

**Wethersfield Housing Authority
60 Lancaster Road
Wethersfield, Connecticut 06109
Phone (860) 529-2267 Fax (860) 721-6626**

Date: February 20, 2013

To: Appropriations Committee

Re: Written Testimony State Pilot Program

From: Cathy K. Forcier
Executive Director
Wethersfield Housing Authority
60 Lancaster Road
Wethersfield, Connecticut 06109

I am writing to request that you support the restoration of PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) for the State Public Housing Program.

Based on current estimates, if PILOT is cut, then the Authority, under its cooperation agreement with the Town of Wethersfield, would have to make a payment to the town based on net shelter rent. This means the Authority would have to pay 10% of the rent it receives for its State Moderate Rental Program minus vacancy loss and utility costs. This amount is estimated at about \$16,000 and would result in an approximate \$50 per month increase (or \$600 per year) to the base rent payers, which are traditionally the lowest income tenants that we have. The actual increase would be higher as a base rent increase does not affect tenants paying more than base rent.

I urge that you restore the PILOT and not allow this cut to happen. This budget cut will affect 28 families with children in a very poor economic climate.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted.