



# CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

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January 29th, 2015

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

Good Afternoon Senator Winfield, Representative Tercyak, and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee.

We are here today to testify on behalf of the 900 affiliated local unions that represent over 200,000 union members from all 169 cities and towns of Connecticut as follows:

## Proposed H.B. No. 5210 AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL BUSINESSES

We oppose this legislation. Agricultural workers are specifically excluded from many commonplace protections such as OSHA, Minimum wage, 40 hour work week. In our opinion this legislation, if passed, further erodes these workers' safety nets. We will oppose any and all unemployment compensation decrease legislation as, like this proposed bill, they are detrimental to workers and their families at a time when they are financially most vulnerable.

We appreciate the committee holding this public hearing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori J. Pelletier

Executive Secretary - Treasurer, CT AFL-CIO

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