



CONNECTICUT  
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY  
ASSOCIATION

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Testimony of Eric W. Gjede  
Assistant Counsel, CBIA  
Before the Transportation Committee  
Hartford, CT  
February 23, 2015

**Testifying in support of HB 6823 AAC The Connecticut Airport Authority's Recommendations  
Regarding Operation Of The Authority, Airport Development Zone Administration And The Authority's  
Jurisdiction Over Aeronautics In The State**

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, Senator Boucher, Representative O'Dea, and members of the Transportation Committee. My name is Eric Gjede and I am assistant counsel at the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA), which represents more than 10,000 large and small companies throughout the state of Connecticut.

CBIA Supports HB 6823.

The business community supports HB 6823 to the extent that it continues to transfer control of our state's airports from the Department of Transportation to the Connecticut Airport Authority. Connecticut's airports are a critical entry and exit point to the state for national and international markets. Given their critical economic role, the stewardship of these resources should be given to an entity that can devote its full attention to their success.

For this reason, we support any legislation that will help promote the independence of the Connecticut Airport Authority.