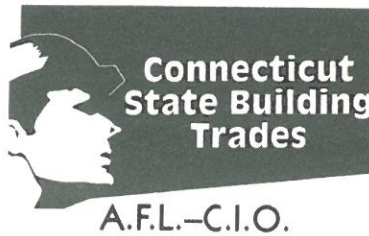


# Greater Hartford-New Britain Building & Construction Trades Council

Affiliated with the



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Transportation Committee  
Public Hearing

March 3, 2021

### **Re: SB 920 – An Act Concerning Public Private Partnerships**

Chairman Lemar, Chairman Cassano, Ranking Member Somers, Ranking Member Carney and members of the Transportation Committee,

The Greater Hartford-New Britain Building Trades Council is offering testimony regarding SB 920, "*An Act Concerning Public Private Partnerships*".

We specifically want to offer our support of Sec. 4, Section 4-261 of the bill, which provides that,

**“(a) Each public-private partnership project shall either be subject to the prevailing wage requirements pursuant to section 31-53 or the rate established by the use of a project labor agreement. The agency shall provide notice of which requirement applies prior to soliciting bids or proposals for such public-private partnership.”**

We applaud our state Department of Transportation (DOT) for recognizing the value of strong labor protections like prevailing wage requirements and the inclusion of project labor agreements. These protections help to level the playing field for responsible in-state contractors and help to ensure that Connecticut gets the best return on its investment.

The building trades are suffering from untenable levels of unemployment. Our DOT is in a unique position to be an economic driver and job creator for our industry and for our state. It is crucial that DOT uses this opportunity to make meaningful investments in our infrastructure and outdated transportation system. Sec. 4, Section 4-261 gets us closer to that reality by protecting our state's construction industry.

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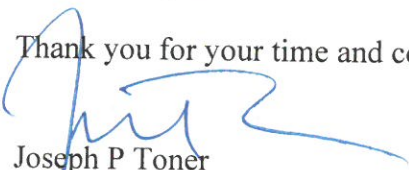
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We also want to offer our concern with the exclusion of Sec. 4e-16, which provides for oversight and accountability through the State Contracting Standards Board. Additionally, Sec. 4e-16 would provide for a cost-benefit analysis of using in-sourcing rather than privatizing some vital functions of our DOT. Therefore, we strongly urge the committee to consider restoring the statutory requirements of Sec. 4e-16 back into the bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Joseph P Toner  
Executive Director  
CT Building Trades