

I am writing to support H.B. 6262. The support for dairy farmers through the Community Investment Act has been invaluable. This bill would remove the sunset provision. It is vitally necessary to keep this legislation a a safety for the CT dairy industry. The CT dairy industry's economic contribution to CT of over 1.1 billion dollars has been well documented. The fresh local food and preservation of open space are intrinsically valuable to the CT life experience. If prices are fixed on a national level and returns to CT dairy farmers are sufficient, this fund would make no payments. As a dairy industry we are always striving to that goal. Please support H.B. 6262 to keep this vital safety net in place for the future of the CT dairy industry. Thank you

Thomas Peracchio Hytone Farm Coventry

Subject: House Bill 6262

As a CT Dairy farmer the support that the Connecticut has given us over the years is invaluable. In a time where many other states were turning a blind eye to the struggles in the dairy industry, Connecticut stood up and believed in our future. My Partner and I are young, 22 to be exact, and are moving into our 3rd year in the dairy industry. We entered the business when prices were at there lowest and we were able to benefit from the sustainability money that you provided to support all of the Connecticut Dairies. While all of these payments over the last couple quarters have help tremendously in the survival of our farm and all the other farms in Connecticut, the industry is still very unstable and until there is the federal milk pricing system is revamped to take into consideration of the cost of producing milk in Connecticut, we need the support of Connecticut and this bill now more than ever to get through these unstable times in the industry. CT dairy farmers contribute a positive impact of \$1.1 billion annually to the economy, not to mention the tremendous positive impact we have as stewards of the land. The Beautiful picturesque landscape of Connecticut can be attributed to our hard work as dairy farmers. The support of our industry supports Connecticut and its landscape as you know it. Please Do Not remove the sunset provision, do it for the future of farming and give young farmers like my partner and I the opportunity to be successful dairy farmers in this great state. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,
Tim Kinsella & Katlyn Hoskinson
Co-Owners of Birch Mill Farm