

Testimony in Strong Support of:
Bill 373: An Act Concerning the Sustainability of Connecticut's Transportation Infrastructure

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Dear Members of the Transportation Committee;

My name is David Jarvis. I reside in Brooklyn, CT. I am writing in strong support of Bill 373-An Act Concerning the Sustainability of Connecticut's Transportation Infrastructure. I am a husband and a father of three beautiful children. I love my family and value their safety. It does my heart well to know that this committee and the entire legislature is doing their part to help protect them. I look forward to the day when there is no reason to worry about a bridge collapsing during a school field trip. I look forward to knowing that my soon to be driving teen will have one less thing to manage as she learns to drive. In my opinion, you can never put a value on a child's life and safety. It appears that this bill will provide the necessary investment to make our roads safer. If we do the right thing now, it could still be possible to stop impending tragedies from taking place at all in the future. We can no longer push off the decision to the next administration. We must protect our children, families and friends now.

I also support this bill as a carpenter and member of the North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters here in Connecticut. The bill allows many trade workers the ability to finish their career with dignity. Those like myself who are somewhere in the middle can plan a more comfortable future. This kind of investment will allow every involved apprenticeship to grow and thrive. The bill also speaks to the use of Project Labor Agreements. PLA's allow the workforce of tomorrow to be trained today. If we truly desire for Connecticut to be where our children and their families make their roots, then we must give them this opportunity. This kind of investment doesn't just create jobs; it creates careers. A family and a home can be built and maintained with a career. Those that are currently leaving Connecticut are searching for such careers. Let's provide them with options and reasons to stay. Who knows, someone you know may be able to start a new career that changes their life because of a well thought out YES vote for this bill.

Before I close, I would like to thank you and the entire legislature for the immense amount of time put into developing Bill 373. I understand some are torn, but time should prove that a yes vote is the right vote! Also, it is equally as important to thank the governor for having the courage to persevere. There may have been some setbacks and missteps along the way, but Governor Lamont and his team stuck with it and helped to guide us to this point. So please, join with us and MOVE CT Forward!

Respectfully,

David Jarvis