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Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc.

**Testimony for Elliott Ginsberg &
the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology for
Energy and Technology Committee
on
HB 6402 “An Act Modernizing the State’s
Telecommunications Laws”
February 21, 2013**

Senator Duff, Representative Reed, and members of the Committee, my name is Elliot Ginsberg and I am President and CEO of the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology. I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 6402 *AN ACT MODERNIZING THE STATE'S TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAWS*.

The mission of the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc., a non-profit organization, is to provide services and resources to our clients that help them implement innovative technology solutions, increase efficiencies and improve workforce development, and through collaboration with industry, academia and government, seek to create new partnerships for addressing 21st century economic challenges

The passage and implementation of this legislation includes the opportunity to provide greater investment in advanced high speed/high capacity telecommunications networks, which in turn will lead to economic and job growth.

As a leading organization addressing the sustainment and growth of the manufacturing sector, CCAT regularly observes how our state's manufacturers are transforming and adopting increased technological advancements in their manufacturing processes. CCAT recognizes that the manufacturing sector has been, and will continue to be, a backbone of our economic prospects for the future. As such we support efforts to create an environment where these companies can grow and prosper.

It is clear that the current needs of Connecticut's manufacturers are much different from the needs of manufacturing in the past.

Today, manufacturers rely on high capacity broadband infrastructure to send and receive vast amounts of information and files over these networks. An advanced technological infrastructure needs to be available in order for our new 21st century manufacturing base to succeed.

If the investment in broadband to build and maintain these networks is not present in Connecticut, companies will explore states that have created more robust telecommunications networks – states that have seen increased investment and job growth.



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In Connecticut, our current telecommunication laws were written decades ago, and as such, apply to traditional wireline providers and therefore force investment in two networks – the 21st century network that powers technologies consumers and businesses are demanding and the wireline network of the last century that consumers and businesses are abandoning.

It is important that Connecticut provide the most sophisticated and innovative network infrastructure capacity in order to assure that economic opportunities are realized, that companies' growth accelerates and jobs are created. This legislation provides one such pathway.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.