



RAISED BILL NO. 5422 — FEBRUARY SESSION, 2026

An Act Concerning a Study of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

Connecticut General Assembly — Committee on Appropriations

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RAISED BILL NO. 5422 — KEY POINTS FOR THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Submitted by: The Disclosure Foundation | www.disclosure.org

PASS THIS BILL — THEN STRENGTHEN IT

Raised Bill No. 5422 is a meaningful first step that Connecticut should take now. A formal study of unidentified anomalous phenomena is overdue, and this bill authorizes it. The Disclosure Foundation urges the Committee to report it favorably — and to consider, either in this session or the next, amendments that give the study mandate the teeth it needs to produce actionable intelligence.

WHY CONNECTICUT, WHY NOW

- **Critical State and National Infrastructure:**
 - **Naval Submarine Base New London (Groton):** The primary East Coast submarine installation. Home to 15+ nuclear attack submarines, 70+ tenant commands, 21,000+ personnel.
 - **Millstone Nuclear Power Station (Waterford):** Supplies 33% of Connecticut's in-state electricity and over 90% of its carbon-free power. The NRC updated regulations in 2024 to mandate UAP/drone reporting at nuclear facilities.
 - **Electric Boat / General Dynamics (Groton):** Primary designer and builder of the Navy's nuclear submarine fleet, including the (nuclear) Virginia-class. Congress specifically required UAP reporting protocols for nuclear vessels in the NDAA FY2022.
 - **Sikorsky / Lockheed Martin (Stratford):** Produces the UH-60 Black Hawk with active flight test operations.
- **Documented recent local encounters:** In November–December 2024, UAP incursions swept New Jersey and spread to Connecticut. Military officials confirmed unauthorized overflights of defense installations were real. In April 2022, (then) Weston Police Officer Robert Klein — a 25-year law enforcement veteran — documented a close encounter near a Fairfield County reservoir with photographic evidence.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONCLUDED UAP ARE WORTHY OF SIGNIFICANT ATTENTION

- AARO — the Pentagon's dedicated UAP office — has investigated over 2,000 reports and documented statistical clustering near sensitive military and nuclear installations.
- The NRC now mandates that nuclear plant operators report drone and UAP incursions. Energy Secretary Granholm testified before Congress about unidentified incursions over nuclear facilities in 2024.
- On February 19, 2026, President Trump directed the Secretary of Defense to begin identifying and releasing government UAP files. Secretary Hegseth confirmed the Pentagon is "full compliance."
- 34 current and former senior U.S. government, military, and intelligence officials — including Secretary of State Rubio and Senator Gillibrand — went on the record in the 2025 documentary

The Age of Disclosure to affirm that UAP represent a real and serious national security issue warranting government attention.

CONNECTICUT MAY FALL BEHIND ITS NEIGHBORS

- **Pennsylvania:** Its Emergency Management Agency has quietly collected UAP reports through county 911 dispatch since 2013 — with no legislative mandate, no dedicated funding, and no formal authority. Legislation is being discussed by key legislators.
- **New Jersey:** Already enacted legislation establishing the nation's first state-funded UAP research center, with \$2.5 million in university grants to systematically collect and analyze sighting data.

WHAT THE BILL NEEDS TO BE EFFECTIVE

A study mandate without a reporting mechanism will produce a report based only on information already publicly available. To generate new, actionable intelligence, strengthened legislation should add:

- A dedicated UAP Reporting and Coordination Office within DESPP or OMA;
 - Mandatory reporting by operators of critical infrastructure (nuclear facilities, defense contractors, airports);
 - A formal coordination mechanism with (at least) nearby states; and
 - Annual public reporting with appropriate security redactions
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Testimony in Support of Raised Bill No. 5422
An Act Concerning a Study of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

Connecticut General Assembly — Committee on Appropriations
February Session, 2026
Submitted by: The Disclosure Foundation

I. Introduction

The Disclosure Foundation is a nonpartisan, Connecticut-based 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to advancing government transparency and accountability on unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP). Our work is built on three institutional pillars:

- Policy research at the intersection of science, national security, and governance;
- Legal support to advance lawful transparency, protect whistleblowers, and strengthen congressional reporting pathways; and
- Public education and advocacy to foster informed dialogue among citizens, scientists, and policymakers.

