

Dear Senator Harp,

3/22/11

My name is Kevin Proe and I am a senior in the Ellis Clark Regional Agriscience program in Woodbury, CT. I live in Watertown and I attend this regional agriscience school choice Program because I want to work a job in the agriculture field and by attending the FFA programs here at Nonnewaug High School, I am learning skills that will help me pursue a job in this field. Today, I am working for Proe Services LLC which is a landscaping company in Watertown, CT and by attending this program I have learned many skills from this program that has helped me at work to be a better employee on the job sites as well as in my future in an agriculture career after I attend college. This program is geared for teaching current agriculture methods to help us be ready for the type of career we will be entering after college or Schooling.

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.

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,

Kevin Proe

