



# CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

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Testimony of Lori Pelletier, Secretary-Treasurer Connecticut AFLCIO  
before the Labor and Public Employees committee  
February 19, 2013

Senator Osten and Representative Tercyak and members of the committee my name is Lori Pelletier and I am here to testify on behalf of the 900 affiliated local unions of the Connecticut AFLCIO. Before you today are a number of bills which we are here in support of. We appreciate the work of this committee and the number of issues you are addressing and offer our assistance in ensuring that the concepts/bills raised today will move through the process up to and including the Governor's signature.

Proposed S.B. No. 159 AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYEE PRIVACY. (LAB) We support. Workers should not be required to hand over personal passwords to PERSONAL accounts. Management can address the use of company computers and personal use another way.

Proposed S.B. No. 188 AN ACT CONCERNING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS. (LAB) We support, any time we offer assistance to unemployed workers so they can utilize their skills to be "more employable" is a good policy.

Proposed S.B. No. 344 AN ACT CLARIFYING THE DEFINITION OF INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR. (LAB) We support strong language when it comes to workers and misclassification abuses.

Proposed S.B. No. 349 AN ACT CONCERNING TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES AND WRITTEN JOB ORDERS. (LAB) We support this if the idea behind it is to better clarify who the employee is working for and what their responsibilities are.

Proposed S.B. No. 704 AN ACT CONCERNING RETIREMENT DEFINITIONS OF MUNICIPALITIES AND PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES RELATING TO THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT FUND. (LAB) We support.

Proposed S.B. No. 732 AN ACT CONCERNING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS AND THE CHRONICALLY UNEMPLOYED. (LAB) We support. Again we need to be proactive when it comes helping those unemployed gain employment.

S.B. No. 823 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING SEVERE MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL IMPAIRMENT AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE. (LAB) We support and applaud the committee for this comprehensive review of how we protect those who by virtue of showing up for work are put into a life changing and horrific situation. This bill will provide peace of mind for the families of those workers effected, and although they may never be able to put that horrific day behind them, the safety net known as workers compensation will be available to help.

Thank you to the committee for this public hearing opportunity.

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