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**Testimony Before the General Law Committee
February 18, 2015**

The Connecticut Restaurant Association (CRA) represents over 600 restaurants and affiliated businesses across the state. Our members range from quick serve to casual to fine dining establishments. The Connecticut hospitality industry employs an estimated 145,000 people, making up 9% of our states' workforce. Restaurants are a driving force in the state's economy and generate tremendous tax revenue.

**SB 391 AN ACT ALLOWING PERSONS WHO ARE SIXTEEN AND SEVENTTEN YEARS OLD TO WORK ON LIQUOR
PERMIT ESTABLISHMENT PREMISES**

Senate Bill 391 seeks to clarify Section 30-90a of the general statutes which addresses the employment of persons under the age of eighteen in establishments with liquor permits. The CRA supports clarifying the law to allow sixteen and seventeen year olds to work in restaurants with liquor permits in positions that include, but are not limited to: servers, hostesses or hosts, and table bussers.

**SB 828 AN ACT REQUIRING MUNICIPALITIES WITH HIGH POPULATION DENSITIES TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE
AND RENEWAL FOR PERMITS FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR**

Senate Bill 828 would require the legislative body of a municipality with a high population density to favorably vote on issuing and renewing liquor permits based on specific criteria. The CRA seeks clarification as to the specific type of liquor permit that would require municipal legislative approval. Members of the Connecticut Restaurant Association not only employ thousands of Connecticut citizens but are part of and have a positive impact in many communities in Connecticut.
