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Joint Hearing of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding and Commerce Committees
HB5465, An Act Concerning The CT Aerospace Reinvestment Act

Testimony of Tony Cacace and Steven Hayse from GKN Aerospace
March 10, 2014

Senator Fonfara, Representative Widlitz, Senator LeBeau, Representative Perone and the Honorable members of the Finance Revenue and Bonding and Commerce Committees:

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 5465, An Act Concerning the Connecticut Aerospace Reinvestment Act. My name is Tony Cacace. I have 47 years of experience in the aerospace industry. I am the former President and founder of GKN Aerospace Services, Structures Corp in Cromwell, Connecticut, and currently serve as Executive Vice President of Technology and New Business Development for GKN Aerospace. With me is Steven Hayse, who has 29 years of experience in the aerospace industry. Steven is the former Vice President of Engineering and officer for GKN Aerospace Services Structures Corp, in Cromwell, Connecticut, and is currently the Principal Technologist for GKN at the Cromwell site.

Both Steven and I were instrumental in establishing GKN Structures Corporation to develop and manufacture highly advanced composites for jet engines and airframes, making and maintaining Pratt and Whitney as a satisfied customer. By integrating Pratt & Whitney design and GKN manufacturing, the Integrated Product Development Team (or IPDT) process and collaborative research and development are credited with that success. Enhancing that same approach will be a benefit to Connecticut and local businesses and communities.

In our opinion, the CT Aerospace Reinvestment Act will have the following benefits:

- Enhanced IPDT capability, which will lead to posturing CT companies to become more competitive
- Give our students ability to work in CT and help local manufacturers
- Higher technology applications for UCONN science with CCAT applied technology to give UTC cutting edge capabilities
- Research and development will create the future of CT's position in a global competitive environment
- The beginning renaissance in the aerospace industry presents an opportunity for the State of CT to be a leader in innovations in technology and product applications

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Cacace', written over a horizontal line.

Tony Cacace
Exec VP of Technology
GKN Cromwell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven Hayse', written over a horizontal line.

Steven Hayse
Principal Technologist
GKN Cromwell