The Foundation's leadership and advisory board, which includes three Connecticut residents, bring together senior credentials in defense, intelligence, science, law, business, and public policy. Our Chairman, Christopher K. Mellon, is a former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and former Staff Director of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Our Advisory Board includes:

- Dr. Carlos Eire, *T. Lawrason Riggs Professor of History and Religious Studies at Yale University*;
- Dr. Avi Loeb, *Frank B. Baird, Jr., Professor of Science at Harvard University, head of the Galileo Project*;
- Kirk McConnell, *former Senior Advisor to the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence*;
- Rear Admiral Timothy Gallaudet, Ph.D., *U.S. Navy (Ret.), former Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and former Acting Administrator of NOAA*;
- Anna Brady-Estevez, *Founding Partner at American DeepTech, fmr. Co-Chair of the US Space Economy Interagency Working Group (Co-Chair alongside NASA), fmr. Director of the commercial Space, Energy and Digital Asset Portfolios at the National Science Foundation, Yale graduate, fmr. New Haven and Westport resident, Kauffman Fellow*; and
- Mike Gold, *President, Civil and International Space, Redwire; Member of the NASA UAP Independent Study Team; Former NASA Associate Administrator for Space Policy and Partnerships*;

Our breadth of expertise across the defense, intelligence, scientific, and academic communities uniquely positions the Foundation to provide the Committee with credible, evidence-based analysis and policy advice.

The Foundation's record of accomplishment is directly relevant to the oversight and appropriations questions before this Committee. Among many other achievements, the Foundation has:

- Organized classified briefings for Members of the House Oversight Committee's Task Force on the Declassification of Federal Secrets and provided Members with specific UAP records locatable within the Department of Defense and Intelligence Community;
- Furnished draft oversight letters to help Members demand UAP records, classification guidelines, and access to relevant officials;
- Authored a policy brief on protected disclosures to Congress, analyzing why lawmakers may receive classified information in a secure setting without executive branch permission, and why whistleblowers may provide that information free from prosecution or suit;
- Organized a public roundtable featuring lawmakers and Advisory Board members and hosted in-person conversations at Yale and Princeton, helping bring serious UAP discussion into leading academic institutions;
- Launched a comprehensive FOIA campaign targeting the most pressing matters of public interest on UAP;
- Supported congressional preparation for future UAP hearings by helping identify priority lines of inquiry and potential witnesses; and
- Provided whistleblowers and witnesses with legal assistance.

We submit this testimony in support of Raised Bill No. 5422 and urge this Committee to view it as a constructive first step — one that, with strengthening, can position Connecticut at the forefront of a rapidly evolving national security and scientific policy discussion.

II. Why Connecticut, Why Now

Connecticut is not a peripheral state in the UAP conversation. It hosts one of the most concentrated clusters of sensitive defense and energy infrastructure on the East Coast within its relatively small geographic footprint. This infrastructure warrants contemporary considerations as to risk and preservation.

The exposure to this risk is underscored by recent events that unfolded in Connecticut's backyard. On or about November 18, 2024, an unprecedented wave of unidentified aerial systems ("drones") was witnessed over the skies of New Jersey and later spread to five additional states, including

Connecticut.¹ On or about December 13, 2024, Connecticut State Police deployed drone detection systems in the vicinity of Fairfield County as a direct response to these incidents.²

Senator Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut, a senior member of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, called publicly for a “more aggressive” federal response, citing a clear gap in the government’s authority to identify or intercept the objects.³ Federal agencies ultimately acknowledged they could not identify the source of the drone operations. Military officials later confirmed that a verified and unauthorized presence of these platforms over defense installations was both real and distinct from the broader civilian sightings widely reported in local and national media. These events were not abstract or distant; they occurred over Connecticut soil and near state assets.

Furthermore, the 2024 incursions were not Connecticut’s only recent UAP encounter of note. In April 2022, Weston Police Officer Robert Klein, a 25-year law enforcement veteran, documented an encounter with an unidentified spherical object near a Fairfield County reservoir during a midnight patrol shift. Klein captured photographic and video evidence of a color-changing object that hovered approximately thirty feet from his patrol vehicle before accelerating at speeds he described as unlike anything he had encountered in his career.⁴

Naval Submarine Base New London (Groton) is the primary East Coast submarine installation, home to more than fifteen nuclear attack submarines and more than seventy tenant commands, with a total workforce exceeding 21,000 military and civilian personnel.⁵

Millstone Nuclear Power Station (Waterford) supplies approximately 33% of Connecticut’s in-state electricity generation⁶ and more than 90% of the state’s carbon-free power.⁷ In 2024, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) updated its regulations to mandate reporting of drone and UAP incursions at nuclear facilities.⁸ That concern was validated in December 2024, when a surge

¹CNN. “Unidentified drones spotted in six states including Connecticut and New Jersey.” December 15, 2024.

²NBC Connecticut; CNN. “Connecticut State Police deploy drone detection system to Fairfield County.” December 13, 2024.

³CNN. “Senator Blumenthal calls for ‘more aggressive’ federal response to drone incursions.” December 12, 2024.

⁴NewsNation. “Police Officer Captures Video of Suspected UFO in Connecticut.” November 27, 2024.

