



AQUARION
Water Company

Stewards of the Environment™

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To: The Labor and Public Employees Committee:

My name is Charles V. Firlotte and I am the CEO of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut.

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 249, which requires many Connecticut businesses that are not offering their employees access to a retirement plan to facilitate workers' participation in a new, state-government-run retirement plan. This bill is simply unnecessary, because among other things, it will add to employers' administrative burdens and costs.

While Aquarion offers its employees an attractive 401k plan, many of its customers are small businesses that do not have the financial and administrative wherewithal to establish and administer payroll deductions that would be mandated by SB 249. Connecticut already places many mandates on its businesses. SB 249 would add administrative burdens and is unnecessary, particularly where there are so many alternatives to the state mandated retirement plan, such as individual IRAs.

We urge you to oppose SB 249 because it will be harmful to our state's businesses, employees, and Connecticut's economy.

Thank you.

Charles V. Firlotte