

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE  
GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
FEBRUARY 22, 2013**

My name is Jennifer Herz and I am Assistant Counsel for the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents approximately 10,000 businesses throughout Connecticut and the vast majority of these are small companies employing less than 50 people.

I am before you today to support **Proposed HB 5896** An Act Concerning State Agencies with Regulatory Authority Over Business.

CBIA shares the legislature's goal of creating a more open government. We believe this bill will further that goal and support an environment of transparency.

Connecticut's regulatory framework must provide a clear process for businesses seeking requisite approval and should not further burden business with unwarranted regulation.

Today businesses face an uncertain regulatory process since agencies have no obligation to cite authority for their decisions or a change in practice. Providing a regulatory or statutory reference, as applicable, to support government decisions will aid this goal and create consistency in the event of varying interpretations.

Agency staff will benefit by confirming the authority for their decisions and business will benefit by better understanding the regulatory system. Furthermore, such citations will facilitate efficient dispute resolution since more information will be available to both parties.

Again, CBIA urges you to support Proposed HB 5896 and your continued efforts to support an open Government and regulatory system.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today in support of PHB 5896.

