

**Senator Toni Harp**  
Appropriations Committee Co-Chair  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Dear Senator Toni Harp,

March 24, 2011

My name is Molly Gamache and I am a freshman in the Wamogo agriscience program in Litchfield. I live in Terryville and I attend this regional agriscience school choice program because I plan to have a career that has to deal with marine life.

Within the first few months in this Ag program; I knew that I wanted to become a marine biologist. Working in the aqua lab and doing hands on work is the best way I learn, and how I became interested in marine biology. I really enjoy the variety in the Ag program; I have had the opportunity to try a lot of the different fields in agriculture, this has showed me which field I would most likely want to major in. The Ag program is also involved with FFA. This has helped me with public speaking and getting involved with extracurricular activities; which I know are important for college applications. Overall the Agriscience school choice program is helping me prepare for college and giving the basic skills I will need for my future career.

“I am writing this letter to encourage you to **please urge the Appropriations Committee to pledge 9 million dollars of the school choice funding increases proposed in the Governor’s budget to the state’s 19 regional (vo-ag) agriscience programs.**”

Our agriscience programs have been drastically underfunded for over 20 years as compared to the magnet schools, charter schools, vocational technical schools and the other school choice funding programs. (Please see attached flyer with details)

This will allow hundreds of more students like me to enroll in these successful programs so they will have the same positive experience I am having now.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.”

Sincerely,



Molly Gamache