



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT SANCHEZ
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER
TWENTY FIFTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 4018
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL: (860) 240-8585
TOLL FREE: (800) 842-8267
FAX: (860) 240-0206
E-MAIL: Bobby.Sanchez@cga.ct.gov

VICE CHAIR
FINANCE, REVENUE & BONDING COMMITTEE

MEMBER
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
HIGHER EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT
ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Testimony of State Representative Robert Sanchez, 25th District
Government Administration and Elections Committee
Monday, March 25, 2013

Proposed Bill No. 1146, AN ACT CONCERNING CROSS-ENDORSEMENTS

Senator Musto, Representative Jutila, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to H.B No. 1146, An act concerning cross-endorsements.

As the law currently stands, individuals in Connecticut running for office do not need to be enrolled as a member of a party to be endorsed by such party. Proposed bill No. 1146 would disallow candidates who are not enrolled as a member of a party to be endorsed by such party.

The proposed bill infringes on the first amendment right of freedom of speech. The bill would force individuals running for office to enroll as a member of a party to receive an endorsement.

This will lead to situations where individuals cannot be endorsed by a party that shares their views and beliefs even if it is not their registered party. Likewise, the bill would also lead to situations in which political parties are compelled to endorse candidates which they do not fully support.

Ultimately, the bill would put limits on accurate and honest political representation within our state.

Senator Musto, Representative Jutila, and distinguished member of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to H.B No. 1146, An act concerning cross-endorsements.

Written
3/25/13