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RE: HB 6387 and SB 1007

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 3700  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Committee Members,

As a tax payer and a boat owner in this state I was outraged to learn of these two bills, HB 6387 and HB 1007, being proposed by our legislature. Our tax rate in this state is already among the top five highest in the nation and now the state wants to burden its citizens further by imposing additional tax on our recreation. Not only will these bills severely damage the marine industry in this state, essentially taking them out of the competition with neighboring states, but it will create more unemployment and in the long run a loss of current tax revenue. As I see it, boat owners will take their vessels elsewhere to be stored, maintained and berthed. I currently own 2 boats registered in the state of Connecticut, I can assure you if these bills pass I will no longer have any boats registered in the state of Connecticut.

All of the boats kept on the shoreline of CT operate on Federal waters and the state is not contributing to the maintenance of navigational aids or any other out of pocket expense that I can ascertain. Just what is this extra revenue you are contemplating going to give back to us boaters? Or are we just the latest cash cow the state has contrived to make up for its lack of fiduciary responsibility?

Rather than impose additional taxes and penalties on the good, hard working citizen of this state, I suggest the legislature concentrate on spending the HUGE amount of tax dollars it already receives more effectively and efficiently. In business you can not spend more than you take in, or you won't be in business. Apparently our government thinks money gets milked from the latest cash cow somebody dreamed into existence. Frankly, I'm tired of it!

This state has managed to drive away corporate business's that create jobs, now we have more unemployment and welfare recipients. Please stop dithering it away and spend responsibly, freeze taxes at their current level (or better yet lower them) and DO NOT pass these bills.

Respectfully,

  
Julie Robinson