



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE CARLO LEONE
ONE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHTH DISTRICT

88 HOUSTON TERRACE
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06902
TELEPHONE
CAPITOL: 1-(800) 842-8267 AND
(860) 240-8585
HOME: (203) 323-2138

VICE-CHAIR
FINANCE COMMITTEE

MEMBER
REGULATION REVIEW COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

**To: Senator Jonathan Harris
Representative Peter Villano
Members of the Human Services Committee**

From: Representative Carlo Leone, 148th District

Date: January 30, 2007

**Re: Testimony in support of PB 5636 and 6037 AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF
THE STATE FOR THE STAMFORD SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS.**

This testimony is being submitted in support of PB 6037 which would provide \$600,000 in state bond funds to the Stamford Shelter for the Homeless for supportive housing. In addition PB 5636 would appropriate \$400,000 to the Shelter to provide additional resources including job training.

In the city of Stamford we have a burgeoning homeless problem and this funding would be crucial to having programs that would help people get back on their feet and become self-reliant. Providing food and shelter helps only so much, but what really is needed is job training and affordable housing to get people in a position where they are able to provide for themselves and end the cycle of poverty. This is especially the case given the high cost of living in Fairfield County.

The \$600,000 we are asking for would go towards supplementing some of the Federal dollars Stamford lost for its homeless shelter. As the homeless dilemma continues to grow, we want to insure we maintain an adequate source of funding so that at a minimum it doesn't get worse and at best improves. Hopefully with this state commitment of funding we can begin to reverse the trend of homelessness and start seeing the improvements our community desperately needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony before the committee and please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Representative Carlo Leone
148th District