



State of Connecticut

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**Testimony
In Support of HB 5325
ACT CONCERNING ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR RESTAURANT PERMITS FOR
CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS.
General Law Committee
February 23, 2016**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of **HB 5325 AN ACT CONCERNING ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR RESTAURANT PERMITS FOR CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS**. Currently, only established social organizations can host any number of events, like dinners, for their members or the general public without being rented for specific functions, like weddings, anniversary parties and other social functions. State law allows banquet facilities to host only four events like this per year and this proposed legislation would increase that number to 16 per year.

This legislation will allow banquet halls not associated with social organizations to host up to 16 events, typically breakfasts or dinners, each year. In the greater Waterbury area we're fortunate to have several banquet halls that would like to host community gatherings to showcase their food and facilities but are currently very limited. By removing the restrictions limiting banquet halls to hosting only events originated from facility rentals the community has more food and entertainment options.

I am available for any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Tony D'Amelio
State Representative, 71st District