



Testimony of  
William Garrity RN, President,  
University Health Professionals, Local 3837  
Governor's Bill No' 878 - AN ACT ENHANCING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS  
Government Administration and Elections Committee  
3/25/19

Good Afternoon Senator Flexer, Representative Fox and the members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee.

My name is Bill Garrity and I have been a Registered Nurse at UCONN Health for nearly 25 years. I've worked in multiple departments at UCONN and now I serve as President of University Health Professionals, AFT Local 3837. Representing more than 2700 members. I am here to testify against Governor's Bill No' 878 - AN ACT ENHANCING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

There are others here to testify that will give you better specifics as to why this is not a good idea. How gutting the State Contracting and Standards Board is a terrible idea.

Currently the state can look for these privatizations, 5 per year according to the existing law. For the past eight years, we've not done one.

I want to Talk about UCONN Health (Big Surprise right). We are currently in the middle of a Public Private Partnership search, which the state legislature told us we had to do. This Partnership would give away 1/3 of UCONN Health, the clinical aspect of what we do. Many groups want a piece of us. But Our CEO has said the price is too high and none of the proposals will help us in the long run. I do not want any 1 person, be it a hospital CEO, a college president, or our states Governor, whoever he or she is, to have the ability to give away state assets, state work and state jobs. I can't see why any of you would want to abdicate that responsibility and give it to one person.

You've made it now that every labor contract must come up here in front of the legislature for a vote. Why would you not want every privatization proposal or deal to come before you for a vote? So again, I don't see how anyone here could think that this proposed bill is a good way to work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, I would be happy to try to answer any questions you may have.