<https://www.newsnationnow.com/space/ufo/police-suspected-ufo-video-connecticut/> (Officer Robert Klein, a 25-year veteran of the Weston Police Department, described encountering a spherical UAP approximately the size of a Mini Cooper hovering 30 feet from his patrol car near a Fairfield County reservoir during a midnight shift in April 2022; Klein stated he captured photographic and video evidence of the object).

⁵U.S. Navy History and Heritage Command. Naval Submarine Base New London. <https://www.history.navy.mil/>; Wikipedia. Naval Submarine Base New London. Citing official Navy sources: 70+ tenant commands, 21,000+ military and civilian personnel.

⁶U.S. Energy Information Administration. Connecticut State Energy Profile, 2023. <https://www.eia.gov/state/analysis.php?sid=CT>

⁷Dominion Energy; CT Mirror. Millstone Nuclear Power Station 50th Anniversary, October 2025. More than 90% of Connecticut’s in-state carbon-free electricity generation.

⁸U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Fact Sheet: Drones and Nuclear Power Plant Security. Updated 2024. <https://www.nrc.gov>

of unidentified drone activity was documented near nuclear power stations across the country.⁹ The All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO), a successor to multiple 21st-Century Department of Defense initiatives to study UFOs and UAP, has received eighteen publicly disclosed UAP reports referred directly by the NRC.¹⁰

Sikorsky/Lockheed Martin (Stratford) produces the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter and conducts active flight test operations at its Connecticut facility.¹¹

Electric Boat/General Dynamics (Groton and New London) is the primary designer and builder of the United States Navy's nuclear submarine fleet, including the Virginia-class attack submarine.¹² The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 specifically required UAP reporting protocols for nuclear-powered ships and submarines — a provision reflecting Congressional awareness of the intersection between naval nuclear assets and UAP activity.¹³ Electric Boat's proximity to Long Island Sound places it adjacent to a coastal maritime corridor where peer-reviewed, instrumented field research has documented anomalous UAP activity, including objects exhibiting unexplained electromagnetic signatures, in the surrounding Atlantic coastal waters.¹⁴

Pratt & Whitney (East Hartford) manufactures military jet engines that power aircraft throughout the U.S. defense complex. Additionally, Bradley International Airport serves as a major air corridor on the East Coast.

III. Documented Pattern of UAP Near Nuclear and Defense Facilities

The pattern connecting UAP activity to nuclear and defense infrastructure is not speculative. It is documented.¹⁵

Investigative journalist Leslie Kean and co-authors brought this issue into mainstream policy discourse through two landmark articles published in *The New York Times*. The first, published December 16, 2017, revealed the existence of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification

⁹The War Zone. "Drones Are Swarming Nuclear Power Plants Across the US." December 21, 2024. <https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone>

¹⁰Universe Today, citing AARO FY2024 Consolidated Annual Report on UAP, November 2024. The NRC referred 18 UAP reports to AARO. See also testimony of Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm, cited in Guthrie, *supra* note 28, at n.19, describing unidentified incursions over nuclear facilities with lawmakers pressing whether those incursions constituted UAP or mere drones — illustrating the definitional ambiguity that impedes effective oversight at both the federal and state levels.

¹¹Sikorsky/Lockheed Martin. UH-60 Black Hawk. <https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/products/uh-60-black-hawk.html>

¹²General Dynamics Electric Boat. Virginia-Class Submarine Program. <https://www.gdeb.com>

¹³National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, § 1683 (Gillibrand Amendment). Required UAP reporting protocols for nuclear-powered vessels and submarines.

¹⁴Tedesco, L. and Tedesco, M. "Eye on the Sky: A UAP Research and Field Study off New York's Long Island Coast." Scientific Research Publishing, 2024. Cited by the Harvard Galileo Project. Research conducted at Robert Moses State Park on the south shore of Long Island.

¹⁵Guthrie, D. "Flying Saucers and the Ivory Dome: Congressional Oversight Concerning Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena." Harvard National Security Journal, Vol. 16, No. 1 (2025). https://journals.law.harvard.edu/nsj/wp-content/uploads/sites/82/2025/06/Guthrie_16_Harvard_Natl_Security_J_1-v2.pdf. The author is a Foundation Advisory Board member, and Washington, D.C. attorney who has served as counsel at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, an advisor on the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, and a legislative aide to Senator John Kerry.

Program (AATIP) — a secret Pentagon program that had spent \$22.5 million investigating UAP — establishing definitively that the United States government had maintained an active, classified UAP research effort.¹⁶ The second, published in May 2019, documented a sustained pattern of UAP encounters by U.S. Navy pilots flying off the East Coast, including objects exhibiting flight characteristics that exceeded known aeronautical capabilities.¹⁷ These articles initiated the current legislative and policy arc that has since produced AARO, multiple NDAA provisions, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) assessments cited throughout this testimony.

