



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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Labor and Public Employees Committee February 24, 2015

Testimony in support of H.B. 6250 AN ACT CONCERNING PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS AND THE PREVAILING WAGE STANDARD.

Senator Winfield, Representative Tereyak, Senator Hwang, Representative Rutigliano and the entire membership of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify before you this evening in support of *H.B. 6250 AN ACT CONCERNING PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS AND THE PREVAILING WAGE STANDARD*. This bill would exclude the consideration of funding to a public works project, which comes from a private source, in the calculation of the prevailing wage threshold.

Funding for public works projects can often be contentious based on priority and budget restraints. When public funds are used in order to complete such a project, the prevailing wage on such a project is calculated based on that funding. Often times public funding only pays for a portion of a project and additional financial sources, when they become available, must be utilized.

Currently, additional funding sources are also taken into consideration while calculating the prevailing wage threshold for a public works project. This practice should be eliminated, which would encourage more private investment to public works projects. Thus, by providing more funding options for public works projects the legislature would give municipalities more autonomy to complete these projects.

Prevailing wage laws are stifling economic growth. By passing this legislation, we would be taking a giant step in putting our economy back on the right track. Encouraging private funding in public works projects will also translate to more growth in the private sector. The better our public infrastructure becomes, the more attractive it is to set up and run businesses across the state. For these reasons, I would urge your support of the bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark Tweedie".

Mark Tweedie
State Representative, 13th District