

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE  
HOUSING COMMITTEE  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
FEBRUARY 3, 2015**

My name is Jennifer Herz and I am Assistant Counsel for the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA has been representing Connecticut's employers for 200 years and today is proud to say the vast majority of our members are small companies employing less than 50 people.

**CBIA supports HB 5185 An Act Concerning Housing for Young Professionals** because establishing affordable housing is important to a healthy economy for Connecticut. Affordable housing is a significant factor for many in deciding where to work and live. Therefore, affordable housing for Connecticut's workers is essential to ensuring the next generation of talent is ready to work here in Connecticut.

Connecticut's employers need talented employees to stay in Connecticut and housing initiatives that encourage and assist young people to buy homes in Connecticut is important to support that effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to present CBIA's comments.