Through a well-documented Freedom of Information Act campaign, Nevada-based investigative journalist George Knapp has established clear evidence of government records describing UAP incursions at facilities including Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore, Sandia, and the Savannah River Site.¹⁸ The most comprehensive documentation of this pattern remains researcher Robert Hastings' *UFOs and Nukes: Extraordinary Encounters at Nuclear Weapons Sites*, which draws on interviews with more than 150 U.S. military veterans and thousands of declassified government documents to establish a decades-long record of UAP incursions at American nuclear weapons facilities.¹⁹ A peer-reviewed statistical analysis found that counties containing nuclear facilities report UAP sightings at significantly elevated rates, with a correlation significant at $p = 0.00013$.²⁰ Additionally, the ODNI's 2021 Preliminary Assessment acknowledged clustering of UAP incidents near sensitive military installations.²¹

On July 15, 2022, pursuant to the NDAA for Fiscal Year 2022,²² Congress stood up the All-domain Anomaly Review Office within the Department of Defense, tasking it with specific reporting criteria related to UAP incidents. In its most recent consolidated annual report, 757 UAP reports were received in a single year.²³ AARO's total case inventory has since grown to exceed 2,000

¹⁶Cooper, H., Blumenthal, R., and Kean, L. "Glowing Auras and 'Black Money': The Pentagon's Mysterious U.F.O. Program." The New York Times, December 16, 2017. Revealed the existence of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP) and \$22.5 million in Pentagon UAP research funding.

¹⁷Cooper, H., Blumenthal, R., and Kean, L. "Navy Pilots Were Seeing U.F.O.s on an Almost Daily Basis in 2014 and 2015, Pilots Say." The New York Times, May 26, 2019. Documented sustained UAP encounters by naval aviators operating off the East Coast of the United States.

¹⁸Knapp, G. Written Testimony submitted to the U.S. House Oversight Committee, September 2025. <https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/George-Knapp-Written-Testimony.pdf>. See also: Knapp, G., quoted in "Why Have There Been So Many UFO Sightings Near Nuclear Facilities?" History.com. <https://www.history.com/articles/ufo-sightings-near-nuclear-facilities-uss-roosevelt-rendlesham>. Knapp gathered documentation of incidents at Los Alamos, Livermore, Sandia, and Savannah River through Freedom of Information Act requests to the Departments of Defense and Energy.

¹⁹Hastings, R. *UFOs and Nukes: Extraordinary Encounters at Nuclear Weapons Sites*. 2008. Draws on interviews with more than 150 U.S. military veterans and thousands of declassified government documents.

²⁰Sturrock, P.A. et al. Statistical analysis, 2015. UAP reporting rates in counties containing nuclear facilities were found to be significantly elevated above baseline, at $p = 0.00013$.

²¹Office of the Director of National Intelligence. Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena. June 25, 2021. Acknowledged clustering of UAP incidents in proximity to sensitive military installations.

²²All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) established July 15, 2022, pursuant to NDAA for Fiscal Year 2022, § 1683. Codified at 50 U.S.C. § 3373.

²³AARO. Consolidated Annual Report on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena, FY2024. November 2024. Reported 757 UAP reports received during the reporting year.

reports. The Disclosure Foundation has actively advocated for expanded UAP provisions in the Fiscal Year 2026 NDAA, including streamlined data-sharing protocols between AARO and state-level authorities.²⁴

This pattern is not an abstraction for Connecticut. The state's asset types appear with statistical significance in the documented record of UAP activity near sensitive facilities. Connecticut's own residents, including a sworn law enforcement officer, have reported encounters consistent with that national pattern. Yet unlike the federal government, which has created a dedicated reporting and collection office, established mandatory reporting protocols for nuclear operators, and directed the Secretary of Defense to begin declassifying UAP records, Connecticut has no formal mechanism for collecting, preserving, or analyzing this data. Raised Bill No. 5422 begins to address that gap.

IV. What Strengthened Legislation Should Accomplish

The Disclosure Foundation supports Raised Bill No. 5422 but believes the legislation as drafted falls short of what Connecticut's security posture and research capacity require. Accordingly, we respectfully urge the Committee to consider the following improvements to this or future legislation:

First, the establishment of a dedicated Connecticut UAP Reporting and Coordination Office, housed within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the Office of Military Affairs, with authority to receive and triage reports from state and local law enforcement, critical infrastructure operators, and the public.

Second, mandatory reporting requirements for operators of critical infrastructure — nuclear power stations, defense contractors, airports, and port facilities — tied to the framework established by the NDAA for Fiscal Year 2022 and aligned with the NRC's 2024 updated drone-reporting regulations.

