



EDWARD J. MUSANTE, JR.
PRESIDENT & CEO

February 21, 2013

Esteemed members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

The Greater Norwalk Chamber of Commerce is pleased to **support the passage of House Bill 6401**. As a long-standing member of the mid-Fairfield County community, the Greater Norwalk Chamber of Commerce has been dedicated to supporting the needs of local businesses since 1889. We welcome this opportunity to provide the viewpoint of our diverse membership of approximately 1,000 businesses on this telecommunications legislation, and hope the Committee will join us in supporting this initiative.

Connecticut has become a leader in communications technology, and the rapid deployment and adoption of VoIP services is a contributing factor to the state's leadership in this area. Over the past six years, the cable industry alone has invested over \$1 billion in technology infrastructure in our state. As we strive to overcome various economic challenges, we cannot afford to jeopardize the important economic development and job creation benefits associated with communication-sector's related growth and investment. Now is the time for the General Assembly to take action to affirm the state's existing "light touch" regulatory structure, sending a clear signal that there is no need for any costly and burdensome regulation on VoIP providers.

Finally, it is important to note that HB 6401 is not only a win for the business community, but it is also a win for all Connecticut consumers. Over the last decade, VoIP providers have delivered real competition to wireline phone service— more innovation, better service and lower prices. Let's keep this great news story going.

Thank you for providing our business community the ability to make our views known on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward J. Musante, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Edward J. Musante, Jr.
President & CEO