

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING  
COMMITTEE  
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Testimony Supporting Senate Bill No. 1006

AN ACT INCREASING CERTAIN BOND AUTHORIZATIONS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

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Senator Daily, Representative Widlitz and distinguished members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on Senate Bill No. 1006, An Act Increasing Certain Bond Authorizations for Capital Improvements.

This bill authorizes general obligation (GO) bonds totaling \$759 million in fiscal year 2012 and \$819.2 million in fiscal year 2013 and revenue bonds totaling \$233.4 million in fiscal year 2012 and \$238.4 million in fiscal year 2013 for various statutory programs. These proposed increases in statutory bond authorizations are in keeping with the Governor Malloy's focus on bond projects and programs that create and retain jobs.

Some of the most significant authorizations in this bill are the \$186.6 million of GO bonds and \$471.8 million of revenue bonds authorized over the biennium for the Clean Water Fund program. This substantially higher level of funding will begin to address a backlog of critical infrastructure projects that protect the environment and create jobs.

This bill also includes additional authorizations to provide grants-in-aid to Connecticut municipalities and significant development projects through the Urban Act program, with an additional \$80 million authorized over the biennium; and the Local Capital Improvement (LOCIP) program, with an additional \$30 million authorized in each year of the biennium.

Other statutory programs contained in this bill are the Capital Equipment Purchase (CEPF) Fund with additional authorization of \$22.9 million in fiscal year 2013, as well as an additional \$20 million for farmland preservation and \$40 million in each year of the biennium for the Economic Development and Manufacturing Assistance program.

As is usually the case, the largest GO bond authorizations in this bill total \$1.129 billion over the biennium for the local school construction program. The Governor has proposed legislation that will transfer responsibility for oversight of this program to the new Department of Construction Services. That legislation also makes adjustments to the program to begin to control the long-term cost of this major debt driver.

I would like to again thank the committee for the opportunity to present this testimony. I respectfully request the committee support this bill and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.