



State of Connecticut

SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

SENATOR JASON C. WELCH
THIRTY-FIRST SENATE DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 3400
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
CAPITOL: (860) 240-8800
TOLL FREE: (800) 842-1421
E-MAIL: Jason.Welch@cga.ct.gov
WEBSITE: www.SenatorWelch.com

ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

RANKING MEMBER
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MEMBER
INTERNSHIP COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

March 22, 2013

Testimony In Support of:

SB 310 AAC THE CONSTITUTIONAL SPENDING CAP

Senator Harp, Representative Walker, Senator Kane, Representative Miner and members of the Appropriations Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

This bill will implement the constitutional limitation on expenditures by the General Assembly and prevent any spending in excess of the cap from inflating the cap in future years.

Connecticut's spending cap and balanced budget requirement are guided by the state's Constitution as well as the General Statutes. The Constitutional Spending Cap was ratified by Connecticut taxpayers in 1992 after the legislature enacted the Personal Income Tax to assure the state would not engage in runaway spending and to avoid future budget crises.

The passage of this bill will ensure that the state adheres to the spending cap and will live up to its end of the bargain and not approve spending that is beyond what the citizens have allowed. Since the Income Tax has been enacted, General Fund spending has increased by 142% and gross Personal Income Tax collection has increased by 376%.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jason C. Welch
State Senator – 31st District