



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE JUAN CANDELARIA
NINETY-FIFTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
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DEPUTY SPEAKER

MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

February 23, 2017

Chairs Haddad, Bye, and Linares, and Ranking Member Staneski and members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of raised House Bill 6585 "An act concerning customized job training incentives for certain businesses"

As we have seen, our state has consistently been negatively attacked for not being business friendly. This puts other states in an adverse competitive advantage with Connecticut against states that have attractive incentive programs for businesses. Connecticut needs to think outside of the box, and needs to be aggressive in ensuring our residents have access to employment opportunities.

The intention of this proposal is to provide an incentive for corporations that bring work or base their headquarters in the State of Connecticut with 200 or more employees. This incentive eliminates the burden of providing training on the side of the corporation, and encourages corporations to hire within our neighborhoods, making our state more competitive.

We should accomplish this goal by the state's commitment to fund such training by allocating general bonds.

One of the challenges that large corporations face in relocating to a new state is retraining their workforce and the loss of workforce who would not transfer. By providing these corporations a locally trained workforce we will make our state much more attractive to corporations. We would see a return on our investments from the revenue generated through the income tax, sales tax, and the corporate tax that would be paid. We need to continue to investment in our workforce and send a message to corporations that Connecticut is open for business. Passing this bill favorably will insure our goals of education and preparing tomorrow's workforce.



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I strongly urge the members of the Higher Education and Employment committee to pass HB 6585, and I want to thank all of you for giving these bills a hearing and considering the effects this bill has on preparing our states workforce.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Juan Candelaria".

Sincerely,
Juan Candelaria
State Representative, 95th District