

*Testimony of Representative Robert "Gabe" DeLuca,
Before the Judiciary Committee on
Raised Bill 319, An Act Prohibiting Blocking the Box*

Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor, and member of the Judiciary Committee:
For the record, my name is Robert "Gabe" DeLuca. I am the minority leader on Stamford Board of Representative and the chair of the Board's Transportation Committee.

I will begin by thanking you for considering SB 319, **AN ACT PROHIBITING BLOCKING THE BOX**. The Box legislation, a much needed statute to help municipalities control the flagrant disregard by people to block traffic. We, in Stamford, have been trying for years to resolve the issue, but lack the authority to do any enforcement. Signs have been installed reading as follows: Do Not Block Intersection, they are ignored.

A few of the problem areas in Stamford are at Long Ridge and Cold Spring Rd and people coming down High Ridge Rd. turning into Cold Spring Rd.. People coming from Bedford St. going up Long Ridge Rd. are constantly blocked at the Cold Spring/Long Ridge area, horns are blowing, people hollering, cars trying to weave around the cars causing the problem. Then we have the Palmer Hill Rd/Stillwater Rd. area near the E.G. Brennan Golf Course, it's just a matter of time before a major accident or a serious fight occurs. I have witnessed people getting out of their cars ready to do battle and it's not only the men, women are also involved.

Other area that come to mind are Washington Blvd/Cold Spring Rd-north and south bound, Washington Blvd. and Main St.. I don't want to ramble on with naming numerous other areas, by now I believe you can understand the problem we have.

We need your help by giving us the required tools for enforcement. Thank you kindly for taking the time to review my comments and I urge the committee's favorable report.