



CONNECTICUT
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY
ASSOCIATION

**Testimony of Bonnie Stewart
Vice President of Government Affairs, CBIA
Before the
Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee
Hartford, CT
March 11, 2013**

**Testifying in Support of SB 1053 An Act Concerning Expanded Eligibility For
Apprenticeship Training Tax Credits**

Good Afternoon. My name is Bonnie Stewart and I am Vice President of Government Affairs at the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents more than 10,000 employers throughout the state of Connecticut ranging from one-person businesses to large corporations. The majority of our members have fewer than 50 employees.

CBIA **supports SB 1053** which would permit pass-through entities that participate in apprenticeship training programs to claim the apprenticeship training tax credit.

Under current law (Connecticut General Statutes §§12-217g and 31-22n), C corporations employing apprentices that receive training in the manufacturing and certain other specified fields are eligible for a tax credit. The law is very specific as to the types of companies that are eligible for the tax credit; what defines who is an apprentice; and what is a qualifying apprenticeship program. While this credit is quite limited, it is a very important tax credit for many small and midsize manufacturers.

Connecticut has numerous small and midsize manufacturers that are not currently eligible for the apprenticeship training tax credit because they are pass-through entities. In the manufacturing community, many companies are organized as S corporations. Therefore, we would like to see the tax credit extended to S corporations because the credit could help those manufacturers better afford to pay the wages and training expenses of the apprentices.

Adoption of **SB 1053** would help what might otherwise be an unaffordable training program become a reality for many small and midsize manufacturers, as well as for individuals looking for apprenticeship opportunities. CBIA urges you to support **SB 1053**.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.