



775 Bloomfield Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095-2322
860-768-1100 • Fax 860-768-1108 • www.cfba.org

February 22, 2011

Testimony in support of:

**H.B. 5376 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE
COMMUNITY FARMS PROGRAM**

Submitted By: Don Tuller, President, Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

The following testimony is submitted on behalf of the Connecticut Farm Bureau, a statewide nonprofit membership organization of over 5,000 families dedicated to farmers and the future of Connecticut agriculture.

Senator Edward Meyer, Representative Richard Roy and members of the Environment Committee:

Connecticut Farm Bureau Association urges your support of H.B. 5376. This program provides funding for the preservation of farms that are less than 30 acres in size. The face of Connecticut agriculture continues to evolve and with that is the size and intensity of the farming operation. Smaller farms are growing in Connecticut and are an important component of protecting open space, working farmland and a local food base in communities throughout Connecticut. It is important that Connecticut protect as much working farmland as possible without limiting that protection to just the larger farming operations. The work has already been done, to get this program ready to go, procedure wise. What is needed now, is the funding to make it happen.

Thank you: Don Tuller President Connecticut Farm Bureau Association