

CONNECTICUT CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION, INC.



912 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Tel: 860.529.6855

Fax: 860.563.0616

ccia-info@ctconstruction.org

www.ctconstruction.org

S.B. 1130, An Act Maximizing Jobs for State Workers by Requiring Plans of Local Hiring by Construction Companies

**Public Hearing: Committee on Commerce
March 19, 2013**

Connecticut Construction Industries Association, Inc. (CCIA) represents many sectors of the commercial construction industry in the state. Formed 80 years ago, CCIA is an organization of associations, where those segments of the commercial construction industry work together to advance and promote their shared interests. CCIA is comprised of over 300 members, including contractors, subcontractors, material producers, suppliers and affiliated organizations.

S.B. 1130 would require any business seeking to bid on a contract or perform work on any public work by the state to file an annual local construction hiring plan. The clear intent behind this bill is to gather, and annually report to the General Assembly, data on how many Connecticut residents are employed by any contractor doing business with the state, what those contractors are doing to hire Connecticut residents, how they are training them, the wages and benefits they are paying to those construction workers working on state-funded projects, and any other information required by the Departments of Labor and Economic and Community Development.

We understand that knowing such information may be helpful to those who are interested in ensuring state construction funds are spent in-state. However, we also believe there is a balance between cost and benefit to be considered. We question whether the benefits of collecting information that may or may not lead to anything would outweigh the burdensome costs of requiring every state contractor to submit a local construction hiring plan on an annual basis.

We are also somewhat troubled by section (b) (6), lines 56 and 57 of the bill, which strongly implies that this information is intended to provide the basis and justification for punitive action against contractors who do not "exhibit a commitment to hiring Connecticut residents." If the bill is truly intended to convey objective data for legislators to consider, this subjective, and potentially prejudicial, determination should not be included.

We ask that the committee carefully weigh all of the potential costs versus the benefits of this proposal in your deliberations on S.B. 1130.

For additional information, please contact Don Shubert, CCIA President, at 860-529-6855.

