
From: Star Childs <eecostar@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 1:09 PM
To: EDTestimony
Cc: AppropriationTestimony
Subject: Testimony on HB 6358

Dear Members of the Education Committee,

It has come to my attention that the proposed act HB 6357 implementing Governor Malloy's budget rec's for education includes a section (22) that diverts up to \$4 million per year from the Community Investment Act funds to Healthy Food Initiatives in schools. While this is surely a laudable goal and one which is worthy of support through a stand alone line item under the Dept. of Education's budget, taking those necessary funds away from other dire needs in our CT communities such as open space protection, farmland preservation (from which healthy foods emanate!), and affordable housing will simply amount to robbing "Peter to pay Paul". This budgeting slight of hand will adversely impact well-matured and already committed efforts to protect open space and acquire farmland easements in the pipeline. No one can argue the need for more healthy food options for our growing children, but the CIA is not the place to do with the Department of Ed budget.

I urge you to extract the section 22 from the above reference is Act HB 6357 and restore the already designated funds for CIA purposes that have more to do with land, housing and open space protection. I join in my opposition to the proposed inclusion of Healthy Food Initiative under CIA with a number of other good and conscientious citizens of our state that work tirelessly for a better quality of life in their communities aided by the limited assistance that the annual CIA funds can provide.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

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