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An affiliate of the National Education Association

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Testimony of

Ray Rossomando

Connecticut Education Association

Before the

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Re:

**HB 6227 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY WORK-BASED
LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN INDUSTRIES WITH A HIRING NEED IN THE
STATE**

March 9, 2021

Good afternoon Senator Slap, Representative Elliott, Senator Witkos, Representative Haines, and members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee. My name is Ray Rossomando and I serve as the Director of Policy, Research, and Government Relations for the Connecticut Education Association (CEA).

CEA represents educators in over 150 school districts. Among our members are teachers who also teach in dual high school/college enrollment programs, counselors who help students develop learning plans that point them toward careers of their choice, and second career teachers with experience in careers like small and large businesses, the health care industry, science, and beyond.

CEA supports studying potential work-based learning opportunities for high school and college students. We also note that there are implications for educators and students in our public high schools, and the perspective of teachers would bring great insight to the task force. We request that CEA be added to the member organizations represented on the task force so that we can bring the viewpoint of public high school teachers to the work of the group.

Thank you for your consideration.