

Murphy Visits Torrington's Colonial Bronze, Talk Buy American Legislation to Protect and Grow Connecticut's Manufacturing Sector

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August 17, 2010

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NEW BRITAIN - Today, Congressman Chris Murphy (CT-5) visited Torrington's Colonial Bronze to tour the facility and to talk about his latest legislative effort to protect and grow Connecticut's manufacturing sector.

In 1930, Colonial Bronze moved from the Bronx to Torrington, and since then, has doubled in size twice, most recently in 1996. The company makes knobs, hinges, appliance, and bath accessories, among other things. As the last remaining domestic manufacturer of these items, Colonial Bronze has pursued federal contracts to supply federal agencies with their products.

Murphy has introduced two bills to boost domestic manufacturing by updating our federal "Buy American" laws. His American Jobs Matter Act, which recently passed a House committee, requires for the first time federal contracting officers to solicit information from bidders regarding how the award of a contract will affect domestic employment. Supplying this "jobs impact statement" would shed light on where American tax dollars are being spent to create - or compete with - American jobs.

Murphy has also introduced the 21st Century Buy American Act that will create jobs, close loopholes in our antiquated "Buy American" laws, increase transparency of the process, and, most importantly, assist firms that have been hurt by unfair foreign competition.