

February 17, 2009

To: Members of the Appropriations Committee  
2009 Connecticut General Assembly

From: Herman Weingart, Franklin, CT

Re: Proposed elimination of designated funding for the Community Investment Act (Bill # 828, Sec. 1W)

**"To be the best you must offer the best"  
(from a commercial aired on a Connecticut radio station)**

**The agricultural programs conducted through the stable funding provided by a portion of the Community Investment Act is the gold standard by which any economic stimulus project should be judged.**

In the short period of two years programs were successfully implemented to enhance the viability of Connecticut's local food supply, as well as the viability of the farms and farm operators producing that food.

Please, please study the results: direct jobs on the farms, support services economically enhanced, the overall uplifting spirit of accomplishment.

The Community Investment Act is the catalyst which has invigorated the production of locally grown food, neatly dovetailing with Connecticut's growing demand for locally grown food.

The Community Investment Act should be showcased as a model for the national stimulus package soon to come.

Sincerely,

Herman R. Weingart, Jr  
Herm's Half Acre  
Franklin, CT