



TESTIMONY OF ERIC J. BROWN
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CONNECTICUT BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
before the
ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
March 5, 2013

Good morning. My name is Eric Brown and I serve as director of energy and environmental policy with the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (“CBIA”). On behalf of our 10,000 large and small member companies throughout Connecticut, we appreciate this opportunity to go on the record as supporting several bills on your agenda and opposing two others, in their current form.

S.B. No. 203 AN ACT CONCERNING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

CBIA supports this bill as a means to encourage the installation of Class 1 renewable energy at commercial and industrial facilities.

S.B. No. 250 AN ACT REQUIRING APPLICANTS OF ELECTRIC GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES TO PERFORM ENERGY ANALYSES

CBIA opposes this bill as being largely duplicative with current practice, laws and regulations, including those administered by the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board.

S.B. No. 949 AN ACT ESTABLISHING COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS

CBIA supports this bill as a means to encourage investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy at commercial and industrial facilities.

H.B. No. 5591 AN ACT CONCERNING ON-BILL FINANCING FOR ENERGY RELATED TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

CBIA supports this bill as a means to make the financing of energy efficiency, renewable energy and smart meters more convenient for small commercial and industrial companies.

H.B. No. 6470 AN ACT CONCERNING CLARITY OF RETAIL ELECTRIC OFFERING TERMS

CBIA opposes this bill in its current form. Clarity of understanding that price offered for the electric generation portion of an electric bill does not include the utility delivery components is desirable.. However, requiring suppliers, aggregators and the like to disclose the electric distribution company's actual current charges is, in our view, unwarranted. Suppliers and aggregators are not in the business of interpreting utility tariffs. Furthermore, tariffs change and rate classes for specific customers can also change. Because of these factors, the accuracy of identifying specific utility costs for specific customers would be problematic.

As an alternative approach, we believe the spirit of this bill could perhaps be accomplished by requiring the inclusion of specific, agreed upon, language to accompany any electric generation price offer that spells out the fact that utility delivery and other utility costs are in addition to the generation price offered. There is no need to provide the specific utility costs in order to make the point.

H.B. No. 6472 AN ACT CONCERNING THE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM

CBIA supports this bill as a means to qualify additional commercial and industrial energy investments for financing under the Property Assessed Clean Energy program (C-PACE) administered by the Connecticut Energy Finance Investment Authority (CEFIA).

CBIA appreciates this opportunity to provide testimony on these bills and for your consideration of our positions.