Commerce Committee
JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: SB-131 / Bill Status / Public Hearing Testimony
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING MANUFACTURING.
Vote Date: 3/17/2026
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 2/17/2026
File No.: 215

Disclaimer: *The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Commerce Committee

CO - SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep. Craig C. Fishbein, 90th Dist.
Rep. Christopher Poulos, 81st Dist.
Rep. Kerry S. Wood, 29th Dist.
Rep. John Santanella, 58th Dist.
Rep. Michael D. Quinn, 82nd Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

The manufacturing industry exists as one of Connecticut's most lucrative industries, generating more than $34 billion annually and employing 10% of the states workforce this industry exists as the second largest contributor to the states GDP. This bill has been created in order to further support manufacturing business in the state of Connecticut by, requiring the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to conduct a study into the needs of manufacturers in the state and report its findings.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Department of Economic and Community Development, Commissioner, Daniel O'Keefe submits testimony in support of this bill citing that it functions to identify economic development policy goals for the manufacturing industry in Connecticut, which exists as one of the states most notable economic contributors. This bill directly correlates with the mission of the DECD which aims to strengthen Connecticut's competitive position in todays changing global economy.

Office of Workforce Strategy, Chief Workforce Officer, Dr. Kelli-Marie Vallieres writes in support of this bill citing an understanding that although this initiative was not included in the Governors Biennial Budget, it is imperative that the state of Connecticut work alongside the manufacturing industry to identify any areas of need.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, Haley Stafford submits testimony in support of this bill expressing that the manufacturing industry provides a vast amount of employment opportunities within the state and in turn is a vital faction of the state's economy. This bill provides an opportunity to further understand it's needs and work to solve any barriers in the continued success of this industry.

CBIA, Senior Policy Director, Paul Amarone submits testimony unrelated to this bill.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Enumaah Dadzie, Assistant Clerk Date: 3/30/2026