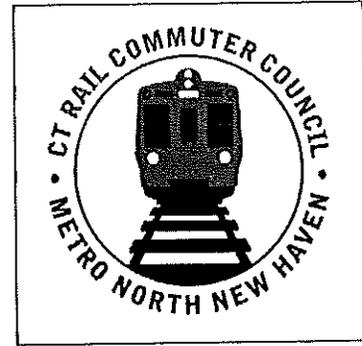


**TESTIMONY      Against SB 639**

Transportation Comm. Public Hearing  
Wednesday February 13, 2013

**JIM CAMERON / Chairman  
CT Metro-North Rail Commuter Council**



My name is Jim Cameron. I reside in Darien and serve as Chairman of the CT Metro-North Rail Commuter Council. But this testimony is my own, as the Council has not discussed SB 639 or formulated an opinion.

Full disclosure: I enjoy smoking an occasional cigar, sometimes while waiting for my train.

**THERE IS NO PROBLEM:**

The bill contends there is a serious health problem posed by people smoking on train platforms because second-hand smoke endangers fellow passengers. What is far more dangerous is the exhaust from the diesel locomotives pulling many trains.

There is no evidence of widespread smoking on train platforms. These platforms are out of doors and what smoke there is dissipates quickly. Smoking is not banned outside of public buildings, so why ban it on train platforms?

Passengers boarding Metro-North trains will ride more than an hour before they can again have a smoke.

Most commuters who smoke are considerate and try to do so downwind from fellow riders. These platforms are hundreds of feet long, so someone feels offended by smoke can easily move.

**THE SOLUTION:**

Do not ban smoking on train platforms. Allow common sense to prevail.

***Don't ban smoking on train platforms out-of-doors.***

***The Connecticut Metro-North Rail Commuter Council***

**[www.trainweb.org/CT](http://www.trainweb.org/CT)    [CTRailCommuterCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:CTRailCommuterCouncil@gmail.com)    @CTRailCommuters**