The goal of this bill is to remove the sunset provision that would end the support for dairy farmers in the Community Investment Act. It is necessary to continue the dairy safety net in CT, because progress has not been made in correcting the federal milk pricing formulas that do not account for the costs of producing milk in CT. The CT dairy industry contributes over $1.1 billion dollars in positive impact annually to CT's economy. The Community Investment Account (CIA) funds the agricultural viability grant program, the farm transition program, the CT Grown program, the CT Farmlink program, the CT farmland preservation program and has provided the dairy support program.

Respectively submitted David Morse dairy farmer from Woodstock CT

The financial health of Connecticut Dairy farms has been supported by the Community Investment Act. The economic impact of Dairy in our state is now realized and continuing support must be followed through. Our Dairy preserves over 2000 acres of farmland each year providing safe food, locally grown, and many jobs for CT. We are committed to farming in Connecticut because the citizens understand the importance of the food we eat.

Our current financial condition will not allow us to be a sustainable business. The Sunset on the Community Investment Act set to expire in June must be removed. The Community Investment Act must be supported to keep Agriculture alive and feed our people.

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