



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

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

TESTIMONY
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING
SB 25 AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.
March 22, 2010

Good morning Senator Daily, Representative Staples, and the members of the Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding. I am Representative Elizabeth Ritter and I represent the 38th District. I am here to oppose a section of SB 25 AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER PURPOSES.

My concern is with the two items relating to grants-in-aid to the Community Health Center, Inc., for the facilities in New London (\$1,000,000) and Groton (\$500,000).

I fully appreciate the intent behind this bill, but my concerns are that we not overlook the importance of these funds to our community health center network. These are the only such facilities in Southeastern Connecticut, and they have experienced constantly increasing demands on their services for years. They are even more critical in tough economic times like the ones we are facing today. Looking ahead at the federal legislation and plans for changes in our healthcare delivery systems, I believe it would be fiscally counter-productive to let these go.

Thank you very much for your attention and consideration. I am always available to answer questions you might have.

Representative Betsy Ritter
38th District