



Transportation Association

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171

Public Hearing Testimony Speaker:  
William Moore

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Statement by  
William D. Moore  
Executive Director  
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Before the  
Education Committee  
March 12, 2007

**H.B. No. 7346 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING GREEN SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND THE GROSS EARNINGS TAX ON DIESEL FUEL FOR SCHOOL BUSES**

Senator Gaffey, Representative Fleischmann, Honorable Members of the Education Committee . .

My name is William D. Moore. I am the Executive Director of the Connecticut School Transportation Association – COSTA. COSTA is a trade association comprised of owners and operators of school buses, student transportation vehicles and other associate members. Our membership of more than 125 companies and Boards of Education includes nearly all of the providers of student transportation in Connecticut. Together, they operate more than 7,200 school buses and 200 Student Transportation Vehicles that transport more than 490,000 children to and from school safely every day.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I am here today to express our support for H.B. 7346 (Raised) *An Act Concerning Green School Buildings and the Gross Earnings Tax on Diesel Fuel for School Buses*. The specific section of the act that we are supporting is Section 2 (2)(L), which exempts diesel fuel for school buses from the gross earnings tax.

Currently, school buses are exempt from the excise taxes on diesel fuel used for school trips including school to home, field trips, athletic activities and school to home transportation. COSTA recently conducted a survey of its membership to determine the amount of the gross earnings tax paid by school districts and/or school bus companies. The results indicate that based on the current tax of 6.3%, that the average amount paid is \$8,497.08 per school district. Elimination of the gross earnings tax will have a positive affect on school district budgets. COSTA supports H. B. 7346, and respectfully urges the members of the Education Committee to approve the measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I will be happy to respond to any questions that you might have regarding COSTA's position on this bill.