



Testimony of Winston Mierez
Labor and Public Employees Committee
SB 953: AAC LABOR PEACE
March 3, 2015

Good afternoon, Senator Gomes, Representative Tercyak, members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. My name is Winston Mierez. I am a Lead Facility Worker at the XL Center and member of AFSCME Local 1716.

We want to thank Governor Malloy for raising SB 953: An Act Concerning Labor Peace.

I've worked for the XL Center for 40 years, and in that time we have gone through a number of management companies. Each time there is a change in the company that the state has hired to run the facility presents new challenges. This bill would create stability to protect taxpayers and those who enjoy attending events at the XL Center.

Requiring that contractors that are hired to provide services to first strike an agreement with a labor union will allow for those contractors to fully understand the facility and the costs of operating it before they take a leadership role in operating it. This understanding beforehand will go a long way to ensure there is a smooth transition.

We do encourage the committee and the Governor to also include in the bill a requirement that contractors work with labor organizations that represent building maintainers and cleaners, as those are essential components to ensuring a successful enterprise.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.