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March 3, 2009

State Senator Donald DeFronzo, Co-Chair
State Representative Antonio Guerrero, Co-Chair
Transportation Committee Membership
State Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut

RE: COMMITTEE BILL No. 563

Dear Co-Chairmen DeFronzo, Guerrero and Committee:

I am a former airport manager of Sikorsky Memorial Airport. I am a user of the airport since 1946. I am also a commercially rated pilot with over 33,000 hours of flying time. And I believe I speak for all interests of the airport.

The approval of Committee Bill No. 563, calling for another year's moratorium in reality is designed to stop any progress for safety at the airport.

It would cause a serious delay suspending not only the road realignment of Rte 113, (S. Main Street), but also the FAA funding, - primarily for the reconstruction, of the primary and instrument Runway 6/24. The requirements for funding our main runway which has badly cracked, is breaking and is in serious need of reconstruction.

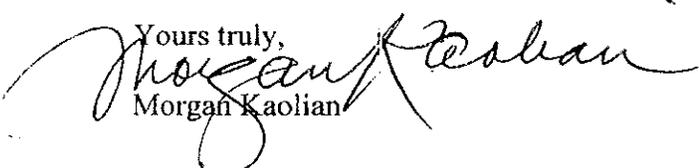
Also, some \$30 million earmarked for the construction of new hangars and offices to replace the obsolete, former airline and general aviation terminals, would be in jeopardy. This is a program that has approval of \$9 million in state bonding. I do not believe the developer of this plan, that will bring \$450,000 per year to the Town of Stratford, will move forward without the realignment of Route 113 and the safety overrun.

If the Town of Stratford's intentions were sincere and honest relative to a plan to acquire the airport, would it not be in their interests to do so with a facility that will enjoy continued FAA funding while developing a sorely needed runway safety overrun?

The approval of the realignment of Rte. 113 will dispose of the "killer blast fence," build the runway safety overrun and solve the long standing and dangerous curve in the road while helping solve the often closing of the road due to flooding.

Our airport is vital to our air transportation system. The airport is as important as our roadways, harbors and railway system. Bill No. 563, in the interest of the public good, should not be approved.

Yours truly,


Morgan Kaolian