



# CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

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This **"Loser Pays"** provision will provide an enormous disincentive and a chilling effect and will discourage injured workers from ever making claims. We suspect that most injured workers could not and would not take the risk of being beaten by the insurance company/employer and then being ordered by the court to pay \$5,000.00 in attorney's fees (adding insult to injury).

The primary purpose of HB 5449 seems to be to encourage employers and workers compensation insurance companies to fairly treat injured workers in the handling of workers compensation claims; but that good purpose is totally extinguished by the **"Loser Pays"** provision which will work to totally discourage most injured workers from ever making a claim and seeking their day in court.

Please amend HB 5449 by **deleting** the final sentence of the new subsection (b).

As always, I thank you for holding this public hearing.

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