

Ben Wilde
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March 7, 2011

To: The Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee
Re: R.B. 1007

For the past 10 years I have been doing business in the state of Connecticut selling Nordic Tugs. During this time I have generated revenue for the state through sales taxes on the new and used boats I have sold. In addition I have paid taxes on my income to the state of Connecticut. I have generated over 60 million dollars in sales.

If this tax bill goes through I will loose sales to dealers in other states and I will loose my livelihood. I will loose my business and the state will loose over \$3,600,000 in annual tax revenue. Rhode Island will gain more business as there is no sales tax for boats. Marinas will loose business as boaters will flee to Rhode Island.

During the past several years the auto and banking industries have received support from states and the federal government. The boating industry has received nothing. And now this legislative body wants to decimate an industry that is already in trouble.

Is the legislature ready to join us if we lose our jobs and businesses? Will they care for our families? Will they pay our mortgages? Will you cut your incomes by half?

Bill #1007 is unconscionable. It would decimate the boating industry in the state of Connecticut.

If you are going to raise taxes, then tax all industry the same as you tax the boating industry. Tax automobiles the same as boats. Tax auto sale at the gross amount of the sale. This will hurt the auto industry and all industries so Connecticut will lose more revenue. Help us build our businesses to generate more revenue. Help us be able to pay additional taxes.

We are your voters. You are our representatives. Represent us! Help us! Support us!
Build businesses, don't destroy them!

Sincerely,



Benton B. Wilde
Wilde Yacht Sales
Essex, CT