



KRONENBERGER & SONS RESTORATION, INC.

Testimony by Brian T. Kronenberger, President of
Kronenberger & Sons Restoration, Inc.

Before the Labor and Public Employees Committee February 24, 2015

**HB 6246 An Act Concerning Labor Agreements and the Governing Bodies of
Municipalities**

Good evening, my name is Brian T. Kronenberger and I am President of Kronenberger & Sons Restoration Inc. of Middletown, CT. I am currently entering my 27th year in business with forty full time employees. My firm has completed hundreds of public and private projects throughout New England over that time frame including the Connecticut Old State House, Connecticut and Massachusetts Big E buildings, three major restorations at Gillette Castle, Harkness Park and Putman Park Pavilion for the State of CT to name a few.

I am here to voice my support for HB 6246, an Act Concerning Labor Agreements and Governing Bodies of Municipalities. This bill makes a very reasonable requirement that every municipality considering the use of a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) would need to hold a public hearing to discuss the decision.

Large, taxpayer funded construction projects, such as schools and government facilities are significant expenditures in a municipality's budget. It is imperative that residents have the ability to ask questions in a public forum to make sure the project is being completed in the most cost effective manner possible. Too many times a small select group of individuals make decisions without full transparency which this bill will alleviate.

PLAs discriminate against my employees by using specific and unique contract clauses that they could be required to follow. These can include forcing Kronenberger & Sons' employees to recognize the union as their representative while on the job, and be selected by the unions to work through the hiring hall, not Kronenberger & Sons, and force my employees to contribute to the union benefit funds while working on the job even though their health and pension benefits are already managed through my company's health and IRS approved pension/401K plans.

In conclusion, I am in full support of HB 6246. For any municipality making such an important decision, a public hearing is a discussion worth having.

Sincerely,

Brian T. Kronenberger
President
Kronenberger & Sons Restoration, Inc.