

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CHRISTINE CONLEY

Dear Neighbor,

I am reaching out to you with an update on our work at the State Capitol to support businesses and grow our economy.

Many people in Connecticut continue struggling to make ends meet. Even those working full-time may be unable to afford basic needs such as housing, child care, food, transportation and health care. My priority is developing and expanding training programs to prepare workers for good-paying, highly skilled, career oriented manufacturing jobs. Many manufacturers in southeastern Connecticut – large and small – are actively seeking to fill positions.

Connecticut currently has thousands of unfilled manufacturing jobs. These are jobs that pay a living wage and offer health and retirement benefits. Manufacturers are hiring and need qualified, trained candidates – and they need them now. Despite Connecticut’s slow job growth, the manufacturing sector has been reporting steady gains. It is time for us to start training our workforce for the jobs of today, and tomorrow. That is why we are working to connect the next generation of innovators with Connecticut manufacturers.

It is my honor to represent you in Hartford. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



P.S. One of the best ways to stay up-to-date is by signing up for my e-blasts. Sign up online at www.housedems.ct.gov/Conley to get my legislative updates!

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CHRISTINE CONLEY
STRENGTHENING OUR
FUTURE WORKFORCE



STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE CONLEY

GROWING CONNECTICUT'S ECONOMY



JOB'S TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:

The Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee drafted **H.B. 5001 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY WORKFORCE TRAINING NEEDS IN THE STATE**. This would assess Connecticut's existing workforce skills training and certificate programs. This task force will study industries that may lack training programs to better the future of Connecticut.

Additionally, the Commerce Committee voted in favor of **S.B. 1029 AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC UTILITY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**. This would require the director of each technical education and career school to meet with representatives of public utilities and representatives of certain state colleges and universities to assess workforce needs and implement curriculum modifications to help connect students with the public utility industry to fill their workforce needs.

PROMOTING CONNECTICUT MANUFACTURERS:

The Commerce Committee supported **S.B. 854 AN ACT PROMOTING CAREERS IN MANUFACTURING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE DEMAND FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS**. This requires guidance counselors and school counselors to provide materials concerning manufacturing. Local and regional school district boards of education would have to develop goals for career placement for students choosing not to pursue an advanced degree.

The Labor and Public Employees Committee voted affirmatively for **S.B. 5 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKFORCE PIPELINE AND JOB CREATION TASK FORCE**. This bill will create a workforce pipeline and job creation task force to prepare the state's future workforce for well-paying manufacturing and technical jobs in Connecticut.



SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES:

We are also working to help small businesses by expanding the angel investor tax credit program. **H.B. 5005 AN ACT EXTENDING THE ANGEL INVESTOR TAX CREDIT PROGRAM AND EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE STATE'S SET-ASIDE PROGRAM FOR SMALL CONTRACTORS** would extend the program for five years, and increase the aggregate amount of tax credits that may be reserved annually from \$3 million to \$5 million. Additionally, the bill would raise the total number of tax credits allowed from \$250,000 to \$500,000, and expand eligibility for the state's set-aside program for small contractors.

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