

Good afternoon Co-chair Senator Fonfara, Co-Chair Representative Berger and all members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee. The Hartford Municipal Employees Association opposes the SB464 legislative bill.

We understand that the City like every year has some financial problems, but like always we work as one collective body to figure these things out. I also wanted to clear up any misconceptions regarding the Mayor sitting at the with union leadership. He met with each union President and gave a list of demands. We were asked to come out of arbitration, increase pension contribution, increase health contribution, no wage increments, no raises for another three and a half years and that there would still be layoffs.

We offered ideas for cost savings but the Mayor is not interested in our cost savings (taking a 5% pay cut, consolidation of duplicate services, elimination of the Hartford Parking Authority, increase vesting period from 5- back to 10 years, etc.).

Thank you for the opportunity allow me to testify before you and I am happy answer any questions.