

Union Status Report

**CONNECTICUT LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT -
MAY 9, 2005:**

TAKE ACTION TODAY ON THESE IMPORTANT BILLS:

SB 94: "Clean Contracting"

Creates a number of reforms to the state contracting process to eliminate corruption and waste in the state contracting process and to ensure that state contracts benefit taxpayers, not only politically connected contractors. A key provision is the requirement of state agencies to perform a thorough cost-benefit analysis before any public service or program can be privatized. *OUR JOBS!*

SB 1111: "Collective Bargaining in Waterbury"

This bill restores the normal collective bargaining and arbitration process to Waterbury, where municipal employees' right to fair collective bargaining is abrogated by the city's Oversight Board. This proposal keeps the Oversight Board in place but restores basic collective bargaining rights and procedures to under the Municipal Employee Relations Act (MERA).

SB 358: "Retention of Connecticut Jobs"

This bill seeks to stem the damage caused by outsourcing by preventing state service contracts from being outsourced overseas. The bill requires state contracts to include language requiring that services provided will be performed in the United States unless the service is not available within the U.S.

SB 1147: "Employee Health Security"

Expands access to health insurance and helps level the playing field for businesses that already provide insurance. Prompted by revelations that taxpayers are footing the bill for health care at companies like Wal-Mart, the bill requires large employers (5,000 or more employees) to pay a fee to cover the costs of HUSKY for the company's uninsured workers.

SB 1148: Anti-Sweatshop Procurement

The state of Connecticut spends millions of dollars each year buying or renting uniforms for its state employees, and the state's public university systems license tens of millions of dollars worth of apparel each year. Following the precedent set by states, cities, and universities across the U.S., Connecticut is considering a law that would make it illegal for the state government and public universities to support sweatshops through their purchases with public dollars.

CALL YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS AT THESE TOLL-FREE NUMBERS:

**House Democrats: 1-800-842-8267 • House Republicans: 1-800-842-8270
Senate Democrats: 1-800-842-1420 • Senate Republicans: 1-800-842-1421**

COUNCIL 4

444 East Main St. • New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 224-4000 • www.council4.org