



CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

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Testimony of Todd Berch

Before the General Law Committee

Bloomfield Senior Services 330 Park Avenue Bloomfield, Connecticut

Tuesday March 5, 2013

Good Evening Senator Doyle, Representative Baram, and members of the General Law Committee.

My name is Todd Berch and I am with the Connecticut AFL-CIO.

I am here today to testify on behalf of the 900 affiliated local unions representing members from all 169 cities and towns of Connecticut **in support of Raised Senate Bill Number 924 – An Act Clarifying Renewal Requirements for Medical Gas and Vacuum Systems Certificates.**

As of July 1, 2003 any person working on or installing Medical Gas and Vacuum Systems were required to be certified as a brazer issued in accordance with the standards of Section IX Welding and Brazing Qualifications of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. Potential installers are also to complete an installation course required by the American National Standards Institute – American Society of Sanitary Engineering Series 6000.

Embedded within these codes are requirements for recertification on a bi-yearly basis for brazers and a re-certification of installation processes once every three years.

Though a majority of responsible brazers/installers abide by the respective codes keeping their certifications up to date, there are some that do not. This language clarifying a requirement as a pre-requisite to license renewal is not only fair to those that abide by the code, but also protect the end user of these systems from an unqualified process of delivering vital medical gas and vacuum when it is needed the most.

We appreciate the committee holding this public hearing and would be happy to address any questions.

Thank You

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