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Legislative Committee

February 9, 2021

Insurance and Real Estate Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2800
Hartford, CT 06106

Members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

The Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic business organization with over 2,175 members. Our chamber represents businesses of all sizes and from all industry sectors, from large corporations, to micro businesses and entrepreneurs, and we are committed to promoting a positive business climate in Middlesex County. In addition to being an effective business organization, our chamber strives to be a strong community organization. We run a number of events and programs that support workforce development, youth development, substance abuse prevention, our veterans, and much more.

The purpose of this letter today is to express the chamber's opposition to S.B. No. 842, AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE AND HEALTH CARE IN CONNECTICUT.

In our 2021 Public Policy Agenda, our chamber urged the General Assembly to protect the health insurance industry in the state by maintaining a high quality, market based, employer sponsored apparatus, and to encourage employers to focus on cost containment, wellness programs and the use of technology.

We believe this bill has the potential to seriously destabilize the health insurance industry in this state at what is a particularly critical time for our economy.

On behalf of our members, we urge the General Assembly to focus their efforts in these particularly challenging times on providing meaningful support to the businesses in the state, partnering on measures to assist in recovery, and avoid imposing unnecessary tax or regulatory burdens on businesses and residents of Connecticut.

We respectfully urge that the General Assembly reject S.B. 842.

As always, the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce looks forward to being a constructive partner as these important conversations continue.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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*Awards: Governor's Laurel Award for Responsible Social Involvement—President's White House Citation for Private Sector Initiatives
U.S. Department of Labor LIFT America Award—Connecticut Small Business Advocate Award—Vision 2000 Excellence Award—NAACP Business Award*