



Testimony of Louise DiCocco
Assistant Counsel, CBIA
Before the Labor & Public Employees Committee
February 25, 2016

Re: Testimony in Opposition to SB 102, AAC Workers' Compensation Awards and Attorney Fees.

Good afternoon Senator Gomes, Representative Tercyak, members of the Labor and Public Employees committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Louise DiCocco, and I am Assistant Counsel at the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents more than 10,000 companies throughout the state of Connecticut, but most of our members are small businesses of 50 or fewer employees.

CBIA is opposed to the bill. **SB 102** provides that when an employer contests an employee's workers' compensation claim and the employee seeks medical attention via the employer's health or medical plan and the claim for compensation is determined to be a legitimate workers' compensation claim, 20% of any amount the insurer rightfully recovered by the workers' compensation carrier be transferred to the claimant with no attorney's fees payable from the transferred amount.

This will shortchange health insurers by allowing only 80% reimbursement for the costs they incurred. This bill disrupts subrogation, undermines a fair and equitable resolution between all parties involved, and essentially provides a windfall for the plaintiff in the workers' compensation case.

For the aforementioned reasons, CBIA urges this committee oppose SB 102. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me at louise.dicocco@cbia.com or 860-244-1169.