



March 7, 2014

State of Connecticut
Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

RE: Testimony in Support of HB5472

My name is George R. Platt and I am president of The Harty Press, Inc, a 57 employee printing and mailing company founded in 1900. Our 70,000 sq. ft. plant is in the Fair Haven section of New Haven.

I am writing in support of HB5472 which if passed would provide significant relief for a \$58,674 problem I have. A leasing company from Pennsylvania never applied for Tax Exempt status for a major piece of printing machinery we started leasing in 2009. Under the State of Connecticut program manufacturing equipment is exempt from taxes on the Grand List. The City of New Haven has been billing the leasing company and they have been paying the tax bill for the years 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

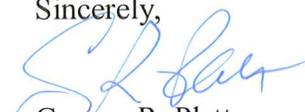
Every year the leasing company would ask us to pay the tax and we would say that the equipment is tax exempt. According to their lease documents it was their responsibility to initiate tax issues with the taxing body.

All parties involved agree the equipment should have been exempt but the leasing company paid the tax to the City of New Haven. In the current system there is no mechanism for either the City of New Haven or the State of Connecticut to issue the leasing company a credit for the taxes paid in error.

It is my hope that this bill will pass and will create a system where taxes can be credited when a legitimate mistake is made.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



George R. Platt
President