

Dear members of the Appropriations committee,

I am writing in support of HB 5968. The recent and continuing economic malaise was not caused by me, or any other small business person and we have all tried hard to maintain employment and invest to maintain the services we provide to Connecticut residents. The desire for unemployment benefits is a public good and should be shouldered by the public rather than a large group of people that had no influence on the causes or responses of the recession.

My cost for FUTA and SUTA exceeds the cost of an entry level employee every pay period. If you want to employ people, paying the interest, or requesting a federal waiver from interest, makes sense. Let our state taxes go back to their historical levels. That would provide all businesses in the state the margin to add employees. Those employees would then be involved in the economy and pay taxes, ultimately probably creating the budget surplus we all aspire to.

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