Third, a formal state-to-state coordination mechanism with nearby states that are already collecting UAP-related data or building infrastructure to do so, including Pennsylvania, whose Emergency Management Agency has collected such reports since 2013,²⁵ and New Jersey, which has enacted

²⁴DefenseScoop. "Disclosure Foundation Advocates for FY2026 NDAA UAP Provisions." December 10, 2025. Quoting Jordan Flowers, Executive Director, The Disclosure Foundation.

²⁵Hall, P. "Pennsylvania Has Investigated More Than a Dozen UFO Incidents in the Past Decade, Records Show." *Pennsylvania Capital-Star*, May 4, 2024. <https://penncapital-star.com/government-politics/pennsylvania-has-investigated-more-than-a-dozen-ufo-incidents-in-the-past-decade-records-show/> (reporting that PEMA Director Randy Padfield disclosed during a February 26, 2024 Pennsylvania House Appropriations Committee budget hearing that the agency collects and routes UAP reports through the Commonwealth Watch and Warning Center; a subsequent Right-to-Know request produced 40 pages of records documenting sightings reported to county 911 dispatch centers going back to 2013, including incidents near nuclear facilities). See also Pennsylvania House Appropriations Committee Hearing, February 26, 2024 (testimony of PEMA Director Randy Padfield).

legislation to establish a university-based UAP research center with a mandate to systematically collect and analyze sighting data.²⁶

Fourth, a requirement for annual public reporting with appropriate security redactions.

V. The Economic and Research Case

Connecticut's investment in UAP research capacity is not a departure from the state's existing innovation strategy. Rather, it is a natural extension of that strategy.

In November 2025, Governor Ned Lamont announced a \$121 million state investment in quantum technology, anchored by QuantumCT — a nonprofit co-led by Yale University and the University of Connecticut — and including a first-of-its-kind quantum incubator in New Haven.²⁷ The investment explicitly targets aerospace and defense as priority sectors. Quantum sensing, one of the most strategically active branches of quantum technology, is directly applicable to the challenge UAP research poses: detecting and characterizing objects that exhibit anomalous electromagnetic, propulsive, or transmedium behavior. Any UAP-related federal research grants would not divert Connecticut's universities from their core mission; they would accelerate that mission and create a competitive advantage in pursuing defense science funding from the Department of War and the National Science Foundation.

Connecticut should also note that its immediate neighbor New Jersey (a state that experienced a significantly more pronounced version of the same November–December 2024 aerial system incursion wave) has advanced legislation to establish the nation's first state-funded UAP research center, with \$2.5 million in proposed university grants under Senate Bill 4432 and companion Assembly Bill 5712, which passed the New Jersey Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on December 15, 2025.²⁸ Vermont has also introduced legislation this year, and the Foundation is in contact with a key Pennsylvania legislator in hopes of introducing legislation as well. Connecticut **should not** be a follower in this regional trend and competition.

²⁶Americans for Safe Aerospace. "ASA-Supported Legislation Makes New Jersey First State to Fund UAP Research Center." January 13, 2026. <https://www.safeaerospace.org/news/asa-supported-legislation-makes-new-jersey-first-state-to-fund-uap-research-center>. See also N.J. S.4432 / A.5712, 221st Legislature (2025) (appropriating \$2.5 million in university grants to establish a Center for the Study of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, with a research mission encompassing systematic collection and analysis of UAP sighting data).

²⁷Yale News; Office of Governor Ned Lamont, State of Connecticut. "Governor Lamont Announces \$121 Million Investment in Quantum Technologies." November 20, 2025. QuantumCT is co-led by Yale University and the University of Connecticut, with accompanying investments of over \$1 billion from the universities.

²⁸Americans for Safe Aerospace ([safeaerospace.org](https://www.safeaerospace.org)); Flying Magazine, January 15, 2026. New Jersey S.4432 and companion A.5712 passed the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on December 15, 2025. Sponsored by Sen. Raj Mukherji (District 32, Hudson). Allocates \$2.5 million in university grants for UAP research and \$1 million for air traffic controller loan redemption.

VI. Conclusion

The seriousness with which senior officials now regard this issue is underscored by the November 2025 release of *The Age of Disclosure*, a documentary in which 34 current and former U.S. government, military, and intelligence officials spoke on the record about UAP encounters and the inadequacy of existing oversight mechanisms — a film featuring bipartisan participants including Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand.

Unidentified anomalous phenomena are no longer a fringe concern. The issue of what these UAP may be and what should be done to study the phenomena is plainly before the United States Congress, the Department of War, and the Intelligence Community. On February 19, 2026, President Trump directed the Secretary of Defense and other relevant federal agencies to begin identifying and releasing government files related to UAP — a directive that Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth has confirmed the Pentagon is in “full compliance” with the directive.²⁹ Whatever those records contain, their release will intensify public and legislative scrutiny of UAP policy at every level of government.

