



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

February 26th, 2015

Senator Holder-Winfield, Representative Tercyak and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee,

We submit this testimony on behalf of the 900 affiliated local unions who represent 200,000 working men and women from every city and town in our great state in support:

H.B. No. 6707 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE LOSS OF AN OPERATOR LICENSE DUE TO A DRUG OR ALCOHOL TESTING PROGRAM AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

We understand the sensitivity of this issue, and we are keenly aware of the danger that DUI imposes, however, often times those who fail these drugs and alcohol tests have more going on in their lives, and the alcohol and drug abuse is a symptom of a larger problem, called addiction. Unemployment benefits are as much about supporting a family during a difficult time as they are supporting an individual. We support this bill as written though we will not support any amendments that disqualify employees from receiving unemployment benefits.

We thank the committee for holding this public hearing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Pelletier

Executive Secretary Treasurer, Connecticut AFL-CIO