

Testimony of Cindy Moeckel addressed to the Commerce Committee
In Support of House Bill 6650, An Act Concerning Energy Efficiency Programs

Senator LeBeau, Representative Perone, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for your work on HB 6650, a bill that I strongly support.

My husband's and my home in Ashford won the 2010-2011 Connecticut Zero Energy Challenge for the Lowest Home Energy System (HERS) Index without Renewable Technology. That means that of all the homes in the competition that year, ours has the best-engineered, best-insulated envelope. In addition to those passive features, when we built our home, we also made significant investments in solar panels and geothermal heating because *we are very concerned about climate disruption* and want to do our utmost to reduce our carbon footprint.

Our current home is very different from our previous one. From June 2000 through June 2010, our family lived in West Hartford in an older home where oil fired our heat and hot water. After we had an energy audit performed on that house, we were able to realize savings in our oil use. I want all homeowners to have access to these valuable energy audits so they can take steps to reduce their impact on the climate, and save on fuel bills. HB 6650 will establish a funding stream to support an oil efficiency fund for residents who heat with oil who otherwise will be left to their own devices to find ways to reduce their carbon footprints.

In addition, there's a jobs bonus in creating an Oil Heat and Propane Energy Efficiency Fund. Extending programs like Home Energy Solutions to residents who rely on oil or propane will create local, skilled jobs for those who conduct the audits.

This is a win-win-win for residents' energy bills, skilled local jobs, and the environment, and I urge you to support HB 6650.

Thank you for your attention.

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