The Connecticut Manufacturers’ Collaborative (CMC) greatly appreciates the committee’s recognition of the urgent need to ensure a broad menu of effective education options are critical to ensuring Connecticut has the workforce it needs for a rapidly evolving, innovative economy.

Having effective school counseling and other public school programs to educate students and parents on the realities of today’s workforce needs and opportunities is critical.

We understand the intent of this bill is to develop long-overdue guidelines for comprehensive, effective and efficient school counseling programs at the elementary, middle and high school levels. We support the development of these guidelines within available appropriations and would also urge that the process for developing those guidelines include the involvement of private sector employers, particularly in sectors with high employment demands such as manufacturing.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment and your consideration of our position. You can reach us directly through eric.brown@cbia.com or calling 860-244-1926.

1 Aerospace Components Manufacturers (ACM), Connecticut Business and Industry Association and its affiliate (CBIA/CONSTEP), Connecticut Tooling and Machining Association (CTMA), Eastern Advanced Manufacturing Association (EAMA), Manufacturing Education and Training Alliance (METAL), New England Spring and Metalstamping Association (NESMA), New Haven Manufacturing Association (NHMA), Smaller Manufacturers Association (SMA)