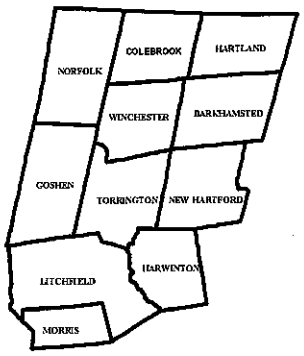

LITCHFIELD HILLS COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

42D North Street, Goshen, Connecticut 06756-1546 Tel: 860-491-9884 Fax: 860-491-3729

Donald Stein, 860-379-8285
Barkhamsted First Selectman

Thomas McKeon, 860-379-3359
Colebrook First Selectman

Wilrose Duquette, 860-491-2308
Goshen First Selectman

Wade Cole, 860-653-6800
Hartland First Selectman

Michael Criss, 860-485-9051
Harwinton First Selectman

Leo Paul, Jr., 860-567-7550
Litchfield First Selectman

Barbara Bongiolatti, 860-567-7430
Morris First Selectman

Daniel Jerram, 860-379-3389
New Hartford First Selectman

Susan Dyer, 860-542-5829
Norfolk First Selectman

Ryan Bingham, 860-489-2228
Mayor of Torrington

Maryann Welcome, 860-379-2713
Mayor of Winchester

PLANNING DIRECTOR
Richard Lynn, 860-491-9884

February 27, 2013

Hon. Edward Meyer and Hon. Linda Gentile
Co-Chairmen, Environment Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Room 3200, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senator Meyer and Representative Gentile:

The Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials unanimously voted at a recent meeting to support Raised Bill No. 6437 entitled "An Act Concerning A Mattress Stewardship Program". The LHCEO urges your favorable review and support of this bill to facilitate the proper disposal of mattresses and reduce municipal solid waste disposal costs.

The disposal of mattresses represents a significant cost to the municipalities in the Litchfield Hills Region. The proposed bill places the responsibility for mattress disposal on mattress producers. The bill thus establishes a producer responsibility program for mattresses, similar to what has been recently created in Connecticut for electronics and paint. The State's Solid Waste Management Plan identifies product stewardship solutions as an effective tool to increase recycling, create jobs, and lower municipal expenses.

By placing the financial responsibility on manufacturers for the management of their product at the end of its useful life, our towns can save significant dollars, illegal dumping will be curtailed, and recycling will be encouraged.

A recent survey of towns with transfer stations in the regional area showed overwhelming local interest in participating in a mattress stewardship program. The LHCEO thus urges your support and advocacy for RB No. 6437.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Wade E Cole

Wade Cole
Chairman

cc: LHCEO Members, Area Legislators, NWCCOG, Recycling Advisory Committee