



**HOME BUILDERS & REMODELERS ASSOCIATION
OF CONNECTICUT, INC.**

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*Your Home
Is Our
Business*

March 7, 2016

To: Senator Steve Cassano, Co-Chair
Representative Ed Jutila, Co-Chair
Members of the Government Administration & Elections Committee

From: Bill Ethier, CAE, Chief Executive Officer

Re: **Support for SB 362, AA Modifying the Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
of Regulations Affecting Small Businesses**

The HBRA of Connecticut is a professional trade association with about eight hundred (800) member firms statewide employing tens of thousands of CT's citizens. Our members, all small businesses, are residential and commercial builders, land developers, remodelers, general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and those businesses and professionals that provide services to our diverse industry and to consumers. We build between 70% to 80% of all new homes and apartments in the state each year and engage in countless home remodeling projects.

The HBRA of Connecticut supports SB 362. The bill adopts important changes to the small business regulatory flexibility analysis required by state agencies that would make the analysis much more meaningful. These changes would be more meaningful because it would alert small businesses and their business organizations to potential regulatory changes at the beginning of the regulatory process rather than at the end. It would offer small businesses and their associations an opportunity to better participate in the regulatory process and address those matters of most concern to many small businesses (e.g., the items outlined at lines 27-35, and the alternate compliance methods at lines 39-57). The inclusion of these matters in the analysis will also require regulatory agencies to be more sensitive to the potential impacts their regulations will have on businesses and, consequently, the economic, job and wage growth that is so much needed in Connecticut.

We urge you to support SB 362 and help further improve the regulatory environment in Connecticut.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this important topic.