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Testimony
(submitted)

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Senate Bill 9
AA Establishing The Jobs CT Tax Rebate Program

Senators Hartley and Martin, Representatives Simmons and Cummings and members of the Commerce Committee, I wish to express the support of the CRDA for Senate Bill 9.

As you know, this legislation filed on behalf of Governor Lamont would create a simple, transparent, performance-based incentive program for businesses looking to expand or relocate to Connecticut. Under the JobsCT program, businesses that create and maintain 25 or more full-time jobs will earn 25% of the income taxes generated by those jobs for up to seven years. To ensure that the State is not merely incentivizing creation of the lowest paying jobs, the legislation would also require that these expanding or relocating businesses pay employees 85% of the median household income of the municipality in which the jobs will be located.

A significant provision of the legislation provides an additional incentive to businesses that chose to expand or relocate in one of Connecticut's 72 federally-designated opportunity zones or 25 distressed municipalities. Businesses that create and maintain 25 or more full-time jobs in such areas would be eligible to earn 50% of income taxes generated for up to seven years.

From the CRDA perspective and our assignment to assist in the redevelopment of the City of Hartford, this additional incentive - aimed at one of the State's most economically distressed areas - will help drive investment and job creation to where they are most needed. New jobs and the guarantee of decent salaries within our cities, in turn, help to increase disposable income that works to stabilize and sustain the very urban areas so critical to the state's economic strategy.

Thank you for your attention.