Connecticut hosts critical national security infrastructure with documented relevance to UAP. Connecticut has invested considerable funds in the research universities best positioned to study it. And Connecticut’s neighbors have already moved to establish institutional capacity that this state does not yet have.

Raised Bill No. 5422 is a first step to much-needed coordination efforts among states on this issue. We urge this Committee to make it a meaningful one.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Mellon, *Chairman of the Board of Directors*

Jordan Flowers, *Board Member and Executive Director (CT resident)*

Darren Bruno, *Board Member and Secretary (CT resident)*

Hunt Willis, *Board Member and Chief Legal Officer*

Lester Nare, *Board Member and Director of Operations*

Marc Vigliotti, *Advisory Board Member (CT resident)*

Disclosure
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Contact: contact@disclosure.org

²⁹Trump, D.J. Truth Social post, February 19, 2026. Confirmed by DefenseScoop, “Hegseth Doubles Down on Trump’s UAP Disclosure Promise as AARO’s Caseload Exceeds 2,000.” February 25, 2026. Defense Secretary Hegseth stated the Pentagon is “working on identifying and releasing government files” and will be “in full compliance” with the president’s directive.



March 12, 2026

Joint Appropriations Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700
300 Capital Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Support for H.5422

My name is Kirk McConnell. I retired from Federal Government service two years ago after 37 years serving as a professional staff member on the Senate Armed Services and Intelligence committees and the House Intelligence Committee. I now serve as an advisor to the Disclosure Foundation, Americans for Safe Aerospace, and the Sol Foundation.

With staff colleagues on the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI), I participated in serious investigations of the UAP phenomenon following the New York Times exposure of classified UAP research activities in late 2017. Over the course of the next 7 years as a congressional staffer, I participated in numerous classified meetings, some with Senators present, with anonymous and publicly known sources providing credible information about the existence of Executive Branch UAP intelligence collection, crashed vehicle recovery, and reverse engineering programs and activities that have been kept secret from Congress in violation of law and the constitution, and from the American people. Some of these sources claimed first-hand, direct involvement in these activities. I also participated in drafting legislation for Members of the SASC, SSCI, and the Senate at large intended to promote transparency and accountability on the UAP issue.

It is hard to overstate the importance and significance of the realization that intelligent life exists beyond our planet and very likely manifests itself on Earth. And yet for decades, and despite the recent heightened pressure from congress, media, and public opinion, the Executive Branch has steadfastly resisted sharing what it knows about and how it is reacting to the reality of craft created by non-human intelligence operating in the Earth's space, air and sea domains. Moreover, in recent years, state and local communities have experienced sustained mass incursions of unidentified and unexplained flying objects. The failure of the Federal government to inform Congress and the American people demands that State governments and civil society step up to fill the gap.

Urgent needs exist to gather high-fidelity data on UAP to understand the nature and scope of the challenge they represent. Privately funded organizations are forming to answer that call. Academia's long history of demeaning the UAP issue must fundamentally change if we are to successfully adjust to the impacts on our society of the realization that we are not alone. Not only is it incumbent on the social sciences to research these impacts, it is also the duty of the physical sciences to characterize the technical advances that enable the beyond-next-generation



performance capabilities of these objects observed by our most sophisticated military sensor systems.

State governments can foster and nurture such efforts, including by passing legislation promoting (1) the rigorous academic study of UAP and the acquisition of requisite supporting data for both the social and physical sciences, (2) ensuring that state and local organizations are able and ready to detect, monitor, and respond to UAP incidents, and (3) galvanizing public opinion and urging elected federal officials to call for change from Congress and the Executive Branch.

Please contact the Disclosure Foundation at contact@disclosure.org with any questions. We are incredibly grateful for your time and consideration of this matter.

Very respectfully,

Kirk McConnell
Advisory Board Member
Disclosure Foundation



March 11, 2026

My name is Mike Gold and I was a member of NASA's UAP Independent Study Team, and previously served as NASA's Associate Administrator for Space Policy and Partnerships, Acting Associate Administrator of the Office of International and Interagency Relations, and Senior Advisor to the Administrator for International and Legal Affairs. For my work at NASA, I received the agency's Outstanding Leadership Medal and have received a variety of other awards and commendations throughout my career. During my decades of experience in the space field both inside and outside of government, I have been an advocate for the scientific study of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena ("UAP"). This is why I am so grateful for the opportunity to testify in favor of Bill No. 5422, "An Act Concerning a Study of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena".

