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## Human Services Committee Public Hearing Senate Bill No. 391 - Support

Good morning Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie, and members of the Human Services Committee.

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My name is Stephen Anderson and I am the President of CSEA SEIU Local 2001, a labor union which represents thousands of workers employed in the private sector, as well as state and municipal government throughout Connecticut. **I am testifying today on behalf of CSEA in support of Senate Bill No. 391, AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOUPMENT OF STATE COSTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO LOW WAGE EMPLOYERS.**

The corporations addressed in this bill are taking advantage of our social safety net in order to pad their profit margin; that's fundamentally wrong and an abuse of the system. To put this problem in perspective, in 2013 Walmart had a net income of \$17 billion yet the company has continued to pay wages so low that their employees qualify for public assistance. A 2014 study by Americans for Tax Fairness found that a single Walmart Supercenter cost taxpayers between \$900,000 and \$1.75 million per year, or between \$3,000 and \$5,800 per worker. This legislation would be an important step towards addressing the abuses of our social safety net that have been institutionalized by many large corporations.

I urge you to support this important bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

Stephen Anderson  
President, CSEA SEIU Local 2001