



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY  
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Transportation Committee  
Testimony  
Lawrence Fox, Chair of the State Contracting Standards Board  
March 3, 2021

Chair Lamar, Vice-Chair Cassano, Vice Chair Simms, Ranking Member Somers, Ranking Member Carney, and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee. My name is Lawrence Fox and I am Chair of the State Contracting Standards Board (CSB).

I am here today to testify in opposition to Raised Bill 920 An Act Concerning Public Private Partnerships. I am opposed to the raised bill because of:

- The elimination of the cost-benefit-analysis provided under C.G.S Sec. 4e-16 and, more importantly, the business case justification for any public-private partnership.
- The expansion of public-private partnerships to any endeavor by the State.
- The elimination of the 50-year duration of a public-private partnership to allow for never ending agreement.

These three provisions, especially the elimination of the cost-benefit-analysis contradict the evidence uncovered by the State Contracting Standards Board in its review of the Capitol Region Development Authority, the Connecticut Port Authority and the Materials Innovation Recycling Authority that call for more oversight, not less. The risk to public dollars demands reasonable and necessary oversight.

It should be noted that during the ten years that this law has been in existence, the State Contracting Standards Board has not received one request from any State agency to review a public-private partnership. Not one.

The public demands more accountability not less accountability from state government and this is the role of the State Contracting Standards Board in the procurement of goods and services including public-private partnerships.