



Officers

Chairman
Edmund F. Schmidt, *Darien*
Vice Chairman
Charles Janson, *Darien*
Secretary
Edith Pestana, *Hartford*
Treasurer
Edward Munster, *Haddam*
Assistant Treasurer
Walter Fiederowicz, *Litchfield*

Gubernatorial Appointees

Natalie Ketcham, *Redding*
Edith Pestana, *Hartford*
Edmund F. Schmidt, *Darien*

Additional Members of the Board of Trustees

Michael Blair, *Stonington*
Jeanné Chesanow, *Cheshire*
Francis J. Chiaramonte, *Harwinton*
Robert Faesy, AIA, *Wilton*
Lynn Friedman, *Madison*
Mary Ann Handley, *Manchester*
Adrienne Farrar Houel, *Bridgeport*
The Hon. Scott Jackson, *Hamden*
Garry Leonard, *Madison*
Jeffrey Morgan, *South Kent*
Jeffry Muthersbaugh, *Bethel/Haddam*
Thomas Nissley, *New Canaan*
George Purtill, *Glastonbury*
The Hon. Kelvin Roldan, *Hartford*
Caroline Sloat, *Thompson*
Robert Svensk, *Southport*
John B. Toomey, Jr., *Bolton*
Elizabeth Torres, *New Haven*
Jane A. Vercelli, *Thompson*
Marye Wagner, *Clinton*
Damaris D. Whittaker, *Marlborough*
Richard N. Wies, AIA, *Branford*
Hiram P. Williams, *South Kent*
Regina L. Winters, *New Haven*
Patrick Zailckas, *Waterbury*

Advisory Council

Martha Alexander, *New Haven*
J. Barclay Collins, *Sharon*
William Crowe, *Canton*
Jared Edwards, FAIA, *West Hartford*
Inger Elliott, *Stonington*
Theodore F. Eills, *Branford*
Gerald Farrell, Jr., *Wallingford*
Mimi Findlay, *New Canaan*
Glenn Geathers, *Hartford*
John Herzog, *Southport*
Lee G. Kuckro, *Wethersfield*
Stephen S. Lash, *Stonington*
Charles T. Lee, *Greenwich*
Peter Malkin, *Greenwich*
Cesar Pelli, FAIA, *New Haven*
The Hon. Andrew Roraback, *Goshen*
John W. Shannahan, *Suffield*
Rob Simmons, *Stonington*

Helen Higgins
Executive Director

February 15, 2013

Education Committee

Senator Andrea Stillman, co-chairman
Representative Andrew Fleischmann, co-chairman

RE: Governor's Bill 6317

1. IN OPPOSITION TO CHANGES TO: Community Investment Act amended, Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 4-66aa of the general statutes

Testimony of Helen Higgins, Executive Director, Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

My name is Helen Higgins, and I am Executive Director of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. The Trust is Connecticut's non-profit statewide preservation organization, established by Special Act of the Connecticut General Assembly in 1975 (SA 93-75). It is committed to protecting and nourishing the vitality of significant buildings and landscapes through grants, loans, on-site technical preservation assistance, educational programs and publications.

I am testifying in opposition to amending the Community Investment Act (CIA) of 2005 (Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 4-66aa of the general statutes).

The amended language allows for funding for the Healthy Foods initiative of the State Department of Education to be included in Community Investment Act distributions. The Healthy Foods initiative is a wonderful and growing program that deserves funding. **Moving its funding source from the General Fund to the Community Investment Act program is betrayal of the founding principles of CIA.** CIA funds are meant to protect and preserve smart land use. This means preserving open land and farmland, rural and urban centers. Moving Healthy Foods funding source to CIA will also result to a taking of funds from the current CIA programs, the majority of which funds are re-invested into our communities. For example, from September 2011 to September 2012, historic preservation grants using CIA funds totaled over \$4.8 million. 90% of these grants leveraged private investment. Cities like New London, New Haven, Norwalk, Stamford and Hartford benefitted. Towns like Stonington, Westbrook, New Canaan, Vernon, West Hartford, Woodstock, Litchfield, New Milford and on and on.

The proposed shift in use of CIA funds sets the terrible precedent that the significant revenue meant to protect our land, our historic places, our communities across the state can be cut into to fund programs unrelated to its original intent.