

**WESLEYAN**  
UNIVERSITY

The President  
229 High Street  
Middletown, Connecticut 06459-0290  
860 685 3500 Fax: 860 685 3501

Public Hearing Testimony

Non-Speaking  
Speaker:  
Douglas Bennet

Date:

3/12/07

Bill Number:

1114

March 8, 2007

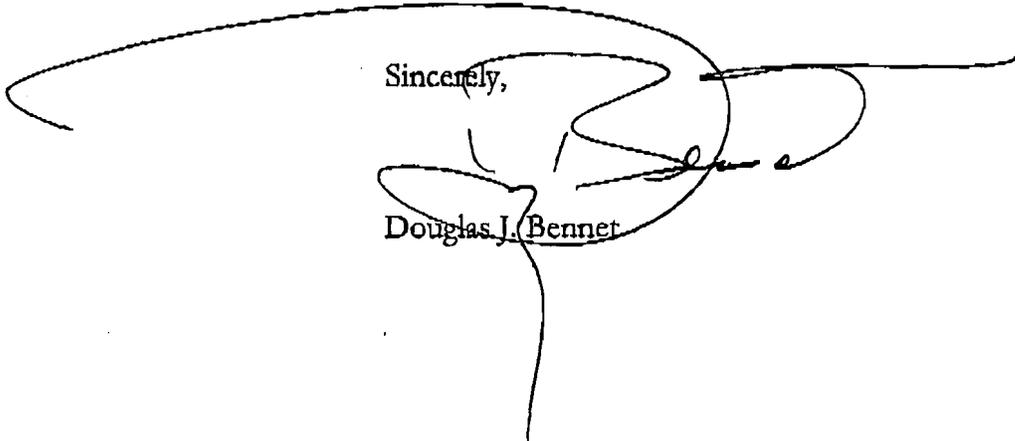
The Honorable Andrew Fleischmann  
The Honorable Thomas Gaffey  
Education Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Representative Fleishmann and Senator Gaffey:

I write on behalf of Wesleyan University to support Governor Rell's education package, Bill 1114, *An Act Implementing the Governor's Budget Recommendations Regarding Education*.

The investment this bill proposes on behalf of Connecticut's young people will benefit all of us. Its comprehensive vision—prekindergarten through college—highlights the significance of education to the future of our state. Meaningful access to higher education requires a robust prekindergarten through 12th grade system that prepares students to the full extent of their abilities. Not everyone will go to college, but everyone should have the option to do so. And yet, reports caution that high school students nationally are becoming less and less prepared to enter college and do the work. Colleges can mitigate some of those deficiencies, but the more humane and efficient response is to improve pre-K and K-12 education. This bill will help Connecticut do all of the above and emerge as a national leader in education.

Sincerely,



Douglas J. Bennet

