



Statement on:

**LCO No. 3920: AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY RESPONSE BY ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES AND
REVISING THE REGULATION OF OTHER PUBLIC UTILITIES.**

**Connecticut General Assembly
Energy & Technology Committee
September 8, 2020**

The Hartford Chamber of Commerce promotes, supports, and assists the business and civic communities in Connecticut's capital city. We are fortunate to count among our more than 400 members employers of all sizes who work hard every day to compete and succeed both locally and in the global marketplace. One matter of critical importance to our members is energy. As the Energy & Technology Committee hosts an informational listening session on LCO No. 3920, we encourage the Committee's members to ensure that any process undertaken to review laws and regulations governing energy in our state is thorough, deliberative, and inclusive of all stakeholders.

We appreciate that Connecticut policymakers are working to be responsive to constituents regarding the cost and reliability of electricity. Reliable, affordable energy is a vital component to our members' operations, in addition to being a foundational resource on which communities and families rely. Electricity is also highly complex. There are myriad policies in place that oversee how power is generated, delivered, and paid for. Connecticut deregulated its electric industry in 1998, ushering in reforms that separated energy generation from delivery, introduced 3rd party suppliers, and added increased complexity. In recent years Connecticut adopted laws mandating renewable energy, zero carbon energy, and energy efficiency. Legislators clearly work hard to address the nuances associated with crafting new laws, and there are few areas with more technical details than energy policy. Unfortunately, getting these details wrong due to moving too quickly or failing to account for the views of vital stakeholders can come with serious unintended consequences.

We encourage the members of the Energy & Technology Committee and all policymakers to approach the complicated issue of electricity in a way that seeks out informed, expert insights while thoroughly deliberating the long-term ramifications of new energy regulations to the state's business and residential energy customers.

David Griggs
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