

Mark R. Berkowitz  
106 Bainton Road  
West Hartford, CT 06117

March 16, 2009

Government Administration and Elections Committee  
Room 2200, Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Government Administration and Elections Committee:

I'm writing in response to Governor's Bill No. 6375, an act concerning review and termination of certain boards and commissions. I'm a member of the Mobile Manufactured Home Advisory Council (MMHAC) established under section 21-84a of the general statutes and serve as one of the Community Owner representatives. The Council was established under the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP).

The MMHAC is comprised of volunteer representatives from the Real Estate Commission, Mobile Home Community Owners, Community Tenants, Manufactured Housing Industry Representatives, Town Planners, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, Banking Industry and an Attorney-At-Law Representative who specializes in mobile/manufactured home matters.

I appreciate the efforts of the Governor and the Legislature to review certain boards and commissions to determine if cost savings can be achieved in this difficult economic climate. However, the elimination of the Council will not save the State of Connecticut any funds. Moreover, its elimination may ultimately cost the State money where MMHAC could have stepped in to deal with prevailing issues before legislative remedies are sought.

The Council has worked closely with the Department of Consumer Protection to ensure that the State of Connecticut continues to provide affordable housing to its residents. In addition, the Council acts as a forum to educate industry representatives to ensure that resident rights are promoted.

It's my sincere hope that the Mobile Manufactured Home Advisory Council will continue to exist to do the good work that it was originally set up for and can continue to promote affordable housing for Connecticut citizens. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Berkowitz  
Director of Operations  
Ossen MHC Holdings, LLC