



CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

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Testimony of the Connecticut AFL-CIO before the Labor and Public Employees Committee

March 3rd, 2015

Senator Winfield, Representative Tercyak and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, I am Lori Pelletier and I serve as the Executive Secretary- Treasurer of the Connecticut AFL-CIO. I am here to testify on behalf of the 900 affiliated local unions who represent 200,000 working men and women from every city and town in our great state in support of:

H.B. No. 6850 AN ACT CONCERNING PAY EQUITY AND FAIRNESS

We applaud Governor Malloy for proposing this legislation on workplace fairness it is long overdue.

The Connecticut AFL-CIO supports workers' rights and this bill, if passed, would address the inherent rights we believe all workers deserve.

Union employees, through the collective bargaining process, have transparency in which employees pay scale (this is also inclusive of the prevailing wage), wage classification rates, wage steps for incremental wage increases and benefits are defined in a legal document called a contract.

All workers give a fair days work and only ask for a fair days pay in return. But how do they know if they are being paid a fair wage? Can you imagine going to a grocery store and not knowing the price when putting product into your carriage?

Is it fair for a worker be forced to sign a document relinquishing their rights? Or for an employee to be fired for inquiring about the value of their labor?

If you answered no these questions, we urge you to consider a yes vote to this legislation.

We appreciate the committee holding this public hearing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Pelletier

Executive Secretary Treasurer, Connecticut AFL-CIO

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