

TESTIMONY OF MAURA DUNN
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ELECTRIC BOAT CORPORATION
SUBMITTED TO THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE
MARCH 20, 2018

PROPOSED SB 444 – AN ACT CONCERNING ADVANCED MANUFACTURING TRAINING AND THE
CAPITAL NEEDS OF THE SUBMARINE INDUSTRY

Members of the Commerce Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in favor of Bill 444. Electric Boat has a current and ongoing need to hire thousands of skilled workers in the manufacturing fields. The Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board (EWIB) has created The Eastern CT Manufacturing Pipeline Initiative to provide no-cost training to address these hiring needs. The pipeline recruits individuals for these skilled jobs and then provides work readiness development, classroom training and on the job training. Electric Boat and our suppliers have benefitted from this program and have hired over 750 individuals from the pipeline. We have found that employees that have been trained through this program are better prepared for success.

This program complements the internal training provided by Electric Boat. Graduates hired by EB will receive an additional 20-30 weeks of on-the-job training. EB has and will continue to invest millions of dollars annually in training our employees.

Electric Boat is preparing for unprecedented growth. This program is vital to achieve our goals of recruiting and retaining the skilled workforce necessary to build the next class of nuclear submarines. The pipeline provides a path to a high paying, full benefits career in manufacturing. In addition, these manufacturing jobs have the highest multiplier effect of all industries therefore providing additional economic benefit to the region.

This legislation will keep Connecticut workers in Connecticut by providing training programs and a pathway to a career in advanced manufacturing.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and I hope that the Commerce Committee votes favorably upon this legislation.