



## CT Greenways Council

March 12, 2010

RE: Testimony for S. B. No. 388 AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT'S  
ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURE

Dear Chairman Meyer, Chairman Roy and members of the Environment Committee,

On behalf of the Connecticut Greenways Council, which was created under **Public Act 95-335**, I am here to testify in **support of SB 388**. In particular, I bring your attention to Section 8, a non-lapsing sub-account in the Conservation Fund known as the "Greenways sub-account". It is from this account that the Greenways Council is able to fund much needed greenway work throughout the state through our small grants program (authorized under CT Statutes Section 23-101).

The CT Greenways License Program has been the vehicle through which we have been able to raise funds to support our greenway efforts. Recently, the Conservation funds were swept from the account and moved to the general fund. It is **vital that we reinstitute** the greenway fund, and insure that the license plate fees are deposited in this fund. The citizens of our state who purchased these special plates, did so because the fees collected went into the greenway fund. We have truly misled the public if the funds are now contained within the general fund, not only for the greenways funds, but the Long Island license plate program and the other specialty conservation plate programs. We also seek your assistance in recouping the previous funds that were moved to the general fund.

We truly thank you for taking up this legislation, and restoring the Conservation Fund for all of us.

William O'Neill  
Chairman  
CT Greenways Council