for the construction of certain buildings to inform consumers of energy-efficiency incentives.

While AGC of Connecticut commends the Energy and Technology Committee and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for their efforts to make buildings more energy efficient, the language in sec. 7 of the bill may not accomplish what the proponents are trying to do. Information provided by a building contractor, who is constructing a building from plans that have already been designed, to incorporate energy-efficient measures in the project may be too late in the process. To require a contractor to inform such consumers prior to entering the contract may not work as intended.

To improve the provision, we propose that sec. 7 be amended as indicated below. Architects, engineers and interior designers are the more appropriate parties to provide such information. Also, by informing owners prior to design of the building project would be consistent with how business is currently practiced. The owner would then be in a better position to take advantage of any such incentives early in the process, thereby enabling the proponents to more likely accomplish their objectives.



AGCCT



Proposed amendment

Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) Any architect licensed pursuant to chapter 390 of the general statutes, a professional engineer licensed pursuant to chapter 391 of the general statutes or an interior designer registered pursuant to chapter 396a of the general statutes acting within the scope of such license or registration, prior to entering into a contract with a developer or owner for design of any new commercial or industrial building, shall inform such developer or owner of any state or federal incentives, to the extent known, for installing energy-efficient systems, equipment or fixtures in such building.

Please contact John Butts, Executive Director of AGC of Connecticut, or Matthew Hallisey, Director of Government Relations and Legislative Counsel for CCIA, at 860-529-6855, if you have any questions or if you need additional information.