



EDWARD J. MUSANTE, JR.  
PRESIDENT & CEO

February 21, 2013

Esteemed members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

The Greater Norwalk Chamber of Commerce is **opposed to the passage of Senate Bill 657**. 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 proposal, and hope the Committee will take no action on this legislation.

In 2007, Connecticut adopted comprehensive legislation that transformed the state's video franchise regulations to encourage more choice and innovation in the video marketplace. As a result of that action, today's video market is highly competitive with a wide range of service providers striving to meet consumers' needs including cable providers, phone providers, satellite video providers, and over-the-top video services such as Hulu and Netflix. These competitive options have empowered consumers to select the provider that can deliver the best value, reliable service and cutting-edge technology.

If enacted, this legislation will impose unnecessary and costly new regulations on certain video providers—major Connecticut employers that are making substantial contributions to our state's (and region's) economy. As we begin to recover from the "Great Recession," now is not the time to adopt legislation that would be detrimental to the business community and consumers—not only within Norwalk but across the entire state.

Thank you for providing us with the ability to make our views known on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Musante, Jr.  
President and CEO