



CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

56 Town Line Road, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

860-571-6191

fax: 860-571-6190

Testimony of Todd Berch

Before the Energy and Technology Committee

Thursday March 7, 2013

Good Afternoon Senator Duff, Representative Reed, and members of the Energy and Technology Committee. My name is Todd Berch and I am with the Connecticut AFL-CIO.

I am here today to testify on behalf of the 900 affiliated local unions representing members from all 169 cities and towns of Connecticut **in support of the Governor's Bill Number 6360 – An Act Concerning Implementation of Connecticut's Comprehensive Energy Strategy.**

Attached to this testimony is a resolution passed by the delegates at the 2012 Connecticut AFL-CIO convention. This resolution is in alignment with the goals of the proposed bill to reduce energy costs for residences and businesses. This bill also achieves environmental goals and creates local green jobs.

An estimated 7,000 jobs will be created to build approximately 900 miles of gas mains and upgrading aging infrastructure that is need of repair. There will also be a demand for installers of high efficiency equipment that will reduce energy consumption and energy costs of the consumer.

The Connecticut AFL-CIO, its affiliates, and the central labor councils are poised and ready to educate our members and community outreach programs on conservation, energy alternatives, and choices of energy conversion and equipment upgrades.

We firmly believe that making energy conservation choices will lead to lower demand and lower costs when coupled with weatherization and energy audits.

This energy strategy will also make Connecticut manufacturers and other business more competitive by reducing energy costs that are burdensome to Connecticut's economy and job growth.

We are also committed to seeking renewable and alternative forms of energy technologies by prioritizing the development and manufacturing of these technologies here in the State of Connecticut.

We appreciate the committee holding this public hearing and would be happy to address any questions.

Thank You

PRESIDENT

John W. Olsen

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Lori J. Pelletier

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Salvatore Luciano

GENERAL VICE PRESIDENT

Thomas A. Wilkinson

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Lee Cozzit

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Sharon M. Palmer

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Mark A. Espinosa

3rd VICE PRESIDENT

Benedict W. Cozzi

4th VICE PRESIDENT

Jeffrey H. Matchett

VICE PRESIDENTS

John Ahern

John A. Altieri

Linda Armstrong

Richard Benham

Karen Blanchard

Tammie Botelho

Beverley Brakeman

Calvin Bunnell

Wayne J. Burgess

Michael Calderon

Peter S. Carozza, Jr.

Peter Carroll

Carol Censki

Frank Cirillo

Everett C. Corey

Shellye Davis

Kenneth Delacruz

Alvin Douglas

Steven R. Ferrucci III

Ronald Frost

Patrick Gaynor

Bill Henderson

Keri Hoehne

Kathleen S. Jackson

Clarke King

Thomas Ledoux

John McCarthy

Richard McCombs

Ronald McLellan

Jean Morningstar

Warren Pepicelli

Melodie Peters

Michael Petosa

Ronald Petronella

Roberta Price

Robert Proto

Peter Reilly

Carmen Reyes

David Roche

Edward Sasso

Patrena Smith

Valerie Stewart

Ray Soucy

James R. Wallace, Jr.

Paul Wallace

Kurt Westby

