



Testimony Submitted by Lori Pelletier, Secretary-Treasurer, Connecticut AFL-CIO

**In Support of Raised Bill 1130,
An Act Maximizing Jobs for State Workers
By Requiring Plans of Local Hiring by Construction Companies**

Senator LeBeau, Representative Perone and members of the Commerce Committee, the Connecticut AFL-CIO, representing over 900 affiliate unions, supports Raised Bill 1130, An Act Maximizing Jobs for State Workers By Requiring Plans of Local Hiring by Construction Companies. This bill would require any business that wants to bid on a contract or perform work on any public work to file an annual local construction hiring plan.

This is a common sense bill that would go a long way towards putting Connecticut workers back to work and promote our state's economy.

The construction industry has been particularly hard hit during the recession. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated that Connecticut lost nearly 22,000 construction jobs since 2007. Unemployment in the construction industry is in the double digits. Our affiliates who represent the workers in the construction industry speak about the devastating impact that prolonged unemployment has had on workers and their families. Connecticut has invested in workforce training, so all the more reason why we need to ensure that our public dollars are being used to hire local, trained workers.

This bill would create more transparency and accountability for hiring practices of companies that receive public dollars. It would encourage companies to hire resident construction workers at a time when jobs are needed to stimulate our economy.

Thank you for consideration of this important issue.

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