

Dear Education Committee:

I am writing to you as long time a practitioner of Economic Development in the State of Connecticut with an objection to the Governor's proposed budget. In the budget as outlined, I understand there would be a change in use of funds collected on all real estate transactions in the state. Those funds are currently used for the entirely underfunded effort to support historic preservation in the state and shift them, in part, to be used for school lunches.

I feel this is very wrong and potentially deceptive use of a fee collected from the public on one type of transaction and used for an entirely different purpose. I am not sure what to suggest as a solution for the desire to provide more and healthier lunches at schools, but I think it should be dealt with from the food and agriculture industry or from other education funds and not to the detriment of other very worthy efforts underway.

Please leave the funds intact that are used to hold together the treasures in this classic and historic 375+ year old state. Please do not pit the desire to find a way to fund meals against a well established fix used to solve another significant set of needs. If that happens in this case, there very well could be little left in this state to entice people stay, making this place as plain vanilla as any other suburban strip mall around the country. Leave our downtowns and history intact.

Respectfully,  
Robert Mills



Robert Mills  
President  
[bobmills@askncdc.com](mailto:bobmills@askncdc.com)  
77 Main Street, Norwich CT 06360  
P: 860.887.6964 | F: 860.887.3438 | C: 860.514.4278