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**Proposed Bill 5863
Public Hearing 2/17/2015**

TO: MEMBERS OF THE LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
DATE: FEBRUARY 17, 2015

**RE: PROPOSED BILL 5863: AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS'
COMPENSATION AND FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE**

I am writing this letter in regard to our support of Representative Jutila's Proposed Bill 5863.

Our Committee has reviewed Proposed Bill 5863 and greatly supports this Bill. This Bill goes directly toward the Humanity Purpose of the Workers' Compensation Act.

Bill 5863 will protect injured workers' jobs while they are out recovering from their injuries. Our Committee Members see time and time again injured workers who are out for extended periods of time due to their injuries and then have no job to come back to as their employers terminate them. Some employers also do not have light duty work for their injured employees to perform while they are recovering from their injuries. Injured workers often find that by the time they have recovered and are able to return to full duty work, their employers have terminated them or laid them off.

Thus many injured workers who are hurt due to no fault of their own, find that once they are ready to return to work, there is no job for them to return to. They then often find that they are unable to find new employment and at this time most of them have exhausted their weekly Workers' Compensation benefits.

Wherefore, the Workers' Compensation Section of The Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association (CTLA) and the injured workers that we represent support Representative Jutila's Proposed Bill 5863.

Thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,



Patrick D. Skuret, Esq.
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