

## TESTIMONY SUBMITTED TO THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

February 24, 2015

By Phil Siuta, Acting CEO  
Connecticut Innovations

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HB 6832: **AN ACT REPEALING THE HIGH PERFORMANCE WORK ORGANIZATION PROGRAM AND THRESHOLD PROJECT PROVISIONS CONCERNING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CONNECTICUT INNOVATIONS, INCORPORATED**

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Senator Hartley, Representative Perone, Senator Frantz, Representative Camillo and distinguished members of the Commerce Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 6832: **AN ACT REPEALING THE HIGH PERFORMANCE WORK ORGANIZATION PROGRAM AND THRESHOLD PROJECT PROVISIONS CONCERNING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CONNECTICUT INNOVATIONS, INCORPORATED.**

This bill repeals the threshold project development research and manufacturing application center programs and the high performance work organization statutes in order to remove certain paperwork filing requirements and administrative barriers that make it more difficult for businesses to seek financial assistance.

Section 32-477 and 32-478 of the Connecticut General Statutes requires Connecticut Innovations to give preference to companies that have established a working environment consistent with "High Performance Work organizations". C.G.S. section 32-452 mandates that business receiving a certain level of state assistance provide annual reports to the agency on their progress in meeting the state's public policy objectives.

Effectively the provisions of the threshold project, its terms and conditions are already imbedded in all of Connecticut Innovations various programs. As a result these conditions are simply repetitive in nature.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.