

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC.
WINDHAM REGION

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Chris the Gutter Guy

February 22, 2017

To: **The Honorable Gary A. Winfield**
The Honorable Paul M. Formica
The Honorable Lonnie Reed
Co-Chairs, Energy and Technology Committee

Re: **GOVERNOR'S BILL NO. 7036**
AN ACT PROMOTING THE USE OF FUEL CELLS FOR ELECTRIC
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM BENEFITS AND RELIABILITY

The Chamber of Commerce, Inc., Windham Region strongly supports Governor's Bill 7036 for the following reasons:

1. Fuel Cell companies, such as FuelCell Energy, Inc., employ over 400 people in CT in high paying jobs.
2. The fuel cell industry in CT supports over 3,400 jobs and 600 supply companies.
3. The fuel cell industry produces \$726 million in revenues and investments and yields \$40 million in state and local tax revenues (based on 2015 numbers).
4. Fuel cell plants are reliable, predictable and cost effective. They have a compact footprint with a high power density.
5. Fuel cell plants provide power without emissions such as NOx and SOx.
6. Fuel cell plants offer much needed revenue to municipalities through property taxes.
7. Fuel cell plants can improve CT's grid with reliable and resilient energy.
8. Fuel cell energy is complementary to other energy procurement sources.

The Chamber of Commerce, Inc. encourages the Energy and Technology Committee to support Governor's Bill 7036 as it will not only secure thousands of high paying jobs in our state, provide municipalities with additional revenues and support hundreds of other supply companies, but it will also be a cost effective, efficient, reliable and predictable source of clean energy production which this state needs to improve its energy grid and make it better able to meet the needs of business and residents of Connecticut.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Nadeau
President and CEO
The Chamber of Commerce, Inc., Windham Region