



# CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

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## Testimony of Lori Pelletier, Secretary-Treasurer of the Connecticut AFLCIO before the Transportation Committee February 4, 2013

Senator Maynard and Representative Guerrera and members of the Transportation Committee, my name is Lori Pelletier and I am the Secretary Treasurer of the Connecticut AFLCIO, and I am here on behalf of our 900 affiliated local unions.

We are in support of the following proposed bills:

**Proposed H.B. No. 5549 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTIES FOR ENDANGERMENT OF A HIGHWAY WORKER. (TRA)**

**Proposed H.B. No. 5250 AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFETY OF WORKERS IN ROADWAY WORK ZONES. (TRA)**

We appreciate the committee holding this public hearing on this very important issue of workplace safety. For DOT workers it is especially important because their workplace is fraught with danger. Speeding cars, distracted drivers, elements of the weather, all play a part in the tragic death and injury of these important public servants.

Each year over 5000 workers die in our nation while on the job, and countless more are injured. These workers will never return home to their families and that is just simply unacceptable. We need to seriously look at the causes of injuries and death to our employees and do everything possible to make sure they have every opportunity to come home after a hard days (or nights) work.

Each year the Connecticut AFLCIO remembers our fallen brothers and sisters on April 28th, on that day we pray for those who died on the job, but we also pledge to each other to continue to fight to ensure no family has to suffer by the loss of a loved one who perishes while on the job. We stand ready, willing and able to work with this committee as well as the whole General Assembly to prevent workplace injuries and death.

Thank you for bring this bill up for discussion, and we look forward to working together to keep Connecticut's public servants safe while they make our lives better.

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