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Legislative Committee

February 20, 2013

Energy and Technology Committee
Room 3900, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

We are writing you today as Co-Chairmen of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee. The Middlesex Chamber is a dynamic business organization with over 2400 members that employ over 50,000 people. The reason for our letter is to ask that you support **HB No. 6402, An Act Modernizing the State's Telecommunications Laws.**

The cornerstones of sustainable economic growth are fair business practices, competition, and industry-wide regulations that make sense with the communication needs of today. The state's existing telecommunication laws are a bit outdated and need some tweaking as they currently are an impediment to business development and economic growth. Connecticut has experienced dismal job growth over that last decade and the unemployment rate continues to hold close to 9%. One way to improve the economic climate is to review the very regulations under review in House Bill 6402. The demands on our small business community to compete on a day to day business are staggering, and every attempt to improve small business efficiencies with advancements in technology infrastructure should be pursued.

Modernizing the State's telecommunication laws will enable the business community to invest more in Connecticut. This investment is necessary for the creation of new jobs as well as important enhancements to our telecommunication networks. We urge the General Assembly to update Connecticut's telecommunications laws through passage of HB 6402 and continue to invest in the State of Connecticut.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for the record.

Sincerely,

Rich Carella
Co-Chair
Legislative Committee

Rick Parmelee
Co-Chair
Legislative Committee

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Awards: Governor's Laurel Award for Responsible Social Involvement, President's White House Citation for Private Sector Initiatives
U.S. Department of Labor LIFT America Award, Connecticut Small Business Advocate Award, Vision 2000 Excellence Award
NAACP Business Award