

March 5, 2013

Energy and Technology Committee
State of Connecticut
Public Hearing March 5, 2013
ET.testimony@cga.ct.gov

Dear members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

I am writing in support of S.B. 949 – An Act Establishing Commercial and Industrial Property Tax Exemptions for Clean Energy Projects.

The Wilton Board of Selectmen, constituting the legislative body of the Town of Wilton, approved, on February 19, 2013, the C-PACE Agreement. We were urged to do so by the Wilton Energy Commission who studied this program in depth. Further, this program directly enhances the ability of our Wilton Economic Development Commission to retain and attract businesses to Wilton. As you know Connecticut is at an economic disadvantage because of our high energy costs at a time when we need to expand our tax base not chase companies away.

The one weakness of this program is that currently Wilton would be required to charge the property owner property taxes on the energy improvements they make under C-PACE. This could negate the financial benefits to property owners. We want to encourage owners to make these improvements as it strengthens our town's financial status long-term and quickly improves the quality of Wilton's environment with reduced emissions. S.B. 949 gives the municipalities the right to issue exemptions by ordinance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Brennan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line at the end.

William F. Brennan
First Selectman

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