



MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**TO:** Labor and Public Employees Committee  
Connecticut General Assembly, State of Connecticut

**RE:** SB 002 - An Act Increasing Minimum Fair Wage  
HB 5004 - An Act Increasing Minimum Fair Wage  
HB 7191 (Governor's Bill) - An Act Increasing Minimum Fair Wage  
SB 764 - An Act Prohibiting "On-Call" Shift Scheduling

As it relates to consideration for the above-mentioned bills in committee for testimony, City Steam Brewery is in adamant **OPPOSITION** to the approval of these bills.

City Steam Brewery operates at 942 Main Street in Downtown Hartford as a full-service restaurant with 9 levels, seating for 500pl, (7) private event rooms, a 150 seat Comedy Club and an on-site operating craft brewery. Our establishment has been in operation for 22 years in this historic location and was preceded by a previous restaurant for 20+ years known as BT's (Brown Thomson's) operated by the same core ownership group. Thus, we have been owning/operating restaurants in the State of Connecticut for almost 50 years!

These bills proposed will have a **SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE IMPACT** on the restaurant operation by effectively increasing labor costs dramatically and decreasing business profitability. The restaurant industry operates in a world of high \$sales volume needed and with low %profit margins as a whole... so how are these (we) restaurants going to compensate/adjust to these extensive added labor costs? Raise prices? How does that effect the general public spending dollars? How does that effect the economy if failed businesses begin to increase, thus loss of jobs?

Therefore, on behalf of the owners of City Steam Brewery I would respectfully request and **STRONGLY URGE NOT TO APPROVE THESE BILLS**, and especially so as it relates to the "Tip-Credit" for servers and bartenders.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this letter of testimony.

Jay Dumond, Owner/Operator

City Steam Brewery