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February 19, 2013

Connecticut State Legislature  
Transportation Committee

Subject: Testimony, Proposed Bill No. 6021, Feb 20, 2013 Hearing

My name is Kevin Galvin and own Connecticut Commercial Maintenance. I am a Connecticut Small Business owner for thirty years. I am sending this testimony in opposition of Bill 6021.

I am in the service business with five service trucks on the road daily. Of the five vehicles three have over 100,000 miles. All are in excellent running condition. Our business model like most other businesses dictates our vehicles have lives well over 100,000 miles. Businesses operating vehicles in this challenging economy do not take any chances with their vehicles. I see service vehicles being better maintained now than ever in that the replacement cost of a vehicle is so high and/or costs from a prolonged repair stay would be devastating to a Small Business. Each of my vehicles represents 20% of my income potential. Trust in the fact we take care of our vehicles.

Moreover, most vehicles today operate safely and efficiently well over the 100,000 mile mark. With oil changes recommended in 10,000 miles increments, spark plug changes at 100,000 miles clearly the manufactures of these vehicles and replacement part manufacturers see 100,000 miles is not even a mid way point in a modern vehicle's life.

I see this bill if enacted will be yet another tax on Small Business. Not only is it obviously going to add costs to businesses that operate vehicles as part of their business but it cuts into the business's productivity by adding yet another inspection taking these vehicles and staff off the road and off the clock.

More importantly it is yet another sign that Connecticut is not business friendly. A case that is unfortunately becoming more easily made daily.

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Given the fact that there is no data I am aware of that supports the fact that vehicles over 100,000 miles are in more accidents or cause more accidents than vehicles with lower mileage it is hard to see intent of this bill is for reasons of "safety".

With Small Business being the largest employer group in the State and represented in the legislative process. I feel that one of the filters any bill including Bill 6021 that comes before the Legislature should be the impact on Small Business. The impact to Small Business from Bill 6021 is obvious. It is yet another cost, interruption to business and another distraction to restarting our economy.

I respectfully request Bill 6021 not be enacted.

Respectfully,

Kevin Galvin  
President