



March 11, 2013

Ref: A LETTER IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED RAISED BILL NO. 1053, AN ACT CONCERNING EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY FOR APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING TAX CREDITS

Dear Sen. Fonfara and Rep. Widlitz:

The Economic Development Corporation of New Haven, an organization dedicated to attracting and retaining New Haven jobs and businesses, strongly supports proposed Raised Bill No. 1053 to expand apprenticeship training tax credits to business entities other than C corporations.

Our organization works on a daily basis with many of New Haven's manufacturers and they repeatedly invoke the need for more manufacturing apprenticeships. The EDC of New Haven is also working to with the City and State to strengthen vocational training at the high school level as well as at the community college level particularly with the opening of the new Gateway Community College downtown campus.

The employers we work with invest many thousands of dollars in new employees before they are fully skilled and productive. These tax credits help to offset the high costs associated with apprenticeship training and expansion of such tax credits will allow other New Haven and Connecticut companies to undertake more hiring and create more jobs.

Under the current statute, the credit is only available to offset Connecticut Corporate Business Tax for regular C corporations. This excludes S corporations who comprise many of the smaller manufacturers and where a great proportion of job growth occurs.

The average tax credit per apprentice is \$4,800.00 per year. This credit is an acknowledgement on the part of the state that apprenticeship training is a long, labor intensive and costly endeavor on the part of the manufacturer. Making other types of companies eligible for these credits will allow for further growth and more jobs. Please support this legislation by expanding it to other business entities. Support of this legislation will allow Connecticut companies to develop future employees to meet manufacturing needs and contribute positively to economic and employment growth in the state.

Very Truly Yours,

Kelly Murphy, AICP  
Interim CEO  
Economic Development Corporation of New Haven