Connecticut Heating & Cooling Contractors Association

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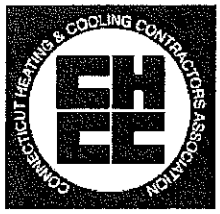
MEMBERS OF: CBIA – NFPA – ICC

Established 1972



2013

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TESTIMONY OF
JENNIFER JENNINGS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BEFORE THE
GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE
MARCH 5, 2013

The Connecticut Heating & Cooling Contractors Association (CHCC) submits the following comments *opposing* **HB-6442**, An Act Exemption Certain Distribution Warehouse Employees From Professional Licensing Requirements:

CHCC opposes this bill because our contractors are concerned that this legislation could have broad implications for our industry as well as other licensed occupational trades. Specifically, CHCC opposes legislation that creates yet another exemption from state occupational licensing requirements. Furthermore, it is unclear if as written the proposed legislation creates an across the board exemption for employees of such a warehouse, to the point that they would not be required to hold a license even if they were performing what would otherwise be licensed work elsewhere in their warehouse aside from their duty regarding machinery to hoist or convey products on premises. For example, could this legislation would create a potential scenario where an exempt employee whose primary duties concern operating hoisting or conveyor machinery in a warehouse would otherwise be allowed to perform complex work on the warehouse's heating or cooling systems without the proper training or a license? Such an exemption as contemplated by this bill is unnecessary, would create unsafe working conditions, and would result in terrible precedent for the HVAC industry and other licensed trades alike.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments and CHCC urges the Committee to take no action on the bill.