

Testimony

In Opposition to Governor's Bill No. 1007 - An Act Concerning The Governor's Recommendations On Revenue, and In Opposition to Governor's Bill No. 6387 - An Act Concerning Personal Property Tax Exemptions.

Senator Daily, Representative Widlitz, Senator Roraback, Representative Williams, and distinguished members of the Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to Governor's Bill No. 1007 - An Act Concerning The Governor's Recommendations On Revenue, and In Opposition to Governor's Bill No. 6387 - An Act Concerning Personal Property Tax Exemptions.

I have read S.B. 1007 and H.B. 6387 and while I agree with some points, such as increasing cigarette taxes, I believe other portions will result in a significant reduction in overall tax revenues as citizens and businesses depart our state for others.

We own a small business that employs 15 people and utilizes the services of a wide variety of small CT based businesses to service our clients, all of which are based outside of CT. We chose to base our business in Wilton, CT twelve years ago based on CT's location in the Boston, NYC, Philly and D.C. corridor, access to transportation to get to our clients, realestate market and quality of the school system.

We live and work in CT because we want to, not because we have to.

If the proposed increases in S.B. 1007 and H.B. 6387 go into effect we WILL seriously consider moving our family and our business out of the state. We have already begun the evaluation process given the increased tax burdens placed on us, mostly due to increased educational costs, in the last five years.

Additionally, we use small general aviation services out of Danbury, CT to reach our clients on short notice. Increasing the tax burden to service, maintain and own small general aviation aircraft (under 6000 pounds) will

send additional assets and work out of state. Without access to affordable and highly flexible transportation this bill is forcing businesses and tax revenues out of the state.

Increasing the tax and transportation burdens on small businesses are surely not the objectives of this bill but it will be the impact. PLEASE reconsider this bill and look to reducing the size of our state government instead of increasing the tax burden on our citizens and small businesses.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bruce M. Likly
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]