

To: Senator Cassano, Representative Gentile and Members  
of the Planning and Development Committee

From: David Wheeler, Assessor, Town of Vernon

Date: 3/4/2011

Re: SB 518 AAC Electronic Signatures for Personal  
Property Declaration Filings

Committee Members:

I am the Assessor for the Town of Vernon and speak before you today in support of SB-518, An Act Concerning Electronic Signatures for Personal Property Declaration Filings.

Government officials must continually search for methods of providing the same, or superior, level of service while reducing the costs. In this era of technology, SB 518 will enable municipalities to facilitate that goal.

Annually, cities and towns spend significant resources and funds printing, mailing, receiving and processing Personal Property Declarations. An option to allow electronic signature (submittal) would:

- Reduce cost to municipalities for printing, postage & mass mailing
- Enable towns to fully utilize existing software programs where electronic submittal is automatically transferred into tax billing software significantly reducing data entry, data entry errors, and labor costs.
- Afford towns the option to store data electronically saving paper, labor costs for storage/filing, environmentally friendly, create more office space and allow for quicker access/retrieval.
- Fullfill a request currently being made by taxpayers; especially leasing companies whom are filing electronically in other states.
- Offer the taxpayer the ability to save on postage, be in possession of a receipt proving compliance with filing deadline, and ability to submit a timely filing right up until midnight rather than once the office door closes.

For these reasons stated, I hope that your committee will support SB 518.

Thank you,