February 24, 2015

Dear Legislator,

My name is Joel T Essex and I live at 766 N. Colony Rd. in Meriden, CT.

Within the construction field, unemployment is often a common reality. Jobs are offered for weeks, if not days, at a time, and you are lucky to get a long-term job. Waiting a week to receive unemployment benefits after being laid off from work would make it nearly impossible to support my family. Construction is a paycheck to paycheck living and unemployment helps to fill the gap when there is a lack of work. As a construction worker, I could work for as many as 8 or more employers in a year, and face layoff up to 8 or more times. Therefore, with this week long wait for eligibility, I am potentially losing up to 8 or more weeks of income during a year. I am constantly searching for long-term jobs. I want to work but sometimes the work is just not available. Changes to unemployment would further hurt my ability to support myself and my family during these tough economic times. Please **oppose** these bills and support my future.

Thank you,

1. Proposed S.B. No. 436 AN ACT CONCERNING THE WAITING WEEK AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS. (LAB)
2. Proposed S.B. No. 437 AN ACT CONCERNING MINIMUM EARNINGS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS. (LAB)
3. Proposed S.B. No. 442 AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM EARNINGS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS. (LAB)
4. Proposed S.B. No. 447 AN ACT CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION AND ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTENDED BENEFITS. (LAB)
5. Proposed H.B. No. 5611 AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS. (LAB)
6. Proposed H.B. No. 5850 AN ACT CONCERNING AN INDIVIDUAL'S ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS. (LAB)
7. Proposed H.B. No. 5851 AN ACT CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION REFORM. (LAB)
8. Proposed H.B. No. 5864 AN ACT CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ELIGIBILITY AND TIME-SPECIFIC WORK ASSIGNMENTS. (LAB)
9. Proposed H.B. No. 5867 AN ACT CONCERNING INTEREST DUE ON ADVANCES FROM THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ADVANCE FUND. (LAB)
10. Proposed H.B. No. 5869 AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYERS, UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION AND THE APPEALS PROCESS. (LAB)