

**Statement of Vincent Philip Bongiovanni
In Support of S.B. #620 - An Act Concerning Dangerous State Roadways
Judiciary Committee Hearing
Friday, March 24, 2006**

GOD bless you.

My name is Vincent Philip Bongiovanni. I am the son of the late Barbara Ann Bongiovanni. She died in the second more than multiple car accident that happened on the bottom of Avon Mountain in the past five years.

The first accident happened on October 8, 2001 at 8:23 in the morning. 11 vehicles were involved. A Mack truck was coming down Avon Mountain Road (Route 44) heading to the intersection of Avon Mountain Road and Waterville Road. The truck had brake failure, was unable to stop, and drove left of the center line. Vehicles were stopped at a red light, and there was a chain reaction collision. Two people were seriously injured.

My mother died in the second more than multiple car accident in the same place last summer along with three other people.

According to Mark Rinaldo, acting Chief of Police of Avon, from July 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005, Avon police responded to 29 accidents in this same area. Four included injuries and 3 were fatalities in which 6 people died. During the past 7 years, over 190 accidents have happened in that area with 11 fatalities.

Neglect: 1. to fail to do what one should do, as because of carelessness.
 2. To fail to take care of as one should; give too little attention to.

The State neglected the roadways around Avon Mountain and therefore there was a bad accident and many people died and were injured.

Responsibility: 1. Accountability. The state, fact, or position of being accountable to somebody or for something.

 2. Blame: The blame for something that has happened.

 3. Something to be responsible for: Somebody or something for which a person or organization is responsible.

 4. Authority to act: Authority to make decisions independently.

The State knew for years of the dangerous roadway at Avon Mountain and did nothing about it, therefore, they are responsible.

Understand, beloved State of Connecticut, it is your responsibility to maintain safe roadway for us people who live here and pay such dear taxes to you. I was grateful to pay these taxes until last year when my mom died tragically and unnecessarily on the bottom of a mountain where the State of Connecticut knew many years before was not safe and needed to be upgraded and made safer.

Now I shall never see her again with these eyes—the one who gave birth and nurtured this man—who I loved and adored so dearly. That was a wonderful woman with a lot of potential and loving qualities. She worked hard at Saint Francis Hospital for many years and paid her taxes and mine faithfully to you, the State of Connecticut. For what? So she could die on the bottom of Avon Moutain because you failed to do your job.

I forgive you. Though justice must now be served. I pray you make better and faster moves in the future, for our sake and yours.

By the evidence shown to me clearly, I hereby state that I fully believe the State of Connecticut, who I pay taxes to faithfully, “neglected” to fix the problem roadways for years after there was an accident clearly showing that there was a problem with the road in that area. Now there has been a second many car accident with fatalities that could have been avoided and the State of Connecticut is responsible and should pay.

Justice for All,
Vincent Philip Bongiovanni