

# ***Clean Contracting for Connecticut:***

***Leading for Quality &  
Efficient Public Services***



**STRONGER**  
**CSEA**  
**SEIU**  
Local 2001  
**TOGETHER**

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# Legislative Efforts



## Original Goals of Contract Reform

- Set up contracting standards board
- Comparable compensation for public service workers
- Moratorium on privatization until standards completed
- Rights of private action by members for violations

## Original “Clean Contracting” Supporters

- Public sector labor unions that fought Governor Rowland’s outsourcing schemes
- Democratic legislators in opposition to GOP’s position
- Transparent government advocates
- Connecticut Governor Rell to distance herself from former Governor Rowland’s corruption





## Strategic Partners Working Together

- Coordinated campaign by SEIU Connecticut State Council and State Employee Bargaining Agent Coalition unions
- Intensive lobbying of lawmakers formerly opposed to contract reforms
- Outreach to non-profit providers previously used to defeat contract reform
- Direct negotiations with Administration of Connecticut Governor Rell
- Public relations efforts featuring CSEA/SEIU members

## Recruiting Former Foes in a Working Coalition

- Non-profit providers
- Public-private partner vendors
- GOP state legislators
- Connecticut Governor Jodi Rell



### Pass Contracting Reform Bill this Summer!

Hartford Courant.

Editorial, June 8, 2007

"Understandably, sensible reforms, a high priority since the demise of the Eason administration, will have to wait for another day. Fund-raising approval, however, for passage and the legislators' vote finally or hand, but the basic version of the bill died at the deadline."

Senate Bill 1405, An Act Concerning Clean Contracting Standards, was passed by the State Senate on the final day of the regular session by a vote of 14-2, though the House did not vote sufficient times to fully address the bill. With the "Tomb-Dug" vote still outstanding disaster in the background, Connecticut lawmakers cannot afford to wait another year for contracting reform: let's pass this legislation in a Special Session this summer!

### A Historic Opportunity to Protect Taxpayers from Waste

This opportunity to pass a bill that is being introduced by the same parties who had twice failed over this issue for the past two years should not be missed. After failing to reach agreement on their previous clean contracting bill, Governor Rell, a majority of Non-Unionized, public employee unions, and the nonprofit service sector have finally come together to sign a coalition that will make government and school construction a transparent process.

### Clean Contracting for Connecticut Taxpayers

The bill passed in the Senate will go along way to increasing the good of the State: Contracting Standards Board (CSB) improving accountability, transparency, and results-based outcomes while protecting taxpayer interests. For the complete bill description, action highlights of the legislation, what you should ask your legislators to do on the bill for a Special Session this summer.

Contact Jodi Melia at the CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, toll at (860) 951-6614, extension 111. For more information on our interests, please call the public hearing, our press office, (860) 951-6614.

# Refining Our Message

## New Talking Points

- “Delivering efficiency” NOT prohibitions and mandates
- “Quality of services” NOT union wage standards
- “Value for taxpayers’ investment” NOT private sector savings



## Strategic Clean Contracting Goals

- Perform a cost-benefit analysis BEFORE contracting-out public projects
- Establish common-sense standards to protect our families' health and safety
- Review contracted work for accountability, transparency and results-based outcomes



# Passing Historic Reforms



## Leading for Political Change

- Agitated around “Little Dig” outsourcing scandal to create public pressure
- Worked with strategic partners to build broad support for contract reform
- Moved legislators to pass and Governor to sign “clean contracting” bill into law

## Taking Next Steps

- Leading new coalition for reforming ConnDOT’s “culture of fear”
- Working with federal lawmakers to pass national contract reform legislation
- Reaching out to community partners to build support for infrastructure investment strategies

