

**TESTIMONY OF  
THE EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL  
BEFORE THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 23, 2011**

We, the members of the East Hartford Town Council (Chair Rich Kehoe, Vice-chair William Horan, Majority Leader Barbara-Ann Rossi, Minority Leader Eric Thompson, Marc Weinberg, Linda Russo, Susan Skowronek, Patricia Harmon and Ram Aberasturia) stand united in urging the committee's favorable consideration of House Bill 6193, An Act Concerning the Suspension of a Motor Vehicle Operator's License of Persons Who Commit Multiple Motor Vehicle Moving Violations.

The Town Council is charged with enacting ordinances and appropriating funds to, among other things, ensure residents have quiet enjoyment of their property. This serious and important goal can, at times, be difficult because the town of East Hartford is highly developed, with residential properties averaging between 50 and 75 feet of frontage. In addition, there are numerous apartment complexes in close proximity to single family residential property. Activities occurring on one property can easily affect neighboring dwellings. Moreover, because many residents are close to the streets, noise from moving cars and trucks can be heard inside one's home.

State and local laws sufficiently prohibit unnecessary loud noises. State law also regulates motor vehicle noise (such as muffler requirements) and safe operation on the streets.

Our local police effectively patrol and monitor compliance with these laws to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, current law – which allows habitual violators to keep their driver's license simply by going through an operators retraining program -- fosters contempt and derision for those laws and frustrates police action to ensure the quiet enjoyment of town residential property.

In one such instance involving a town resident, this resident attended a retraining program at least 4 times– avoiding license suspension or revocation. House Bill 6193 addresses this issue by simply requiring license suspension if a person avoids license suspension by attending a driver retraining program and then subsequently violates another motor vehicle operator law within 3 years from completion of that program.

House Bill 6193 provides a common sense restriction on abusive use of the driver retraining program. We urge passage of House Bill 6193.