

Louise Douglas 385 Woodland Street, Hartford CT. 06112

Chairwoman Stillman, Chairman Fleischmann and Members Of The Education Committee:

***H.B. No. 6385 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNOR CONCERNING EDUCATION.**

I support the need for increased payment for receiving towns under Open Choice.

I am a resident of Hartford, a parent of a former student of the original Project Concern, now grandparent of Project Choice student attending a suburban school. I very strongly support increased payment for receiving towns to enable them to continue educating the children enrolled in their classrooms.

Over the past decades the program in addition to Director and Staff has included Intervention Specialists. This addition has resulted in tireless and consistent service to bridge the gap between students, families and personnel of the receiving school districts. This has resulted in a higher level of communication not only between families and school staff but also a great addition of support for the students.

Increasing the payment to receiving towns would allow the towns to better serve the students, and to serve more of them.