

**Testimony of
General Dynamics Electric Boat**

**Regarding Senate Bill 885
*AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
GENERAL GOVERNMENT***

Appropriations Committee

March 26, 2021

Representative Walker, Senator Osten, Ranking Member Senator Miner, Ranking Member Representative France, and other distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee, I respectfully offer these comments in support of Section 11 of Senate Bill 885 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

Section 11 of SB 885, outlines the creation and the codification of the Office of Workforce Strategy under the leadership of the Chief Workforce Officer of Connecticut. The primary goal of this office is to ensure that Connecticut develops the most accessible, equitable, and high quality workforce in the country.

As a member of the Governor's Workforce Council, Electric Boat has seen firsthand the benefit of the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS). The OWS has been successful in engaging with businesses, educators, and community organizations to build a more agile and coordinated workforce under a unified state strategy. By engaging businesses, the OWS is coordinating stakeholders to build a workforce driven by the needs of industry. The OWS works closely with educational partners across the state to ensure that their curriculum is flexible to meet the rapidly changing needs of business.

Electric Boat is currently in a period of high growth and anticipates adding 2000 new jobs in the next 5 years in addition to hiring thousands for attrition. My team and I are very supportive of the continued work of the OWS and the Chief Workforce Officer and are confident in their ability to execute on the critical work ahead to coordinate and strengthen the state's workforce efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Section 11 of SB 885.

Andrew Bond, General Dynamics Electric Boat