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H.B. 5731, AAC A Minimum Workweek of Persons Performing Janitorial or
Building Maintenance Services
Labor Committee
March 3, 2016

Senator Gomes, Representative Tercyak and members of the Labor Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. My name is John Cattelan and I am the Executive Director of the Connecticut Alliance of YMCAs. The Alliance represents 22 YMCAs across the state of Connecticut.

I would like to raise concerns about H.B. 5731, AAC A Minimum Workweek of Persons Performing Janitorial or Building Maintenance Services.

Last year, Connecticut's YMCAs provided \$21 million in financial assistance to Connecticut families so they can participate in a number of the Y programs offered across the state. These programs include housing, early childhood, after school programs, and Cancer Survivorship Programs. The options just mentioned only scratch the surface of the multitude of programs we offer at Connecticut YMCAs.

Connecticut YMCAs are already concerned about the possible reductions in state

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funding for the services we currently provide to Connecticut's citizens, in particular the programs that allow us to provide educational opportunities to children.

As with many organizations across the state of Connecticut our Ys are struggling to provide core services to the citizens in Connecticut, especially during these difficult economic times. By mandating that our organization provide certain employees with a 30 hour work week, the bill will only make our ability to continue these core services more difficult.

Connecticut's YMCAs offer a number of benefits to their part-time employees. These employees are offered free membership with our YMCAs, allowed to participate in the Y retirement plan, medical insurance, disability insurance and assistance programs.

The simple fact is this legislation would have a cost impact on our member Ys and impact our 225,000 family members, 13,000 children enrolled in childcare programs, our 7,000 employees and over 7,000 volunteers.

The 22 YMCAs in Connecticut are the states leading nonprofit committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. As a charity, YMCAs across Connecticut exist to strengthen their communities and every day we work with thousands of men, women and children to ensure everyone, regardless of age, income or background – has the

opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. These are not easy tasks to accomplish and this legislation would make it that much more difficult.