



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE DEBORAH W. HEINRICH
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VICE CHAIR
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

MEMBER
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

February 10, 2009

To: Senator Coleman
Representative Sharkey
Senator Fasano
Representative Aman
Distinguished Members of the Planning and Development Committee

From: Representative Deb Heinrich

Re: HB 5562 An Act Concerning A Municipal Option to Conduct a Statistical Revaluation for Purposes of the Property Tax

Dear Honorable Representatives and Senators,

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my support for HB 5562 An Act Concerning A Municipal Option to Conduct a Statistical Revaluation for Purposes of the Property Tax.

I understand and acknowledge the importance of equalizing the property tax values through revaluation to ensure the proper distribution of the property tax burden within the borders of our municipalities. You have many bills before you requesting delays or deferrals of this type of revaluation.

Representative Reed, Widlitz and I would like to offer a potential compromise which will still allow significant savings for the municipalities without compromising the integrity of the revaluation process.

HB 5562 allows the municipalities the option of forgoing a full physical revaluation during an economic downturn and instead implementing a statistical revaluation.

This has the potential to save towns hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars, depending on the size of the town. The integrity of the revaluation can be maintained by tracking building permits throughout the year, which is already required of the assessor's office. In reality, much of a physical revaluation already relies on the elements of a statistical revaluation when you consider that not all properties are accessible during a physical revaluation.

In conclusion, this proposal avoids potential unintended consequences of delaying revaluation while still allowing the towns to save a substantial amount of money during economically difficult times.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deb".

Deb Heinrich
State Representative
101st District