



**CONNECTICUT**

**TESTIMONY OF  
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS (NFIB)  
BY  
ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR  
SUPPORTING  
HB-5275, AAC THE LEARN HERE LIVE HERE PROGRAM AND BUSINESS CREATION  
BEFORE THE  
COMMERCE COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

*A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB is Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business association. In Connecticut, NFIB represents thousands of members and their employees. NFIB membership is scattered across the state and ranges from sophisticated high technology enterprises to "Main Street" small businesses to single-person "Mom & Pop" shops that operate in traditional ways. NFIB's mission is "To promote and protect the right of its members to own, operate, and grow their businesses." On behalf of those small- and independent- job-providers in Connecticut, I offer the following comments:*

NFIB/Connecticut supports HB-5275, An Act Concerning The Learn Here Live Here Program And Business Creation. This bill pro-growth bill would provide an incentive for start-up businesses in Connecticut and possibly encourage young entrepreneurs to stay in Connecticut by providing access to the Learn Here Live Here program for those that start a new business. NFIB is generally supportive of legislation that encourages young people to consider careers in small business and promotes entrepreneurship, and HB-5275 would help accomplish this. The changes in this bill to the Learn Here Live Here program can be a crucial component in creating and growing the next generation of small business owners and entrepreneurs in Connecticut.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and NFIB urges lawmakers to support HB-5275.



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**TESTIMONY OF  
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS (NFIB)  
BY  
ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR  
SUPPORTING  
HB-5269, AA CREATING PARITY BETWEEN PAID SICK LEAVE BENEFITS AND OTHER  
EMPLOYER-PROVIDED BENEFITS  
BEFORE THE  
COMMERCE COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

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NFIB/Connecticut supports HB-5269, An Act Creating Parity Between Paid Sick Leave Benefits And Other Employer-Provided Benefits. This bill is a common-sense approach to clarify and simplify the administration of and compliance with Connecticut's existing mandated paid leave law. Consistency and parity in the application and administration of state laws and employers' obligations under those laws is crucial for small businesses, most of which do not have their own human resources or legal staff.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and NFIB urges lawmakers to support HB-5269.