



State of Connecticut

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Testimony **HB 5392, An Act Concerning a Study on Creating a Tech Sector in the State** **Commerce Committee** **February 26, 2015**

Thank you Senator Hartley, Representative Perrone, Senator Franz, and the Representative Camillo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 5392- An Act Concerning a Study on Creating a Tech Sector in the State.

The purpose of this bill is to create a concise check list, or business plan of sorts outlining the necessary steps in order to build technology regions that can compete for industry and talent with the likes of Silicon Valley, the Tech Triangle in North Carolina, Manhattan, and Boston to name a few.

Our state is small enough to think past isolated regions that host innovative companies and consider the entirety of CT as fertile ground. However, beginning with a strategy to mimic and compete with other technological hubs could be a good step as a part of broader long term goals.

We all want our State to be the place where the next big idea comes from, the state where our young people graduate but then find gainful employment. I applaud the efforts of the Governor and the Legislature for their efforts in establishing the STEM Program, and for the investments made to the University of Connecticut. Those were decisive actions that I believe will yield long term gains. I propose this study, and the plan that it would lead to in the hopes that we would continue to chart a clear path that leads to a burgeoning and competitive tech sector in this state.

Again, thank you for allowing me to testify and I am willing to answer any questions you may have.