NASA and other federal agencies such as the FAA, have a wide array of data on UAP that demands study. By directing the University of Connecticut to conduct a formal investigation, new insights, information, and even some answers may be found. NASA alone has decades of imagery, videos, and witness testimony relevant to UAP, all of which is publicly available. My hope is that via partnerships with the Disclosure Foundation and donated support from relevant corporate partners, tools such as AI and machine learning can be used to conduct a comprehensive review of UAP data from NASA and other sources. Conducting a formal review of UAP, leveraging as many resources as possible, is sure to produce information that may not only be relevant to UAP, but could also inform scientific discovery relative to anomalous weather phenomena, near Earth objects, and drones from adversarial nations. In a world where drone warfare is becoming increasingly important, Connecticut and the entire nation can ill afford to take the UAP issue lightly, since the stigma surrounding the topic is likely being leveraged by America's geopolitical adversaries to spy on critical military assets and civilian infrastructure. A study conducted by the University of Connecticut will help to push back against this stigma, demonstrating to the academic community that the topic of UAP is not just a valid area of inquiry, but one that is absolutely vital for both scientific discovery and national security.

I applaud the Connecticut General Assembly for having the courage to take up this topic. Evidence leaked to the media and testimony from some of our top fighter pilots, intelligence officials, FBI investigators, scientists, astronauts, and leading Members of Congress, all point to the possibility of extraordinary discovery. As Americans, and New Englanders in particular, we have never shied away from fighting for the truth in support of revolutionary ideas, and I believe this bill represents another important opportunity for the State of Connecticut and the nation as a whole to change the world. I urge all members of the Assembly support the bill and, again, applaud the bravery, patriotism, and scientific curiosity of those who introduced it. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike Gold", written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Gold

I. Introduction of Testimony & Professional Experience

My name is Dr. Anna Brady-Estevez, and I serve as the Founding and Managing Partner at American DeepTech, a venture and infrastructure investment firm dedicated to scaling frontier technologies into foundational global assets. We represent the private capital and scientific leadership prepared to integrate paradigm-shifting innovations into the commercial sector.

Thank you for opening the opportunity to provide testimony. My testimony is informed by a career at the intersection of federal R&D leadership, global corporate strategy and investments:

- **Institutional Track Record:** I previously directed the National Science Foundation's (NSF) investments in deep technology (Space, Energy, and Digital Assets), overseeing a number portfolios within the NSF's SBIR/STTR program which has historically catalyzed over \$370B in total market capitalization over the last 5 decades.
- **Federal Investments:** I served as a Senior Investment Advisor and Venture Partner at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for the \$5B+ annual SBIC program.
- **Interagency Leadership:** I co-chaired the U.S. Space Economy interagency working group (alongside NASA) and the United States Digital Assets R&D agenda (alongside the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy).
- **Corporate & Academic Foundation:** My background includes management consulting at The Boston Consulting Group (BCG), directing strategy at Cummins Inc. and The AES Corporation, and a PhD in Chemical & Environmental Engineering from Yale University, where I served as President of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate and was a CT resident for several years.

I am here to testify on the scientific and economic necessity of advancing UAP-inspired and reverse-engineering programs. We view this opportunity as a call for an "**Apollo Program on Steroids**," positioned to drive unprecedented overmatch across multiple \$1T+ industries.

II. Experience in AI, Infrastructure, and UAP

American DeepTech's positioning is built on decades of institutional experience in prior organizations at the nexus of capital markets and advanced R&D:

- **AI Leadership:** During my tenure at the NSF, I was active in establishing the nation's AI Research Institutes. Our team includes multi-decade AI experts, including leader of a national level portfolio for the federal government.
- **Scaling Success & Investments:** I have provided early funding and investment recommendations to startups that have gone on to achieve more than **\$10B in financing** and **\$20B in total market capitalization**, creating over **10,000 high-value technology**

jobs. My track record in capital efficiency has been independently verified by the Kauffman Fellows Fund Returners Index 2024, where I am ranked as the #7 woman globally. This index is widely regarded as a performance-based, quantitative complement to the Forbes Midas List, providing a data-driven benchmark for world-class venture performance.

- **Infrastructure & Operations:** Our team has provided R&D leadership to the International Space Station (ISS) and NASA, played key roles in building out the US Air Force and Space Force Industrial base and led investment strategies for multi-billion dollar global energy infrastructure.
- **Direct UAP Engagement:** Our firm colleagues include leaders from the UAP Task Force, NASA, and Lockheed Martin Skunkworks. Members of our team have worked directly on UAP-inspired R&D and programs, and collaborated with entrepreneurs involved in legacy crash retrieval and reverse-engineering efforts. While still in our government roles, we brought hundreds of entrepreneurs and scientists into discussions and presentations with the federal government on UAP through public forums (US Space Disruptors Day).
- **Disclosure Foundation:** I serve as a member of the Advisory Board for the Disclosure Foundation and in this role advise in a wide range of capacities, with specific focus on areas of economic growth, industrial impacts and scale up, entrepreneurship, science and R&D, deep technology and AI intersections with UAP, and other areas of national interest.

