



Waterbury Regional Chamber
driving business to business

April 17, 2015

STATEMENT OF JOHN DICARLO, PUBLIC POLICY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR of the WATERBURY REGIONAL CHAMBER for the TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE on H.B. 7055 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT FIRST.

Senator Fonfara, Representative Berger and members of Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee: Thank you for accepting my testimony into the record for this legislation. The Waterbury Regional Chamber, which serves 13 towns in the Greater Waterbury region and represents the collective interests of nearly 1,000 businesses in matters of public policy and economic development, supports House Bill 7055, An Act Concerning Connecticut First.

The greater Waterbury region continues to have one of the highest ratios of Brownfields in our state. These properties are often prominently located and offer tremendous economic development opportunities for our region. During the past decade, a number of these parcels have been remediated and are now home to key commercial and residential facilities.

However, funding support to encourage private investment in Brownfields remains much needed. The system of tax credits that would be established by HB 7055 represents an important tool that could be used to unlock their development potential and play a major role in our region's economic recovery.

Thank you for your consideration.

John DiCarlo
Public Policy & Economic Development Director