

For Immediate Release – June 10, 2015

Connecticut Manufacturers' Protest Budget – Request Malloy Veto

More than 300 manufacturers representing over 20,000 employees decry unfair tax burden, petition tax reform and concessions from Governor

New Haven, CT - In a letter dated June 9, 2015, the manufacturing associations that make up a significant part of representation for the manufacturing community in Connecticut voiced their displeasure for the 2016-2017 budget expected to be signed by Governor Dannel Malloy within days.

The Connecticut Association of Small Manufacturers and Eastern Advanced Manufacturing Alliance requested a veto of the proposed budget, citing an unfair tax burden on CT business, creating an environment making products less competitive in interstate markets and the unintended negative effect on financial markets as manufacturers react to increased taxation.

Given these issues, the coalition expressed the same reservations as larger multi-national manufacturers like General Electric had last week in continuing to be able to operate manufacturing facilities in CT and still make a profit.

The Alliance did acknowledge that the Governor had made strides in addressing many fiscal deficiencies he had inherited when taking over as head of the state and has introduced a number of programs designed to support training and development of advanced manufacturing workforce. The group expressed concern that additional costs will complicate participation in the workforce development programs and slow anticipated job growth.

The manufacturing group petitioned the Governor to veto the budget as proposed, asked him to request the General Assembly propose a more responsible budget that fairly balances revenue growth with expense reduction and honor the spending cap as defined in 1991.

The Alliance said they were open to meeting with the Governor as soon as possible to speak to these issues.

The letter was signed by the following Alliance member leaders: Jerry Clupper, Executive Director, New Haven Manufacturing Association, President, Anne Strobel, Smaller Manufacturers Association of Connecticut, President Ray Coombs, Eastern Advanced Manufacturing Alliance, Michael Brault, President, New England Spring and Metal Stamping Association and Kathy Saint, President of METAL.

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