



Judiciary Committee
Public Hearing – March 22, 2020
Raised Bill No. 5125

An Act Concerning The Provision Of Immunity From Civil Liability For Entities That
Have Operated Pursuant To Health And Safety Guidelines During The COVID-19
Pandemic

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SUPPORT

Dear Senator Winfield, Representative Stafstrom, Senator Kissel, Representative Fishbein,
and members of the Committee,

The Connecticut Construction Industries Association (CCIA) is an organization of associations that represent various sectors of the construction industry. Members include building and facility contractors; transportation contractors; environmental and utility contractors; material producers; suppliers; equipment dealers; and related professional firms.

CCIA encourages the committee to adopt the COVID-19 civil liability protections included in this important measure. We believe this framework for state pandemic liability protections will benefit the state and citizens as we work to slow the spread of COVID-19 and minimize the detrimental impact it has had on our state economy.

As the state economy has started reopening, and as we continue to work to protect public health, safety, and the economic security of our residents, the need for a stable, predictable legal environment has never been greater. In order to avoid even greater damage to our economy and people's livelihoods, it is important that we are able to continue the operations of our free enterprise system, safely and appropriately, and to protect the businesses, public agencies, and non-profit organizations that support our economy.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to create a surge in frivolous civil litigation targeting well-intentioned businesses, public agencies, and non-profit organizations that have implemented and utilized applicable pandemic mitigation measures.

We know that in order for our economy to fully recover, vendors, customers and employees have to have the confidence to return to the marketplace, students need to be able to safely return to school, and at the same time, entities of all types that follow applicable guidelines need to be protected from devastating civil liability litigation concerning baseless COVID-related claims. Therefore, we are supportive of this common-sense framework to provide state liability protections for much-needed goods and services while still ensuring victims are able to seek legal redress and compensation where appropriate.

We look forward to supporting this bill and we encourage the committee to pass it. Thank you for this opportunity to testify today and your consideration. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact Don Shubert at 860-529-6855 or dshubert@ctconstruction.org.

Shaping the Future of the Construction Industry

