

**Testimony of Rodney T. Chabot before the Executive &
Legislative Nominations Committee
Thursday February 11th, 2010**

Good afternoon Senator Looney, Representative Janowski and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. I am honored to be before you, and appreciate being re-appointed to the Metro North Rail New Haven Commuter Council by Governor Rell. I'm sure you know about the Commuter Council, but I will be happy to answer any questions you may have after my brief remarks. I have been a member of the Council for 24 years, commuting from New Canaan. I served as Chairman from 1995-2006, when I stepped aside to allow my Vice-Chairman, Jim Cameron to succeed me; however I remained on the Council, and remain very much involved. At present, I am part of the New Canaan & Waterbury Branch Line Study Group, and also take part in the Danbury Branch Line Re-Electrification Study. Both these groups seek options to improve service. The Commuter Council has been able to help with the design of the new M-8 electric rail cars which are just now being delivered. It has been satisfying to be part of this process. We all owe Governor Rell our thanks for her support of these new cars, and for commuter rail improvements all over the State. That is the best and most cost-effective way to reduce congestion on our highways, as well as reduce pollution. I am here because I am anxious to continue to serve on the Rail Commuter Council, and would appreciate your support. I will be happy to answer any of your questions. Thank you.