III. The Economic Opportunity: A Trillion-Dollar Frontier

The potential for UAP-derived technologies to disrupt commercial sectors is absolute. American DeepTech is currently partnering with leading scientists to work to gain technological overmatch in several critical verticals. Below are some areas of focus we believe are relevant for CT:

Sector	Strategic Impact & Connecticut Relevance
Aerospace & Hypersonics	Developing novel propulsion and flight dynamics; critical to CT's deca billion dollar existing aerospace industrial base.
Defense & Resilience	Engineering capabilities to neutralize advanced weaponry and restore grid infrastructure instantaneously.
Quantum Technology	Advancing sensing and computation. This aligns with CT's \$121M QuantumCT initiative.

Sector	Strategic Impact & Connecticut Relevance
Artificial Intelligence	Utilizing AI for understanding and characterizing the phenomena, reverse engineering, de-novo creation of materials and the acceleration of forward-engineering programs.
Next-Gen Energy	Harnessing highly efficient power sources to create global energy abundance and lower state-wide utility costs.
Advanced Materials	Discovering metamaterials with novel molecular properties for radical industrial applications.
Finance & Insurance	Creating new investment asset classes and redefining risk underwriting, sectors that are highly active in CT.

IV. Leadership and the "Early Mover" Mandate

In the global race for technological sovereignty, the pace of innovation is dictated by the innovators, investors and states that move first. Connecticut has already demonstrated innovation commitment through its \$121M commitment to QuantumCT. By extending this leadership into UAP-adjacent technologies, the state can work to capitalize an "early mover" advantage, attracting the next generation of innovators and global capital.

Early movers will define the future and we are actively looking for the states that are ready to lead. Having led collaborations across federal agencies and the private sector, we look forward to working with Connecticut to ensure the state can play a major role in the epicenter of this potential \$T+ transformation.

Contact:

Dr. Anna Brady-Estevez

Founding and Managing Partner

American DeepTech

deeptech1.com

The views expressed in this submission are those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the views of American DeepTech, the Disclosure Foundation, or any other person. The views expressed in this presentation are provided for informational purposes only and do not constitute investment or any other advice, or an offer or recommendation to sell, or a solicitation of an offer or recommendation to buy, any securities. Any forward-looking statements expressed in this presentation are based upon estimates of future events and are subject to a variety of risks, uncertainties, and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by any such forward-looking statement.



March 12, 2026

To: Joint Standing Committees on Public Safety, Environment, Military Affairs, and Appropriations

From: Keith Louis Taylor, Sr., Ed.D.

Re: Support for Raised Bill No. 5422 - An Act Concerning a Study of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

To the Distinguished Members of the General Assembly:

As a career public safety executive, former NYPD Emergency Service Unit supervisor, and current Adjunct Assistant Professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, I am writing on behalf of the Disclosure Foundation to express my strong support for Raised Bill No. 5422. This legislation, which mandates the University of Connecticut to study the feasibility of a state center for Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP), is a critical step toward ensuring operational safety and domain awareness for Connecticut's first responders and citizens.

Expertise and Public Safety Context

Throughout my career, I have managed high-risk emergency operations, including WMD/HazMat response and multi-agency terrorist investigations. My current academic work and curriculum development, such as the *Homeland Security and UAP* seminar at Farmingdale State College, focuses on the "domain awareness gap" in low-altitude airspace. UAP represent a documented occupational safety crisis for first responders, involving risks of mid-air collisions, electromagnetic interference, and physiological hazards.

The Importance of State-Level UAP Research

Legislative action on UAP is gaining momentum across the region. New Jersey has established the nation's first state-funded UAP research center, and Vermont is considering similar measures to address airspace safety. Raised Bill No. 5422 ensures Connecticut remains at the forefront of this issue by:

- Integrating Technical Expertise: Utilizing frameworks like the "Six Observables" to differentiate known technology from anomalous phenomena.
- Enhancing Interagency Collaboration: Formalizing data-sharing between UConn, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, and the Office of Military Affairs.
- Standardizing Response: Moving toward evidence-based pedagogical strategies and forensic chain-of-custody protocols for incidents of unknown origin.

Conclusion

UAP are no longer a matter of speculation but a practical challenge for public safety and municipal continuity. By passing this bill, Connecticut will provide its state agencies with the resources necessary to mitigate operational risks and maintain safety in an increasingly complex airspace.

I strongly urge the committees to report favorably on this bill. I am available to provide further testimony or expertise as needed.

Sincerely,

Keith Louis Taylor, Sr., Ed.D.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, John Jay College